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WESTSIDE Football

GOLDEN BOYS ... the Eagles fly into Kalgoorlie next week for a football extravaganza to mark the Goldfields centenary and two players looking forward to a trip back home will be Dean Kemp and Dean Irving. The Golden Eagles got in the mood with a visit to the Perth Mint — and are pictured below with a model of one of Australia's most famous nuggets, the Golden Eagle, found on the Eastern Goldfields in 1931 and weighing in at 38.4kg. On the right they get a sample of the real thing — a \$200,000 gold bar, refined at the Perth Mint's Kalgoorlie gold refinery, plus Cindy's Pride, a nugget worth \$80,000

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Spotlight on Kalgoorlie



SA teams enjoyed Kalgoorlie stopovers

VISITS to the Goldfields by South Australian teams were quite regular occurrences in the years before World War II.

The fact that teams coming to the West travelled by train meant they had to pass through Kalgoorlie and the Goldfields National Football League, or individual clubs, were keen to challenge visitors — and they were known to be great hosts.

The Port Adelaide 1939 squad had four social events arranged in their honour, plus tours of the city and the mines, during a three-day stay.

In fact, a number of players went straight from a ball at the Boulder Town Hall to the railway station for a 7am departure when the festivities came to an end.

Goldfields clubs often returned the

visits to Adelaide and these are some of the early interstate matches involving teams from the two States:-

MATCH DETAILS

1910 — Goldfields 12.12 (84) beat Port Adelaide 9.13 (67).

1911 — Port Adelaide 11.15 (81) beat Railways 7.6 (48). This was played at the Adelaide Oval and Railways were missing their carnival players George Tyson, A. J. Aldridge and Poet Smith.

1922 — Goldfields 6.9 (45) lost to West Adelaide 11.15 (81), with Bailey, Uren and Richards their best.

1923 — Boulder City 13.14 (92) beat West Torrens 10.15 (75).

1924 — Goldfields 13.18 (96) beat North Adelaide 10.11 (71), with outstanding games from Marinko, Rowley, McDiarmid and Marsh.

1937 — Goldfields 21.21 (147) beat South Australia 18.12 (120).

1939 — Goldfields 15.10 (100) beat Port Adelaide 14.13 (97).

Another SA team to enjoy a trip to Kalgoorlie was the Port Football Club, from Port Pirie. They played Goldfields in 1959 and lost by two goals.

It was fitting that South Australia's most traditional club in Port Adelaide was the first Eastern States team to visit Western Australia.

Their initial visit started on July 23, 1910, when a touring party of 43, including 22 players, left Semaphore on the steamer Karoola, for a five-day voyage to Fremantle. They then travelled by train to Kalgoorlie.

The first of two WA matches was played against a formidable Goldfields line-up, a side captained by Hugh Gavin and included Nipper Truscott, Charlie Tyson, Bonner Hebbard, Arthur Dix, Alec Robinson and Poet Smith.

Port Adelaide were captained by former Mines Rovers player Jack Woolard and included the man who was to win the 1910 Magarey Medal — Sampson 'Shine' Hosking.

In a game described in The Footballer as 'fast and strenuous, clean and cleverly played', the local team won by 17 points, in front of a 7000 crowd, with the legendary Truscott best for the Goldfields.

The next Port Adelaide visit was in 1939 and after the stirring 1937 victory over South Australia; a close game against St Kilda in 1938 and a win over Claremont early in 1939, the locals were keen to defend their reputation.

Port were represented by a young, but highly credentialled group of players, with captain-coach Bob Quinn regarded as one of the finest rovers in Australia. He had won the Magarey Medal in 1938 and was to repeat that success in 1945.

Meers, Roberts, Bampton and the tall Kellaway were SA representatives and the team was on top of the SA premiership table.

The Goldfields players were bigger and more experienced, captained by Lou Daily — who had won the 1935 Sandover Medal — with vice-captain Jack Anderson also having a great interstate reputation.

Quinn and young defender Reg Schumann received trophies as Port Adelaide's best players — a two shilling piece in the shape of a spoon.

Both the 1910 and 1939 Port Adelaide teams went on to win the SANFL premiership in those years.

Well-protected

THE Commonwealth Bank will make sure that the football feast on Saturday week will be a colourful affair — and a safe one as far as the fans are concerned. More than 10,000 special Kalgoorlie-Boulder centenary caps will be distributed by the bank to protect supporters from the sun



Front row seats

SPECTATORS in their horse-drawn carts had an excellent vantage point for the big interstate football clash between the Goldfields and Port Adelaide at the Boulder Recreation Reserve on Sunday, July 31, 1910. The game attracted a record crowd of about 7000 for a local football match and gate takings were more than 300 pounds.

Hughie Gavin, who later went on to captain WA's 1911 carnival side, led the Goldfields to an impressive 17-point win over the visitors. The final score was Goldfields 12.12 (84) to Port Adelaide 9.13 (67).

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All-Stars team

A SPECIAL feature of the Kalgoorlie game will be the naming of a Goldfields All-Stars side — with former players being flown in from around Australia.

The team is restricted to footballers from the 1950s onwards and they will be introduced at half-time in the main match — a 30-minute break allowing Channel 7 to present their news.

One of Kalgoorlie's most famous VFL players in Alex Epis — who went to Essendon without playing in Perth — will head the line-up of stars, who will be presented with special blue and gold guernseys and a medallion.

The programme for the day sees the first match between combined sides from the Goldfields and the Collier Coalfields clashing at noon.

At 2.35pm, South Fremantle will play the Crows reserves side, with a 5 o'clock start for the main game.

ALL SMILES... Dean Kemp can feel well-satisfied about his decision to move to Perth for football. INSET: That magical trophy is all his

The Kalgoorlie Kid

Kemp will be the home-town hero

WITH Kalgoorlie celebrating its centenary, there is little doubt that one of the nation's leading footballers in Dean Kemp will be the town's sporting hero of the moment.

Even though he moved to Perth several years ago, people in the nation's gold mining capital avidly claim him as a "home-grown hero and a fine product of Goldfields sport"

The scrawny, pale-faced kid who came up through the ranks of the Railways Football Club, is indeed a modern-day sporting champion.

Some observers believe that Kemp is the most talented footballer to have left the Goldfields since Dave Cuzens and Alec Epis by-passed the WAFL and went straight to Victoria in the mid-1950s.

VICTORIAN STARS

Cuzens went on to win two fairest and best awards as a full-back for Richmond (1958 and 1959), while Epis played in two premierships with Essendon on a half-back flank (1962 and 1965) and both represented Victoria several times.

However, it is almost impossible to compare Kemp with those two illustrious stars of bygone times.

Apart from playing in different eras, Cuzens and Epis were robust and highly-skilled defenders, whereas Kemp is a fast, lightly-framed centreliner with one-touch ball-gathering skills and an accurate kick with either foot.

Kemp has enjoyed a meteoric rise in big-time football, but he was always destined for the top level.

With Railways, he won three fairest-and-best awards as a junior; was the club's colts champion in 1986; best first-year player in 1987 and A-Grade fairest-and-best in 1988 before being enticed to Perth by Subiaco (and now West Coast) official, Trevor Nisbett.

The awards kept coming — Subiaco's best first-year player in 1989 and the Eagles best rookie the next year.

DRAFT CHOICE

By the end of the 1989 season, Nisbett and Eagles recruiting officer Mick Moylan were well-aware of Kemp's ability — and they waited patiently to claim him as the 117th choice in the AFL draft.

By the end of the 1992 season, Kemp had played 71 games for the Eagles, including 11 final round matches. He had represented WA twice against Victoria, was a member of the Eagles inaugural premiership team, voted by the WA Media Guild as West Coast's most valuable player in 1992, won the Eagles club champion award and was selected as the only West Australian in the AFL's 1992 All Stars team.

Kemp is the first All-Australian player from the Goldfields since brilliant rover Steve Marsh (also from Railways) received that honour in 1953, the year after he won the Sandover Medal.

By **JOHN TERRELL**

Eagles coach Mick Malthouse says that Kemp deserves every accolade that comes his way.

"Dean Kemp is a credit to himself," said Malthouse.

"He's a very dedicated player — always one of the first out on the track and one of the last to leave.

"Apart from his natural skills, I have also been impressed with the way he has been able to absorb punishment and play with injury."

Another aspect that has impressed Eagles officials about Kemp is the way he has remained totally unaffected by his personal success; his down-to-earth personality has changed little since day-one at the club.

And what of the future for Dean Kemp?

"Well, it's all up to Dean," says the taciturn Malthouse.

INFLUENCE

Kemp singles out his late father Bob, who died in 1985, as having a major influence on his football development.

He says that having his elder brother Garry alongside him when he first arrived at Subiaco was also important.

"In fact, I don't think I would have come to Perth had Garry not been playing with Subiaco," says Kemp.

Brother Garry also proved himself in WAFL ranks, finishing fourth in the 1989 Sandover Medal behind South Fremantle's Craig Edwards.



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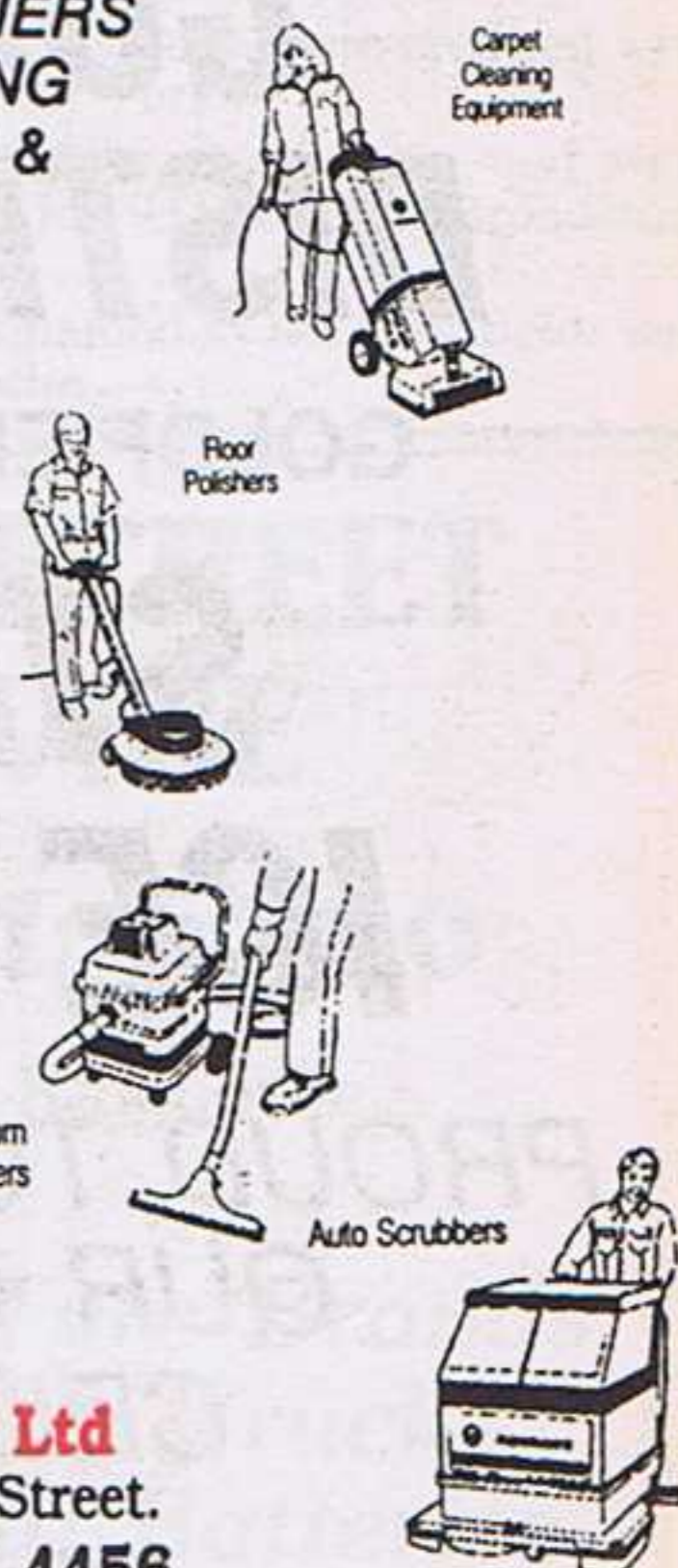
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Goldfields Centenary



Big match will be a sell-out

THE logistics surrounding the Kalgoorlie match have been enormous.

The Kalgoorlie organisers have chartered two planes — a 100-seater to bring the 50-strong Crows squad (plus some paying customers) from Adelaide and a 78-seater from Perth for the Eagles.

"We could have filled the Perth plane over three times," says Doug Krepp, one of the instigators behind the match.

And talking about selling tickets, the response to the game guarantees a crowd of at least 10,000 at the Sir Richard Moore sportsground.

"We sold the 1040 reserved

seats in two grandstands in 35 minutes," says Krepp.

"One is a temporary scaffold borrowed from the basketball stadium and named the Dean Kemp Stand for this game. It seats 440, while the main Rex Mitchell grandstand seats 600.

"We can cater for 9870 standing spectators and ticket

sales have already passed the 7000 mark.

"SGIO offices in Perth are selling tickets and we know that hundreds of people are coming from outlying towns.

"Our ticket agent in Esperance says that more than 1500 people from there will be making the four-hour drive to Kalgoorlie."



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THE Eastern Goldfields has a long history of producing sporting champions.

The first three WA teams to compete at Australian football carnivals were captained by Goldfields players — Bill Trewhella (1908), Hughie Gavin (1911) and Phil Matson (1914).

In fact, the Goldfields has produced nine State captains in all — adding Nipper Truscott, Tom Outridge, Paddy Hebbard, Jerry Dolan, Dick Lawn and Steve Marsh.

In addition, the Goldfields have produced seven Sandover Medallists — the inaugural winner in Tom Outridge (1921), W. "Digger" Thomas (1923), John Rocchi (1928), W. "Billy" Thomas (1929), Lin "Blue" Richards (1931), Gordon "Sonny" Maffina (1949) and Steve Marsh (1952).

State captains were plentiful

The Goldfields claim at least 10 current AFL-registered players who were either born in Kalgoorlie or whose parents were leading sports people on the Goldfields.

They include Dean Kemp, Dean Irving, Ashley McIntosh, Jason Ball and Steven Davies (West Coast Eagles), Mick Symons (Essendon), Darren Kowal (Melbourne), Brad Rowe (Collingwood), Michael Dunstan (Fitzroy) and Craig Treleven (St Kilda).

Community support

THE organisers of the Kalgoorlie football festival have received enormous financial support from the local community.

The initial under-writers of the event, Eagles joint sponsors, the SGIO, were joined by the Commonwealth Bank and the Swan Brewery, with the Kalgoorlie-Boulder City Council providing strong backing.

Match organiser Doug Krepp, a councillor himself, says that the enthusiasm of their outside workforce, coupled with generous donations from local firms, has been fantastic.

"We've been able to increase the lighting on the ground sufficiently for Channel 7 to telecast the match nationally," says Krepp.

"Initially, the lights weren't strong enough for television, but we've now got 36 lights on six towers and that means we can start later and make it a day-night fixture.

"The local football league has saved about \$20,000, with work done by three or four individuals and some local firms.

"Local Ampol representative Bob Board donated the concrete foundations; A. and R. Sandblasters painted all the towers and JCB Engineering did the construction and erection work."

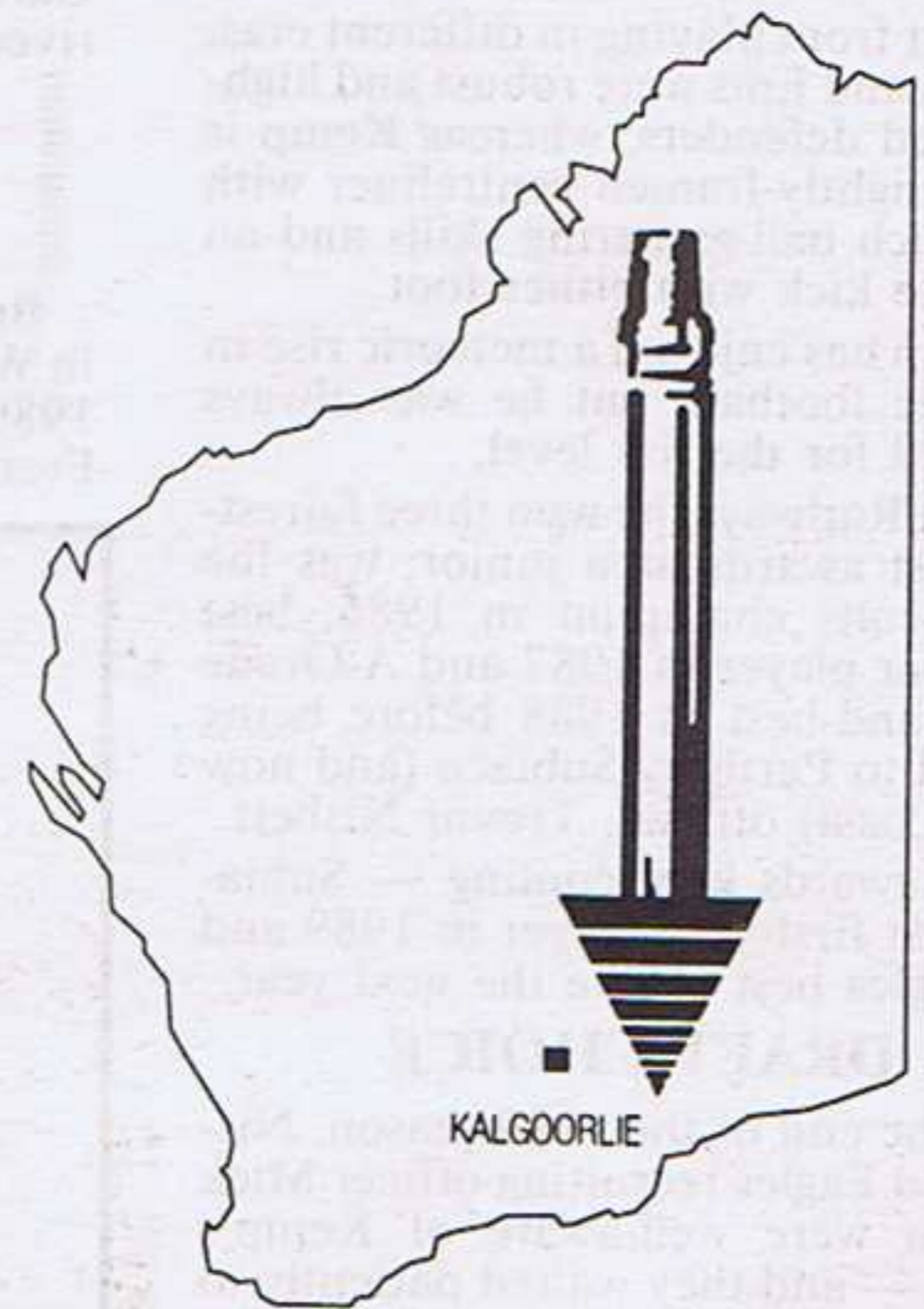
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Balme ready to contradict once again

WHAT you see isn't always what you get.

They found that out at the Norwood Football Club after appointing a rough, tough Richmond ruckman called Neil Balme to what was considered a plum senior coaching post in 1980.

Balme was just 27, but had seen plenty in 10 seasons with the Tigers during the club's most successful era. His curriculum vitae was impressive, his references, from the likes of coaching legend Tom Hafey, were first class, but the air was unsettled immediately he strode into the middle-class suburban respectability of the Norwood boardroom, long-haired, full-bearded and wearing cowboy boots.

REPUTATION

While Balme's reputation as a moderate, clear-thinking and eloquent taskmaster had not yet become apparent, his on-field reputation had preceded him. The doubters could not rid themselves of the image of Balme the "enforcer", the bloke who fixed up Geoff Southby in the 1973 grand final, the guy for whom a bit of biff was just another column alongside kicks, marks and handballs.

He was easy to pigeon-hole. Balme had played league football with all the vigor of a Carl Ditterich; why wouldn't his coaching methods prove equally raw, perhaps anachronistic?

But he just shrugged his shoulders, took a threatened mass exodus of players in his stride and went quietly about building a side that won two premierships and didn't miss the finals in 11 seasons.

By the time he had led the newly-formed Eagles (an amalgam of perennially-unsuccessful Woodville and West Torrens) into their second successive finals series last year, he had long been one of AFL coaching's most sought-after recruits.

Melbourne have succeeded where others failed and now the process begins again, with the 40-year-old Balme arriving in town to take charge of the Demons.

CREDIBILITY

Thirteen years forging a senior coaching career may have given the former Richmond powerhouse credibility, but there is more than a touch of irony choosing a club so representative of the Victorian football establishment.

But Balme won't be playing the evangelist to those Demon hangers-on still bound to the iron-fisted discipline of a Norm Smith and expecting — and perhaps fearing — the eye-for-an-eye philosophy of Balme the player.

"I'm a firm believer that footy is for playing and everything else is secondary," he says.

"You don't glorify the position of coach, you really should be glorifying the players, because they are the ones who actually do the achieving.

"I don't categorise myself, but I do understand what players go through and what they have to do. In some ways, maybe I'm not as hard as I should be because of that."

Victoria's Sunday Age sports writer ROHAN CONNOLLY profiles the newest coach in the AFL, WA's Neil Balme, who takes over at Melbourne

For Balme, leaving his position with a leading plastics manufacturing company and uprooting his family were as important to his decision as the pros and cons of particular clubs. So are his interests outside the game a little removed from the football norm.

He has travelled extensively in Asia, Europe and the United States. An avid reader, he has an amazing grasp of general knowledge and an incredibly retentive memory, says former teammate, coach and long-time friend Barry Richardson.

"We were on a hunting trip, sitting around the camp fire and I thought I'd test him," recalls Richardson. "So I said: 'OK, smartarse, what was Mesopotamia?' He shot back 'It was up place Iraq is now.' I just gave up."

Richardson was in the Richmond coach's box in 1977 when Balme took exception to an attempted knee drop Ditterich had performed on young Tiger Alan Edwards and fixed big Carl up like no one had before.

Likewise when Richmond and Hawthorn played an exhibition game before the 1977 grand final replay, Michael Moncrieff went into the ruck to wave the Hawthorn flag and promptly gave Balme a whack in the mouth.

FLATTENED

"I got the runner out there to tell him to behave himself, but it was too late," says Richardson. "Balmey was talking to Moncrieff, then he just flattened him. Moncrieff got carried off on a stretcher with blood and teeth everywhere and Balmey told the runner: 'Tell "Bones" I'll explain later.'

"In the rooms at half-time and I'm calling him undisciplined and hopeless. He says: 'Look, Bones, I gave him a chance. I wandered over and said: "We won't do that again, will we?" and he smirked at me. He actually had the gall to smile, so I hit him'.

"The tragedy of Neil Balme is people forget what a good player he was. He was great in the air, good with his hands; he was the first of the big, agile ruckmen.

"But if there was retrospective trial by video, Balmey would be on death row by now."

Balme believes his coaching philosophy has evolved more by accident than design.

"The brilliance and desperation of those Richmond sides and the different emphasis on how to play, together with the skills in SA has given me a good balance of what footy can be," he says.

"There's a high level of expectation among the players and that's very hard to manufacture in a lesser club.

"You're better off having a foundation of players who are really prepared to battle it out all the time; as long as you've got reasonable skills and ability, you can improve. But if all you've got



RIGHT DIRECTION . . . Neil Balme is the man Melbourne hope will send them upwards and (inset) as the former Subiaco player looked when he represented WA in the original State-of-Origin side in 1977

is blokes with nice skills and no real guts ..." The sentence doesn't need completion.

So does Balme, the quiet and rational coach, regret Balme the player, felling Southby in one of football's most talked-about incidents?

"Well ... no. Grand finals are grand finals. We were involved in the Play-

ers' Association a bit after that and, actually, I had lunch with him at a Crows game last year."

Did Southby forgive him? "Oh yeah. . . I mean, it's not as though I shot him or anything!"

A contradiction? Says Richardson: "Balmey's the ultimate contradiction."

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PRESENTS . . .

Summertime Gossip

Around the traps with ALAN EAST

Innovative thoughts

CLAREMONT coach Gerard Neesham would like to see some dramatic fixture changes with the WAFL — including an earlier start to the season.

But he doesn't necessarily want a long season — just an early start which would give officials the opportunity to have a break mid-year and maybe avoid some clashes with West Coast Eagles AFL games.

"Maybe we could consider some early-year twilight games, as they do in the Northern Territory," he said.

"Innovative fixturing is the only way to get people back to the clubs."

Stadium on the go

THE WA Football Commission's commitment to developing Subiaco Oval as Perth's major stadium finally took a positive step forward with the appointment of architects to draw up plans.

Lobbing the prestigious contract were architects Peter Hunt and Daryl Jackson, who won the job ahead of a pretty classy field of applicants, with some lavish submissions costing upwards of \$20,000.

The architects aim to present initial drawings and a model of the first stage of the development plan by the middle of March. The first concrete steps should be seen towards the end of this season, with the Eagles-hungry public sitting in new seats at the start of the 1994 season.



FEELING GOOD . . . Darren Hammond gets the feel of the football back at East Fremantle

Getting his kicks

A WELCOME face back at East Fremantle Oval this year is Darren Hammond, who resumes his Sharks career after an absence of a year.

The 28-year-old from Geelong returned to his hometown at the end of the 1991 season, after 51 games in three seasons in the Sharks camp.

The much-travelled ruck-rover has also had football stints in Darwin and his return to East Fremantle gives the Sharks a handy boost in the on-ball department.

Mets reunion

THE once-famous Metropolitans Sunday Football Club are holding a reunion for players who proudly wore the club colours in bygone days.

Mets operated successfully from 1955 to 1976 out of the WACA Ground, but folded due to a lack of numbers.

Listed among their former players who went on to earn league guernseys were names like Ron Oliver and Dixie Lee (Claremont), Graham Bomford and Ross Parry (Subiaco) and Dudley Catherall at East Perth.

The get-together is at the Burswood Hotel's Lobby Bar from 4pm on Friday, April 2 and people interested can call organisers Pat Richards (276 5597) or Arthur Norton (448 9107) for more details.

McKnight a Bulldog

DISGRUNTLED East Perth youngster Bruce McKnight has joined South Fremantle.

The dashing wingman walked out on the Royals on the eve of last season's finals series, but was persuaded to see the year out at Perth Oval.

However, his failure to see eye-to-eye with coach Stan Magro on league selection procedures meant that he was destined to head elsewhere over summer.

Former Bulldogs coach Mal Brown — who has had a good pipeline into his old club — made sure that overtures went out to the skilful 19-year-old, who has notched 29 senior games since graduating from Noranda to the league side in 1990.

McKnight has AFL aspirations and, in fact, nominated himself for the draft in the 1991 season. Even though he hasn't yet had a call-up, a number of clubs like his style.

Sundays are nice

FORMER Claremont and North Melbourne star rover Jim Krakouer believes he still has a couple of years left in his football career — but he's not doing anything about a comeback.

The 34-year-old from Mt Barker told Gary Carvolth on radio 6PR last Saturday that he was enjoying retirement.

"I do think I've a season or two left, but it's nice to wake up on Sunday mornings not feeling sore," he said.

Advice is wasted

EXPERIENCED Perth coach Ken Armstrong has failed in his bid to convince promising youngster Matthew McMurray that he needs another season in the WAFL before tackling the AFL arena.

The 20-year-old from Canning has opted to move to Geelong this season after being called up by the Cats in the November draft.

After 27 games in two seasons at Perth, Armstrong was convinced that McMurray needed another year developing his skills in WA — and he was almost successful in persuading him to stay.

However, a recent trip to Geelong courtesy of the Cats swayed the youngster to make the move now. He told Armstrong that he felt comfortable in the Geelong camp and was looking forward to tackling the AFL challenge this year.



HELLO AGAIN . . . West Perth coach Jeff Gieschen (left) welcomes former Victorian colleague Mick Coombe to Leederville Oval

Falcon mates

WEST Perth have got two new faces organising their pre-season fitness campaign — thanks to an old friendship of coach Jeff Gieschen.

The Falcons are certainly feeling the pressure of working under tough servicemen Mick Coombe and Les Crawford, who have both been transferred to the RAAF base at Pearce.

Coombe worked as a fitness adviser with Gieschen at Maffra, in the La Trobe Valley and he renewed the acquaintanceship when he arrived in Perth last year — and found himself with a part-time job.

He recruited weights specialist Crawford as his assistant and the summer months have seen the two men putting the Falcons through a tough programme.

Numbers game

IT'S always interesting to watch players jostling for new numbers at the start of every season — particularly those who have suffered a bad run of injuries or need a fresh start.

There doesn't seem to be any early-year changes for members of the West Coast Eagles squad — but there could be a rush to grab a couple of the much-sought-after low numbers as the practice matches loom.

With the departure of Paul Peos (No. 6), Scott Watt-ers (No. 13) and Dean Laidley (No. 15), there are three attractive vacancies that could lure the likes of big-numbered hopefuls such as Peter Freeman (48), Jarrad Schofield (46), Paul Symmons (43), Damian Hampson (40) and Drew Banfield (31).

It's interesting to note that the only other vacancy under 53 is No. 25 — one of the most famous guernseys in West Australian football, worn by such champions as Graham Farmer and Graham Moss.

It's been vacated by injury-prone Laurie Keene this year — and is probably ear-marked for a big man with similar talent. Let's wait and see who gets that popular number.

Big guns at Vines Classic

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HUNGRY JACK'S

PRESENTS



Talking Footy

With **KIM HAGDORN**



DON'T be surprised to see rival coaches Gerard Neesham and Tony Solin dining at a Perth restaurant on the Saturday night of the opening round of 1993 WAFL fixtures.

While football rivalries will be sharp and keen this season, they have not forgotten their long-standing friendship over two decades.

The former Swan Districts premiership team-mates will certainly have a little wager on the outcome of their opening match, when Subiaco host Claremont at League headquarters.

Solin (35) will make his coaching debut with Subiaco, while Neesham will go into his seventh winter at the helm of the Tigers.

Solin unashamedly admits that Neesham has played a leading hand in his elevation to league coach status.

The new Lions boss also admits that many of the ingredients that have contributed to Neesham's success — three premierships in six years — will be employed at Subiaco in 1993.

"He was a big help in my getting the Subiaco job," says Solin.

"When Subi were searching for a coach late last season, Gerard rang and suggested they forget about the Victorian candidates and go for a local ... and said I had the credentials.

"I'll certainly use reams and reams of football knowledge I've acquired from Gerard."

Solin takes an impressive football background with him to Subiaco, for a task which — on the surface — looks a tough act to follow, replacing the feats of Haydn Bunton.

The three-times Swans premiership player (1982-83-84) and former State defender has also copied plenty of information from the John Todd coaching manual.

Solin has always listened carefully to his coaches and believes the knowledge gathered under Todd, his close association with Neesham and during a season with Ron Alexander at East Fremantle will help him fill the Bunton shoes.

"Subi have gone from being one of the real top sides of the WAFL in the late 1980s, to slide down to fifth last year," he points out. "Maybe, Bunts had been there too long.

"From my point of view, the timing is just right, to arrive at Subi with the players a bit stale and perhaps needing a new direction.

"That's what I offer Subiaco. That's why I got the job.

"Football evolves so quickly these days. The game is changing so quickly.

"The style of game Subiaco were playing, almost circle work and passing the ball around all over the park, doesn't work any more."

Solin might boldly predict a change of direction for the Lions, who have bewildered supporters and players alike with their indirect policies for decades.

But the biggest question surrounding Solin's appointment is just how will he teach the enigmatic Bunton-trained Lions to be more direct in their passage to goal?

"Training," Solin insists without hesitation.

"The things Subiaco used to do in their training emphasised the way Bunts wanted them to play.

"None of my training routines will emphasise any indirect style."



IVALS NOW ... Gerard Neesham (left) and Tony Solin (right) were team-mates at Swan Districts a decade ago — along with a young Mike Richardson — but now they are coaching rivals

Friendly rivals likely to have a wager or two

Solin concedes his lack of coaching experience at a WAFL club is an early disadvantage in his endeavours to revive the Lions as a local football force.

Apart from an assistant-coaching role at East Perth last season, under another long-standing friend in Stan Magro, the first-year coach has limited his development to four seasons in the Upper Great Southern League, with Boddington.

However, it was an outstanding spell, winning three premierships and finishing runner's-up in 1992.

His only first-hand league coaching experience was a day against East Fremantle last year — one that Solin would rather forget.

It was June 20, with Solin at the helm and Magro interstate on business.

East Perth held a commanding 45-point lead on the league leaders at three-quarter time, only to lose the match by one point, 16.6 (102) to 15.13 (103).

One never knows what conversations took place between Magro and Solin when the Royals coach returned home. Suffice to say, it was understandable that Magro didn't believe it when he heard the result in the last of several telephone calls back to Perth Oval during that afternoon.

"Naturally, if I had coached a league club it would be an advantage going into this job, but I don't see it as any great disadvantage," Solin says.

"The good thing about Subiaco right now is that most of the players are young and probably wouldn't know anything about me as a player or my record.

"The older, more experienced guys have basically only had one coach throughout their careers and some admit to being a bit stale.

"They are looking for a change.

"Haydn Bunton has had great success with Subiaco and now it's up to the new crop to continue the tradition.

"Tradition, however, is built around success; winning premierships is what builds tradition."



TOUGH TASK ... new Subiaco coach Tony Solin faces a difficult challenge taking over the Lions

Solin believes one of the key factors in his endeavours to lift Subiaco back into a position of prominence is his support staff.

He has high regard for Lions general manager Alan White and full-time football manager Wayne Loxley.

The new coach takes with him another former Swans premiership player and State team-mate in Jon Fogarty as his chairman of selectors and Lions premiership player Kevan Sparks returns as reserves coach.

Former Lions and Perth defender Clint Roberts has been recruited as the physical fitness co-ordinator.

"The bottom line to a lot of success is being well-organised," Solin said.

"With the tremendous support staff I have at Subi, being organised and well-prepared in every respect shouldn't be a problem.

"Delegating duties with such quality back-up should, in fact, prove easier than coaching, say a country team, where I have been for the past four years.

"At the lesser levels, the coach is often responsible for the lower grades as well, the selection, social organising and everything associated with a club."

Solin showed early signs of having the diplomatic characteristics that epitomise WAFL coaches — and most bosses at senior levels — by declining to make any rash judgements on Subiaco's prospects for 1993.

"With our playing strengths and all things being equal, I'd like to think we can finish in the top three," he said cautiously.

HUNGRY JACK'S

HUNGRY JACK'S

RESISTANCE IS USELESS

HUNGRY JACK'S

Reflections from an Eagle

BOLLE, the world's best sunglasses, present a special column on West Coast memories



GLEN JAKOVICH

WHEN Glen Jakovich was playing juniors with South Coogee, he was a member of a team that didn't win a game for three years.

Such was the joy when the under-12s side finally tasted victory, that the moment has seldom left his memory — especially when one of the jubilant parents taught the youngsters a tune that proclaimed the team's arrival in the winner's circle.

The young Jakovich learnt the words and promised himself that he would keep them for a special occasion — and what better achievement than winning the 1992 AFL grand final; a victory in which the 19-year-old played a vital part.

And since that day, Jakovich has carved out a reputation as a leader of the band, with the lines "Who we are, where do we come from ..." echoing around the State.

In fact, it was virtually top-of-the-pops as the Eagles roared their way home from Melbourne, with Jakovich leading the singing.

It was a role he repeated numerous times in the next week at various places, including a televised performance from Subiaco Oval, the club champions dinner and at the Forrest Chase public reception.

"It really started on the bus after the game," says Jakovich, who became the lead singer rather reluctantly.

"I'd always promised myself that I'd sing it whenever I was in a team that won a premiership. It was a long wait from those days in under-12s, but it was worth it."

Jakovich, who will depart from teenage ranks with his 20th birthday on March 24, just four days before the 1993 season opens, was a key player in the premiership victory, starting at centre-half-back and finishing in the ruck.

He was in the middle of the ground when the siren went and immediately rushed towards his long-time junior mate, Peter Sumich, who was on a lead from full-forward at the time and just kept running.

The two men had come up through juniors together in the Coogee area and there was a strong bond between them. Celebrating an AFL premiership was a great moment in their lives.

"It was a pretty tense day all round," Jakovich recalls.

"I was pretty toey from early in the morning; it was very exciting on the day, but I wasn't nervous; I was focused in on the game from the night before.

"The next few days were unbelievable. The way the people handled the celebrations was fantastic and made us feel really proud; we really appreciated all their support and congratulations.

"It's something I'll appreciate all my life, being part of those celebrations; the roar of the fans at the different ceremonies, especially at Subiaco Oval and in Forrest Chase. That was fantastic."

bolle
Put 'em on your face



READY, SET ... East Fremantle's premiership defence is up and running and physical fitness co-ordinator Merv White (right) and John Pietroniro send a group of players off on another time test

the time

SO YOU thought footballers had it easy when the curtain comes down on their winter diet of non-stop action?

Far from it.

In fact, the summer off-season programme is a major part of the planning for success — and nothing ever comes easy.

East Fremantle, for example, revelled in the September glory of a premiership in 1992. But much of the hard work for that triumph started back in October of 1991.

Demanding fitness programmes are put in place immediately once the season finishes and they run through to Christmas, when there is a short break.

The off-season focuses on developing and maintaining fitness through activities that provide a break from the rigours of football.

DIFFERENT FACTORS

Each club's programme depends on a number of differing factors. It could be the club's position on the ladder the previous season, or the immediate feeling and spirit within the team.

South Fremantle are entering the second year of a five-year plan to toughen players up.

Introduced last season by fitness coach Steve Smith, a retired rugby league player and naval diver, it involves a four-day-a-week commitment.

The players must attend a compulsory day at the club, do two weights sessions a week and have a run in the sand at Floreat Beach.

Players also swim and cycle to rehabilitate injuries and build up particular areas of the body.

Last year's Sunday League Bowden Medallist ROHAN HOWATSON — who is doing pre-season training at Perth — writes about the summer programmes at the WAFL clubs

Players have different programmes subject to body size.

A lightly-built player like Steve Caradus needs an extensive weights and diet programme, while big man Martin Atkins concentrates on maintaining fitness.

A boxing programme run by experienced coach Laurie Flanders has been successful in toughening up players and improving their reflexes.

Perth's fitness coach Allan Smith, who is the head of the physical education department at Swan View High School, has introduced aerobics to their pre-season programme.

After a number of hamstrings and lower-back problems this year, Perth will use aerobics once a week to increase flexibility.

The players will also run, swim and cycle in preparation for a number of triathlons now that the Christmas break is over.

Weight and diet programmes are set up for individual players.

Each player has a responsibility to maintain and develop his fitness for the triathlons and for various tests carried out over the summer.

IMPROVEMENT PLANS

Wooden-spooners West Perth started their plans for improvement with a three-day-a-week schedule at Leeder-ville Oval.

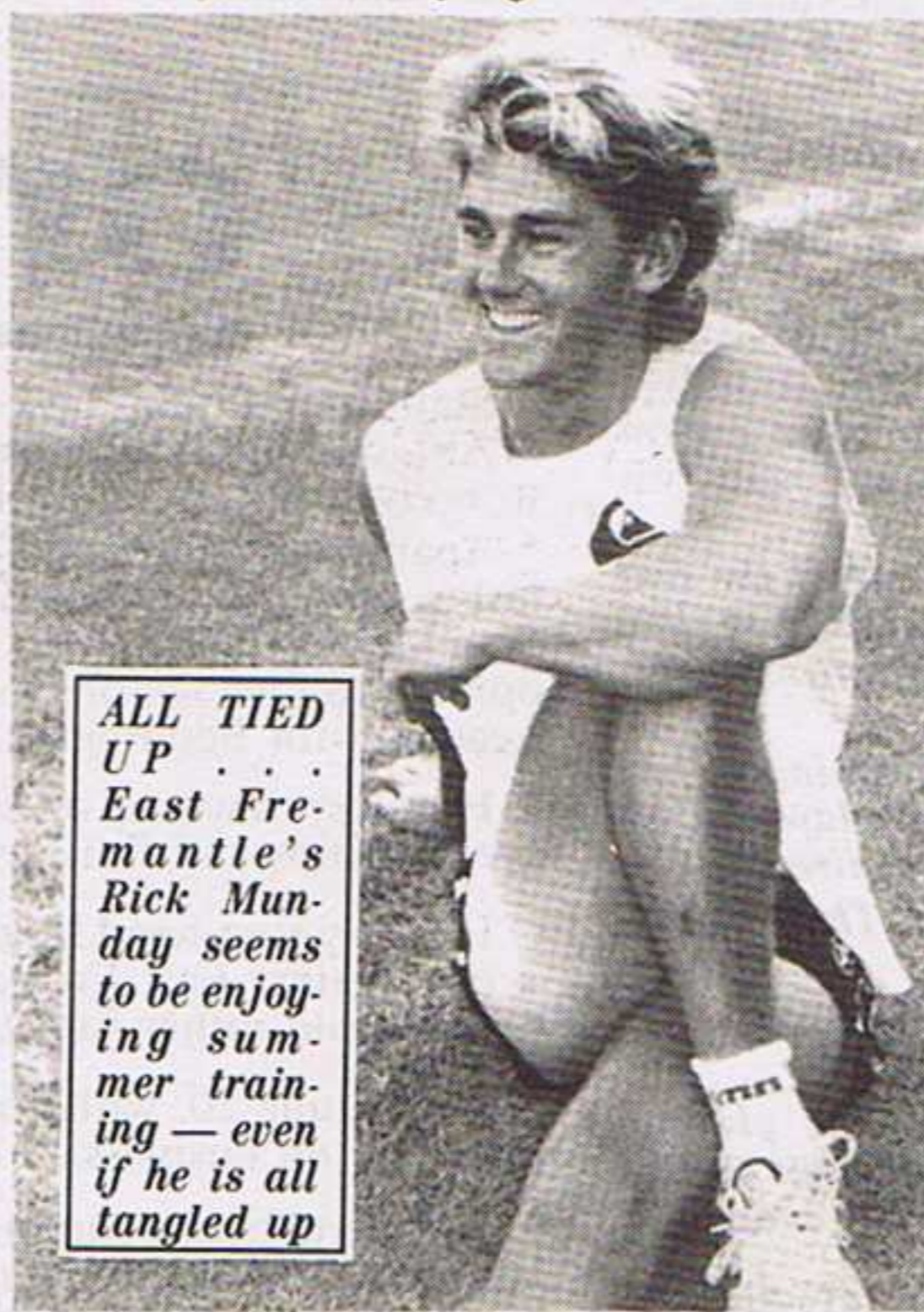
Co-ordinated by fitness coach Mick Coombe, the team was separated into four groups depending on the need for endurance, strength, skill, or the rehabilitation of an injury.

Endurance coach Brian Campbell takes a group for long distance and hill runs. Les Crawford has organised a weights programme to increase size and strength. Clinton Farmer takes players who need to improve their skills and David John has the injured players.

Off-season training went through till December, when the players were given individual programmes to follow over Christmas before training resumed last week.

Subiaco have a new-look outfit in preparation for 1993.

New full-time coach Tony Solin and fitness coach Clinton Roberts drew up a summer programme based on stamina.



ALL TIED UP ... East Fremantle's Rick Munday seems to be enjoying summer training — even if he is all tangled up



GEARING UP ... West Perth pair Tony Edwards (left) and Stuart Donnelly, who both made their WAFL debuts last year, don their running shoes for a summer session



A joint development project of the East and South Fremantle Football Clubs. The competition is played Sunday afternoons for the under 18 age group.

COACHES

For teams in Applecross, Bullcreek-Leeming, Cockburn, Coolbellup, Fremantle, Karoonda, Kardinya, Kwinana, Lynwood-Ferndale, Mandurah, Melville, Riverton, Rockingham, Rossmoyne, Safety Bay, South Coogee and Willetton.

All coaches are appointed by the Board of Management. East Fremantle coach Ken Judge says "I believe that E.F.F.C. has some input in the selection of our coaches of our seventeens competition, as we are keen to ensure top quality people coaching to a level preparing players for the next step to senior football. We want to see continuity in coaching methods flowing through from the senior club to junior level". Applications close 9th February 1993.

PRE-REQUISITE Level 1 Accreditation

UMPIRES

Experienced Sunday Football or Amateur Umpires are required, but junior umpires prepared to work hard in an effort to develop our players should apply. Pay rates up to \$54.00 per umpire with a two umpire system.

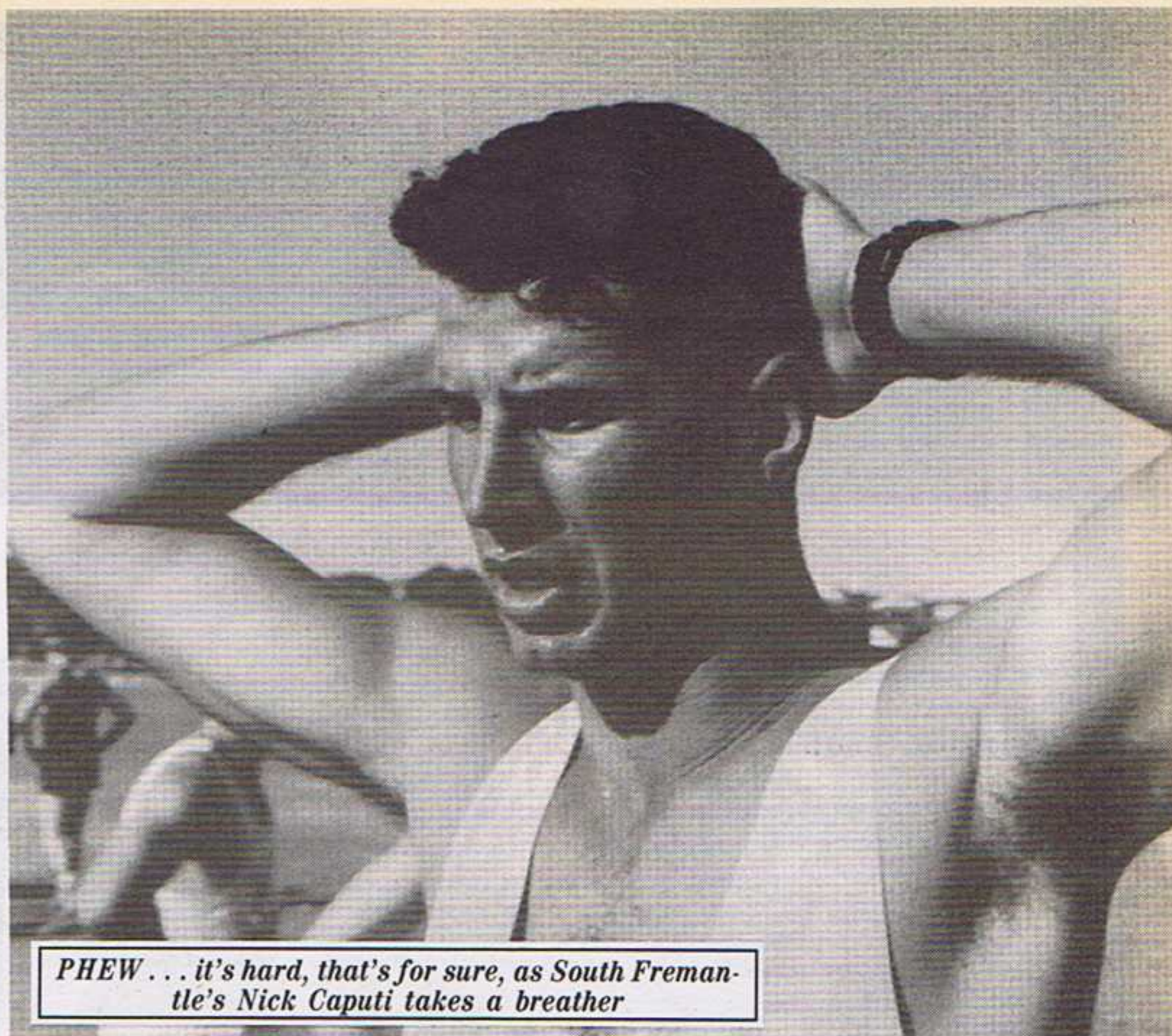
TEAMS

Schools or teams from outside the Fremantle Region are also invited to participate in this competition. Team nominations close on 24th March 1993 and should be addressed to:

David Lindsay, Administrator
PO Box 43, Palmyra, WA 6157.
Or telephone 247 1643 A/H

The KARRINYUP JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB (Inc.)
invites applications for coaches for all age groups from FREEBALL to 17s
Apply in writing to PO Box 44
Karrinyup 6018 by Friday February 12, 1993
For further information telephone Pat or Frits Vanirsen on 447 5072

Summer is no longer for players to rest



PHEW... it's hard, that's for sure, as South Fremantle's Nick Caputi takes a breather



HELLO THERE... rivals last year, team-mates this season — that's Craig McGrath (left) and Mick Hastie, who have joined Perth from East Perth and Swan Districts

Swan Districts are planning to move up a couple of places this season with the help of sports scientist Garry Tester.

A lecturer at the University of Western Australia, Tester spent the early 1980s with Subiaco and has combined with John Todd over recent years to set up the Swans pre-season programme.

This year Swans have focused on creating more camaraderie within the team.

The players all train together, completing three long runs a week, in which two are compulsory and attend two weight sessions run by Andrew Ivy.

ENVIRONMENT

The runs are held at different venues to help get away from the club and the traditional football environment.

Swans have also called on a little help from the clergy — the Rev. Keith Wheeler, a 1968 Olympic Games middle-distance athlete, takes the longer runs, while Tester organises the sprint sessions.

The players see different places and faces all the time, which is designed to create a motivational atmosphere.

The use of role models has also been incorporated into the Swans pre-season programme.

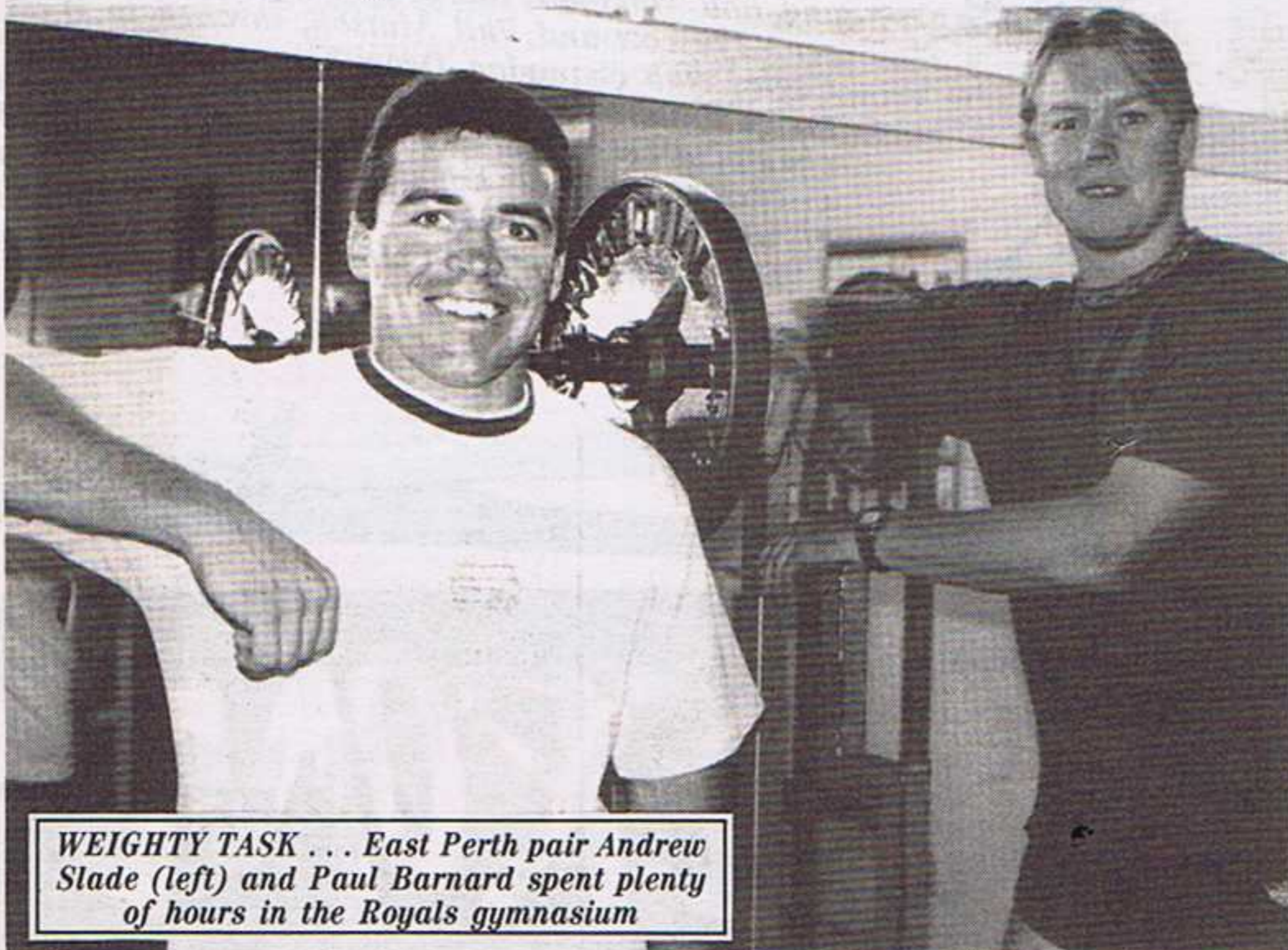
For example, experienced player and fitness fanatic Mike Richardson takes sit-ups and squats, while former Eagle and club champion, Phil Narkle takes push-ups and stretching exercises.

The players were assessed before the Christmas break and tested again this month.

The Lions do three sessions a week with an emphasis on running, swimming, cycling and weights.

Retired South Fremantle and West Coast Eagle John Annear takes the team running and cycling at Perry Lakes on Monday; Solin runs the players on the beach on Wednesday and Newman College teacher Brian Brown takes swimming at the school on Thursday.

Football manager Wayne Loxley conducts a weights programme every Saturday morning for players needing to boost size and strength.

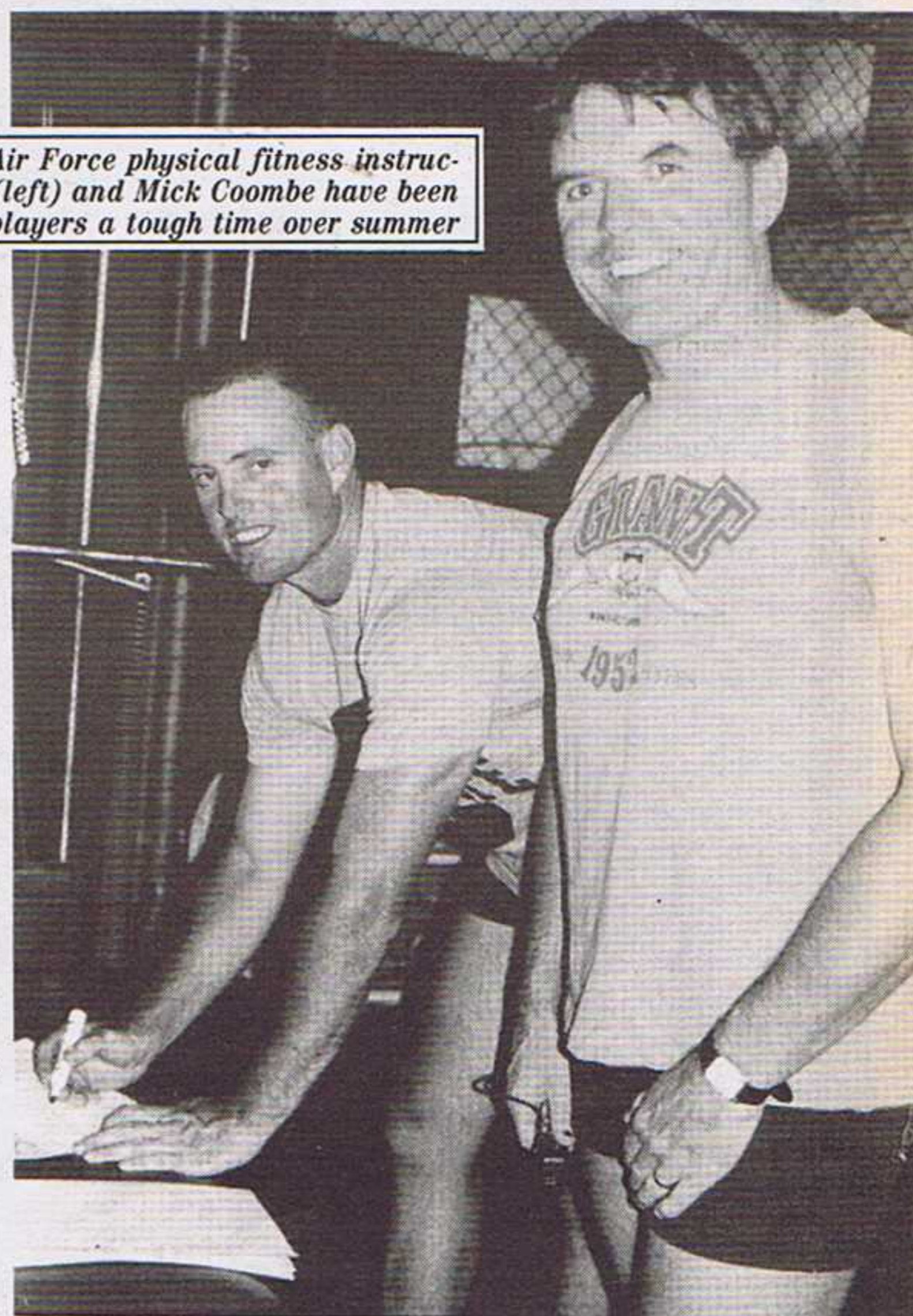


WEIGHTY TASK... East Perth pair Andrew Slade (left) and Paul Barnard spent plenty of hours in the Royals gymnasium

TOUGH GUYS... Air Force physical fitness instructors Les Crawford (left) and Mick Coombe have been giving West Perth players a tough time over summer

"We have a very young side, so we've started earlier than ever before. We have to fast-track them because of their youth and we need to bring them on quickly. They seem to be enjoying it."

— Claremont coach Gerard Neesham



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Eagles make no rash predictions — page 16

BOUNCE INTO



ABOVE: Dave Cuzens in 1948. RIGHT: Dean Kemp as a Railways junior. BELOW: Don Marinko (left) and Ted Tyson before their WAFL days. BOTTOM: Boulder City's opening goal in a 1906 match was watched by players and spectators alike



100 years of sport on the Goldfields

THE Kalgoorlie Centenary will naturally provoke many memories of 100 years of fiddling around the Goldfields ... and journalist John Terrell has done plenty of digging of his own to produce a fabulous book of sporting tales.

Titled "Goldfields Sport — A Century of Heroes, Heroines and Happenings", the 201-page publication is a must for every person who has ever had anything to do with Kalgoorlie, Coolgardie, Boulder and all points surrounding those famous towns.

The book is jam-packed with sporting anecdotes from over the last century — and from sports that many of us have never even dreamt about.

While football, cricket, racing, cycling, athletics and billiards all feature prominently in the Goldfields folklore, there are sports such as darts, golf, hockey, lawn bowls, sailing, synchronised swimming, wrestling, rugby, lawn bowls and motor racing that also rate a mention.

And, to make the scenario complete, Terrell has uncovered sporting stories from the annals of whippet racing, goat racing, log chopping and even the King of the Two-Up spinners rates a mention.

The compilation of this fascinating look at Goldfields sport was something of a labour of love for Terrell; a journalist by trade, but a Kalgoorlie-born devotee of everything Goldfields, with a family history going back for the whole century under review.

Some of WA's legendary sporting names that earn a place in Terrell's Goldfields Hall of Fame include the nation's two greatest billiards players, Walter Lindrum and Bob Marshall, football champions from W.J. "Nipper" Truscott and Phil Matson, through to West Coast Eagles club champion Dean Kemp — with many other famous names in between — former Australian hockey champion Terry Walsh, racing personality Albert Jordan, cricket legend Wally Langdon, cycling greats Tommy Norris and George Hebbard ... and so the list goes on.

The stories — fact, fiction and funny — are many;

scattered throughout the book to catch the attention of the reader at any glance.

Such as the time when ...
* A group of punters "stung" the illegal bookies operating on an athletics meeting in the 1930s when they turned the nippy Sam Stivey into a "blackfella" with the help of some Condy's crystals and subsequently cleaned up when he won a foot race from a generous handicap.

* Ping Matthews bowled the great Don Bradman with his fourth ball. However, The Don had scored a blazing 50 when Matthews came on to bowl — and collected a further 14 off three balls before throwing his wicket away.

* Danny Longa set fire to the trousers of opposing batsman Jack Dawson, when a packet of wax matches in his pocket ignited as a ball brushed his thigh.

* Fast bowler George Woodhouse produced a scoreboard that any modern-day cricketers can only dream about — bowling all 10 batsmen in an 1897 match at Kanowna.

* Six Kennedy brothers — including Merv and Allan, who played with West Perth and East Perth respectively — featured in the Mines Rovers premiership side of 1967.

* One of Australia's all-time great coaches in Phil Matson took notice of a dog that saw fit to raise its leg on the team blackboard at half-time in a game when the side was being soundly beaten.

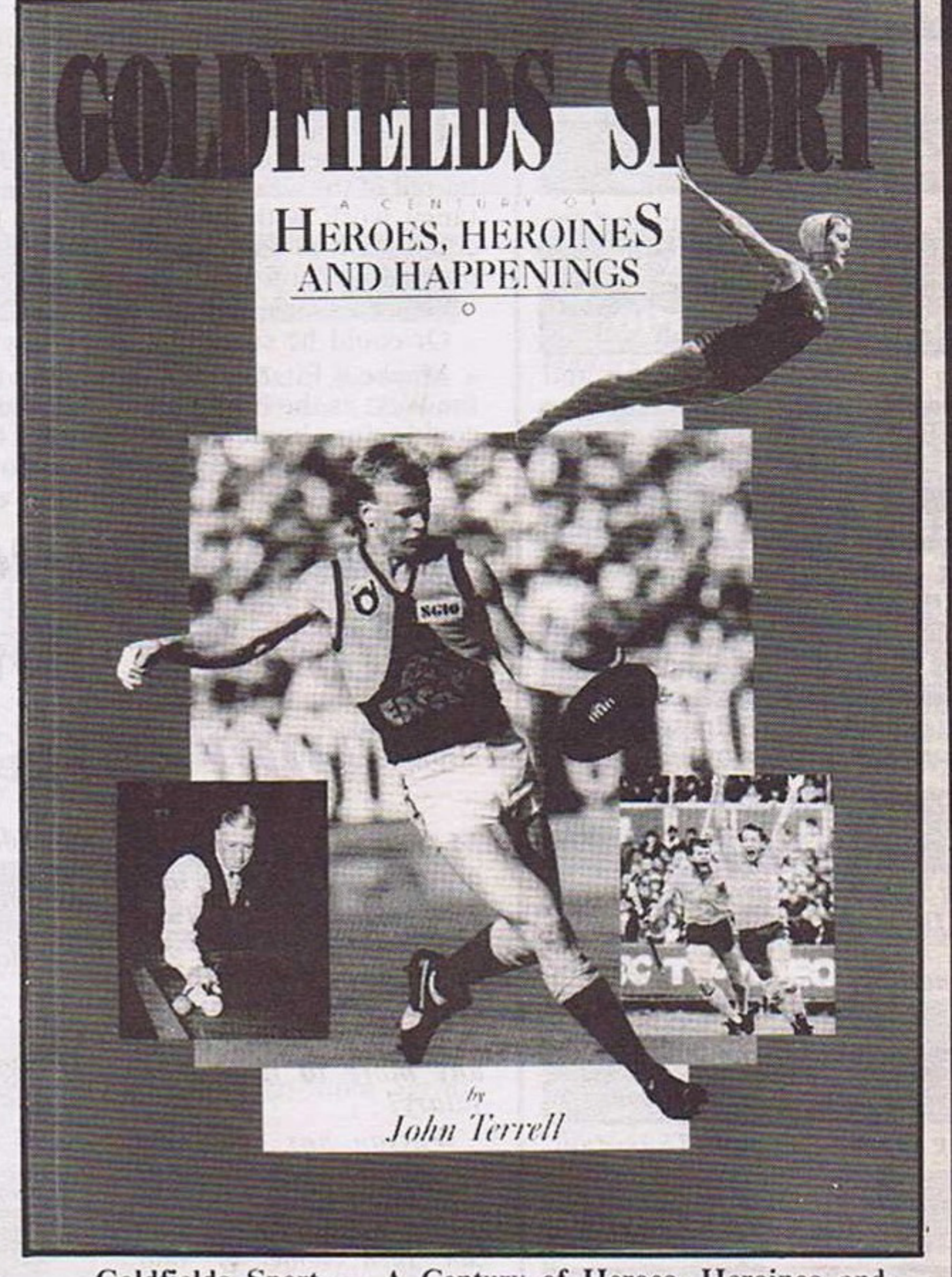
The stories keep flowing, from sports like wrestling and water polo, soccer and shooting, boxing and baseball, tennis and trotting ... they all feature in Kalgoorlie's illustrious history.

As Perth journalist and long-time Kalgoorlie identity Brian Paddick says in his introduction:

"... no small city in Australia, or perhaps the world, can match the district for the number and diversity of champion sportsmen and sportswomen who began their career in this corner of the globe."
Terrell himself admits that the book is not the definitive history of Goldfields sport; he says that would take a lifetime of research. Instead, it was meant to convey an impression of how sport was played on the Goldfields in bygone years and what it meant to the people.



LEFT: Alec Epis receives the Fletcher Medal for the GNFL's fairest and best player in 1955 — at the age of 17. BELOW: Sandover Medallist Lou Daily in his Mines Rovers days



Goldfields Sport — A Century of Heroes, Heroines and Happenings. By John Terrell. Available by mail from the author, 4 Walter Close, Bateman, WA, 6150 for \$29.95, plus \$5 post and packaging.

NUMBER ONE MEETING PLACE

— OPEN FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS —



PRESENTS



Thinking aloud



A column of news and views by ALAN EAST

Life's tough

THINGS seem tough everywhere in the financial world — and even the AFL is tightening the purse strings.

Despite continual growth in crowds — helped considerably by the huge attendances at Perth and Adelaide games featuring the Eagles and the Crows — the AFL is in a cost-cutting mode.

A recent victim of the AFL pruning has been Gary Clayton, the man who managed the League's affairs at Waverley Park.

The AFL's Tony Peek says the Commission had to take some tough decisions in the recession, as had other industries.

Brownie's loyalty will be tested

THE town's worst-kept secret was officially confirmed last week when Malcolm Brown announced his abdication from the throne at South Fremantle with his decision to be a Victorian for a year or two.

And that could be good news, in a roundabout way, for ailing AFL Fitzroy, as this photograph from the Brown files confirms.

It seems as though back in Brownie's early days as a rising young star with East Perth — when ankle high boots were a necessary part of a player's gear — Fitzroy did some subtle lobbying.

In those days, the old VFL clubs 'bribed' players with simple temptations such as football guernseys, which were much more valued in terms of loyalty than they are today.

While Brownie won't admit to being a Victorian Lion, he could well have a soft spot for the ailing club.

His new business manager's role at Richmond — where he spent a pleasant year in 1974, despite his hatred of the weather — will combine some consultancy work with Carlton United Breweries and could see him have some sympathy for a club that once offered him a coaching position back in the mid-70s.

Or could he swing the other way? Maybe if Fitzroy fold, they could be relocated in the West as the Fremantle Lions and then Brownie could return home to take charge of his real dream, the establishment of an AFL team out of the Port!



LIONS POLISH... a young Malcolm Brown polishes up his boots in the days when Fitzroy liked his style

Watson looks for his own apprentice

MARK Watson must be pretty happy about lobbying the South Fremantle coaching job — even if it only means that he doesn't have to mow the Fremantle Oval lawns any more to justify his salary!

Watson has obviously learnt a lot working alongside the irascible Malcolm Brown and maybe now he can turn some of that knowledge to his advantage — and find someone to take his place on the ground staff at Souths.

It seems as though when Brownie enticed Watson to Fremantle Oval as his assistant last year, he couldn't quite justify the salary needed to keep an apprentice on the staff.

So Brownie arranged for Perth's 1987 Sandover Medallist — a qualified groundsman with plenty of experience at keeping the turf in good shape — to work part-time at Fremantle Oval.

Now that Watson has the coaching reins, one of his

off-siders in Perth's Steve Cummings looks set to cop extra lawn mowing duties — or maybe he's being groomed for a Bulldogs role also!



BIG BOOTS... new South Fremantle coach Mark Watson (right) has followed the footsteps of big Mal for a few years and is all smiles (above) on his appointment

What's on at your club



Swan Districts

Training Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, Bassendean Oval

WEST PERTH

Training Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, Leederville Oval

East Fremantle

Training Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, East Fremantle Oval

South Fremantle

Training Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, Fremantle Oval
Back to Bali night, at the club, February 20, \$10 a ticket

West Coast Eagles

Training Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, at Subiaco Oval

CLAREMONT

Training Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, Claremont Oval

SUBIACO

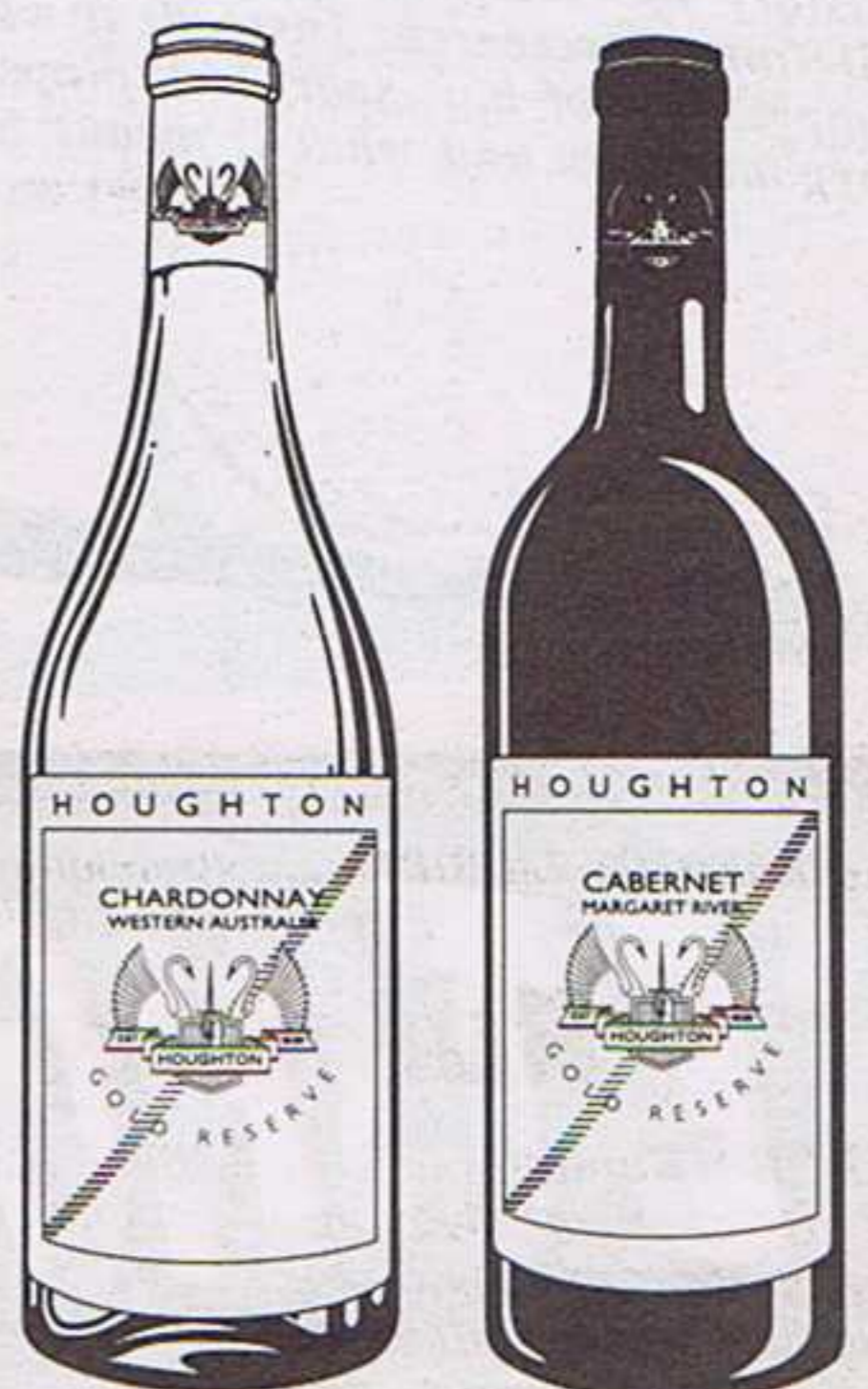
Training Mondays (Sacred Heart, Sorrento), Tuesdays and Thursdays, Subiaco Oval
Golds meeting, Tuesday, February 2, 6.30pm

PERTH

Training Tuesdays and Thursdays, Lathlain Park
Southside Fair, Lathlain Park, Sunday, February 21

EAST PERTH

Training Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, Perth Oval



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Country stars hit the city

THE annual influx of country footballers trying themselves out with the WAFL clubs is on again — and there is no shortage of talent on the horizon.

East Fremantle have brought a number of players down from their rich breeding grounds around Geraldton and they have also spread their recruiting net into the prouctive South West region.

Taking part in pre-season work at East Fremantle Oval are former Northampton team-mates Richard Hoult — a nephew of former Sharks utility player Glenn Hoult — and Jamie Drage, along with Robert Gulberti, of Rovers.

Coming up from the South West are Darren Finalyson, from South Bunbury and Craig Reimas, of Boyanup-Capel-Dardanup.

SPEEDSTERS

Swan Districts, who have enjoyed a steady flow of talented players from around the Bunbury region, hope that Carey Park speedster Jy King will follow in the footsteps of his cousin, Steve Bazzo, who has notched up 100 games since his move to the city.

The 18-year-old was originally keen to join East Perth, but Swans won the recruiting battle and he joins another



HOPEFULS . . . trying out at Lathlain are Shane Darmody (left) and Ted Picks



GERALDTON IMPORTS . . . stretching out at East Fremantle are (from left) Jamie Drage, Robert Gulberti and Richard Hoult

Rumours all the rage

CLUB Rumours rates highly as one of the popular night-time spots for footballers from all ranks — West Coast and WAFL inclusive — and a few of them will be strutting their stuff on Sunday.

Australian cricketers

Merv Hughes and WA's Damien Martyn will present a special Australia Day show with a Karaoke theme.

The show follows on from a huge night when Eagles stars Karl Langdon and Glen Jakovich hosted a similar function before Christmas.

Sunday's show promises to be heaps of fun with Marvellous Merv having anything to do with it and admission is just \$5, from 8pm to 1am.

You can bet that a few locally-loved songs such as Eagle Rock and Like a Virgin will be top of the pop parade.

By

ALAN EAST

speedy midfielder in Dandaragan's Phil Hayward, who won the Mortlock League's medal last season.

East Perth's former country star Ken Seymour has helped provide the Royals with a likely recruit in Matt Kendle, who originally hails from Donnybrook.

Kendle went to Queensland, where he earned selection in their combined country side and good performances gained him All-Australian country honours. Seymour played against him in last year's national country championships and suggested he try out at Perth Oval.

GOALKICKER

West Perth have high hopes for talented goalkicking rover Tony Strano, who has come up from Harvey-Brunswick, while Graham Jeffrey, one of the veterans of South-West football, is trying out with Subiaco.

Perth have got a large group of country players on the track and two big men keen to make an impression are Shane Darmody, from Quairading and Carey Park's Ted Picks.

Both have been to the city previously — Darmody did a pre-season at Lathlain Park two years ago before damaging a knee, while Picks was a promising colts player with Swan Districts.

Junior clubs seek coaches

JUNIOR football clubs are off and running, recruiting players and appointing coaches for this season and Ballajura and Karrinyup are two early-starters.

Both clubs are looking for people interested in coaching any of their teams from freeballers (under 9s or thereabouts) through to their 17s side.

Aspiring coaches can contact Ballajura on 342 0740 and Karrinyup on 447 5072.



Club mates now rivals

THE trend by former WAFL players to tackle coaching roles in amateur ranks will see two one-time East Fremantle team-mates as off-field rivals this season.

Former East Fremantle captain George Christie will take on the coaching role with Wesley-Curtin, where he will clash with an old club-mate in Leigh Brenton, who will be in charge of Trinity-Aquinas.

Brenton, a former Swan Districts premiership player, started with East Fremantle before joining coach John Todd at Bassendean for their power reign in the early 1980s.

He kicked training off this week with a solid warm-up at Aquinas College, where the pre-season work continues on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The club is based at Ernest Johnson

Oval, in South Perth, where training will resume every Tuesday and Thursday from mid-March. Phil Hinton (telephone 364 9958) can provide further details.

COMEBACK

Christie, an East Fremantle premiership player in 1985 and captain from 1988-90, attempted a comeback last season, but was again injured after winning back a league guernsey.

Training has already started at South Oval, at the Curtin University, on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

"I've always wanted to coach and Wesley Curtin has a strong player base to build on," says Christie.

"We have a number of good players including State captain Jeff Miller (a brother of East Perth's Peter Miller) and former Swan Districts defender Rex Carlshausen."

MASTERS CHOC PRESENTS

What's happening in sport

CRICKET

Test series — Fifth Test: Australia v West Indies, WACA Ground, January 30-February 3.
Sheffield Shield: February 3-6 — New South Wales v WA, Sydney.

HORSE RACING

Ascot — Saturday, January 30: Australia Day Stakes; Monday, February 1: Australia Day Cup; Saturday, February 6: Qantas Cup Day.

SPEEDWAY

Quit Claremont Speedway — Friday, January 29: New Spares Solo Sizzler; Friday, February 5: Freeway Auto Services; Tom McQuade Sidecar Classic; February 11-12-13: Australian Sprintcar Championships.

TROTTING

Gloucester Park — Friday, January 29: Mt Eden Sprint. Friday, February 5: Westral \$50,000 Fillies Classic.

YACHTING

Matilda Bay — Omega Australia Cup. January 27-31.

BASEBALL

January 28: Parry Field — Perth Heat v Melbourne Bushrangers. February 5-6: Adelaide Giants v Perth Heat, Adelaide.

State League: Sunday, January 31: Victoria Park v South Perth; Wembley v Perth; Wanneroo v Swan Districts; Morley v West Stirling; Gosnells v Melville Braves. Wednesday, February 3: Victoria Park v Melville Braves; Perth v Morley. Sunday, February 7: Perth v Victoria Park; Wanneroo v Wembley; Morley v South Perth; Gosnells v Swan Districts; Melville Braves v West Stirling. Wednesday February 10: West Stirling v Morley; South Perth v Victoria Park.

GOLF

The Vines — January 28-31: Heineken Golf Classic.

TENNIS

Fremantle — January 30-February 1: Masters Dairy City of Fremantle championships.

MASTERS CHOC



You'd think that Masters Choc comes from chocolate cows.

Super Norman the man

THE greatest show in golf, Greg Norman, is set to hit Perth.

There may be better golfers than Norman and there may be golfers with more major titles than Norman, but nobody sets alight a gallery like the blond Queenslander.

Not since the great Arnold Palmer has a golfer had the ability to thrill the fans with his combination of charismatic good looks and powerful golf game.

That enormous talent will be on display at the \$300,000 Heineken Classic at The Vines this weekend, but in the back of everybody's mind watching The Shark will be the other side of the Greg Norman story.

MIRACLES

Norman is almost as famous for his defeats as he is for his victories.

to watch

Sunday Times golf writer STEVE MARTIN looks at the stars of the Heineken Classic being played at The Vines this weekend

The list of last-hole miracles that have robbed the Australian of victory in major tournaments is incredibly long.

Larry Mize chipped in from 40-metres to win the 1987 U.S. Masters, then there was Bob Tway holing a bunker shot to take the 1986 U.S. PGA, David Frost holed another bunker shot to take the 1990 USF and G. Classic and most amazing of all, was Robert Gomez holing a seven-iron to win the 1990 Nestle Invitational.

All these miraculous shots occurred at the final hole of a tournament and all prevented Norman from taking the titles.

If they had not gone in the hole, Norman would have won three majors and his status as a great player would be unquestioned. They didn't and Norman's only major title remains the 1986 British Open.

The tragedy of Norman's career was best illustrated at the 1989 British Open.

The Florida-based Queenslander brilliantly birdied the first six holes of the final round at Troon to force his way into a play-off with fellow Australian Wayne Grady and American Mark Calcavecchia.

Norman then birdied the first two holes of the four-hole play-off and looked to have his second Open title in the bag before hitting into two bunkers and then out of bounds on the final hole to hand the title to Calcavecchia.

Incredibly, Norman birdied 10 of the 20 holes he played that day in Scotland and still victory slipped out of his fingers.

It is now seven years since Norman's British Open triumph and he will turn 38 next month. Have we seen the best of the Shark?

Probably he will never dominate world golf like he did in 1986, when he led all four majors going into the final round and was world No. 1, but golf fans should still get out to The Vines this weekend to see one of the best swings in golf.

Norman is the class act in a strong field and deserves his 3/1 favouritism for the Classic, despite never having played the course.

Norman is one of the biggest hitters in golf and he might not be as consistent as he once was, but his ability to launch a ferocious Shark attack is undiminished.

Keeping Norman honest will be fellow Queenslanders Wayne Grady, Ian Baker-Finch and Peter Senior.

YOUNG STAR

Sensational young Victorian Robert Allenby will also be a star attraction at the fourth staging of the Classic.

WA is yet to produce a Classic winner, but Roger Mackay heads a strong local field.

Mackay has been an excellent performer in Japan in recent years and showed signs of reaching top form with his third place finish in last week's Tournament Players Championship at Royal Melbourne, behind Allenby and Grady.

Other WA players in with some chance are Wayne Smith, Terry Gale, Lyndsay Stephen, Stephen Leaney and Brad King.

Non-stop action at The Vines

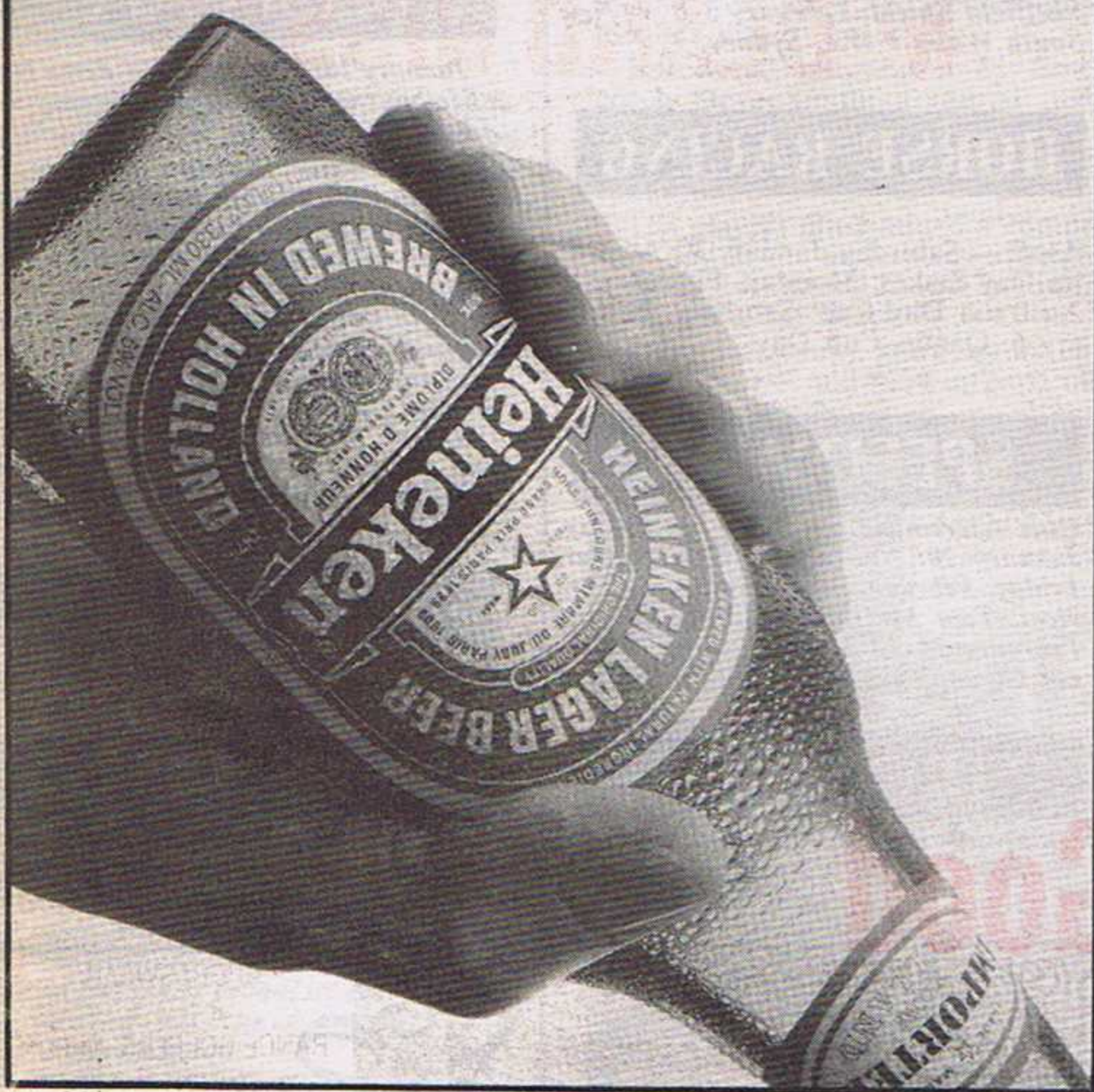
THE Heineken Classic hits off this Thursday and Friday, with the first group of three teeing off at 7.30am and the last trio at 1.50pm, with everyone back in the clubhouse just before 7pm.

On the Saturday and Sunday, there is a 7.40am start, with the last trio going off at 12.45pm and the final group into the 18th by 5.45pm.

Transport to and from The Vines is first class, with Fastrak by train to the Guildford station and then free bus services to and from The Vines, starting early in the morning and returning from mid-afternoon.

Admission prices are \$20 for a day ticket and \$50 for a season four-day pass. Concessions are \$10 and \$30 for seniors, pensioners and children aged from 5-16. Children under five are free.

The best greens this summer are at a 45° angle.



POWER PLUS . . . Greg Norman not only drives long and accurate, but he draws the big crowds as well



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Focus on the Heineken Classic



GO GO ... young Aussie superstar Robert Allenby urges the ball towards the hole

YOUNG Victorian Robert Allenby has made the most exciting arrival on the Australian golf scene since another tall, blond headed 21-year-old won the West Lakes Classic in 1976.

That West Lakes winner was, of course, Greg Norman and Allenby now gets a chance to trade shots with the Shark at the Heineken Classic this week.

Tournament organisers have paired Norman and Allenby together for the first and second rounds in expectation of a showdown between the king and the heir apparent of Australian golf.

Allenby's rise has been nothing short of remarkable.

Since finishing second in the 1991 Australian Open as an amateur, Allenby has blitzed the professional ranks.

In an unbelievable rookie year, Allenby won the Perak Masters and Johnnie Walker Classic to finish on top of the Australian PGA Tour Order of Merit.

He started 1993 in the same fashion, winning the Tournament Players' Championship at Royal Melbourne last week by beating Wayne Grady in a play-off.

Already some of Australia's best are giving Allenby huge wraps.

Ian Baker-Finch made the extraordinary statement that Allenby was the best young golfer in the world, better than 26-year-old Spaniard Jose Maria Olazabal, who is tipped as a future world No. 1.

Grady also was very impressed after getting a close look at Allenby's ability last weekend.

"He's got something a little bit different, he's not your average sort of player," Grady said — and that's exactly what they were saying about one G. Norman 16 years ago.

It would be unfair to expect Allenby to win back-to-back tournaments at this stage of his young career, but the pairing with Norman sets up a fascinating encounter.

Allenby has shown he is not intimidated by big name opponents or big occasions.

*Young
star
drives
to the
top*

Marsh designs Vines as test of accuracy

IF EAGLES full-forward Peter Sumich could design a football oval, he would wipe out the right forward flank. That would suit his hooking left-foot kicking style.

Golfers do the same thing, so it should come as no surprise that The Vines is a test of golf that needs most of the attributes found in the game of its creator, Graham Marsh.

Over more than 20 years as a pro, Marsh has recorded victories around the globe. Some of his more impressive are the Heritage Classic in the US, the Australian PGA championship and the World Matchplay Championship, plus more than 20 tournaments in Japan.

COMPETITIVE

Deadly accurate, consistent and with a fierce competitive spirit; that's what Marsh had as he hit his way to the top and that is what's needed to be successful at The Vines.

The Vines is widely regarded as the toughest course on the Australian PGA Tour and even the best players will come unstuck around this Swan Valley layout.

Marsh obviously didn't intend the course to be a walk in the park. He wanted to test the character of the golfers.

On nearly every hole, a hazard of some kind will punish an errant shot.

Strategically placed bunkers, water or bush can quickly spoil a good score at The Vines.

And there is no let up, no blaze-away hole where you can expect a birdie to relieve the tension.

Even the par fives, which are not long, have undulating greens which

By **STEVE MARTIN**

can force a three-putt if the approach doesn't land close to the flag.

The golfer who gets to hold aloft the winner's trophy on Sunday night will not necessarily be the longest hitter or the best putter. He will be the player who keeps the ball in play and avoids the pitfalls of The Vines and minimises the damage when the setbacks inevitably come.

He will, in fact, be the sort of golfer Graham Marsh was in his prime.

The key holes are grouped around the middle of the round, especially if a sou'wester is blowing.

The 6th, 7th, 11th and 12th are all par-fours which play considerably tougher into an afternoon sea breeze and to escape from this little quartet in even par could set up a good round.

The final two holes offer great excitement and a big swing in scores.

The par-four 17th was the third toughest hole on the entire PGA Tour in 1992 and a potential disaster waiting to happen.

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THE \$300,000 Heineken international golf tournament at The Vines is a Classic — on and off the course.

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Leader boards are located at various points around the course, at the 4th, 12th, 14th, 16th and 17th holes, plus the putting green and the central tournament area.

Free sunscreen courtesy of the Cancer Foundation will be available at the 4th and 12th greens and near the information booth. The emphasis on good clean air is accompanied by a request for spectators not to smoke as they follow the players around — part of the Quit campaign's push for healthier living.

St John Ambulance medical services are also available around the course on all days.

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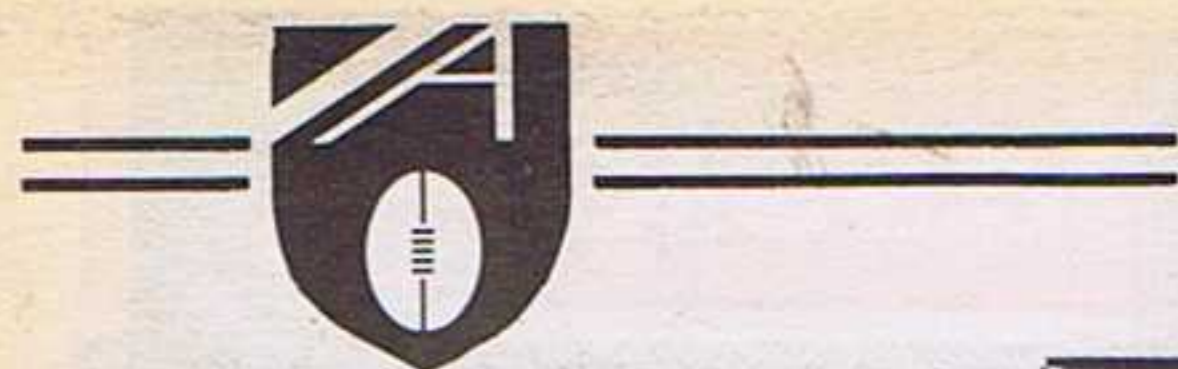


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Footy around the nation

Eagles not planning too far ahead

THE West Coast Eagles are making no rash predictions about winning back-to-back AFL premierships.

In fact, Eagles coach Mick Malthouse says the club will probably not even set their sights on the premiership at this stage.

"We must approach the season simply setting our sights on the first game," Malthouse said on radio recently.

"We had some luck last year, with a few things falling our way, especially with other sides.

"To eliminate the reliance on luck, we have to work hard early and set our sights simply on winning games."



LOOK SHARP... West Coast's rehabilitation officer Tom Odgers puts some injured players through a sharp ball work-out — with strenuous penalties such as 60 to 80 sit-ups for mis-handling. The recovering Eagles are (from left) Travis Burton, Tony Evans, Steven Davies and David Hart

Malthouse believes there is still plenty of room for improvement in the operation of the West Coast camp, even though a lot of aspects of the club's activities were much better controlled last season.

He felt that the razzamatuzz had

gone out of the Eagles public activities — especially after the hype that existed in the previous season — and the players were far more down to earth.

One area where Malthouse sees major changes is catering for the different

lite-styles of the players.

"We have to cater for those players who work between 9am and 5pm and work towards allowing people the luxury of going home and having dinner with their families," he said.

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For membership enquiries call 381 4244



WCEA 0022

Roos back in town

FITZROY track-watchers heaved a sigh of relief recently when their star performer, Paul Roos, returned to training looking fit and enthusiastic.

The Lions captain spends his summers in America, where he was recently married and enjoyed a Californian honeymoon.

Being so far removed from the dramas of survival, club officials have often wondered whether the 10-year veteran might suddenly decide not to bother returning home one year.

However, he arrived back in Melbourne recently, just in time to join his Fitzroy team-mates on a training camp at Mt Buller.

Training campaigns tougher

THE increasing training demands being made on today's AFL players is confirmed by a round-up in the Melbourne Sunday Age newspaper.

Reigning premiers West Coast and the 1990 flag achievers Collingwood are the only clubs who give their players a day off during the week.

Reporter Rohan Connolly says that the Eagles and the Magpies have both given their players a free day on Thursdays over summer. But that's it!

All clubs have morning and evening training sessions, with the Adelaide Crows a typical example — ball work on the track on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, with gym and weights programmes on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Blues rover on way back

COMEBACKS are part and parcel of pre-season training and Carlton hope that promising rover Andrew Phillips will be successful in his bid to return to action this year.

The 22-year-old played 20 games for the Blues in 1991, finishing third in their fairest and best award.

But a persistent back problem forced him out of action last season and his career looked over.

However, a strong effort over summer saw him take part in the club's pre-season training camp and he is set to try himself out in the Blues early practice matches.

Madden now a selector

THE retirement of Essendon ruckman Simon Madden has enabled the Victorian selectors to add some strength to their line-up.

The veteran 35-year-old joins the selection panel of coach Bill Goggin, chairman Ted Whitten, Ron Barassi and Gerard Healy.

Madden bowed out of the AFL scene last season, with 379 games behind him — an Essendon record — and he replaces another veteran in Kelvin Moore as a selector.

With 14 State-of-Origin games to his credit, Madden knows what is required to succeed at the top level of interstate football, winning a Simpson Medal for a great ruck display against Western Australia at the WACA Ground in 1990.

Moore, the former Hawthorn full-back and outstanding State player, moves to St Kilda, where he will be on the match committee.

A century of champions

STAR STUDDED... the combined Goldfields side that beat South Australia in 1937 presents a formidable line-up. **BACK ROW** (from left): M. Gibson, A. Birmingham, S. Butler, A. Forrest, G. Ferguson, P. Crabb, C. Tyson, H. Hanrahan. **MIDDLE ROW:** P. C. Hunt (GNFL president), R. Maynard, S. Beaton, B. Birmingham (captain), J. Scott (coach), J. Mills (vice-captain), R. Ferguson, J. Martin, R. Mitchell (GNFL secretary). **SEATED:** C. Osmetti, H. Virgo, J. Beaton



Victory against SA side was a highlight

Compiled from match reports included in Kalgoorlie books written by JOHN TERRELL and LES EVERETT

NEGOTIATIONS for one of the most historical Goldfields matches took three months to put in place back in 1937.

The proposal was for a combined Goldfields team to play the South Australians on their way home after the 1937 Australian Carnival in Perth.

The major obstacle was transport — as the normal Trans Australia rail service did not stop at Kalgoorlie, so a 'Footballers' Special' was arranged.

South Australian umpire M.F. Armstrong took the whistle and the game received an unexpected boost when Victorian captain Haydn Bunton snr and vice-captain Bill Mohr acted as boundary umpires.

GOODWILL

Profits were to be divided between the two leagues, but as a goodwill gesture, the SANFL offered their share — after expenses — to local charities.

Brem Birmingham captained the Goldfields, having won the Dillon Medal as the league's fairest and best in 1935 and playing with Claremont in 1936, representing WA and polling well in the Sandover Medal.

Vice-captain Jim Mills also repre-

sented WA in 1936, while playing for South Fremantle. The Goldfields coach was Jack Scott.

The fixture offered the South Australians the chance to complete the tour with a victory, having lost to WA and Victoria in the carnival.

A record crowd of 7500 fans turned out at the Kalgoorlie Oval to see Birmingham win the toss and kick with the wind.

The polished South Australians got the jump on the locals with their excellent handball and use of the now-banned flick pass, to lead by 19 points at quarter-time. But clever play by Charlie Osmetti in the forward line turned the deficit into a three-point lead at the main change.

Strong play by Birmingham, Gus Ferguson and Cliff Tyson helped the Goldfields kick 10 goals in the third quarter to lead by 51 points at the change.

The South Australians rallied courageously, with the dangerous Ken Farmer figuring prominently.

However, solid play from Alan Forrest, Jim Mills, Jack Martin and Osmetti steadied the surge and the locals achieved a great victory, 21.21 (147) to 18.12 (120).

Two-way traffic

STRONG links have existed between South Australia and the Goldfields, with players moving across the border both ways to make their marks.

One of Kalgoorlie's most notable exports to Adelaide was Neville Way, who made his name in later years as chairman of the WA Turf Club. He played with Boulder City in the early 1940s before moving to Adelaide, to be Norwood's their leading goalkicker in 1945 (47 goals). In a 1947 clash with South Adelaide, he posted 10 goals and he represented SA in 1949.

Jack Woolard was another prominent Goldfields export, starting with Mines Rovers and Kalgoorlie before captaining East Perth in 1906 and then playing for three clubs in Adelaide — West Torrens, Sturt and Port Adelaide, who he captained in their 1910 clash with the Goldfields.

The Metherall brothers, from Moonta, in South Australia, were credited with forming the legendary Goldfields team, the Moonta Turks.

Boulder City twice went recruiting in Adelaide for coaches — and were rewarded with a premiership both times, Jack Ritch in 1935 and Jack Broadstock in 1948.

Former Sturt player A.V. "Parley" Wickens was named as the Goldfields best player in 1934 and later captain-coached Kalgoorlie.

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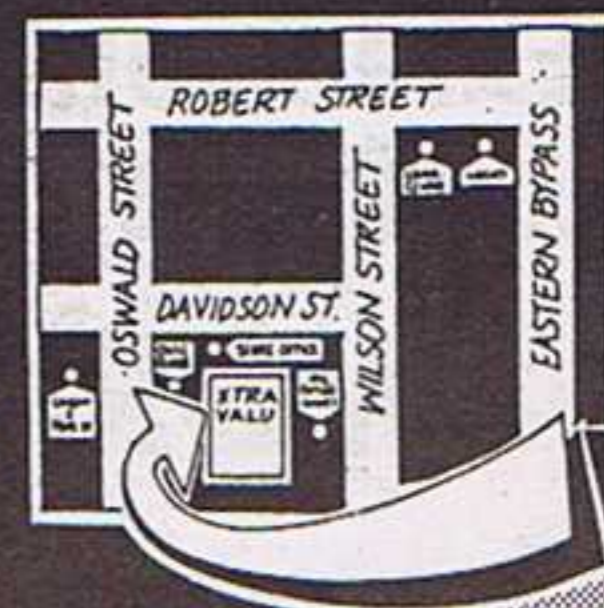
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Goldfields Centenary



Kalgoorlie set to overflow

KALGOORLIE will be bursting at the seams for the football extravaganza on Saturday, February 6, to kick their centenary celebrations off in fine style.

The Sir Richard Moore Sportsground (pictured above) will be jam-packed with more than 10,000 spectators for three games of football on the day.

There is very little accommodation left in the city and the Prospector train service is heavily booked, with a specially-chartered Friday night run sold out weeks ago.

There will be plenty of other activities surrounding the football match.

Channel 7's Dennis Cometti will present the news alongside Paddy Hannan's famous statue in the main street on the Friday night and will also host a panel show (and gambling night) staged by the Goldfields Football League.

The Palace Hotel is hosting a \$150-a-head black tie dinner on the Friday night, which was sold out quickly and the local consortium pushing for a WAFL team will hold a Saturday morning breakfast, organised by Alf Caputo.

The Goldfields has a traditionally-large Yugoslav and Italian community and they will prepare a special meal for all players on the Sunday before their departure.

There will be plenty of other action in the city.

Friday night will see a big speedway demolition derby, which will bring hundreds of people into town and Hannans Street will be closed off on the Saturday night for a Mardi Gras to cater for the estimated 5000 visitors.

"Hotels will have bands playing on their balconies and the whole township will come alive," says Krepp.

Eagles enjoy Goldfields connection

WEST Coast Eagles football manager Trevor Nisbett is one man who knows full well the talent that comes out of the Kalgoorlie football breeding ground.

Nisbett has enjoyed seeing a number of Kalgoorlie youngsters graduate to the top level, firstly in the WAFL and now in the AFL arena.

In his six years as football manager with Subiaco, Nisbett was a frequent visitor to Kalgoorlie, searching the Goldfields ranks for players with WAFL and AFL potential.

"I got to know the road pretty well," says Nisbett, who moved to the Eagles three years ago. "We flew up most times, but there were plenty of road trips, especially when a group of us went up there for something special."

ACHIEVERS

Heading the list of Kalgoorlie achievers under Nisbett's control at both Subiaco and the Eagles is, naturally enough, current club champion Dean Kemp, who joined the Lions from Railways in 1989 and was Subiaco's top rookie in his WAFL debut year.

He was drafted at No. 117 — with Nisbett always feeling confident that the Eagles would secure his services — and was the West Coast's top first year player in his AFL debut year of 1990.

Other Eagles from the Goldfields include Dean Irving and Steven Davies, plus former players in Glen O'Loughlin and John Annear — with rookie Jason Ball having family connections with Kalgoorlie.

"Kalgoorlie is a real traditional football breeding ground," says Nisbett.

"Despite some rough times with their economy, the Goldfields have

built many reputations on football success, going back over the years," he added.

Subiaco have certainly benefitted in recent years under their country zoning, though they had to work hard initially to develop good relationships with various Goldfields clubs and officials.

The Lions have an excellent working relationship these days with the Goldfields NFL and the different clubs, especially with people like former East Perth champion Brian Macgregor, who has been a stalwart of Kalgoorlie football for several decades.



SHINING LIGHT ... former East Perth star Brian Macgregor, who manages the Dulux paint agency in Kalgoorlie, has been a stalwart of Goldfields football



On Saturday, Feb 6 let's make it

EAGLES 1

IAN TAYLOR 1

FOR KALGOORLIE

IAN TAYLOR is an enthusiastic supporter of Goldfields sport. In recent times he has obtained support for:

Lighting at Sir Richard Moore Sports Centre

The new hockey stadium

Goldfields Speedway

Extensions to the Basketball Stadium and support for the Giants

... and is committed to a new Indoor Sporting Complex

WORKING FOR SPORT ON THE GOLDFIELDS

VOTE IAN TAYLOR 1

Authorised by Graeme Campbell, Maritana Street, Kalgoorlie-Boulder



Krepp pulls off a coup for the Goldfields



TOP DROP... Kalgoorlie publican Doug Krepp will be able to shout himself a drink after the successful football carnival

By **ALAN EAST**

THERE is very little that happens in Kalgoorlie football without the knowledge — or the endorsement — of Doug Krepp.

A life-time devoted to Goldfields sport has made the amiable publican almost a honorary spokesman for football.

The veteran Goldfields identity might have only played one league game for Swan Districts — a back injury kept him off the playing arena for six years — but his influence on Kalgoorlie football is quite impressive.

His father George was a Sandover Medal winner with Swan Districts and Doug has played a leading role in Goldfields football all his life.

There haven't been too many Kalgoorlie issues in recent decades that have not needed a comment or some constructive input from Krepp. Just listen to the ABC sports-talk sessions on radio 6WF and see if an issue involving Kalgoorlie goes unchallenged by the dedicated Goldfields man!

INVOLVEMENT

Now aged 50, Krepp has had a long involvement in the Goldfields liquor industry and recently opened the new Goldrush Tavern and restaurant.

His devotion to football continues and he has now pulled off an AFL coup for the Goldfields with the pre-season exhibition practice match between the nation's leading football club and reigning AFL premiers, the West Coast Eagles and their nearest-neighbours, the Adelaide Crows.

The planning for this centenary celebration match goes back almost two years.

Needing to satisfy an AFL request for a \$100,000 guarantee to underwrite the match, Krepp set out to get the finance, firstly getting support from the SGIO and then finding two football clubs to play.

Naturally, the West Coast Eagles

were a priority — even before their premiership victory — and Collingwood, the nation's most popular sporting club, was the next obvious target.

Prominent Kalgoorlie businessman Max Viskovich has long had strong ties with Collingwood and his influence got Krepp into their board room to discuss the prospect of the Magpies flying into Kalgoorlie.

Krepp then flew Eagles general manager Brian Cook up to Kalgoorlie to have the deal put to him first-hand.

The match was agreed to, initially as an Australia Day long weekend attraction. At one stage it had even been touted as a Foster's Cup clash, but Collingwood backed off.

Magpies coach Leigh Matthews had suffered the torture of playing a Foster's Cup game in Darwin's heat last February — a match that affected players for some time afterwards — and he opted out of a similar hot-spot.

However, that didn't daunt Krepp and his Goldfields supporters.

Krepp went to the AFL grand final to enjoy an Eagles victory — but mixed business with pleasure, meeting Crows general manager Bill Sanders and putting a deal to the club.

Krepp says that the organisers always wanted the West Coast as a priority; enabling them to bring some of their high-profile players back to Kalgoorlie — such as Eagles club champion Dean Kemp and ruckman Dean Irving.

"Brian Cook has been very supportive," says Krepp. "We've had their backing all along and when we lost Collingwood, we opted for the Crows, who had been to WA for a pre-season game before."

"We swung away from seeking a Foster's Cup match, simply because we would not have been able to select our opponents; we could have ended up with anyone."

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Thank you

WESTSIDE Football thanks authors and Kalgoorlie historians, JOHN TERRELL and LES EVERETT for information supplied in this souvenir edition

Terrell's book, Goldfields Sport — a Century of Heroes, Heroines and Happenings, will be launched at the Kalgoorlie Miner bookshop by Deputy Premier Ian Taylor, at 10am next Wednesday. The book is reviewed on the centre pages of this week's edition

Everett's book, which deals specifically with football and the feats of more than 300 players, is in need of a publisher and will be released later in the year



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