

**WESTSIDE**

# FOOTBALL

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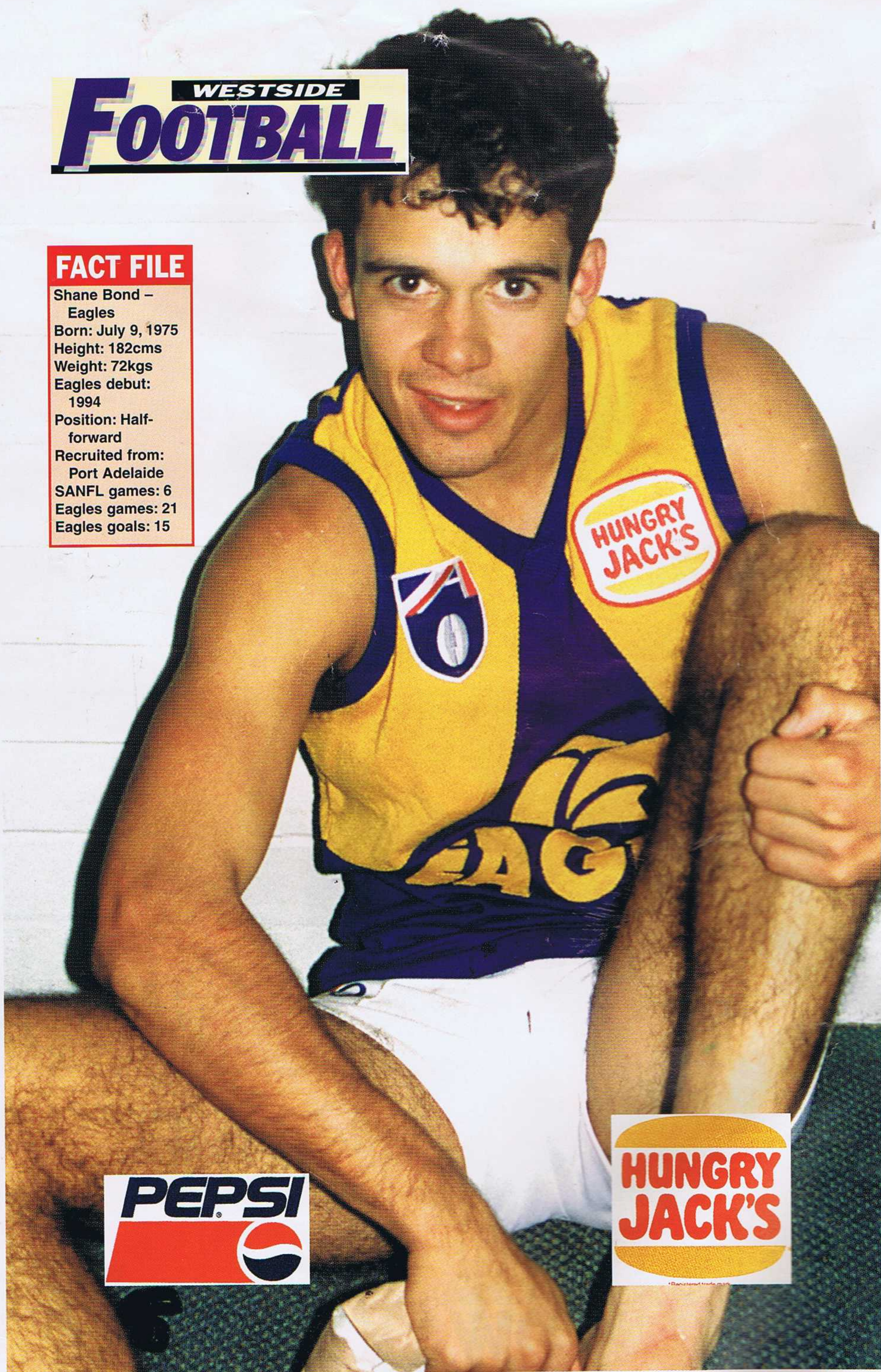
**MIDWAY** 



# WESTSIDE FOOTBALL

## FACT FILE

Shane Bond –  
Eagles  
Born: July 9, 1975  
Height: 182cms  
Weight: 72kgs  
Eagles debut:  
1994  
Position: Half-  
forward  
Recruited from:  
Port Adelaide  
SANFL games: 6  
Eagles games: 21  
Eagles goals: 15





# Clape, Peos get another chance

BY CRAIG NITSCHKE

**THE lottery of the AFL pre-season draft has been kind to East Perth pair Matt Clape and Paul Peos.**

They received call-ups to resurrect their AFL careers on Tuesday – with Clape joining Carlton and Peos back in familiar territory at West Coast training last night.

Peos returns from Brisbane to the Eagles, where he played 51 games (including five finals) after being a member of their inaugural 1987 squad.

The talented utility's drafting by the Eagles ends a bizarre summer in which his AFL future fluctuated.

The 27-year-old Peos transferred to Brisbane in the November 1992 draft and played 33 games, being their third-highest goalkicker last season with 29 from 21 matches.

A contractual dispute forced him to pack his bags and head home.

"I was out of contract and we couldn't negotiate a new deal," he said this week.

"I wanted to stay there as I really enjoyed my time with the Bears."

Peos joined pre-season training with newcomers Fremantle until the AFL ruled he couldn't train because he was still on the Bears list.

"I was happy with Fremantle before I got the flick," the former star junior from Manjimup said.

"From the time I ran out with Fremantle I thought that was basically it really."

Peos concedes that breaking back into the powerful Eagles line-up will be difficult. But he is determined not to be just a name on their list.

"It's a tough task, but if I get the opportunity I have enough confidence in my ability to make an impact," he said.

"Most clubs play 38 to 40 players a year, so I certainly see myself getting a chance. All I need is a couple of lucky breaks."

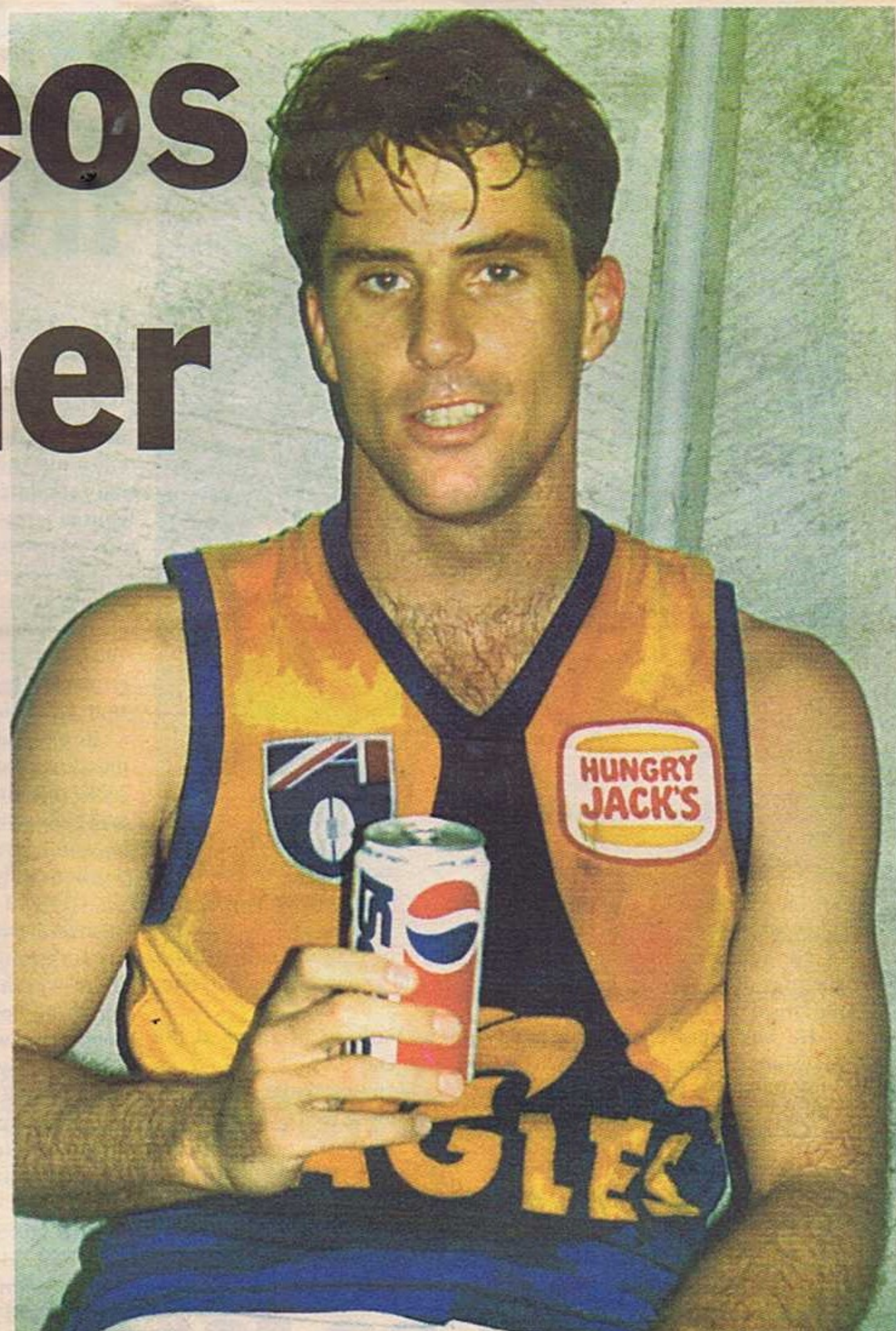
Clape, a talented half-back, has played 29 games with the Eagles since debuting in 1992. But he was starved of opportunities because of their formidable defence and made just six appearances last season.

"At half-back, you have a three-times All-Australian in Guy McKenna and the captain, John Worsfold," he says.

"Then there is Chris Waterman, Mitchell White and the young blokes coming through – there is not a great deal of opportunity."

Clape, who turns 26 in May, saw his time running out.

"In five or 10 years time, I didn't want to be wondering if I could have played here or there," he said, admitting that he felt the pressure on Monday night, with his career in the balance.



The waiting is over for former Eagle Matt Clape who has been drafted by Carlton

"I didn't have too many hours sleep. I spoke to a few clubs, including Carlton, but knowing the draft and how it works, it didn't really mean a lot."

The dashing defender chose not to line up for East Perth against Adelaide in a practice match at Margaret River last Saturday.

"I'm out of contract and didn't think it was a good idea," he said. "There was not a lot to gain, but a hell of a lot to lose."

Clape is aware he will have to earn his

spot with the Blues.

"It's not going to be a walk-up start at Carlton. But I spoke to David Parkin, Col Kinnear and Ken Judge this morning (Tuesday) and they were happy with their pick and said I would get every opportunity."

"I'm very happy. They are a great club and I see Carlton being premiership contenders again, so there is a chance to play in the finals. I suppose the ball is in my court."

## OUR COVER



Welcome home boys... back in WA to head up the inaugural Fremantle Dockers side in the AFL are (from left) Scott Waters, captain Ben Allan, Jason Norrish and Stephen O'Reilly.

Photo: GREG WOOD.

## Neesham happy with Dockers progress

FREMANTLE coach Gerard Neesham is more than happy with the progress of his charges leading up to tomorrow's Ansett Cup debut against St Kilda.

"They couldn't be better prepared at this time of the year," Neesham said on the eve of their first official AFL match.

"The players are combining well and there's a good feeling about the club."

Several players were forced to miss last week's practice match against Port Adelaide through injury or illness, but Neesham says that all should return for

the Ansett Cup opener.

Expected to be named in the team are captain Ben Allan, Peter Mann (back after minor injuries) and Travis Edmonds, who missed last week through conjunctivitis, a condition that sees full-forward John Hutton in doubt for Friday's clash.

Key forward Craig Burrows will also play after recovering from a sickness that hit him while in Adelaide.

Neesham said rookie recruit Jeff White was a contender.

"If he plays, he won't be used in the front line," Neesham said.

## Kicking off again

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# Impressive show from Ishchenko



TAKE A closer look at this version of Santa Claus and you may be able to recognise some familiar features.

The body may fit better now in Santa's outfit than in his East Perth guernsey of yesteryear, but John K. Watts still knows how to entertain the crowd.

He was captured doing a handy job as Father Christmas at the Maylands Cascade Tavern lunch on Christmas Day.

JKW was in great Christmas spirit, delivering presents of T-shirts, golf clubs and football club scarves to those enjoying the holiday cheer.

## Few serious injuries so far

INJURIES are a major concern for footballers throughout the season, but for those who suffer pre-season setbacks, it can be a frustrating start.

While last weekend's practice matches across Australia saw a number of players leave the arena as a precaution after hints of an injury, there were a few serious casualties.

Stars like West Coast wingman Chris Mainwaring, who dislocated his right shoulder against Adelaide in Margaret River, will be sidelined for a few weeks, while North Melbourne's Darren Crocker could be out for most of the year.

The talented Crocker seemed to tear a cruciate ligament in a knee in Norths practice match against Richmond and that would be a blow after recovering from groin and ankle injuries. Also adding to Norths injury list were champion youngster Corey McKernan and full-forward John Longmire.

McKernan sent panic through the 'Roos camp as he clutched at his leg in the third quarter, but it was diagnosed as a jarred knee.

Longmire, who produced a remarkable comeback last summer

after a knee reconstruction, is expected to quickly recover from a back spasm.

Eagles team-mates Peter Sumich and Guy McKenna should be ready for next week's Ansett Cup match after feeling hamstring twinges against Adelaide and were showered and changed by half-time.

St Kilda team-mates Danny Frawley and Shane Wakelin will miss this week's Ansett Cup match against the Fremantle Dockers.

Frawley has been told to "back off" by coach Stan Alves after suffering recurring back troubles, while Wakelin, filling in at full-back for Frawley, strained ankle ligaments against Fitzroy and has been ruled out of the Dockers clash.

And Hawthorn big man Randall Bone suffered concussion from an unusual source - he collided with field umpire Kieran Nicholls after a ball-up in the second quarter.

Having bounced the ball, Nicholls ran backwards - just as Bone ran forwards and a heavy collision resulted.

Bone was stretchered from the ground in a semi-conscious state, with a suspected broken nose.

MUCH-travelled WA big man Alex Ishchenko will have a new look this season.

The former Royal, Eagle and Bear has shed some unwanted kilos and the way he dominated the ruck in a recent North Melbourne intra-club practice match was pretty impressive.

The veteran Ishchenko, just about to turn 31, was a member of the inaugural Eagles line-up in 1987 and virtually came out of retirement to join Norths after a stint with Brisbane.

In the practice hit-out, he was pitted against young stars Corey McKernan and Mathew Capuano and his strong effort showed that he won't give up his No. 1 ruck position easily.

IT must have been a strange feeling for Doug Hawkins - sitting there watching the team with which he became a legend and hoping they would lose.

After 17 years and 329 games at Footscray, the veteran stepped out in new colours, wearing an unfamiliar No. 23 for Fitzroy in a practice match against his old club.

Sitting on the bench for the first half, Hawkins watched as former team-mate Scott West wore his old No. 7 guernsey in a classy performance.

Another ironic twist saw Bernie Quinlan coach Fitzroy for the first time against his old club - Footscray.

IT'S taken a couple of patient years, but things are looking rosy for St Kilda's David Sierakowski, recruited by the Saints from Subiaco in 1992.

The son of West Coast director and legendary Saint Brian will be tried at centre-half-back, having filled out considerably over summer.

Veteran defender Danny Frawley could be used in other defensive positions, allowing Sierakowski to stake a claim for the centre-half-back spot after just three senior games in 1994.

BRECK Hilton, a name familiar in local sporting circles, is making a name for himself in the colonies as he introduces Australian Football to Singapore.

A former physical education and sprint coach with North Melbourne (under Ron Barassi) and West Perth (with Dennis Cometti), Hilton is helping fund a Singapore football team to compete in the Arafura Sports Festival, in Darwin, from May 6-13.

He is staging a gala "Night with the Champions" function at Singapore's Westin Stamford

## Footy Rumours

Presented by Club Rumours

Hotel with WA sporting personalities Dennis Cometti, Ross Glenning and Bruce Yardley heading the bill.

The function is scheduled for Saturday, March 18, with a memorabilia auction, door prizes including overseas trips and an international buffet.

NEWLY-converted Fremantle Docker Brendan Krummel is being used as a role model to encourage youngsters to sign up for junior football in the East Fremantle district.

The Sharks have co-ordinated all 17 junior clubs in their metropolitan zone to have their registration day this Sunday and Krummel is the man to feature in their promotions.

After starting his career in Wickpin as a six-year-old, he continued at Pinjarra as his family moved around and then played with Applecross and Karoonda, in Sharks territory.

Krummel graduated to East Fremantle in 1990 and debuted with West Coast two years later, playing nine senior games before switching to the Dockers this season.

AFTER more than two years of in-fighting and emotive verbal jousting, South Australia seems set to have their second side in the AFL next year.

The decision by the SANFL to award the second licence to the powerful Port Adelaide Football Club - who are celebrating their 125th anniversary - was seen as a morale-boosting victory for the state's most traditional sporting body.

They got the nod ahead of combined bids by Norwood and Sturt and the Woodville-West Torrens club.

The AFL accepted the SANFL's extensive tendering process and agreed to accept the Magpies into the fold, but while Croweaters see '96 as THE year, it's not that cut-and-dried as yet.

The AFL Commission says it will only admit a second SA side when a position becomes vacant in the current 16-team competition - and any decision to add Port Adelaide can be reversed by a two-thirds majority of clubs voting against the plan.

THE Fremantle Dockers will sponsor a special bravery award as part of their plan to "adopt" the Children's Ward at the Fremantle Hospital.

The 22-bed ward overlooks Fremantle Oval and Dockers players will become closely associated with the many residents of the hospital, with beds named after individual stars.

The special bravery award from skipper Ben Allan will be signed by Dockers players and will go to children who show outstanding courage to overcome a major traumatic illness, or beat off tremendous odds to recover.

The children will be able to join the Fremantle Hospital Junior Dockers Club, receiving a special certificate, plus a Dockers pack of promotional material.

THE status-quo in football administration has been maintained at the top over summer.

The WA Football Commission has extended the terms of chairman Peter Tannock and members Kevin Edwards, Merv Cowan, Jeff Ovens and Barry MacKinnon.

Non-retiring commissioners John Fuhrmann and Brian Atkinson complete the line-up.

The commissioners had their extensions recommended by the newly-formed special members board which comprises the eight WAFL clubs having 50 per cent of the vote, with two AFL clubs 25-per cent each.

DUAL West Coast club champion Glen Jakovich has become one of the highest-paid players in the Eagles camp.

After a 1991 debut with the Eagles as an 18-year-old, Jakovich developed rapidly to be a key player, although his salary - which started in the mid \$60,000s - didn't relate to his services.

He jumped up into the \$120,000s after his first club champion award and new negotiations started midway through last season, even though he had another year of his contract to run.

The latest contract takes the star defender through to the end of the 1998 season on a salary around \$165,000 a year.

That might seem a lot, but if Tony Lockett is worth \$250,000 a year and Barry Mitchell - who failed to fire for Collingwood - was worth \$1 million over three years, then Jako is still underpaid.

The official press release said that compromises were reached by both the Eagles and Jakovich, so obviously there's still room for improvement.

# CLUB RUMOURS

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# Eagles choose local duo to complete '95 squad

BY CRAIG NITSCHKE

WEST Coast have finalised their 42-member squad for their 1995 premiership defence by welcoming back Paul Peos, re-drafting Jason Spinks and acquiring 16-year-old Chad Morrison.

Peos and Spinks were selected in the pre-season draft, while Morrison was snared at sixth pick in the choice of 16-year-olds – a concession for losing Brendan Krummel to Fremantle.

Morrison (180cm and 80kg) is a ruck-rover or wingman with the Southern Stingrays in the VSFL 18s competition and was a member of last year's Victorian Metropolitan side which won the Commonwealth Bank Cup.

Eagles football manager Trevor Nisbett described him as a "very skilful, quick young player".

Morrison will remain with the Stingrays this season.

Nisbett said the reigning premiers were delighted to pick up a player of Peos' experience with their first pick, No. 17.

"He is a senior player who has been with the group before and knows the

system, he is a good enough player to press for senior selection.

"We lost Matt Clape and certainly Paul is a good replacement."

Spinks was selected by the Eagles in the October draft, but they had to relinquish him when it was discovered he was tied to the Dockers.

"We're aware we won't have Jason this year, but we're thinking long-term after his knee rehabilitation and we hope to get the chance to look at him next year," Nisbett said.

□ □ □ □

GREG Madigan's Hawthorn background was a key factor in his selection by the Fremantle Dockers.

The Dockers had just one pick – No. 2 – and opted for the lanky ruckman, who was a member of Hawthorn's 1989 premiership side in his debut year.

Although 25-year-old Madigan has played just 40 games in six seasons at Glenferrie Oval, Dockers football manager Gerard McNeill says he will be a valuable acquisition.

"He offers more than just height and ability – the fact that he has

played at such a successful club is a definite advantage to us," McNeill said.

"We are hoping he can share some of that experience with our young crop of big men such as Jeff White, Jay Burton and Daniel Bandy."

□ □ □ □

SYDNEY will operate with a reduced squad of 40 after salary cap restrictions forced them to bypass their second pick and third overall in Tuesday's draft.

"We were up to our salary cap so we were unable to select anyone," Swans football manager Kevin Egan said.

The setback follows the refusal of October draft choice Anthony Rocca to join the club.

The burly forward, a younger brother of Collingwood spearhead Saverio Rocca, will remain with VSFL 18s team Northern Knights.

□ □ □ □

WAFU pair Derek Hall (West Perth) and Dean Talbot (East Perth) were picked up by Geelong at 16 and 30 respectively.



It's a happy camp in the Dockers Den, as coach Gerard Neesham shows with his light-hearted mood at training.

# Touring Dockers face chilling sound of silence

THE Fremantle Dockers have had an interesting introduction to the world of AFL football.

Pre-season matches against the Northern Territory, Essendon and Port Adelaide have given the coaching panel ample opportunity to see the young squad in action opposed to quality opposition.

In order to "fast-track" the development of teamwork, as many matches as possible are being played before the season proper gets under way.

The team has moulded together remarkably well considering that we've come from many different directions; there's a good feeling about getting on well as team.

We know that if we don't go out as a total team, we've got no chance of succeeding.

Getting together as a group of

## Freo Feelings

Inaugural Dockers captain

Ben Allan

writes exclusively for Westside Football

presented by

guys is a priority.

Our objective every time we take to the arena is simply to be competitive; it doesn't matter who we play or where, we all have to totally believe that we'll have a good crack at them.

After training in Perth since October, in ideal conditions, the

trip to Darwin was a chance for the team to play in a totally foreign environment.

The need to be competitive, both at home and, more importantly, interstate, is the biggest hurdle the Dockers will have to overcome this season.

The game against Essendon gave the inexperienced members of the squad the chance to pit their skills against quality players.

We realise that Essendon were under-manned, but the win over the Bombers, who were AFL premiers just two years ago, gave us a much-needed injection of confidence.

Last Friday was another opportunity to prepare for our away matches, with a game at Football Park, against Port Adelaide, the reigning South Australian premiers.

Port have been granted an AFL

licence and their impending graduation to the national competition ensured that the Magpie faithful would be out in full force supporting their team.

Having more than 22,000 fans remain silent when your team kicks a goal is an issue that we have to come to terms with quickly. It's deathly quiet and that is something our young players will find hard to cope with.

At least when visiting teams play at Subiaco Oval, for example, there is a smattering of support for the visitors; even an occasional cheer.

But not in Adelaide.

Football Park is one of the most difficult grounds to play at from a crowd point of view. Even when you kick out after a point at Football Park the crowd is yelling at you, trying to put you off. And when you're lining up for goal, it's unbelievable.

There's a similar feeling at Victoria Park when you play Collingwood.

There you seem close to the crowd because of the proximity of the stands and it's a vocal feeling having the fans breathing down

your neck.

At Football Park, it's a little different with the big stands, but it's daunting all the same.

Off the field, adjustments will have to be made to our weekly preparation and every second week our key match team meeting will be held in a hotel room.

In a professional sport, teams can be required to play on any given day, at any time — in daylight or under lights — and in a variety of conditions, such as Darwin's thunderstorm.

We are starting to become a team that aims to be competitive wherever and whenever we play.

The feeling of Fremantle is really rubbing off.

From my WAFL-playing days I well remember the journey to Fremantle Oval and Claremont players always knew we had a tussle on our hands, no matter where the two sides were on the ladder.

The support from Fremantle Oval has always been tremendous and we are feeling that coming through to the Dockers.

Freo people love their footy and that loyalty will be great for us.

# Pagan keen on former 'Dog

NORTH Melbourne could rush robust former Footscray utility Keenan Reynolds into their side for Sunday's Ansett Cup clash with Brisbane at Waverley Park.

The 26-year-old veteran of 74 games is eager to line up for his new club and Kangaroos coach Denis Pagan is also keen on the idea.

Reynolds obviously lacks match fitness after being forced to train by himself since quitting the Bulldogs over a pay dispute, but he believes a game this week would help his cause.

"I spoke to Denis this morning and he said he was keen to play me," Reynolds said this week.

"I'm certainly a bit underdone; probably three matches away from full fitness, but I'd love to play."

Reynolds was one of the prize picks on offer in the draft, but a high price tag prevented his name

from being called out until No. 15.

It was a clever ploy to ensure he was not snapped up by one of the struggling clubs with an early choice.

"That's why my manager and I put a reasonably high figure on my head – to try and scare some of the lesser clubs off," said Reynolds, who primarily played in a back pocket or at centre-half-back with Footscray, but has been successfully used in attack.

North Melbourne set their sights on him after the departure of regular centre-half-back Peter Mann to the Fremantle Dockers.

"You are always happy to get someone you feel can go straight into your senior side," Norths football manager Geoff Walsh said.

"He can play at either end and with his size and shape, he's the type of player who can help cover the loss of Peter Mann."

Reynolds was just as enthusias-

tic about his new environment.

"I'm rapt. Out of all the clubs, they were the one I wanted to play for," he said. — CRAIG NITSCHKE

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# Dockers the major point of interest

**THE introduction of the AFL's newest club, the Fremantle Dockers, is the major talking point of the 1995 football season.**

Critics and fans alike are abuzz with speculation about how the Dockers will go as four-times Claremont premiership coach Gerard Neesham steps up a level to enhance his coaching reputation.

A survey of six prominent media personalities puts the Dockers and their possible success rate at the top of the list when it comes to assessing the 1995 season.

The cross-section of media men - Basil Zempilas, Peter Bosustow, Adrian Barich, John McGrath, Ray Wilson and Peter Vlahos - were quizzed about one major point they are looking forward to in the coming season.

Here's how the experts answered the question:

**JOHN McGRATH** (*West Australian*): "I'm looking forward to the same thing that most other West Australian fans are - how will the Dockers go in their first year?"

"I'm also keen to see whether the Eagles can win back-to-back premierships and, more personally, whether West Coast's Fraser Gehrig can live up to my expectations and play some good AFL football in his rookie year."

**PETER VLAHOS** (*Radio 6NR*): "Many media critics believe the Dockers will win no more than two games, but some think they can sneak into the final eight."

"The uncertainty surrounding

the Dockers will keep everyone interested.

"I'm also looking forward to watching the new breed of AFL players emerge from the WAFL; seeing the players who can make the grade."

**ADRIAN BARICH** (*Channel 9*): "The Eagles are doing everything right and I'm interested to watch them head towards more premiership glory."

"Being in the press box to see the Dockers go head-to-head with the Eagles will also be exciting."

"It will be interesting to see whether Gerard Neesham's football system will work in the AFL. The two WA coaches have contrasting styles with Mick Malthouse under-using the ball and Neesham over-using it."

**RAY WILSON** (*Sunday Times*): "Naturally the efforts of the Dockers will take priority. The Eagles premiership bid will also occupy a lot of media speculation time, but I'm also expecting a revival from Adelaide."

"The Crows had a disappointing 1994 season, failing to make the finals after narrowly missing a grand final berth the year before."

"It will be interesting watching their ability to rebound"

**BASIL ZEMPILAS** (*Channel 7*): "The Eagles challenge to go back-to-back will be fascinating."

"It's so hard to achieve in today's type of football, but West Coast definitely have got the team to do it, but the mental ability is the question."

"It will be great if they can



Once a Lion... always a Lion - that's the story as these former Subiaco players caught up with each other down Margaret River way last weekend. Eagles Tony Godden, Mitchell White and Jarrad Schofield were pleased to see their former team-mate Matt Connell, who was back in WA with the Adelaide Crows.

achieve another premiership.

"Obviously the arrival of the Fremantle Dockers makes life in the media a lot more interesting and their progress will be monitored closely."

**PETER BOSUSTOW** (*ABC*): "It's going to be tremendous for

the fans having an AFL game in Perth each week."

"It will be interesting to see what sort of crowds the Dockers can attract and see just how fanatical their supporters will be."

"I think the Dockers seasoned players like Scott Watters, Ben

Allan and Stephen O'Reilly can have excellent seasons and it will be good to see young players like Quenton Leach and Scott Edwards make the grade."

"Just how Gerard Neesham's style of play works in the AFL will also be interesting."

## Lions veterans honoured

**EIGHT surviving members of Fitzroy's eighth - and last - premiership victory in 1944 have been honoured at a sellout function at the club's hotel.**

The premiership flag was presented as a showpiece at the lunch, which was hosted by Leon Wiegard, a former club president.

The 1944 premiership saw Fitzroy beat Jack Dyer's Richmond by 15 points after going 22 years without glory.

The surviving members who

were honoured were 1950 Brownlow Medallist Alan Ruthven, Clen Denning, Maurie Hearn, Alan Fields, Ken Sier, George Hoskin, Laurie Bickerton and Noel Jarvis.

RUMOUR has it that there has been some conflict between Carlton assistant coach Ken Judge and director of football operations and chairman of selectors, Colin Kinnear.

Judge has again joined up with former Brisbane general manager Shane O'Sullivan, now back at Carlton as recruiting manager.

O'Sullivan hijacked Judge to Brisbane in 1987 after he had returned from Hawthorn to East Fremantle.

FLAMBOYANT Dermott Brereton is still able to command attention wherever he goes - even if he's playing in an under-23 practice match.

Brereton, the 30-year-old veteran of 196 AFL games and Paul Dear were exceptions to the age limit when Hawthorn tackled Melbourne - but he showed that he's still determined to succeed at the top level.

Brereton started the match tentatively, obviously wary of the young talent he was playing against.

He was pleased with his performance, moving well and he said that was all he was looking for.

Hawthorn chief executive Peter Hudson was a little more subdued in his analysis of Brereton's efforts:

## Across Country

Melbourne journalist **Ken Piesse** reports on news from the Eastern States



"He did a couple of nice things. It's very hard to play at your top in games like this."

But now that he's a Collingwood player, maybe the Hawks don't want Dermie to play at his top!

ST KILDA coach Stan Alves has left no stone unturned in his preparation for this week's opening Ansett Cup clash with the Fremantle Dockers.

Determined to atone for a disappointing 1994 season after he was thrown into the deep end as coach of the Saints, Alves flew to Perth for the recent practice match between the Dockers and Essendon.

Alves suggested that the Dockers were a 'typical WAFL side' and conceded that they would play a different style of football to other AFL teams.

## Burswood's Best

### THE AFL'S LEADING PERFORMERS

The following tables show who topped the AFL tables in 1994 in the kicks, marks and handballs department, including all finals:

KICKS		MARKS		HANDBALLS	
Don Pyke (Eagles)	392	David Schwarz (Melbourne)	173	Greg Williams (Carlton)	364
Ben Allan (Hawthorn)	390	Wayne Carey (Nth Melbourne)	164	Chris McDermott (Adelaide)	314
Nathan Buckley (Collingwood)	376	Stephen Kernahan (Carlton)	160	Paul Broderick (Richmond)	293
Mark Hunter (Footscray)	365	Chris Grant (Footscray)	155	Todd Viney (Melbourne)	288
Chris Mainwaring (Eagles)	360	Garry Lyon (Melbourne)	151	Craig Lambert (Brisbane)	279
Glen Jakovich (Eagles)	359	Shaun Rehn (Adelaide)	149	Garry Hocking (Geelong)	273
Wayne Schwass (North Melbourne)	353	Brendan Gale (Richmond)	144	Barry Mitchell (Carlton)	268
Tony McGuinness (Adelaide)	352	Jason Dunstall (Hawthorn)	144	Brett Lovett (Melbourne)	241
Anthony Stevens (North Melbourne)	343	James Hird (Essendon)	143	Shaun Rehn (Adelaide)	236
Garry Hocking (Geelong)	338	Jason Taylor (Hawthorn)	142	Paul Couch (Geelong)	229
Scott West (Footscray)	338	Paul Roos (Fitzroy)	141	Gavin Brown (Collingwood)	219

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PHIL BACKSHALL



# Allan key to battle for control of corridor

BY BRAD ELBOROUGH

**FREMANTLE captain Ben Allan's return to the side for this week's Ansett Cup clash with St Kilda, at East Fremantle Oval, sets up an interesting tussle against classy St Kilda centreman Robert Harvey.**

Allan missed the game against Port Adelaide due to a strained calf muscle, but is confident he will play in the Ansett Cup opener.

Another of Fremantle's prize recruits in Peter Mann also looks certain to play this week, making his first appearance at centre-half-back.

Despite losing key forward Tony Lockett, the Saints have managed to find some early form, notching a 14-point win over Collingwood and failing by just two points to beat Fitzroy, with several key players missing.

They have looked towards veteran half-forward Stewart Loewe to fill the vacant goal-square and he hasn't disappointed them.

Loewe kicked five goals in three quarters against Collingwood, but missed the next hit-out against Fitzroy.

The big-marking giant returns for this clash against Fremantle and should receive the close attention of miserly full-back, Stephen O'Reilly.

Nicky Winmar is another important player to the Saints chances after bagging five goals from a wing against Collingwood.

Several Dockers may get the opportunity to curb Winmar's tal-

ents, with former Eagle Brendan Krummel and speedster Andrew Wills heading the list.

Another of St Kilda's recruits, former Sydney utility Robert Neill, is set to meet up with an old team-mate in Scott Watters.

The former Eagle and Swan is now with his third AFL club and, along with Allan, has been outstanding in Fremantle's early games.

St Kilda will have to re-organise their defence, as they will be without a recognised full-back, with Danny Frawley and promising stand-in custodian Shane



Experienced defender Todd Menegola and ruckman Matthew Burton prepare for Friday's Cup game.

Wakelin both injured.

Dockers Adelaide recruit Chris Groom is likely to line up at full-forward.

Fremantle's No. 1 draft pick, Jeff White, could make his debut in an official AFL fixture, however Matthew Burton and Travis Burton are front-runners to lead the ruck.

They will have their hands full, with Saints pair Lazar Vidovic and Peter Everitt showing good form in practice matches.

With Loewe moving to full-forward, the gap at centre-half-forward is one the Saints are keen to fill, with youngster Wayne Thornborrow likely to get more time there.

The Dockers haven't had such problems, with Craig Burrows putting his hand up for that position.

Burrows could find himself lining up on former West Australian David Sierakowski, who is ready to make the step up to senior level after two years with the Saints.

# Action starts in earnest

BY BRAD ELBOROUGH

**THE pre-season juggling is over, the draft is finished and the AFL clubs have their final list of players for season 1995.**

The AFL action gets serious this weekend when the \$366,000 Ansett Cup pre-season competition kicks off, with the newest club, Fremantle, getting things rolling with their clash against St Kilda.

The Friday twilight match at East Fremantle Oval is the only Ansett Cup clash in Perth this season, with most other games at Waverley Park.

Carlton are second off the blocks, tackling Richmond, at Waverley on Saturday.

The Blues meet the Tigers with new assistant coach Ken Judge, but without several key players. Captain Stephen Kernahan, defender Andrew McKay and midfielder Fraser Brown will miss the match after receiving injuries last week in a practice match against Collingwood.

The Tigers go into the clash confident after beating North Melbourne by 28 points.

The 'Roos will look to rebound from that loss when they play Brisbane, at Waverley Park, on Sunday.

They may be without Darren Crocker for the season after he injured his cruciate ligament against Richmond and talented big-man Corey McKernan is also in doubt with a knee injury.

Brisbane have added Hawthorn's Andrew Gowers to their already impressive list of recruits.

They are looking at qualifying for their first finals series, but need to improve after going down to a committed Sydney Swans, by 14 points, at Coffs Harbour last weekend.

Essendon have had a difficult lead-up to their clash against Fitzroy at Waverley Park, on Monday.

Since becoming the Dockers first AFL victims and adding Peter Cransberg to their injured list, the Bombers failed to win a game in their round-robin tussles with Collingwood and Carlton.

Fitzroy, with new coach Bernie Quinlan, go into the game after beating St Kilda by two

points last week.

Former Bulldog Doug Hawkins has joined the Lions and did well last week, as did former Eagle and Bear, Mark Zanotti.

Collingwood, fresh from their Challenge Cup win over Essendon and Carlton, tackle Footscray, at Waverley Park next Wednesday.

The Magpies are nearly at full strength after welcoming captain Gavin Brown and forward Saverio Rocca back from injury.

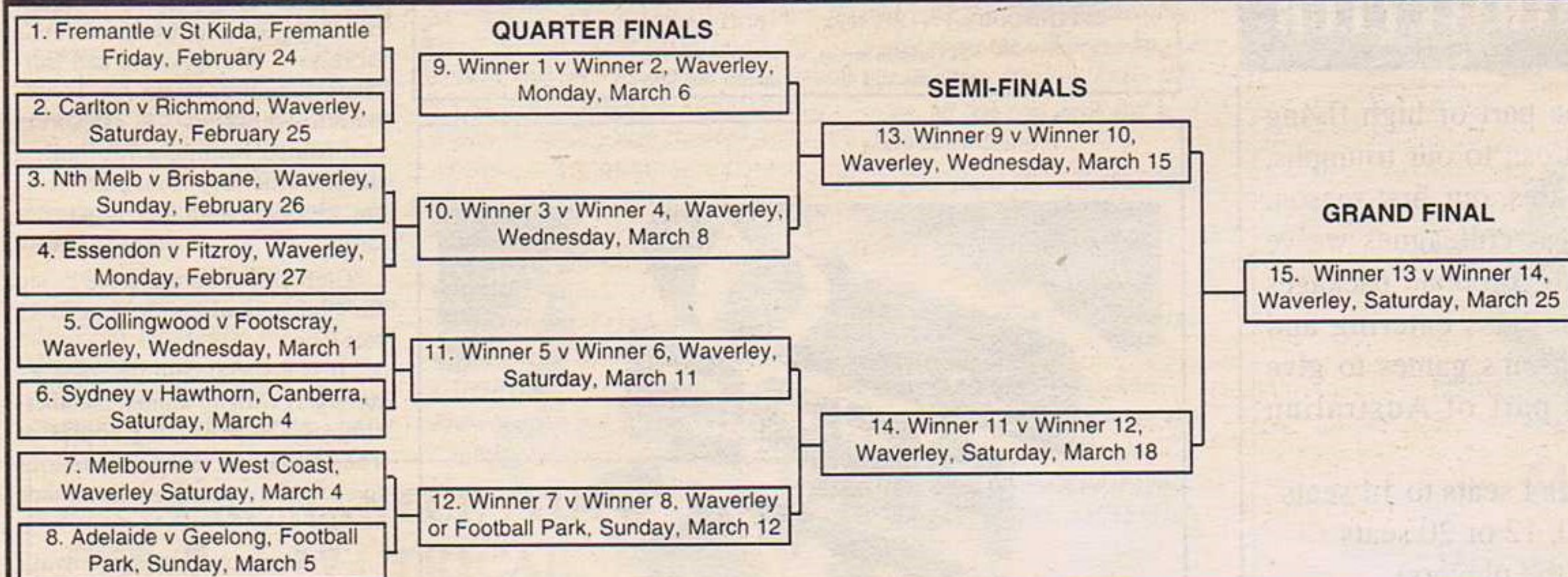
Footscray just managed to hold off Geelong after leading by 42 points at half-time, losing promising midfielder Kym Koster with an injured ankle.

There will be three other clashes next week to conclude the first round of the Ansett Cup.

On Saturday (March 4) Sydney will play Hawthorn, in Canberra and Melbourne host reigning premiers West Coast, at Waverley, with Sunday's game seeing Adelaide and Geelong battle at Football Park.

The first-round losers drop out of the race for the \$104,500 first place prizemoney, earning \$5500 for their opening efforts.

## YOUR 1994 FOSTER'S CUP FIXTURES GUIDE



## NIGHT AND DAY HOW THEY FARED

Year	Night premier	Finished season
1977	Hawthorn	third
1978	Fitzroy	ninth
1979	Collingwood	second
1980	North Melb	fifth
1981	Essendon	fifth
1982	Sydney	seventh
1983	Carlton	fifth
1984	Essendon	first
1985	Hawthorn	second
1986	Hawthorn	first
1987	Melbourne	fourth
1988	Hawthorn	first
1989	Melbourne	fourth
1990	Essendon	second
1991	Hawthorn	first
1992	Hawthorn	fifth
1993	Essendon	first
1994	Essendon	tenth



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David Hobbs,  
The Marketing Services Manager

DOCKERS

21/200710207

# Con's a real Freo stalwart

By BRAD ELBOROUGH

WHEN the Dockers announced Con Regan as their team manager last November, they certainly named an identity with strong historical ties to the Fremantle area.

An outstanding player for East Fremantle and WA, Regan's family is part of Fremantle's proud history.

His grandparents ran a business in the area and during his long police career, Regan served as officer-in-charge at the Fremantle Police Station.

Now retired, Regan is grateful for the opportunity to continue his family's name in today's Fremantle spotlight.

"It's essential to have people with rich Fremantle football history in their blood, mixing with our youngsters to create a new Fremantle era," said Dockers chief executive David Hatt after Regan's appointment.

Regan totalled 261 league games for East Fremantle between 1953 and '65 at an amazing average of 20 matches a year.

His 200th game milestone came in as quick a time as any other player and when he retired, he held the honour of playing the most games in WA since official records were kept.

"Guys would play football for 10 years when I was around," Regan recalls. "And that would be with just the one team; there was no money then to lure players from one club to another."

Regan was known for his ability to play a number of key positions.

In 1955, his 65 goals won him



Dockers team manager Con Regan is a born and bred Fremantle boy.

the club's goal-kicking honours and he also played the old-fashioned ruck-rover role for a big man.

But by the end of his career, Regan had forged a reputation as one of the best full-backs the game had seen.

Regan first represented the state in 1955; was in premierships sides with Old Easts in '57 and '65 and played for WA in the history-making carnival victory at

## Dockers look well ahead for juniors

THE Fremantle Dockers are looking well ahead when it comes to their young fans.

The Dockers have got their junior membership drive in full swing and thousands of young voices will soon be heard around the ground at Fremantle home games.

The club's youth marketing coordinator Jason Dover says the

Brisbane in 1961.

He continued to follow football after he retired, enjoying the changes that have come about as the game becomes more modern.

A staunch West Coast Eagles supporter from the day the VFL competition went national, Regan has no doubts about where his loyalties are now.

"I always planned to stay close to home and follow the side that would eventually come from Fremantle," he says.

Regan followed the Eagles so closely that he would travel as far as Sydney to watch them play.

"I got caught out one year buying Melbourne finals series tickets when I was over East, only to find that the Eagles were playing their first final at home," he laughs.

"They played against Hawthorn at Subiaco Oval, so I had to fly back to Perth for the game."

Regan won't have any such problems this year as he will travel with the Dockers, starting with the season-opener on Saturday, April 1, at the MCG.

push for young members is aimed at boosting football awareness among the youngsters of WA, as well as increasing the accessibility of football heroes to their young fans.

The Dockers have adopted two junior clubs.

The first is the Kid Dockers Club for primary school children 12 years and under, at an annual membership of \$15.

Members receive a personal membership card, a quarterly copy of The Docker club newspaper, invitations to special holiday activities, a membership badge and the chance to take part in match-day activities.

Juniors can purchase Dockers AFL season passes for \$23, which allows general admission to all home games and access to finals tickets. Kid Dockers can purchase supporter packs for \$39.95, which includes a Dockers embroidered beanie, a football, a drink bottle, key ring, pen, stickers, club bag and AFL supporter cards.

Club Doc is an exclusive group for high school children aged 13 to 17.

It is a social club designed by teenagers with an annual membership of \$20 providing copies of The Docker as well as invitations to social functions with live bands and DJ's.

AFL season passes are available at \$23 for under-15s and \$40 for 15 to 17-year-olds. Exclusive supporter packs are available to Club Doc members which contain a polo shirt, embroidered beanie, football, memorabilia and a club bag, all for \$59.95.

Each junior club has a committee of 12 - six boys and six girls - from local primary and high schools.

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# Wills, O'Reilly in bold move

By BRAD ELBOROUGH

IT'S a tough decision to leave a strong AFL club to join the new team on the block - but a few big names have made the bold move to be part of the Fremantle Dockers.

Geelong, in their 98th year and after three grand finals in six seasons, was the home for Andrew Wills and Stephen O'Reilly, but they left that behind to sign on with the fledgling club.

Some of the things the talented duo had to put into perspective were:

- The thought of playing in a grand final side one year and having to earn the respect of the football world the next.

- Playing alongside stars like Gary Ablett and Garry Hocking, to rubbing shoulders with rookies from the WAFL.

- Shifting home across the country to find a new house; a job; make friends and adjust to the different weather.

- Adapt to a new coach, new techniques, new playing positions and having to travel to Melbourne just about every second week.

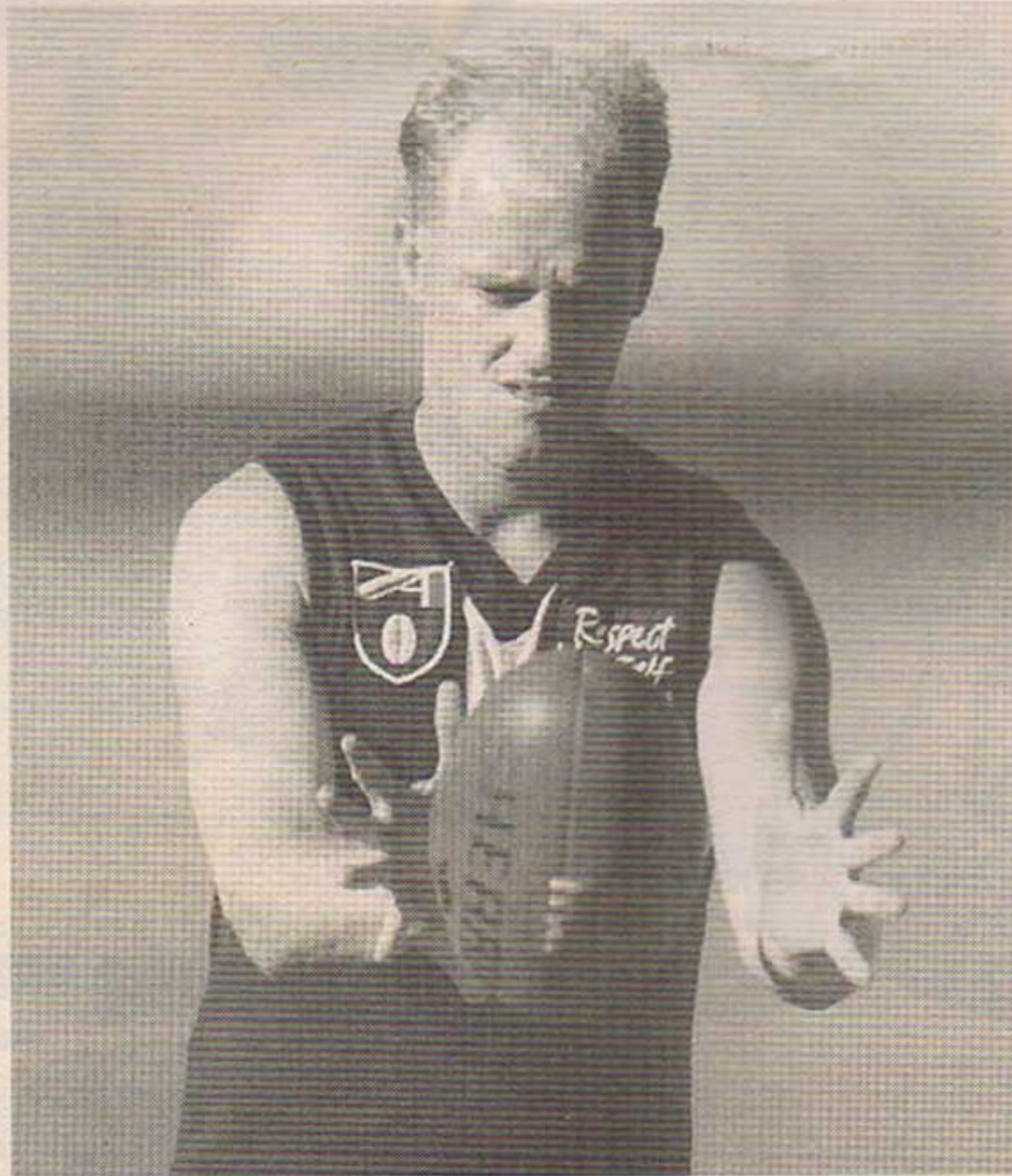
So what lured these two Cats out of Catsville?

"Playing with a new team was a very attractive opportunity," says Wills.

"History will be made all the way. Who will kick the Dockers first goal? Who'll be the first to reach 50 games? That sort of thing will be on all the time.

"A change of lifestyle is also attractive and there are some great job opportunities here. My girlfriend has also joined me, so we're settling down nice and quickly."

Wills, just 23 years of age, is still learning the game himself despite playing in Geelong's '92 and '94 grand finals and his pace



Andrew Wills has settled in quickly as a key Docker and is looking forward to the challenge of playing in the AFL for his new club.

will be handy in attack for the Dockers.

"I've still got to prove myself here and I'm not guaranteed a game every week," he says. "But I guess I've got greater responsibility now as an experienced player."

Wills believes that Gerard Neesham's unorthodox tactics will succeed in the AFL.

"He's a different sort of coach to Malcolm Blight," he comments.

"Blight was an attacking coach. Sometimes we would slaughter sides and then the next week we would totally forget about defence and get beaten badly."

O'Reilly is also prepared for the hard haul at Fremantle.

He started his career with Swan Districts before joining the Cats as

Geelong's first pick in the 1991 draft and the 22-year-old didn't let them down, generally regarded as being the best full-back in the AFL last season.

"It was a difficult decision to leave Geelong, but now I'm home I think we can do well at Fremantle," he said.

"It's going to be hard for the first year or two, but people are underestimating us."

O'Reilly's experience and height should see him used in a number of positions in the early games until the Dockers settle their line-up.

"I've been tried in a few places in practice matches, but I think I'll play most of the time at full-back," he admitted.

## New song stirs followers

THE crowd at the historic Fremantle-Essendon clash came alive at half-time when the Dockers introduced their theme song.

The 16,000-strong chorus chanted out the words that will undoubtedly follow the AFL's newest club around the country.

"Heave-ho, way to go, we are the Freo Dockers", blasted over the speakers.

Spectators joined in with hand clapping and bellowed the chorus

as they were entertained on the field by the Fremantle Docker mascot and his fellow wharfies.

The club sought a song that would be catchy and modern and would encourage crowd participation, which is exactly what they got. Here are the words to the Fremantle Dockers song:

**CHANT**

Freo heave-ho, Freo heave-ho

Give them all the Freo heave-ho

**CHORUS**

Fre-o way to go, hit 'em real hard

and send them down below. Fre-o give them the old heave-ho, we are the Freo Dockers. Fre-o way to go, hit 'em real hard and send them down below.

Fre-o give them the old heave-ho, we are the Freo Dockers.

**CHANT (repeat)**

**VERSE**

We're the rollers, we're the rockers,

We're the mighty Freo Dockers.

We're gonna send 'em to the bottom

and if they get up, we'll do it again.

The Dockers stop at nothin', nothin'!

**CHORUS (repeat)**

**CHANT (repeat)**

**VERSE**

Doc-Doc-Dockers

Show 'em how we rock.

Freo heave-ho.

Doc-Doc-Dockers show 'em how we roll.

Go Dockers, go, go, go!

**CHORUS (repeat)**

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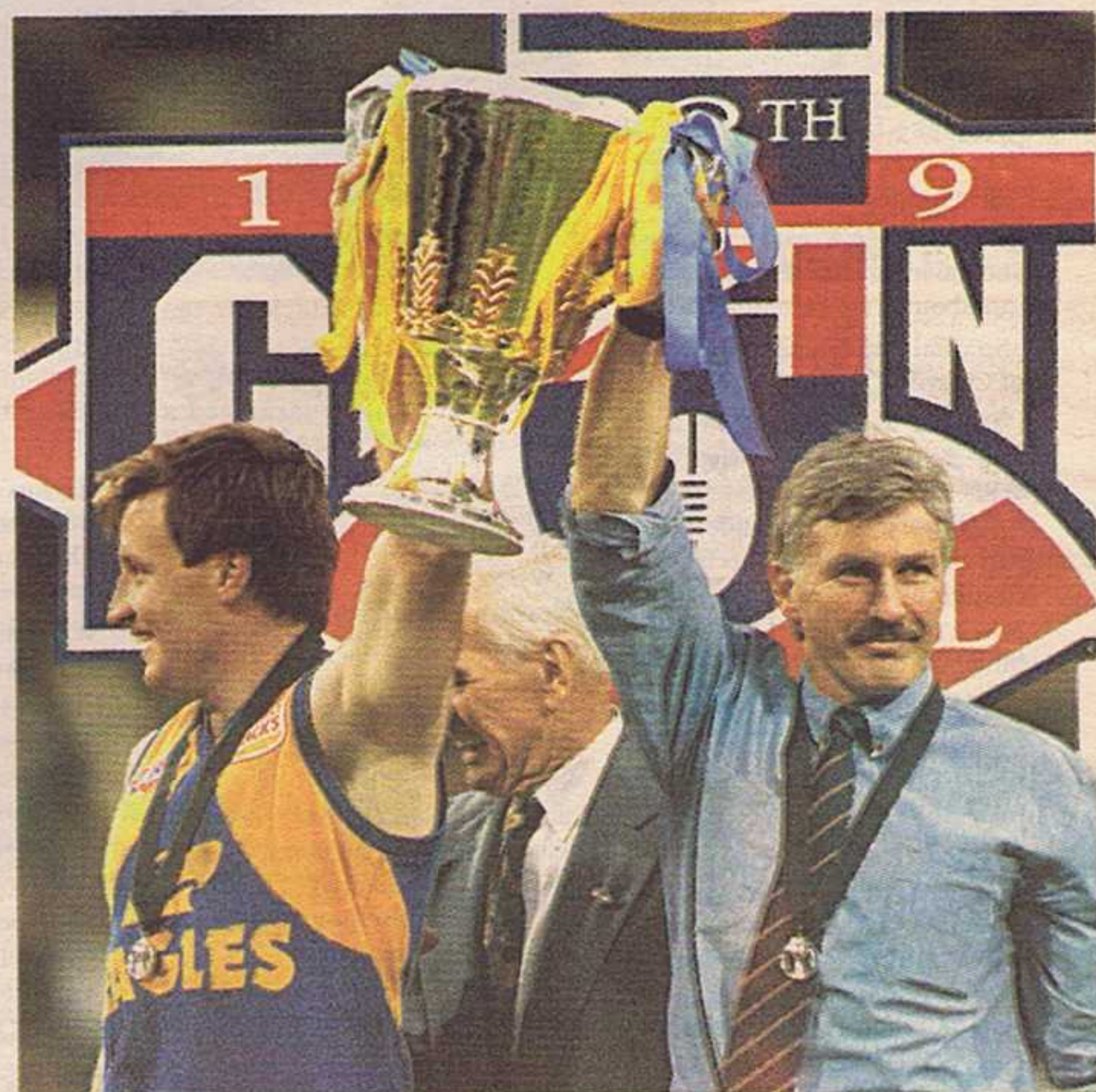
# Season of smiles from



◀ **Winning pose...**  
Peter Sumich, David Hart and Glen Jakovich take their turn to pose with the prized premiership trophy

Season 1994 was a great year for football in Western Australia... and our photographers captured all the best moments

▶ **Let's celebrate...**  
Eagles coach Mick Malthouse and captain John Worsfold hold up the cup after the grand final victory over Geelong.



◀ **Success...**  
State coach Gerard Neesham tastes victory with WA captain Andrew McGovern after the clash with South Australia.

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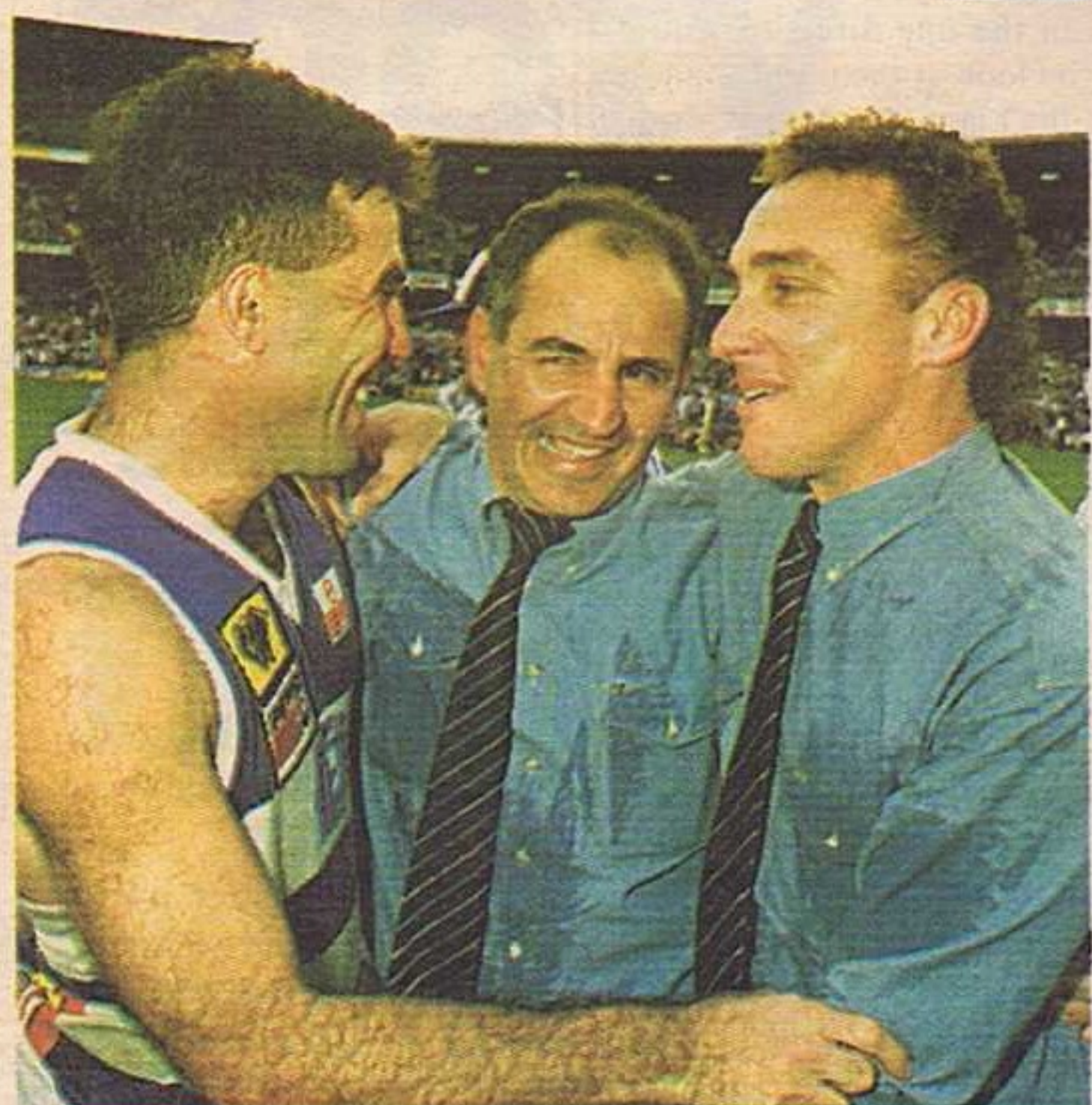
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# the Westside winners

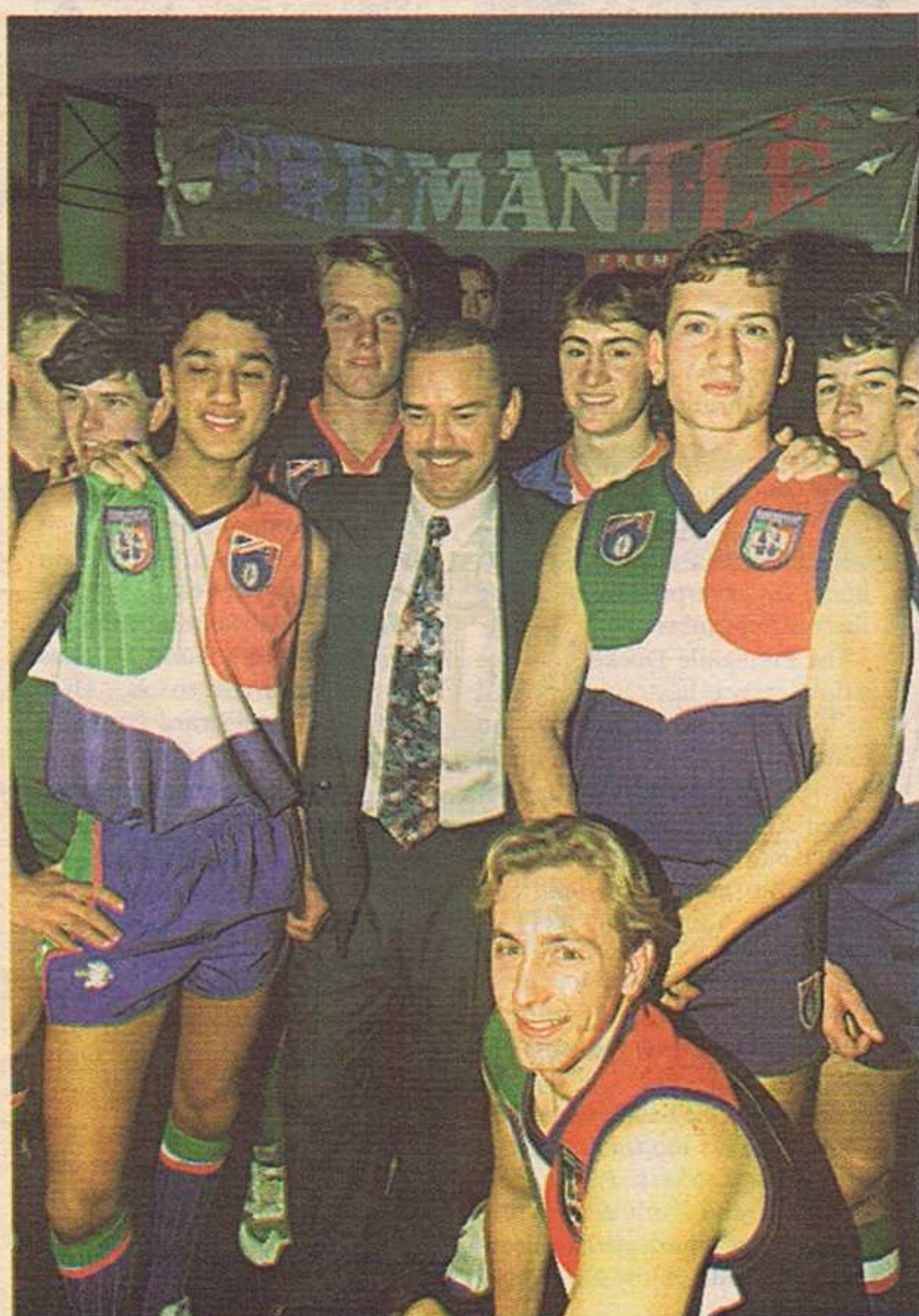


### ▲ We did it...

East Fremantle captain Steve Malaxos, assistant coach Tony Micale and coach Ken Judge rejoice after winning the Pepsi Cup grand final. Micale took the reserves to victory earlier in the day.

### ▼ Welcome to the Dockers...

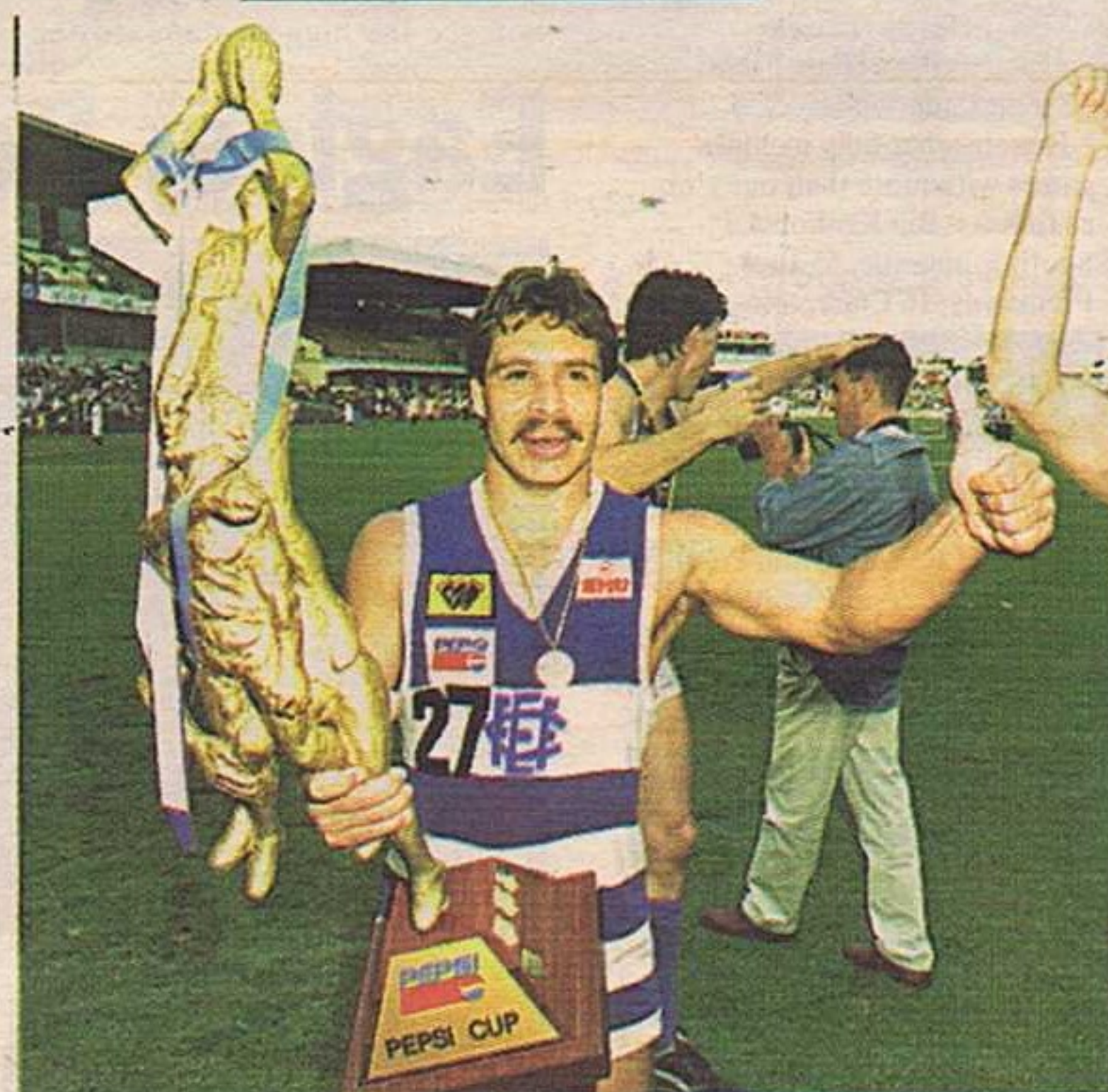
Fremantle coach Gerard Neesham uses some of Claremont's young players to reveal the new team's name, colours and jumpers at the official launch.



◀ **Second time...**  
Robin Sandover congratulates two-time Medal winner Ian Dargie of Subiaco

### Winner's grin...

▶ Darren Capewell was a key contributor to the Sharks premiership success



### Proud Sandgropers ...

State representatives Darren Harris, Peter Miller, Paul Mifka, Clinton Wolf, Neil Mildenhall and Paul Symmons were presented with a medallion to commemorate their victory over South Australia.



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48 Nick Caputi (South Frem)  
48 Matthew McMurray (Perth)  
47 Tony Godden (Subiaco)  
47 Clinton Wolf (Claremont)  
46 Paul Morgan (Claremont)

### 100 GAMES

99 Bill Monaghan (Subiaco)  
98 Peter Matera (Eagles)  
98 Craig Turley (Eagles)  
98 Bill Krakouer (Sth Frem)\*  
97 Brett Heady (Eagles)  
97 Peter Wilson (East Frem)  
96 Karl Langdon (Eagles)  
\* Denotes that tally includes games with more than one club as follows: Bill Krakouer 17 South Fremantle, 65 East Fremantle, 16 Claremont.

### 150 GAMES

148 Guy McKenna (Eagles)  
148 Troy Ugle (Eagles)\*  
148 Geoff Passeri (Swan Dist)  
\* Denotes that tally includes games with more than one club as follows: Troy Ugle 105 Swan Districts, 43 Eagles;

### 200 GAMES

199 Wally Matera (Sth Frem)\*  
199 Paul Mifka (West Perth)  
198 Guy McKenna (Cl'mont)\*  
\* Denotes that tally includes games with more than one club as follows: Wally Matera 143 South Fremantle, 24 Eagles, 32 Fitzroy; Guy McKenna 148 Eagles, 50 Claremont.

### 300 GAMES

298 Steve Malaxos (E Frem)\*  
\* Denotes that tally includes games with more than one club as follows: Steve Malaxos 72 East Fremantle, 66 Eagles, 9 Hawthorn, 151 Claremont (does not include state games).

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# Bonanza year ahead

## WHO said football was a winter sport?

Fair dinkum, if you were a cricketer, you'd think there hadn't been a summer because all the talk has been Dockers.

Docker-this and Docker-that and the only cricketer to rate a mention was Timothy Zoehrer.

Still, in my book, footy is what life is all about and it's been great and it promises to be a bonanza year for football.

The development factor of the Dockers is going to be an enormous boost to the local game this season, particularly from a skills point of view as so many young players will have had four months of concentrated ball-handling and football thinking.

The pressure these young blokes will put on WAFL footy this year will see the highest standard the

locals have enjoyed since the Eagles came into being in 1987.

I know this crazy decision to allow AFL games to be telecast into WA against WAFL games will affect attendances.

But I believe after people see the standard, they will realise that from an entertainment point of view, the Pepsi Cup league will be real value for money.

When you look at football, it's a new world, not only with the Dockers, but six WAFL clubs have changed coaches and some new ideas and personalities will make things mighty interesting.

The thing I have noticed with the Dockers is the co-operation and interest shown by the WAFL coaches to the new club, with one or two exceptions.

And that's healthy for the game. It's good to see the experience of Gary Buckenara being utilised at

WAFL level and they tell me it's a real old Subiaco atmosphere around the club.

It's often been said that Subiaco is a club which hasn't always pulled in the one direction and when you look at the talent available to the Lions, you feel they've wasted a few seasons.

Maybe Bucky is the man to change this.

Let's hope that the media outlets, from TV to radio and the written press, take time to cover the grass roots of the game and not get totally carried away with the elite, especially now that we will have an AFL game in town almost every week.

Because, believe me, if all the experts take the time to look, they will find that the barrel is pretty full in the talent department at WAFL level and if the media expose this talent to the public, we

## Eagles, Dons, Roos head flag betting



Ken Judge could be considered the man to coach WA's State-of-Origin side. He has won two of the last three WAFL Pepsi Cup premierships with East Fremantle and will be assistant coach at Carlton this season.

**MOST football punters bet with their heart rather than their head, but they could be wise to consider the value on offer in this season's market.**

Local bookmaker Arthur Barrett has the West Coast Eagles a shortening 7/2 favourite for the flag, with little of that price left

and a likely 3/1 quote by the time the season-proper starts.

Essendon and North Melbourne are expected to be the big improvers, with the Kangaroos well-backed from 7s to 5s to be second favourite.

There have been inquiries about Adelaide at 9/1 for the flag and Collingwood, with Graeme Wright and Brad Rowe fit again, seem reasonable value at 12/1 for the premiership and 1/2 for the final eight.

Last year's beaten preliminary finalists Melbourne have drifted to 14s with the injury to star forward David Schwarz and the absence of goalkicker Allen Jakovich.

Surprisingly, the last two runner's-up, Carlton and Geelong, are at long odds to go one better, but 10 of the 16 teams are rated odds-on chances to make the eight.

Brisbane, at 9/4 for the finals, have openly declared that they must make the final eight this season to justify their recruiting and

they appear good value

Sydney, with Tony Lockett having the potential to kick 150 goals and win at least eight games at home, could surprise by still being there in September.

The Fremantle Dockers, as one would expect, have been specked at long prices - 20s and 16s - to make the finals, but face an uphill battle with their lack of experienced AFL personnel.

BET-NOTE: Anyone wanting a wager on the footy should call Arthur Barrett on 367 6811 or 018 942 470.

**WITH the WAFL planning a game against the Queensland league in July, who is in the box seat to coach the Sandgropers?**

Last season's top four coaches - Ken Judge, Mark Riley, Jeff Gieschen and Tony Solin - are otherwise occupied, perhaps leaving John Todd as the No. 1 contender.

While the veteran mentor would be an adequate selection, the opportunity is there to promote one of the younger brigade of up-and-coming coaches such as Gary

## Percy's Point

Fast-talking, hard-hitting 6PR football critic and Aussie Rules addict

**Percy Johnson** has his say



presented by



will not only be doing a service to the game we love, but doing the public a real favour too.

Take it from me, I'm an honest man and I won't show any bias in my articles in Westside.

But C'arn the Dockers!

## Sprigg Marks

with

**Trevor Sprigg**, 6PR's former State and East Fremantle defender and West Coast Eagles chairman of selectors



presented by



Buckenara or David Glascott.

Similarly, it may be opportune and a fair compromise to appoint Judge as WA's State-of-Origin coach for the scheduled game against the All Stars at Subiaco Oval on Sunday, June 18, thus relieving local AFL coaches Mick Malthouse and Gerard Neesham of another arduous task.

Judge, winner of two of the last three WAFL Pepsi Cup premierships with East Fremantle, has a somewhat less-stressful position as assistant coach at Carlton and is ideally placed to observe the likely opposition which may include such players as Wayne Carey, Alastair Lynch and Jason Dunstall.

Apparently the All Stars will consist of players who do not qualify to play for Victoria or South Australia under State-of-Origin rules, giving the public the opportunity to see them in action in new colours.

If Judge gets the job it will be another step leading to a seemingly certain AFL senior coaching position.

## The official market

	Flag	Final eight
West Coast	7/2	1/16
Essendon	11/2	1/8
North Melbourne	5/1	1/8
Adelaide	9/1	2/7
Collingwood	12/1	1/2
Melbourne	14/1	2/5
Geelong	12/1	2/5
Carlton	14/1	4/7
Footscray	16/1	4/5
Hawthorn	16/1	4/5
Richmond	25/1	2/1
Brisbane	40/1	9/4
Sydney	100/1	9/2
St Kilda	100/1	9/2
Dockers	400/1	12/1
Fitzroy	500/1	25/1

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# Let the footy season begin

THERE have been 20 lonely Saturdays since that glorious day in October when the West Coasters claimed their second AFL premiership and WA football was in glory-land.

Twenty empty weekends without a ball being kicked in seriousness; 20 Mondays without any real hard-nosed post-mortems.

Sure, we've had a few practice matches in recent days to stir our adrenalin and get that old footy flavour back into our mouths.

Certainly, last week was a beauty as Freo people especially revelled in the glory of a first-up scoreboard success by the dashing Dockers from the Port.

Admittedly, it was only a practice hit-out against a very much under-manned and under-enthusiastic Essendon side, guided by a coach who you never know when he's taking things seriously or not.

But despite the laissez-faire approach of Kevin Sheedy, the Dockers fans in their thousands flooded into East Fremantle Oval and many floated out on the strength of a brand new beer, Longbrew, launched by Swan Brewery, who have had one of the biggest pre-season victories of the year in their battle with rival brewer, Carlton United.

The big D-Day was certainly a bonanza that the East Fremantle Football Club didn't expect. Not only did they win last year's WAFL premiership, but they got in under the skin of rival Port club South Fremantle — who are supposedly housing the Dockers at Fremantle Oval, but have run into more hurdles than Bob Maumill would hit if he turned into an athlete.

The decision to switch that

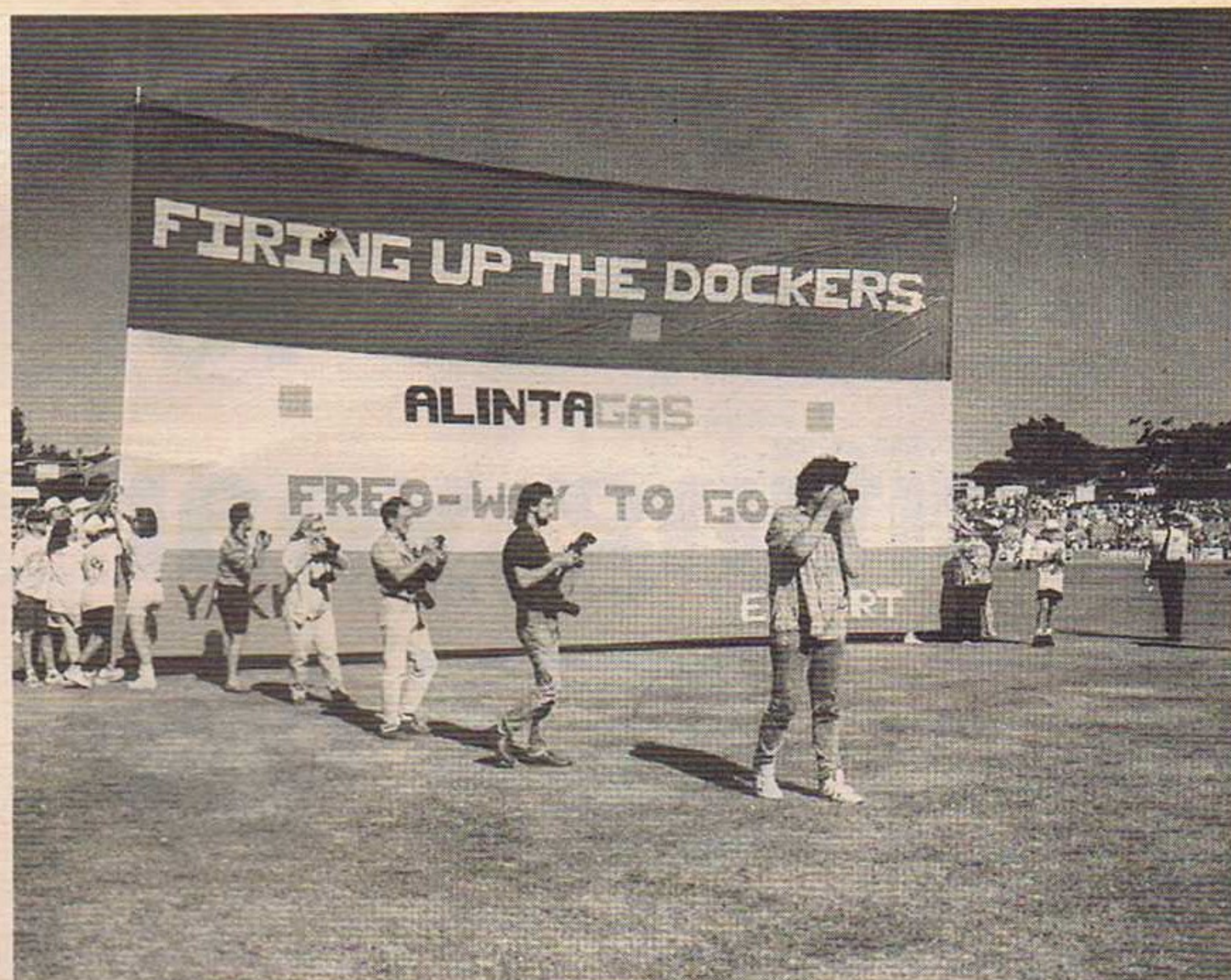
## Thinking Aloud

a column of news and views by Westside Football editor Alan East presented by



game to Moss Street — along with the 15,921 fans — has now led to another venue change this weekend when the next Dockers challenge is staged.

It's the opening round of the \$366,000 Ansett Cup competition and even though it's still five weekends before the "real" games kick off, it's going to be



Thousands of Dockers fans flocked to see their side at East Fremantle Oval, where the run-through banner featured sponsors AlintaGas, Yakka and Emu Export.

another bonus day for the Sharks' coffers.

The arrival of the Dockers has certainly livened up things in this footy town — especially with the slick Western Reds rugby league boys invading our Aussie Rules pack. No longer is it a one-team-town syndrome with the Eagles dominating and there's been plenty of hype and headlines to keep the Port people happy.

The hustle and bustle of practice matches in February — yes, February, the second month of the year and generally summer's hottest — saw a host of comings and goings, with the young Brisbane Bears, the Sydney Swans, the Essendon Bombers and the Adelaide

Crows all making the journey to Perth. But, by contrast, March is going to be a little dull as the Ansett Cup pre-season competition occupies our attention via the television from the East Coast.

The next month will be an impatient one as hungry fans await the arrival of Friday, March 31 for the first official game — and then, April Fool's Day as the Dockers tread warily on the hallowed MCG turf to do battle with Richmond.

It was back in 1987 that the new West Coast Eagles played host at Subiaco Oval against Richmond to launch their careers, notching a 14-point victory after being 33-points down at the last change, with a crowd

of 23,879 biased fans urging them on.

Now that the Dockers face the same tough opponents in the real action, they hope that history will repeat itself in more ways than one.

The Eagles posted a 77-point thrashing over Essendon in their first official practice match in Perth, back on March 14, 1987 and the 50-point margin Fremantle secured against the Bombers last Saturday week should give them ample confidence for the Richmond challenge.

So with 36 days to go before that first Freo bouncedown — and just an extra 24 hours for Eagles fans to wait — let the footy season roll on quickly.

## What's happening in football

### AFL

*Ansett Cup* — Friday, February 24: Fremantle v St Kilda, East Fremantle Oval; Saturday, February 25: Carlton v Richmond, Waverley; Sunday, February 26: North Melbourne v Brisbane, Waverley; Monday, February 27: Essendon v Fitzroy, Waverley; Wednesday, March 1: Collingwood v Footscray, Waverley. *AFL season* — Friday, March 31: North Melbourne v Adelaide, MCG; Saturday, April 1: Richmond v Fremantle, MCG; Hawthorn v Brisbane, Waverley; Geelong v Melbourne, Kardinia; Fitzroy v Essendon, Western Oval; Sunday, April 2: Carlton v Collingwood, MCG; Footscray v

presented by



Sydney, Western Oval; West Coast v St Kilda, Subiaco.

### WA Football League

*Practice matches*: Saturday, February 25: East Perth v West Coast, Perth Oval, 4pm; Claremont v Dockers B-side, Claremont Oval, 4pm; Swan Districts v South Fremantle, Bassendean Oval, 3pm; Tuesday, February 28: Subiaco intra-club, Leederville Oval, 6pm.

*Emu Export summer series* — Saturday, March 4: East Fremantle v Claremont, East Fremantle Oval, 3pm; Monday, March 6: WACA Ground — Perth v East Perth, 4pm; Subiaco v South Fremantle, 6pm; West Perth v Swan Districts, 8pm. *Pepsi Cup League* — Saturday, April 8: West Perth v South Fremantle, Joondalup; Swan Districts v Subiaco, Bassendean Oval; East Fremantle v Claremont, East Fremantle Oval; Perth v East Perth, Lathlain Park.

### South Australia

*Round 1* — Friday, March 17: Port Adelaide v Glenelg; Saturday, March 18: Eagles v North Adelaide, Central District v Norwood, West Adelaide v Sturt, South Adelaide bye.

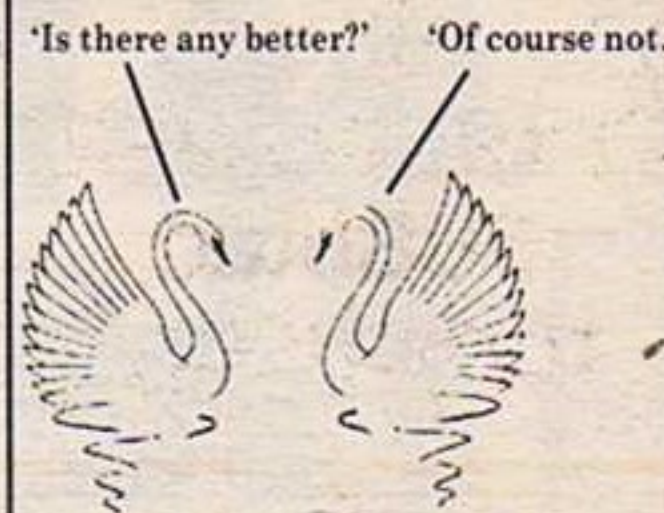
### Amateur League

*Round 1* — Saturday, April 8: CBC v Mt Lawley, Morris Buzacott Reserve; North Fremantle v North Beach, Gillfraser Reserve; Nollamara v Scarborough, Des Penman; Wembley v University, Henderson Park; Trinity Aquinas v West Coast, Collier Reserve.

### Sunday League

*Round 1, SFL* — Sunday, April 23: Kelmscott v Willetton, John Dunn Oval; Gosnells v Madding-

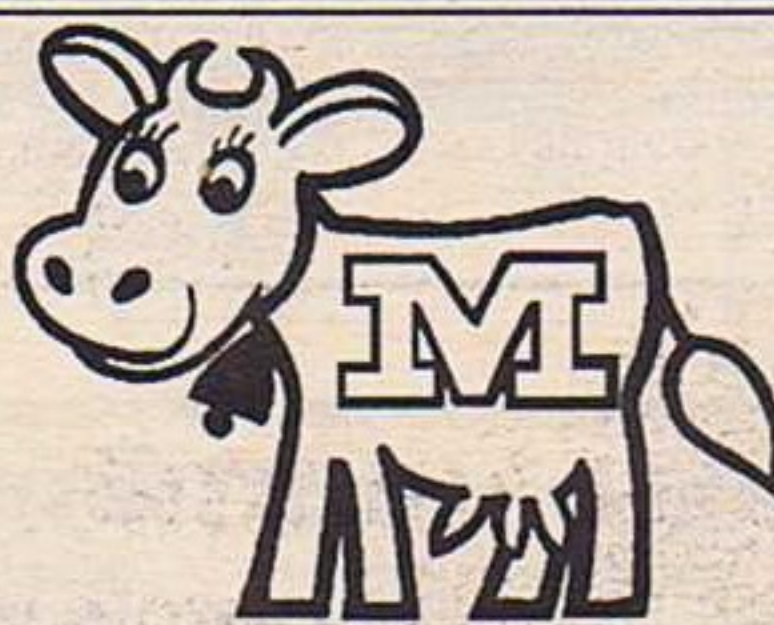
ton, Gosnells Oval; Osborne Park v Canning, Balcatta Reserve. *Round 1, Sunday amateurs*: April 9: Kingsley v Midland, Kingsley Reserve; Ballajura v Kalamunda, Kingfisher Reserve.



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# New signings set scene for exciting year

By SCOTT COGHLAN



**PLAYER** movements in the WAFL ranks have been particularly heavy in recent years and once again fans can expect to see some exciting new talent in their club colours this season.

The 1995 Pepsi Cup season will also see some old faces returning to the arenas, but the list of retirements is long.

Reigning premiers East Fremantle have been hit hard by retirements over the off-season, not so much in numbers, but mainly in quality.

Last year's Simpson Medallist in defender Mark Amaranti has hung up the boots, as has key forward Paul Abbott, who moved West last year from Hawthorn and achieved the rare distinction of playing in both a WAFL and AFL premiership side.

Another retiree is injury-plagued midfielder Stephen Edgar, who had an unsuccessful stint at Carlton and was seldom able to

produce his best when he returned last season.

Veteran ruckman Ian Newman, a key figure in East Fremantle's 1992 premiership victory, has also retired after being unable to shake off a knee injury.

Rather than going outside the club for new players, the Sharks have stuck with their local development programme and are excited about a handful of young players who can make a big impression this season.

The Sharks leading recruit is former Royal Leigh Willison, who struggled for his best form last year after coming back from Geelong, while former Bulldog Nick Caputi could also switch to rival Port if negotiations are successful.

Claremont will also stick with local talent, confident that the potential in their reserves and colts will enable them to stay near the top of the WAFL tree.

One of their brightest interstate prospects is Lee Campbell, a strongly-built midfielder who was originally listed with the Sydney Swans before a stint in the army.

Triple premiership player Kevin Mitchell is also considered a chance to come out of retirement.

The Tigers expect to have four or five of their players missing on a regular basis as they line-up with the Dockers, while 1994 captain Mark Brayshaw has retired.

West Perth have been active during the off-season and their prize recruit is Bryce Steele, a centreman from Bairnsdale, in the Latrobe Valley.

Wingman Todd Curley returns after a stint at Collingwood and looks set for a strong season, while Sandover medallist Robbie West is back from Footscray and training with the Falcons.

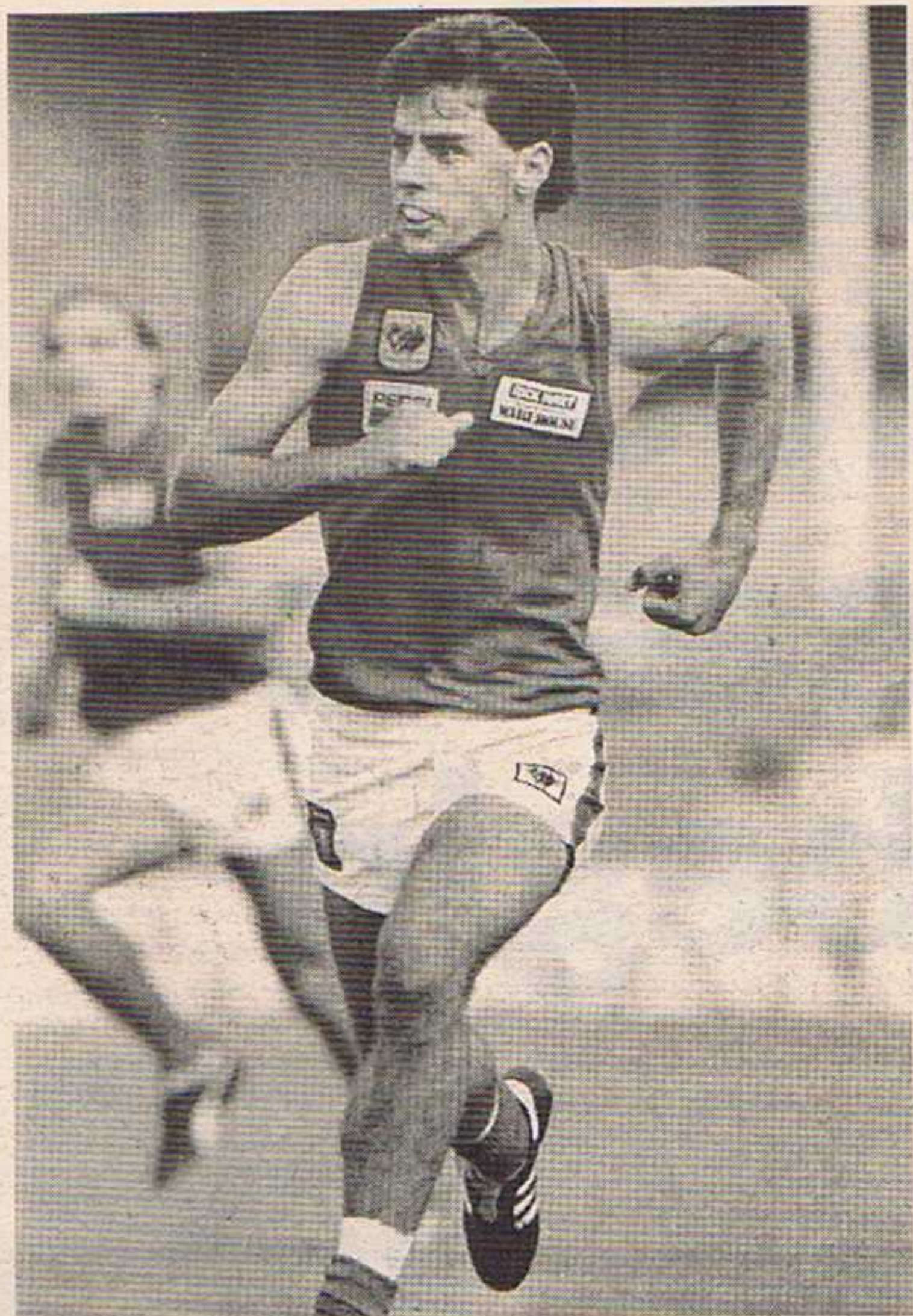
Two players who have departed from the Falcons camp are veteran Wayne Dayman, who has retired and former Carlton and East Perth forward Richard Dennis, who struggled with injury last year.

Subiaco have been active in the recruiting department, compensating for some important losses with a brace of new faces.

Midfielder Matt Connell has headed for Adelaide, dual Sandover Medallist Ian Dargie has joined Southport, in Queensland and Glenn Coyle has also left.

Two players returning to Subiaco Oval are Andrew Donnelly, back from a stint with the Sydney Swans and Paul Ridley, who tried his luck at Melbourne, but is now back home and has his eyes on a future call-up by the Eagles.

Promising Kalgoorlie rover Luke Toia, a Commonwealth Cup player in 1994 and a Dockers squad member, also joins the Lions from their country Goldfields zone.



West Perth wingman Todd Curley returns to the Falcons this season after a stint at Collingwood. He looks set for a bright year.

Two new Lions expected to be prominent are Hamish Stuart and Chris Grumley

Stuart (24) comes from Purnell, in South Australia and is expected to be used in a key defensive role, while the 26-year-old Grumley hails from country Victoria and is a versatile defender.

Other recruits the Lions expect to feature prominently are Kalgoorlie's Rob Hansen, Jason Robbins (Kambalda) and tall forward Chris Perkins, from the North Beach amateurs.

Bulldogs fans can expect a new-look South Fremantle this season, with a new coach and a host of young faces.

Veteran WAFL coach John Todd moves back to his original home at Fremantle Oval and has had a major review of their playing stocks after the disappointment of 1994.

Hanging up their boots are veterans Wally Matera and Cliff Collard, while others who have moved out include brothers Billy and Andy Krakouer, Ashley Clementi, Nick Caputi, Adrian Collard, Grant Nalder, Jon Der-court, Willie Rioli, mark Collins and Dempsey Narkle.

The Bulldogs have recruited former North Melbourne draftee Stephen Pears, from Perth, as well as young Demons rover Grant Keyser and wingman Jarrod Mal-land, from East Perth.

The Royals have suffered losses in the area of experienced players, with former West Coast squad member Matt Clape being de-listed and drafted by Carlton, Willison moving to East Fremantle and dependable performers Lloyd



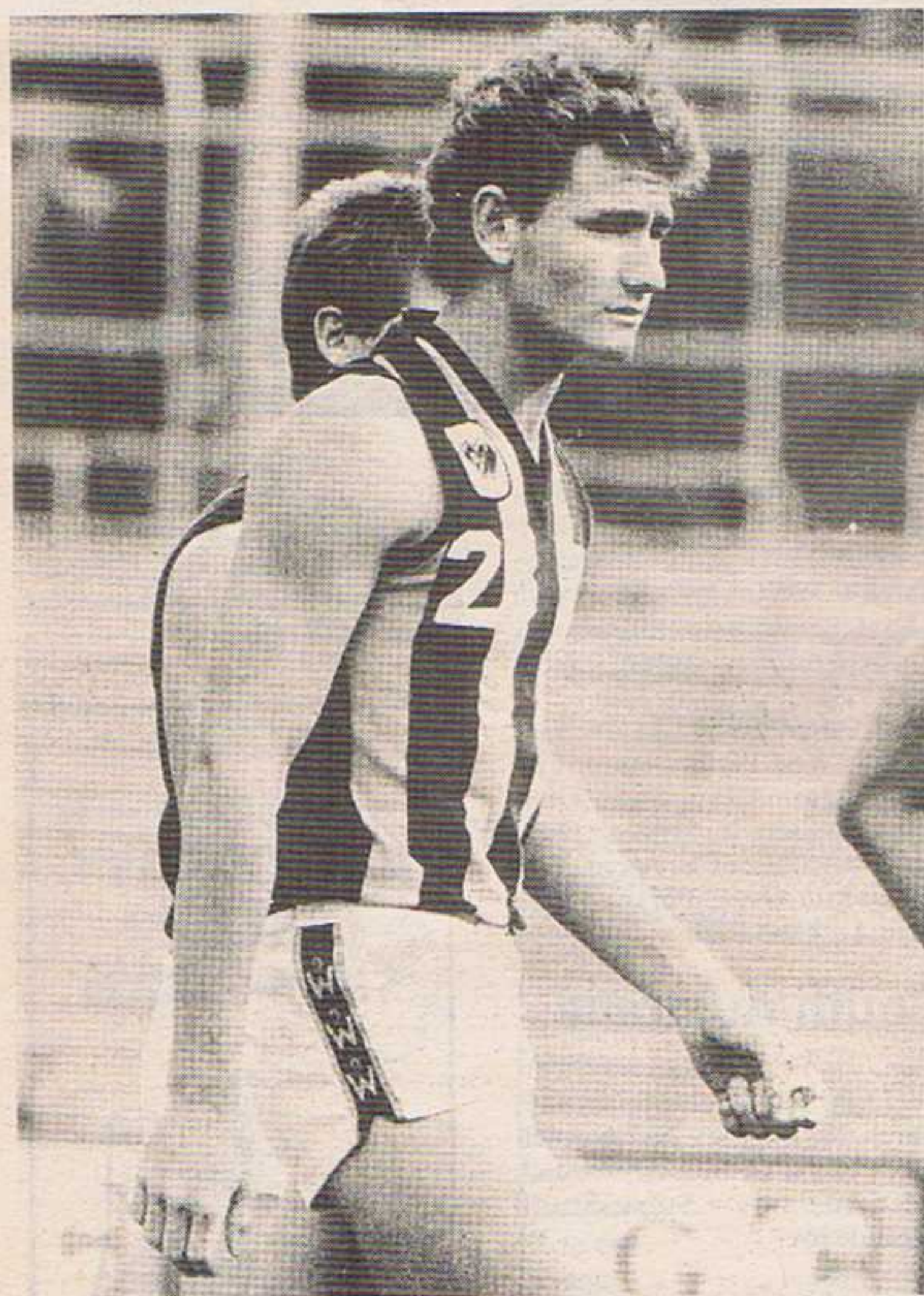
Injury-plagued East Fremantle midfielder Stephen Edgar is another quality player who has announced his retirement.

Haskett, Dean Bertram and Nathan Brooks moving on also.

Paul Peos has been recalled by the Eagles from Brisbane and should add some goal-kicking bite to the Royals, while giant ruckman Stephen Hooper drove back into town after tasting AFL action with Geelong.

Quality midfielder Lyle Johnstone, who was sadly missed in East Perth's midfield department last year returns after a winning a premiership with VFA club Sandringham.

Additions at Perth Oval include Jeremy Gough, a mobile big-man who played two state games for Queensland, David Swan from Box Hill in the VFA and former VSFL players Paul Mullarvey (Fitzroy) and Cheyne Tornour (Geelong).



East Perth will welcome the return of giant ruckman Stephen Hooper, who tasted AFL action with Geelong last season.

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# Dockers set for a year of hard yakka

DON'T expect too many more favours, Dockers – the Eagles are now out to whip you whenever possible!

The pleasant relationships that existed when the Eagles agreed to lend their cheer squad to the Dockers to make up the club's inaugural run-through banner for the Essendon hit-out won't last long.

Eagles marketing manager Ross Nicholas agreed to let the club's efficient and enthusiastic cheer squad make up the Dockers banner and hold it up as the Freo boys ran onto the ground.

But they were minus their Eagles blue and gold colours, of course!

□ □ □ □

WATCH out for a young kid from Swan Districts by the name of Damian Dimer.

He's coming up from the Bunbury Football Club and can play.

He's 20 years old and is tipped for an early league berth on a wing – and he'll be drafted this year.

□ □ □ □

NAMES . . . we've all got them, but it's pretty frustrating if other people can't get yours right.

Recently-departed West Perth reserves coach – and much-travelled player – Phil Cronan must be wondering what sort of impact he left at the Falcons.

## The Hood

Back in Westside by public demand



Despite also playing for them at one stage – when he crossed from South Fremantle for a huge (at the time) fee of \$30,000 – the Falcons spelt his name as Cronin several times in their annual report.

A telephone call was needed to persuade the Falcons that he should really go down in their record books as Cronan!

□ □ □ □

THE on-going battle of the breweries when it comes to the Freo Dockers has provided a few heartaches for the people involved.

We've seen Fremantle Oval become the scene of some interesting debates about signage and liquor sales – and it's quite a fascinating battle.

But it's not only the hard liquor boys going head-to-head . . . take the Dockers first official press conference after the Essendon hit-out.

On the table where the coach

and players were seated, in front of a vast array of microphones, were two sponsor's banners carefully laid out like your grandmother's favourite tablecloth.

One extolled the virtues of Emu Export, a major supporter of footy and the Dockers – and the other told us to "Respect Yourself" – the official Healthway slogan to cure the world's drunks!

□ □ □ □

BIG, burly Mark Bayliss is about to throw his awesome weight around in another arena.

The one-time Bulldogs and Collingwood player is off to Karratha to coach a local side – and he's taking a few players with him.

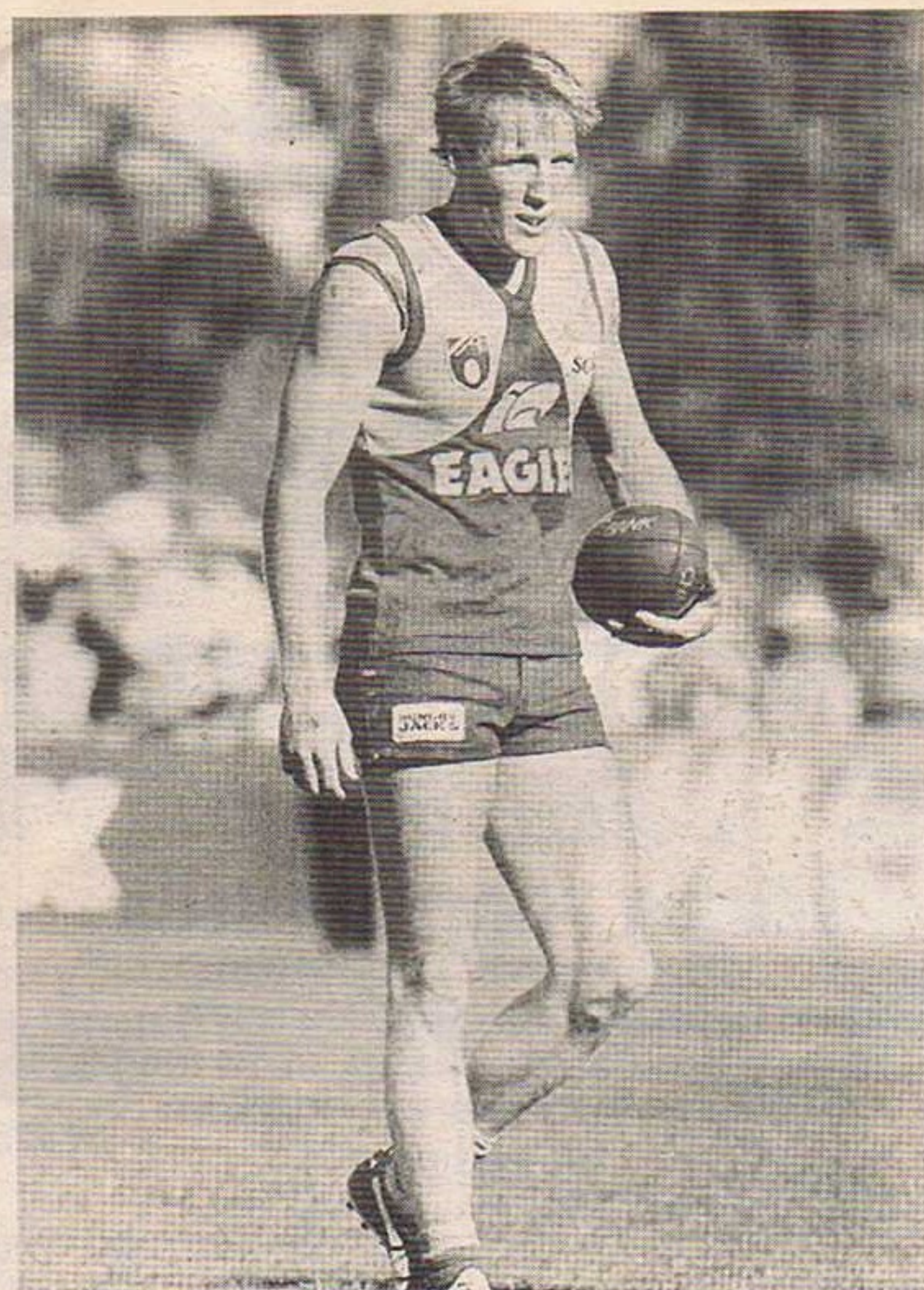
Tipped to be heading north are the likes of David Ogg, Paul Gow, Shaun Davey and Lance Durack.

The departure of Bayliss from South Fremantle opens the way for Ben Condon to take over as football manager.

Maybe Bayliss can recruit former East Perth football manager Cam Robbins as his right-hand man in Karratha. Robbins has gone north to run the local recreation centre.

□ □ □ □

FEELINGS are running pretty high in the Fremantle camp over



Eagles key position player Ashley McIntosh is still battling to overcome a knee injury. He looks certain to miss the early part of the season.

Freo Oval, beer rights and sponsor conflicts.

Don't let anyone fool you – the deal with the Carlton Brewery boys, South Fremantle and Fremantle Oval is certainly in jeopardy if the Dockers don't become a permanent resident there pretty soon.

After all, that's been CUB's objective all along – to get an AFL image in WA.

YOU have to feel sorry for Ashley McIntosh as he struggles to overcome a knee injury.

He's such a talented bundle of muscle and while he's really struggled to shrug off the injury, the recovery programme isn't going as well as he would like.

There's even a feeling that he could miss a big part of the season.

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# Eagles clash launches Triple M

BY SCOTT COGHLAN

EAST Perth tackle an AFL side for the second week in a row this Saturday when they clash with West Coast to launch their new major sponsor, Triple M radio.

The Eagles will not be ex-

pected to field a full-strength side with their first Ansett Cup fixture a week away, but they will have a competitive side, with a number of younger players pressing hard for senior inclusion.

A group of on-ballers and defenders featuring Tony Godden, Brayden Lyle, Jarrad Scho-

field, Ashley Blurton and Michael Dunstan all performed solidly for the Eagles and will get another run.

The Royals, who struggled to kick goals against a near full-strength Adelaide at Margaret River, were pleased with last week's effort.

Royals coach Rob Solin doesn't expect to have his best side against the Eagles, with a few senior players still unfit.

"We will be miles away from being at full strength at this stage of the season," said Solin. "We've got a dozen regular players either not fully fit or injured. We'll play with close to the same team as last week, with a few more young players added in."

East Perth has big ruckman Stephen Hooper back in town, but he's a long way from full fitness, while young rookie Craig Giacomelli also missed last week's hit-out.

Youngsters to impress against Adelaide were colts wingman Shane Sadowski, Girrawheen recruit Ricky Jetta, Bayswater youngster Clint Johnson - who debuted towards the end of last season - and Ryan Wilkin.

Solin believes the experience of practice matches against quality opposition will prove invaluable.

"We were quite pleased with last week's game," he said. "It gave some young players a chance

to see and feel pressure and it was a good experience for them.

"This weekend these youngsters will get more experience against opponents who have performed at a higher level, where there is a bit more pressure and the game is quicker, which will hold them in good stead down the track."

This Saturday's attraction at Perth Oval will see the first stage of some ambitious marketing by the Royals in conjunction with new sponsor Triple M.

The arrangement between the FM radio station and East Perth goes much further than simple cash sponsorship, with plans ahead for a musical beat at the home of the Royals.

The first of a number of rock concerts planned for Perth Oval will be held after the game, with the Triple M Rock Rig being used in a twilight concert featuring live bands Slim Jim and the Fatts and Faces.

A happy hour with trophy presentations, a handball competition and a mobile video arcade will be on the agenda leading up to the 7pm concert.

Admission is \$5 adults, \$2



Royals coach Rob Solin is happy to be tackling the Eagles this weekend.

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## Dockers force change

THE introduction of the Fremantle Dockers into the AFL has forced several changes to the fixturing of the WAFL for season '95.

The AFL schedule has set up a challenging scenario for the Pepsi Cup competition. An AFL game will be played in Perth on a Sunday on 18 out of 22 weekends, therefore ruling out WAFL games.

The WAFL has successfully experimented with Sunday games in the past and they were, in fact, sometimes better attended than Saturday games.

But unless the AFL schedule their Sunday games as night fixtures that day is out for us.

We could have gone with Friday and Saturday night games, but as yet, none of the WAFL grounds have lighting of sufficient standard.

Fremantle Oval's lighting is reasonable, but not quite up to standard.

There is currently a game scheduled for East Fremantle Oval on Friday night, May 5, but at this stage that could be

## Commission Comment

Talking about WA Football Commission activities with WAFL general manager  
**Trevor Howard**  
presented by

**McInerney Ford**

changed.

There will be an AFL game played in Melbourne each week, featuring one of the WA teams and that will be telecast live to Perth, usually on a Saturday.

The WAFL clubs are currently comfortable with their games competing with those clashes.

They are hoping to attract spectators to their social clubrooms to watch the live AFL telecasts, then stay on to support the Pepsi Cup action.

The WAFL has also decided to

return to the traditional final four format.

The final five, first used in 1991, allowed an extra team to remain active for an added week, creating more interest in the competition and greater financial benefit.

Unfortunately, the final five was determined early last season, but overall it was deemed a success.

But again the AFL fixtures have forced changes.

If the WAFL had stayed with the final five, the first double-header of finals would have fallen on the same weekend as the second AFL derby between Fremantle and West Coast.

The WAFL figured that we had little chance of successfully promoting our finals against that attraction.

The way it is now, the WAFL finals fit in between the last round of AFL games and their grand final.

We will run with that this year and see how it goes.



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# Final replay kicks off Emu season

A REPLAY of last season's Pepsi Cup grand final clash between East Fremantle and Claremont will kick-off this year's Emu Export pre-season competition.

For six of the eight WAFL coaches, it will be the first time they will see their players in competitive action - although new Claremont coach, veteran defender Darrell Panizza, knows what his team-mates are capable of.

The fixtures for the five-round Emu Export summer series feature a number of night games at the WACA ground, plus matches in several country and suburban centres.

Night games at the WACA were well-supported by the public last season and this year's first-up fixture will be a triple-header on Monday, March 6, the Labour Day public holiday.

"With the support of the WACA, we have contained costs to a level that will see games played at night there in four of the five rounds," said WAFL general manager Trevor Howard.

"Not only is it desirable at this time of the year to avoid the heat of the day, but it makes the series more attractive to the public when games are played under lights."

Prizemoney for this year's event has been increased and will be paid to the highest four place-getters at the end of the series.

When the qualifying rounds are completed, there will be a double-header play-off to finalise the order of the top four.

The winners will receive \$4000 and run-

ner's-up \$3000, with \$2000 going to the winner of the third v fourth play-off and \$1000 to the fourth-placed side.

Last year only the top two sides received prizemoney, sharing \$5000.

The games being hosted by other leagues include a clash in Moora, as part of their 100th-year celebrations; Nyabing, in the Ongerup Football Association; Wundowie, in the Hills Association and Kelmscott, in the Sunday Football League.

"The financial success of games hosted by country leagues in 1993 and 1994 and the willingness of the WAFL clubs to play in such fixtures is important for the promotion of the game," said Howard.

"The series generates additional revenue for the WAFL clubs and the communities who host the fixtures and it's a priority to utilise these funds to promote the summer series as part of the WAFL'S ongoing

adjustment to the pressures of AFL football."

New rules introduced in previous Emu Export series will again be used, such as play continuing when the ball hits a goal post and rebounds into the arena, plus 25-minute quarters, with no time-on.

The new-look guernseys which were introduced two summers ago will also be retained.

Claremont's victorious team from last year's Emu Export series has provided a number of players for the Fremantle Dockers camp.



Subiaco will welcome Gary Buckenara (left) back as the club's senior coach while veteran Tiger Darrell Panizza (right) takes on the dual role of playing-coach at Claremont.



Claremont... last year's premiers are coached this year by veteran defender Darrell Panizza

**ROUND 1 - Saturday, March 4**  
East Fremantle v Claremont, East Frem, 3pm

**Monday, March 6**  
Perth v East Perth, WACA, 4pm  
Subiaco v South Fremantle, WACA, 6pm  
West Perth, v Swan Districts, WACA, 8pm

**ROUND 2 - Saturday, March 11**  
South Fremantle v Perth, East Frem, 3pm  
East Fremantle v Swan Districts, East Frem Oval, 5pm

**Monday, March 13**  
Claremont v Subiaco, WACA, 6pm  
East Perth v West Perth, WACA, 8pm

**ROUND 3 - Saturday, March 18**  
Claremont v South Fremantle, Nyabing, 4pm  
Subiaco v West Perth, Moora, 4pm

**Sunday, March 19**  
Swan Dist v East Perth, Wundowie, 4pm  
Perth v East Fremantle, Kelmscott, 4pm

**ROUND 4 - Friday, March 24**  
Perth v West Perth, WACA, 6pm  
Claremont v Swan Districts, WACA, 8pm

**Saturday, March 25**  
South Frem. v East Perth, WACA, 6pm  
Subiaco v East Fremantle, WACA, 8pm

**Play-offs (Top four sides at end of Rounds 1 - 4) - Saturday, April 1**  
Minor Final, 3rd v 4th, WACA, 6pm  
Grand Final, 1st v 2nd, WACA, 8pm

## Todd and Melrose set to clash

FORMER club mates and close friends John Todd and Graham Melrose will renew their coaching rivalry in the WAFL this season - starting with a friendly practice match this Saturday.

Todd, who has left Bassendean Oval after 18 years to return to Fremantle, takes his new-look Bulldogs back to his former home, where Melrose has taken over as coach of Swan Districts.

Todd is making light of the return to Bassendean, but there will certainly be plenty of mixed feelings in both camps.

"It's no big deal, it's just a pre-season game," he said, laughing off any suggestion of a grudge match.

"You can't make any more out of it. I just want to give the players some match practice so they will be ready in six weeks time when the season starts," Todd said.

Souths had a disappointing season in 1994, winning only six games and Todd has changed the direction of the club with a big emphasis on youth.

Several high-profile players have left, but Todd says it was time for some of them to move on.

"They had their shot and we decided it was time to open the doors for some of the young guys," Todd said.

"This has resulted in a positive feeling around the club."

Todd sees Saturday's game as a chance to test some of those players coming through in a match situation and highlighted a couple of youngsters who should be prominent.

"There are some exciting newcomers such as Ashley Hutchinson and Nathan Turvey, who are creating a good impression already, so we'll go okay."



John Todd and Graham Melrose will be rivals in the WAFL arena this season.

## WESTSIDE FOOTBALL

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# WESTSIDE FOOTBALL

## FACT FILE

Scott Edwards –  
Dockers  
Born: August 23,  
1968  
Height: 182cms  
Weight: 82kgs  
Position: Defender  
Recruited from:  
Claremont  
WAFL games: 115





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