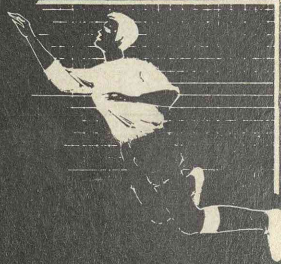




GO SOCCER



Vol. 1, No. 4

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4 ADS BACK PAGE

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Editorial

Editor: BRUCE WADDELL,
47 Trouts Road, Stafford
Phone 55 6288 (home), 52 8050 (work)

"THE most disgraceful exhibition of football I've seen for many years," was the description of one referee about last Saturday's special knockout competition.

There was a great hue and cry from some clubs when it was announced there would be a break of three weeks in the premiership because of the extra Queensland-Hong Kong match.

So the Federation went to the trouble of organising the competition to provide clubs out of the Ampol Cup semi-finals with some sort of continuity.

If the situation arises again, the Federation shouldn't bother, as from all reports it's patently obvious most players would rather have had the extra week's break. Coalstars for a start did not bother to enter and very few of the eight teams competing fielded close to their top combinations. Anyone who dropped in on Saturday must have wondered what Saturday football next season will be like. Just as well the gallant Queensland team lifted our morale on the following day to help eradicate the memory of an event which could only have done the code harm.

Soccer supporters could have nothing but respect and admiration for the 11 Queenslanders who went within a whisker of beating Hong Kong last Sunday. It's been a long time since a team has worked non stop for 90 minutes, and in the process produce entertaining, exciting Soccer, to achieve something for the State.

Evidence of this is provided by the fact, that for the first time in many years, there was not one reserve used during the game. There was not one player who did not try and produce his best without flagging. It's easy to castigate Ron Millman for a couple of sitters he missed or Tony Edwards and Osvaldo Borzi for the goal we gave away. But those factors simply point out that we must be better prepared next time.

Matches between Queensland and touring British teams usually do more harm than good because we usually get a hiding — that's to be expected.

Next year a squad should be chosen and kept in training once a week, with the necessary changes naturally made only because of suspensions and loss of form. Then we may be able to compete on a more equal footing, as we did because of 11 gallant men last Sunday. Everybody should be proud of them.

NEXT WEEK'S MATCHES

FIRST DIVISION:

Ampol Cup Final —
Brisbane City v Lions
(Perry Park, 3 p.m.)

Playoff for third —
Southside Eagles v St. Helens
(Perry Park, 1 p.m.)

SECOND DIVISION:

Saturday, August 28 —
Annerley v Trident (Elder Park)
Rovers v Sunnyside (Robinson Park)
The Gap v Taringa (Walton Bridge)
Oxley v Wynnum (Dunlop Park)

Sunday, August 29 —
Mitchelton v Gold Coast (Spencer Park)
Souths v Redcliffe (Wakerley Park)

TRIDENT SOCCER CLUB

is staging a "7-A-SIDE"
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ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12
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16 TEAMS WILL PARTICIPATE
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277 3166 (8 a.m.-5 p.m.)

or Mick Matula 221 8333 (work)
343 3032 (home)

PICK THE MEDAL WINNER

HOW good are you at judging who will be the best and fairest First Division Soccer player in Brisbane in the 1976 season?

Or more importantly, who do you think the REFEREES will think is the best and fairest. Go Soccer this week announces a new competition which gives you the chance to guess who will be announced the third Rothmans Gold Medal Winner.

There is no entry fee. All you do is complete the coupon below and post it to the address shown on page 3. There are four rounds of premiership fixtures to go, including this weekend so it's not too early to post your entries in now.

The prize is a National Semiconductor Quartz Digital Watch (there's one advertised on page 2) valued at \$29.95.

It must be remembered that players who have been suspended during the season are ineligible. Previous winners of the Gold Medal are Kevin Caldwell (1975) and Michael Rooney last year.

Anyone can enter and the competition closes with the last mail on Sunday, September 19, the date of the final premiership round.

Get your entries in now and remember that the winning player must be named and that the first correct entry opened will win the watch.

In case you need some help, here are two possible winners from Go Soccer — Phil Sunderland (Coalstars), Alan Marszaleck (Eagles).

ROTHMANS GOLD MEDAL

I forecast the Medal Winner will

be.....

Club.....

Name.....

Address.....

Date and time entry was received

(Go Soccer use only)

SUMMING UP THE HONG KONG MATCH

"That definitely would have to be the worst moment in my football career" — TONY EDWARDS

"The goal that Kevin Caldwell scored should have been allowed. I passed to Tony Edwards and when he flicked it through to Kevin it touched the Hong Kong centre half, therefore Kevin was played onside." — IAN RATHMELL

"Play it wide. Use the wings" — Eric Pattison coaching Queensland from behind the northern goal.

"The Hong Kong officials asked if Steve Dolan was a fulltime player. They were interested in having him play over there." — ALAN VESSEY

"That was a great display of Soccer and most entertaining."

— ERIC WORTHINGTON

"These Hong Kong boys will get beaten by at least three goals by Australia on Wednesday night." — DENNIS FORD

"We would have won if Ian Johnston had been in the team." — JOHN RODERICK

"You were a bit hard on poor old Dave" — Des Miles and John Adams, referring to last week's editorial.



LEON WILSON and MIKE HORNE

BACK TO THE FRAY

AFTER a short and uneventful holiday, it's back to the rigors of the First Division premiership, although there's no prize for guessing who's going to win it.

What we don't know of course is who are the other three sides who will make the semi-finals, and who drops to the Second Division with Grange-Thistle.

Although it's tempting fate, we'll go on recent form and try and sort out the winners this weekend for the fourth last of the premiership rounds.

COALSTARS v NORTHS: Norths are pretty safe in the middle of the table without looking a real semi-final threat and while Ian Steele and Kas Biedak keep plugging away they should remain that way. But many were impressed with Coalstars' last outing against St. George when with an ounce of luck could have come away with one or two points. On this basis, a scoreless or 1-1 draw looks feasible.

MERTON v REDLANDS: This should be one of the toughest of the round to predict. Merton have slipped out of the top four after crashing sensationally to Mt. Gravatt but Redlands too have tended to struggle a bit of late after coasting comfortably in second place for most of the season. They will still be without Trevor Catchpole and that could make all the difference. Merton's two points.

LIONS v MT. GRAVATT: Before the latter's last start shock win which has virtually assured them of retaining First Division status, it looked like an easy two points for Lions. But although Mt. Gravatt may have recovered from their slump, and the fact that Charlie Dench will be on holiday, Lions still should win easily.

EAGLES v BARDON: Another tough one and Bardon might have the advantage of knowing how the Ipswich pair are faring because of the "staggered starts". For this reason they will be able to go flat out for survival's sake. Eagles know too that one slip and they're out of the final four contention. Bardon by the odd goal.

CITY v ST. HELENS: Saints are now in real trouble particularly as the one man who may have been of immense assistance, Johnny Dann, is out of action

again. There have been tremendous shocks in past years but this shouldn't be one of them. City by three or four goals.

ST. GEORGE v THISTLE: A lot may depend on how St. George have recovered from the big challenge against City and whether Alan Marley is back in action. Thistle may finally produce something now that all hope appears to be gone. Could provide the best entertainment of the weekend but St. George by two goals.

If the matches go as predicted here, the points table would then read:

City	33	Norths	19
Lions	24	Mt. Gravatt	16
St. George	24	Bardon	15
Redlands	23	St. Helens	13
Merton	23	Coalstars	12
Eagles	20	Thistle	6

FIRST ROUND RESULTS

- North Brisbane 6 d Coalstars 3.
- Mt. Gravatt 2 d Lions 1.
- St. George 2 d Grange Thistle 1.
- Merton East 3 d Redlands 1.
- Southside Eagles 5 d Bardon Latrobe 1.
- Brisbane City 4 d St. Helens 1.

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NEWS FROM THE LOWER DIVISIONS

BIG weekend coming up in Second Division circles with the highlight the clash between top team Annerley and new second side Wynnum at the Maramba Stadium.

Although Annerley are assured of the premiership and promotion there has been a titanic struggle between Wynnum, Gold Coast, Oxley and Mitchelton for the right to be the second club promoted.

Bill Bryant's Wynnum boys, who are now second on goal average after last round, would firm greatly in the market if they topple Annerley, as there are only two to go after this one.

The Redcliffe-Oxley match down at Redcliffe this weekend is also vital, as Redcliffe have been a bit of a nuisance to some of the big guns. Last week they shared the points with Wynnum and the week before became the first side to beat Annerley.

In round 21, there are another two important clashes when Oxley play Wynnum and Mitchy meet the Gold Coast — then in the last round, everything should be settled after Annerley play Oxley.

In the Second Division reserves, Annerley and the Gold Coast at the top with 30 points each look to have it between them, although Wynnum on 28 are lurking in the background.

Either Geoff Green's Acacia Ridge or Fred Robins' Fortitude Valley will win the Third Division title, both teams still locked together on 31 points.

The Fourth Division is a similar story, with Booval (30), Nerang (29) and The Gap (28) all in with a fighting chance.

We've heard of teams winning with all odds stacked against them and this applies to a recent Fourth Division clash between Newmarket and Wynnum.

For various reasons, Newmarket could field only nine players when they took on Wynnum at Maramba on August 7. But the result, Newmarket won the game 1-0.

Salisbury and Inala Rangers also have had a season long neck and neck battle

with the latter currently holding a two points lead.

Form is a little hard to follow in these lower divisions and this one is no exception. On July 31, Salisbury ended Inala's unbeaten run with a 3-0 victory to take the premiership lead, but in the next round, Salisbury in turn went down 1-0 to Toowoomba side, St. Albans, who are in the lower bracket of the table.

There are a couple of centurions involved in the battle for promotion in the Sixth Division, Goodna, who have scored 106 goals and Kingsridge, who have chalked up 104, helped last week by their 15-0 win over St. Michaels. The Saints incidentally last week also became centurions, but not the way they would have liked.

In this division Goodna and Northside are joint leaders on 33, followed two points back by Twin Towns and Kingsridge.

Outcome of the Seventh Division title rests between Dinmore and Rochedale. Both have 32 points but the latter has played a game less. Salisbury (33) and RAAF (30) are the leading Eighth Division contenders.

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H. SALI, phone 52 4601

DISTRICT SOCCER OR NATIONAL NAMES

THE questions facing all soccer administrators in Australia today are (1) "Where have all the followers gone?" (2) "How do we get them back?"

Four years ago in Brisbane a novel step was taken, one that had been advocated as a cure-all for the ills of the code, that of the abolition of national names. Queensland was the only State in Australia to take this step and so became a measuring stick for the pros and cons of the move.

In Sydney the advocacy of the twelve teams first division brought an almost equal split of teams with "national" names and "district or area" names. Here we had another measuring stick by which we could measure effectiveness.

I think four years is a long enough time to gather data by which some statistical picture can be formed. In Brisbane, crowds have continued to decline. Probably the three "top" clubs, who had ethnic names, Hollandia, Azzurri, Hellenic, have suffered most, for despite the first two performing excellently in the competition, their following has diminished considerably. None of the "district" clubs can claim to have enlarged their following so it must be obvious to all that if anything

the banning of national names did nothing at all to attract people to the code in fact it may have had the opposite effect. Trouble is, having lost people, can they be won back?

In Sydney a study of crowd dispersion at any given weekend paints a picture so clear it's almost transparent. Whenever two ethnic teams meet a crowd in excess of 2,000 is almost guaranteed where the opposite is true of district clubs, who are hard pushed to break 500 in a match against each other. There is even an ethnic team in Second Division being watched by crowds in excess of 2,000.

What then can or should be done? Obviously everything that in anyway may bring back spectators. Clubs who wish to have a national name should be allowed to and if it brings back missing Greeks, Italians, Dutch, or Germans, or even gives newly arrived foreigners something to align with, it will have done something the other moves failed to do. The ethnic clubs in Brisbane soccer were "big" enough to accept changing, Brisbane soccer should be "big enough" to accept them changing back if they so desire.

J. BINNIE

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Caloundra Champs !!

IT WAS MY pleasure to attend last Sunday a tournament held at Caloundra Soccer Club. I don't know who organised this spectacle but whoever it was can hold his head high as the entertainment was slick, fast moving and always exciting. Unfortunately by the time I arrived there, a round robin had already been played with a club called Maroochydhore, coached and abetted on the playing field by our old friend Tony Loundes (ex North Brisbane, Oxley and Wynnum) reaching the final. The second round robin consisted of teams from Nambour, Woombye, Margate and Caloundra and it was played off in a novel fashion.

Two teams played 15 minutes, then one team left and was replaced, this going on until all teams had played each other. The winner appeared to be the team that amassed most goals and corner kicks. Caloundra won the round robin and played Maroochydhore in the final. This consisted of a game 15 minutes each way and what a thriller it was, the play shooting from end to end, non stop. Both teams scored a goal but Caloundra won on a countback of corners.

Things that impressed me on the day



Steve Wilson (Southside Eagles)
Rob Brown (Coalstars)

were the unbounded enthusiasm shown by the players, the level of discipline shown by the players, the organisation, and the obvious enjoyment of the large crowd. Very few players showed a lot of class but made up for this with an application to the game that was infectious.

Although the game was far "harder" than any seen in Brisbane never was a referee's decision questioned and never was "an act" perpetrated on the public. These boys obviously believed in the old adage, "it's a man's game lets get on with it". The action was fast and furious and all these things added together made up a pleasant afternoons entertainment. As a passing stranger I'd like to congratulate all concerned with the afternoon and hope they continue from strength to strength.

JIM BINNIE

Letter to the Editor

Dear Sir,

Not having watched First Division football on a Saturday for some time and having nothing else to do, I decided to drop in to Perry Park and watch the Special Competition between seven First Division and one First Division Reserve teams. Knowing the format of the competition, I expected an exciting afternoon of football but what a surprise I was in for.

It was far from entertaining and in fact rather boring to see supposed First Division players lope around the field in a completely disinterested manner.

The matches were arranged to keep players match fit, at this vital stage of the season, and you would think that players would jump at the chance to play, but on Saturday afternoon it was quite the opposite.

Hoping to see some life in some players this weekend.

Yours faithfully, SOCCER FAN

P.S. — Congratulations on a really fine magazine.

QUEENSLAND JUNIOR SOCCER COUNCIL

THE recently formed Q.J.S.C. have wasted no time in ensuring that the future senior soccer players of Queensland receive the best possible coaching from the start. Last week they had 98 under 13 year olds gathered at Cairns to take part in an Inter Zone Championship and to receive coaching from some of Queensland's top soccer coaches and also to compete for selection in the Queensland team to compete in the National Inter State Titles.

Similar Championships and coaching

were held in Rockhampton for under 14 year olds and at Brisbane for under 15 year olds. The coaches engaged were Mr. R. Millis at Cairns, Mr. G. Pagan at Rockhampton and Mr. J. Vincze at Brisbane. These are all Senior Certificate Coaches and in fact the two latter are former coaches of the Full State team.

The selected State players will stay at these centres under these respective coaches for a further week of coaching and training before taking part in the National Titles.

The selected teams are as follows:

U/13 Going to Elizabeth S.A.:

P. Birtles	North Qld.
C. Cole	North Qld.
D. Klingberg	South Qld.
D. McKittrick	South Qld.
B. Charles	Central Qld.
A. Gillespie	Wide Bay
P. O'Rourke	Far North Qld.
M. O'Sullivan	Brisbane
P. Fagan	Brisbane
D. Gallagher	Brisbane
R. Innis	Brisbane
C. Anderson	Brisbane
P. McMahon	Brisbane
A. Leckie	Brisbane
G. Judd	Brisbane
B. Kitching	Brisbane

U/14 Going to Gove N.T.:

J. Toby	Central Qld.
G. McClatchey	Central Qld.
M. Tuttle	Wide Bay
W. Drinnen	Wide Bay
G. Crowther	Wide Bay
C. Lems	Wide Bay
C. Heugh	Brisbane
A. Baldassi	Brisbane
A. Pagan	Brisbane
L. Allen	Brisbane
P. Burns	Brisbane
R. Swan	Brisbane
G. Vitulano	Brisbane
P. Barry	Brisbane
J. Able	South Qld.
P. Chrik	South Qld.

Under 15 Going to Gold Coast:

M. Scott Young	North Qld.
J. McIntyre	North Qld.
A. Madlinger	North Qld.
R. Lawson	North Qld.
D. Conquest	North Qld.
G. Huntley	North Qld.
L. Borgo	Brisbane
G. Piddlecombe	Brisbane
R. Pricett	Brisbane
R. Narracott	Brisbane
R. Fitzgerald	Brisbane
C. Daunt	Brisbane
G. Cappell	Brisbane
M. Clahsun	Brisbane
V. Antonini	Brisbane
T. Steele	Brisbane

Under 15 Titles at Gold Coast:

From 23rd August — 28th August.
Monday and Tuesday, Owen Park,
Southport;

Three games commencing at 10 a.m.

Two games at 6.30 — 8 p.m.

Qld. v N.S.W.: 11-15 Monday.

Qld. v Vic.: 8 p.m. Monday

Qld. v W.A.: 1.25 p.m. Tuesday

No play Wednesday.

Thursday, Friday and Saturday;
day games only.

BROADBEACH OVAL

Qld. v Northern N.S.W., 10 a.m. Thursday

Qld. v Tas., 10 a.m. Friday

Qld. v S.A., 10 a.m. Saturday

THREE GOOD REASONS WHY . . .

By

ERIC WORTHINGTON

Rothmans National Director of Coaching.

FOR me, the middle of August 1976 is going to be a milestone in the history of Soccer in Queensland.

And I can think of three good reasons why this should be so.

Firstly, with the arrival of Dennis Ford, Queensland has its first ever fulltime Director of Coaching. He would be the first to admit his job is a man-sized one.

There is no question of overnight miracles with a job like that. The results of his work are not quickly seen but this week I've witnessed two of the best Queensland teams I have ever seen.

They are the other two reasons why I see August '76 as important. And there's every reason why Dennis should be happy.

I saw the Senior State team lose to Hong Kong and was also in Cairns to watch the Brisbane under 13 team win the State titles.

I saw both of these teams playing a brand of football that was a class above anything I had seen in Queensland before.

Instead of the furious physical game we, in other States think of as "Queensland football".

For the first time, I saw a composed classic style where the players paced themselves so that mistakes on the ball were reduced. The senior squad completely outwitted Hong Kong in every department and we usually reckon the Asians are ball artists. But on this occasion, the "banana-men" were kings.

Ian Fagan's under 13 team was outstanding and if you have more coaches like Ian then Dennis' job is going to be just that much easier. Ian has the hallmark of class in the way he had the youngsters trying to be clever.

Let's face it — anybody can run fast and be brutal in physical contact. Soccer is all about cleverness and skill with and without a ball. And not everybody can do that. Dennis has every right to look forward to the future with confidence.

For my money, it all happened in August 1976.

WEEK-END REFEREES

COALSTARS v NORTHS

Referee: Deiter Klose

Linesmen: Ray Bennett, Mike Brine

MERTON v REDLANDS

Referee: Des Miles

Linesmen: Col Amos, Brian Luxton

LIONS v MT. GRAVATT

Referee: John Gale

Linesmen: Pete Murray, Alan Kibler

EAGLES v BARDON

Referee: Dave Nugent

Linesmen: John Adams, John Folling

ST. GEORGE v THISTLE

Referee: Jack Wood

Linesmen: John Adams, John Folling

CITY v ST. HELENS

Referee: Terry Ellison

Linesmen: Geoff Brabrook, Barry Such

MIGHTY "LITTLE WILLIE"

THE one shape football is never likely to see again . . . that of Chelsea's first skipper and goalkeeper Bill Foulke.

At 6 ft. 2 in. and 22 st. 3 lb. he practically filled the goalmouth when Chelsea came into the Football League in 1905.

When the team ran on to the field, "Fatty" Foulke was always followed by Martin Moran, the club's midget winger.

"Little Willie", as Foulke was called, wore size 12 boots and size 24 collars. He kept goal for England and played in the F.A. Cup Finals of 1899, 1901 and 1902 for Sheffield United, the club he left to join Chelsea.

He is reputed to have once eaten a meal laid out for the entire Chelsea team. Which helps to explain why, by the time he left for Bradford City in 1906, he had grown to a phenomenal 26 stone!

YOUTH ON PARADE

QUEENSLAND'S under 16 team leaves for Melbourne shortly and the National Youth Championships. Here is the final squad of 16, with pen pictures provided by team manager GEORGE ROBERTS.

TONY SCANLAN (Annerley): Goalkeeper, 16 years. Youngster with great potential who has represented Brisbane since under 10.

GREG PETERSEN (Thistle): Defender, 16 years. Reads the game well for his age and is a most consistent player.

TREVOR TAYLOR (Annerley): Defender, 15½ years. Smallest member of the team but is a mighty midget with a big heart. Tremendous worker and a real asset to the squad.

BRUCE DINSDALE (Taringa): Defender/midfielder, 16 years. Adapts himself to any position and another who reads the game well. Has represented Brisbane under 15's.

STAN DUNLOP (Annerley): Defender, 16 years. Captain of the squad and usually plays sweeper. Keeps the front ranks well supplied with ball and has represented Brisbane under 15.

STEPHEN BAYLISS (St. George): Midfielder, 16 years. Player of great ability who can switch from defence to attack very smartly when required.

MARK APONAS (The Gap): Midfielder, 16 years. Represented Brisbane since under 10's and has a good work rate in his position.

NORM PENNOLLS (Willowburn): Midfielder, 15½ years. Attacking player capable of scoring goals and most worthy of his position in this squad.

MURRAY KITCHING (Coalstars): Midfielder, 15½ years. Reads the game well, has good prospects and has the right name to be a success in the game.

KEN SWANN (The Gap): Midfielder/striker, 16 years. Another midget who possesses a big heart. Gets through a ton of work and should make his presence felt.

MERV KICKBUSH (Thistle): Striker, 16 years. Speedy winger with good goal-scoring ability. Former Wide Bay country representative.

RUSSELL PRESTON (The Gap): Goalkeeper, 16 years. Has shown consistent and strong form which resulted in his selection. Anticipation and distribution highpoints.

GINO BERTOLI (North Brisbane): Midfielder/defender, 16 years. Shows good understanding of this game and looks to have big prospects for the future.

SCOTT LACEY (Annerley): Midfielder, 16 years. Represented Brisbane under 15, reads the game well and won't let the squad down.

MARK BRUSASCO (The Gap): Striker, 16 years. A very strong player with a good burst of speed. Capable of scoring goals from 25 yards out.

ROBERT JOHNSON (North Brisbane): Striker, 16 years. In outstanding form for his club and on that could score many in these titles.

COACH: Rags Tatters.

MANAGER: George Roberts.

TRAINER: Mike Watson.

The National Youth Championships this year are played on a full round-robin basis with the winners, the team scoring most points. There are no finals played.

The eight teams competing are Western Australia, Australian Capital Territory, Queensland, Victoria, South Australia, New South Wales, Tasmania, Northern New South Wales.

Queensland's matches are Saturday, August 28 v Victoria.

Sunday, August 29 v Tasmania.

Monday, August 30 v South Australia.

Tuesday, August 31 v Australian Capital Territory.

Thursday, September 2 v New South Wales.

Friday, September 3 v Northern New South Wales.

Saturday, September 4 v Western Australia.

WYNNUM PROMOTION A SUCCESS (SORT OF)

THE recent promotion at the Iona College when Wynnum played a Queensland side was a success in some regards, but a failure in others, according to the promoter, Mike Cole.

"Financially it was not successful. It was a bitterly cold day and I'm disappointed we did not get a much bigger crowd," says Mike.

"Any suggestions that we won because of the two guest players Ray Richards and Gary Byrne is just nonsense. The Wynnum players overall showed much more skill, although it must be remembered that Ray and Gary did only what they had to do.

"To say we beat a makeshift team is a bit unfair. About six of the players represented Queensland against Hong Kong the following Sunday and the remaining players must certainly have been on the fringe of selection.

"Apart from all that, the match itself created quite a bit of interest in the

Wynnum area and our club certainly gained a lot out of it — but not financially as I said before.

"We had very good publicity leading up to the game and because the crowd was not up to expectations, it makes me think maybe the game here does need a great deal more promotion.

"Anyway we were satisfied enough to give it another go sometime in the future."



Ron Millman in full flight

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MAGIC & MISERY

GOALKEEPERS are the men who earn the cheers when they make glory saves . . . and the jeers when they drop a clanger and "let in" an easy goal. Just what does it feel like to hear the crowd roaring as you pull off a magnificent save — and then laughing when you drop a costly clanger?

Why I Missed That Easy Catch

JIM BROWN

MY biggest error just had to happen when the "Match of the Day" cameras were around.

We were playing West Ham last season. They got a corner and the ball finished up on the edge of the box with everyone running out after it.

Billy Jennings tried an acrobatic overhead kick and the ball just flew up into the air. It looked an easy catch for me.

But, as I jumped to gather the ball, I spotted the linesman raising his flag for something and, for a fatal second, I took my eye off the ball.

The ref over-ruled the linesman and waved play on . . . and the ball hit me on the hand and shoulder and bounced off into the net.

It really was a silly goal to lose and I felt terrible about it.

My Finest Save — Yet We Lost the Cup

KEVIN KEELAN

MY greatest save came in the League Cup Final against Villa at Wembley last season. But, strangely enough, it cost Norwich the Cup!

The score was 0-0 with about seven minutes left when Villa got a penalty. Facing a spot-kick in a Wembley Cup Final, especially when the score is level and there is so little time left, is a heck of an experience for any 'keeper, I can tell you!

Ray Graydon, who packs a terrific shot, stepped up to take it and everyone in the stadium held his breath.

He hit it high and true to the top right-hand corner . . . but I had guessed his intentions and flew through the air to reach it.

So far so good . . . then disaster! I could only push the ball away and it smacked straight into the inside of the post and flew out again to my left.

I was trying to dive back as Ray, with

plenty of time, stuck home the rebound. It really was unlucky because I had actually saved the shot — it was the angle at which it hit the post which sank me. Also, if it had stayed out there would probably have been extra-time and we might have won.

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Red Face on My Debut

KEVIN KEELAN

THE silliest goal I have given away so far also happened on a "red-letter day" — my debut for Norwich back in 1963. It gave me a red face, all right.

We were playing Cardiff at Ninian Park and they still had the legendary John Charles playing for them.

Cardiff won a free-kick inside their box and big John took it. He thundered it upfield — all of 75 yards — and I went out to meet it quietly confident I'd do it.

Then the ball hit a divot in front of me and bounced over me into goal before I really knew what was happening.

I can remember thinking as I picked it out of the net: "What a way to start your career with a club — you might as well pack up if this is going to happen".

Cardiff won 2-1, and the only lucky thing for me was my "gift" WASN'T their winner!

I Forgot the Golden Rule

PETER BONETTI

FUNNILY enough, the goal which has always embarrassed me most came in the same season in a night match against Leeds at Stamford Bridge.

Obviously, they were not then the mighty Leeds everyone now knows, but they were still a good side and gave us a hard game to get a draw. Yet it was my boob which gave them the point.

I cannot even remember who the scorer was. I just recall a half-hearted lob from

quite a way out, which I should have gathered easily.

I went up for it and caught it okay, but then disaster struck. The ball just slipped through my hands and trickled over my body into the gaping goal.

Frankly, the only explanation I can give is I forgot the golden rule for all goal-keepers . . . NEVER TAKE YOUR EYE OFF THE BALL.

WHY I LIKE "NASTY"

By **BILLY BREMNER**
(Leeds United and Scotland)

Tennis star Ilie Nastase is a personal favourite of Billy despite a fiery temperament.

THERE'S a special bond between people in the wonderful world of sport.

Every sportsman and sportswoman knows how much dedication, determination, and in many cases personal sacrifice, is needed in the fight to achieve success.

Like many professional footballers I enjoy watching and meeting personalities from other sports, many of whom I now count among my personal friends.

Regular readers of my column will know I'm a bit of a golfing fiend, as are most players.

It's one of the best ways to relax and escape the tensions of top-class soccer.

Most lads at Leeds are keen golfers, thanks to our previous boss Don Revie.

I played against him many times — and never won a game. That wasn't being diplomatic, either, he was simply too good.

One ace Scotsman who could give Don a tough time on the green is Bernard Gallacher.

Ambitious

I know Bernard well and believe he will get to the very top in the golfing world.

A very determined character, Bernard will never admit defeat. He's got the requisite belief in his own ability and is extremely ambitious.

It's no secret my great love is boxing . . . a tremendous sport.

I would like to have become a top ring pro., but only if I could have punched well. For to become a great Champion you must have the ability to finish off your opponent.

Do you remember Welshman Howard Winston? Now, he was a real classy fighter, but he would have given anything

to possess a solid dig — a punch which would have destroyed opponents.

I don't get the chance to go along to the big fights these days.

Britain does possess several fine fighters, though. There's Yorkshire's Richard Dunn, John Conteh and my pal John H. Stracey, the present Welterweight Champion of the World.

I'd have loved to have been in Mexico recently when he beat Jose Napoles for the title.

John H. has the one vital characteristic missing in a great many of our past and present day boxers — a mean streak. You must have this to become a great Champion.

Look at Joe Bugner, our heavyweight hope who retired a few weeks ago. Okay, so he was a Champ, but he didn't have the "killer instinct" which would have made him true world-class.

Joe was too nice. A fabulous guy to talk to and be with, but not tough enough or hard enough to rank with the boxing greats, like two of my heroes Rocky Marciano — and Muhammad Ali.

What a great battle these two would have had in the ring . . . the fight of the century.

For my money, and that of most boxing fans, Muhammad Ali is the greatest of them all.

What a fantastic shot-in-the-arm for the

sport he's been over the years. If anyone was going to topple the Champ I thought it would have been Smokin' Joe Frazier but he had his chance and lost it. Only old age can defeat Ali now.

Although always a heavyweight, Ali moved so fast that for most of his career he performed like a middleweight. But there's nothing now I can add to the millions of words which have already been said about Ali.

Another Muhammad Ali fan is British hero Henry Cooper, one of the few sportsmen who has remained as popular after he retired.

I know Henry very well and admire him tremendously. A great Champion who could have been greater but for one weakness, his eyes, which cut so easily.

What amazes me about boxers is their willingness to exercise for months non-stop and also practise with sparring-partners in the ring.

They become incredibly tough. You can imagine how a fighter feels when he knows he's caught his man with a good punch but the fellow takes it and keeps coming. Or gets caught himself with a wallop delivered with the force of a ton of hurtling lead but has to pretend he didn't feel the blow.

As much as I love boxing, I dislike cricket. But that doesn't mean to say I don't like cricketers. In fact, two are

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great mates of mine, former Yorkshire and England captains Ray Illingworth and Brian Close.

Ray doesn't shout his mouth off. He gives people the impression he's a nice, quiet guy who doesn't mind losing. Far from it. Ray is one of the most determined men I know — he hates being beaten.

Close also hates losing, but he's more volatile about it. He'll shout, swear and bully people into action.

Both have earned the tremendous respect of their fellow professionals and you can't get a higher accolade than that.

A Hammering

I played my first game of squash recently — and enjoyed it immensely.

I took part in a little tournament at Leeds and played against Paul Reaney and Mick Bates.

I beat Paul but lost to Micky in the Semi-Final. Honestly, I've never taken such a hammering in my life. I hardly saw the ball!

After collapsing in the dressingroom afterward, I realised just how fit star squash players like Jonah Barrington must be. I would very much like to see the top boys in action — that would be something special.

It's not a good game for footballers, though. There's too much checking, stomping and twisting. You could easily damage a knee or ankle, I reckon.

Squash is a new game to me, tennis isn't. It's fabulous. For two weeks every year my wife Vicky becomes a Wimbledon widow as I sit glued to the TV watching the world's best perform.

One of my ambitions in life is to get myself a ticket for the Centre Court for the whole of the final week. Although a seat in the V.I.P. stand would do! Perhaps some influential reader will put in a word for me.

My tennis hero of the past is Rod Laver. Today it's Ilie Nastase. Like Muhammad Ali, "Nasty" plays as well as he talks. He's marvellous, so unpredictable and exciting to watch.

Many critics "knock" him, but they don't realise just how good he is for the game.

Wherever Nasty goes he's news. If he

makes headlines because of some escapade then tennis gets publicity.

Most fans aren't fooled by his antics — they know as well as opponents, he's a tremendous player.

Next to boxing, golf and tennis I enjoy athletics. I can't wait for the Summer Olympics.

Our track and field stars have often been criticised in the past for failing to win umpteen gold medals, but when you consider we're a small country, competing against big nations such as the United States and Russia we don't do so bad.

Far Superior

Also athletes from other countries are virtually professionals. Training day in day out with facilities and sponsorship far superior than anything Britain can offer. I think our boys and girls do well for this country against sometimes almost overwhelming odds.

Let's hope the likes of Brendan Foster, Geoff Capes, Andrea Lynch, Bill Hartley, Alan Pascoe, Steve Ovett and David Jenkins have been rewarded for the effort they've put into their sport.

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amazing, so is the mental pressure which must ride with motor racing stars.

It's a sport I've never felt the urge to try out, but one I get a thrill out of by watching on the telly.

I know Jackie Stewart quite well and feel sure I could persuade him to take me for a spin around Brands Hatch. Perhaps I will one day — when I summon up enough nerve.

OWN GOALS

WHAT'S the record number of own-goals scored by a team in a Football League match?

This unwanted record since the last war — and possibly much further back still — is jointly held by Sheffield Wednesday and Rochdale.

Oddly enough, both these three-goal gifts were made over Christmas! Kenny, Curtis and Gannon all scored own-goals when West Bromwich beat Wednesday 5-4 at Sheffield on Boxing Day 1952.

And Rochdale's Underwood, Boyle and Murphy similarly entered into the festive spirit of goodwill when Carlisle enjoyed a 7-2 home win on Christmas Day 1954.

FIVE GOAL DEBUT FOR BRIAN CLOUGH

A HAT-TRICK in top class soccer is all too rare nowadays, yet it was not so long ago that some of our goal hungry strikers were hitting five goals in a game.

Indeed one such player still knocking the ball into opposing nets is Millwall marksman Alf Wood.

He achieved the feat for Third Division Shrewsbury Town against Blackburn Rovers on October 3, 1971 — the last occasion it was done in the Football League. One of his goals was from the penalty-spot as Shrewsbury strode to a 7-1 home win.

Wood, who was converted from a centre-half to a striker earlier that season, headed three goals in a nine-minute burst and later collected two more.

But to be fair to Blackburn, they were without goalkeeper Roger Jones, who was hurt in a first-half collision. There was no score then, but Jones did not appear in the second-half, when the blitz began.

Alf Wood may have been inspired by England striker, Peter Osgood.

Only three days earlier, he crashed in five goals for Chelsea in the European Cup-Winners' Cup against the Luxembourg side, Jeunesse Hautcharage. Chelsea won the home leg 13-0 to take the First Round tie on a record 21-0 aggregate.

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