

Eye On Soccer is the  
Queensland Soccer Federation  
Official Magazine

Eye On

# STRIKERS

v Collingwood Warriors *Round 11*

Vol 6-6 Saturday December 21, 1996 \$2.00

**Collingwood  
playing  
soccer?**

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**Ross dives  
out of the  
shadows**

Page 5







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Coach: Frank Farina  
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Tel: 07 3252 5327

"Eye On Strikers" Magazine  
Editor: Morris McGiffin

Sub Editor: Andrew van der Beek  
Photography: Sporting Images  
Tel: 07 3252 5327

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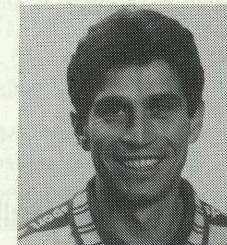
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Cover: The Strikers No. 2 Goalkeeper  
Graham Ross in full flight. Ross replaces an  
injured Clint Bolton in tonight's match.

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## Coach's Comment



Frank Farina

Firstly I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very 'Merry Christmas' on behalf of all at the Strikers. Hopefully we will be able to give you an early Christmas present with a win tonight.

Secondly, I would like to apologise on behalf of myself and the players for our lacklustre performance against Perth a fortnight ago. I am confident the players learned a couple of valuable lessons from that loss. The first being never underestimate any team, while the second is even though it's difficult getting to the top of the League, it's even more difficult trying to stay there.

With such a long way to go we are still well situated, and hopefully our injury list will not get any bigger. A settled squad will always perform better than a squad which is forced to make drastic changes each week.

Welcome to Zoran Matic and his Warriors who haven't had the best of times lately, but knowing Zoran he will have his side fired up for a BIG game tonight. Collingwood are an unknown quantity, in the sense that we haven't played them before, but two things are certain. With Zoran in charge, Collingwood will more than likely play counter attacking football and secondly we will definitely not be underestimating them as we did with Perth.

On a more light hearted note, my response this week to one of our southern journalists who asked "What will it take to beat Collingwood," was "Simple! Score one more goal than they do!"

Merry Xmas and "GO THE STRIKERS".

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## Collingwood play soccer? ... I'd like to see that!

**The Brisbane Strikers will be looking to continue their winning ways when they meet Ericsson Cup newcomers Collingwood Warriors tonight.**

And while the Warriors may be new to Australia's premier soccer competition, their personnel certainly are not.

With legendary coach Zoran Matic in control, the Warriors are shaping up to be one of the country's top soccer teams.

Matic took Adelaide City to two Premierships in the early 1990's, his efforts in season 90/91 guaranteeing him the "Coach of the Year" award.

The astute manager bought well in the off season, with the majority of his squad having extensive National League experience.

Heading the list is former Socceroo UTS Olympic target man Kimon Taliadoros, whose talents extend beyond the field of play and into the administration areas of the club.

He is joined by Socceroo midfielder Ernie Tapai, who played with Gippsland for the past two seasons.

Matic also used his Adelaide City connections when putting his team together at the beginning of the season.

Turning to the new Collingwood colours were Socceroo flanker Goran Lozanovski and midfielder Carlo Talladira, who became disgruntled with City after Matic left the club.

Perhaps Matic's biggest recruitment coup was luring Olympic goalkeeper Frank Juric from last year's champions the Melbourne Knights.

The timely signing of Juric came just in time for the new club to take out its first piece of silverware in it's first competition, this season's Johnnie Walker Cup.

However, Collingwood have slumped to three consecutive losses following a 3 - 1 defeat in front of their home fans against Adelaide City last week.

Prior to that they were handed a 7 - 0 hiding by league leaders Sydney United.

Desperate for points, they are sure to be in a determined state of mind tonight.

The Strikers have been buoyed by last weekend's turnaround in form, which saw them destroy the Cosmos in Canberra by four goals to one.

A victory tonight will ensure Brisbane stays in touch with ladder leaders Sydney United, with a top of the table clash at Suncorp Stadium in two week's time, a very realistic possibility. □

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## Ross dives out of the shadows

**He is currently in his fourth season with the Strikers, yet has only played a handful of matches.**

And if he was with another club, the chances are that he would be a regular starter.

But Graham Ross has had to remain in the shadow of the Strikers number one goalkeeper Clint Bolton.

The 28 year old has been forced to warm Brisbane's goalkeeping bench for the overwhelming majority of his time with Brisbane, as the younger Bolton has gone from strength to strength, representing his country at two different levels.

And it has only been when Bolton has been on representative duties that Ross has received the call up to the Strikers starting eleven.

The opportunities have been few and far between for the former Australian Schoolboys representative ... just 12 Ericsson Cup matches to his name.

It's taken a shoulder injury to Bolton to give Ross another opportunity.

With Bolton out for a minimum of three weeks, Ross now has a chance to make the keeping position his and put the pressure right on the Strikers' number one.

"It's a shame to see Clint struck down with injury, especially since he's been performing so well," Ross said.

"But I haven't had too many opportunities, so I plan on making the most of this one."

Ross put in a near faultless display in the Strikers' 4 - 1 victory over Canberra last weekend.



*Graham Ross is grabbing his starting opportunity with both hands.*

His only blemish, not quite getting to a Norm Kelly penalty.

"I felt good last week and I was very determined to put in a good performance," Ross said.

Coach Frank Farina was also pleased with Ross' performance.

"He did a fantastic job for us last week," Farina said.

"And that's what it's all about, putting pressure on your team mates and taking the opportunities when they come your way.

"If Rossy continues to perform then the shoe will be on the other foot and it'll be up to Clint to force his way back into the starting eleven."

Tonight will be the first time Ross will start for the Strikers in front of the Suncorp Stadium supporters.

If he plays like he did last week, then supporters may get to see a lot more of the Strikers custodian. □



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## Collingwood - A brief history

by Andrew Howe

On March 9, 1996, Soccer Australia chairperson David Hill shocked the nation's sporting fraternity when he announced the Collingwood Warriors would contest the 1996-97 Ericsson Cup. This marriage between an Australian Rules football club (Collingwood) and a former national league soccer club (Melbourne Warriors) was an unthinkable proposition until very recently.

Historically, the relationship between soccer and the AFL (previously known as the VFL) football codes was not good. Way back in 1928 the 'Referee' newspaper reported the VFL wrote "with alarm" of soccer. In 1952 the VFL directed its clubs to secure all available public sporting areas in Melbourne in an attempt to nullify the growing threat of soccer in Victoria.

For a short time in 1996 it seemed the paranoia of some AFL commissioners remained. When AFL chief Ross Oakley heard of Collingwood's soccer proposal he told the Collingwood board the club would be in breach of its AFL licence if they proceeded with the venture. Needless to say, the AFL eventually backed down in its opposition.

Both football clubs have a long and proud history. Collingwood entered the inaugural 1897 VFL season as champions of the predecessor competition - the VFA. Between 1897 and 1939 Collingwood made the grand final 23 times, winning 11 of them. After two more championships in the 1950s, Magpie's fans had to wait until 1990 to win the flag again.

The Alexander soccer club was formed in Melbourne in 1958. They quickly rose to prominence, culminating in a premier league victory in 1975.

The club changed its name to Heidelberg and was one of the foundation teams of the inaugural national soccer league season in 1977. In the first ten years of the national league, Heidelberg was the second most successful team (behind Sydney City).

Their most memorable national league season was 1980, an era when the minor premier was declared champion team. Cruising near the top of the ladder, Heidelberg conceded only 16 goals after 17 games. Their opponent in round 19 was Brisbane City, who then had the league's worst goalscoring record: 14 goals in 18 games. At Perry Park, Brisbane City destroyed Heidelberg 7-0; the club's worst national league result. At season's end, Heidelberg finished a mere one point behind eventual champions Sydney City.

Heidelberg gained some revenge in the 1980 post-season top four series. They won the 1980 top four grand final by thrashing Sydney City 4-0 at Bruce Stadium in Canberra. Gary Cole, Heidelberg's prolific scorer, scored 3 in a game witnessed by 11,126 people.

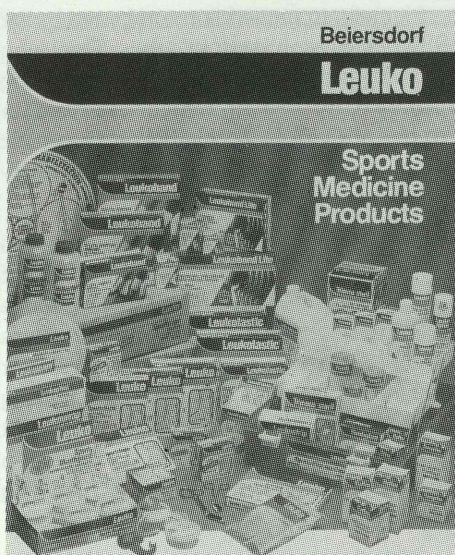
In the first ten years of the national league, Heidelberg finished in the top half every season. But the club's record since 1987 has not been as rosy. Heidelberg was relegated in 1987, 1989 and 1994/95 after finishing in last place. Its best final placing was ninth in 1991/92. However, one bright spot in this period was when the club won the national knock-out cup in 1993, beating Parramatta Eagles 2-1 in Sydney.

With the merging of such proud traditions and long established supporter bases, together with the astute selection of initial coach Zoran Matic, the Collingwood Warriors experiment is more than likely to be a successful one. □



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# Complacency - no longer an issue

**Complacency will not be a problem for the Brisbane Strikers as they set about erasing the memory of their last Suncorp Stadium encounter.**

The Strikers were humbled to the tune of five goals to one against Ericsson Cup newcomers Perth Glory in their last Suncorp outing.

It was Brisbane's first league loss at Suncorp since the team's first match there more than twelve months ago.

It was also a dramatic way to end their unbeaten run in this Ericsson Cup campaign.

But coach Frank Farina cited complacency as the major factor for the loss.

"I didn't think complacency was going to be a problem," Frank said.

"We'd put the hard work in at training all year and our performances on the park had reflected this.

"But we did let our guard down and we were punished for it.

"The worst thing about the loss, apart from three Premiership points going west, was that we disappointed our home supporters.

"That was extremely hard to take and the players are eager to make up for that against Collingwood."

Farina also said his assistant coach Peter Tokesi made several positional changes on the night of the Perth Glory match, which "just did not work".

"We had a few injuries on the night which prompted us to make several changes," he said.

"Unfortunately they didn't come off for



*Player/Coach Frank Farina wants to reward Strikers' supporters with a victory against the Warriors.*

us and we suffered, but we've put that match down to a learning experience and I believe that's exactly what we've done."

Last weekend's result in Canberra has justified Farina's words.

An impressive 4 - 1 scoreline in favour of the Strikers, marked a superb turn around in form for Brisbane.

The victory against the Cosmos has kept the Strikers in touch with league leaders Sydney United, as well as maintaining the gaps between themselves and third placed Perth Glory.

If the Strikers regain their old Suncorp Stadium form tonight, it should also guarantee a huge match in a fortnight's time, when they take on United in their next home match.

"It is very important we come away with a win tonight so the supporters will also regain their faith in the team," Farina said.

"But I'm confident their game against Perth was a one-off and every side has those sort of hiccups in a season." □



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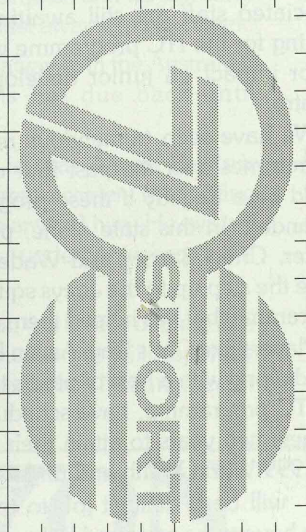
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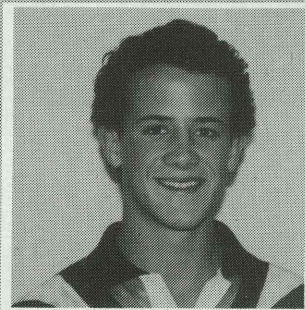
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Sun 13/10	Adelaide City	A 0-0	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	○
Sat 19/10	Newcastle Breakers	H 6-1	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲
Sat 26/10	Wollongong City	H 2-1	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲
Sun 3/11	South Melbourne	A 2-1	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲
Sat 9/11	Melbourne Knights	H 2-1	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲
Sat 16/11	Maroni Fairfield	A 1-0	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲
Sat 23/11	UTS Olympic	H 4-1	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲
Sun 1/12	West Adelaide	A 0-0	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲
Sat 7/12	Perth Glory	H 1-5	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲
Sat 14/12	Carberra Cosmos	A 4-1	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲
Sat 21/12	Collingwood Warriors	H	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲
Sat 28/12	Gippsland Falcons	A	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲
Sat 4/1	Sydney United	H	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲
Sun 12/1	Sydney United	A	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲
Sat 1/2	Adelaide City	H	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲
Fri 7/2	Newcastle Breakers	A	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲
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Sat 22/2	South Melbourne	H	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲
Sun 2/3	Melbourne Knights	A	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲
Sat 8/3	Marconi Fairfield	H	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲
Sun 16/3	UTS Olympic	A	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲
Sat 22/3	West Adelaide	H	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲
Sat 29/3	Perth Glory	A	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲
Sat 5/4	Canberra Cosmos	H	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲
Sun 13/4	Collingwood Warriors	A	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲
Sun 20/4	Gippsland Falcons	H	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲
League Appearances			83	112	3	328	59	366	170	85	306	336	156	52	6	8	52	21	10	7	11	12	0	105
League Goals			0	1	0	53	6	20	93	12	125	48	8	8	0	1	5	0	2	1	0	0	0	25

Legend: ▲ = Played ○ = Non playing substitute ◆ = Own Goal in scoreline

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## BEN CUMMINS

**Q.A.S.**

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**Previous club:** Nerimbera  
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**Nickname:** "Bograt"  
**Game Play -**  
**Best -** Passing  
**Worst -** Defending  
**Honours:** Old Juniors  
**Hobbies:** Watching TV  
**Favourites -**  
**O/S Club -** AC Milan  
**Food -** Lasagna  
**Drink -** Coke  
**TV Show -** Bevis & Butthead  
**Flick -** Braveheart  
**Actor -** Kevin Costner  
**Actress -** Whitney Huston  
**Music -** Rock  
**Comedian -** Eddie Murphy  
**Dislikes:** Animals  
**Ambition:** To play at the highest level possible.

## Shades of BROWN...

Being the Head Coach of the male and female programmes at the QAS, I was unable to see the boys play in Canberra last week as I was in Sydney with the girls QAS/ITC team.



Greg Brown

The girls played really well and over the two days defeated Northern New South Wales and then lost against New South Wales. But with key players to return from injury and touring with the Australian Schoolgirls, I am hopeful we will go better in the next round.

The women's team seems to be going from strength to strength. Unfortunately, the male squad and associated staff are still awaiting the outcome of funding for the ITC programme which could have a major impact on junior development around the country.

We have seen tremendous results from the ITC programmes over the past four of five years and it would be a tragedy if these programmes had to be disbanded. In this state alone, players like Andrew Packer, Craig Barnes and Wade Baldwin have all made the step up to the Joeys squad and it is the ITC programme that has helped them achieve their goals.

Players like Chris Day, Aaron Bristow and Steven Bland along with a host of others that are involved in the ITC programme, have schedules set in place for the next two years to attain their goals of playing in the 1999 World Youth and under-17 World Cups.

It will be a difficult job to tell these boys their plans have to be scrapped because of our inability to raise the necessary funds to keep the ITC programmes around the country operating. □

 **James Hardie**  
**MODULAR BUILDINGS**

## QAS Squad NEWS

### Welcome back...

This week we welcome back two of our under 17 members, Andrew Packer and Craig Barnes.

At the time of writing, Barnesy has a slight groin injury which we are hoping he will have recovered from for today's game.

Both the boys had plenty of matches in South America and hopefully have convinced Les Scheinflug they should take part in the qualifiers for the under 17 World Cup next year.

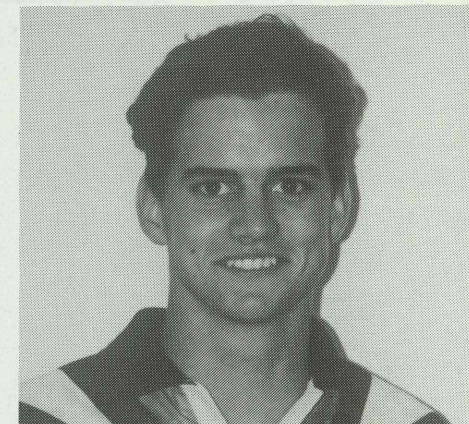
Our form of late has been erratic, winning every home game yet unable to secure victory when we travel away.

We certainly hope our home form continues for today's match and we can carry on and register our first away win next week.

Chris Day is still away with the Australian Schoolboys and is not due back until December 21.

The sad news is that Aaron Bristow injured himself in a freak accident in shooting practice with no one around him. He twisted his knee and has to undergo surgery for a knee reconstruction.

This means Aaron will be out of the game for around 6 - 7 months but will hopefully recover in time for next year's National Youth team selections. □



Aaron Bristow will undergo knee reconstruction following a freak accident at training

### THE ACADEMY LINEUP...

- Andrew Packer
- Chris Day
- Duncan Easton
- Shane Steffanuto
- Aaron Bristow
- Todd Rumble
- Clint McDermott
- Craig Barnes
- Owen Filewood
- Stephen Bland
- David Enfantie
- Royce Brownlie
- Darryl Anderson
- Shane Gilroy
- Ben Cummins
- Darren Sime

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 OF THE QAS  
 SOCCER TEAM**

Innovative  
 Quality Sportswear



# ACTION REPLAY



**DANNY  
WRIGHT**  
**No 10**

**Born:** 2/11/64

**Where:** Mater Hospital

**Previous club:** Sth Melbourne

**Position:** Will play Anywhere

**Nickname:** "Digger"

**Game Play -**

**Best ~** Versatility

**Worst ~** Loss of former pace

**Honours:** FYS

**Hobbies:** Landscaping

**Favourites.....**

**O/S Club ~** Napoli

**Food ~** Provincial Italian

**Drink ~** Good wine

**TV Show ~** Simpsons

**Movie ~** Shine

**Actor ~** Liam Neeson

**Actress ~** Judy Davis

**Comedian ~** Benny Hill

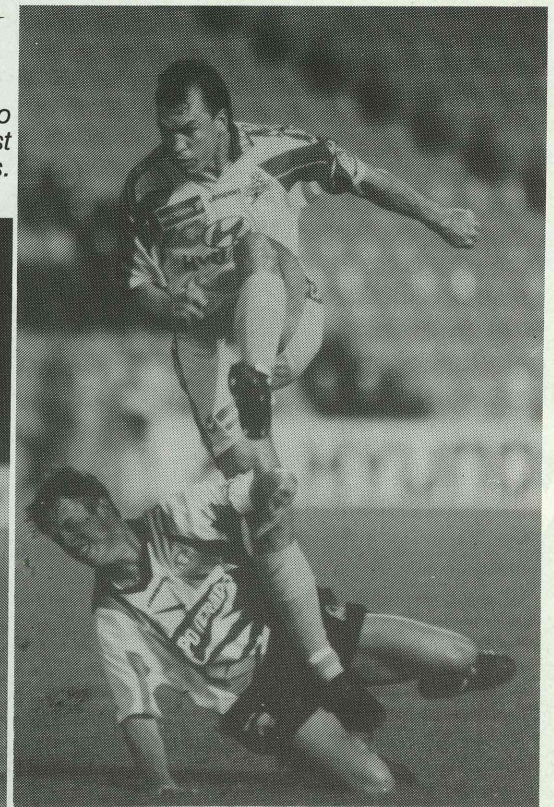
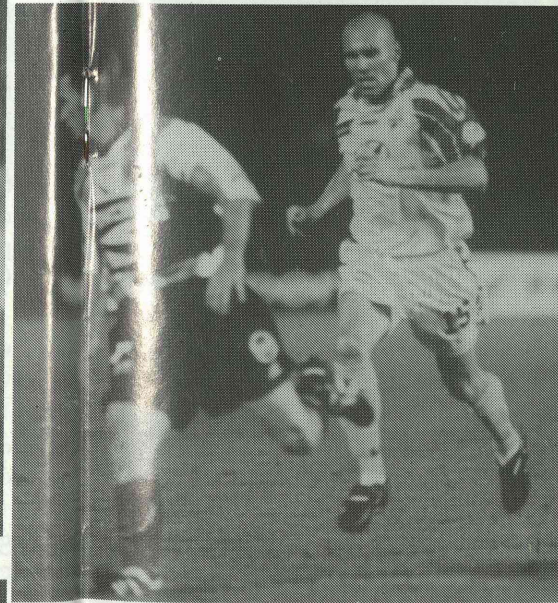
**Dislikes:** Eggs

**Like to Meet:** Pele

**Ambition:** Finish my career on a high note being my last season.



*All good things must come to an end... but by so much? Perth came and took all the Glory! The first team to beat our Strikers in 21 home matches. Revenge is sweet they say, roll on 29/3/97.*



**NEXT HOME GAME**

**SAT 4 JAN - 7.00pm**

**AT SUNCORP STADIUM**

**v SYDNEY UNITED**

**CALL TICKETWORLD**

**131931 - Reserved Seats**

Reserved Seating gives you automatic entry to the Queensland Leagues Club prior to kickoff and at half time and the Centre Line Club after the match.





**We're behind Australian soccer, all the way.**

**ERICSSON** 

# Half-time Four's Series



The Coca-Cola 4-0n-4 Cup continues as the second match of the second leg kicks off with North Star hoping for a repeat performance of their previous encounter with John Paul College. The other fixture is also a second leg match between Ipswich St Helens and Beerwah.

The Cup is a new innovative competition involving 18 Under 13 teams from throughout South-East Queensland.

If scores are even at the end of the second leg, the winner will be determined by applying the following methods in order. 1: Away goals rule. 2: First team to score in the second leg match. 3: Toss of the coin.

The rules of the competition are simple. There are four players on each team with two extra players making unlimited interchanges.

Matches are split into two halves, with the first played during half time of the curtain raiser and the second half played during the break in the main game.

There are no goalkeepers so handling of the ball is illegal.

No more than one defender at a time can be positioned inside his own penalty arc but any number of attacking players are allowed in the arc and there is no offside rule.

## Coca-Cola Cup Draw

Sat 19/10/96	Brisbane Lions	v	Ridge Hills	4-1
	John Paul Coll	v	North Star	2-19
Sat 26/10/96	Beerwah-Glass	v	Ipsw St Helens	2-4
	Palm Beach	v	Pine Hills "C"	15-2
Sat 9/11/96	Mitchelton	v	Nambour Reds	0-4
	Pine Hills "B"	v	Logan City Kings	0-3
Sat 23/11/96	Bribie Island	v	Rockville Rovers	3-7
	Brisbane City	v	Taringa Rovers	5-4
Sat 7/12/96	Bilambil	v	Pine Hills "A"	3-3
	Ridge Hills	v	Brisbane Lions	1-4
Sat 21/12/96	North Star	v	John Paul College	
	Ipsw St Helens	v	Beerwah Glass	
Sat 4/1/97	Pine Hills "C"	v	Palm Beach	
	Nambour Reds	v	Mitchelton	
Sat 1/2/97	Logan City Kings	v	Pine Hills "B"	
	Pine Hills "A"	v	Bilambil	
Sat 22/2/97	Taringa Rovers	v	Brisbane City	
	Rockville Rovers	v	Bribie Island	
Sat 8/3/97	Second Round Playoff & Quarter Finals			
Sat 22/3/97	Quarter Finals			
Sat 5/4/97	Semi Finals			
Sun 20/4/97	Final & Third Place Playoff			



# **SOCCER WORLD** **THREE DAY CHRISTMAS SALE**

**SUNDAY - MONDAY & TUESDAY ONLY!!**

**95/96 Jerseys were \$120 NOW \$49**  
**Training Shorts were \$25 NOW \$10**

★ **Just Arrived! Man Utd, Juventus & Barcellona Tracksuits**

★ **We also stock Queensland's largest selection of National and Club Jerseys from all over the world!**

Open on	Sunday 22/12	9am to 2pm
	Monday 23/12	9am to 5pm
	Tuesday 24/12	9am to 5pm

We will be closed from Xmas Day until the 29/12/96. We will re-open on Monday December 30. Wishing all our customers a Merry Xmas & prosperous 1997

**Ph - 07 3357 5777 - 497 Lutwyche Road Lutwyche**  
**(Opposite Tom Wallace Cycle Shop & Blockbuster Video)**



## - Around the Ground -

■ Don't forget to check page five of your match day magazine to see if you have Clint Bolton's autograph. If you do, then you have won dinner to the value of \$50 at La Dolce Vita, Milton. Just take your autographed magazine to the operations room at the scoreboard end of the grandstand to claim your prize. You must have bought the magazine with Clint's autograph already in it!

■ Corporate visitors to Suncorp Stadium tonight should also check the lucky ticket they were handed at the door, to see if they have won a night for two at La Promenade Resort, Caloundra. Check the messages on the television screen in your box to see if your number comes up a winner.

■ Expressions of interest are being sought

for the *Strikers Supporters' Tours*. These tours are for away matches and options include Wollongong in February. Olympic in March and Collingwood in April. Phone 3217 6322 to register your interest for any or all of these sorties.

■ Strikers Junior Supporters' Club memberships are always available. Children should join quick smart, as well as receiving the excellent Strikers' merchandise, they will receive an invitation to Thor's BBQ at Perry Park. The BBQ will be held on a Strikers' training night early in the new year.

■ The Optus Fun Park is designed for the more active children in the crowd aged from 5 to 12 years. Situated on the northern hill, it offers ideal entertainment for the youngsters and best of all it is FREE!

## Leo Muller Half-Time

### Competition

**How would you like to drive home from Suncorp Stadium in a brand new Hyundai Excel Sprint?**

Leo Muller Hyundai and the Brisbane Strikers are giving you the opportunity to do just that, simply by entering the half-time competition on match day. Sanyo Australia are also offering a fabulous runners up prize of a Portable Entertainment System.

Just read *The Courier Mail* and fill out the Strikers' coupon appearing on the day of the match. Cut out the coupon and put it in the barrel at the entrance gate on match day. Two names will be drawn to compete.

Contestants will attempt to place a corner kick into the special 2m x 1m **Soccet® Mini-**

### Leo Muller HYUNDAI

THAT'S LIFE WITH  
**SANYO**

**goal** on the full. If you are the only person to achieve this all season, you will be driving away in a exciting Hyundai Excel Sprint from Leo Muller Hyundai. If more than one person achieves this feat during the season, a special draw will be conducted to determine the winner.

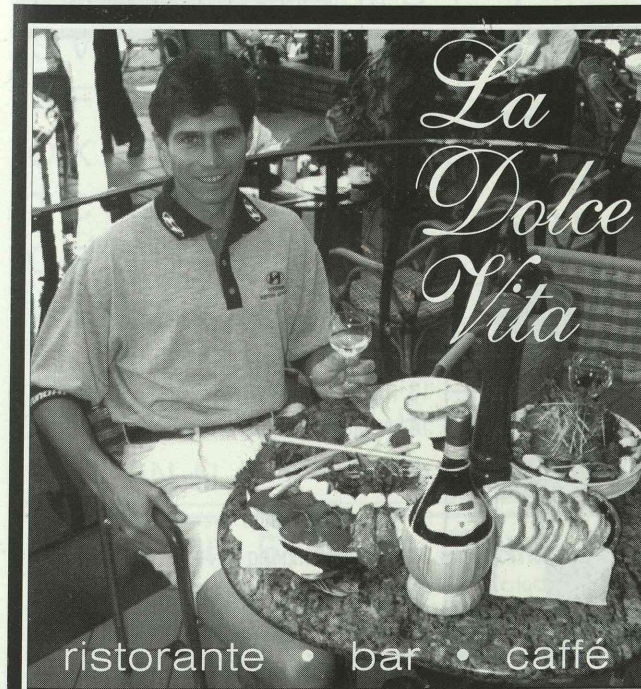
Place a corner kick into the **regular** sized goal on the full and win a return flights for two to Sydney flying Ansett Australia plus a Sanyo Portable Entertainment System courtesy of Sanyo Australia. If NO contestant achieves this, or if BOTH contestants find the target, the winner of the Sanyo system will be judged by crowd applause.

The best mix of music  
from the 60s, 70s, 80s  
and today.

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Latest Hits  
BRISBANE 693

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- \* Breakfast/Lunch or Dinner

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# JUNIOR SUPPORTERS CLUB .....

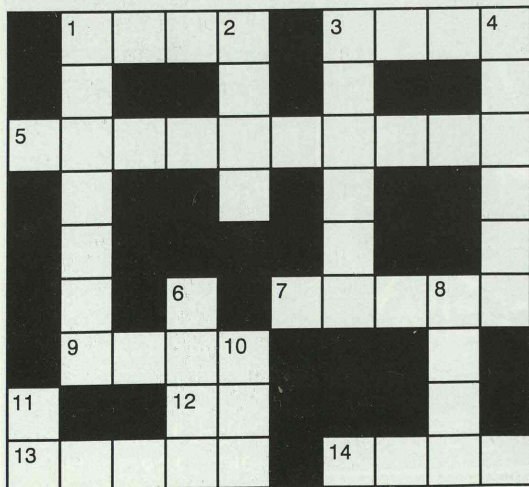


**"FUN & GAMES PAGES"**

**Hey Kids!!**

Don't forget to check out the Optus Vision FUN PARK at the Scoreboard end of the ground..... IT'S FREE!

## LIGHTNING CROSSWORD



### Crossword Clues

#### Across

- 1 Strikers Mascot ----.
- 3 Flying insect that stings ----.
- 5 Beautiful one day, perfect the next.
- 7 Australia plays England for these ----.
- 9 ---- makes the pitch wet to play on.
- 12 The Strikers biggest fan --.
- 13 The coach hopes his players ---- last night.
- 14 Another word for an exam ----.

#### Down

- 1 Thor makes this. -----.
- 3 The Wollongong -----.
- 4 There is two of these on a bike -----.
- 6 With a sore foot you walk with a ----.
- 8 You hear with these ----.
- 11 It's them or -- tonight.

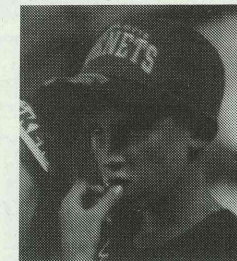
# JUMBLED NAMES

The following Collingwood Warriors players have been struck by one of Thor's lightning bolts. Can you unscramble their names to find out who they are?

- CURJI
- HAVSOL
- LAWDED
- NAZOLKIVSO
- LINCOMCA
- SAILODATOR
- AAPIT



## IS THIS YOU?



**Then you WIN!!**

...a Strikers' Bum bag and Biro from the Bolt Vault and you **MUST** collect them **TONIGHT!!**

## FIND THE PLAYERS NAMES

D S T R U D W I C K M  
E A J O P N H R M C I  
S V D W M K A L H D L  
P F O V X E I B O J I  
O K E L L Y F W R S C  
T C A P U G A D S C I  
O F O B Z D R I L I C  
V E U R F M I Z E Y K  
S L B O S Y N T Y R T  
K N Z W E Q A Q I H E  
I B E N N E T T G X B

There are 10 Ericsson Cup leading goalscorers names hidden in this maze of letters. You must find them **NOW!**



## JOIN THE STRIKERS JUNIOR SUPPORTERS CLUB

You will receive some fantastic goodies, including... \* Special Thor T-Shirt \* Strikers Mini Soccer Ball or Headband, Trumpet & Hammer \* Supporters Club Card for huge discounts on merchandise \* Invitation to Thor's BBQ to meet Thor and the Strikers ...plus heaps more! For information on how to join, call Carmelina at the Strikers office weekdays on (07) 3217 6322.



# Strike Squad *NEWS*

by Thor

## Merry Christmas

With the Festive Season only just around the corner, I would like to thank everyone involved with the Strike Squad for their efforts and wish you all a Merry Christmas.

Tonight, I hope to receive the best Christmas present ever this year - a win to the Strikers. After such a great start to this season, the last home game's hiccup is now behind us and everybody should really be in the festive mood and support the lads in the most vocal way possible.

## Autograph hunters

Regretfully it is necessary to implement a new policy for children and spectators who wish to obtain player autographs.

The practice of running onto the field has created certain problems and to ensure the safety of the children and the players alike, this will no longer be allowed.

As of tonight, players will be directed to move to the sideline placing themselves at reasonable intervals apart, to allow as many children as possible to obtain the autographs they desire.

Children **may not** proceed any further than the sideline in front of the Castlemaine Street grandstand and we ask that Mum's and Dad's explain this to their children.

## Youthful Look

This season has been a revelation as far as the youth players are concerned at the Strikers. With so many future stars lining up each week I am looking for some great songs or chants to encourage our new players.

Kasey Wehrman, Wayne Knipe, Reece Tollenaere, Matt Bell and Vedran Becirbegovic have all played an important

role in this year's success, so please get those thinking caps on and let's support these new faces to the hilt.

## Funny Hats

It was really great to see so many people wearing different hats and even a few wigs at the last home game against the Perth Glory. At each game this year it appears more and more people are trying to get involved and showing their true colours.

Unfortunately, we were unable to obtain a sponsor for the competition of the best hat or sign so we cannot give any prizes. I hope this does not dampen your enthusiasm so please continue to try out new ideas as many supporters have mentioned to me that the colourful atmosphere in the ground has really been terrific this season.

## Stewie's Observations

Stewie Holmes, one of the Strike Squad's founding members, has recently returned from a holiday in the U.K. and has mentioned some interesting points. As many of you know the Premier League and First Division Clubs in England are now playing in all-seater stadiums and Stewie noticed that the atmosphere generated was still a really important part of the overall game. Perhaps we should be looking towards the seated area at Suncorp Stadium for the lead in getting things going.

Look out for Stewie and several other Strike Squad stalwarts lurking about in the middle of the reserved seating area making a bit of noise and leading the support from the historically quieter sections. □

The beer for here.

**XXXX**  
BITTER

ABE 22838A





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\*Conditions apply

# PLAYERS WANTED

1997 Season

Training will commence for all teams on **January 7th**. Players wishing to try out for teams in Semi Professional 1st team / Reserves / Youth and Division 5 Amateur teams should meet at the grounds by **6.30pm**. Further information, from the Secretary - **3263 7331**

North Star Sports Club  
O'Callaghan Park  
Jennings Street  
Zillmere



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Resort Suites  
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*Located On  
Caboondra's Boardwalk*

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From \$85 per night.  
Enquiries Phone

**07 54911300**

# Eye on Strikers Tables

## ERICSSON CUP

As at 15 December

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
SYDNEY UNITED	10	9	1	0	33	12	28
<b>STRIKERS</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>23</b>
PERTH GLORY	10	5	1	4	25	18	16
SOUTH MELBOURNE	10	4	3	3	13	10	15
ADELAIDE CITY	10	4	3	3	9	7	15
UTS OLYMPIC	9	4	2	3	14	13	14
WOLLONGONG CITY	10	3	5	2	13	12	14
MARCONI FAIRFIELD	10	4	2	4	13	15	14
GIPPSLAND FALCONS	10	2	4	4	10	14	10
COLLINGWOOD	9	2	4	3	10	16	10
WEST ADELAIDE	10	3	1	6	12	19	10
MELBOURNE KNIGHTS	10	2	3	5	7	12	9
NEWCASTLE BREAKERS	11	1	5	5	15	21	8
CANBERRA COSMOS	11	0	4	7	10	26	4

## NATIONAL YOUTH LEAGUE

As at 15 December

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
SYDNEY UNITED	8	5	2	1	16	5	17
NEWCASTLE BREAKERS	8	5	0	3	19	10	15
NSW INST. SPORT	8	5	0	3	15	10	15
MARCONI FAIRFIELD	7	5	0	2	7	7	15
WOLLONGONG CITY	8	4	2	2	18	12	14
AUST. INST. SPORT	7	4	2	1	11	5	14
UTS OLYMPIC	8	4	2	2	15	12	14
<b>QAS</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>9</b>
MARCONI F'FIELD COLTS	9	3	0	6	10	17	9
UTS OLYMPIC COLTS	7	2	0	5	8	18	6
ACT ACAD. SPORT	8	2	0	6	6	18	6
SYDNEY UNITED COLTS	8	1	0	7	4	17	3

### THIS WEEK'S OTHER ERICSSON CUP MATCHES

FRI DEC 20	Wollongong City v Canberra Cosmos
FRI DEC 20	Newcastle v Sydney United
SAT DEC 21	South Melbourne v Perth Glory
SAT DEC 21	Marconi Fairfield v UTS Olympic
SUN DEC 22	Adelaide City v Gippsland Falcons
SUN DEC 22	Melbourne Knights v West Adelaide

### NEXT WEEK'S ERICSSON CUP MATCHES

SAT DEC 28	Perth Glory v Melbourne Knights
<b>SAT DEC 28</b>	<b>Gippsland Falcons v STRIKERS</b>
SAT DEC 28	Canberra Cosmos v South Melbourne
SUN DEC 29	Sydney United v Adelaide City
SUN DEC 29	Collingwood Warriors v Wollongong
SUN DEC 29	UTS Olympic v Newcastle Breakers
SUN DEC 29	West Adelaide v Marconi Fairfield

## ERICSSON CUP HOT SHOTS

David Zdrilic	Sydney Utd	12
Bobby Despotovski	Perth Glory	9
<b>Rod Brown</b>	<b>STRIKERS</b>	<b>6</b>
Ante Milicic	Sydney Utd	6
Paul Strudwick	Perth Glory	6
Norman Tome	UTS Olympic	5
<b>Frank Farina</b>	<b>STRIKERS</b>	<b>4</b>
Jason Bennett	Newcastle	4
Matthew Horsley	Wollongong	4
Jimmy Tsekinis	West Adelaide	4
Kris Trajanovski	UTS Olympic	4
Kimon Taliadoros	Collingwood	4

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You won't beat that"*

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**HYUNDAI SONATA**

\$24,990 is the recommended price of the GLE. The Levant model shown is priced at \$34,990. Fleet and Government buyers excluded.



# The Last Line

with Alan Hunter



Let me begin by welcoming Ericsson Cup newcomers, the Collingwood Warriors and their wily coach Zoran Matic.

This is not only the first time we will play the Warriors but it is also their first trip to Suncorp Stadium.

Last week's 4-1 result in Canberra was the perfect response to the comments of some southern scribes.

The scoreline wasn't really a true reflection of the match as seven or eight would have been a better illustration of our dominance of the Cosmos.

There were some very good individual performances during the game, notably those of reserves Reece Tollenare and Graham Ross, who grasped the opportunity given to them.

If their good form continues, they will surely stake a claim to a starting spot and make it difficult for established players returning from injury to reclaim their positions in the team.

Tonight's match against the Warriors shapes as a tough game but we are confident that we will return to the winner's circle at home.

I noted with interest Abbas Saad's comments on SBS television's "On the Ball" at the weekend over alleged gamesmanship by some of our players in the match against Canberra.

*Reece Tollenare excelled in his new position of flanker in the last game*



Mr Saad may not be qualified to comment on the honesty of other players considering he was at the centre of bribery allegations in Malaysia only last year.

Clearly he should be more concerned with trying to improve his own reputation in this country, rather than making snide remarks about others.

On a happier note, I'd like to take the opportunity to thank everyone from Hyundai, Uhlsport and all our sponsors who attended the Strikers' Christmas party on Monday night.

We look forward to maintaining a prosperous relationship with them in the new year.

Finally on behalf of the players and staff I'd like to extend my best wishes to all our spectators for an enjoyable festive period. □

# TASTE IT ALL



# 13 13 00

(flies you anywhere in Australia.)



ANSETT AUSTRALIA





# ERICSSON CUP 1996/97



## BRISBANE STRIKERS

- 1 Clint Bolton - FO
- 2 Glenn Gwynne
- 3 Matthew Bell - YS
- 4 Alan Hunter - FS (C)
- 5 Brad Ditton - FYS
- 6 Gary Phillips
- 7 Frank Farina - FS
- 8 Sean Cranney - S
- 9 Rod Brown - FS
- 10 Danny Wright - FYS
- 11 Troy Cranney - FYS
- 12 Mark Battistin
- 13 Vedran Becirbegovic - OI
- 14 Wayne Knipe
- 15 Andrew Brayshaw
- 16 Chay Hews
- 17 Kasey Wehrman
- 18 Jeromy Harris
- 19 Reece Tollenaere
- 20 Graham Ross
- 21 Damien Waugh
- 23 Chris Slater
- Coach - Frank Farina

## COLLINGWOOD

- 1 Dean Anastasiadis
- 2 Dean Fack
- 3 Leigh Tsoumerkas
- 4 John Waddell
- 5 Rick Cerrachio
- 6 Carlo Talladira
- 7 Andy Vlahos - FYS
- 8 Con Boutsianis
- 9 Kimon Taliadoros FS (C)
- 10 Ernie Tapai - S
- 11 Goran Lozanovski - S
- 12 Mark Silic
- 13 (Not allocated)
- 14 Brian MacNicol
- 15 Tom Karapatsos
- 16 George Jolevski - FS
- 17 Alan Scott
- 18 (Not allocated)
- 19 Alexander Pryhodko - OI
- 20 Frank Juric - FO
- 23 (Not allocated)
- Coach - Zoran Matic

Legend: O - Olyroo, YS - Young Soccerroo, S - Soccerroo, FS - Former Soccerroo, FYS - Former Young Soccerroo, FO - Former Olyroo, OI - Other International



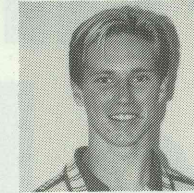
# The Strikers



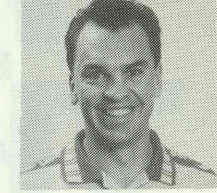
1 Clint BOLTON



2 Glenn GWYNNE



3 Matthew BELL



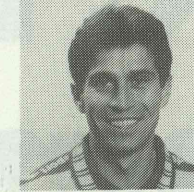
4 Alan HUNTER



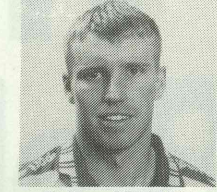
5 Brad DITTON



6 Gary PHILLIPS



7 Frank FARINA



8 Sean CRANNEY



9 Rod BROWN



10 Danny WRIGHT



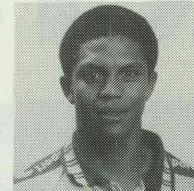
11 Troy CRANNEY



12 Mark BATTISTIN



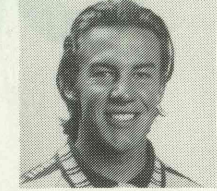
13 Vedran BECIRBEGOVIC



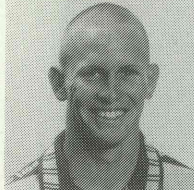
14 Wayne KNIPE



15 Andrew BRAYSHAW



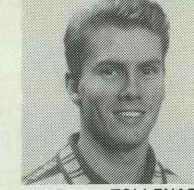
16 Chay HEWS



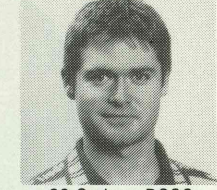
17 Kasey WEHRMAN



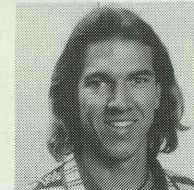
18 Jeromy HARRIS



19 Reece TOLLENAERE



20 Graham ROSS



21 Damien WAUGH



23 Chris SLATER





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