

Eye On Soccer

Queensland Soccer Federation
Official Magazine

QUEENSLAND'S MOST READ SOCCER MAGAZINE

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**Wynnum
miss out
again**
Page 7



**Strikers season
shines bright**
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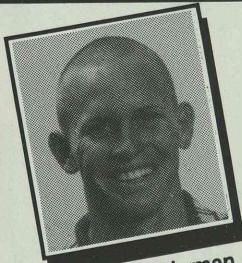


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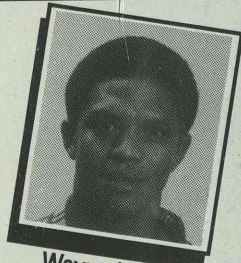
STRIKERS V SYDNEY UTD



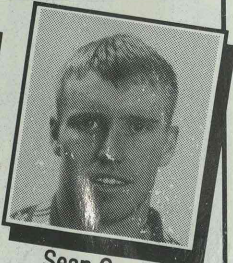
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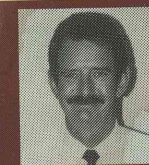
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Cover Photograph: Brisbane City's Steve
Glockner and Coalstars' Darren Pettie in full
flight last weekend at Bundamba



Editorial



Next Wednesday (April 30), Taringa will play their second leg match of the Queensland Cup against the Gold Coast at the Croatian Centre, Carrara.

Taringa will be out to repair their 1-0 loss from the first leg and advance to the second round. The match kicks off at 8.15pm.

In the Semi-Pro League Cup, the second round matches are being drawn even as you read this column, and will be printed in next week's issue. Circumstances prohibited their being published this week.

All teams wishing to enter this year's Qantas Cup are reminded that entries close next Friday, May 2.

This competition is open to all amateur teams and the youth teams from the Semi-Pro leagues.

On a different note, it's that time of year when we should take a few moments and remember the many brave men and women that gave their lives in war.

Their unselfish bravery has ensured that you and I live in a country that is the envy of many people throughout the world. ANZAC Day gives us the opportunity to remember them.

Finally, the story on page 18 makes for interesting reading as it reviews the exploits of the Brisbane Strikers in season '96/'97.

The Strikers performance this season has made a mockery of the knockers who disputed the appointment of Frank Farina as coach.

Despite numerous injuries to key players, suspensions and a mini form slump in mid season, Frank managed to guide the lads into second position on the Ericsson Cup points ladder.

A win against Sydney United on May 3 will move Queensland one step closer to staging a national soccer league grand final, so lets band together and support our local heroes.

**QSF HOTLINE - All Semi-Pro league results
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WHAT THE EXPERTS THINK

	FRANK FARINA	ARTHUR HIGGINS	GARY LEGG	GARY PHILLIPS
XXXX League - Round 8				
Bundaberg v Taringa Rovers	Taringa	Bundaberg	Draw	Bundaberg
Beenleigh v Coalstars	Coalstars	Beenleigh	Beenleigh	Coalstars
Brisbane Lions v Brisbane City	City	Lions	City	Lions
Wynnum v Rochedale	Rovers	Rovers	Rovers	Rovers
Semi Pro Division 1 North - Round 6				
Capalaba v Albany Creek	Creek	Creek	Capalaba	Capalaba
North Star v Mitchelton	Star	Mitchelton	Draw	Draw
Newmarket v The Gap	Gap	Gap	Gap	Gap
Eastern Subs v Pine Rivers	Rivers	Rivers	Rivers	Rivers
Grange Thistle v Olympic Utd	United	United	United	United
Semi Pro Division 1 South - Round 6				
Toowoomba Utd v Bye	-	-	-	-
Slacks Creek v Redlands	Creek	Redlands	Creek	Redlands
Acacia Ridge v Inala City	Inala	Inala	Inala	Inala
Rocklea Utd v Souths Utd	Rocklea	Souths	Rocklea	Rocklea
Ipsw St Helens v Mt Gravatt	Mt Gravatt	St Helens	St Helens	Mt Gravatt
LAST WEEKS & (PROGRESSIVE) TTL'S	6 (33)	6 (37)	6 (31)	6 (37)

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City - seven without loss

Brisbane City extended their unbeaten start to the season to seven matches with a 3-1 come-from-behind victory against Coalstars on Sunday afternoon.



It was a very even first half and once again Coalstars showed they are a far better side playing at home than they are away.

The boys from Bundamba have failed to show the same passion away from Eric Evans Reserve as they do in front of their parochial home supporters and have suffered some hefty losses in recent weeks, culminating in the 5-0 thrashing last week at Taringa.

At home however, they are a far different prospect and, in the early stages of the match, it was the home side who put on most of the pressure.

As the half progressed, City were able to play themselves in and went close to opening the scoring when Damian Waugh fired just over the bar with a powerful drive.

Then it was Coalstars turn when a clever backheel from Peter Hinks put Richie Hilli through, only for a perfectly timed tackle from Scott Elliott to quell the danger.

Two minutes later City found the net but the goal was disallowed, referee John Peacock adjudging that Chris Slater had pushed a defender before heading in a Simon Eslick cross.

At this point City appeared to have established a stranglehold on the match and were only the width of the woodwork away from taking the lead when Barry Wilkinson's stinging freekick smashed against the crossbar.

But ten minutes from the break the rain began to bucket down and succeeded in putting out the fire in the City attack.

It gave Coalstars a little breathing space and opened room for a flowing move down the left flank, culminating in a far post cross by Hinks

which was just headed to safety by a City defender.

The resultant corner was floated out to the edge of the area onto the waiting boot of Peter McKendrick, whose superb looping volley dropped just under the bar, giving City keeper Daniel Duke (pictured) no chance.

Coalstars might have added a second just before halftime when Hilli once again raced clear but his shot fell straight into the arms of a grateful Duke.

In the early rounds of the season City struggled to score goals but that was before the recruitment of Damian Waugh and Chris Slater from the Brisbane Strikers.

In the second half both began to assert their themselves on proceedings and it was Slater who found the equaliser for the visitors.

Waugh then chimed in with a goal of his own before Slater added his second and ended the match as a contest.

Since coming into the side, Slater has had a dramatic impact on City's "goals-for" column, with his double against Coalstars last weekend taking his tally to four goals in four matches for his new team.

Baretta adds crest to waves

Aldo Baretta was born and bred in the country. This year, he faces one of his biggest challenges in the game as he attempts to guide a group of country lads to the inaugural XXXX League premiership.

Baretta was born in the Queensland/New South Wales border town of Texas in 1960 to parents Ubaldo and Rita.

The Baretta's lived in Mackay for much of Aldo's early years before making the move to Bundaberg when Aldo was aged 14.

Ubaldo was a passionate football supporter and so it came as no surprise when Aldo turned his talents to the world game.

During a career that spanned 17 years, Aldo played predominantly for Accross the Waves in Bundaberg and attained a State League standard.

Baretta said he decided to pursue a coaching career because he wanted to maintain contact with the code.

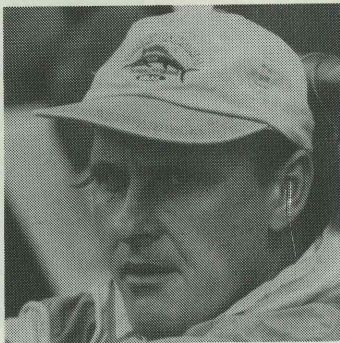
"At the ripe old age of 31, I was still enjoying playing but a lingering back problem forced my retirement from competitive football," he said.

"Coaching was the next best thing to playing because I loved the game so much and had to be involved in some capacity."

After taking a year off to recover from his back ailment, Baretta coached Waves division 1 and 2 teams in the Bundaberg competition, before taking over as coach of Bundaberg's Central Queensland competition side last year.

"We won a premiership last year and I thoroughly enjoyed coaching the top side so I decided to apply for the job as Fourex League coach," he said.

Baretta said that former Bundaberg Director of coaching, State Director of coaching and now National Coaching Development Manager, Jim



Selby, had been the biggest influence on his coaching career.

"I did my levels one and two with Jim in Bundaberg and I learned a lot from him... he inspired me to become a coach," Baretta said.

"I knew him quite well as we played in the rep side together and I admired him

because as a coach, he was approachable, down-to-earth and gave uncomplicated instructions to players... he kept the game simple."

Aldo said like any job, coaching came with a lot of ups and quite a few downs.

"The best thing about coaching is the winning... come to think of it, that's the only best thing about coaching," he said.

"Injuries would have to be the worst thing because when you have got a group of players performing well as a unit and you can see some light at the end of the tunnel, there is nothing worse than having to endure injuries to key players."

The life of a coach is quite often a thankless job that requires nerves of steel. Aldo said he was still learning to cope with the emotion of being an interested observer on the sideline.

"I get quite nervous on match day and my wife Annabelle has to quite often tread very lightly," he said.

I chew a lot of gum to try and overcome the anxiety but it (coaching) can be so frustrating at times."

Aldo's coaching goals are to ensure Waves play good consistent football each week and to continue to improve as a coach.

Wynnum miss out again

Brisbane Lions continued their march towards the top of the XXXX Premier League Table with a 3-2 win against Wynnum at Carmichael Park on Sunday.

Wynnum striker Geoff Maltby opened the scoring after only four minutes when he accepted a cross from the right and executed a powerful left foot drive that gave Lions keeper Robbie Farrow little chance of saving.

Lions equalised not long after when Striker Kevin Meacock made a penetrating run and delivered an accurate cross for Greg DiLosa, who was on target with his header.

The reigning premiers found themselves one goal in front before the break when Robert Pudja found the net with a superb volley.

Wynnum regathered themselves in the second half and were rewarded when a left side corner kick found Maltby in space at the far post, who deftly found the back of the net.

However, Wynnum's hopes of some points were dashed when Roy Huth scored the winning goal just five minutes before the final whistle.

Wynnum coach George Cowie said that even though his team had not yet obtained any league points, he could not fault the effort and attitude of his players.

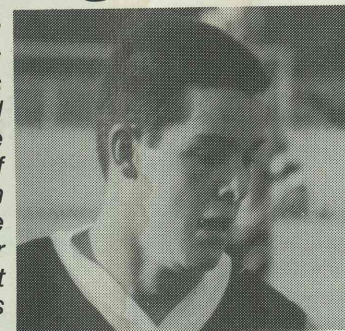
"The players are putting in a lot of effort for little reward... they're giving me everything they have got and it would be a different story if they were being slack," Cowie said.

"But being realistic, we do need a break because we're all human and there are only so many near misses that you can take."

Cowie said he thought his side might sneak away with a win or a draw early in the match.

"We had a bright opening first 20 minutes and it was the best football I've seen the lads play all season," he said.

Brendan Rogers has earned the praise of coach George Cowie for his recent efforts



"But after that, Lions had most of the play and really, they looked the more likely of the two teams to score."

Cowie said he was thrilled with the efforts of senior players Geoff Maltby and Billy McDermott, and youngsters Brendan Rogers and Ben Wood.

Lions coach Miron Bleiberg said he always believed that his side would prove too strong for Wolves.

"Wynnum are not a good side and I believe they will take the wooden spoon. But in saying that, I don't think they are bad enough to be without a point at the end of the first round," he said.

"They've had their problems and also had some bad luck and I think they deserve something to show for the seven matches played so far."

Lions seem to be making a habit of winning close games at the death but Bleiberg believes his side has deserved their wins.

"If you look at it on the surface and only see the score lines and the times we have scored, then yes, you could say we've been lucky," he said.

"But what the score line doesn't show is that we have dominated for 30 or 40 minutes leading up to the goal and deserved the wins against Bundaberg and Wynnum."

PREMIER PREVUE - Beenleigh v Coalstars

Beenleigh players will be hoping to reverse last week's 5-0 thumping by Taringa when they host Coalstars at Chris Green Park on Saturday at 7pm.

Beenleigh was outclassed by a marauding Taringa outfit and coach Peter Bannon said it was "just one of those nights".

"We played a team on the night that was just too good for us. We created some chances late in the match that we didn't take," he said.

"But really, it was very hard to come back from 3-0 down at half-time and the final result was probably a true indication of the game.

"I was very impressed by the way Taringa played and I would have to say that that was probably the best I've seen a side play in the Fourex League."

Beenleigh will start the match as favourites and despite Coalstars lowly position on the table, Bannon was hesitant to make any bold predictions.

"I've said on many occasions that any team that takes any other team lightly in this competition is a mug," Bannon said.

"We've got a young team of players with not much in the way of experience, but I know they can do the job if they learn to perform week in, week out."

Coalstars coach Paul Barry said last week's 3-1 loss to Brisbane City was disappointing considering the result was in the balance until the final few minutes.

"Peter Hinks rounded their keeper with 15 minutes to go when the score was 1-1, but instead of backing himself and having a shot on his right foot, he took a couple extra touches and allowed the City defence time to recover," Barry said.

Coalstars
Richard Hilli will need to be on target this weekend against Beenleigh



"They (City) got two goals inside the last six minutes and I thought we really could have snuck away with some points after being 1-0 up at half-time."

Barry said his side would be bolstered by the likely return of Pat Boyle who would give Coalstars a presence in defence.

BEENLEIGH v COALSTARS

Chris Green Park, Beenleigh
Saturday April 26, 7pm

BEENLEIGH

1. Chris Roche
2. Brett Druery
3. Michael Roland
4. Dean Milosevic
5. Kieran Calloway
6. Anthony Roche
7. Wayne Hinton
8. Brett Jones
9. Ross Smart
10. Fotis Skordou
11. Troy Wickstein
12. Michael Leake
13. Ross Davidson
14. Joe Morris
15. Lee Preston
16. Mark Lederhose
17. (Not allocated)
18. Alan Gordon
19. (Not allocated)
20. Chris Balke

COALSTARS

1. Michael Cassidy
2. Patrick Boyle
3. Clint Scott
4. Andrew King (c)
5. Darren Petie
6. Peter Hinks
7. Brenley Jefferd
8. Mark Bennett
9. Matt Hilli
10. Wes Park
11. David Guest
12. Peter McKendrick
13. Peter Hallett
14. Scott Stenzel
15. William Ingledew
16. Wayne Adams
17. Marcello Cuba
18. Richard Hilli
19. Chris Barrett
20. Todd Vaggs

PREMIER PREVUE - Bundaberg v Taringa

Bundaberg Waves will have to reproduce some of the form which saw them obtain a 1-1 draw with Rochedale last week when they host Taringa Rovers at Thabeban Sports Complex on Saturday at 7pm.

Taringa have been in devastating form in recent weeks netting ten goals in two matches.

The play-off for second place last week against Beenleigh was particularly impressive with John Ogden's side decimating the Lions 5-0.

A few weeks ago, Ogden made the comment that his side would punish opposing teams once his players learned to capitalise on the numerous goal scoring opportunities they had been creating.

"We've managed to hit the back of the net a few times over the last couple of weeks but I'm just as happy with the fact that we've managed to keep the slate clean at the back," he said.

"The lads attitude has been great and they all have been working hard and playing well as a unit.

Ogden said the trip to Bundaberg this week would be a good test for the team.

"They (Bundy) have been impressive of late and it will be interesting to see how we handle the long road trip. But I think as long as we play to our ability, we'll be okay," he said.

Bundaberg coach Aldo Baretta said Taringa was the form team of the competition at present.

"I watched them play pre-season and their strengths are out wide and if we can nullify their crosses, I think we can hold them out," he said.

Waves have had some tremendous results at home with draws against league leaders Brisbane City and premiers favourites Rochedale respectively.

Bundy's
Stephen Starr will be glad to meet Taringa Rovers on the Waves turf



There is no doubt Bundaberg are formidable at home but the team does have some injury worries with midfielders Luke Graham and John Lawler in doubt with groin strains, and Guiseppi Barazza likely to miss the match with a thigh strain. In Round 1, Taringa handed Bundaberg a 6-2 thumping.

BUNDABERG v TARINGA ROVERS

Thabeban Sports Complex, Bundaberg
Saturday April 26, 7pm

BUNDABERG

1. Michael Bainbridge
2. Nick Maas
3. Giuseppe Baraza
4. Stephen Starr
5. John Giovannoni
6. Tony Roebuck
7. Michael Legg
8. Luke Graham
9. Anthony Brown
10. Rodney Cooper
11. Warren Allen
12. Chris Wilson
13. Sean Hunt
14. Shaun Aslett
15. Darren Bender
16. Paul Fagan
17. John Lawler
18. (Not allocated)
19. (Not allocated)
20. Ross Barbera

TARINGA ROVERS

1. Andrew Hobbs
2. Joel Hale
3. Laurence Inunciaga
4. Stein Grodum
5. Danny Britton
6. (Not allocated)
7. Brent Read
8. Demetri Theochari
9. Danny Stowers
10. Darren Hillier
11. Ian Hutchison
12. Stuart Collins
13. Marc Flemington
14. Matthew Packer
15. Glen Kolpak
16. Scott Robertson
17. Des Hughes
18. Shaun Molenda
19. Brad Ditton
20. Scott Higgins

PREMIER PREVUE - Wynnum v Rochedale

Wynnum must get some points from the clash against Rochedale Rovers at Carmichael Park on Sunday at 2.45pm.

The Wolves are struggling in last place on the league ladder and the players need a win to restore their confidence.

Wynnum coach George Cowie said that even though his team had not yet obtained any league points, he could not fault the effort and attitude of his players.

"The players are putting in a lot of effort for little reward... they're giving me everything they have got and it would be a different story if they were being slack," Cowie said.

"But being realistic, we do need a break because we're all human and there are only so many near misses that you can take."

Throughout the first round, Wynnum has been accused of lacking some quality players, particularly in the front third of the park.

Wolves supporters would have been extremely happy to see Geoff Maltby net a couple last week against reigning premiers Brisbane Lions and they will be hoping he can reproduce that form on Sunday against Rochedale.

Rochedale defeated Wynnum 4-1 back in Round 1 of this year's competition, but Rovers coach Gary McDowall said his side would not be taking Wynnum lightly.

"I believe they (Wynnum) are a lot more organised than when we played them... I know George Cowie personally and I know he has been putting a lot of time into the team," McDowall said.

"It will be a tough match and we'll be showing them the same respect that we show all opposing teams."

Geoff Maltby found the net twice last weekend and will need to reproduce his form against Rovers



Rochedale has displayed some indifferent form of late but McDowall said he was pleasantly surprised last weekend by the performance of some of his younger players.

"We had four guys who were 17 years old playing in that match and their performances showed me that they're not far off from playing in the top grade on a regular basis," he said.

WYNNUM v ROCHEDALE ROVERS

Carmichael Park, Tingalpa
Sunday April 27, 2.45pm

WYNNUM

1. Peter Underhill
2. Luke Adair
3. Ben Wood
4. Danny Valle
5. Rob Hilton
6. Tony McKinless
7. Geoff Maltby
8. Paul Wilkins
9. Stuart Popplewell
10. Wayne Corbett
11. Malcom Van Basten
12. Ricky McKinless
14. Mark Wilkins
15. Andrew Davidson
16. Trevor Murphy
17. Brendan Rogers
18. Damian Rogers
19. Lindsay Foster
21. Nick Hadland
20. Garth McCulloch

ROCHEDALE ROVERS

1. Clint Dal Santo
2. Andy Monument
3. Nick Seeley
4. Michael Lane
5. Damian Harris
6. Eddie Lees
7. Craig Collins
8. Andy Lees
9. Kieran Cooper
10. Clayton Koch
11. John Weatherby
12. David Pilic
13. Paul Grugan
14. Steve Dawe
15. Steve Fitzsimmons
16. (Not allocated)
17. Gary Brattan
18. Greg Anderson
19. Aaron Baldwin
20. Cameron Duck

PREMIER PREVUE - Bris Lions v Bris City

Brisbane Lions host Brisbane City in the match of the round at Lions Stadium on Sunday at 2.45pm.

City drew first blood in Round 1 with a hard fought 1-0 victory thanks to a goal from midfielder Dean Almond.

However, after a slow start to the season that saw them faltering towards the bottom of the Premier League table, Lions have managed to claw their way into third position.

Some of their wins have been anything but convincing although coach Miron Bleiberg does not fully agree.

"If you look at it on the surface and only see the score lines and the times we have scored, then yes, you could say we've been lucky," he said.

"But what the score line doesn't show is that we have dominated for 30 or 40 minutes leading up to the goal and deserved the wins against Bundaberg and Wynnum."

Bleiberg said that City were deserved premiership favourites at this stage of the season and consequently, Lions should be considered underdogs for this game.

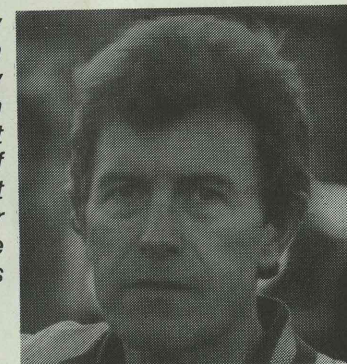
Brisbane City coach Bobby Hamilton said Lions were a dangerous team under any circumstances.

"Even when Brisbane Lions are not firing on all cylinders, their pedigree seems to bring them to the fore," Hamilton said.

"I'm really looking forward to the weekend's game because traditionally Lions/City matches have a derby feel to them."

Hamilton said he was very happy with the way his players were moulding together and believed that his side was becoming more complete with the passing of each game.

City coach Bobby Hamilton has a lot of respect for Brisbane Lions



"We've started to pick up over the last few weeks... early in the piece, we were winning games by defending well and catching teams on the break," he said.

"We're still defending well but we're starting to score some goals as well."

BRISBANE LIONS v BRISBANE CITY

Lions Stadium, Richlands
Sunday April 27, 2.45pm

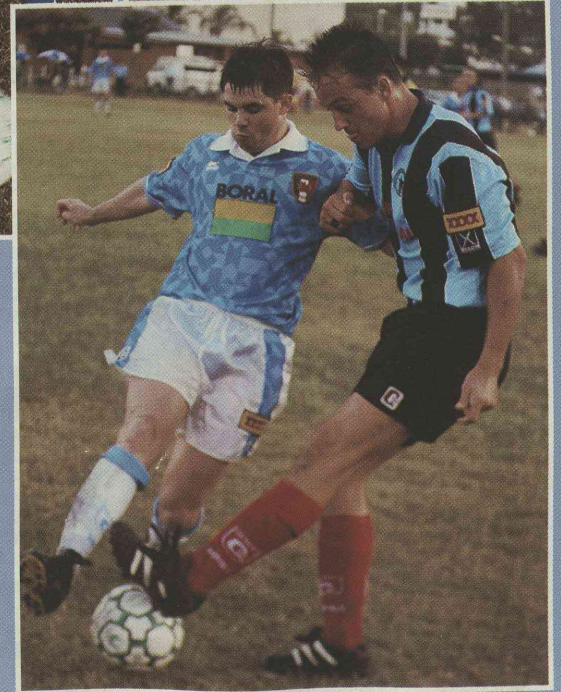
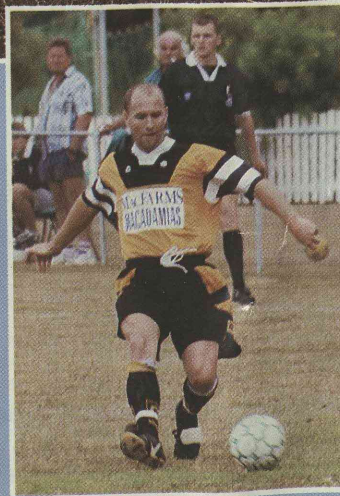
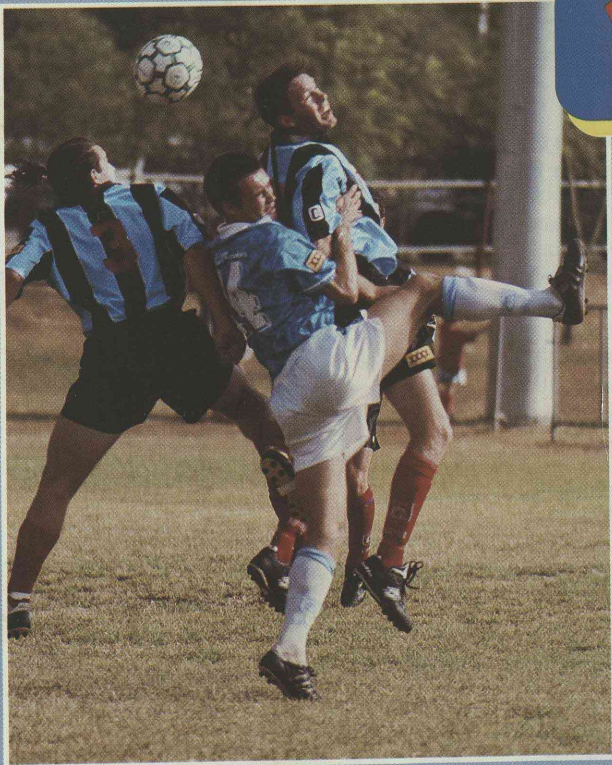
BRISBANE LIONS

1. Robbie Farrow
2. David Lonsdale
3. Ibro Cahut
4. Cliff Tuck
5. David Hunter
6. Mark Geritz
7. Steve Jackson
8. Robert Pudja
9. Greg Di Losa
10. Kevin Meacock
11. Martin Matula
12. Roy Huth
13. Craig Rogers
14. Cameron Watson
15. Anthony Cotton
16. Chase Bursnall
17. Adam Daly
18. (Not allocated)
19. (Not allocated)
20. (Not allocated)
21. Jason Lucas

BRISBANE CITY

1. Daniel Duke
2. Mark Geminelli
3. Anthony Scodellaro
4. Mark Greer
5. Wayne Strange
6. Scott Elliott
7. Cameron Pearce
8. Simon Eslick
9. Warren Cooley
10. Steve Glockner
11. Shane Haddow
12. Robert Kidd
13. Chris Slater
14. Dean Almond
15. John Schiavo
16. Damien Waugh
17. Barry Wilkinson
18. Damien Cavallucci
19. Mark Luburic
20. Adriano Taraborrelli

WEEKEND REPLAY



EYE ON SOCCER TABLES

XXXX LEAGUE	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
BRISBANE CITY	7	5	2	0	12	6	17
TARINGA ROVERS	7	4	2	1	19	6	14
BRISBANE LIONS	7	4	1	2	12	8	13
BEENLEIGH	7	4	0	3	14	13	12
ROCHEDALE ROV	7	3	2	2	15	13	11
B'BERG WAVES	7	2	2	3	12	12	8
COALSTARS	7	1	1	5	6	18	4
WYNNUM	7	0	0	7	8	22	0

XXXX RESERVES	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
BRISBANE LIONS	6	5	1	0	11	4	16
WYNNUM	6	3	2	1	13	8	11
TARINGA ROVERS	6	3	1	2	6	6	10
BEENLEIGH	6	2	2	2	10	13	8
COALSTARS	6	2	1	3	5	6	7
BRISBANE CITY	6	1	1	4	9	12	4
ROCHEDALE ROV	6	0	2	4	9	14	2

XXXX YOUTH	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
BRISBANE LIONS	7	5	1	1	17	10	16
WYNNUM	7	5	0	2	17	7	15
TARINGA ROVERS	6	5	0	1	16	9	15
ROCHEDALE ROV	6	3	1	2	13	12	10
BRISBANE CITY	7	2	1	4	14	18	7
B'BERG WAVES	7	1	3	3	12	14	6
COALSTARS	7	1	2	4	8	12	5
BEENLEIGH	7	0	2	5	10	25	2

The leading club in the XXXX Premier League Club Championship at the end of the fixtures will win a set of strips from Attack Sports and a \$1000 voucher from Insurance Exchange of Australia. Last years Club Championship winners were Brisbane Lions.

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Brisbane Lions	20	14	3	3	40	22	45
Taringa Rovers	19	12	3	4	41	21	39
Brisbane City	20	8	4	8	35	36	28
Wynnum District	20	8	2	10	38	37	26
Rochedale Rovers	19	6	5	8	37	39	23
Beenleigh	20	6	4	10	34	51	22
Coalstars	20	4	4	12	19	36	16
Bundaberg	14	3	5	8	24	26	14

SEMI PRO DIV 1 NORTH	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
PINE RIVERS UTD	5	3	1	1	18	8	10
MITCHELTON	5	3	1	1	15	6	10
NORTH STAR	5	3	1	1	14	7	10
ALBANY CREEK	5	2	2	1	11	8	8
THE GAP	4	2	1	1	12	6	7
CAPALABA	5	2	1	2	7	5	7
EASTERN SUBS	5	2	1	2	10	14	7
OLYMPIC UTD	4	1	1	2	4	11	4
NEWMARKET	5	0	2	3	6	14	2
GRANGE THISTLE	5	0	1	4	3	21	1

SEMI PRO DIV 1 NTH RES	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
ALBANY CREEK	5	4	0	1	13	7	12
MITCHELTON	5	4	0	1	14	9	12
NORTH STAR	5	3	1	1	12	2	10
THE GAP	5	3	1	1	7	4	10
NEWMARKET	5	3	0	2	13	7	9
CAPALABA	5	3	0	2	15	10	9
PINE RIVERS UTD	5	2	0	3	13	17	6
GRANGE THISTLE	5	1	0	4	9	19	3
OLYMPIC UTD	5	0	2	3	4	14	2
EASTERN SUBS	5	0	0	5	4	15	0

SEMI PRO DIV 1 NTH YTH	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
CAPALABA	5	4	0	1	21	9	12
PINE RIVERS UTD	5	3	2	0	18	6	11
MITCHELTON	5	3	1	1	15	9	10
ALBANY CREEK	5	3	1	1	11	8	10
NEWMARKET	5	3	0	2	11	8	9
EASTERN SUBS	5	2	1	2	10	10	7
NORTH STAR	5	1	2	2	10	15	5
GRANGE THISTLE	5	1	1	3	10	16	4
THE GAP	5	0	1	4	5	15	1
OLYMPIC UTD	5	0	1	4	6	21	1

SEMI PRO DIV 1 SOUTH	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
TOOWOOMBA UTD	5	5	0	0	23	5	15
INALA CITY	4	3	1	0	12	2	10
ROCKLEA UTD	5	2	1	2	3	11	7
MT GRAVATT	5	1	2	2	12	7	5
SLACKS CREEK	4	1	2	1	13	14	5
SOUTHS UTD	4	1	1	2	10	18	4
IPSW ST HELENS	4	1	1	2	2	12	4
REDLANDS UTD	5	0	2	3	4	9	2
ACACIA RIDGE	4	0	2	2	4	10	2

SEMI PRO DIV 1 STH RES	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
REDLANDS UTD	5	3	1	1	13	8	10
ACACIA RIDGE	4	3	0	1	14	6	9
MT GRAVATT	5	3	0	2	10	5	9
ROCKLEA UTD	5	3	0	2	12	8	9
IPSW ST HELENS	4	2	1	1	6	7	7
INALA CITY	4	1	2	1	4	3	5
SLACKS CREEK	4	1	1	2	11	11	4
TOOWOOMBA UTD	5	1	1	3	10	12	4
SOUTHS UTD	4	0	0	4	2	22	0

SEMI PRO DIV 1 STH YTH	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
MT GRAVATT	5	3	0	2	17	12	9
SOUTHS UTD	4	3	0	1	12	8	9
ACACIA RIDGE	4	3	0	1	8	5	9
TOOWOOMBA UTD	5	2	2	1	12	6	8
SLACKS CREEK	4	2	1	1	11	8	7
IPSW ST HELENS	4	2	0	2	8	6	6
REDLANDS UTD	5	1	2	2	8	13	5
ROCKLEA UTD	5	1	1	3	5	11	4
INALA CITY	4	0	0	4	4	16	0

EYE ON SOCCER TABLES

AMATEUR DIVISION 1	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
UNI OF QLD	7	7	0	0	19	3	21
LATROBE	7	5	1	1	19	12	16
DARRA UTD	8	5	1	2	20	14	16
SOUTH STAR	8	4	3	1	19	8	15
NORTH PINE	8	4	1	3	23	11	13
ANNERLEY	8	4	1	3	20	13	13
REDCLIFFE	8	2	3	3	19	18	9
S'SIDE EAGLES	8	2	2	4	7	13	8
MOGILL UTD	8	2	1	5	12	18	7
BAYSIDE UTD	8	1	2	5	14	25	5
GOODNA	8	1	2	5	6	18	5
SAMFORD	8	1	1	6	9	34	4

AMATEUR DIV 1 RESV	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
ANNERLEY	8	6	2	0	21	7	20
UNI OF QLD	8	6	1	1	38	9	19
S'SIDE EAGLES	8	4	3	1	15	12	15
NORTH PINE	8	4	2	2	29	18	14
BAYSIDE UTD	8	4	0	4	14	15	12
SOUTH STAR	8	3	2	3	14	24	11
LATROBE	8	3	1	4	18	12	10
MOGILL UTD	8	2	2	4	9	22	8
DARRA UTD	8	1	3	4	12	19	6
GOODNA	8	1	3	4	10	20	6
REDCLIFFE	8	2	0	6	19	30	6
SAMFORD	8	1	3	4	12	23	6

AMATEUR DIVISION 2	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
MARGATE	8	7	1	0	30	10	22
BROTHERS UTD	7	5	2	0	34	9	17
PARK RIDGE	8	4	3	1	19	7	15
GREENBANK	7	4	2	1	18	6	14
CLAIRVAUX	7	3	2	2	16	14	11
JIMBOOMBA	5	2	2	1	11	9	8
PINE HILLS	8	2	1	5	5	17	7
MOOROONDU	7	1	1	5	5	13	4
IPSWICH CITY	7	1	1	5	8	23	4
BETHANIA	6	0	3	3	7	19	3
OXLEY UTD	6	0	0	6	7	33	0

AMATEUR DIV 2 RESV	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
MARGATE	8	7	0	1	27	4	21
PARK RIDGE	8	5	1	2	22	8	16
JIMBOOMBA	6	5	0	1	21	3	15
CLAIRVAUX	7	4	0	3	18	9	12
GREENBANK	7	3	1	3	17	20	10
PINE HILLS	8	3	1	4	17	26	10
BROTHERS UTD	7	2	2	3	13	12	8
BETHANIA	6	2	1	3	8	12	7
IPSWICH CITY	7	2	1	4	12	20	7
OXLEY UTD	7	2	0	5	6	24	6
MOOROONDU	7	0	1	6	9	32	1

PREMIER LEAGUE LEADING SCORERS

- 5 Gls Troy Wickstein (Beenleigh)
- 5 Gls Kieran Cooper (Rochedale Rovers)
- 4 Gls Des Hughes (Taringa Rovers)
- 4 Gls Glen Kolpak (Taringa Rovers)
- 4 Gls Chris Slater (Brisbane City)
- 3 Gls Steve Fitzsimmons (Rochedale Rov)
- 3 Gls Dene Almond (Brisbane City)
- 3 Gls Steve Jackson (Brisbane Lions)

AMATEUR DIVISION 3	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
SAMFORD	6	6	0	0	29	3	18
UNI OF QLD	6	5	0	1	26	8	15
IPSWICH CITY	7	4	2	1	15	10	14
KINGSRIDGE	6	3	2	1	12	15	11
ANNERLEY	7	3	1	3	10	7	10
ARCHERFIELD	7	2	2	3	14	14	8
BAYSIDE UTD	7	2	0	5	12	23	6
WOODRIDGE	6	2	0	4	8	19	6
NORTH PINE	6	1	1	4	9	14	4
JIMBOOMBA	6	0	0	6	5	27	0

AMATEUR DIVISION 4	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
TARINGA ROVERS	7	7	0	0	42	5	21
ACACIA RIDGE	8	5	2	1	26	8	17
BRISBANE LIONS	8	5	0	3	25	15	15
CAPALABA	7	4	1	2	46	12	13
ALBANY CREEK	7	3	1	3	23	16	10
SLACKS CREEK	7	3	1	3	22	15	10
MITCHELTON	7	3	1	3	22	17	10
NEWMARKET	7	3	1	3	22	18	10
THE GAP	7	2	1	4	13	23	7
NORTH STAR	7	2	1	4	10	54	7
SOUTHS UTD	7	1	1	5	5	26	4
PARK RIDGE	7	0	0	7	2	49	0

AMATEUR DIVISION 5	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
WOODRIDGE	8	8	0	0	40	10	24
MT GRAVATT	8	6	1	1	25	11	19
EASTERN SUBS	7	5	2	0	46	10	17
UNI OF QLD	8	5	1	2	33	20	16
COALSTARS	8	4	1	3	26	18	13
IPSW ST HELENS	7	3	2	2	18	17	11
WYNNUM	8	2	2	4	17	26	8
BRISBANE LIONS	8	2	1	5	17	27	7
REDLANDS UTD	8	2	0	6	17	39	6
ALBANY CREEK	8	1	1	6	7	28	4
SAMFORD	7	1	0	6	14	33	3
BRISBANE CITY	7	0	3	4	14	35	3

AMATEUR DIVISION 6	P	W	D	L	F	A
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THE XXXX REPORT

BUNDABERG WAVES 1 v ROCHEDALE 1 (1-1) at Thabedan Sports Complex
SCORERS: Bundaberg: L. Graham

Rochedale: K. Cooper

BUNDABERG: Bainbridge, Barazza, Starr, Giovannoni, Roebuck, Legg, Graham, Allen, Bender, Fagan, Lawler (Subs: Wilson, Hunt, Maas, Driver)

ROCHEDALE: Dal Santo, Adams, Harris, Cooper, Koch, Lane, Pilic, Lees A., Lees E., Collins, Fitzsimmons, Grugan. (Subs: Duck, Koch, Weatherby, Gasney, Anderson)

BEENLEIGH 0 v TARINGA 5 (0-3) at Chris Green Park

SCORERS: Taringa: D. Hughes (2), G. Kolpak (2), D. Hillier

BEENLEIGH: Roche, Rowland, Milosevic, Galloway, Hinton, Jones, Smart, Wickstein, Leake, Preston, Gordon. (Subs: Skordou, Davidson, Lederhose, Illif)

TARINGA: Higgins, Innunciaga, Grodum, Britton, Read, Theocari, Stowers, Hillier, Hutchison, Kolpak, Hughes, Ditton (Flemington, Robertson, Bastian, Dickens)

COALSTARS 1 v BRISBANE CITY 3 (1-0) at Eric Evans Reserve

SCORERS: Coalstars: P. McKendrick

City: D. Waugh, C. Slater (2)

COALSTARS: Cassidy, Scott, King, Petie, Hinks, Jefferd, Bennett, Park, McKendrick, Adams, Hilli R. (Subs: Hilli M., Hallett, Boyle)

CITY: Duke, Strange, Elliott, Pearse, Eslick, Glockner, Greer, Slater, Almond, Waugh, Wilkinson (Subs: Lubric, Haddow, Kidd, Taraborrelli)

WYNNUM 2 v BRISBANE LIONS 3 (1-2)

SCORERS: Wynnum: G. Maltby (2)

Lions: G. Di Losa, R. Pudja, R. Huth

WYNNUM: Underhill, Adair, Wood, Hilton, Maltby, Wilkins P., Wilkins M., McDermott, Van Basten, Davidson, Rogers B., (Subs: Miles, Murphy, Corbett, McCullough)

LIONS: Farrow, Lonsdale, Huth, Hunter, Watson, Geritz, Meacock, Rogers, Di-Losa, Tuck, Pudja. (Subs: Lucas, Cotton, Hilton, Cahut, Poggie)

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Strikers season shines bright

Even a last round loss at the hands of the Gippsland Falcons failed to take the shine off what has been the Brisbane Strikers most successful season since joining the National League in 1994.

The Strikers clinched a finals berth some weeks ago and the win over Collingwood, secured second spot and gives the team a fantastic chance of hosting the grand final at Suncorp Stadium.

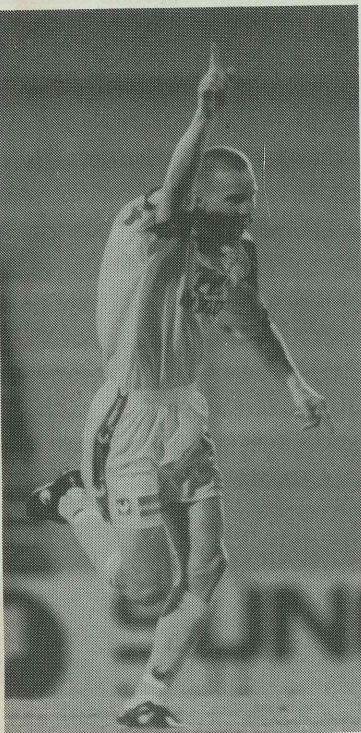
It has been an outstanding introduction to the coaching ranks for player/coach Frank Farina and the Strikers league position is even more than he expected from the team this year.

"I said at the start of the season we were aiming for a top six finish to give us another chance at the finals this year, but the boys have worked extra hard and we thoroughly deserve to have finished the season as high as we have," he said.

The Strikers began the season in scintillating form, undefeated in their first eight games and scoring 17 goals which pushed them to the head of the table.

They came away from two visits to Adelaide with 0-0 draws, during this period, pleasing results considering the City of Churches has so often been a graveyard for the Strikers aspirations.

With a record of 23 matches undefeated at home, newboys Perth Glory blew into town like a fierce westerly wind and ravaged an injury plagued Strikers line-up to the tune of 5-0.



Kasey Wehrman - one of the Young Guns to shine

The Strikers responded with wins over Canberra and Collingwood before a hiccup in Gippsland, preceded one of their best performances of the season with a crushing 3-0 win over league leaders Sydney United.

The result came at a cost however with perhaps the most significant injury of the season to Sean Cranney, who underwent knee surgery and saw him miss six rounds.

A return loss to Sydney United the following week and further injury losses over ensuing matches included Captain Alan Hunter, who was sidelined for 12 weeks, Mark Battistin and also Kasey Wehrman.

With vital cogs to the Strikers machine restored to working order, it again began to show menacing form, highlighted by the sweet revenge of a 2-0 away win against Perth.

Coach Farina has showed his faith in the youth at the club and Chay Hews, Matt Bell, Wayne Knipe and Reece Tollenaere have all answered the call which have made the Strikers young guns, the talk of the Ericsson Cup.

But no one player in the competition has impressed more than Kasey Wehrman, the midfielder from Cloncurry whose vision, skill and passing ability should make him a good bet for this season's rookie of the year.

WOMEN'S WRAP UP

East Mt Gravatt once again won the Watson Shield defeating QAS 3 - 1. The young QAS team were undoubtedly feeling the pinch after a long and hard-fought semi-final against Souths. The first division Souths took Premier League QAS to extra time after holding them to a nil-all draw at full time.

In an exciting game, Souths defended well and held off the QAS attack until the last five minutes in the second half of extra time. A goal mouth scramble saw QAS score, an obvious disappointment to the Souths girls, who then quickly conceded the second goal. The only first

division team to make it into the Watson Shield, Souths did well to make the semi-finals and will receive an undoubted boost of confidence that will make them hard to beat in their own division one competition. They finished third on the Atlanta Cup points table.

Premier League team Newmarket, will be disappointed with their poor result on the weekend. Beaten by Souths in the first round, Newmarket were knocked out of the competition in round two, defeated by Lismore 2-1, a surprising result considering they finished fourth on the Atlanta Cup points table.

WATSON SHIELD RESULTS

Round One

The Gap	2 v	Qld University	1
East Mt Gravatt	3 v	Margate	0
Souths	1 v	Newmarket	0
Coalstars	6 v	Caboolture	0
Slacks Creek	2 v	Ip St Helens	1
QUT City	2 v	S'shine Coast	0
Lismore	4 v	Redlands	3 (pen)
QAS	4 v	Gold Coast	0

Round Two

Watson Shield			
The Gap	3 v	Slacks Creek	0
East Mt Gravatt	4 v	QUT/City	1
Souths	2 v	Redlands	0
QAS	1 v	Coalstars	0 (pen)

Consolation Cup

Qld Uni	2 v	Ip St Helens	0
Margate	3 v	Sunshine Coast	0
Lismore	2 v	Newmarket	1
Gold Coast	3 v	Caboolture	0

Semi-Finals

Watson Shield			
East Mt Gravatt	2 v	The Gap	0
QAS	2 v	Souths	0

Consolation Cup

Margate	1 v	Qld Uni	0
Gold Coast	3 v	Lismore	0

Watson Shield

East Mt Gravatt	3 v	QAS	1
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Consolation Cup

Gold Coast	3 v	Margate	2
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Stars ready for "Mitchy"

The Semi-Pro North ladder has developed into a real log-jam with a three way tie at the top and two of those sides, North Star and Mitchelton, will face off this weekend.

Mitchelton had been the team to beat following an explosive start to the season but had a somewhat surprising loss at home to Capalaba last weekend.

This week Mitchelton travel to Zillmere and North Star coach Michael McEvoy said his team was more than ready for them.

"I saw them play at Capalaba last week and to be honest, I thought Capalaba were the better team," he said.

"They had the better of the second half and deserved the win."

McEvoy said he was pleased with his side's 3-0 win over Olympic on the weekend adding that it was made a little easier due to the current

problems Olympic are having with playing staff.

"I was happy with the result as the boys played quite well," he said.

"But in saying that, we probably hit Olympic at the right time, with several of their players walking out last week and, in hindsight, we possibly should have scored a couple more goals."

McEvoy said he was also happy with the way his side was travelling in what he considered to be a very tough competition.

Apart from the teams equal on 10 points, Albany Creek are on eight with The Gap, Capalaba and Eastern Suburbs only one point further back.

"There are certainly no easy games in this league and that's to be expected with four of last season's XXXX League teams in the competition," McEvoy said.

St Helens after more points

Semi-Pro Division 1 South this week sees Mt Gravatt host Ipswich St Helens at Dittmer Park on Sunday afternoon.

After a rocky start to the season, Mt Gravatt have moved up the table in recent weeks and are currently in fourth spot.

Last week the team hosted third placed Rocklea United but had to be content with a draw and will be determined to take full points against St Helens this weekend.

Meanwhile the big story of the week in this division was a first win for the season by St Helens with a 2-1 win over fellow league strugglers Redlands United.

St Helens coach Geoff Danne was understandably pleased with the effort of his team who had only managed a draw and two losses from their opening three matches.

"Of course it was a very pleasing result to get our first win on the board," he said.

St Helens apparent defensive frailties have been well documented in past week's including their disastrous Cup campaign but Danne said it was a part of their game his side had worked hard to correct.

"We've had trouble conceding a lot of goals and have really worked hard on our defending which paid off quite well for us against Redlands," he said.

He said his team had been buoyed by the result but expected a gruelling game this week.

"The win was a nice boost for the guys and we are really looking forward to playing Mt Gravatt," he said.

"It's always a tough match down there but we're looking forward to the challenge."

Before The Whistle

with
Jim Gilbert



Heartiest congratulations to the Brisbane Strikers and all concerned, both on and off the field for their 1996/97 season's efforts, in not only attaining a top six position, but the most coveted position of all - the top two.

I am sure that everybody concerned in Soccer is ecstatic about their finish, and we all hope there will be a big turn out at Suncorp for their Major Semi Final first leg game.

To this end, the Queensland Soccer Federation has now pulled off all Saturday night matches next week (Saturday May 3) and rescheduled, them with the co operation of the home clubs, over the same weekend, to enable all supporters and players themselves, to go along and give the Strikers a lift to see if we really can have a Grand Final played in Brisbane. To do that, the Strikers will have to get a big first leg lead to take to Sydney, it won't be easy so let's give them every encouragement!

Make contact with your club secretaries now, if your year book shows you had a Saturday night match scheduled next week, as it has now gone to either Friday - Sunday afternoon/night, or Monday.

Semi Professional Division 1 North

First match on the weekend is a Friday night match between Capalaba and Albany Creek, both teams picking up good wins last week, so it points towards an attacking formation from both sides to continue their climb up the table, but as both sides can't win, I'll go for a narrow 3 pointer to the home one. Table toppers North



James Hardie
MODULAR BUILDINGS

Star host Mitchelton on Saturday evening, with the goals for and against for both teams remarkably similar, the questions are - will the home side continue their good form, has the bubble burst for the Mitchelton Mustangs, or does this point towards a score draw? Me thinks a draw would be in order.

Remaining matches are on Sunday with Newmarket to struggle at home against near neighbours The Gap, Easts will look to get back on track against current leaders Pine Rivers, but this will be very difficult and Frank's boys should take the 3 points, whilst it will be do or die between Grange and Olympic, with both sides struggling near the bottom of the table, desperation points to a (rare) home win.

Semi Professional Division 1 South

The most remarkable aspect of the table in this division is Toowoomba's 100% record and a 5 point lead at the top, this week they have the Bye which could enable the chasing pack to close the gap somewhat, and, depending on results, it should be a fair cracker in 2 fixture's time.

This week Slacks Creek open the weekend's proceedings on Friday night against Redlands and despite the home team's big loss last week, they should pick up 3 points in this one. Two matches on Saturday with the length of the table separating Acacia Ridge from next door neighbours Inala, and except for a rare reversal of form, the visitors should keep the points, remaining match between Rocklea and Souths United should go the way of the home side, despite South's good win from last week.

Remaining match is on Sunday between St Helens, who themselves also picked up their first win of the season, hosting Mt Gravatt, and despite the Saints big 3 pointer last week, I can't see them doing it two weeks in a row.

Amateur Division 1

Matches spread evenly over the two days, with possibly the most even match the battle near the bottom between Bayside and Goodna, the minus goal difference is remarkably similar, the home side does score more goals, and that is where I think the points will remain. Just up the road at Bulimba, the Eagles entertain high flying University, the leaders struggled to a very narrow 1 - 0 win last week, this will be far more difficult, and a score draw would not surprise, remaining match is between Annerley and North Pine with fourth position in the table at stake, form dictates a home win.

In the Sunday matches Latrobe will retain their push for a top two position at the expense of visitors Samford, South Star will have a tough one against Redcliffe, but should do enough to keep the points at Willawong, and the final match between Darra and Moggill should see the home side retain all 3 points.

Amateur Division 2

Plenty of goals scored in this division last week and it was a fair cracker in the featured match at Perry Park, and whilst Margate have a jump at the top of the table it is a fair battle for the minor placings.

Opening match this weekend is on Friday night with Ipswich City hosting Jimboomba, with the visitors having (yet again) their match washed out last weekend, the Ipswich Bulls may well pick up at least 1 and may be 3 points in this one. In the 3 Saturday matches Clairvaux will have their hands full against Park Ridge but may do enough to pick up at least 1 point, Bethania who are yet to record a win this season entertain Mooroondu and this is a match that could go either way, but I think the home side may pick up their first win. Remaining Saturday game is at night between Margate and Oxley, with the goals for and against neatly reversed between the two sides, and that should be a suitable enough direction as to where the match points will head. Only one match on Sunday between Brothers and Greenbank, and what a cracker this one should be, both sides oozing

experience and class, and if the home side does pick up maximum points, as I think they will, it will certainly have been a battle to secure them.

Amateur Division 3

One match on Friday with Moggill entertaining Bayside, and as Moggill are starting to run into form for when they pick up points in earnest, I think they will secure a further win in this match. In the only Saturday match to be played in this division, top of the table Samford have Kingsridge as the visitors, and judging by form in the points tables, the points should remain in the Western suburbs.

Remaining matches are all on Sunday with Woodridge and North Pine to have a rare tussle at the bottom of the table, home side may pick up a rare win on this occasion, bottom marker Jimboomba will have Ipswich City as their visitors, and I think Jimboomba will remain pegged to the foot after this encounter, remaining match is between University who are hustling for a top spot, against a very inconsistent Archerfield, with the students to retain all 3 points.

Amateur Division 4

All matches in this division are played Friday night with the balance on Saturday thus leaving Sunday free for a lay in and to get the remainder of the grass cut. In the twilight match at Mitchelton, fourth place Capalaba are the visitors and positions in the table should remain exactly as they are after this encounter, with visitors to take all the points. In the night games Brisbane Lions should secure all 3 points over North Star, however the opposite will be the case with Souths United having an immense struggle with outright leaders Taringa Rovers who will return to Jack Speare Park with a win.

In the only day match to be played on



Saturday Newmarket will continue to climb the table at the expense of Park Ridge, whilst at night Acacia Ridge should enjoy their journey down to Slacks Creek as they should take all 3 points back with them, and in the other match Albany Creek will be far too good for The Gap.

Amateur Division 5

Only 1 match on Friday night with the battle of the Bayside clubs, Redlands making the short trip down the road to Wynnum, home side should get into double figures in the points column after this encounter. In the Saturday matches Brisbane City will have a fair struggle against Mt Gravatt who will nick all 3 points, Coalstars will have a long trip out to Samford but it should be most enjoyable as they will return with the maximum, and in the dusk match St Helens similarly should pick up all the points over hosts Albany Creek.

On Sunday, Woodridge certainly won't have it all their own way against Easts as these are the only two sides left in this division who are unbeaten, if this was in the pools I'd put all my money on a score draw, and in the remaining match Uni will be far too good for Lions.

Amateur Division 6

Two matches are scheduled on each of the 3 days this weekend, in the early match on Friday night Brisbane Lions will be too good for Easts, Wynnum will have a most interesting match against Taringa Rovers, but the visitors greater goal scoring potential should see where the points will head. On Saturday afternoon Newmarket will pick up all three points over Lions, and in the twilight match it should be a rare encounter indeed between Slacks Creek and

Coalstars, the Sky Blues from Bundamba dropped their first points last week in a score draw, and I would expect them to repair the damage and take all three points in this one.

On Sunday it should be one way traffic between Kingsridge and Capalaba with a possible Premiership at stake for the visitors, which is where I think the points will go, the remaining match could almost be a battle for the wooden spoon between Uni and The Gap, and judging by the visitors' recent goal scoring form, University should pick another rare win.

Qantas Cup

A further reminder to all clubs and teams, nominations for the 1997 Qantas Cup close next Friday 2nd May. Has your team entered yet?

My thanks to the two Ronnies:

Biffer Kilgariff, Britain's foulest footballer was at a testimonial lunch today given him on his retirement by the Referees Association. They gave him a terrific send-off.

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