

Eye On Soccer

Queensland Soccer Federation
Official Magazine

QUEENSLAND'S MOST READ SOCCER MAGAZINE

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shell-
shock
Rovers
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results
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in Queensland
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*Cover: Goal mouth action from the Ipswich
Knights v Taringa Rovers game at the Eric
Evans Reserve. Taringa took the match out
by four goals to one, giving them their first
three points of the season.*

Editorial

Football is often criticised for being boring and uninteresting due to scoreless draws and other low results.

Round 2 of this year's competition was the complete opposite to that theory with 18 goals put into the back of the nets from Brisbane to Bundaberg.

Early season premiership favourites Brisbane City scored the most emphatic victory of the round, crushing cross-town big guns Rochedale Rovers 4-0 at Spencer Park.

City coach Bobby Hamilton described the victory as one of the best performances he had ever witnessed from a Spencer Park team... a big wrap considering some of the squads he has had in his charge over the years.

Brisbane Lions also gave the net a workout on the weekend, beating Beenleigh 5-2 at Chris Green Park.

Lions coach Miron Bleiberg seems to have bought well in the off season, with Taringa import Marc Flemington snaring two goals.

And arguably Lions favourite son, Frank Mengotti, celebrated his return to the Premier League by scoring a goal and setting another two up.

Taringa also got their XXXX season underway with an impressive 4-1 win against the newly formed Ipswich Knights.

The match was marred by the send-off of Knights midfielder Nick Seeley just 15 minutes into the match, but Taringa played some quality football and should test Lions and City throughout the season.

Up north at Thabeban Sports Complex, Bundaberg went into the match with Gold Coast City as warm favourites.

However, the home crowd had little to cheer about after the game, with the Gold Coast securing a 2-0 victory.

The final match of the round did not reach the dizzy heights of the other games, Mt Gravatt and the Wynnum Wolves, battling out a nil-all draw.

If the first two rounds of competition are any indication, fans are set to be treated to a feast of goals this season.

City boys shell-shock Rovers

Brisbane City has made its intentions for 1998 clear following an emphatic 4-0 victory over Rochedale last Sunday.

In front of a parochial home crowd, City made the most of its chances, while Rochedale was left floundering in its wake.

The City onslaught began after just seven minutes, when Chris Slater misfired a shot that skewed across the face of goal, only to be knocked in by the outstretched leg of Mark Battistin (pictured) at the far post.

Rochedale had a few chances of its own after that, with Eddie Lees hitting a perfect left-foot drive from a dead ball situation soon after, only to have the shot superbly saved by Daniel Duke.

City began the second half as it did the first, with several chances falling to its strikers.

But ironically it was a defender who put the home side further ahead. Scott Elliott latched onto a quality through ball and struck what looked to be a mistimed shot, which was still good enough to beat Graham Ross.

Rochedale's best chance of the match came in the 63rd minute, when Michael Lane sliced the City defence with a sensational run. His shot beat Duke but was denied by the upright, the rebound falling to Steve Fitzsimmons, who put it away but was ruled off-side by the linesman.

With frustration starting to set into the Rovers camp, several minor altercations took place, until Chris Slater found the back of the net with a glancing header in the 84th minute.

The visitors' fate was sealed two minutes from time when Lane brought down Warren Cooley in the box. Mark Battistin made no mistake with the spot kick to give City a crushing 4-0 victory.

City's cross-town rivals Brisbane Lions also had a big win at Beenleigh, Miron Bleiberg's side taking the match 5-2.

Frank Mengotti added some class to the Lions midfield. The veteran scored a goal himself and featured prominently throughout the match to set up another two.



Marc Flemington hit the target twice for the visitors, with Beenleigh's only joy coming courtesy of Danny Stowers and Alan Spiers.

There were more goals at the Eric Evans Reserve on Sunday with Taringa defeating the Ipswich Knights 4-1.

Opportunity came knocking for the visitors in the 30th minute when Knights defender Nick Seeley was sent from the field.

And former Coalstars boy turned Rover, Richard Hilli took full toll late in the first half, with a goal from close range.

Further goals to Warren Allen, Aaron Bakker and Rob Laslo rounded the scoring off for Taringa, with the Knights solitary goal coming from the boot of youngster Damien Conquest.

At the Thabeban Sports Complex, the Gold Coast continued its winning ways, with a solid 2-0 victory over Bundaberg.

Tom Protuder opened the scoring for the visitors with a cracking 30 metre drive midway through the first half.

And although the Waves tried valiantly in the second half, Troy Greenwood caught them napping late in the match, rounding two defenders and beating Michael Bainbridge in a one-on-one.

In the final match of the round, Wynnum and Mount Gravatt played out a dour 0-0 draw.

German coach imparts knowledge

Queensland soccer coaches are in for an unexpected bonus over the next two months with leading German coach Bernhard Streun (pictured) set to grace the region with his expert knowledge.

The highly respected German Football Federation (DFB) coach is undertaking an eight week tour of Queensland, during which time he will conduct various seminars and workshops with the state's coaches.

However this is a visit outside the ordinary for Streun, whose usual task is to help enhance coaching techniques in the world's developing nations.

In those workshops he deals with coaches at the elite level. During his Queensland visit however, the man who has coached the National teams of Burundi, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Togo, Botswana and Somalia, will pass on his expertise to the state's grass roots coaches.

"I would prefer for it to be this way at the moment," Streun said, "Because I would like to know more about the whole Australian setup before I start talking with your elite coaches."

The 60 year old coaching expert received an invitation to visit Queensland, during a youth visit to Germany last year.

He willingly accepted the offer and has for the past week been conducting seminars with young players and their coaches in the Brisbane North area. And so far he likes what he has seen.

"Working with your youngsters I can see that their skill level is amazingly good... sometimes even better than ours," Streun said.

"But what is missing for them is the so called 'competition behaviour'. Our young players have at least 40 to 50 league matches a year, whereas here they have only 20.



"That is a huge difference and it cannot be made up even with skill training. You can never replace a match experience with even 20 coaching sessions... it is not the same."

Currently in Bundaberg on the second leg of his tour, Streun also got a chance to look at the Strikers in action last weekend. But what he saw did not really impress him.

"Again the skills were very good, but I believe they did not think fast in that match," the German coach said.

"I was talking with Frank Farina after the match and I realise they were having a bad night, but one of the things I noticed was some of the players did not know what to do when they got into an attacking position. Some would even run and hide rather than run for the free space."

Streun said he hoped to have more discussions with Farina during his visit, but in the meantime he was focused on his seminars, which will take in Brisbane, Bundaberg, Cairns, Townsville, Mackay, Rockhampton, Toowoomba and the Sunshine Coast.

The expert coach said he would touch on many aspects of the game during his seminars, which would include a three day workshop with elite coaches from April 14-17.

PREMIER PREVIEW - ROCHEDALE v GOLD COAST

Rochdale Rovers will want to restore some lost pride this weekend when they host league newcomers Gold Coast City at Underwood Park on Saturday evening.

Rovers were comprehensively hammered 4-0 last game by an impressive Brisbane City outfit and Rochdale coach Peter Bannon believes last year's premiers deserve their early season favouritism.

"With the likes of Chris Slater, Mark Battistin and Danny Wright, as well as Damian Waugh who's been around the Strikers for a while, there's no doubting that they're a good side," he said.

"They appear to have no weaknesses across the park and play well together.

"However, we did perform very badly... we were always coming second in challenges and really never got into our rhythm."

Bannon said despite the setback, he believed his side had the ability and dedication to turn it around and get a result against the Gold Coast.

"They (Gold Coast) did us in the Silver Boot competition, so we certainly won't be taking them lightly," he said.

"I'll be looking for improvement and we'll be working on a few areas at training this week that caused us trouble during the game."

Gold Coast coach Paul Cockbain said his side would be treating Rovers with extreme caution in light of their big loss.

"To be honest, I don't know whether Rochdale losing was a good or bad thing for us," he said.

"They'll be pumped up to make amends for last week and we'll have to be on our game to stop them."

After two rounds, Gold Coast find themselves equal on points at the top of the table with league giants Brisbane City and Brisbane Lions.

"It's always good to kick off the season in a positive manner, but it's only early days yet. However, it would be good to carry on the form of the past two weeks and have a win."



Rochdale skipper Gary Brattan has plenty of work to do to lift his side following their four nil thrashing at Spencer Park last Sunday

ROCHEDALE v GOLD COAST

Underwood Park, Rochdale
Saturday March 14, 7 pm

ROCHEDALE ROVERS

- 1 Graham Ross
- 2 Troy Wickstein
- 3 Ross Davidson
- 4 Michael Lane
- 5 Damian Harris
- 6 Eddie Lees
- 7 Steve Fitzsimmons
- 8 Michael Legg
- 9 Andy Lees
- 10 Clayton Koch
- 11 John Weatherby
- 12 David Pilic
- 13 Alun Evans
- 14 Paul Grugan
- 15 Aaron Baldwin
- 16 Glen Kolpak
- 17 Gary Brattan
- 18 Andy Monement
- 19 Anton Beronic
- 20 Robert Bajic

GOLD COAST CITY

- 1 Martin Simpson
- 2 Tom Protuder
- 3 Adam Hayward
- 4 Mick Richardson
- 5 Trevor Wood
- 6 Brett Adams
- 7 Col Phelan
- 8 Jade Flack
- 9 Troy Greenwood
- 10 Peter Grierson
- 11 Aaron Bristow
- 12 Rob Boxall
- 13 Stuart Stevenson
- 14 Matthew Packer
- 15 Trevor Elliott
- 16 Martyn Carter
- 17 Pat Casey
- 18 Adam Evans
- 19 Lee Vernon
- 20 Matt Miner

PREMIER PREVIEW - BRISBANE LIONS v BUNDABERG

The Bundaberg Waves enter the Lions Den on Sunday desperate for points when they travel to Richlands Stadium.

Two matches have resulted in two losses for the Waves, but ironically, their coach Aldo Baretta was pleased with last week's performance.

"Even though we lost two-nil to the Coast, it was a big improvement on our game the week before against Rochdale," he said.

"The commitment from the players was good and we created a lot of chances, but unfortunately our finishing wasn't quite there and that is something we'll need to work on if we're to challenge Lions.

"All in all, I was reasonably happy with the side and I think on another day, the game could have easily ended in a two-all draw."

The Bundaberg squad was decimated in the off season, with eight top-line players leaving the club.

Baretta said it would take time to build a new team, but he believes the clash with Lions should bring out the best in his players.

"In the past, we've had some memorable clashes down at Lions and I don't expect this game to be any different," he said.

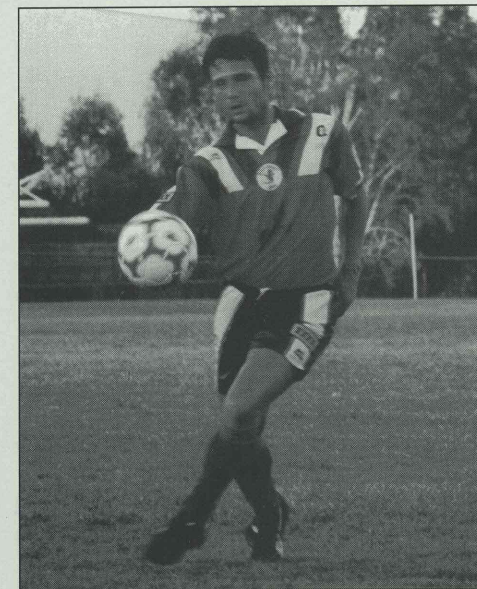
"We'll be pulling out all stops to get maximum points from this match and all our guys will need to put in a one-hundred and ten per cent effort."

On the player front, vice-captain Tony Roebuck sustained an ankle injury and is in doubt for the match, and captain Paul Fagan got a knock on the knee, but is likely to take his place in the starting eleven.

Lions were in devastating form last week, comprehensively beating Beenleigh 5-2.

Taringa import Mark Flemington scored two, Cameron Watson and Wade Cannon each got one, and veteran Frank Mengotti troubled the scorer's sheet, making a jubilant return to the Premier League.

If both teams play to form, Lions should prove too strong for the visitors,



Last week's two goal hero Marc Flemington will be looking for more of the same against Bundaberg on Saturday night

BRISBANE LIONS v BUNDABERG

Lions Stadium, Richlands
Saturday March 14, 7 pm

BRISBANE LIONS

- 1 Jason Lucas
- 2 David Lonsdale (c)
- 3 Darren Sime
- 4 Clifford Tuck
- 5 Paul Worroll
- 6 Mark Geritz
- 7 Steve Jackson
- 8 Frank Mengotti
- 9 Anthony Brown
- 10 Michael Brockwell
- 11 Marc Flemington
- 12 Roy Huth
- 13 Craig Rogers
- 14 Cameron Watson
- 15 (Not Allocated)
- 16 (Not Allocated)
- 17 (Not Allocated)
- 18 Greg Di-Losa
- 20 Darren Hillier
- 21 Robert Farrow

BUNDABERG

- 1 Michael Bainbridge
- 2 Peter Bock
- 3 Neil Trebbin
- 4 Andrew Donnison
- 5 John Giovannoni
- 6 Tony Roebuck (vc)
- 7 Luke Graham
- 8 Patrick Conway
- 9 Rauvami Madigi
- 10 Rooney Cooper
- 11 Jason Chapman
- 12 Chris Wilson
- 13 (Not Allocated)
- 14 Mathew Barritt
- 15 Tony Giovannoni
- 16 Paul Fagan (c)
- 17 Stephen Mack
- 18 (Not Allocated)
- 19 (Not Allocated)
- 20 Cale Driver

PREMIER PREVIEW - WYNNUM v BEENLEIGH

Beenleigh are likely to be in for a typically tough match when they travel to Carmichael Park to play the Wynnum Wolves on Sunday.

Both teams are desperate for points after enduring poor starts to the season.

Beenleigh's first round loss to the Gold Coast was followed up last week by a 5-2 thumping at the hands of Brisbane Lions.

It was a disappointing game for the home side and coach Phil Kerr believes concentration is the key to victory this weekend.

"Last weekend was basically a bad game for us," he said.

"We scored first, but then settled back for the remainder of the first half and played very patchy in the second half.

"We've lacked consistency across the board the last couple of weeks and the guys have got to adjust to concentrating for the whole game.

"However, in saying that, their attitude has been great and they're desperate to get some points as they are a little dirty on themselves for the way they've started the season.

"Wynnum are quite a good side... they battle hard and we'll need to put in a good performance to get over the top of them."

Wynnum coach George Cowie said the Wolves would have to pick their form up to have any chance of taking the three points.

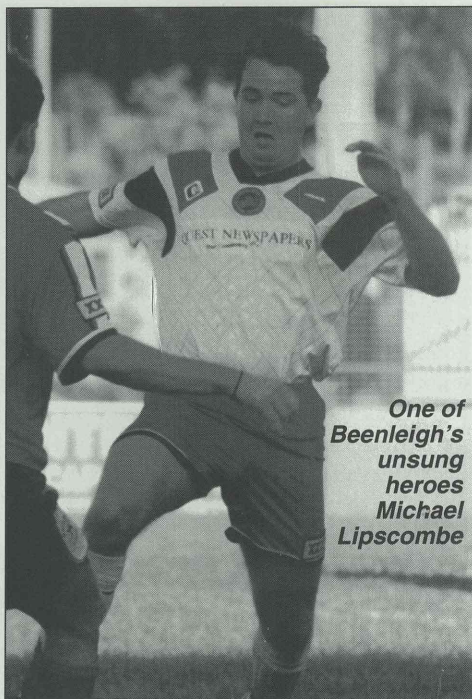
"Even though they (Beenleigh) have lost their first two games, they've signed some quality players in the off season and will be a good test for our guys," he said.

"We'll have to play a lot better than our last game as quite frankly, I was very disappointed with our performance.

"We lost our shape and discipline in the second half, but the lads know what has to be done and I'm hopeful we can put on a better display this weekend."

But the Wolves have been dealt a severe blow with the news that young striker Owen Filewood must undergo a knee reconstruction.

Cowie said the 18-year-old was an exciting prospect and would be sorely missed at the club



One of
Beenleigh's
unsung
heroes
Michael
Lipscombe

WYNNUM v BEENLEIGH

Carmichael Park, Tingalpa
Sunday March 15, 2.45 pm

WYNNUM DISTRICT	BEENLEIGH
1 Kevin Tatton	1 Chris Roche
2 Luke Adair	2 Kieren Galloway
3 (Not allocated)	3 Michael Lipscombe
4 Nigel McClure	4 Brett Jones
5 Ricky McKinless	5 Steven Forshaw
6 Tony McKinless (c)	6 Wayne Hinton
7 Matt Campion	7 Fotis Skordou
8 Paul Wilkins	8 Jarrod Austin
9 Mark Wilkins	9 Brett Druery
10 Ben Wood	10 Bradley Ditton
11 Nick Hadland	11 Alan Spiers
12 Darrell Grundy	12 Michael Rooney
13 (Not Allocated)	13 Daniel Stowers
14 Stuart Poppowell	14 Michael Bettridge
15 Andrew Davidson	15 Lee Preston
16 Shane Gilroy	16 Michael Kalic
17 (Not Allocated)	17 Paul Lederhose
18 Damien Rogers	18 Marc Lederhose
19 Bill McDermott	19 Grant Martin
20 Garth McCulloch	20 Chris Balke

PREMIER PREVIEW - BRISBANE CITY v IPSWICH

Brisbane City go into their match with the Ipswich Knights at Spencer Park on Sunday as warm favourites, after inflicting a devastating 4-0 victory against Rochedale Rovers last weekend.

City's performance was described by coach Bobby Hamilton as a "pleasure to watch", and is an ominous sign for opposing clubs.

"The standard of play was excellent and I can honestly say that it was one of the best performances I have seen in my time at City," Hamilton said.

"It was a team effort, everyone was disciplined as there were no weaknesses across the park and unfortunately for Rovers, they caught us on one of those days.

"Daniel Duke was his usual steady self, but if I had to pick out a couple of standout players, I'd probably nominate our defensive trio of Voss, Strange and Bennett.

"They did a brilliant job in closing down the Rochedale attack and really set us up for the win."

Hamilton said he would be looking for his players to emulate last week's game against the Knights this weekend.

"To be honest, I don't know a whole lot about them (Knights), but I'm fairly confident they won't be too different from Ipswich sides of the past," he said.

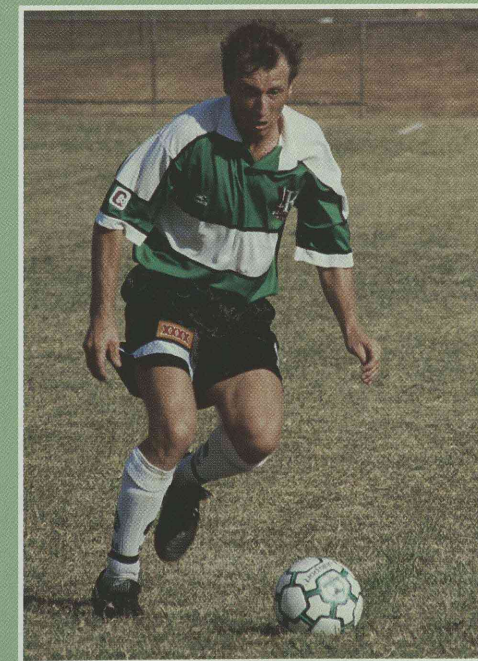
Ipswich coach Mike Mulvey said the visit to Spencer Park held no fears for his players.

"The bottom line is there are no easy games in the XXXX League, City have got some quality players and we have got some quality players," he said.

"It's eleven v eleven on the day and I believe the game will be determined by the team that wants to win the most.

"We obviously want to get a better result than last week's four-one loss to Taringa, and I think the guys are ready for a big game.

"They (Ipswich players) battled extremely well after Nick Seeley was sent off and even though we lost, we certainly weren't beaten."



Ipswich Knights' Darren Spence

BRISBANE CITY v IPSWICH

Spencer Park, Newmarket
Sunday March 15, 2.45pm

BRISBANE CITY	IPSWICH KNIGHTS
1 Daniel Duke	1 Barney Smith
2 Warren Cooley	2 David Guest
3 Damon Voss	3 Nick Seeley
4 Mark Bennett	4 Brett Wilkinson
5 Wayne Strange	5 Pat Boyle
6 Scott Elliott	6 Darren Spence
7 Barry Wilkinson	7 Andrew King
8 Chris Slater	8 John Clark
9 Damien Waugh	9 Damien Conquest
10 Danny Wright	10 Brenley Jefferd
11 Shane Haddow (c)	11 Peter Hinks
12 Robert Kidd	12 Peter McKendrick
13 Daryl Anderson	13 Scott Stenzell
14 Mark Battistin	14 Clint Scott
15 Mark Luburic	15 Wayne Adams
16 Mark Jenkins	16 Matt Hilli
17 Damon Tune	17 Brad Smith
18 Eddie Azorello	18 Neville O'Sullivan
19 (Not Allocated)	19 Ken Caldwell
20 Adriano Taraborrelli	20 Sam Ferguson

PREMIER PREVIEW - TARINGA ROVERS V MT GRAVATT

League newcomers Mt Gravatt face an uphill battle when they travel to Jack Speare Park to take on an inform Taringa on Sunday.

Mt Gravatt has started the season with a loss and a draw, and currently find themselves in 8th position on the league ladder.

But despite his side's indifferent form, Mt Gravatt coach Steve Faulkner is looking forward to squaring off against his old club.

"I spent five years at the club (Taringa), coaching the colts and reserve teams and really enjoyed the experience," he said.

"Taringa went well against Ipswich last weekend, playing some excellent football and stringing together ten to fifteen passes in a single play at times.

"They've got a lot of young guys as have we, and I think this game will be a great footballing spectacle."

Taringa blitzed the Ipswich Knights 4-1 last weekend and coach John Ogden said it was a pleasing result.

"It was a good win for us, although Nick Seeley's sending off probably influenced the final result a little," he said.

"However, in saying that, I thought our guys played well as a unit and felt they were always in control of the match.

"Craig Slaughter and Shaun Molenda were both very committed in midfield and worked hard all day for us, which is an extraordinary achievement given the terrible conditions.

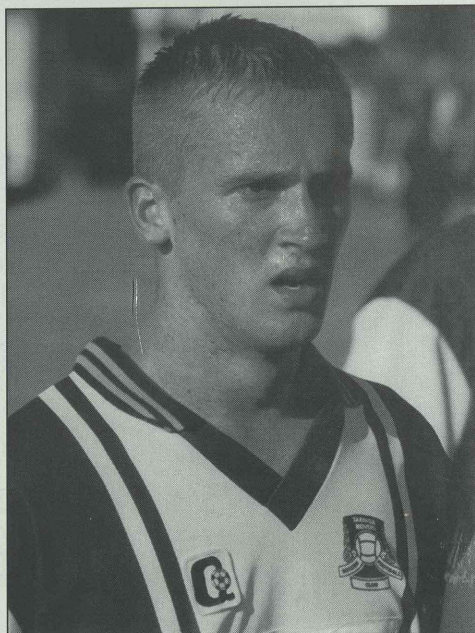
"The heat was oppressive and it's a little hard to play good football in 35 degree heat.

"The administrators need to look at the scheduling of games and I believe there's no reason why we can't play more games at night."

Ogden said Taringa would be showing Mt Gravatt a lot of respect in this game.

"I saw them (Mt Gravatt) play in the 'Silver Boot' competition and there's no doubt they'll be a handful for us," he said.

"They've got quite a few good young footballers in their ranks and we'll have to be on guard to make sure we get the three points."



Shaun Molenda was one of Taringa's best in their 4-1 victory at Ipswich last weekend

TARINGA ROVERS v MT GRAVATT

Jack Speare Park, Indooroopilly
Sunday March 15, 2:45pm

TARINGA ROVERS	MOUNT GRAVATT
1 Scott Higgins	1 Mark Bland
2 Scott Robertson	2 Barry Browett
3 Laurence Inunciaga	3 Nathan Carlross
4 Stephen Starr	4 Willie Carter
5 Joel Hale	5 Joel Douglas
6 Steve Dawe	6 Graham Edmonds
7 Des Hughes	7 Neil Ferguson
8 Demitri Theochari	8 Ewen Fisher
9 Robert Laslo	9 Andrew G-Gowers
10 Richard Hilli	10 Criag Harvey
11 Brett Allen	11 Anthony McCullouch
12 (Not Allocated)	12 Michael Rooney
13 Scott Rocker	13 David Pryor
14 Clinton McDermott	14 Anthony Roche
15 Aaron Bakker	15 Darren Stachowicz
16 Shaun Molenda	16 Danny Stickland
17 Cameron Williamson	17 Danny Cox
18 (Not Allocated)	18 George Whyte
19 Warren Allen	19 Collin Bethall
20 Brett Dickens	20 Trevor Evans

WOMENS WRAP

by Toni Slater

The first round of competition got underway last weekend for the Premiers and Reserves while the other divisions continued their battle for the Atlanta Cup.

Not many surprises in the results unless you take a look at Newmarket who were defeated by QAS 1 goal to nil.

Those on the sidelines saw the Newmarket girls go out with more determination than ever and play a very hard game to keep one of the league's top teams out of the net.

Newmarket were also unlucky not to equalise in the second half.

In other Premier League results, The Gap defeated Relands 4 goals to 1, the Ipswich Knights scored five goals to defeat Slacks Creek who scored two, Easts Mt Gravatt soundly defeated newcomers Toowoomba 6-0 and the other new team to the competition, Univeristy of Queensland were taken to task by a very solid QUT, 8-0.

In the Reserves, the QAS' new developmental squad defeated Newmarket 6-0, a great start for the youngsters, The Gap more than defeated Redlands when they scored thirteen goals to nil but other results weren't so outstanding.

The Ipswich Knights won over Slacks Creek 2-1, Easts Mt Gravatt defeated Toowoomba 4-3 and QUT managed a 1-0 win over the University of Queensland.

Seven Queensland players have been amongst twenty women offered the first scholarships for women's soccer at the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra.

The AIS program, which kicks off in July, is the next preparation stage before the 1999 FIFA Women's World Cup Qualifiers which will be held in October this year in Auckland.

The twenty players on scholarships are

joined by seven others to form the Olympic Athlete Program (OAP) Squad.

The seven Queenslanders are Belinda Kitching, Joanne Butland, Georgette Leake, Sonia Gegenhuber, Kim Revell, Alicia Ferguson and Briony Duus (currently playing in the United States).

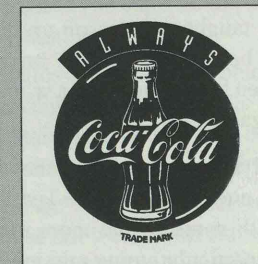
The Australian Women's Soccer Association also named a train-on squad of twenty-six athletes who are next in line for positions in the 37 member OAP Squad due to drop-outs, injuries etc.

Queensland scored six spots in this squad namely, Claire Nicholls, Kate McShea, Sarah Garven, April Mann, Lisa Dunne and Tammie Thornton.

The twenty-seven players selected for the Olympic Athlete Program Squad are:

Belinda Kitching (Qld), Joanne Butland (Qld), Anissa Tann-Darby (NSW), Bridgette Starr (N/NSW), Kristyn Swaffer (SA), Traci Bartlett (ACT), Georgette Leake (Qld), Sonia Gegenhuber (Qld), Amy Taylor (ACT), Sharon Black (SA), Joanne Peters (NSW), Shelly Youman (N/NSW), Cheryl Salisbuty (Japan), Briony Duus (USA), Sarah Cooper (ACT), Kim Revell (Qld), Lisa Casagrande (ACT), Julie Murray (NSW), Alicia Ferguson (Qld), Natalie Thomas (SA), Tracey Wheeler (WA), Kaye Yardin (NSW), Tracey McGovern (N/NSW), Angela Ianotta (Italy), Alison Forman (Denmark), Katrina Boyd (NSW) and Sunni Hughes (Japan).

The national team (the Matildas), will travel to North Korea and Japan before the World Cup qualifiers.



Underdone Inala set to fight

Inala coach Derek Crawford has conceded his side will be underdone when it takes on Semi-pro South favourites Toowoomba this Sunday.

The side has had a less than ideal pre-season, with eight regular first team players leaving the club, and injuries to six of his squad have complicated things even further for Crawford.

"It hasn't been the best way to begin a campaign," Crawford admitted. "It doesn't help when you have such a large number of players leave the club, but we can't use that as an excuse... we just have to rebuild and become competitive again."

Amongst Crawford's injured are experienced duo Jason Keepance (hamstring) and Craig Thompson (knee), and the Inala coach is not expecting them to be right in time for Sunday's encounter.

"I've got my fingers crossed but I'm doubtful at this stage," he said.

"It would be nice to have them this weekend but I realise we may have to play without them."

Crawford rates Toowoomba the side to beat in this year's competition and he said he wished he could have had another two or three weeks up his sleeve prior to meeting them.

"Toowoomba had a very strong pre-season and I think they've actually strengthened their side since last year," Crawford said.

"It would've been nice to have a bit more time to prepare for this match, but I'm still confident we'll come away with something from the game.

"They may be tough opposition but we won't give up easily and I expect my boys to be running for the full 90 minutes."

Olympic learn vital lesson

Defeat at the hands of Toowoomba last weekend has awoken the boys from Olympic, according to their coach.

Olympic came back from the Range with a 2-1 defeat but Hagymas believes the loss has done his players a world of good.

"Toowoomba's a very strong team and I would think they'd have to assume favouritism at this early stage," Hagymas said.

"They taught us a lesson up there, but I think it's been good for the boys because they're keen to get back into a winning frame of mind again."

The Olympic coach also believes his side didn't put enough effort into last weekend's match, with some of the more experienced players in particular going missing.

"Those guys will have to take on more responsibility this weekend," he said.

Hagymas said he had a lot of respect for his opponents this Sunday night, Slacks Creek.

"They're a solid outfit right across the park, and I'm particularly impressed with their defence and their midfield, the Olympic coach said.

And there is little wonder why he has that sort of respect for Slacks, who boast tireless defender Ty Bannister and the ever youthful Danny Docherty in midfield.

But with the lessons learned from last week's loss, Hagymas is confident his team will regroup and take the points, despite having to endure the losses of Cheetah Vosuga and Carlos Carrasco through injury.

Bulldogs look to striking duo

Capalaba's new striking partnership of Ben Dwyer and Gavin Wright should give them the edge against the visiting Acacia Ridge side this Saturday night.

Both players have had plenty of XXXX League experience and coach Allan Prentice is confident they will fire in front of their home supporters this weekend.

"Both lads did particularly well in our first game against Inala," Prentice said.

"And I think they should have no problem finding that sort of form at home."

There is a minor doubt over Wright, who suffered a knock in his side's 0-0 Ansett Cup draw with the University of Queensland last weekend.

However Prentice is confident the striker will be fit for Saturday night's match, which will be the Bulldogs' first at home this season.

Apart from Dwyer up front, Prentice has also lured experienced midfielder Effie Cassar to the club. And he believes it will be the additions of these two players that will make the big difference to his side's title chances this year.

"Last season we were two players short of a good side," the Capalaba coach said.

"I think these guys will give us that extra bit of fire power, but I'm also confident of signing two more players in the next couple of weeks.

As for Saturday night's match against the Ridge, Prentice remains confident of a first-up home victory.

"As long as we go into the game with a positive outlook, there's no reason why we can't win," the Capalaba coach said.

"And it would be nice to go to Toowoomba with a one hundred percent record."

Souths unphased by United

Despite Rocklea's overwhelming 4-1 win over Olympic last weekend, Souths United coach Matt Carson is unconcerned about his side's Round 3 opponent.

"I don't mean to sound big headed or anything, but I don't care about the other team," Carson said.

"That's not my style, and if they worry about us then that's their concern."

But Rocklea's crushing defeat of Olympic last weekend possibly should be on the mind of Carson.

Michael Babic had scored a hat-trick by the break for a Rocklea side that looked extremely hungry in its first-up match.

Carson has his own concerns though. The first one is to lift his side following a heart-

breaking 1-1 draw with Slacks Creek last weekend.

For Carson it was not the draw that was hard to handle, but rather the way it came about.

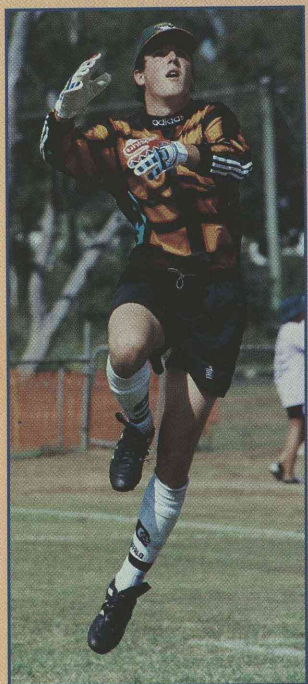
"There was one minute to go and they had a corner and caught us napping at the far post," Carson said.

"But I guess you can't do too much about things like that."

The Souths coach said he would have little trouble picking his charges up after last week's draw, maintaining his side would be very hard to beat at home.

He said he would also stick to the same game plan as last week, with Darren Gray set to be pushed forward, in behind the strikers.

ACTION REPLAY



Ipswich keeper Sam Ferguson (above) let four in last Sunday but his cause wasn't helped by team mate Nick Seeley (above right) who was sent from the field after only half and hour. Demetri Theochari and Brett Wilkinson (right) focus their attention on winning this challenge



Two of the XXXX League's hard men, Pat Boyle and Stephen Starr await an incoming cross



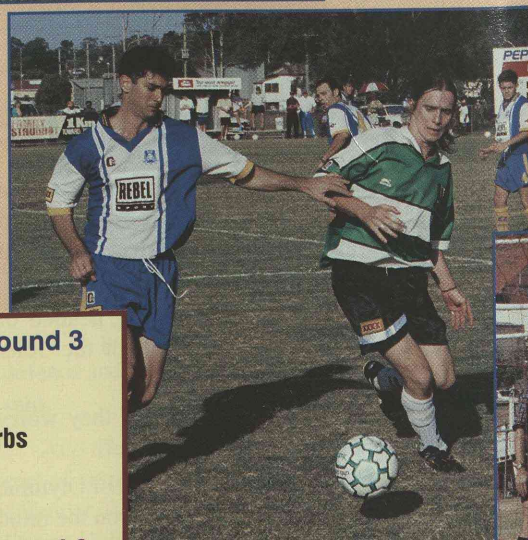
Peter Hinks (left) does his best to get past Taringa midfielder Shaun Molenda while Scott Higgins (right) does his best to avoid a stray Brenley Jeffered boot



When Ipswich substitute Kevin Meacock (right) came onto the park the damage had already been done



Taringa's Warren Allen (right) attempts to crack the Knights wall. The Rovers midfielder was unsuccessful on this occasion, however he did put one away before the game was over



THIS WEEK'S GAMES

Semi-Pro Div 1 North Round 3

- Grange Thistle v Bye
- Pine Rivers v The Gap
- Newmarket v Eastern Suburbs
- Uni of Qld v North Star
- Mitchelton v Albany Creek

Semi-Pro Div 1 South Round 3

- Redlands Utd v Bye
- Capalaba v Acacia Ridge
- Souths Utd v Rocklea Utd
- Inala City v Toowoomba Utd
- Olympic Utd v Slacks Creek

How They Faired... here and there

XXXX LEAGUE

BEENLEIGH	Vs	BRISBANE LIONS	2-5
MT GRAVATT	Vs	WYNNUM	0-0
B'BERG WAVES	Vs	GOLD COAST	0-2
IPSW KNIGHTS	Vs	TARINGA ROVERS	1-4
BRISBANE CITY	Vs	ROCHEDALE ROV	4-0

XXXX RESERVES

B'BERG WAVES	Vs	GOLD COAST	2-6
BRISBANE CITY	Vs	ROCHEDALE ROV	0-3
IPSW KNIGHTS	Vs	TARINGA ROVERS	2-3
MT GRAVATT	Vs	WYNNUM	1-0
BEENLEIGH	Vs	BRISBANE LIONS	3-1

XXXX YOUTH

BRISBANE CITY	Vs	ROCHEDALE ROV	0-3
IPSW KNIGHTS	Vs	TARINGA ROVERS	1-4
MT GRAVATT	Vs	WYNNUM	2-6
BEENLEIGH	Vs	BRISBANE LIONS	0-8

SEMIPRO DIVISION 1 NORTH

ALBANY CREEK	Vs	NEWMARKET	3-1
THE GAP	Vs	GRANGE THISTLE	4-1
EASTERN SUBS	Vs	PINE RIVERS UTD	2-0
NORTH STAR	Vs	MITCHELTON	2-3

SEMIPRO DIVISION 1 NORTH RESERVES

NORTH STAR	Vs	MITCHELTON	3-2
ALBANY CREEK	Vs	NEWMARKET	2-4
EASTERN SUBS	Vs	PINE RIVERS UTD	1-2
THE GAP	Vs	GRANGE THISTLE	3-0

SEMIPRO DIVISION 1 NORTH YOUTH

NORTH STAR	Vs	MITCHELTON	3-4
ALBANY CREEK	Vs	NEWMARKET	5-5
EASTERN SUBS	Vs	PINE RIVERS UTD	2-4
THE GAP	Vs	GRANGE THISTLE	7-0

SEMIPRO DIVISION 1 SOUTH

SLACKS CREEK	Vs	SOUTHS UTD	1-1
ACACIA RIDGE	Vs	INALA CITY	2-0
TOOWOOMBA UTD	Vs	OLYMPIC UTD	2-1
ROCKLEA UTD	Vs	REDLANDS UTD	4-1

SEMIPRO DIVISION 1 SOUTH RESERVES

SLACKS CREEK	Vs	SOUTHS UTD	2-4
ACACIA RIDGE	Vs	INALA CITY	4-1
TOOWOOMBA UTD	Vs	OLYMPIC UTD	0-4
ROCKLEA UTD	Vs	REDLANDS UTD	3-2

SEMIPRO DIVISION 1 SOUTH YOUTH

SLACKS CREEK	Vs	SOUTHS UTD	1-10
ACACIA RIDGE	Vs	INALA CITY	1-2
TOOWOOMBA UTD	Vs	OLYMPIC UTD	4-0
ROCKLEA UTD	Vs	REDLANDS UTD	2-2

AMATEUR DIVISION 1

MOGGILL UTD	Vs	LATROBE	2-2
ANNERLEY	Vs	MARGATE	3-1
REDCLIFFE	Vs	BROTHERS UTD	0-4
GOODNA	Vs	NORTH PINE	0-2
DARRA UTD	Vs	BAYSIDE UTD	0-1
SOUTH STAR	Vs	S'SIDE EAGLES	0-1

AMATEUR DIVISION 1 RESERVES

MOGGILL UTD	Vs	LATROBE	3-0
ANNERLEY	Vs	MARGATE	1-3
REDCLIFFE	Vs	BROTHERS UTD	1-4
GOODNA	Vs	NORTH PINE	1-3

DARRA UTD	Vs	BAYSIDE UTD	1-3
SOUTH STAR	Vs	S'SIDE EAGLES	0-4

AMATEUR DIVISION 2

CLAIRVAUX	Vs	JIMBOOMBA	1-1
KINGSRIDGE	Vs	OXLEY UTD	1-4
SAMFORD	Vs	GREENBANK	2-1
ARCHERFIELD	Vs	PARK RIDGE	1-2
IPSWICH CITY	Vs	PINE HILLS	1-2

AMATEUR DIVISION 2 RESERVES

CLAIRVAUX	Vs	JIMBOOMBA	2-2
KINGSRIDGE	Vs	OXLEY UTD	6-0
IPSWICH CITY	Vs	PINE HILLS	1-5

AMATEUR DIVISION 3

MARGATE	Vs	LOGAN CITY KINGS	1-2
WOODRIDGE	Vs	PARK RIDGE	4-2
BAYSIDE UTD	Vs	OXLEY UTD	10-0
ANNERLEY	Vs	SAMFORD	1-6
MOOROONDU	Vs	NORTH PINE	0-4

AMATEUR DIVISION 4

IPSW KNIGHTS	Vs	TARINGA ROVERS	2-1
NORTH STAR	Vs	BRISBANE LIONS	2-3
NEWMARKET	Vs	THE GAP	1-1
MITCHELTON	Vs	EASTERN SUBS	1-0
CAPALABA	Vs	ALBANY CREEK	4-0
ACACIA RIDGE	Vs	SLACKS CREEK	1-4

AMATEUR DIVISION 5

SOUTHS UTD	Vs	SLACKS CREEK	2-2
PINE RIVERS UTD	Vs	ALBANY CREEK	4-1
IPSW KNIGHTS	Vs	SAMFORD	2-1
BRISBANE CITY	Vs	UNI OF QLD	2-3
MT GRAVATT	Vs	WYNNUM	0-0

AMATEUR DIVISION 6

BRISBANE LIONS	Vs	BEENLEIGH	12-0
REDLANDS UTD	Vs	EASTERN SUBS	2-0
NORTH STAR	Vs	UNI OF QLD	1-3
CAPALABA	Vs	IPSW KNIGHTS	2-0
ANNERLEY	Vs	TARINGA ROVERS	0-6

Next Week's Premier League Matches

Friday March 20

Beenleigh v Taringa Rovers
7.30pm - Chris Green Park

Saturday March 21

Bundaberg v Wynnum District
7.00pm - Thabeban Sports Complex

Sunday March 22

Gold Coast v Brisbane Lions
2.45pm - Glennon Park

Mt Gravatt v Brisbane City
2.45pm - Dittmer Park

Ipsw Knights v Rochedale Rovers
2.45pm - Eric Evans Reserve

THE XXXX REPORT

BEENLEIGH 2 v BRISBANE LIONS 5 (1-2) at Chris Green Park

SCORERS

Beenleigh - Danny Stowers, Alan Spiers
Lions - Marc Flemington 2, Cameron Watson, Frank Mengotti, Wade Cannon

MAN OF THE MATCH

Frank Mengotti (Brisbane Lions)

Beenleigh:

Iliff, Jones, Lipscombe (Preston), Druery, Galloway, Skordou (Kalic), Ditton, Bettridge (Austin), Stowers, Forshaw, Spiers.

Brisbane Lions:

Lucas, Lonsdale, Geritz, Hillier, Watson, Rogers, Brown (Mengotti), Brockwell (Cannon), Flemington, Worroll (Tuck), Jackson.

MOUNT GRAVATT 0 v WYNNUM DISTRICT 0 (0-0) at Dittmer Park

SCORERS

Nil

MAN OF THE MATCH

Luke Adair (Wynnum)

Mount Gravatt:

Bland, Cox, Pryor, Georgiou, Evans (Harvey), Gosney, Bethell (Garwood-Gowers), Collins, Roche, Ferguson (Hews), Carter.

Wynnum:

Tatton, Davidson, T McKinless, Adair (Rogers), Gilroy (Rogers), P Wilkins (R McKinless), McDermott, Popplewell (Grundy), Wood, M Wilkins, Hadland.

BUNDABERG WAVES 0 v GOLD COAST CITY 2 (0-1) at Thabeban Sports Complex

SCORERS

Gold Coast - Tom Protuder, Troy Greenwood

MAN OF THE MATCH

Troy Greenwood (Gold Coast)

Bundaberg:

Bainbridge, J Giovannoni (Cooper), Roebuck (Wilson), Madigi, Hawkins, Chapman, Bock, T Giovannoni, M Giovannoni, Fagan, Maas.

Gold Coast:

Simpson, Protuder, Hayward (Casey), Richardson, Wood, Adams (Bristow), Phelan, Greenwood, Grierson, Vernon (Evans), Elliott.

IPSWICH KNIGHTS 1 v TARINGA ROVERS 4 (0-1) at Eric Evans Reserve

SCORERS

Ipswich Knights - Damien Conquest

Taringa Rovers - Richard Hilli, Warren Allen, Aaron Bakker, Robert Laslo

MAN OF THE MATCH

Craig Slaughter (Taringa Rovers)

Ipswich:

Ferguson, Seeley, Wilkinson, Boyle, Spence, Jefferd, Guest (Vogler), Clark (Scott), Conquest, McKendrick, Hinks (Meacock).

Taringa:

Higgins, Slaughter, Theochari, Molenda, Starr, B Allen (Laslo), Hilli, Inunciago (Robertson), W Allen (Bakker), McDermott, Williamson.

BRISBANE CITY 4 v ROCHEDALE ROVERS 0 at Spencer Park

SCORERS

Brisbane City - Mark Battistin 2 (inc pen), Scott Elliott, Chris Slater

MAN OF THE MATCH

Mark Bennett (Brisbane City)

Brisbane City:

Duke, Voss, Bennett, Strange, Elliott, Wilkinson, Slater, Waugh, Wright (Kidd (Cooley)), Battistin, Jenkins (Anderson).

Rochedale:

Ross, Wickstein (Davidson), Lane, Harris, Fitzsimmons, Legg, Koch (Monement), Weatherby, Evans, Kolpak, Brattan.



EYE ON SOCCER TABLES

XXXX LEAGUE	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
BRISBANE CITY	2	2	0	0	5	0	6
BRISBANE LIONS	2	2	0	0	6	2	6
GOLD COAST	2	2	0	0	5	2	6
TARINGA ROVERS	2	1	0	1	4	2	3
ROCHEDALE ROV	2	1	0	1	3	4	3
IPSW KNIGHTS	2	1	0	1	4	6	3
WYNNUM	2	0	1	1	2	3	1
MT GRAVATT	2	0	1	1	0	1	1
BEENLEIGH	2	0	0	2	4	8	0
B'BERG WAVES	2	0	0	2	0	5	0

XXXX RESERVES	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
ROCHEDALE ROV	2	2	0	0	10	1	6
GOLD COAST	2	2	0	0	10	5	6
TARINGA ROVERS	2	2	0	0	6	2	6
BEENLEIGH	2	1	0	1	6	5	3
MT GRAVATT	2	1	0	1	6	6	3
BRISBANE LIONS	2	1	0	1	7	8	3
IPSW KNIGHTS	2	0	1	1	3	4	1
WYNNUM	2	0	1	1	1	2	1
BRISBANE CITY	2	0	0	2	0	6	0
B'BERG WAVES	2	0	0	2	3	13	0

XXXX YOUTH	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
BRISBANE LIONS	2	2	0	0	13	3	6
ROCHEDALE ROV	1	1	0	0	3	0	3
WYNNUM	2	1	0	1	8	7	3
TARINGA ROVERS	2	1	0	1	5	4	3
IPSW KNIGHTS	2	1	0	1	6	6	3
BRISBANE CITY	2	1	0	1	3	4	3
MT GRAVATT	2	0	0	2	5	11	0
BEENLEIGH	1	0	0	1	0	8	0

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Brisbane Lions	6	5	0	1	26	13	15
Rochdale Rovers	5	4	0	1	16	5	12
Gold Coast City	4	4	0	0	15	7	12
Taringa Rovers	6	4	0	2	15	8	12
Brisbane City	6	3	0	3	8	10	9
Ipswich Knights	6	2	1	3	13	16	7
Wynnum District	6	1	2	3	11	12	5
Mt Gravatt	6	1	1	4	11	18	4
Beenleigh	5	1	0	4	10	21	3
Bundaberg Waves	4	0	0	4	3	18	0

SEMIPRO DIV 1 NORTH	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
MITCHELTON	2	2	0	0	6	3	6
EASTERN SUBS	2	2	0	0	3	0	6
ALBANY CREEK	2	1	1	0	4	2	4
THE GAP	1	1	0	0	4	1	3
NEWMARKET	2	1	0	1	3	4	3
PINE RIVERS UTD	2	0	1	1	1	3	1
NORTH STAR	2	0	0	2	3	5	0
UNI OF QLD	1	0	0	1	1	3	0
GRANGE THISTLE	2	0	0	2	1	5	0

SEMIPRO DIV 1 NTH RES	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
PINE RIVERS UTD	2	2	0	0	7	1	6
NEWMARKET	2	2	0	0	5	2	6
THE GAP	1	1	0	0	3	0	3
NORTH STAR	2	1	0	1	3	3	3
UNI OF QLD	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
EASTERN SUBS	2	0	1	1	3	4	1
MITCHELTON	2	0	1	1	3	4	1
GRANGE THISTLE	2	0	1	1	2	5	1
ALBANY CREEK	2	0	0	2	2	9	0

SEMIPRO DIVISION 1 NORTH YOUTH	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
MITCHELTON	2	2	0	0	10	3	6
PINE RIVERS UTD	2	2	0	0	5	2	6
THE GAP	1	1	0	0	7	0	3
NORTH STAR	2	1	0	1	5	4	3
GRANGE THISTLE	2	1	0	1	2	7	3
ALBANY CREEK	2	0	1	1	5	6	1
NEWMARKET	2	0	1	1	5	7	1
EASTERN SUBS	2	0	0	2	2	6	0
UNI OF QLD	1	0	0	1	0	6	0

SEMIPRO DIVISION 1 SOUTH	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
TOOWOOMBA UTD	2	2	0	0	4	2	6
ROCKLEA UTD	1	1	0	0	4	1	3
CAPALABA	1	1	0	0	4	3	3
OLYMPIC UTD	2	1	0	1	4	3	3
ACACIA RIDGE	2	1	0	1	3	3	3
REDLANDS UTD	2	1	0	1	4	5	3
SOUTHS UTD	2	0	1	1	2	3	1
SLACKS CREEK	2	0	1	1	2	4	1
INALA CITY	2	0	0	2	3	6	0

SEMIPRO DIVISION 1 SOUTH RESERVES	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
OLYMPIC UTD	2	2	0	0	6	0	6
SOUTHS UTD	2	2	0	0	7	3	6
CAPALABA	1	1	0	0	5	0	3
REDLANDS UTD	2	1	0	1	5	4	3
ACACIA RIDGE	2	1	0	1	4	3	3
ROCKLEA UTD	1	1	0	0	3	2	3
SLACKS CREEK	2	0	0	2	3	7	0
TOOWOOMBA UTD	2	0	0	2	1	7	0
INALA CITY	2	0	0	2	1	9	0

SEMIPRO DIVISION 1 SOUTH YOUTH	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
TOOWOOMBA UTD	2	2	0	0	8	1	6
REDLANDS UTD	2	1	1	0	5	2	4
SOUTHS UTD	2	1	0	1	11	5	3
CAPALABA	1	1	0	0	4	0	3
INALA CITY	2	1	0	1	2	5	3
ROCKLEA UTD	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
ACACIA RIDGE	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
OLYMPIC UTD	1	0	0	1	0	4	0
SLACKS CREEK	2	0	0	2	1	13	0



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EYE ON SOCCER TABLES

AMATEUR DIVISION 1	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
BROTHERS UTD	1	1	0	0	4	0	3
ANNERLEY	1	1	0	0	3	1	3
NORTH PINE	1	1	0	0	2	0	3
BAYSIDE UTD	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
S'SIDE EAGLES	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
LATROBE	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
MOGGILL UTD	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
DARRA UTD	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
SOUTH STAR	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
MARGATE	1	0	0	1	1	3	0
GOODNA	1	0	0	1	0	2	0
REDCLIFFE	1	0	0	1	0	4	0

AMATEUR DIVISION 1 RESERVES	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
S'SIDE EAGLES	1	1	0	0	4	0	3
BROTHERS UTD	1	1	0	0	4	1	3
MOGGILL UTD	1	1	0	0	3	0	3
BAYSIDE UTD	1	1	0	0	3	1	3
MARGATE	1	1	0	0	3	1	3
NORTH PINE	1	1	0	0	3	1	3
ANNERLEY	1	0	0	1	1	3	0
DARRA UTD	1	0	0	1	1	3	0
GOODNA	1	0	0	1	1	3	0
REDCLIFFE	1	0	0	1	1	4	0
LATROBE	1	0	0	1	0	3	0
SOUTH STAR	1	0	0	1	0	4	0

AMATEUR DIVISION 2	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
OXLEY UTD	1	1	0	0	4	1	3
PINE HILLS	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
PARK RIDGE	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
SAMFORD	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
CLAIRVAUX	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
JIMBOOMBA	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
BETHANIA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ARCHERFIELD	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
GREENBANK	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
IPSWICH CITY	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
KINGSRIDGE	1	0	0	1	1	4	0

AMATEUR DIVISION 2 RESERVES	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
KINGSRIDGE	1	1	0	0	6	0	3
PINE HILLS	1	1	0	0	5	1	3
CLAIRVAUX	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
JIMBOOMBA	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
BETHANIA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PARK RIDGE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SAMFORD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
IPSWICH CITY	1	0	0	1	1	5	0
OXLEY UTD	1	0	0	1	0	6	0

PREMIER LEAGUE LEADING SCORERS

- 2 Goals Peter Grierson (Gold Coast)
- 2 Goals Clayton Koch (Rochedale)
- 2 Goals Marc Flemington (Bris Lions)
- 2 Goals Chris Slater (Brisbane City)
- 2 Goals Mark Battistin (Brisbane City)
- 2 Goals Alan Spiers (Beenleigh)

AMATEUR DIVISION 3	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
BAYSIDE UTD	1	1	0	0	10	0	3
SAMFORD	1	1	0	0	6	1	3
NORTH PINE	1	1	0	0	4	0	3
WOODRIDGE	1	1	0	0	4	2	3
LOGAN CITY KINGS	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
MOGGILL UTD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MARGATE	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
PARK RIDGE	1	0	0	1	2	4	0
MOOROONDU	1	0	0	1	0	4	0
ANNERLEY	1	0	0	1	1	6	0
OXLEY UTD	1	0	0	1	0	10	0

AMATEUR DIVISION 4	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
CAPALABA	1	1	0	0	4	0	3
SLACKS CREEK	1	1	0	0	4	1	3
BRISBANE LIONS	1	1	0	0	3	2	3
IPSW KNIGHTS	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
MITCHELTON	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
NEWMARKET	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
THE GAP	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
NORTH STAR	1	0	0	1	2	3	0
TARINGA ROVERS	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
EASTERN SUBS	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
ACACIA RIDGE	1	0	0	1	1	4	0
ALBANY CREEK	1	0	0	1	0	4	0

AMATEUR DIVISION 5	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
PINE RIVERS UTD	1	1	0	0	4	1	3
UNI OF QLD	1	1	0	0	3	2	3
IPSW KNIGHTS	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
SLACKS CREEK	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
SOUTHS UTD	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
MT GRAVATT	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
WYNNUM	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
CAPALABA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
GRANGE THISTLE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
BRISBANE CITY	1	0	0	1	2	3	0
SAMFORD	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
ALBANY CREEK	1	0	0	1	1	4	0

AMATEUR DIVISION 6	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
BRISBANE LIONS	1	1	0	0	12	0	3
TARINGA ROVERS	1	1	0	0	6	0	3

Kerr chasing a finals berth

He may be a rookie when it comes to coaching at the top level, but Phil Kerr believes he can take Beenleigh all the way to this year's XXXX League finals.

Phil Kerr took control of the coaching reins at Beenleigh midway through last year following the sudden resignation of Peter Bannon.

And while he admits he did not fall into the job under the best circumstances, Kerr who was in charge of the club's reserve team at the time, says he took it with open arms.

"It wasn't an easy time for the club or the players," Kerr said.

"When Peter stood down, morale at the club was low and the side itself became very disjointed, and that didn't make the coaching aspect easy at all.

"But it was an opportunity I personally couldn't pass up, and to the club's credit we remained competitive despite finishing near the bottom of the table.

"And I have no doubt we'll certainly be able to build on that performance this year."

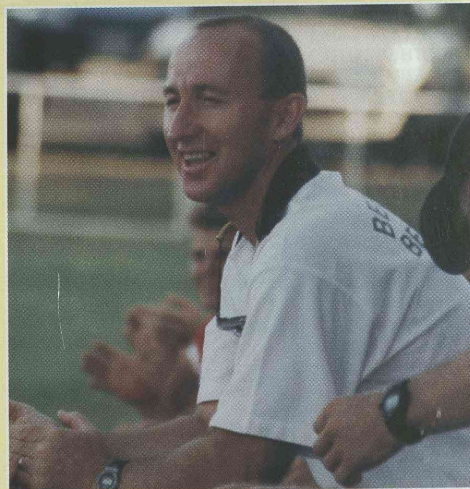
In fact Kerr wants to go all the way to this year's finals, and he believes he has the players this time round to do it.

"Last year we lacked a few quality players, which probably proved the difference in some of our closer games," the Beenleigh coach said.

"This year we've recruited well in the off-season and I believe we now have that edge which we sadly missed last year."

Among his top signings are three players with National League experience. Brad Ditton, who was a regular with the Brisbane Strikers, Danny Stowers, who had a stint with Brisbane United, and Steve Forshaw, who spent four years with Wollongong City.

Kerr said he expects each of these players



to shine for Beenleigh this year, but he also believes their presence on the park will lift the other players around them.

The thirty-five year old coach agrees depth will be the key to making this year's finals.

"It's such a long season, with 27 rounds sure to test the depth of each club," Kerr said.

"Injuries will be a key factor throughout the year and for that reason I think we're fortunate to have a quality squad from the outset, where all positions are adequately covered."

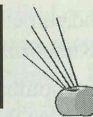
Kerr believes City, Lions, Rochedale and Taringa will be the teams to watch out for this season, but he said the competition was becoming increasingly closer and more difficult to read.

"Every game is going to be tough. That's just the nature of the competition now," he said.

"But if our pre-season's any indication I think we should be able to get back on track and secure some early competition points soon."

And the Beenleigh coach is hoping things will start to fall into place for his side this weekend against Wynnum.

BEFORE THE WHISTLE



With
Jim
Gilbert

What a mixed bag of activities we had last weekend, plenty of goals scored, the usual beginning of season controversy, and a revamp of fixtures a mere days before commencement of round 1 in the Amateurs!

First, the good news. For those clubs participating in Divisions 5 and 6, the byes have been taken out a matter of days prior to last weekend, so all teams in those divisions will now play their full quota of 22 games, Capalaba have filled the bye in Division 5, and Queensland University have taken out the bye in Division 6.

Now for the bad news, whether or not the restructuring and revamping of the referees organisation had anything to do with it, or whether it is just a simple matter of early season activities, I saw two matches on the weekend that had a stark contrast in ability of the man in the middle.

In the match I saw on Friday night, the kindest thing I can say about the man in the middle is that he kept up with play and he was consistent in his inconsistencies! It is a sad indictment on both the game and the control of such, that at halftime, a group of people sitting near me were taking bets on how long it would be before a player was sent off. This was partly because of the standard of play, which was allowed to degenerate into hard and harsh tackling, which went unpoliced in the first 25 minutes. No mention as to where I was on Friday, but a number of senior referees in attendance, appeared to be of the same opinion.

This was in stark contrast to the XXXX match in Bundaberg on Saturday night, where the arbiter, kept up with play, picked up everything in sight, even to the disgust of the locals on odd occasions, however he was completely fair and, in my opinion, didn't miss a trick.

Tipping last weekend, was a lottery, but on one of the rare occasions when I did do a count, particularly seeing it was the opening full round of the year, I had a 71% average! This weekend we have the use of Saturday night, so matches are now nicely spread over the three days.

SEMIPRO DIVISION 1 NORTH

An interesting tussle to take place at Wendy Allison Park with The Gap as visitors, Rivers are yet to win a match, and their pride will be severely stung, the visitors on the other hand had a big home win over Grange last week, so anything could happen this one, I err towards a narrow home win however.

On Sunday, Newmarket will be entertaining co-leaders Eastern Suburbs, with the visitors yet to concede a goal, and I tend to think it will remain so at the conclusion of this match, University play their first home fixture of the year with North Star as their guests, both sides yet to register any points in the competition, and this will be a severe tester for the hosts, visitors may just pick up a narrow away win, whilst the match of the round will be at Mitchelton with their 1997 Grand Final opponents Albany Creek as their guests. This will be a "no holds barred" match, as competition is always fierce between these two clubs, home ground advantage tends towards a win for the hosts, but a low score draw is possible.

SEMIPRO DIVISION 1 SOUTH

Two games on Saturday night and they are both very interesting, with Acacia Ridge making the trip down to Capalaba, both teams have one win to their credit, however, come the final whistle, I think the points will be remaining at home, the other match is between Souths and Rocklea, hosts picked up a credible away draw last week, whilst Rocklea had a big win at home, very tight match indeed, visitors have the runs on the board as far as goalscoring is concerned,

but home ground parochialism may well just keep one point at Runcorn.

On Sunday Toowoomba make the trip from the range to Inala, where the hosts are having a very indifferent start to the season, this is most unlike them, and if they can sneak one point out of this one, they would be doing very well indeed. In the evening clash I strongly tip Olympic to retain all three points over a very lethargic Slacks Creek, certainly the visitors are taking a few weeks to gel into their usual solid formation, but every week that goes by, makes it harder for them later in the year. Home win.

In the Cup, Redlands travel to Grange Thistle on Saturday evening, Thistle yet to register any points, whilst the visitors have one home win to their credit, as these matches are played over two legs, a draw is quite possible.

AMATEUR DIVISION 1

Round 1 was a big weekend for the visitors, as four travelling teams won, there was one score draw, with Annerley the only home side to win. I wonder how long that trend will continue.

In the only afternoon game on Saturday, Bayside after having one of the aforementioned away wins, may well be brought back to earth when they host Annerley, this will be a top match and will really test the credentials of the bayside club, away win. In the two night games Margate will have South Star as their guests, and this will be another testing time for the peninsula based club, and if last week's results is anything to go by, a draw is likely, and in the other Saturday night match Darra make the long trip up to Dakabin, where I suspect they will be most unsuccessful in their endeavours.

On Sunday Latrobe, who picked up a good away draw to Moggill last week, are home to Goodna, with the Ipswich based club having lost a few players in the off-season, looks to be a home win, yet another home win is likely with Brothers hosting Moggill United, although the Bellbowrie lads are very competitive, they let a 2 - 0 halftime lead last week slip to finish up with only one point, points could be shared in this one, but more likely a home win. Remaining

match is at Bulimba with Eagles tending to the needs of Redcliffe City, and early season form dictates the points to remain at Bulimba.

AMATEUR DIVISION 2

The bulk of matches are on Saturday with Jimboomba hoping their first win of the season at the expense of Archerfield, it won't be easy but is possible, Bethania who front up for their first fixture, have Clairvaux as the visitors, very tight match this one but I fancy the points to remain with the hosts, two last-start losers from last week meet next, with Kingsridge making the short trip to Greenbank, the visitors would be a little shellshocked after last week's drubbing by Oxley, this will be a different kettle of fish, and a draw is quite on the cards. Two teams with a lot to prove meet in the next match with Pine Hills home to Samford Rangers, both sides had identical 2 - 1 wins last week, and, whilst this is well and truly a local derby, the points could remain at home, or if the visitors desire is strong enough, points could be shared.

Only one match on Sunday has Ipswich City travelling down to Hubner Park, where the hosts will be out to cement an early season challenge for honours and keep the points at home.

AMATEUR DIVISION 3

Moggill make their first appearance for the year in this division by making the trip up to Dakabin with the hosts fresh from a big away victory last week, this is a bit unpredictable not knowing the composition of the Bellbowrie team, could be a win for the hosts. Logan City Kings have the biggest scoring team in this division last week as their visitors in the guise of Bayside, but I don't think the visitors will find this as easy a game, points to remain at home, also on Saturday afternoon Oxley play host to Mooroondu and not knowing the composition of Oxley's third team, I will tip a low score draw. On Saturday night Woodridge make the trip out to the west to Samford, where I fancy the points will remain. Only one match Sunday morning, with Margate packing a cut lunch and going down to Park Ridge, but it will not be in vain as I tip Margate to win.

AMATEUR DIVISION 4

There are two matches on Friday night where, judging by early season form at least, points will remain with the host on both occasions. Lions to topple Newmarket, similarly Slacks Creek will be too strong for North Star.

On Saturday afternoon Ipswich should return from their trip to Albany Creek highly successful, Easts will not relish the visit of high scoring Capalaba, whilst The Gap and Mitchelton will be a much closer contest, with the visitors possibly running out narrow victors at the end.

The match between Taringa and Acacia Ridge has gone back to Saturday night at 8.30, and this may well suit both sides, as they have to regroup after surprise losses last week. Points to remain at Jack Speare Park.

AMATEUR DIVISION 5

As reported earlier, Capalaba have taken out the bye in this division, they make their first appearance away to Wynnum on Friday night, where, by virtue of the use of the pin, I forecast

a draw. In the other Friday night game Slacks Creek should be victors over Brisbane City. In the early Saturday games, Ipswich should be winners in their visit to Albany Creek, however points to remain at University after Mt Gravatt come calling. In the twilight matches, Souths may pick up a point or three from their trip to Samford, whilst Pine Rivers should be victorious over hosts Grange.

AMATEUR DIVISION 6

Three matches on Friday night with Ipswich to pick up their first points of the year over Annerley, Queensland Uni the (second team from Uni who eliminated the bye) may have a fruitless journey down to Redlands, whilst North Star may have the opposite effect by securing all three points after their trip to Beenleigh. On Saturday afternoon Capalaba to be too good for Easts, whilst University should retain the points over Newmarket. Taringa now host Brisbane Lions at 6.30 on Saturday evening, and these are the two high scorers from last week, so this should be a treat, home side the victors.

QUT girls recruit strongly

After a successful entry into the revamped Premier League in 1997, QUT's women are hoping to continue their good form this season.

Both the first team and the reserves progressed to their respective grand finals last year, with the reserves winning and the top side narrowly going down to the QAS.

The club has made an impressive start to the new season with wins in both grades over their traditional tertiary rivals, the University of Queensland.

With an 8-0 victory against UQ, the first team is again hopeful of reaching this year's grand final and is equally confident of improving on last year's third place finish.

The club has received strong support from

the QUT Student Guild, Taringa and Campus Physiotherapy and Boral Windows, but has also recruited well in the off-season.

Zoe Nolan (Tasmania), Corrine Currey (QAS), Trena Youngblutt (USA), Cathy O'Neil (The Gap), and Samantha O'Brien have all signed for the new year.

However Georgette Leake will be missing from the side, after receiving a scholarship with the AIS.

The QUT teams will face their toughest challenge this season, when they front up against the QAS this Sunday at Perry Park.

With some of the QUT girls formerly with the QAS, both sides will be fighting hard for the three points. The main match kicks off at 11am, with the reserves beginning at 9am.

Pimblett wants more fight

Despite a positive pre-season, Pine Rivers are yet to win a match this year, but coach Frank Pimblett is confident of changing that this weekend against The Gap.

"It's been a disappointing start for us," the former Queensland great said. "There wasn't much in our draw in the first round, but we were absolutely terrible last weekend against Easts."

"We deserved to lose because we didn't work hard enough and put in a very poor performance."

Renowned for his fighting characteristics as a player, Pimblett's looking to instil some of those qualities in his young side, beginning this weekend.

"We have a load of talent in the side, but playing at this level isn't just about talent, it's also got a lot to do with being a good competitor," Pimblett said.

"We just weren't good competitors last weekend at Easts."

"We've lost a lot of experience with the departures of Graham Eden and John Preston, so that's something our youngsters are going to have to learn very quickly."

"It's a bit of a worry at the moment but it's only early days and there's a long way to go."

Pimblett is confident of replacing that "lost experience" with a couple of major signings in the coming weeks.

For the time being though he's intent on taking maximum points against a Gap side, which ran hot last weekend.

"They've made some good signings in the off-season, but we've got a good record at home."

"I'm confident if we work hard, we'll get a good result and give our supporters something to cheer about."

UQ set to surprise North Star

Last year's Division One Amateur high flyers, University of Queensland, are hoping to get their first win of the season when they take on North Star at Saint Lucia on Sunday.

It has not been the best of starts for the students. A less than mediocre pre-season and a first round loss to Mitchelton have kept them near the bottom of the table.

However that is not concerning coach Keith Officer... just yet!

"We've been very competitive in all of our games in this division so far, and we had a solid nil-all draw with Capalaba in the Ansett Cup last weekend," Officer said.

"At this stage we're still settling our team. Uni's only been back for two weeks and we've

had several good players return to the club, so I think we'll surprise a few clubs in the coming rounds."

One of those players is goalkeeper Ben Appeldorm, a former AIS player, who Uni picked up after he trialed unsuccessfully with Taringa Rovers.

Officer believes North Star will be a tough proposition, particularly since they are coming off two losses, but he is no doubt his side can stand up and be noticed this weekend.

"We have a very mobile midfield. We've got great pace going forward, but we also have great pace in recovery," Officer said.

"North Star will see that this weekend... and they won't be the last side to see it."

Tough time ahead for Mitchy

Semi-pro North leaders Mitchelton are anticipating their toughest game yet, when they host the underrated Albany Creek outfit this Sunday.

Mitchelton have two wins from their opening two encounters and coach Iain Fagan believes his team is yet to play its best football.

"We've got plenty of work to do... all over the park," he said.

"But it's early days yet and I think once we come up to match fitness, we'll produce our best."

Despite their 3-2 victory against last year's premiership runners-up North Star, Fagan is not all that pleased.

"We were actually down 2-0 and then brought it back to 2-1 at half time," Fagan said.

"And while I was happy with the comeback, our first half performance was terrible."

The Mitchy coach is adamant his side will

have to lift its game this weekend, against an Albany Creek side, which is also undefeated after the first two rounds of the competition.

"That'll be a tough game... a real contest between two sides which like to battle," Fagan said.

"I think the boys will realise if they come away with the three points on Sunday, they'll have earned them."

Fagan cited the Albany Creek defence as his side's major obstacle on Sunday. Marshalled by the seasoned Mark Gilbert, the Creek's backline is one of the best in the league.

But the Mitchelton coach remains focussed on getting his own team back to playing quality football.

"We've had a great start even though we're not playing the prettiest football," Fagan said.

"As long as we can maintain that and improve from week to week, I'll be happy."

Carey calls for more ticker

Newmarket coach Peter Carey is after a lot more commitment from his strikers, when his side hosts a red hot Easts eleven this Sunday.

Newmarket squandered numerous chances in their 3-1 loss to Albany Creek last Friday night, and Carey wants to rectify that for this weekend.

"We played some good football last Friday night," the Newmarket coach said. "We created plenty of chances but the boys up front couldn't finish them off."

"As it was, Darren Burge scored our only goal and he's a stopper."

Carey is confident his side can take the three points if they take their chances against the Tigers on Sunday.

But he also realises Easts will be a tough proposition. The Tigers have won their first two games to take a share of the table lead, and Carey said his side will be treating them with plenty of respect.

"To be perfectly honest I've yet to see them play," Carey said, "...but they have a great side on paper and they're coming off two impressive victories."

Carey is set to make one change to last week's side, with former Mitchelton striker Craig Mills likely to get a run.

Skipper Paul Tatters is also set to rejoin the side, following a much anticipated return last week, which did not come to fruition.

And Carey believes his inclusion in the side will make a big difference this weekend.

READ' between the LINES

With
Brent
Read

Two rounds have been completed in the XXXX Premier League and Brisbane Lions and Brisbane City have given clear indications they are the teams to beat.

City's flogging of Rochedale at the weekend was, by all accounts, an extremely convincing performance.

Big Mark Battistin, back from the Brisbane Strikers, celebrated with a couple of goals.

'Batts' is going to be a handful for any XXXX League defence. After spending most of his time with the Strikers shackled in a stopper's role, Batts will be keen to take his goal scoring frustration out on XXXX League clubs.

The big fellow has a real nose for goal and with Chris Slater (pictured) and Danny Wright, gives the club a potent, and experienced, striking partnership.

Those three are likely to give the leading goal scorers chart a real scare.

At Lions, one of my former teammates Marc Flemington is back among the goals.

'Flemo' is a true goal scorer, in the Kieran Cooper mould. Neither player was ever likely to burst a boiler on the field chasing defenders.

But when the ball is in the box and a half chance arises, there's no two players you'd rather have floating around.

At Rochedale, my old mates the Lees Brothers are yet to make an appearance and it looks as though the club could do with their experience and telepathic understanding.

Andy is still awaiting a return from suspension while Eddie is overcoming an injury and should be moving into first team calculations.

The boys might be wishing they were



playing for the Gold Coast, who scored another win at the weekend over Bundaberg.

Bundaberg, after a cinderella season, look like suffering from the dreaded second-year syndrome.

If they make the finals I'll walk to Bundy naked. They've got Buckley's chance.

Just a final word on the new television show on Optus - *Eye on Soccer... the TV Show*.

Firstly, by all accounts the first show was a ripper. Now considering this columnist will be making the odd appearance, you may accuse me of bias. But as always, this column remains impartial.

Secondly, I would like to rebuff suggestions my head is made for radio and ratings dropped significantly during my segment.

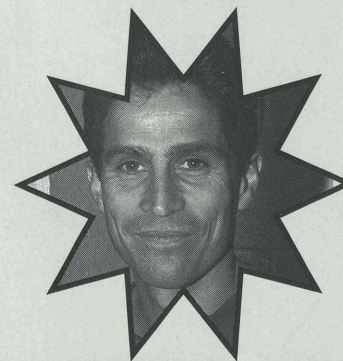
I am assured at least three extra people turned on their Optus during my segment - my parents and my little brother. Thanks for the support.

Anyway, make sure you tune in again this week. The show threatens to be groundbreaking for the game in this state. With the new look magazine and the TV show, local soccer is enjoying unprecedented coverage.

Eye On Soccer

.... the TV Show

Hosted by
Guy Hand
with...



&

Frank Farina

Andy Harper

For the latest news and views on the XXXX League soccer scene, tune into **CHANNEL 50** on Optus Vision **Wednesday** nights at **7pm**





The beer for here.



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