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Qld Cup draw

Vol 7-5 March 26 1998 S2.00 New m**erg**er.. logical way to go

Queensland Soccer Federation Official Magazine

Last week's

wrap-up page 5

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|---|--|
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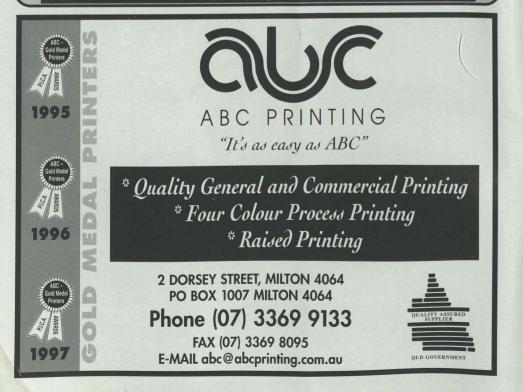
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Cover: Ipswich Knights' "Big Man" Pat Boyle flies high over Rochedale's "Big Man" Damian Harris, during last weeks clash with the Rovers in which the Knights ran out the victors 3-1

Editorial

First of all this week, a little gripe on my part. In recent times, I have become increasingly frustrated by clubs that fail to place player numbers on the front of shorts.

Now while this may seem a little thing to the club officials and indeed many of the readers of this magazine, spare a thought for those individuals who each week try and identify player photographs for publication.

It is almost incomprehensible to expect someone to have the faces of all 170 plus Premier League players indelibly implanted on their mind.

Clubs from around the world manage to undertake this simple task and I am mystified as to why it is proving so difficult here in Brisbane.

The best excuse as to why this has not been possible came from a Premier League club that said it had nobody to sew the numbers on! That is simply farcical.

Come on gang, it is 1998 and we need to make a concerted effort to ensure all facets of the game remain professional.

Turning to last week, round four of fixtures brought some surprising results.

Gold Coast City's dream start to the season continued when they knocked off league giants Brisbane Lions.

It was a match that typified the closeness of the league and confirmed the Federation's decision to extend the competition to 10 clubs.

The other boilover of the round occurred when Mike Mulvey's Ipswich Knights downed Rochedale Rovers 3-1.

Mike is one of the true "nice-guys" of the game and the win is a credit to his leadership of the new unified club.

My own personal observation is that the standard of this year's competition has improved out of sight when compared to recent seasons.

It is great to go along to a match unsure of what the final result might be. It is this type of healthy competition that is a fundamental step in building a local support base for the round-ball game.

Qld Cup to start next week

6.30pm

8.30pm

Plaved at Slacks Creek SC Greenbank

North Star

| The 1998 AAAA Queensiand Cup is set | Tayou at olacks ofce |
|---|----------------------|
| to get underway next week, with the new FA | Brothers United v |
| Cup style format prompting huge praise from | Slacks Creek v |
| the local soccer community. | Wednesday 1 April |
| All 55 QSF member clubs will be taking part | Albany Creek v |
| All 55 QSF member clubs will be taking part | North Pine v |

in this year's Cup, which has a total prize pool of more than \$26,000.

Included in that is the promise of incentive prize money for clubs who win through to the later rounds of the competition.

To give the Cup a truly Queensland flavour, the winners of the two regional competitions in North and South Queensland will also be invited to play in the Cup semi-finals later this year.

The first round draw for this year's Cup was made at Perry Park earlier this month, with representatives present from Bayside United, Brothers, Easts, Greenbank, Inala, Ipswich City, Margate, Olympic, Souths United and University.

The club representatives made the draw, which resulted in the following match scheduling:

Tuesday 31 March

Plaved at Grange Thistle SC

v Oxley United Uni of Qld Grange Thistle v Ipswich City



Dear Sir,

I live in Germany and collect football club pins from all over the world. Although I am specialised on German clubs, I would like to extend my collection on pins from Australia. I know that there are many football clubs in your country, but it is very difficult to find out their addresses and write to them directly. Therefore I am looking for a fellow collector that shares

Darra United **Pine Rivers** ٧ 7.30pm Samford Rangers v **Olympic United** v Moggill United 8.00pm Toowoomba Plaved at Beenleigh SC Bethania Rams v Mooroondu 6.30pm 8.30pm Park Ridge Acacia Ridge V v Eastern Suburbs 8.30pm Capalaba Plaved at Margate SC **Redcliffe City** Latrobe Athletic 6.30pm V v The Gap 8.30pm Margate Played at Mt Gravatt SC v Kingsridge 6.30pm Clairvaux Annerley 8.30pm South Star V v Pine Hills 8.30pm Newmarket Played at Redlands United SC

Mitchelton

Inala City

Logan City

Southside Eagles 7.30pm

V

6.30pm

8.30pm

7.30pm

7.30pm

7.30pm

| Bayside United | ٧ | Goodna | 6.30pm |
|-------------------|-----|--------------------|-----------|
| Redlands United | | | 8.30pm |
| Played at Souths | uni | ted SC | . (|
| Woodridge | ٧ | Archerfield | 6.30pm |
| Souths United | ۷ | Jimboomba | 8.30pm |
| NB All matc. | hes | to be played at th | ne ground |
| of the first team | nan | ned, except where | stated. |

my hobby in your country to swap pins via mail on a regular basis. In exchange I could send him or her pins from German or European clubs. I would be very grateful if you could publish this letter and my address in your paper. Thank you very much in advance.

Bern Schrader **Bechsteinstrasse** 48 45883 Gelsenkirchen. Germany



City sneak home in tough one

Brisbane City shot clear at the top of the XXXX Premier League table after securing a 2-0 victory against Mt Gravatt at Dittmer Park last Sunday.

Last year's champions snuck home in a tough encounter to move to 12 points, three clear of Brisbane Lions and Gold Coast City.

Both backlines set the tone for the game with the likes of Chris Slater from City, and Willie Carter from Mt Gravatt getting little opportunity to trouble the scorer.

However, newly appointed City captain Slater got his chance to put the visitors ahead midway through the first half after referee Volkan Dogan awarded a penalty.

However, the brilliance of Mt Gravatt goalkeeper Mark Bland denied the former Strikers player any celebration and the two sides went to the break locked at 0-0.

Twenty minutes from full-time, Volkan Awarded City another penalty and this time, Warren Cooley, who was standing in for the injured Danny Wright, made no mistake from the spot.

City had a good share of possession in the second half and were rewarded for their persistence when Slater hit a clean shot from just inside the 18-yard box that whistled past the outstretched hands of Bland.

City coach Bobby Hamilton said it was pleasing to get the points despite "performing below our best", while Mt Gravatt coach Steve Faulkner thought his team should have been the first side to take points off the league leaders.

At the Thabeban Sports Complex, the Bundaberg Waves destroyed the Wynnum Wolves 4-1.

It was the first win of the season for Waves who have been decimated in the off season by the departure of several key players and ensured last season's semi-finalists moved from the bottom of the table.

According to Wynnum coach George

Cowie, the game was over after 20 minutes with Bundaberg leading 3-0.

The Wolves lads were on the receiving end of a good old-fashioned Scottish tongue lashing at half time and George said he was much happier with his team's performance in the second period.

The big shock of the round occurred at Glennon Park on Sunday when the newly elevated Gold Coast City defeated Brisbane Lions 1-0.

It was a match that nobody expected the Gold Coast to win and is a good indication of how unpredictable this year's competition should prove.

Gold Coast City are currently in third position (equal second on points) on the league ladder and have certainly served notice to some of the more established clubs in the competition.

At Chris Green Park, Beenleigh's tale of woe continued, losing 3-1 to a classy Taringa Rovers unit.

Beenleigh coach Phil Kerr admits that his side is struggling to put it together for 90 minutes and will be emphasising the importance of concentration at training this week.

Taringa coach John Ogden welcomed the win and made special mention of a number of his young players including Richard Hilli and Robert Laslo.

In the final match of the round, the Ipswich Knights surprised Rochedale Rovers winning 3-1.

It was an evenly balanced game with the Knights leading 2-1 until the dying moments of the match, and Rochedale coach Peter Bannon said he believed the best side won on the day.



PREMIER PREVIEW - Rochedale v Bris Lions

Rochedale Rovers and Brisbane Lions clash in the match of the round at Underwood Park on Saturday at 7pm.

Ironically, both teams are on the rebound after experiencing defeat last week.

Lions were beaten 1-0 by the Gold Coast who have emerged as the surprise packet of the premier league season.

And although bitterly disappointed, the Lions squad possesses too much talent, experience and depth to stay down for long.

For Rochedale, the 3-1 loss to the Ipswich Knights was perhaps unexpected by many, but according to coach Peter Bannon, the best side won on the day.

"It was a patchy sort of performance from us and we had some chances to win but couldn't capitalise on our opportunities," he said.

"To be honest, I thought it was a fairly well balanced game with the match poised at 2-1 at the break.

"I thought we had good spell in the second half where we could have won the match but unfortunately for us, we couldn't put the ball in the back of the net."

Bannon said Rovers would have to make every opportunity count when they square off with Lions.

"Lions getting beaten last week by the Gold Coast means they'll be looking to get some points this week and like us, will be looking for a big improvement," he said.

"I believe our lads have got the ability to beat anybody in the league and I don't think I'm whistling in the wind in saying that.

"But I do think the guys need to stand up and believe in themselves and if they do, we'll give any team a run for their money."

Rochedale/Lions encounters have traditionally been fast open affairs with both teams keen to assert their attacking dominance.

On paper, the sides look fairly well matched, but Lions might fall over the line in a thriller.



Rochedale keeper Graham Ross will need to reproduce some of his Strikers form this weekend against Lions

ROCHEDALE V BRISBANE LIONS Underwood Park, Rochedale Saturday March 28, 7.00 pm ROCHEDALE ROVERS BRISBANE LIONS

| Graham Ross Troy Wickstein Ross Davidson Michael Lane Damian Harris Eddie Lees Steve Fitzsimmons Michael Legg Andy Lees Clayton Koch John Weatherby David Pilic Alun Evans Paul Grugan Glen Kolpak | 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 | Paul Worroll Mark Geritz Steve Jackson Frank Mengotti Anthony Brown Michael Brockwell Marc Flemington Roy Huth Craig Rogers Cameron Watson (Not Allocated) | |
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| Aaron Baldwin | 16 | (Not Allocated) | |
| Gary Brattan | | Wade Cannon | |
| Andy Monement | 18 | Greg Di-Losa | |
| Anton Beronic | | Darren Hillier | |
| Robert Bajic | | Robert Farrow | |
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PREMIER PREVIEW - WYNNUM DIST V Gold COAST

The Wynnum Wolves have the job ahead of them this week when they host the surprise packet of the competition, the Gold Coast City.

City has been in good form during the first ar rounds of the season, with last game's 1-0 a against the highly fancied Brisbane Lions a bod boost for the newly promoted club.

The win means the Coast is now equal on points (nine) with Lions and three behind Brisbane City, leaving it in 3rd place on the table.

The efforts of the border club are a credit to coach Paul Cockbain and his squad, and on form, would have to go into the clash with the Wolves as favourites.

Wynnum coach George Cowie said he had been impressed by the Gold Coast and had no doubts that this would be a tough match.

"They (Coast) will be confident and hungry after their great victory last week and it should be a great match to come and see," he said.

"I think they have done a magnificent job so far and have excelled themselves on the park.

"It's not an easy thing bringing a new squad of players together but they've managed to do it in style."

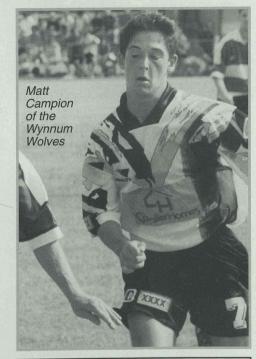
Cowie said he was looking for an improved performance from his players after the team's 4-1 debacle against Bundaberg last week.

"We were three-nil down after twenty minutes and were very poor for the first 30 minutes of the match," he said.

"It was a great game to watch from a spectator point of view and for most of the first half, that's all our players did.

"I gave the lads a fairly severe talking to at half time and to their credit they picked things up in the second half.

"I'm looking forward to the game on Sunday because I believe my players responded to my words last week and showed a lot of character and I'm confident they'll make a fist of it this week."



| WYNNUM DIST v GOLD COAST Carmichael Park, Tingalpa Sunday March 29, 2.45pm | | | |
|--|------------------------|--|--|
| WYNNUM DISTRICT | GOLD COAST CITY | | |
| 1 Kevin Tatton | 1 Martin Simpson | | |
| 2 Luke Adair | 2 Tom Protuder | | |
| 3 (Not allocated) | 3 Adam Hayward | | |
| 4 Nigel McClure | 4 Mick Richardson | | |
| 5 Ricky McKinless | 5 Trevor Wood | | |
| 6 Tony McKinless (c) | 6 Brett Adams | | |
| 7 Matt Campion | 7 Col Phelan | | |
| 8 Paul Wilkins | 8 Jade Flack | | |
| 9 Mark Wilkins | 9 Troy Greenwood | | |
| 10 Ben Wood | 10 Peter Grierson | | |
| 11 Nick Hadland | 11 Aaron Bristow | | |
| 12 Darrell Grundy | 12 Rob Boxall | | |
| 13 (Not Allocated) | 13 Stuart Stevenson | | |
| 14 Stuart Popplewell | 14 Matthew Packer | | |
| 15 Andrew Davidson | 15 Trevor Elliott | | |
| 16 Shane Gilroy | 16 Martyn Carter | | |
| 17 (Not Allocated) | 17 Pat Casey | | |
| 18 Damien Rogers | 18 Adam Evans | | |
| 19 Bill McDermott | 19 Lee Vernon | | |

20 Garth McCulloch

20 Matt Miner

PREMIER PREVIEW - Ipswich Knights v Mt GRAVATT

Mt Gravatt need some vital league points from their match with the Ipswich Knights at Eric Evans Reserve on Sunday.

Two draws and two points find Mt Gravatt nine behind competition leaders Brisbane City.

Coach Steve Faulkner believes Mt Gravatt has performed above what its ladder position would suggest, but realises that in this week's match, the final result will be more important than how his side played the game.

"It's going to be a hard match away as Ipswich are sure to be on a high after their big win against Rochedale last week," he said.

"They've got a top class side with the likes of Meacock, Boyle, Jefferd and Clark, and we'll have to perform to get a result.

"The bottom line is that we have to maintain contact with the sides above us and the only way to do that is to win some games.

"At this stage of the season, you don't want to be left behind and we would like to think that at season's end, we could nip into the finals."

Ipswich coach Mike Mulvey said the Knights would be looking to build on their impressive 3-1 win last week.

"I was pleased with the way the lads applied themselves to the task and they bounced back in the best way possible after being on the receiving end of a couple of big losses," he said.

"I was particularly happy with the back four because we have been conceding far too many goals in previous games, but to be honest, I couldn't fault anyone's performance.

"What we need to do this week is make sure we begin putting together a series of wins, because a winning habit is a good habit to be in.

"Consistency is the name of the game and we want to extend our performance against Rochedale and keep it going against Mt Gravatt."



A Mt Gravatt player without a number! (Apologies to the player)

IPSWICH v MT GRAVATT Eric Evans Reserve, Bundamba Sunday March 29, 2.45 pm

| IPSWICH KNIGHTS | MOUNT GRAVATT |
|---|---|
| Barney Smith Andrew King Nick Seeley Brett Wilkinson Pat Boyle Darren Spence Brenley Jefferd John Clark Damien Conquest Peter McKendrick Peter Hinks 2 David Guest 3 Scott Stenzell | Mark Bland David Pryor Peter Georgiou Danny Cox (c) Colin Bethall Stuart Collins Robin Gosney Craig Harvey Willie Carter Anthony Roche Andy Garw. Gowers Anthony McCullough Troy Hews |
| 14 Kevin Meacock 15 Clint Scott | 14 Nathan Carlos 15 (Not Allocated) |
| Andre Gacesa Peter Vogler Neville O'Sullivan Wayne Adams Sam Ferguson | (Not Allocated) (Not Allocated) Neil Ferguson Trevor Evans Paul Petersen |

New merger only logical way to go

Ipswich coach Mike Mulvey believes last eek's 3-1 victory over Rochedale will be a rning point for the new club, not merely in terms of this season, but for the long term future of the Knights.

The Ipswich Knights formed at the end of last year following the merger of neighbouring rivals Ipswich Saint Helens and Coalstars.

Many thought the marriage would not work, with both clubs steeped heavily in tradition. However all parties involved with Ipswich soccer knew a merger was the only logical way to go if the code was to move ahead in any major way in the town. And so far it seems to be working.

"We've played three matches at home this season and we've had approximately 500 to each game," Mulvey said.

"We also had two and a half thousand come out when the Strikers played us here so I think that proves that people in Ipswich want to watch top level football and want a winning team.

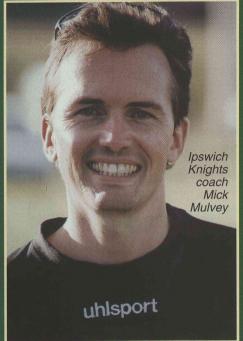
"I've got no doubt that if we can keep improving the way we have been and continue to play entertaining football, we'll begin to attract crowds of a thousand plus."

Surprisingly Mulvey has not gone out flashing the cheque book around. Instead he has carefully chosen players who he believes have a winning attitude and show plenty of commitment.

"We've been able to keep the best players from two clubs as well as add a little bit of experience up front and at the back through Kevin Meacock and Nick Seeley," Mulvey said.

"You won't find anyone in the game more committed to the cause than Nick Seeley, and it's no secret that our two victories have come when both Nick Seeley and Barney Smith of the Canberra Cosmos have been on the field."

The job of merging the two sides has not



been an easy one for Mulvey though. The rookie coach is enjoying his first year in the XXXX League and has had to mould two sides who did poorly in their divisions last season.

"Coalstars finished bottom of the XXXX League and St Helens ended the season in second last spot, so it's been a real challenge to lift the spirits of the lads and get them back into a winning frame of mind," Mulvey said.

With those results now behind the club, the Knights are looking ahead and are expecting big things this season.

"We've made a pact within the squad to finish in the top four," Mulvey said.

Should they reach their on-field objective, the only question mark remains over the offfield process with respect to the merger.

"Sure there's going to be a few teething problems on and off the field, but I think the bottom line is we must continue to perform well and get the results on the park," Mulvey said.

PREMIER PREVIEW - BRISDANE CITY V BEENLEIGH

Results after four rounds indicate that this week's match between league leaders Brisbane City and bottom placed Beenleigh is a classic "David and Goliath' match-up.

However, despite enduring four losses from four games, Beenleigh coach Phil Kerr is optimistic about his side's chances against the highly rated City line-up.

"At the moment, I don't think anyone could argue that they (City) are the best team in the comp," Kerr said.

"It's a good surface at Spencer Park and I think it should be quite a good game to watch, and they're certainly going to be tough to beat at home.

"We'll be going there to get the three points and even though the guys are yet to win a game, you can't afford to go into a match like this and not be positive."

Kerr said last week's 3-1 loss to Taringa Rovers, while disappointing, was a big improvement on previous matches, although he said team concentration needed to still be improved.

"We were in the match for most of the game but silly mistakes at both ends cost us the points," he said.

"We've got to learn to knuckle down and concentrate for the full 90 minutes and if we do that. I think we're a show against anyone."

City coach Bobby Hamilton said he was looking forward to the home game and was wary of the Beenleigh outfit.

"Beenleigh are a good side, make no mistake about that," he said.

"They've got some quality players in their ranks including Brad Ditton and (Danny) Stowers, and we'll have to be on our game to make sure we get the three points."

The City attack has been on fire this season, booting 11 goals, while the defence has been rock solid, conceding no goals.

And even without Danny Wright and Mark Battistin, City is still an awesome team and should prove too strong for Beenleigh.



BRISBANE CITY V BEENLEIGH Spencer Park, Newmarket Sunday March 29, 2.45pm

BRISBANE CITY

| 1 | Daniel Duke | 1 | Chris Roche |
|-----|----------------------|----|-------------------|
| | Warren Cooley | 2 | Kieren Galloway |
| | Damon Voss | 3 | |
| | Mark Bennett | 4 | Brett Jones |
| 4 | | 45 | |
| 5 | Wayne Strange | | |
| 6 | Scott Elliott | 6 | Wayne Hinton |
| 7 | Barry Wilkinson | 7 | |
| 8 | Chris Slater (c) | 8 | Jarrod Austin |
| 9 | Damien Waugh | 9 | Brett Druery |
| 10 | Danny Wright | 10 | Bradley Ditton |
| 111 | Shane Haddow | 11 | |
| 12 | Robert Kidd | 12 | Michael Rooney |
| | Daryl Anderson | 13 | Daniel Stowers |
| 14 | (Not Allocated) | 14 | Michael Bettridge |
| | Mark Luburic | 15 | Lee Preston |
| | Mark Jenkins | 16 | Michael Kalic |
| | Damon Tune | 17 | Paul Lederhose |
| | Eddie Azorello | 18 | Marc Lederhose |
| | (Not Allocated) | | Grant Martin |
| 20 | Adriano Taraborrelli | 20 | |
| 20 | Auriano Taraborreni | 20 | UTITS Daike |

BEENLEIGH

PREMIER PREVIEW - TARINGA ROVERS V BUNDADERG

A depleted Taringa Rovers side will host a fired up Bundaberg Waves team at Jack Speare Park on Sunday.

Taringa's 3-1 win against Beenleigh last round moved the perennial big gun into fourth lace on the league ladder.

From all reports it was a solid performance om John Ogden's squad and the coach was more than satisfied with the effort.

"It was a good game all round on Friday night and overall, I was very happy with the lads." he said.

"We had a lot of our experienced players out such as Stephen Starr (flu) and Warren Allen (work commitments) and the young kids that I used did the job for us so that was obviously very gratifying."

Ogden made special mention of the efforts of Coalstars import Richard Hilli and former Lions player Robert Laslo who between them, scored Taringa's three goals.

And while he was comfortable with Taringa's early season form and position on the league ladder (currently fourth), he did point to the club's growing list of injured players as an area of concern.

"A number of what I would consider our more experienced players are now sidelined with various injuries," he said.

"Laurence Inunciaga (fractured bone in back), Shaun Molenda (fractured bone in foot), Joel Hayle (back and hamstring), Steve Dawe (hamstring) and Steve Bland (broken foot) all have serious injuries that will put them out for a few weeks vet.

"It's certainly going to make life interesting for us against Bundaberg this week," he said.

"I watched them (Waves) play against Lions in round three and thought they were a little unlucky to lose."

The Bundaberg Waves will travel to Taringa full of confidence after disposing of the Wolves 4-1 last week.

It was Waves first win of the season and has catapulted the side into 8th position on the table.



| | TARINGA ROV V Jack Speare Par Sunday March | k, In | dooroopilly |
|---|--|--|---|
| TAF | RINGA ROVERS | BUI | NDABERG |
| 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 | Warren Allen | $\begin{array}{c}1\\2\\3\\4\\5\\6\\7\\8\\9\\10\\11\\12\\13\\14\\15\\16\\17\\18\\19\\20\end{array}$ | Andrew Donnison John Giovannoni Tony Roebuck (vc) Luke Graham Patrick Conway Rauvami Madigi Rooney Cooper Jason Chapman Chris Wilson (Not Allocated) Mathew Barritt Tony Giovannoni Paul Fagan (c) Stephen Mack (Not Allocated) |

How They Faired... here and there

1-6 3-0 0-0 3-1 0-6

2-2 4-5 0-1 3-0 9-2 2-1 1-2 2-1 1-0 3-0 3-0 1-3 3-0 4-0 5-4 2-0 0-9 1-0 0-1 2-0 0-7 4-2 0-3 8-0 6-1 1-3 1-3

| XXXX LEAGUE | | | AMATEUR DIV 2 | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| BEENLEIGH | Vs TARINGA ROVERS | 1-3 | ARCHERFIELD | Vs BETHANIA |
| B'BERG WAVES | Vs WYNNUM | 4- 1 | CLAIRVAUX | Vs OXLEY UTD |
| GOLD COAST | Vs BRISBANE LIONS | 1-0 | KINGSRIDGE | Vs PINE HILLS |
| MT GRAVATT | Vs BRISBANE CITY | 0-2 | IPSWICH CITY | Vs SAMFORD |
| IPSW KNIGHTS | Vs ROCHEDALE ROV | 3-1 | PARK RIDGE | Vs JIMBOOMBA |
| XXXX RESERVES | | | AMATEUR DIV 2 RES | |
| B'BERG WAVES | Vs WYNNUM | 4-3 | CLAIRVAUX | Vs OXLEY UTD |
| IPSW KNIGHTS | Vs ROCHEDALE ROV | 3-1 | KINGSRIDGE | Vs PINE HILLS |
| MT GRAVATT | Vs BRISBANE CITY | 1-2 | IPSWICH CITY | Vs SAMFORD |
| BEENLEIGH | Vs TARINGA ROVERS | 3-2 | PARK RIDGE | Vs JIMBOOMBA |
| GOLD COAST | Vs BRISBANE LIONS | 3-5 | AMATEUR DIV 3 | |
| XXXX YOUTH | | | MOGGILL UTD | Vs OXLEY UTD |
| IPSW KNIGHTS | Vs ROCHEDALE ROV | 0-3 | BAYSIDE UTD | Vs PARK RIDGE |
| MT GRAVATT | Vs BRISBANE CITY | 6-3 | WOODRIDGE | Vs MARGATE |
| BEENLEIGH | Vs TARINGA ROVERS | 2-2 | MOOROONDU | Vs LOGAN CITY KINGS |
| | | L L | ANNERLEY | Vs NORTH PINE |
| SEMI PRO DIV 1 NOR | | 1-2 | AMATEUR DIV 4 | |
| GRANGE THISTLE | Vs PINE RIVERS UTD | 0-1 | IPSW KNIGHTS | Vs EASTERN SUBS |
| ALBANY CREEK | Vs UNI OF QLD Vs NEWMARKET | 3-3 | TARINGA ROVERS | Vs ALBANY CREEK |
| THE GAP | | 3- 3 4- 1 | NEWMARKET | VS ALDANT CREEK |
| EASTERN SÚBS | Vs MITCHELTON | 4- 1 | MITCHELTON | Vs BRISBANE LIONS |
| SEMI PRO DIV 1 NOR | | 0.0 | CAPALABA | Vs THE GAP |
| ALBANY CREEK | Vs UNI OF QLD | 2-6 | ACACIA RIDGE | Vs NORTH STAR |
| EASTERN SUBS | Vs MITCHELTON | 0-2 | | VS NORTH STAR |
| THE GAP | Vs NEWMARKET | 6-0 | AMATEUR DIV 5 | |
| GRANGE THISTLE | Vs PINE RIVERS UTD | 2-0 | SOUTHS UTD | Vs BRISBANE CITY |
| SEMI PRO DIV 1 NOR | | | PINE RIVERS UTD | Vs WYNNUM |
| ALBANY CREEK | Vs UNI OF QLD | 3-0 | IPSW KNIGHTS | Vs GRANGE THISTLE Vs ALBANY CREEK |
| EASTERN SUBS | Vs MITCHELTON | 2-2 | SAMFORD | |
| THE GAP | Vs NEWMARKET | 6-1 | MT GRAVATT | Vs SLACKS CREEK Vs UNI OF QLD |
| GRANGE THISTLE | Vs PINE RIVERS UTD | 0-12 | CAPALABA | VS UNI OF QLD |
| SEMI PRO DIV 1 SOU | TH and the second second | | AMATEUR DIV 6 | |
| TOOWOOMBA UTD | Vs CAPALABA | 3-0 | BRISBANE LIONS | Vs NORTH STAR |
| SLACKS CREEK | Vs INALA CITY | 1-2 | REDLANDS UTD | Vs UNI OF QLD |
| ROCKLEA UTD | Vs OLYMPIC UTD | 4-1 | CAPALABA | Vs QLD UNIVERSITY |
| REDLANDS UTD | Vs SOUTHS UTD | 2-4 | NEWMARKET | Vs BEENLEIGH |
| SEMI PRO DIV 1 SOUT | TH RES | | TARINGA ROVERS | Vs IPSW KNIGHTS |
| TOOWOOMBA UTD | Vs CAPALABA | 5-0 | ANNERLEY | Vs EASTERN SUBS |
| SLACKS CREEK | Vs INALA CITY | 5-1 | (C | |
| ROCKLEA UTD | Vs OLYMPIC UTD | 4-3 | Next | Week's Premier |
| REDLANDS UTD | Vs SOUTHS UTD | 3- 3 | | |
| SEMI PRO DIV 1 SOUT | TH YOUTH | | Led | gue Matches |
| TOOWOOMBA UTD | Vs CAPALABA | 10 | | ROUND 6 |
| SLACKS CREEK | Vs INALA CITY | 1-4 | Friday April | 3 |
| ROCKLEA UTD | Vs OLYMPIC UTD | 1-1 | Beenleigh | v Ipswich Knights |
| REDLANDS UTD | Vs SOUTHS UTD | 1-5 | 7 20nm - Ch | ris Green Park |
| AMATEUR DIV 1 | | | | |
| MOGGILL UTD | Vs S'SIDE EAGLES | 2-1 | Saturday Ap | |
| ANNERLEY | Vs NORTH PINE | 3-0 | Bundaberg | v Brisbane City |
| GOODNA | Vs BROTHERS UTD | 3-2 | 7.00pm - Th | abeban Sports Complex |
| DARRA UTD | Vs LATROBE | 2-2 | Sunday April | 15 |
| SOUTH STAR | Vs REDCLIFFE | 4-2 | | |
| AMATEUR DIV 1 RES | TO REDUCTITE | 7 2 | Brisbane Lio | ns v Wynnum District |
| | | 0-2 | 2.45pm - Lio | nis olaninii |
| MOGGILL UTD | Vs S'SIDE EAGLES Vs NORTH PINE | 2-3 | Gold Coast C | ity v Taringa Rovers |
| ANNERLEY | | 2-3 0-3 | 2.45pm - Gle | ennon Park |
| GOODNA | Vs BROTHERS UTD | 12-0 | Mount Grava | |
| DARRA UTD | Vs LATROBE | 4-4 | | |
| MARGATE | Vs BAYSIDE UTD | 4-4 | 2.45pm - Dit | |
| SOUTH STAR | Vs REDCLIFFE | 1-4 | | |

THE XXXX REPORT

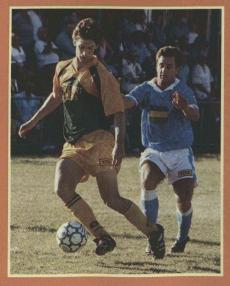
| BEENLEIGH 1 v TARINGA SCORERS MAN OF THE MATCH Beenleigh: Stowers, Hinton (Lpscombe Taringa: | ROVERS 3 (1-1) at Chris Green Park Beenleigh - Alan Spiers Taringa Rovers - Richard Hilli 2, Robert Laslo Richard Hilli (Taringa Rovers) Roche, Jones, Preston, Druery (Kalic), Galloway, Ditton, Austin,), Spiers, Eacott. Higgins, Slaughter, Guyett, Theochari, Matula (Bakker), Laslo, Hilli, Allan, Robertson, McDermott, Hughes. |
|---|--|
| SCORERS MAN OF THE MATCH Bundaberg: | WYNNUM DISTRICT 1 (3-0) at Thabeban Sports Complex Bundaberg Waves - Stephen Mack 2, Nathan Maas, Chris Wilson Wynnum District - Ben Wood Stephen Mack (Bundaberg Waves) Bainbridge, J Giovannoni, Donnison, Wilson, Madigi, Hawkins M Giovannoni), Maas, T Giovannoni, Mack. Tatton, Davidson, T McKinless (Alaru), Adair, Gilroy, P Wilkins, McDermott (R McKinless), Rogers (Popplewell) Grundy, Wood, M Wilkins (R McKinless). |
| SCORER MAN OF THE MATCH Gold Coast: | ISBANE LIONS 0 (0-0) at Glennon Park Gold Coast City - Brett Adams Brett Adams (Gold Coast City) Simpson, Protuder (Flack), Richardson, Wood, Adams, Phelan, Stevenson (Elliott), Vernon (Adams). Farrow, Jackson, Worroll, Geritz, Hillier, Mengotti (Brown), Watson, Rogers, Brockwell, Flemington (Cannon), Tuck. |
| SCORERS MAN OF THE MATCH Mount Gravatt: | VE CITY 2 (0-0) at Dittmer Park Brisbane City - Warren Cooley (pen), Chris Slater Mark Bland (Mt Gravatt) Bland, Cox, Pryor, Georgiou (McCulloch), Gosney, Ferguson, orris), Collins, Roche, Carter. Duke, Voss, Bennett (Tune), Strange, Elliott, Haddow (Anderson), Wilkinson, Slater, Waugh, Jenkins, Cooley. |
| IPSWICH KNIGHTS 3 v RO SCORERS MAN OF THE MATCH Ipswich: Clark, Conquest (Stenzel), N Rochedale: | CHEDALE ROVERS 1 (2-1) at Eric Evans Reserve Ipswich Knights - Peter Vogler, Pat Boyle, John Clark Rochedale Rovers - Michael Legg Peter Vogler (Ipswich Knights) Smith, Seeley, Boyle, Scott, Spence, Jefferd (Guest), Vogler (Brown), AcKendrick, Meacock. Ross, Davidson (Wickstein), Harris, Fitzsimmons (Monement), Pilic (Koch), Legg, Evans, Kolpak (Wickstein), Brattan, Koch, Lane. |



ACTION REPLAY

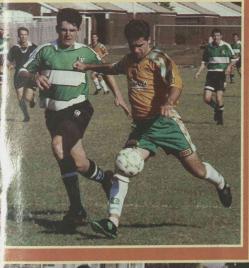


Brisbane City maintained their unblemished record last weekend against Mt Gravatt, running out the victors 0-2. City's "Against" column in the tables still reads 0.















Glamour club Rochedale Rovers paid newcomers Ipswich Knights a visit and went home empty handed. The fledgling Knights trounced Rovers 3-0 giving the home side a well earned 3 points victory.





| 16 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| NORTH PINE | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 5 | 9 | TARINGA ROVERS | 3 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 6 |
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| SOUTH STAR | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 10 | 0 | ALBANY CREEK | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 13 | 0 |
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| CLAIRVAUX | 3 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 6 | 2 | IPSW KNIGHTS | 3 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 8 | 3 | 6 |
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18

SOUTHERN SEMIPROS AND CONS

Crawford buoyed by win

Buoyed by a 2-1 victory over Slacks Creek at the weekend, Inala must now back up to take on a sizzling Rocklea United.

But Inala coach Derek Crawford is not too concerned. He is still basking in the glory of his side's first league victory this season and his first as a coach.

"I'm very relieved," said Crawford. "It was imperative we got a win last weekend away from home and I think it has probably quietened a few people down back at the club.

Crawford was pleased his side answered his call for greater commitment in the best possible way, to bounce back from a humiliating 5-0 loss the previous week.

"The level of commitment and the spirit shown by the boys was great," the Inala coach said.

"The general attitude of the players was a thousand per cent on the previous week and I believe that was the main reason we came away with the win."

Crawford is hoping the side will maintain that same level of commitment this Sunday when they host the in-form Rocklea United.

The Inala coach is not getting carried away and knows that a win against their neighbours would be classed as a major upset.

"They're a very good side and these clashes have traditionally been a bit spiteful," the Inala coach said.

"It'll be a real battle but if we play like we did last week and take full toll of our chances, I'm sure we can come away with the three points."

Adding weight to Crawford's optimism is the return of striker Jason Keepance and the possibility of re-signing discarded Ipswich Knights player Brett Wilkinson. "He's an old Inala boy and I've already had talks with him," Crawford said. "So at this stage I've got my fingers crossed that he'll return to the club."

Tough time ahead for Creek

Capalaba is eager to bounce back from last weekend's disturbing 3-0 loss to Toowoomba, with victory against the struggling Slacks Creek outfit.

The Bulldogs are still seething about their loss to Toowoomba, and despite travelling up the Range without skipper Mark Curran (hamstring) and striker Gavin Wright (knee), coach Allan Prentice has little doubt as to where the game was lost.

"We were well on top in the first half and the score was actually 0-0 for about the first 70 minutes, but then the referee awarded what I thought was a disgraceful penalty," the Capalaba coach said.

"That changed the complexion of the game completely. We opened up in search of an equaliser and they scored another two late in the match.

"Three-nil certainly wasn't a true reflection of the game. We were so disappointed with the outcome that the club's decided to put in an official complaint about the referee."

And it's not the first time Toowoomba referees have been questioned. In the past many clubs have had gripes with the local referees in the Garden City.

Prentice believes the circumstances surrounding the loss have encouraged his side to play mistake free football this weekend against Slacks Creek.

"The guys are certainly pumped up for this weekend's game because they feel they were robbed in Toowoomba," Prentice said.

"You could see the disappointment on their

SOUTHERN SEMIPROS AND CONS

faces... they were absolutely gutted."

Prentice is confident he'll have Wright and Curran back in the squad this weekend and he believes Slacks Creek could be in for a tough time.

Ridge in search of an upset

Two crushing defeats in as many weeks will be enough motivation for Acacia Ridge to pull of an upset result this Sunday against Toowoomba, according to Ridge coach Frank Campbell.

The Ridge lost their last league match to Capalaba 4-0 and went down 5-1 to North Star in an Ansett Cup fixture last weekend.

And while Campbell agrees those results combined with Toowoomba's impressive early form, undoubtedly place Toowoomba as red hot favourites, he also thinks that line of thinking might bring about the leaders' downfall this weekend.

"I don't think Toowoomba will be able to help but be a touch complacent this weekend," Campbell said.

"We're coming off two hefty losses and they just won the top of the table clash against Capalaba by three goals to nil."

But the boys from the Range have little to be complacent about when it comes to sides from Acacia Ridge.

Last year the Ridge held them to a draw in Toowoomba and then defeated the Premiers 2-1 when they made the trip to Brisbane.

"Maybe we're their jinx team," Campbell said.

But Campbell knows those results will count for nothing come Sunday and he's hoping his young side will be up to the task when they take on the competition high-flyers this time round.

"We've got two or three players out, but

there's still a lot of enthusiasm in the side and that could be enough to spring an upset."

Redlands after solitary point

Redlands United coach Eric Thompson is anticipating a tough encounter when his side visits Olympic this weekend.

Thompson's side had a disappointing 4-2 loss to Souths United last weekend and the coach is not yet fully over it.

"Last week was very disappointing," Thompson said.

"We were right in the game at two all and then the referee sent one of our boys off with 25 minutes to go, and from there it was always going to be a battle."

Souths knocked in two more goals in the closing stages of the game, but Thompson believes the spectacle was ruined once Charlie van-de Bosch was sent from the field.

And with van-de Bosch out of the defensive line for this weekend's clash with Olympic, Thompson's defensive stocks have been depleted even further.

"We're really short at the back and I really need the likes of Darren Parson and Craig Newell fit and back on the park," Thompson said.

"They are the heart of our defence and until we get them back on the field, we could struggle."

Thompson said he would not be going into the match against Olympic with any major expectations.

"We'll be approaching this much with a view to come away with a point," the Redlands coach said.

"If we play well and get another two points then that's fantastic. I realise that's a touch negative but the bottom line is that we must start securing some competition points."

WOMENS WRAP

20

by Toni Slater

While the newly formed Soccer Australia Referees Brisbane (SARB) is being hailed as a saviour in some circles, in the lower divisions of women's competition the positive effect remains to be seen.

Perhaps we'll start referring to them as the Secret Association of Referees Brisbane, because some teams are yet to see evidence of their existence.

It is unfortunate that some of these games haven't seen an official all season.

It's unfortunate because spectators and coaches are left holding the whistle.

Coaches in these divisions give up two nights in their week and at least half a day on their weekends to coach teams.

The irony here is that the members of SARB get paid to do their job.

I've complained about this before in *Eye on Soccer* and what was supposed to be the answer obviously isn't.

And so the question remains, what needs to be done to solve this problem?

Whatever the answer is it needs to be found fast and just because you don't play in the top three or four divisions of soccer, doesn't reduce your right to have an official in control.

The Premier League competition's first round is well underway with some interesting results.

Premiers of the 1997 season QAS seem to be off to a slow start with their winning margins not what would have been expected. QAS, traditionally a strong team, has lost a few of its older players due to age restrictions and seem to be missing their edge. Their goals for and against columns shows this and their progress from here will be interesting to follow.

Another surprise slow starter is The Gap. Having won only one game from three, The Gap is currently sitting in sixth place, a position I'm



North Queensland player Megan Bond is making an impression in the QAS side this season

sure they'll be fighting to increase. They take on the University of Queensland this weekend at home and it should make for an interesting match given their recent form.

Newcomers Ipswich Knights are certainly holding their own and Toowoomba aren't far away.

Team's playing in the Atlanta Cup - take heart. We'll endeavour to print all the competition tables once the first round starts so you can remain updated with your position on a weekly basis.

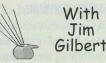
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| IPSW KNIGHTS | 3 | 3 | - | - | 9 | 4 | 9 | |
| QAS | 3 | 2 | 1 | - | 2 | 1 | 6 | |
| TOOWOOMBA | 3 | 2 | 1 | - | 8 | 10 | 6 | |
| THE GAP | 3 | 1 | 2 | | 5 | 4 | 3 | |
| UNI OF QLD | 3 | 1 | 2 | - | 3 | 11 | 3 | |
| NEWMARKET | 3 | ÷. | 3 | - | 0 | 3 | 0 | |
| REDLANDS | 3 | | 3 | -9 | 3 | 11 | 0 | |
| SLACKS CREEK | 3 | | 3 | - | 4 | 20 | 0 | |
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| | | | | | | | | |
| PREMIER RESERVES | Р | W | L | D | F | A | Р | |
| PREMIER RESERVES | P 3 | W 3 | L - | D | F 12 | A 3 | P 9 | |
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| QUT | 3 | 3 | L - - 1 | - | 12 | 3 | 9 | |
| QUT IPSW KNIGHTS | 3 3 | 3 3 | - | - | 12 10 | 3 4 | 9 9 | |
| QUT IPSW KNIGHTS QAS | 3 3 3 | 3 3 2 | - 1 | - | 12 10 13 | 3 4 7 | 9 9 6 | |
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| QUT IPSW KNIGHTS QAS TOOWOOMBA EAST/MT GRAVATT | 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 | 3 3 2 2 2 2 | - - 1 1 1 | | 12 10 13 18 11 | 3 4 7 4 6 | 9 9 6 6 | |
| QUT IPSW KNIGHTS QAS TOOWOOMBA EAST/MT GRAVATT THE GAP | 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 | 3 3 2 2 2 1 | - 1 1 1 2 | | 12 10 13 18 11 18 | 3 4 7 4 6 11 | 9 9 6 6 3 | |
| QUT IPSW KNIGHTS QAS TOOWOOMBA EAST/MT GRAVATT THE GAP UNI OF QLD | 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 | 3 3 2 2 2 1 1 | - - 1 1 1 2 2 | | 12 10 13 18 11 18 11 18 1 | 3 4 7 4 6 11 3 | 9 9 6 6 3 3 | |

BEFORE THE WHISTLE

Cup football is well and truly in the air at the moment, World Cup fever hasn't exactly reached fever pitch as yet, but come May the bets will really be on. In the FA Cup we are down to Semi Finals and what a mixed bag they are with both Premier League and Nationwide league clubs still in with a shout.

On the local scene our new "FA Cup style" Oueensland Cup gets underway with midweek matches next Tuesday and Wednesday involving the top team from the Amateur Divisions and Semi Pro Division 1's, it will be most interesting to see the results! It has been a little disturbing to hear around the traps that some clubs are already talking about "giving their youth a go". I can understand the aspect of trying some of their up and coming players out, but when everybody has been calling for some time to have an open FA Cup style of competition, and when you consider that prizemoney is up for grabs in every single round, the attitude is puzzling to say the least. Still there is tremendous incentive for some of the "lower graded" teams from the Amateurs to go out with heaps of incentive to roll over their big brother neighbours.

Interesting to compare notes in some of our Reserve grade teams from last year and current form. In the Semi Pro ranks, Souths United last year finished up stone cold bottom, and here they are four matches into the new season and they are top of the table, the opposite is the case with Albany Creek who won the Premiership last year, at the moment they are propping up the table! In Amateur Division 1, Brothers are doing their club proud with three wins out of three when they have been perennial strugglers in the past, Annerley, who vied for the Premiership in 1997, are languishing in the nether regions, whilst Pine Hills in Division 2 who always traditionally have a strong Reserve grade, have two wins out of three, but just take a look at their goals for and against!



SEMI PRO DIV 1 NORTH

In the Saturday night match, North Star fresh from their big win over Acacia Ridge in the Ansett Cup last week, will be looking to continue their climb up the table at the expense of a disappointing Albany Creek, but I am sure the visitors couldn't possibly be any worse than they were last week, home win. On Sunday highscoring Newmarket are home to neighbours Grange, very difficult to go past a home win in this one, whilst outright leaders Easts pay their first visit of the season to St Lucia, where the students are now on a big high after last week's away win, I still don't think the leaders will falter in this one. The remaining match sees The Gap crossing the Taylor Range over to Mitchelton, where the visitors' defence will be sorely tested, both sides hiccuped last week, but I think the points will probably remain at Teralba Park.

SEMI PRO DIV 1 SOUTH

After only four rounds of fixtures, Toowoomba already have a five point lead at the top of the table, the question obviously will be "who is going to stop the Downs juggernaut". One team who did try last week, was Capalaba who came unstuck, they are home to Slacks Creek, but the home side will get back on track in this one. On Sunday Rocklea make the short trip up the Ipswich motorway to Inala City, where the home side are probably still celebrating their first win of the season last week, somehow I can't see them picking up maximum points in this one, however they may retain one. Acacia Ridge have a daunting task on their hands on Sunday in hosting leaders Toowoomba, and if last week's concession of goals in the Ansett Cup match is any guide, it should be a very happy group heading back to Toowoomba. In the twilight match Olympic are home to Redlands United, with the visitors now suffering their 1997 fate all over again, can't see the Bayside boys picking up any points in this one.

AMATEUR DIVISION 1

Two teams currently jammed in midtable meet on Saturday afternoon with Bayside home to South Star, the visitors now slowing starting to string together some good results, the pitch certainly will not suit them, and for that reason I feel Bayside may steal a point.

Just a short way up the road at Bulimba, Goodna, are the visitors, they picked up an excellent home win last week over highflying Brothers, this will be a different proposition as the Eagles usually are very strong at home, for me the points will remain at Bulimba. At night Margate make the relatively short trip up to Dakabin, and this will be no easy match for them, as North Pine's form at home is usually very solid, for that reason I predict a home win.

On Sunday sole leaders Annerley visit Latrobe, and despite the home side's unbeaten record to date, I still think the leaders will retain their 100% record, at Kangaroo Point, Darra will be paying their first visit, and whilst the visitors picked up a good home point last week, I think this task will be beyond them with Brothers securing maximum points, the final match has western suburbs based Moggill making the long trip down to the Peninsula, where it will be very evenly poised, using my magnetic pin, points to remain on the Peninsula.

AMATEUR DIVISION 2

All matches are on Saturday, with possibly the hardest road to hoe being Ipswich City's trip down to Jimboomba, the home side have certainly piled on the goals of late, and difficult to see Ipswich taking anything out of this one.

Bethania will be looking to pick up their second win of the season at the expense of Park Ridge, it will be close but I think they will do it, similarly Oxley should also pick up their second win of the season at the expense of Archerfield, whilst Greenbank will be very anxious to break their duck with the visit of Clairvaux, however the writing is already on the wall that Clairvaux are about to make their surge up the table, and I think they will continue in this match. In the only night game Samford should consolidate their top half of the table position at the expense of Kingsridge, although Kingsridge, if the desire is strong enough, may steal a point.

AMATEUR DIVISION 3

Two teams level pegging in the points table are Margate and Bayside, with the former hosting the latter on Friday night, whilst Bayside have certainly put away the goals to date, their defence is not quite as sound, home win.

On Saturday afternoon Annerley should pick up their second win of the season after their visit to Oxley, joint leaders North Pine will look to get back on track after Samford have paid a visit, similarly former joint leaders Logan City Kings will have a tough one against Moggill, particularly as Moggill put away nine last week, I still think the points will remain at Meakin Park. In the only match on Sunday I think Mooroondu will continue their climb up the table at the expense of Park Ridge.

AMATEUR DIVISION 4

Very tense at the top of the table in this Division, with one of the joint leaders Capalaba making the trip to Richlands where I think they will be eminently successful. Slacks Creek host Mitchelton, and despite the visitors' big win last week, I still think the points will remain at Usher Park, remaining Friday night match will be much more closely contested between North Star and Newmarket, with neither side having a win to their credit as yet, visitors the tip.

On Saturday Taringa should continue their climb up the table at the expense of Easts, Ipswich Knights similarly, should rejoice in their visit to The Gap, whilst on Sunday afternoon Albany Creek will be looking to remove themselves from the bottom of the table with maximum points over Acacia Ridge.

It is not beyond them, but with a little extra effort I am sure they can do it.

AMATEUR DIVISION 5

Two undefeated teams meet on Friday night at Wynnum with leaders Ipswich Knights as the visitors, the home side's defence, yet to concede a goal, will be sorely tested, whatever the score, I think the points will remain with the hosts, in another night game Slacks Creek entertain Capalaba and again the points should remain with the hosts, but it should be a win on the road for Mt Gravatt after they have visited Spencer Park. On Saturday University should keep maximum points from visitors Pine Rivers.

On Sunday Souths United will continue their surge for top spot at the expense of Albany Creek, whilst Grange, despite last week's hiccup, should also pick up maximum over visitors Samford.

AMATEUR DIVISION 6

In the first of the Friday night games, near neighbours Ipswich and Lions do battle at Bundamba, where I tend to feel the points will remain, Redlands may pick up their second win of the season after their visit to Beenleigh, whilst Newmarket will be looking for a similar result after their visit to North Star. win of the season should relish it, as I don't think they will be as successful this week after Taringa have paid a visit, in the other Saturday game it's a battle royal of the remaining two leaders in this division with University home to Capalaba, there won't be much in it, but I think it will be a narrow win to the visitors. The remaining match is on Sunday afternoon between Queensland Uni and Annerley where this time I think the students will be successful.

ANSETT CUP ROUND 1, (First Leg)

Results to date are as follows: Rocklea 3 v The Gap 1

| University 0 v | Capalaba 0 |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Grange Thistle 3 v | Redlands 0 |
| North Star 5 v | Acacia Ridge |

On Saturday Easts, having secured their first

Roses and Raspberries by Aub Server

- 1. First roses to Mark Bosnich (Aston Villa) for stating publicly (on Channel 7) that Terry Venables must declare himself either for Crystal Palace or Australia. Each is a full day and night job.
- 2. First raspberry. In March 5 edition of *Eye On Soccer* (page 21 "Before the Whistle") the first paragraph must have lost something in the translation! In the now famous words of a local would-be politician: Please explain!
- Roses to the youngsters from Wynnum and Mt Gravatt who were oh so keen to change the 0-0 on the scoreboard when they two Premier League teams clashed earlier this month at Dittmer Park.
- Raspberries to all those clubs who do not have a scoreboard. Big ones to those who have them but fail to use them.
- 5. Roses to young Julie from Aub's favourite Newsagency for going out of her way to get the current match list for this weekend's pools.
- 6. Raspberries for Brent Read (See Vol 7-2 *Eye On Soccer* page 26). Mt Gravatt's coach Steve Faulkner was only chasing Brent down the Lions tunnel to put his \$1 on. I was right behind him. 2,000,000 to 1 too cheap to miss!
- 7. Raspberries to the *Sunday Mail* 15 March for not even mentioning the results of the two Premier League matches played on Saturday and Big Raspberries to the *Courier Mail* Monday 16 March for not finding space for brief reports on the other three games in Queensland's top division.
- 8. Finally Roses to Yellow Cabs for the 1998 Premier League fixture cards.

NORTHERN SEMIPROS AND CONS Mitchy coach Stars to keep not deterred

Last week's 4-1 thumping at the hands of **Eastern Suburbs has not deterred Mitchelton** coach Iain Fagan, in his hunt for three more competition points against The Gap on Sunday.

The Mitchy coach believes last weekend's scoreline flattered the home side, but it was a game that his younger players could learn a lot from. .

"We killed them in the first half but they turned it around in the second and we fell in a hole," Fagan said.

"We made some basic errors in the second half and although we created several clear cut chances late in the game, we weren't decisive enough in front of goal."

Mitchelton's problems were compounded last week by the absence of three key players, including Paul Bland and striker Lee Scriggins.

And although Fagan isn't using that as an excuse, he does believe their inclusion in this week's squad will give the side a bit more balance.

Fagan is also looking to introduce new signing Shaun Armstrong this week, although the Mitchy coach is undecided on who the former XXXX league defender would replace.

Fagan said he was expecting a tough encounter this weekend against a Gap side full of XXXX League experience, but he remains positive about his side's prospects.

"I think if we can improve on the little things that went wrong last week, we'll be hard to beat this weekend," Fagan said.

"We played some great football against Easts and I think if we can maintain our composure and be more decisive in front of goal, we'll be fine."

their winning way

A resurgent North Star outfit is keen to keep their winning momentum going when they host Albany Creek this Saturday night.

The young North Star side has won its last two matches away from home ... a 2-1 win over the University of Queensland and a 5-1 Ansett Cup victory over Acacia Ridge renewing confidence within the club.

"We didn't play all that well against Uni but last weekend's result was particularly pleasing because the whole side played very well," Team Manager Don Eltherington said.

"And although everyone contributed, Shane Brown stood out in defence and the midfield really took control of the game."

That midfield dominance pleased the North Star hierarchy, who had a few concerns with Simon Eslick still out of action with a knee injury.

But despite the two victories, Eltherington is reluctant to say the side has reached a turning point in its 1998 campaign.

"I think it's too early to say that," Eltherington said. "I believe this weekend's game against Albany Creek will give us a better measure of how we'll go this season.

"It's still only early days but I think if we can get a result against Albany Creek other teams will begin to take notice of us again."

Albany Creek have been a bogey side for North Star in the past though. The Creek defeated the boys from Zillmere in both league matches and the preliminary final last year.

"Apart from that they're also coming off a surprise loss to Uni, so I think they'll be pretty fired up," Eltherington said.

"But we'll be concentrating on our game and looking to eliminate some of the mistakes that are still present in our game."

NORTHERN SEMIPROS AND CONS Changes ahead | Coach praises for Newmarket players

Newmarket coach Peter Carey is set to reshuffle his side and make several changes following last weekend's 3-3 draw at The Gap.

While most would be happy to take a point away from The Gap, Carey was disappointed with his side after they squandered a 3-1 lead with just ten minutes remaining.

"I wasn't real happy about the result," Carey said. "At 3-1 up we should've taken three points but a couple of defensive mix ups at the end let them back into it."

And it looks as though those mix ups will cost several players their places for Sunday's match against Grange Thistle.

The Newmarket coach is almost certain to bring Anthony Toby back into the defensive line, but he'll also have to reshuffle his side because of several injuries and the suspension of midfielder John Muir.

"We've got a few injury problems but it shouldn't be a problem mixing the boys around a little," Carey said.

"But the biggest thing I'll be drilling into the side this week is that we must play for the entire 90 minutes.

"Last week we played for 80 and it cost us two competition points. In a league as tight as this one you just can't afford to be giving points away like that."

Carey is confident the team will collect three points this weekend against a Grange outfit which is yet to impress this season.

"It's a game we really should win," he said. "There's a real question mark over Thistle's depth and I'd expect to take the three points given that we're playing at home."

Following their upset 1-0 win over Albany

Creek, the University of Queensland is confident of springing another upset against league leaders Eastern Suburbs this Sunday.

Uni coach Keith Officer heaped praise over his players after last week's away win against Albany Creek and he believes that victory could be a turning point for his side.

"We went to Albany Creek with a very positive attitude and I thought we did extremely well to get the three points," Officer said.

"It's no secret that we won the game in midfield, but after we scored the goal, they came back at us strongly and the guys had to dig extremely deep to come away with the win.

"There's not going to be too many teams that win at Albany Creek and I believe that victory could be the boost we need for the rest of the season."

Officer admits this Sunday's game against Easts will be equally as hard if not tougher.

"They'll be a very difficult side to cope with because they've attracted some very big signings," Officer said.

"But I think their result against Mitchelton last week was possibly a little exaggerated because I believe Mitchy are a different side without Lee Scriggins."

The Uni coach is not concerned about some of the Tigers big names. He remains confident his side can take the points with the midfielders leading the way.

"I've got every confidence in the lads because they themselves want to do well," he said.

"Again I think we'll springboard from midfield. If we can play good football there and present composed ball into the attacking third, then I think we can upset the likes of Easts."



News that the Brisbane Strikers may be relying on XXXX Premier League talent to fill out its squad for next season should be music to the ears of local players.

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With a host of Strikers players coming off contract and the Strikers not exactly overendowed with cash, coach Frank Farina knows he needs to scour the local ranks for players.

The questions is - how many XXXX Premier League players have the potential to make an impact in the national league.

There's a lot that goes in to making a national league footballer. Natural ability isn't enough.

The player must be able to adapt to increased training loads.

Players must do training on their own, continually work on their skills and fitness and have an unbending faith in their own ability.

There's so many good young players who never kick on to higher honours, either because they wasted their talent or got found out.

Give me a player who had to bite and scratch to get to the top any day. The ones who have had a cushy ride are generally soft, no ticker.

When the heat is on and you want someone in the trenches, they'll generally look for the nearest exit sign.

Brisbane Broncos coach Wayne Bennett once said, "If you're good at something, anything, you have to be confident in yourself".

He also said "when a winner fails he trains harder while a loser blames others. When a winner makes a mistake he says I was wrong. A loser says it wasn't my fault."

The great players are all confident. If you don't have faith in your own abilities, how are your teammates supposed to believe in you.



With

Brent Read

But there's a fine line between confidence and arrogance. The great players acknowledge their faults and seek to rectify them.

The arrogant player doesn't last long. He'll eventually get found out and alienate the wrong people.

Arrogance generally hides an underlying lack of confidence. It's a cover-up. Sometimes confidence and arrogance can be mixed up, misconstrued.

But players must always back themselves. The good players want the hard jobs, look forward to taking on the best player the opposition can put on the park.

They look forward to the big games. They thrive on the pressure. Usually, they lift their game, find another notch.

And this year, every player in the XXXX Premier League has a chance to push their claims for higher honours.

It's the chance of a lifetime. Like my father always said "you're one game away from your next level up and one game away from your next level down".

So go out there and play every game like it's your last. It could be the one that catches Farina's eye.

