

Strike Force

NSL Round 34, May 7, 2000

\$2

STRIKERS V's Gippsland Falcons

Gippsland Preview

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Celebrate
with the
Strikers

Page 4



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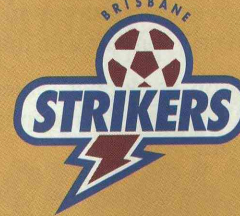
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Directors: Clem Jones AO, Ray Evans,
 and Del Townsend.

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 Perry Park, Abbotsford Rd.
 Mayne Queensland 4006
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Coach: John Kosmina
 Ph: (07) 3252 5327 Fax: (07) 3252 1137

Team Manager: Ian Dalzell
 Football Manager: Jack Baren
 Team Physician: Dr Peter Hackney
 Physiotherapist: Steven Whitlock
 Goalkeeping Coach: Martin Coe
 Trainers: Graham Kinsela & Stan Skubis

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FRONT COVER: Strikers defender and captain
 Stuart McLaren applies pressure to an
 opposition player during the team's last match
 at Suncorp Metway Stadium.

MAJOR SPONSOR



It has been a long time coming but we are playing our last game this season and though we haven't made the finals we'll be doing our best to finish on winning note. After all that's what we do - play to win! Is there any other way?

I would take this opportunity to thank the players for their efforts this season. We fought the good fight and went down fighting to the end. Along the way we played some fantastic football and it's a credit to the players that we achieved so much when so little was predicted and even expected. We have built a foundation for the future and we have the nucleus of a very balanced and competitive team for next season. I guess we can look back and pick the eyes out of different games and say "if only", but the simple fact is that we had enough chances to get the required result and didn't take them. We have set a standard though and next season we'll have to improve on that standard. We'll be back with a little more experience and a lot more "killer instinct". A little more ruthlessness. All of us.

I would also like to thank all the supporters and sponsors who have stuck by us through thick and thin. Your faith has been very much appreciated and I thank you sincerely. The club and the team need you and we'll be doing our future best to reward your loyalty with success on the park. To all the support the support staff and my co-workers at the Strikers I thank you. I said last in the programme that we have some very special people involved at the sharp edge of this club and I meant it. We have a wonderful family here and it's because of the selflessness of people like Ray Evans, Jane Hardley & Derryn Humphries, not to mention all the volunteers who devote countless hours more than they should to make things happen. Clubs don't survive without people like you and your friendship and support are very much appreciated. A final word of acknowledgement for the players' wives and girlfriends and in particular my partner Aly. The old saying about behind every good man is a good woman is very true. You all have a lot to put up with being a "football widow" and are an important part of a player's (and coach's) life you are.

See you all next season. Enjoy the game, Kossie.

FA CUP CHALLENGE

The Brisbane Strikers and the Queensland Soccer Club would like to invite you to watch the FA Cup on the BIG screen.

At
Strikers Social Club
Perry Park
Abbotsford Rd
Mayne

20th May 2000
12pm - 2am

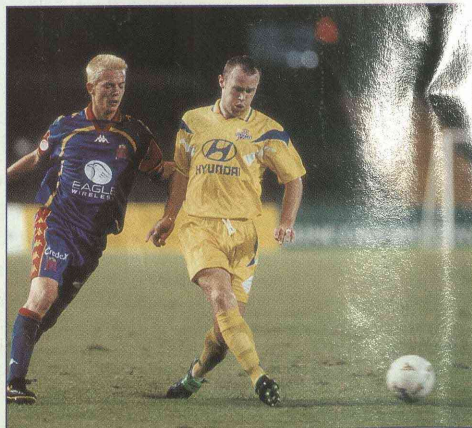
Chelsea Vs Aston Villa

See ya' next year Stuey

We look forward to seeing Strikers captain Stuart McLaren in action next season as he recently signed a new contract with the club.

In his first season as skipper, Stuey has impressed everyone with his maturity and leadership qualities.

He is set to be the cornerstone of future Strikers assaults on the National Soccer League title and the mainstay of our defence.



LAST GAME CELEBRATION

Dear Supporters

On behalf of the players and staff at the Brisbane Strikers we would like to invite you all back to Perry Park after tonight's game Vs Gippsland Falcons from 7pm -10:30pm to celebrate the end of the 99/00 season and for your chance to personally thank the players for a great season.



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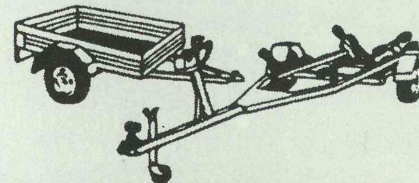
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Stand Up Strikers & Take a Bow - We Are Proud of You

Well done Brisbane Strikers. What a fantastic achievement to keep hopes alive until the penultimate game of the season!

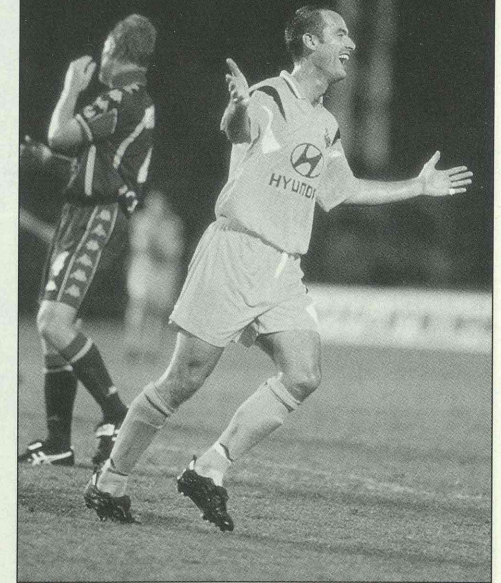
Considering the difficult circumstances and the "wooden spoon" expectations of those so called experts at the beginning of the season, it has been a great performance - you must be tired.

Thanks for the great entertainment, the excitement and for bringing top class Aussie soccer to Brisbane. We are proud of you and what you have achieved!

Thank you also for joining in the activities we have organised - the Caxton Street Festival, the away game viewings at the Queensland Soccer Club and the pool night.

It is great to have you interacting with the fans and to be able to discuss the game and associated issues with you.

Paul Foster has had a marvellous season in front of goal



BSSA Membership Drive Winner

Today at half time the winner of the Club Crocodile prize for those who have joined the BSSA before the end of April will be announced.

Club Crocodile, sponsors for the Brisbane Strikers, have kindly donated a holiday - 5 nights for 2 at Club Crocodile Airlie Beach.

And there is a second prize of a huge block of Cadbury chocolate!

The BSSA Supporters Player of the Year (yes - we know it should be of the Season) will be announced on May 13, 2000 at the Queensland Soccer Club Birthday Party.

There will also be the first general meeting of the BSSA at 12.30pm, just as the party starts.

And you can pick up the couvenir edition of the Free Kick for 99-00 and start collecting autographs.

During the off season, the BSSA will be working hard, and looks forward to being involved with the Strikers in planning for next season. Have your say by joining the BSSA. Come to the QSC irthday party and sign up then.

Congratulations to all the loyal supporters who stayed through the difficult times this season. You have chosen your team well.

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Match Preview

Tonight's clash between the Brisbane Strikers and the Gippsland Falcons is one of those games that all teams want to win.

It is the final match for both sides in what has been a long season full of highs and of course, the mandatory lows.

The Strikers go into this game desperate to leave Suncorp Metway Stadium and their devoted fans on a winning note in season 99/00.

But the side is under no illusions that tonight's game will prove a hard-fought affair with the Falcons proving somewhat of a bogey side for the Strikers this season.

And according to coach John Kosmina, revenge will certainly be on the minds of the Strikers players when they take the field this evening.

"They (Gippsland) took six points off us when in football terms, I firmly believe we were the better side," he said.

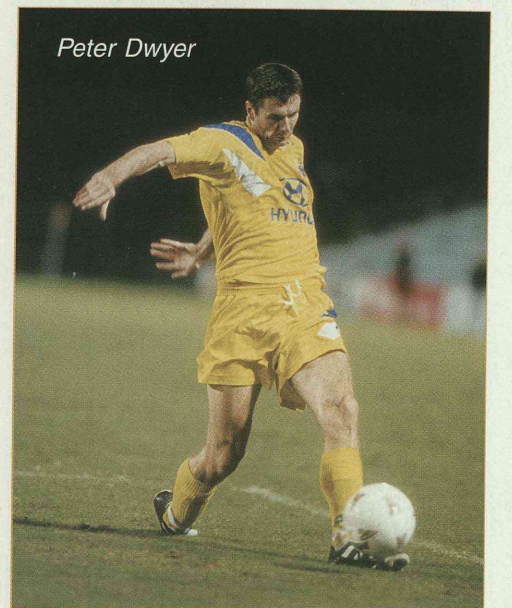
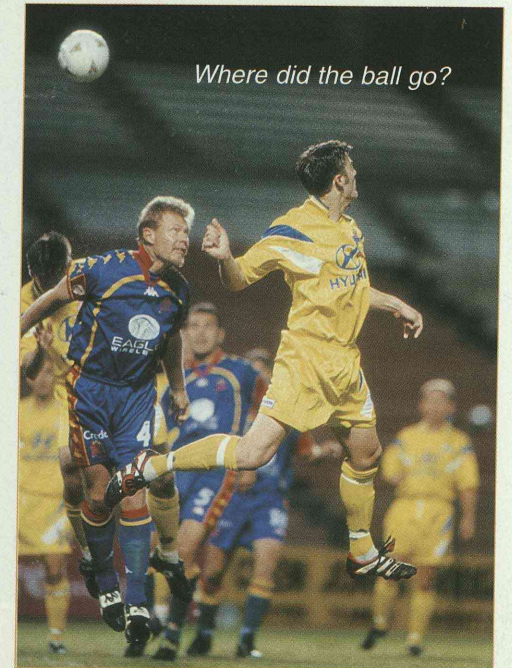
"They beat us in our first two encounters early in the season by the odd goal and proved extremely difficult to break down.

"I really take my hat off to their coaching staff because they have managed to get results with limited resources.

"We've got to go out on the park and play our natural game and I'm confident we can finish off the season with a win."

Kosmina said while it was disappointing to miss out on a place in the finals, he believed there were many positive aspects to be gained from the season.

"All the players will benefit from the experiences of this season, and given that the club is likely to maintain the majority of its current playing list for next season, the future looks bright."



Talking Tactics

with Kossie

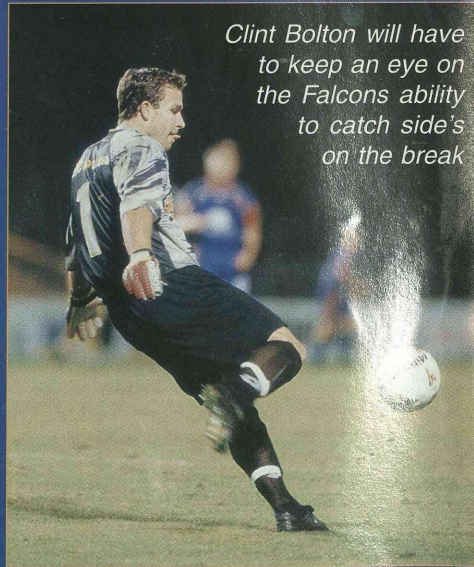
The Gippsland Falcons are an extremely difficult side to play against as they play a brand of football that can frustrate even the most patient of outfits.

They're a solid side and have some good players in their ranks like Andy Vargas, Brian MacNichol and Mehmed Durakovic.

They cause a lot of problems for opposing teams because they manage to get a lot of players behind the ball when defending.

It can be extremely frustrating as we found out in Rounds 11 and 16 respectively when the Falcons took maximum points off us.

Their midfield is very busy and their attack is good enough to catch opposition defences on the break.



Clint Bolton will have to keep an eye on the Falcons ability to catch side's on the break

WHO'S HOT

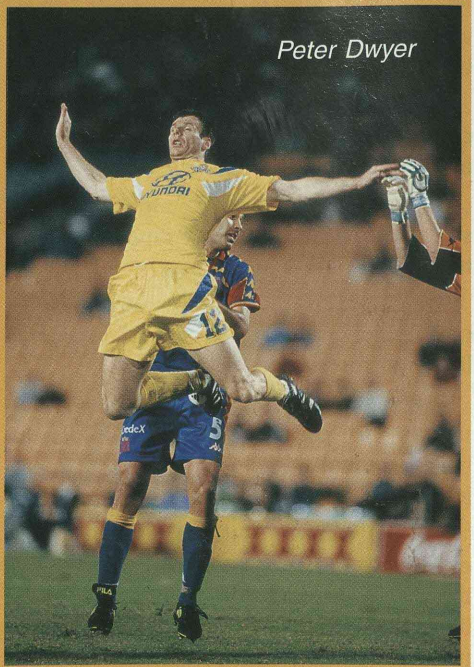
Peter Dwyer is living proof that age should not be considered a barrier.

At 34 years of age, and while many of peers hung the boots up a few seasons ago, Peter is producing some of the best form of his career.

Possessing a devastating left boot, Peter's efforts on the left-hand side of the pitch this season have been breathtaking at times.

He has consistently proven an asset to the team and displays a good blend of pace and experience.

With one season to run on his current playing contract, Strikers fans will have the opportunity to watch him in action next season and who knows, perhaps for a few years to come.



Peter Dwyer

Stuey's Say

Thirty-three games gone and unfortunately just one to go. Season 99/00 began with much promise but ultimately it has finished with the Strikers failing to reach our goal of taking part in the final series. The reason behind this failure will I'm sure be the topic of much debate amongst players, coaches, staff and supporters in the coming weeks. But instead of dwelling on the past we must look positively towards the future whilst making sure the lessons have been learned from this yo-yoing season.

The players are definitely looking forward to the commencement of season 2000/01. The fact that after a much needed rest (particularly for the lads who joined us from the XXXX league) the majority of this seasons squad will certainly appear at pre-season training is the most important reason for the feelings of excitement and anticipation in the dressing room. The minority of the players (those not presently committed to the club for the rest of the season) are currently in negotiations over new contracts and everyone, including the rest of the players, is hoping we will see them in a Strikers jersey next season.

Having Kossie re-sign for a further 2 years is another step in the right direction for the Strikers. The squad he has put together on an extremely limited budget has proved that it is more than capable of matching it with any team in the league. If he is now allowed the luxury of adding a couple of quality players to the squad, instead of having to put together an entirely new one, then we must have a more than decent chance of success next season. The players currently at the club know what to expect from Kossie and are comfortable with him. That kind of

stability can only be good for the team and ultimately the club.

Now that just leaves off field activities to discuss. Obviously this is not my area of expertise so I will not go into great detail in this column. I will say though that the club must act swiftly and decisively during the off-season to lift the profile of the Strikers, to attract more people through the turnstiles and in turn more support from the corporate sector. This is something that the people in the relevant positions have identified I am sure, and I have every confidence they will do their utmost to complete this task.

Finally I would, on behalf of the players, like to thank you for your support this season and we hope we have done enough to ensure your return next season.

**Thanks for your support
Stuart Mc Laren**

Mothers Day Brunch

Take your mother out for lunch
Sunday 14th May 2000

Open from 10:00 am with a complimentary glass of Champagne and Orange Juice

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Perry park
Cnr Abbotsford Rd and Edmonstone St
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Attention Match Day Poster Distributors

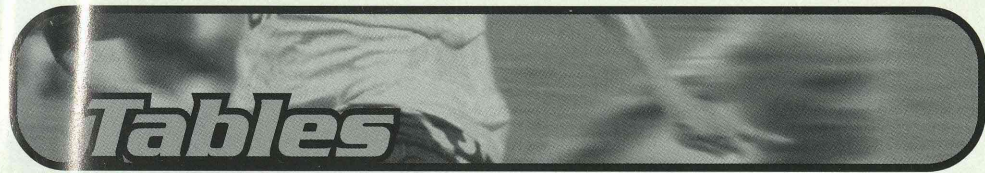
On behalf of Kossie, the
team, mangement and
staff, we would like to
thank all our match-day
poster distributors for all
their hard work during
the 1999-2000 season.
Your assistance was
greatly appreciated by all.

Jack Baren
Football Manager

Glenn Gwyne



HYUNDAI



National Soccer League Table After Round 33

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Perth Glory	33	18	7	8	59	42	61
W'gong Wolves	33	17	9	7	71	42	60
Carlton	33	16	7	10	53	38	55
Marconi Stallions	33	16	6	11	52	48	54
Adelaide Force	33	15	8	10	54	36	53
Sydney Olympic	33	15	7	11	53	40	52
Newcastle Breakers	32	14	9	9	44	39	51
Kingz FC	33	14	5	14	55	58	47
Brisbane Strikers	33	12	10	11	44	39	46
South Melbourne	33	13	7	13	51	51	46
Melbourne Knights	33	13	6	14	43	54	45
Parramatta Power	32	13	5	14	50	45	44
Northern Spirit	33	11	3	19	41	57	36
Canberra Cosmos	33	9	8	16	43	63	35
Gippsland Falcons	33	7	8	18	22	47	29
Sydney United	33	5	5	23	19	55	20

National Youth League 99/00 Northern Division Table

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Parramatta Power	31	24	4	3	96	22	76
Northern Spirit	31	22	4	5	92	39	70
Marconi Stallions	29	21	2	6	80	27	65
Sydney Olympic	31	19	6	6	90	45	63
Newcastle Breakers	30	19	3	8	66	34	60
QAS	31	17	3	11	85	55	54
AIS	30	15	6	9	85	42	51
Wollongong Wolves	30	13	5	12	43	45	44
Sydney United	31	13	3	15	46	58	42
ACTAS	29	10	9	10	46	55	39
NSWIS	30	9	7	14	46	49	34
N'castle Breakers Colts	30	10	4	16	42	58	34
Syd Olym Academy	31	10	4	17	53	91	34
Northern Spirit Colts	30	6	6	18	33	69	24
Mar Stallion Colts	30	6	5	19	43	96	23
Sydney United Colts	29	3	4	21	30	78	13
W'gong Wolves Colts	31	1	3	27	18	131	6

Other Rd 34 Matches

Sun 7th May	Adelaide Force	V's	Melb. Knights	H'marsh Stadium	4.30pm
Sun 7th May	Canberra Cosmos	V's	Marconi Stallions	Bruce Stadium	5pm
Sun 7th May	Parramatta Power	V's	Kingz FC	P'matta Stadium	5pm
Sun 7th May	Perth Glory	V's	Northern Spirit	Perth Oval	5pm
Sun 7th May	Carlton	V's	W'gong Wolves	Olympic Park	5pm
Sun 7th May	Sydney Olympic	V's	Sydney United	Belmore Sports	5pm
Sun 7th May	South Melbourne	V's	N'castle Breakers	Bob Jane Stadium	5pm

Leading Goalscorers

Damian Mori	Adelaide	21
Michael Curcija	Sth Melb.	18
Pablo Cardoza	Syd Olym.	18
Stuart Young	Wolves	17
John Buonavoglia	Newcastle	16
Saso Petrovski	Wolves	14



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BRISBANE STRIKERS 99/00 FIXTURES

Date	Opponents	FA	1 Bolton	2 Gwynne	3 Stefanuto	4 Davidson	5 Bell	6 Ditton	7 Smeltz	8 Pilic	9 Foster	10 Stralj	11 Hews	12 Dwyer	13 McLaren	14 North	15 Webber	16 Grierson	17 Harris	18 Meredith	19 Minor	20 N/A	21 McKain
Sun 3/10	Melbourne Knights	A	1-0																				
Sat 9/10	Adelaide Force	H	2-1																				
Fri 15/10	Canberra Cosmos	A	1-0																				
Sat 23/10	Northern Spirit	H	2-2																				
Sat 30/10	Parramatta Power	H	3-1																				
Sun 7/11	Perth Glory	A	2-1																				
Sat 13/11	Carlton	H	1-1																				
Sun 21/11	Sydney United	A	0-0																				
Sat 27/11	South Melbourne	H	5-1																				
Fri 3/12	Newcastle Breakers	A	1-2																				
Sat 11/12	Gippsland Falcons	H	0-1																				
Sun 19/12	Sydney Olympic	A	0-2																				
Tues 28/12	Wollongong Wolves	H	1-1																				
Sun 2/1	Northern Spirit	A	2-0																				
Sat 8/1	Melbourne Knights	H	4-0																				
Sat 15/1	Gippsland Falcons	A	1-2																				
Sat 22/1	Marconi	H	0-1																				
Wed 28/1	Marconi	A	0-2																				
Sat 29/1	Kings FC	H	3-1																				
Fri 4/2	Adelaide Force	A	2-6																				
Sat 12/2	Canberra Cosmos	H	0-0																				
Fri 18/2	Northern Spirit	A	0-1																				
Fri 25/2	Parramatta Power	A	1-1																				
Sat 4/3	Perth Glory	H	1-3																				
Fri 10/3	Carlton	A	0-1																				
Sat 18/3	Sydney United	H	1-0																				
Sun 26/3	South Melbourne	A	0-0																				
Sat 1/4	Newcastle Breakers	H	2-2																				
Sat 8/4	Gippsland Falcons	A	1-0																				
Sat 15/4	Sydney Olympic	H	2-2																				
Sat 22/4	Wollongong Wolves	A	2-2																				
Tues 25/4	Northern Spirit	H	2-0																				
Fri 28/4	Kings FC	A	1-2																				
Sun 7/5	Gippsland Falcons	H																					

LEGEND:

▲ = Played

⊕ = Substitute

○ = Non playing substitute

=own goal in scoreline

■ = Yellow Card

■ = Red Card

Junior Strikers

JUNIOR STRIKERS COACH AWARD

Junior Soccer season starts today, April 1st.
"About time too." I can hear many of you say.

Most of you have been in training for many weeks preparing for this big day. Your coach will have already given many words of wisdom and taught you many skills. We'd like you to write in and tell us why your coach is the best in Brisbane. You can win a set of complimentary tickets for the coach and the team and 2-for-1 passes for parents and family.

Send your entry to:

"My Coach Is The Best In Brisbane Competition"
Junior Strikers
Perry Park

Abbotsford Road
Mayne Qld 4006

Or E-mail it to :

strikers@brisbanestrikers.com.au

Don't forget to tell us what club and age group you play for.

My Coach Is The Best In Brisbane

Dear Strikers,

I nominate my coach Kon Raftopoulos. He coaches my team Under 8's Asteroid Olympic United Soccer Club. He is a fitness trainer too and trains us really hard. We have been undefeated this season.

He encourages us to play our best. He brings us Mars Bars, Icy Poles, Chips and Drinks to every game.

Yours sincerely
Damien Kallis

Dear Strikers,

I nominate my coach Verdial Maia of Youth Soccer Skills to

be the best coach. My coach played for Portugal.

He trains us really hard which I like.

He is taking us to two tournaments one at the Gold Coast and one at the South Pacific Games at Vanuatu.

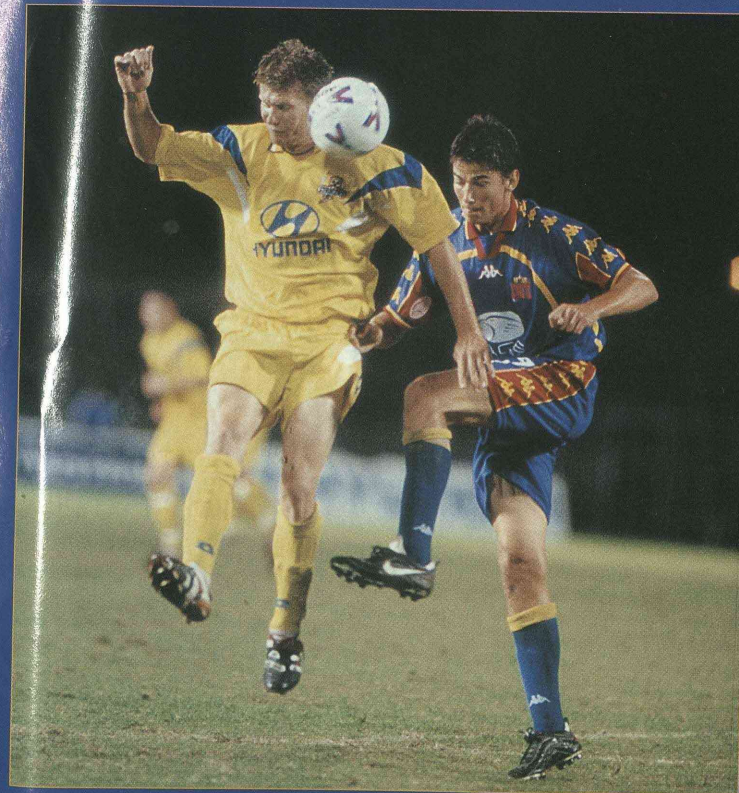
He is a great coach, very patient and encourages us to try hard.

He takes an interest in our school work too. He treats us like professional soccer players and we play up to that standard.

Yours Sincerely

Blake Kallis

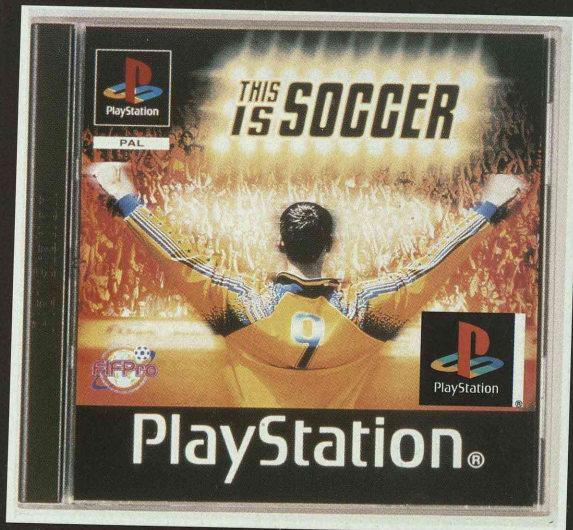
Funny Photo of The Week



One has to wonder what these two guys (Strikers David Pilic and a Northern Spirit player) were thinking when this shot was taking. It would certainly make for an unusual dance step!



Some more action from the Strikers last home game against the Northern Spirit



The most realistic soccer game ever for the **Sony PlayStation[®]** – is **'This is Soccer'[™]** – is out now!

Be one of the first to experience **'This is Soccer'[™]** on PlayStation and win with the Strikers!

WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO?

Every home game we will be running a competition – and giving you the chance to win a press kit including the game **'This is Soccer'[™]**.

GIPPSLAND FALCONS – 7 MAY BANNER COMPETITION

Each game prior we will give you instructions on how to win a copy of **'This is Soccer'[™]**. You must bring your entries to the game and hand them in at the Junior Striker stand at Gate 1. Entries will be judged at half time.

For the last game of the season (Gippsland Falcons) you could win not only a game of **'This is Soccer'[™]** – but also a **Sony PlayStation[®]**!! The banner must incorporate the Strikers and Sony PlayStation logos with the words: **'This is Soccer'[™]**. So get cracking on getting your entries in, and start planning your banner now.

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Arsenal (H&A)	Derby County (H)	Fiorentina (H)
Sunderland (H)	Watford (H)	Holland (H)
Tottenham Hotspur (H&A)	Sheffield Wednesday (H)	Italy (H)
Leicester City (H)	Manchester City (H)	Bayern Munich (H)
Middlesborough (H&A)	Blackburn (H)	Borussia Dortmund (H)
Chelsea (H)	Glasgow Rangers (H)	Ajax (H)
West Ham Utd (H)	Celtic (H)	Barcelona (H)
Everton (H)	Brazil (H)	Real Madrid (H)
Aston Villa (H)	Lazio (H)	PSV Eindhoven (H)
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Southampton (H)	AS Roma (H)	

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Available for collection from the Junior Strikers Stall at Gate 1

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Entry inside the perimeter fence of the playing area is prohibited at all times and offenders will be prosecuted.
2. All spectators are requested to vacate the ground within 15 minutes of the end of the final game.
3. Police may be requested to remove any unauthorised persons who remain after the stipulated time.
4. The setting alight of, or the igniting or discharging of any type of object, including fireworks, signal or smoke flares, is strictly prohibited. Offenders will be arrested and charged.

Calendar of Events

Date	Event	Venue	Time
Sun 7 th	Brisbane Strikers v Gippsland	S'corp Metway	5pm
Sat 21 st	FA Cup Challenge	Perry Park	TBA
June			
Fri 9 th	Presentation Awards	TBA	

Congratulations to Glenn Gwynne who made his 200th NSL appearance against the Northern Spirit on Anzac Day

Remember to visit our website at
www.brisbanestrikers.com

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25 Caxton Street

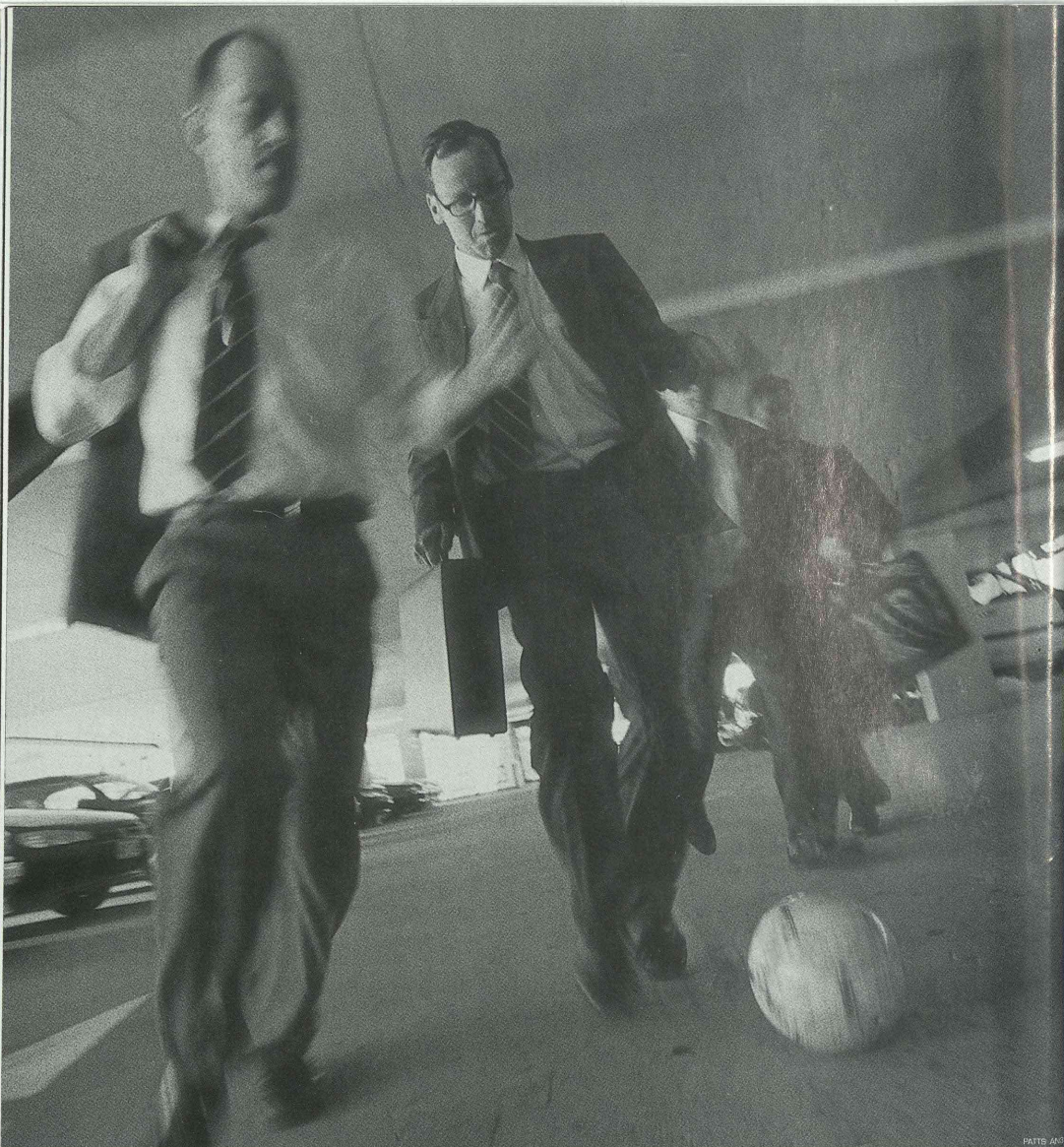
HEALTHWORKS

The Brisbane Strikers preferred Health and Fitness Gymnasium.

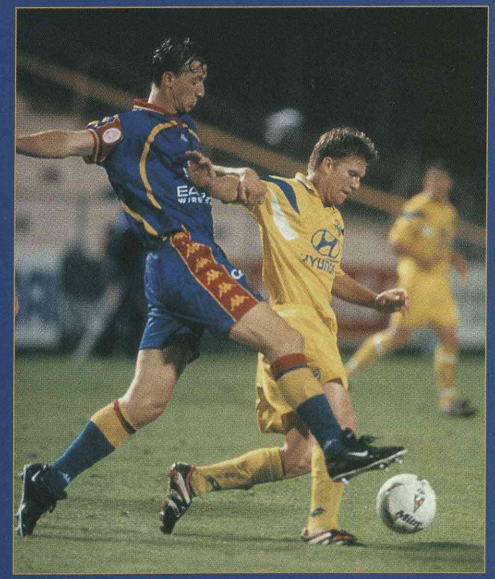
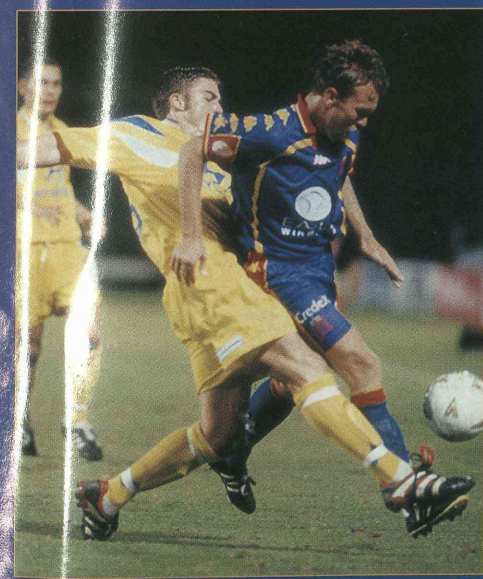
*135 Pring Street, Hendra
 Ph: 3868 1992*

FITNESS





Strikers Snaps



Clockwise from top left, John McKain makes a tackle, David Pilic keeps a defender at arms length and Matt Bell limbers up while keeping a close eye on proceedings.

Travel light. Move fast. Enjoy the game. Go your own way.™



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Strikers Snaps

Peter Grierson looks to go past a defender

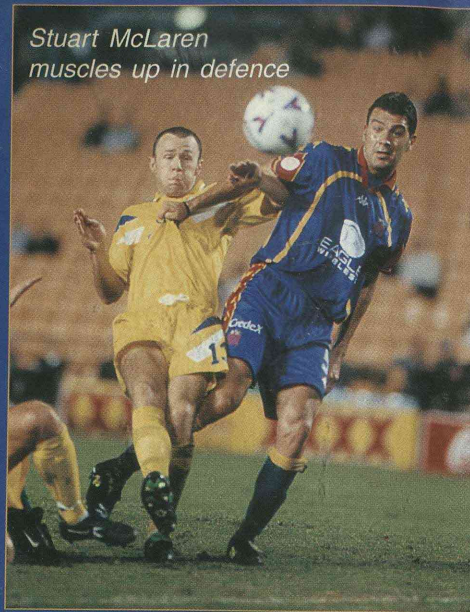


WIN! WIN! WIN!
DINNER FOR TWO AT

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 R I S T O R A N T E

If you purchased your magazine with Adam Webber's signature below, then you have won dinner to the value of \$50 at La Dolce Vita Restaurant, Park Rd, Milton. To claim your prize, take your copy of the magazine to the Corporate Entrance in Castlemaine Street after the game.

Stuart McLaren muscled up in defence



National Soccer League Rd 34 - 7/5/00

STRIKERS

1. Clint Bolton (GK)
2. Glenn Gwynne
3. Shane Stefanutto
5. Matthew Bell
6. Brad Ditton
7. David Pilić
8. Paul Foster
10. Wayne Srhoj
11. Chay Hews
12. Peter Dwyer
13. Stuart McLaren
14. Jade North
15. Adam Webber
16. Peter Grierson
17. Jeromy Harris
18. Nick Meredith
19. Russell Minor
21. John McKain

V's

G'land Falcons

1. Bojo Jevdjovic (GK)
2. Dean Fak
3. Manny Gotis
4. Mehmed Durakovic
5. Jeff Hopkins
6. Brian MacNicol
7. Andy Vargas
8. Clayton Bell
9. Robbie Puca
10. Sandy Robertson
11. John Hutchinson
12. Peter Kakos
13. Adrian Savage
14. Doug Marcina
15. Jonathan Buhagiar
16. Juon Nilo
17. Naum Sekulovski
18. Michael Katz
19. Igor Mandic
20. Simon Miotto (GK)
21. Ben Cassar



✦ Take a look at the new Hyundai Coupe with its new low, one piece nose. See how the integrated 'high illumination' projection headlamps and muscular lines sweep back to a wedge tail and rear wing spoiler.

✦ The aerodynamic body language says it all. ✦ This Coupe is built to fly. ✦ A choice of a powerful 2 litre (FX model) or 1.8 litre (SX model) twin cam, fuel injected engine confirms it. This car will put you back in your seat and keep you there. ✦ German tuned sports suspension,

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high performance sports wheels and precise power steering complete the performance package perfectly. ✦ Inside the cockpit, you'll notice a booming CD player with 6 speaker AM/FM radio, power windows and central locking. ✦ The Coupe also comes with a warranty that simply blows the competition away; 5 year/130,000 kilometres. ✦ Prices start at just \$25,990* for the SX and \$29,990* for the FX (pictured above), and for a limited time include air conditioning at no extra cost. ✦ You are now cleared for take-off from your Hyundai dealer.



THE DRIVE BEHIND THE BRISBANE STRIKERS

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