

# Eye on Strikers

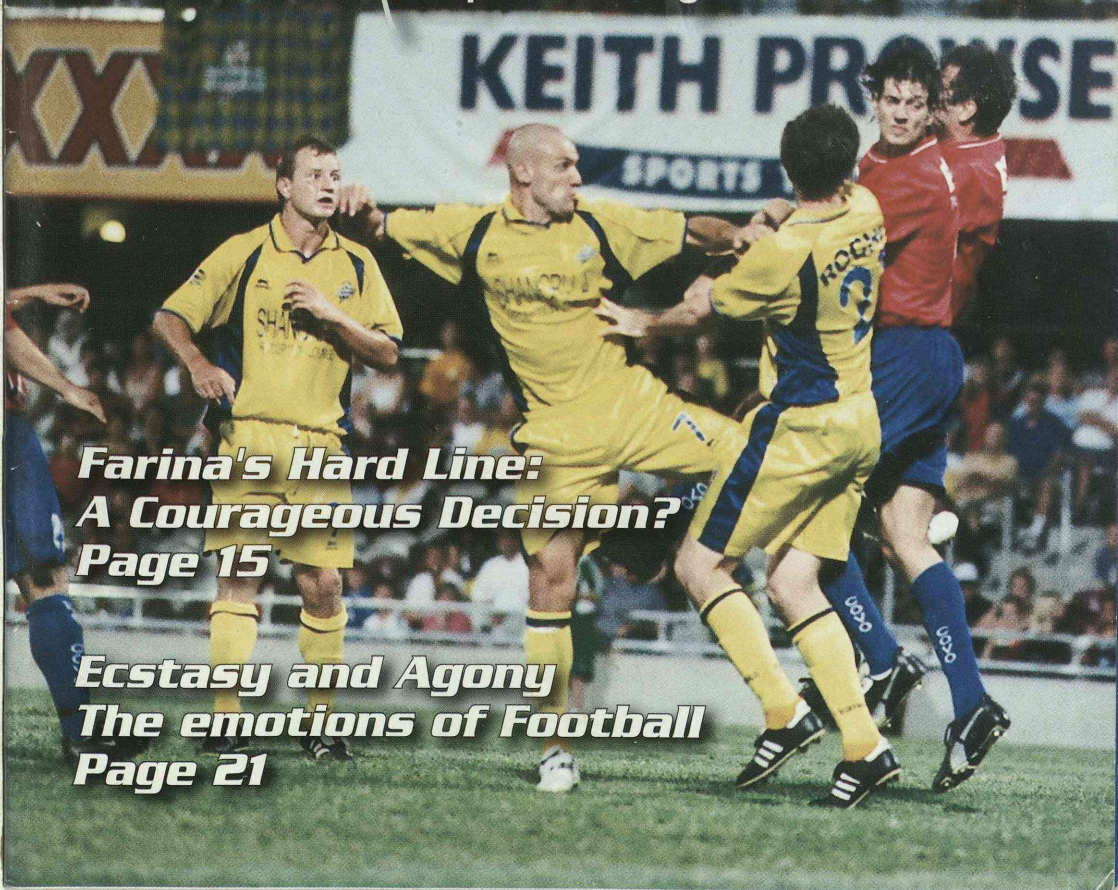
v PARRAMATTA POWER

Round 21

Vol 11-10, Sunday 9th Feb, 2003 \$2.00



Shangri La  
Gardens  
Reception Lounge



***Farina's Hard Line:  
A Courageous Decision?  
Page 15***

***Ecstasy and Agony  
The emotions of Football  
Page 21***



**BRISBANE STRIKERS**  
Soccer Club

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Coach: John Kosmina  
Team Manager: Graham Kinsela  
Doctor: Neville Blomeley  
Physiotherapist: Steve Whitlock

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Junior Development Co-ordinator: Jacqui Wright

Matchday Media Liason: Robert Blanch  
Media Contact: Ray Evans

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COVER:  
Rech taking on the Knights.



*Clem Jones Wright & Associates*

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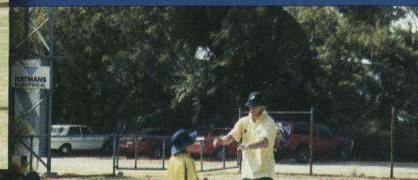
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WHAT A DIFFERENCE!



# Snapshots from the Junior Development Day





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## Coach's Comment



Writing this piece is always easier when the team is winning. The pressure is off and the words flow more freely. At the moment it is difficult. I'm loathe to talk about the game at risk of making excuses, suffice to say we are not playing to ability.

The little things are letting us down and a lot of little things always add up to one big thing – not winning. If I had to pinpoint one simple thing it is not keeping possession, especially in the opposition half. We work hard to defend, get the ball out of the danger zone only to see it come back much too quickly for mine or anyone else's liking.

Sooner or later when this is happening you are going to get punished as we did against Marconi. What can be done about it – not a lot apart from concentrate on it during the week at training and that still won't guarantee it will be OK come game time. Bad form is just something you have to play through.

Given the results of all the teams this season we are still in with a chance. They are all over the shop. Who would have expected the Knights to lose to Auckland at home last week? Especially given their showing against us in their previous match.

And you know what let them down – poor finishing. I wish that had been the case against the Strikers. 3 of their goals were great finishes – unstoppable.

If there is one good thing to mention it's the form of Jon McKain. We sorely missed him against the Knights when he was suspended but his game against Marconi was simply outstanding.

It's no secret Jon and I haven't seen eye to eye on his early season form but it's a credit to the man that he got his head down and worked through it to the extent that at the moment we almost rely on him too much. Jon has ambitions to play overseas and on present form a good club would certainly pick him up.

I can't complain at all really. Last weekend in Sydney I took the chance to visit an old mate of mine that's on his last legs with cancer – Eddie Thomson. He is just a shadow of the man I've shared a lot of beers with but it was still good to see him despite the circumstances. And he certainly hasn't lost his sense of humour or his fighting spirit.

He told me that 2 weeks previous the doctor had given him just 3 days. "That'll show him" he said tongue in cheek, "I'm not leaving all my money to my missus just yet".

He was also quite serious about leaving enough money for one last shout for his old mates. I left him in good spirits and thinking maybe life ain't too bad after all.

Enjoy the game

**Kossie**

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...from the  
Captain's desk



The week ahead and the week just past could not be more different in terms of preparation for a match. With our last fixture taking place last Friday, this week has bound to have been (its Monday as I write this) one of the longest weeks of my life in more ways than one.

With 3 days of rest, 4 days and 6 sessions of training, and one day of return travel from Sydney following our match with Marconi making up the time in between games its easy to see what I mean in one sense. The other sense can only be explained by an eagerness to get out onto the park and attempt to atone for our recent performances and more importantly results.

In contrast, following tonights fixture we will have a very limited amount of time to ensure we are properly prepared for our away game against South Melbourne on Wednesday night. The next couple of days are likely to consist of a recovery session (of some sort, be it in the pool or on the park) on Monday, and a reasonably light session on the park on Tuesday before we fly out to Melbourne on the morning of the match.

Obviously we will have to wait and see what effect these situations have on the team, but I can certainly say that the vast majority of players would prefer the second situation to occur more often. That's not to say that having long periods between games doesn't have its benefits. It gives players more opportunity for a better recovery, and it allows coaches and players more training time to work on what's required for the upcoming game.

But playing a couple of games inside the space week isn't just about having less training (something that I believe most players actually enjoy). Its about having more of an opportunity to go out there and do what we do best, which is compete, whilst providing the challenge of recovering and preparing in a relatively short space of time. Done just a few times over the course of a season it would also give us something like the 30 odd games (even before any finals series) that most other countries have in their fixture lists.

Thanks For Your Support  
**Stuart McLaren**



**GOOD AS GOLD**



**STRIKERS 2002-2003**

## Blanchy's BACKCHAT!

### PERFECT ROLE MODELS

I must admit I was somewhat shocked and disappointed by the Knights result, but I was even more impressed by the way the Strikers players showed true professionalism by coming to the fans at the end of the game and signing autographs and fielding questions from their biggest supporters. In my opinion the Strikers players are the perfect role models for our young people. Keep up the great work.

The Walsh Family

I've said it before and I'll say it again, we couldn't stop them even if we wanted to.

### PROGRAM IS THE BEST

A short letter to those in charge of the Eye on Strikers, keep up the great work. I have been very impressed with the changes made to the Program this season. The new front page gives the program a touch of class.

Karen Simpson

Thank you, some of the changes this season have been a direct result of letters received for this column.

### PUMP UP THE VOLUME

Can you please turn the PA up so we can hear it in the Grandstand? The music is at the right volume but the public announcements are very hard to hear. We can barely make out the Strikers names, and we're no chance with most of the visiting teams names. Your assistance would be very appreciated.

Rick Thompson

It seems your not alone, hopefully by the time you read this, the problem will be rectified.

### PLAYING CHANGE

Are the Strikers planning on changing their game days to Sunday in the future or is this just a one off this week?

P Howard

There are no plans to change the games to Sunday's as far as I know. Today's change is due to a number of different reasons.



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## From the BSSA

With Valentine's Day just around the corner, one would assume this page will revolve around love, perhaps even the love of football.

But in a time of pending joy, one cannot help but be affected by matters outside of our sport and our fair city. Even when results don't go well for the Strikers, the scores matter not when compared to that which we have seen in recent weeks, be it drought, fire or tragic events. In short, the BSSA, not only as football supporters, but as Australians send out our collective sympathies to those affected by these events. Life is a game to enjoy, rather than to win.

With that off my chest, back to the positivity. If 'Love is a Many Splendoured Thing', where does football enter the equation? Stories have often been mentioned of gentlemen (doubling as mad keen football fanatics) bringing their fair ladies to football games as a "first date". And there was a famous book/movie, "Fever Pitch", written by Nick Hornby, which revolved around a man torn between his two loves - his girlfriend and Arsenal FC. Personally, my love of the Strikers sits quite separately to that of the

love of a beautiful woman, but to be able to love both is certainly a great thrill. Given Cupid's tremendous aim, perhaps we can sign him on a trial as a Striker.

Tonight's match represents a crucial match in the Strikers' post-season hunt. After a sluggish start, the Power have certainly switched on (hey, I am entitled to a bad pun once in a while) and are now improving as potential championship contenders.

Finally, if you didn't already know, Crosbys at Albion will be hosting a LIVE Breakfast Party for the England vs Australia fixture on Thurs Feb 13. With Kick-Off at 7am Brisbane time, what a feast to start off any day, be it work, school, or simple recreation. For more information, please contact the Strikers during business hours, or keep checking the BSSA website which is mentioned below.

Next meeting :

Thursday February 20, 7pm start at Crosbys

Website : [www.go.to/bssa](http://www.go.to/bssa)

**ADAM COLEMAN**

*"Brisbane Strikers - Keeping The Faith in 2002-2003"*

### JOIN THE BSSA AND STAND UP FOR THE STRIKERS

Fill in the following information and send it (with your \$10) to The Treasurer (BSSA) PO Box 209, Petrie 4502. Or send an email to [wilsong@uq.net.au](mailto:wilsong@uq.net.au) requesting an application form.

Title \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Family Name \_\_\_\_\_

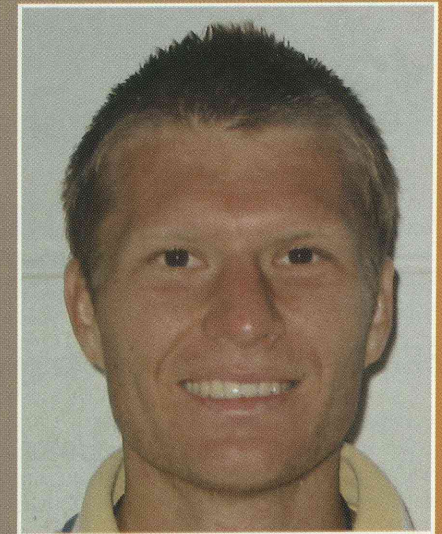
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## David Pilic



Date Of Birth: 8/9/78  
 Occupation: Professional Soccer Player  
 Hobbies/Interests: Sport  
 Current Playing Position: R Midfield  
 Came to Club: 1999  
 Previous Club: Rochdale Rovers  
 Nickname: Pila  
 Star Sign: Virgo  
 Ethnic Origin: Australian  
 Hair Colour: Blond  
 Eye Colour: Green  
 Height: 172cm  
 Weight: 73kgs

Do you have a personal sponsor? No

Favourite Food: Pasta

Favourite TV Show: Malcolm in the Middle

Favourite Book: Charlie in the Chocolate Factory

Worst Habits: Biting Nails

Most Prized Possession: Girlfriend

If you could be any person in

History who would it be? Mohammed Ali

List 3 people you would invite to Dinner: Al Pacino, Daniel Dreger,

Jennifer Love Hewitt

Most Annoying Television Show: Home and Away

Most Annoying Television Personality: Red Symons

Worst Ever Song: Achy Breaky Heart - Billy Ray Cyrus

Most Ridiculous Sport: Handball

Ultimate Sports Fantasy: To score the winner in the World Cup

If you could have any Superpower

what would it be: To Fly

Favourite Quote: Time waits for no Man

Favourite Day of the Year: Christmas - Fun, Everyone happy,

lots of Food

What's in your Fridge:

Vegetables, drink, Chocolate, everything

What's under your bed:

Nothing

What's in your Soccer Bag:

Boots, Towel and Shinpads

If you had \$10 left in the World what would you spend it on?

Vanilla Milkshake and Flowers for Girlfriend



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## **Farina's Hard Line: A Courageous Decisison?**

Next week will witness an all-too-rare event – an international football match featuring our Socceroos, this time taking on the might of England.

The match will mark the first opportunity our full strength national team has had to play since FIFA announced the Oceania region will supply one qualifier to the next World Cup - a decision which emboldened our national coach, Frank Farina, to make several statements indicating he expects a new level of commitment to the national team from our overseas-based players.

Farina made it clear immediately after FIFA's announcement that he would select his best players at every opportunity and expect them to be available.

"If they (the players, clubs) don't like it, that's tough", he said. "Whatever players I select, I'd expect them to be there. Everyone knows what's at stake".

Those words were music to the ears of anyone who longs to see the Socceroos be the best team they can be. No more caving in to European club coaches. No more cringing acceptance of players whose commitment to the green and gold seems wishy-washy when international duties interfere with club commitments. No more under-prepared Socceroos playing like strangers to each other.

But will Farina's fighting words persuade his overseas stars to fall into line behind him whenever he wants them? Or do they indicate, in the wry terms of Sir Humphrey Appleby, a "courageous decision".

The early indications were positive. Within days of Farina's pronouncement, Skipper Paul Okon said "It won't make it difficult for me if I am selected to be available. I cant speak on behalf of the other players but I personally think everyone will commit . . . Sometimes players can't be there for various reasons but I think it's going to need a commitment from everybody. That means everyone making themselves available whenever Australia plays."

But we soon had a reality check. Around the time that Farina and Okon were having their say, classy defender Craig Moore was being touted by

former Socceroo skipper Paul Wade as Okon's successor - in large part because of his perceived pride in pulling on the green and gold shirt.

"I believe Craig Moore (should be the next captain)" Wade said. "To me, he has never suggested that playing for (Glasgow) Rangers is more important than playing for the green and gold".

Nobody, it seems, told Moore. In mid-January Moore was popped the old "what if" question about choosing between club and country. While speaking in the context of the current season, he answered, "If I was forced to choose (between playing international friendlies in Australia and playing for Rangers), then I would want to be with Rangers, because although it's always nice to play for your country, the games are not going to be as important".

Ooops! Not exactly a ringing endorsement of Farina's policy or Wade's confidence, that. Particularly when you consider that European clubs seem to feel that no time is a good time to leave them.

So who's sentiments, Okon's or Moore's, will the majority of Farina's players have most sympathy with? Probably Moore's. We must not forget that Okon, at 30, is nearing the end of his career and probably has only one World Cup campaign left in him - one chance to crown his career with an appearance on the world stage. Little wonder, then, that he seems prepared to commit himself readily to Farina's "Australia First" regime.

But Moore is only 27 and has potentially seven or eight more years of top class, high wage-earning football ahead of him. When push comes to shove, is he going to gamble this against a one-month-in-every-four-years event, or is he going to come down in favour of where his bread will be buttered week in, week out for all those years?

Somehow, it is easier to expect that the bulk of Australia's under-30 brigade will feel as Moore does. If that is correct, and Farina sticks to his guns, we might just see a few high profile Socceroos jettisoned before or during our next World Cup campaign.

**Steve Pitman**

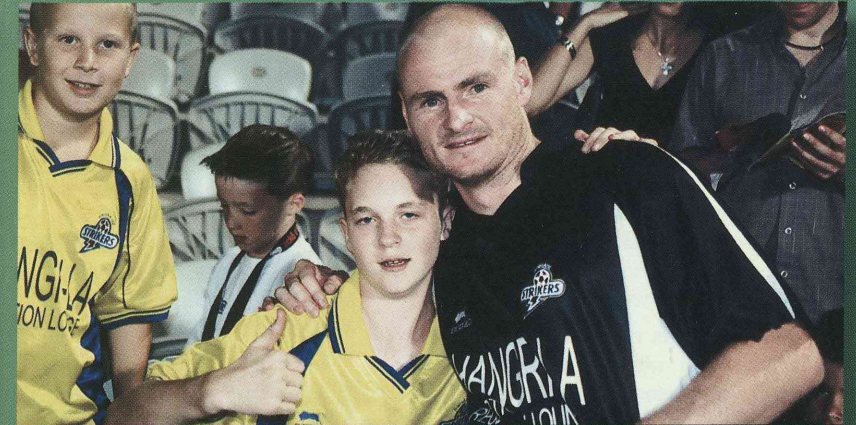




Laybutt on the ball



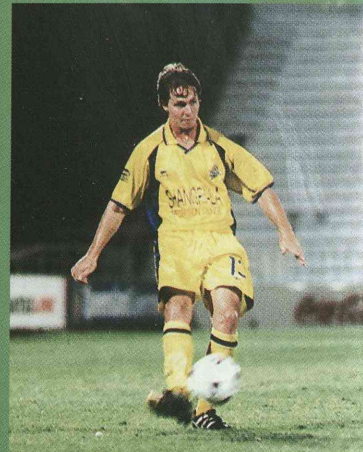
Tough Defence



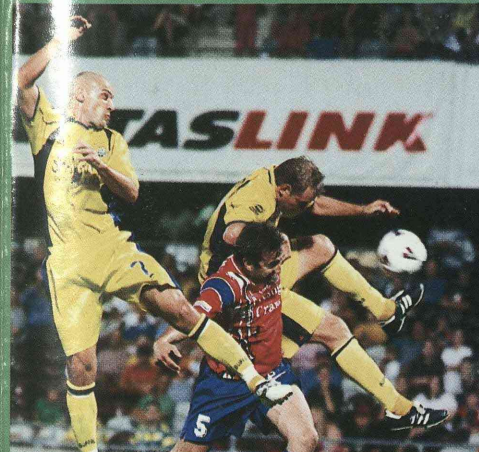
Kearnton with some up and coming Strikers? Who knows



Laybutt attacks the Ball



Heath A picture of concentration



Fernando and Laybutt



Laybutt just about in orbit

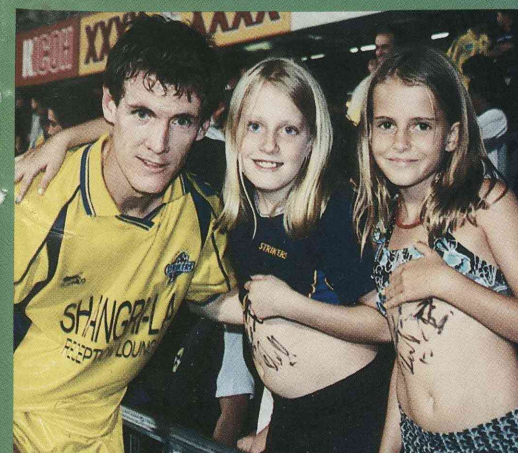
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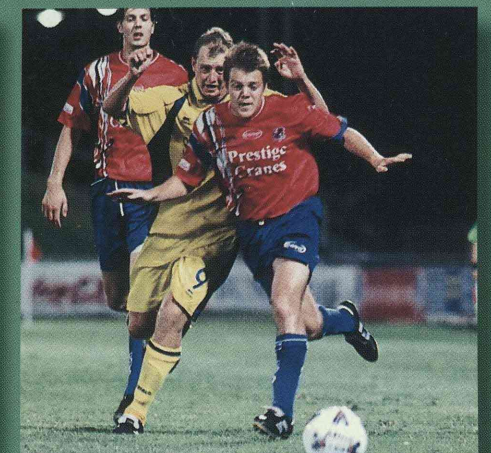
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I don't think I'd want to be that keeper!



Roche with Permanent Marker?



One Laybutt Sandwich

## Word from the QAS

Following the U/15 & U/16 National Talent Identification Series in Sydney last October there have been 25 players working hard to fine tune their game and waiting anxiously for the announcement of the 20 players to be named who will represent Australia in the World Cup qualifying rounds for Countries within Oceania.

Of those 20 players named last Monday 4 are currently involved with the QAS and 2 were formerly involved before moving on

Matt Hilton was a scholarship holder with the QAS prior to him signing a professional contract early this season with Sydney Olympic.

Adam Casey was on a scholarship with the QASNQ before moving to Canberra and is now at the AIS.

The following players are currently with the QAS and are Mario Aparicio, Ben Griffin, Dane Richardson, and Tim Smits, each of these players

are to be congratulated on their selection as is the QAS who continues, through its far reaching programs, to identify and develop players to International standards.

It is also important to mention the QASNQ who work in conjunction with and to similar programs as the QAS National Youth League select based in Brisbane. One must also acknowledge that this selection process originates with the underpinning programs put in place by State Technical Director Andrew Bettell, the Regional Directors and all Zone and State Coaches attached to these programs.

I must also mention my personal delight in being appointed Assistant National Coach to Ange Postecoglou for this U/17 campaign and thrilled to be back involved at the International level.

All games in Australia's group are to be played on the Sunshine Coast at the new complex on Maroochydore Road.

### The program of games are as follows.

#### Saturday 15th February 2003

2.00pm Solomon Islands V Australia  
4.00pm Tonga V Vanuatu  
6.00pm New Zealand V Tahiti

#### Thursday 20th February 2003

2.00pm Australia V Vanuatu  
4.00pm Solomon Islands V Tahiti  
6.00pm Tonga V New Zealand

#### Monday 24th February 2003

2.00pm Solomon Islands V New Zealand  
4.00pm Australia V Tonga  
6.00pm Vanuatu V Tahiti

#### Monday 17th February 2003

2.00pm New Zealand V Vanuatu  
4.00pm Tahiti V Australia  
6.00pm Tonga V Solomon Islands

#### Saturday 22nd February 2003

2.00pm Tahiti V Tonga  
4.00pm Solomon Islands V Vanuatu  
6.00pm Australia V New Zealand

I hope that you can venture to the Sunshine Coast and support Australia in its quest to qualify for the World Cup Finals to be held in Finland during the month of August 2003.

Enjoy the game, talk to you soon. **Bruce Stowell**

## NATIONAL YOUTH LEAGUE 2002-2003 NORTHERN DIVISION RESULTS - ROUND 20

FRIDAY 31 JANUARY 2003

Wollongong Wolves Youth 1 (Majurovski 89') Sydney United Youth 0

SATURDAY 1 FEBRUARY 2003

AIS 3 (Anstey 47' 85', Lilly 70') Canberra Deakin 2 (Munoz 8', Spaleta 44')

SUNDAY 2 FEBRUARY 2003

Marconi Stallions Youth 2 (Talevski 17', Anabalon 72') QAS 1 (Grossman 36')

Olympic Sharks Youth 6 (Parisos 40', Ozbey 46+, Hilton 62',

Stuart 83' 92+, Camilleri 89') ACTAS 0

Marconi Mustangs Vs Northern Spirit Match deferred

BYE - Newcastle United Youth BYE - Parramatta Power Youth

## NATIONAL YOUTH LEAGUE 2002-2003 NORTHERN DIVISION LEAGUE LADDER - ROUND 20

TEAM	P	W	D	B	L	F	A	Pts
AIS	15	10	3	4	2	29	14	33
Canberra Deakin	18	8	5	3	5	46	29	29
Wollongong Wolves Youth	17	7	6	2	4	40	27	27
Parramatta Power Youth	15	8	3	4	4	38	25	27
Newcastle United Youth	17	7	6	3	4	31	24	27
Northern Spirit Youth	15	7	4	3	4	16	10	25
Olympic Sharks Youth	17	5	7	2	5	26	20	22
Sydney United Youth	14	5	3	3	6	29	21	18
ACTAS	15	5	3	3	7	24	34	18
Marconi Stallions Youth	15	4	4	4	7	17	35	16
QAS	17	4	3	3	10	19	40	15
Marconi Mustangs	15	0	3	2	12	6	42	3

## NATIONAL YOUTH LEAGUE 2002-2003 NORTHERN DIVISION FIXTURES - ROUND 21

DEFERRED MATCH FROM RD 3 - To be played on Friday 7 February 2003

ACTAS Vs Sydney United Youth Time: 5.00pm Venue: Hawker Oval

FRIDAY 7 FEBRUARY 2003

Newcastle United Youth Vs AIS Time: 5.15pm Venue: Energy Australia Stadium

SATURDAY 8 FEBRUARY 2003

Canberra Deakin Vs Marconi Stallions Youth Time: 5.00pm Venue: Hawker Oval

Northern Spirit Youth Vs Wollongong Wolves Youth Time: 4.00pm Venue: Christie Park

SUNDAY 9 FEBRUARY 2003

QAS Vs Parramatta Power Youth Time: 4.35pm Venue: Ballymore Stadium

Sydney United Youth Vs Olympic Sharks Youth Time: 4.00pm Venue: Sydney United Sports Centre

BYE - ACTAS BYE - Marconi Mustangs

## NATIONAL YOUTH LEAGUE 2002-2003 NORTHERN DIVISION LEADING GOALSCORERS ROUND 20

SURNAME	FIRST NAME	CLUB	GOALS
Spaleta	Michael	Canberra Deakin	17
Majurovski	John	Wollongong Wolves Youth	9
Pideski	Carl	Canberra Deakin	9
Gavaghan	Peter	Parramatta Power Youth	8
Barisic	Andrew	ACTAS	7
Bridge	Mark	Parramatta Power Youth	7
De Silva	Timothy	QAS	7

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## **Ecstasy and Agony** **The emotions of Football**

You will notice (if everything's gone to plan) an interview with our very own Superhero and I mean that in the truest sense of the word, Thor: God of Thunder. I'm opening with this because it's my first interview for this publication and look who I've picked. Thor, who's been asked every possible question by every sports journo in Australia. You can read what happened after you finish this lot off. There is something I will tell you though, you can't help but feel pumped and ready to take on the world after even a short time in the presence of the great man. Let me know what you think about the interview or maybe you have a suggestion for a future interview and have some questions you'd like to see answered, if so email me at [strikers@brisbanestrikers.com](mailto:strikers@brisbanestrikers.com) and you never know.

While we're around the office, congratulations must go to all the Strikers staff for a terrific job at the recent Strikers Coaching Clinic, with a special mention for Shane and Jacqui who are at the heart of our Junior Development Program. By the great response received already, fun was had by every one, including the parents who got to have a group photo with the Coaches at the presentation. One of the things that stood out for me, was the way the kids, most of whom had never met before, found that by the end of the day they had forged new friendships, but more importantly they had become members of the Football Family, linked and drawn together by their love of Football. (And so sayeth Blanchy)

I also got a chance to listen and speak to a few of the parents, while trying to watch my three and in between errands for the office. The feedback and general mood was positive in the main and it was a wonderful opportunity to hear first hand a lot of differing views and opinions on a number of different football issues.

It was suggested to me by one of our samba-playing drummers that one way to increase the crowds is to ask each one of you to bring a friend to the next game. He's got a point, we are all football people, it's in our blood and we all know others just like us. Tonight's game is the only home match for the Strikers during February, due to the short month and the bye scheduled for next weekend, followed by an away trip to New Zealand to face the Football Kingz. Which makes tonight's clash a must win if we are any chance of making the Top Six play offs.

The local soccer scene is gearing up for a new season, with Junior Sign on beginning last weekend and the first of the Senior pre season matches already being played. The normal pre season transfer traffic is it's chaotic self with many players changing clubs in the hope of greener pastures. I'd like to take this opportunity to wish everyone the best for the upcoming season no matter what level or which Club you're involved with.

We've had a few enquires since the last home game in regards to Banners and Flags and since I've had to read the Soccer Australia Rule Book to ensure I'm doing everything expected of me in my various roles on Matchday, I'll give you the short version: You are permitted to fly Strikers Flags, the Australian National Flag and the visiting teams Club Flag, but you are not permitted to fly another countries National Flag or the Flag of any other Club not directly involved in the Match. The Clubs are bound by strict Soccer Australia guidelines and these are part of the Conditions of Entry.

Well as seems to happen every time, I've babbled on about a number of subjects and reached the end of the page. So all there's left to do is settle in and enjoy the action.

**Blanchy**

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## Thor Rules Australian Sport

Paul Robinson is one of Australian sports most recognisable faces. Who? I hear some of you ask, "Robbo" to those who know him. The devoted family man behind the Brisbane Strikers record setting Mascot "Thor" God of Thunder. Since his league debut at Perry Park, Brisbane's spiritual home of Soccer, in season 1993, the mighty Thor has amassed an unprecedented 164 Home game run, including tonight's encounter, having never missed a Brisbane Strikers home match in the past decade.

To say he is a risk taker may be a little harsh, but he was in good company all those years ago, for the Brisbane Strikers were the first team in the NSL to adopt a American style name and of course an American style Mascot.

His impressive Resume also boasts amongst other achievements: 9 forays into enemy territory as leader of the Strikers raiding party, countless TV, Radio and Print Media interviews, editorials and live footage, as well as numerous public appearances including the Queen St Mall, The Australian Soccer Expo in Sydney, the EKKA and many more, which are too many to mention.

But his rise to infamy is in most part due to his extravagant and death defying stunts. The most famous and definitely his most publicised feat was his jumping from a plane to land in the middle of a packed Suncorp Stadium before the kick-off of the 1997 Grand Final victory. Some of his other perilous adventures has seen him abseil from the top of the Grandstand at Suncorp, impress us all with his Fire Eating abilities, ride his much loved Motor Cycle spewing sparks from its rear end around the playing field and who can forget his impromptu performance with the Irish Dancers. He has reached true cult status amongst Queensland Soccer supporters and love him or hate him, everyone knows Thor. When you think of the Brisbane Strikers, Thor is not far from your thoughts and recently I have had the great privilege to spend some time with the Mighty Thor and conduct my first official interview for the Club. The legend of Thor would fill this

Program twice over and still be a great read, so what I've come up with is a mix of questions that I hope will give everyone an insight into the Thor phenomenon and the man behind the success.

*You have been the one constant at the Club since it's inception, what is the secret to your longevity?*

I believe that my passion for the game and club has allowed me to keep the faith for so many years. I have played, managed, coached and supported soccer in Queensland for more than 30 years and will continue to do so for many years to come.

*Is being a National League Mascot something you've always dreamt of doing, or was it something that just sort of happened?*

At no point in my life or in my wildest dreams did I ever contemplate becoming a mascot of any description let alone in a national competition. As I have said many times I was volunteered by a long time friend and great Strikers supporter, Stewart Holmes, mainly due to my gregarious nature and the fact that I had been doing some amateur acting for a few years prior to the birth of the Strikers.

*Did you ever imagine as you led out the team for the first time, that your reign as the Strikers Mascot and No 1 supporter would last more than a decade?*

No. In the early days no one could have predicted the amazing events that have befallen the Strikers during this time. As mascot I think it is unprecedented in soccer or possibly any sport in this country.

*You are quite easily the longest serving Mascot in NSL history, that must give you a feeling of great satisfaction and pride?*

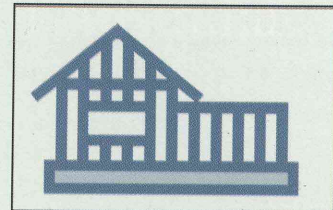
It is still hard to believe that I am still going after all these years. I am proud, honoured, humbled and overjoyed by the response from all sectors of our game and have innumerable memories to remind me of this great game.

*Continued Next Issue*

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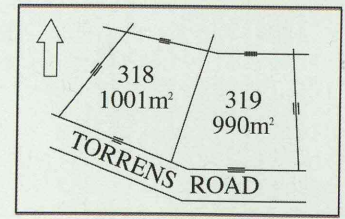
## ARE YOU PLANNING TO:



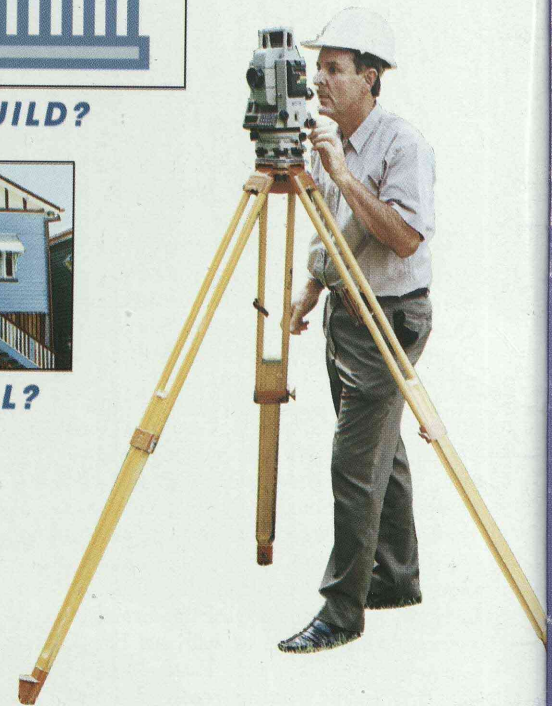
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**SUBDIVIDE?**



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**PROUDLY SUPPORTING THE BRISBANE STRIKERS**

# Round Up

## Round 19 Review

**NEWCASTLE UNITED 2** (J Griffiths 56', A Juric 87' o.g.) **OLYMPIC SHARKS 1** (A Juric 81' pen)  
Cautions: G Souris (OS) 21', A Juric (OS) 23', P Kohler (OS) 30', J Porter (OS) 54', M Wilson (NU) 82', R Middleby (NU) 85', J Griffiths (NU) 89' **Red Card:** G Souris (OS) 80'  
Venue: EnergyAustralia Stadium **Referee:** Con Diomis **Crowd:** 6,510

**FOOTBALL KINGZ 0 ADELAIDE CITY FORCE 3** (G Lozanovski 15', I Fyfe 21', 64')  
Cautions: G Lozanovski (AC) 7', M Donoso (FK) 47', C Jackson (FK) 87'  
Venue: Yarrow Stadium, New Plymouth **Referee:** Peter Green **Crowd:** 2,570

**BRISBANE STRIKERS 1** (A Roche 39') **MELBOURNE KNIGHTS 5** (G Biscayzacu 9', 68', 79', H Fa'Arodo 14', N Sabljak 75')  
Cautions: L Lapsansky (MK) 40', S Stefanutto (BS) 75', V Buljubasic (MK) 88'  
Venue: Ballymore Stadium **Referee:** Perry Mur **Crowd:** 2,952

**PARRAMATTA POWER 7** (A Elrich 30', 35', J Buonavoglia 41', 42', 56', 89', K Salapasisdis 49')  
**MARCONI STALLIONS 0**  
Cautions: nil

Venue: Parramatta Stadium **Referee:** Eddie Lennie **Crowd:** 2,917

**SYDNEY UNITED 1** (B Santalab 54') **PERTH GLORY 1** (E Junior 20')  
Cautions: S Miller (PG) 56', M Byrnes (PG) 73'  
**Red Cards:** S Pryce (PG) 53', B Hassell (PG) 87'

Venue: Sydney United Sports Centre **Referee:** Matthew Breeze **Crowd:** 2,021

**SOUTH MELBOURNE 0 WOLLONGONG WOLVES 0**  
Cautions: D Huxley (WW) 30', B Blake (WW) 42', M Durakovic (SM) 68', D Aliffi (WW) 91'

Venue: Bob Jane Stadium **Referee:** Simon Micallef **Crowd:** 4,013

**NORTHERN SPIRIT - BYE**

## Round 20 Review

**ADELAIDE CITY FORCE 2** (C Pelosi 12', 13') **NEWCASTLE UNITED 3** (J Wheelhouse 26', A Vidmar 48' O.G., R Griffiths 58')  
Cautions: P Tsekenis (NU) 29', D Pellegrini (AC) 48'+, M Valkanis (AC) 65' **Red Card:** M Valkanis (AC) 73'

Venue: Hindmarsh Stadium **Referee:** Ben Williams **Crowd:** 2,766

**MARCONI STALLIONS 2** (J Spiteri 29', A Brosque 32') **BRISBANE STRIKERS 1** (A Roche 25')  
Cautions: G Last (MS) 89', D Pilic (BS) 93' **Red Card:** S Laybutt (BS) 91'

Venue: Marconi Stadium **Referee:** Simon Micallef **Crowd:** 1,866

**WOLLONGONG WOLVES 2** (R Stanton 4', D Mennillo 32') **SYDNEY UNITED 1** (M Jedinak 46'+)  
Cautions: S Babic (SU) 40', D Barrett (SU) 62', M Jedinak (SU) 70', M Rudan (SU) 85'

Venue: WIN Stadium **Referee:** Matthew Breeze **Crowd:** 3,031

**PERTH GLORY 3** (D Mori 22', 59', A Caceres 84') **NORTHERN SPIRIT 0**  
Cautions: D Macallister (NS) 39', M Byrnes (PG) 53', A Tobin (NS) 70'

Venue: Perth Oval **Referee:** Brett Hugo **Crowd:** 9,979

**MELBOURNE KNIGHTS 1** (J Perry 15' O.G.) **FOOTBALL KINGZ 2** (A Vlahos 48'+, H Ngata 83')  
Cautions: A Kovacic (MK) 22', J Pritchett (FK) 29', C Jackson (FK) 32', R deGregorio (FK) 54', H Miyazawa (FK) 72' **Red Card:** C Jackson (FK) 92'

Venue: Knights Stadium **Referee:** Craig Zetter **Crowd:** 3,554

**OLYMPIC SHARKS 3** (J Porter 2', J Harris 27', F Parisi 84') **SOUTH MELBOURNE 2** (P Buljan 9', V Coveny 58')  
Cautions: V Coveny (SM) 38', P Kisnorbo (SM) 76', B Damianos (SM) 80'

Venue: Toyota Park **Referee:** Eddie Lennie **Crowd:** 3,611

**PARRAMATTA POWER - BYE**

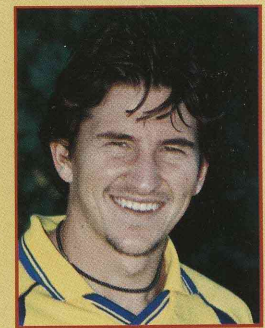
BRISBANE STRIKERS

### BRISBANE STRIKERS 2002/2003

Date	Opponents		F-A	Player Statistics																								
	Rnd 1	Northern Spirit		H	1-2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
Sat 21/9	Rnd 1	Northern Spirit	H	1-2	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	
Sun 29/9	Rnd 2	Perth Glory	A	4-3	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	
Sat 5/10	Rnd 3	Wollongong Wolves	H	1-3	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	
Sat 12/10	Rnd 4	Olympic Sharks	A	0-2	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	
Sat 19/10	Rnd 5	Adelaide City Force	H	2-3	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	
Sun 27/10	Rnd 6	Melbourne Knights	A	3-3	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	
Sat 2/11	Rnd 7	Marconi Stallions	H	1-4	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	
Sat 9/11	Rnd 8	Parramatta Power	A	0-2	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	
	Rnd 9	Bye																										
Sat 23/11	Rnd 10	Football Kingz	H	0-2	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	
Fri 29/11	Rnd 11	Newcastle United	A	3-3	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	
Sat 7/12	Rnd 12	South Melbourne	H	2-1	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	
Sat 15/12	Rnd 13	Sydney United	A	3-0	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	
Sat 21/12	Rnd 14	Perth Glory	H	1-1	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	
Fri 27/12	Rnd 15	Northern Spirit	A	3-2	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	
Fri 3/1	Rnd 16	Wollongong Wolves	A	1-1	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	
Sat 11/1	Rnd 17	Olympic Sharks	H	3-0	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	
Fri 17/1	Rnd 18	Adelaide City Force	A	0-1	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	
Sat 25/1	Rnd 19	Melbourne Knights	H	1-5	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	
Fri 31/1	Rnd 20	Marconi Stallions	A	1-2	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	
Sun 9/2	Rnd 21	Parramatta Power	H		▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	
	Rnd 22	Bye																										
Sun 23/2	Rnd 23	Football Kingz	A																									
Sat 1/3	Rnd 24	Newcastle United	H																									
Wed 12/2	Rnd 25	South Melbourne	A																									
TBA	Rnd 26	Sydney United	H																									
	Individual League Appearances				76	171	103	62	141	95	64	39	100	302	89	62	24	21	31	2	38	21	12	17	0			
	Individual League Goals				0	4	1	1	10	18	26	0	8	76	7	5	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	0	9	0		

Legend: ▲ = Played - ● = Substitute - ○ = Non playing substitute - ◆ = Own goal in scoreline - □ = Yellow card - ■ = Red card

# Junior Development Report



During this weekend and also last weekend the Brisbane Strikers players have been all round Brisbane appearing at Junior Sign On days. The players have travelled as far north as Nerangba and as far south as Slacks Creek.

These visits give the Brisbane Strikers players the opportunity not only to chat with junior soccer players signing on but also it gives the players a chance to interact with those people who have the very tough job of running these junior soccer clubs.

It is no doubt that soccer is very popular among children and most know that it is more popular amongst young children than rugby league, union or aussie rules. Although this a wonderful statistic when talking to those who run these soccer clubs they will quickly say that their club isn't rich and it is always a tight squeeze to run these clubs without debt.

At the clubs I personally appeared at over the past two weeks, it has been great to hear that the number

of children signing on has been the best ever recorded. At one soccer club I went to the line was so far out of the door that people were nearly filling up the club car park as well.

Therefore once again soccer at a junior level is getting bigger and better which is great news and hopefully in the near future soccer at a senior level can be just as strong. It would also be fantastic if more and more of these new junior soccer players would support their local national soccer league team.

Finally with the junior soccer season about a month away from starting I would encourage any coach or club that would like some assistance with their team/s to contact me as soon as possible.

Our players have a great deal of coaching experience and I am sure any junior soccer player would thoroughly enjoy it. Enjoy the game tonight.

**Shane Stefanutto**



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# Round Twenty in Review

No draws and few spectators was the order of the day in last weekends Round 20 clashes.

On Friday night despite taking the lead through Roche the Brisbane Strikers lost at the Marconi Stallions ground by two goals to one. The result virtually condemning both clubs to finishing outside the top six. To rub salt into the wounds of the Queensland team Steve Laybutt playing his 1000 NSL game was sent off in the 91st minute. The scorers for the Stallions were Spiteri and Brosque both before the interval.

A red card also in Adalaide where Vulkanis was sent off for the home side as Newcastle United came from a two goal deficit to win 3-2.

Pelosi scoring for the Adelaide City Force in the 12th and 13th minutes before Wheelhouse and an own goal levelled scores minutes after half time and Griffiths snatching the winner in the 58th minute. Newcastle stay third and the Force slip to 6th position.

The Wolves v Pumas clash was won by the Home side Wollongong by 2-1, Stanton and Menillo for the Wolves, consolation from Jedinak for Sydney United.

Sydney receiving six yellow cards in this game. Wollongong now in 7th place.

Damian Mori scored 2 to take his total to 199 goals in the NSL as the Glory defeated the Northern Spirit by 3 goals to nil in Perth, Cacaes scoring the other. Perth remain on top subject to the NSL ruling on Thursday concerning an unregistered player . . .

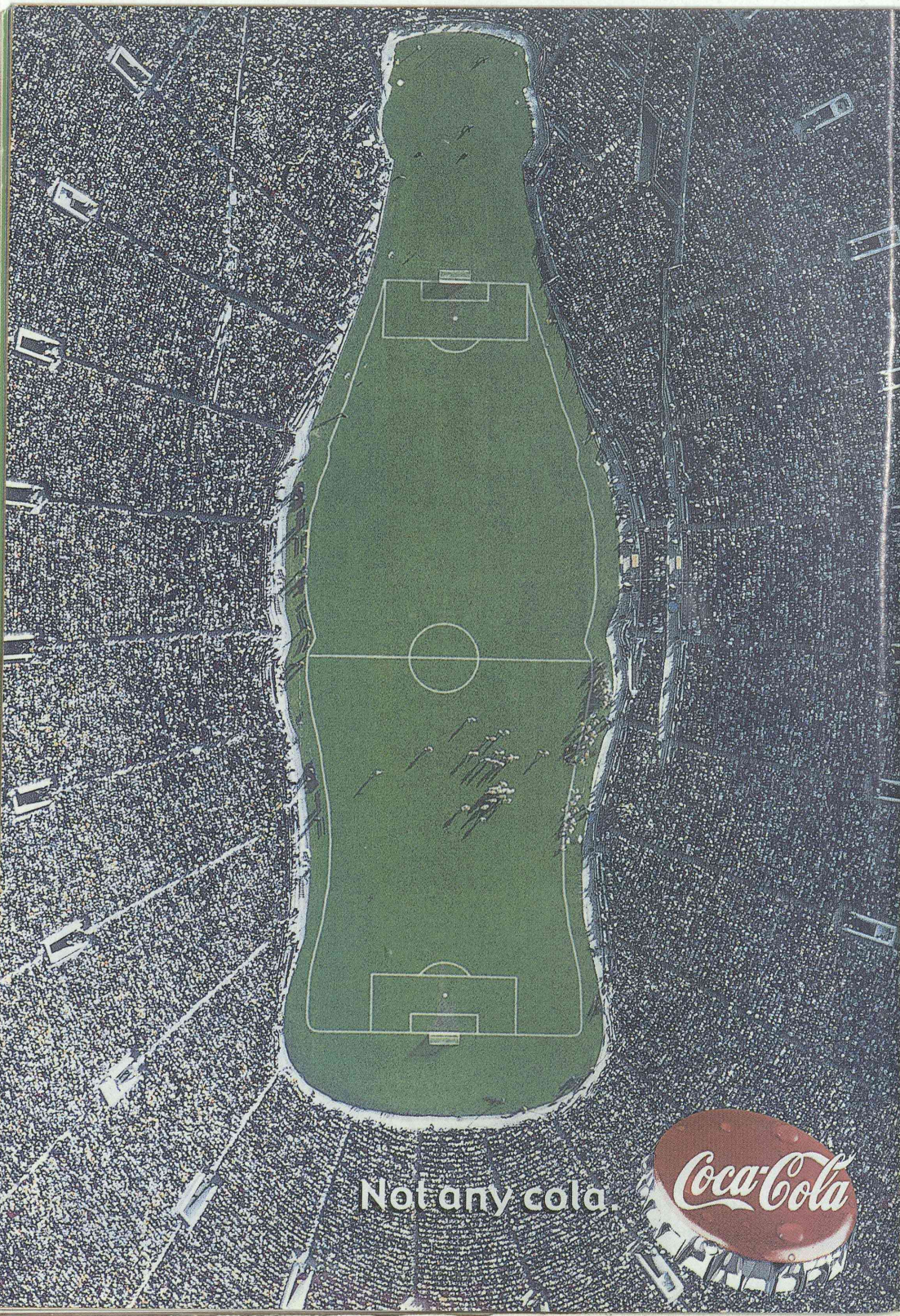
New Zealand captain Chris Jackson became the third player to see red this weekend as he was sent off in injury time in the Kingz 2-1 victory over the Knights in Melbourne. Vlahos and Ngata cancelling out teammates Perry own goal in the 15th minute. Knights Stadium had the only increase in attendance for corresponding games of last season.

Finally the Greek Derby, played in Sydney was won by the Sharks in a pulsating 3-2 game. Porter after 2 minutes and a Buljan reply 7minutes later set up the game with the winner coming from Parasi in the 84th minute. Harris for the Sharks and Coveney for South Melbourne got the goals in between.

Olympic Sharks remain in second place and Souths slip to fourth place on the ladder as the regular season draws to a close.

## CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

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 igniting or discharging of any type of object, including fireworks, signal or smoke flares, is strictly prohibited, Offenders will be arrested and charged.
5. Smoking in the Grandstand is prohibited
6. Have a nice evening.



Not any cola.



# National League Review

## NATIONAL LEAGUE SEASON 2002/03

TEAM	P	W	D	L	B	GF	GA	PTS
Perth Glory	19	14	2	3	1	39	14	44
Olympic Sharks	19	13	2	4	1	39	24	41
Newcastle United	19	8	5	6	1	30	21	29
South Melbourne	18	8	4	6	2	26	24	28
Parramatta Power	17	7	4	6	2	30	19	25
Adelaide City Force	18	7	4	7	2	31	25	25
Wollongong Wolves	19	5	8	6	1	22	25	23
Football Kingz	18	5	5	8	1	19	26	20
Melbourne Knights	18	5	5	8	2	32	42	20
Sydney United	18	5	4	9	2	16	25	19
<b>Brisbane Strikers</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>19</b>
Northern Spirit	16	5	3	8	2	18	30	18
Marconi Stallions	18	5	2	11	2	19	36	17

## DRAW FOR THE NEXT 2 ROUNDS

### Round 21

Fri 7/02/03  
 Football Kingz v Marconi Stallions  
 Newcastle United v Melbourne Knights  
 Northern Spirit v Wollongong Wolves  
 Sun 9/02/03  
 Sydney United V Olympic Sharks  
 South Melbourne V Adelaide City Force  
 Bye Perth Glory

Wed 12/02/03

South Melbourne v Brisbane Strikers

### Round 22

Fri 14/02/03  
 Adelaide City Force v Sydney United  
 Marconi Stallions v Newcastle United  
 Sat 15/02/03  
 Olympic Sharks v Northern Spirit  
 Parramatta Power v Football Kingz  
 Melbourne Knights v South Melbourne  
 Wollongong Wolves v Perth Glory  
 Bye Brisbane Strikers

## NATIONAL LEAGUE HOTSHOTS

GRIFFITHS Joel	Newcastle United	14
MORI Damian	Perth Glory	14
BUONAVOGLIA John	Parramatta Power	9
PELIKAN Anthony	Melbourne Knights	9
<b>ROCHE Anthony</b>	<b>Brisbane Strikers</b>	<b>9</b>
YOUNG Stuart	Wollongong Wolves	9

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# 2002/2003 NSL

## Round 21

### **BRISBANE STRIKERS**

- 1 Jason Kearton
- 2 Richie Alagich
- 3 Shane Stefanutto
- 4 Jon McKain
- 5 Stuart McLaren (c)
- 6 Peter Grierson
- 7 Fernando Rech
- 8 Adam Webber
- 9 Stephen Laybutt
- 10 Kris Trajanovski
- 11 John Carbone
- 12 David Pilic
- 13 Wayne Heath
- 14 Daniel Dreger
- 15 Matthew McKay
- 17 Chris Scuderi
- 18 Lawrence Drake
- 19 Joshua Rose
- 20 Corey Baldock
- 21 Anthony Roche
- 22 Felix Tagawa

Coach - John Kosmina

### **PARRAMATTA POWER**

- 1 Liam Reddy
- 2 Predrag Bojic
- 3 Alvin Ceccoli
- 4 Nick Orlic
- 5 Michael Beauchamp
- 6 Matt Thompson
- 7 Wayne O'Sullivan
- 8 Brad Maloney
- 9 Pablo Cardozo
- 10 Royce Brownlie
- 11 Damien Brown
- 12 Kosta Salapasis
- 13 Peter Gavaghan
- 14 Matthew Langdon
- 15 Ray Younis
- 16 Jacek Sobczyk
- 17 Peter Zorbas
- 18 John Buonavoglia
- 19 Brendan Renaud
- 21 Ahmad Elrich
- 22 Joe Vrkic
- 23 Patrick Carrera

Coach - Nick Theodorakopoulos