

Eye on Strikers

v SYDNEY UNITED

Round 26

Vol 11-12, Sat 15th Mar, 2003 \$2.00



Shangri La
Gardens
Reception Lounge

**Farewell Kossie
and THANKS!
Page 15**

**Close shave with
destiny
Page 21**



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Soccer Club

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President: Ross Melville
Vice President: Dell Townsend
Chairman: Dr Clem Jones AO
Secretary: Ray Evans

General Manager: Ray Evans
Operations Manager: Chris Knight
Football Manager: Jack Baren

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

Junior Development Officer: Shane Stefanutto
Junior Development Co-ordinator: Jacqui Wright

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Matt McKay passes to Shane Stefanutto



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The Courier-Mail



Strikers Presentation Evening

at the Shangri La Gardens Reception Lounge
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Tuesday 27th March

6.30pm

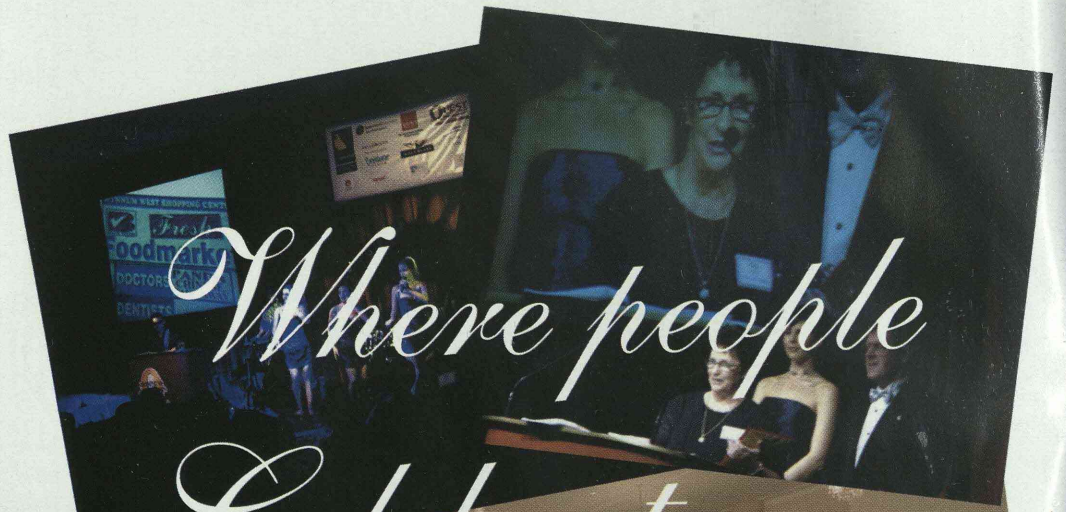
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Coach's Comment



As you should all be aware this will be my last game with the club. Since the news was announced a couple of weeks back I have had numerous calls and e-mails wishing me all the best and thanking me for my time with the Brisbane Strikers and I thank you for your thoughts.

I must be honest, it has at times been difficult but in the main I've enjoyed it immensely. I have learned a lot about coaching, about football, about myself, about people and about life in general. In the words of the great nineteenth century philosopher, Friedrich Nietzsche, "that which does not kill me makes me stronger".

I am definitely stronger mentally and emotionally and have grown from the experience. In regard to what I'll do now the honest answer is "I'm not too sure". I will take a few weeks off and check which way the wind is blowing.

During my time here I have met many wonderful people. Real people who have put a lot of time and effort into trying to make this club work. People that never get a real mention, the behind the scenes people who don't want to be recognised for their efforts but work their backsides off just the same.

People I call friends and I would like to recognise them. First is Ray Evans, a director whose life is this club and Queensland soccer. Next is Ian Dalzell, ex team manager whom I had many a good stoush with. He made it fun with his

"old school" approach and dedication to the club and to the game. Steve Whitlock has been the team physio for 4 of my 5 years here and I have appreciated his no nonsense, get back on the park attitude to player's fitness.

Graham Kinsela is the current team manager and his dedication to the job and work ethic is exemplary. Apart from running a successful electrical contracting business he manages to find 50 hours a week to give to the team.

And he does a very good job of it! Jack Baren was the "un-official" football manager this season and the official football manager for three seasons before that. I have learned so much from Jack it would take a week to write it down.

His enthusiasm and passion for soccer and this club and his people-skills and judgement have been invaluable to me. Our team chaplain, Rob Mann has been a great sounding board and adviser and deserves a special mention. Thanks to Chris Knight and his merry band of volunteers who make match days a breeze. The board for giving me the opportunity in the first place.

Finally to the players. You've taught me much. You all have the ability to make a career of football, how you use that ability is entirely up to you.

Enjoy the game
Kossie.



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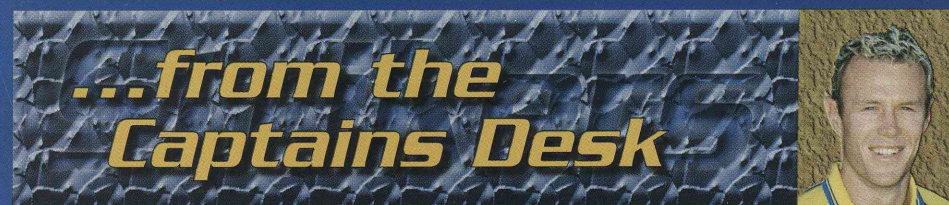
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When the news broke recently that Kossie was not going to return as coach for next season I was asked by a journalist what his legacy would be.

At the time I was still a little dazed after learning Kossie's fate and when put on the spot could only mumble something about a good work ethic.

Since that day I've put a great deal more thought into that same question and realised that what he will leave behind is a hugely significant influence on the professional careers of a vast majority of the players who have been at the club in the last five years. This is basically because he has either given the young a chance to start their football careers or given other footballers the chance to continue theirs when it was stalling.

If you consider the young player category you need only look at the current squad for evidence of my point. Stefanutto, McKain, Webber, Pilic, Heath, Dreger, McKay, Scuderi, Drake, and Rose have all been given the opportunity to begin a career in football. Further evidence can be gathered when you look at the names of players who began their careers under Kossie but have since left the club. Shroj, North, (both 16 years of age when Kossie handed them their national league debuts), Smeltz (now with Adelaide), Baldwin, and Davidson were all given a chance to make it when another coach may have chosen other options in search of immediate results.

In the other category of furthering stalling careers the list of names also brings up some players who have done very well for the Strikers after Kossie brought them to the club at a time when their options were at best limited.

Alagich, Grierson, Laybutt, Trajanovski, Carbone, and Baldock are all part of the current squad, and players like Foster, Dwyer, Ditton, and Duke were part of past teams.

The one player who's situation illustrates this category best though is myself. Following a 12 month contract in Hong Kong coming to a premature end because of circumstances too complicated to go into here, I really was in no-man's land in terms of my football career.

Having found it difficult to find another contract in Scotland before leaving for Hong Kong, returning there was an option that didn't hold a lot of promise, and having played just 30 or so games for Wollongong in my three seasons there I was not exactly a well known N.S.L. player and thus a return to Australia held an uncertain future.

But a call to my best mate Jeromy Harris and a subsequent discussion between him and Kossie brought about my arrival here at the Strikers and what has since been by far and away the best period of my career thus far. For this I am immeasurably grateful to Kossie and believe that if the players I have mentioned so far in this article don't already share some of my sentiments on this topic they should have a good think about it.

With it being the last edition for the season it is time to hand out the thank yous. In no apparent order they go to; the wives, fiances, and girlfriends of the players and staff, the office staff, the volunteers, the B.S.S.A, and to all supporters of the Brisbane Strikers.

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT
STUART McLAREN





GOOD AS GOLD



STRIKERS 2002 - 2003

Blanchy's BACKCHAT!

Its time we asked about the man behind the mo' we call Blanchy –

Thor to do the shaving?

Hey Blanchy, we were all wondering who will be shaving your head? And we came up with Thor as the main candidate. It's just a thought, well done over the past season and hopefully you will be involved next year.

Peter Roberts

You must be a mind reader and thanks for the support.

Whats next for Blanchy

Blanchy you obviously have some type of involvement in the local scene, where do you go and what do you do for your local club.

Peta Harris

I come from the Redcliffe way and at present my only involvement in the Local scene is watching my kids play.

Keep up the great work

A short note to say well done Blanchy. Your articles have been a breath of fresh air throughout the present season. Hopefully you will be involved next season as your honesty and humour has made the Eye on Strikers a much better read.

Darrell Jones

I have thoroughly enjoy myself this season and I certainly hope to be involved next Season. But as you are all aware there are no certainties in Football.

Hobby or career

Do you write just for the Strikers or do you do this for a living? If you do this for a living how do we get you to be involved with local clubs.

Tony Martin

Currently I do this exclusively for the Strikers, but I'm always open to offers. I'm sure if you contact the office they will pass my number on to you.



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From the BSSA

And so it has come to be, Strikers Supporters, that tonight will be the swansong for our season of 2002-2003. Obviously, we are disappointed that the team will not take part in the finals' series this season, but to use an old phrase "That which doesn't kill you can only make you stronger".

Tonight is also the final game for John Kosmina as coach of the Brisbane Strikers. After five seasons at the helm, the BSSA would like to take this opportunity to thank him for his hard work with the club, and wish him all the best for his future endeavours.

Looking back over the season, it would be easy to label it as "disappointing". But, as is the case in football, anything and everything can happen, and happen it sure did. As football followers, we will all have different highlights of the season, and we look forward to more highlights next year, from a Strikers' perspective.

The BSSA would like to thank everyone for their attendance here at Ballymore this season. Whether you come from around the corner or halfway around the world (a reference to Roland Beaney, a BSSA member who resides in Romsey, England, and attended the Marconi match), we look forward to seeing your return patronage in 2003-2004 and beyond.

To the players, management, volunteers and coaching staff, we thank you for the time and

effort put into your respective jobs. Even in these times of NSL uncertainty, you have all done a fantastic effort.

With the off-season looming, the BSSA would like to remind you that tonight's copy of the Free Kick fanzine is a special "double-issue". An excellent way to end the season.

Finally, we would like to bring to your attention a special "Get Well Soon" card that is available for viewing and signing at tonight's game, to be presented to Socceroo legend Johnny Warren, who is currently undergoing medical treatment for cancer, which just three weeks ago claimed former Socceroo coach Eddie Thompson. This venture is being done through the Football Advocates Network (FAN), and even though it's not solely a BSSA venture as such, as we are all football supporters, we hope you will sign a few good words for Johnny.

With that, the referee has blown full-time, and so as we end the season, I'd like to wish everyone in the BSSA, FAN and Ballymore a good evening, and we'll see you all back here next year.

www.go.to/bssa - Official website of the BSSA

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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 wilson@uq.net.au requesting an application form.

Title _____ First Name _____ Family Name _____

Address _____

Suburb _____ Postcode _____

Telephone _____ Fax _____ Mobile _____

Email _____

Lawrence Drake

Date Of Birth: 28/12/81

Occupation: Professional Soccer Player

Hobbies\Interests: Fishing, Relaxing,
Clubbing with Mates

Current Position: Attacking Midfield

Came to Club: 1999

Previous Club: QAS

Nickname: Lenny

Star Sign: Capricorn

Hair Colour: Brown

Eye Colour: Brown

Height: 175cm

Weight: 71kgs

Do you have a personal sponsor? No

Favourite Food: Pasta with Chicken

Favourite TV Show: Everybody loves Raymond

Favourite Actress: Liz Hurley

Worst Habits: Always happy, can't say no

Most Prized Possession: Boots

If you could be any person in
History who would it be? Elvis

List 3 people you would invite to Dinner: Eddie Murphy, Ronaldo, Joe Pesci

Most Annoying Television Show: Passions

Most Ridiculous Sport: Running

Ultimate Sports Fantasy: Coach Manchester United

If you could have any Superpower
what would it be? Magic

Favourite Quote: Older the Berry, the sweeter the Juice

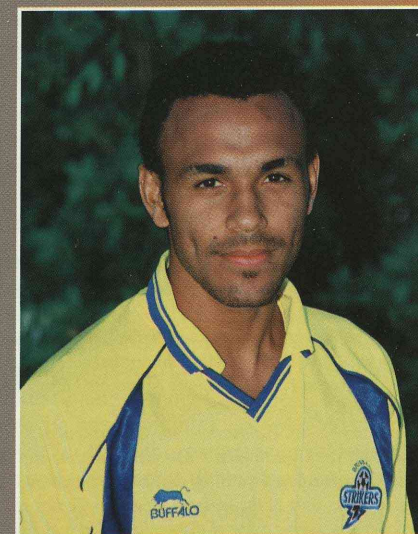
Favourite Day of the Year: News Years Day - Party Time

What's in your Fridge: Kit Kats

What's under your bed: Carpet

What's in your Soccer Bag: Boots, Towel

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



EXTREME STRIKERS



Blanchy's BACKCHAT!

Getting the most from the strikers

At the start of the season I really looked forward to seeing how the Strikers would go. Having had the World Cup in the off season to hype us up, and with an almost unchanged squad from the one that made the top six the previous season, and unlucky not to have done better, and Kossie there again, the expectancy was high. We brought our season tickets with the finals in our minds.

However, not all plans work out and football (thankfully) isn't a predictable game. And to reflect the sentiments of the dude quoted in a recent Free Kick: I don't go because I expect to see my team win. I go because they are my team.

I have no complaints. The wins over Sth Melbourne and Olympic alone made it all worthwhile - not to mention the win over Perth. I always enjoyed watching the Strikers play, though my partner at the start of the season - now my wife was almost physically sick during a few of those mid-season matches that we should have won.

After the first few rounds I thought it was time to get more involved. I sent regular emails to the team and to Blanchy's Backchat (a good innovation) - several of which were published,

plus a few that were shown on the World Game on SBS. I also managed to entice several friends to come along to various games, and keep them up to date with a weekly wrap - some of them now regularly check the Strikers' progress in the media also.

All up it has been a very enjoyable season. Not a finals spot I had hoped for but an excellent time regardless. If you like your football then I recommend you try getting more involved next season to enhance the experience.

The lowest point: The officiating of Derek Rugg and Angelo Nardi in the Adeliade and Kingz home matches respectively. Blatant targeting of Fernando that affected the result and spoilt both games.

The high point: Taunting the Olympic fans with ten to go and 3-0 up.

A big thank you to all players and staff and volunteers and the fans (especially in the corner) for making it all so enjoyable. With the highs and lows this season we have had the full gamment of emotions making it a 'big' season.

Thanks and farewell Kossie - it wont be the same without you. My aim for next season: Season tickets and a Strikers' jersey for the first game, to join the 'serious' cheer squad in the corner, to bring along even more friends and be as involved as this season.

Can't wait till the first home game . . . Bring in the Strikers

Thanks Ben Schmidt

Farewell Kossie and Thanks

Tonight we will witness the end of something that has lasted half as long as the Brisbane Strikers football club itself - the coaching reign of John Kosmina. The club recently announced that Kosmina's contract, which ends in June, will not be renewed.

When a coach parts company with a football club most observers measure him by his results. For the record, Kosmina's balance sheet from 139 games with the Brisbane Strikers until tonight reads 'won 50, drew 36, lost 53'.

Those are the cold, emotionless statistics. But football, like life, is not emotionless and there are other criteria - less tangible but certainly valid - by which Kosmina's contribution should be measured.

When club President Ross Melville, announced Kosmina's contract would not be renewed he said that Kosmina's reign would leave "an indelible mark" on the football club. When asked last week what he meant by that, Melville said he felt Kosmina had made a crucial contribution during a tumultuous period when the club was rocked by dirty politics, legal battles over its ownership and finally, by Soccer Australia kicking it out of the NSL before relenting a month later.

"At the time of us getting kicked out, he (Kosmina) welded together the players and encouraged them to keep faith, and to think we're all in this together" Melville said. "He showed strength, determination and courage".

They were our blackest days as a club, and without John Kosmina's strength of leadership we could have been back in, but without a team.

Strikers General Manager Ray Evans also praised Kosmina for his "loyalty through thick and thin" and for holding most of the players together when they could have left for other, unthreatened clubs.

In simple terms, Evans and Melville credit Kosmina with a major role in the survival and revival of the club. It is obvious that neither of these Board members derived any pleasure from the decision to let him go. So why did they do it? The answer lies in the Board's desire to embark on a new direction, focusing more on youth.

"I'm personally disappointed he does not fit into our plans" Melville explained. "We need a coach who has strong capabilities with and an affinity for developing 17 and 18 year olds and John will admit that's not one of his real strengths".

Maybe that has something to do with Kosmina's sometimes outspoken combative nature. It isn't everyone's cup of tea and has been known to upset battle-hardened old Soccer Australia administrators with hides like rhinoceros, let alone impressionable young footballers. But generally when he has something unpalatable to say, he says it for the right reasons - and this has been appreciated by some of his players.

For example, when asked what he would remember most about Kosmina's coaching, Richie Alagich nominated "his honesty. He tells it like he sees it. I suppose I consider myself to be a player who can be told if I'm not playing well. Some players can be told and some players can't".

Peter Grierson also offered an insight into the power of Kosmina's straight talking. "He's very passionate about the game - that's the main thing I'll remember", Grierson said. "He gets his will to win across very well".

Those of us who have watched Kosmina's teams play throughout his five years at the club have seen that will to win embodied in the way his teams have played - with an emphasis on free-flowing, attacking football played in a hard but fair spirit. They have illustrated a coaching philosophy that the game should be its own adornment. Because of this, Kosmina's product has usually been entertaining, even exhilarating, regardless of results.

Farewell Kossie, and good luck in whatever you do from here. It is to be hoped that when you look back on your time with the Brisbane Strikers Football Club, you do so with pride. You brought to it leadership, strength, passion, courage, honesty, loyalty, the will to win and entertainment. But more than that, in a very real sense you gave it life.

We could not have asked for more than that.

Steve Pitman

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Felix Marking up



Stephen Laybutt

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Stephen Laybutt



Word from the QAS Head Coach

The end of the season is here so how do we view the performances of the team and of individuals?

If one looks only at the results and position in the league then I should view the season negatively and that we have under achieved.

Nobody plays to lose particularly players who are vying for higher representation at varying levels at this early stage in their development.

Which brings me to a very important point and one that many people overlook and that is that the QAS is about development, about putting players in situations where they have to work hard to improve, when at times they may appear to be going backwards but when indeed they are progressing by having to think on their feet, against older and more experienced opposition and not being frightened to lose in preparing to win.

So what have we achieved since last pre-season.

Four players selected to represent the Australs (Australian Select) in the U/19 International Competition held in Adelaide last September.

Four current QAS players represented Australia at the recent U/17 Oceania Qualifiers held on the Sunshine Coast. Australia went through undefeated and qualified for the World Cup to be held in Finland next August and hopefully all four players will be selected.

Five players have been selected to attend the A.I.S. over Easter with a view to the 2007 U/20 World Cup and also possible selection to attend the A.I.S. on a full time basis. One of those players has already been informed he will be invited to the A.I.S. on a scholarship later this year.

All this adds up to 13 players out of a squad of eighteen being identified during this season.

On a final but pleasing note I congratulate the six Queensland players who have been selected for the U/20 World Cup, of which five were former QAS scholarship holders.

Enjoy the game and see you next season.

Bruce Stowell
Head Soccer Coach QAS.

QAS PLAYERS

1	Mario Aparicio	G/K	10	Tim Smits	Striker
2	Chris Burley	Mid Field	11	Chris Grossman	Mid Field
3	Dave Richardson	Def/Wing Back	12	Daniel Leach	Def/Mid Field
4	Cole Stojakovic	Mid Field/Str	13	Willie Tumusiime	Def
5	Tim De Silva	Mid Field/Str	14	Ben Griffin	Def
6	Shane Robinson	Def/Wing back	15	James Lindeman	Mid Field
7	Chris Hagell	Def	16	Chris Acaster	Mid Field
8	Shawn O'Neill	Def	17	Jimmy Downey	
9	Brady Davidson	Mid Field	22	Caleb Patterson	G/K

NATIONAL YOUTH LEAGUE 2002-2003 NORTHERN DIVISION RESULTS - ROUND 25

FRIDAY 7 MARCH 2003 - RD 23 POSTPONED FIXTURE

Marconi Mustangs 0 Olympic Sharks Youth 1

FRIDAY 7 MARCH 2003

Newcastle United Youth 3 (Falla 31', Wallace 51' Mitchell 69') Canberra Deakin Youth 1 (Munoz 14')

Northern Spirit Youth 1 (Mailer 90') Marconi Stallions Youth 0

SATURDAY 8 MARCH 2003

ACTAS 2 (Barisic 63' 74') QAS 0

SUNDAY 9 MARCH 2003

Sydney United Youth 1 (Glavas 37') Parramatta Power Youth 7

Marconi Mustangs 1 (Anabalon 81') AIS 1 (Giraldi 14')

BYE - Olympic Sharks Youth BYE - Wollongong Wolves Youth

NATIONAL YOUTH LEAGUE 2002-2003 NORTHERN DIVISION LEAGUE LADDER - ROUND 25

TEAM	P	W	D	B	L	F	A	Pts
Parramatta Power Youth	21	13	3	4	5	70	32	42
AIS	20	12	5	4	3	37	18	41
Newcastle United Youth	22	11	6	3	5	46	30	39
Northern Spirit Youth	21	10	7	4	4	24	14	37
Wollongong Wolves Youth	21	9	8	4	4	53	30	35
Canberra Deakin	21	9	5	4	7	53	39	32
Sydney United Youth	21	8	6	4	7	48	28	30
Olympic Sharks Youth	21	6	8	3	7	28	25	26
ACTAS	19	6	4	4	9	32	44	22
Marconi Stallions Youth	20	4	5	4	11	22	47	17
QAS	21	4	3	4	14	21	66	15
Marconi Mustangs	20	0	4	4	16	10	55	4

NATIONAL YOUTH LEAGUE 2002-2003 NORTHERN DIVISION FIXTURES - ROUND 26

TUESDAY 11 MARCH 2003 - RD 18 POSTPONED FIXTURE

Marconi Mustangs Vs ACTAS Time: 6.30pm Venue: Marconi Stadium

WEDNESDAY 12 MARCH 2003 - RD 15 POSTPONED FIXTURE

Olympic Sharks Youth Vs AIS Time: 5.00pm Venue: Toyota Park

FRIDAY 14 MARCH 2003 - RD 21 POSTPONED FIXTURE

ACTAS Vs Marconi Stallions Youth Time: 5.00pm Venue: Hawker Oval

SATURDAY 15 MARCH 2003

QAS Vs Sydney United Youth Time: 4.35pm Venue: Ballymore Stadium

SUNDAY 16 MARCH 2003

Canberra Deakin Vs ACTAS Time: 2.30pm Venue: Hawker Oval

Marconi Stallions Youth Vs Marconi Mustangs Time: 2.30pm Venue: Marconi Stadium

Parramatta Power Youth Vs Northern Spirit Youth Time: 2.30pm Venue: Parramatta Stadium

Wollongong Wolves Youth Vs AIS Time: 2.30pm Venue: WIN Stadium

BYE - Olympic Sharks Youth BYE - Newcastle United Youth



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Close Shave with destiny

All of you, who have followed my ramblings throughout the season would be aware tonight at halftime, I will be making my way over to the sideline and having my head and facial hair removed in aid of the Leukaemia Foundations "Shave for a Cure" campaign.

Who will do the shaving? Well, for me the choice was an obvious one. Who else, but the man himself, the living legend and Australian sporting icon, Thor, "God of Thunder" (Lets hope he wields the clippers with the same deft touch as his mighty hammer) The volunteer collectors will be out again tonight and I would like to take this opportunity to thank Amber, Jody and Thomas (Yes they are my kids) for their support and hard work, not only during the "Shave for a Cure" campaign but over the whole season. I must thank the club for allowing these young supporters the chance to gain experiences that will aid them through the adventures of life that are to come. Please dig deep and help those striving to find a cure for this illness that affects so many Australians.

It is with a tinge of sadness that I compose this final babble of the season, for this has been quite simply the highlight of my footballing life. So it's time for me to rollout my Honours List. The first names on the Team sheet picked themselves and it is with heartfelt thanks that I say thank you to Ray Evans (General Manager) and Chris Knight (Operations Manager) for not only giving me the opportunity to be involved this season, but for their continual guidance and support in all my various roles (Or should I say, for giving me the benefit of the doubt that once given the rope I wouldn't hang myself).

To all our wonderful volunteers for tireless effort and commitment to Game Day, which for the most part goes largely unrecognised. To the support staff, just because you're unseen doesn't mean you're unappreciated, for without you there'd be no game day. To those sometimes witty, sometimes controversial, but always entertaining folk, who contribute regularly to the Eye on Strikers, without your input this program

would not be the success that it is today. On a personal note, I must thank all of you that have taken the time to air their views and opinions via the Back Chat page. The overwhelming response to this segment has seen it become one of the most popular features in the programs history. Now on to what I consider the most important ingredient in the recipe for success, you the fans. To steal Adam Coleman's catch cry, thank you all for keeping the faith, and while on the subject of Adam and the rest of the hardcore supporters that make up the BSSA, your ever present and emphatic support is the core reason the Brisbane Strikers have the best supporters in the League. If I have forgotten anyone, I'm very sorry but there are so many people to thank and only a short space to thank them in.

I'm sure all of you will join me as I thank our coach for the past five years, John Kosmina for his wonderful contribution to the team and club. During Johns time at the helm, he has certainly encountered all the varying emotions that this position has to offer and has done so in a professional and enthusiastic manner. We all wish him the best in the next chapter of his football career and I am sure that we will be hearing about John and his achievements for many years to come. Five years is a very long time in Football Management and I know for a fact, his legacy will be felt around the Club for a long time to come.

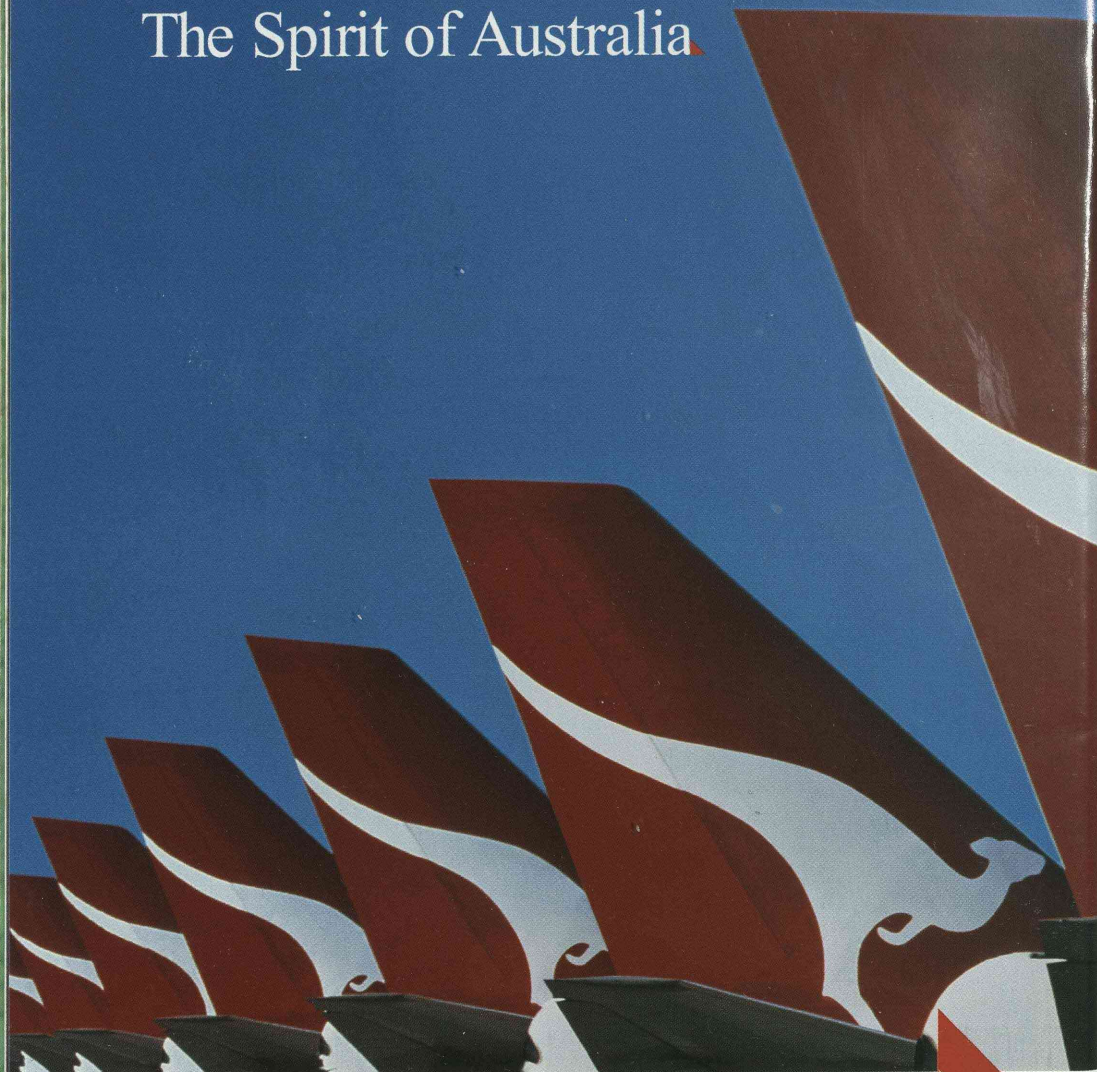
As I come over to the sideline tonight you will be the first people to hear a song written for the occasion by local singer/songwriter Dave Avery, who's accomplishments include penning "Get a haircut, get a real job" for George Thorogood. It has a Strikers flavour, that leaves a good taste in the mouth.

Well I've babbled on enough, so for the last time this season I'm going to leave you with these words, all there's left to do is sit back, settle in and enjoy the action. I hope everyone has a safe and prosperous off season and I'll speak to you all later on this year.

Blanchy



The Spirit of Australia

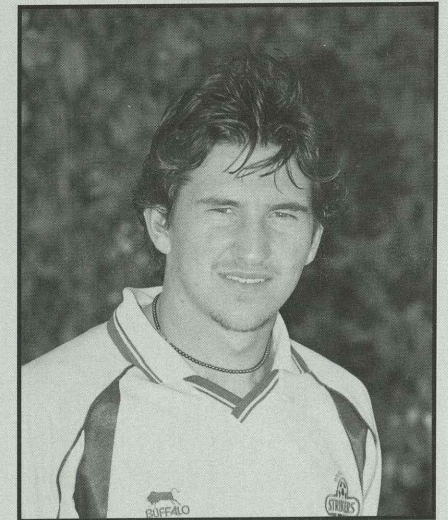


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Shane Stefanutto

Date Of Birth: 12/1/80
 Occupation: Professional Sportsperson
 Hobbies\Interests: Going to the Beach
 Current Playing Position: Left Back
 Came to Club: 1998
 Previous Club: QAS
 Nickname: Steffo
 Star Sign: Capricorn
 Ethnic Origin: Italian
 Hair Colour: Brown
 Eye Colour: Brown
 Height: 175cm
 Weight: 77kgs



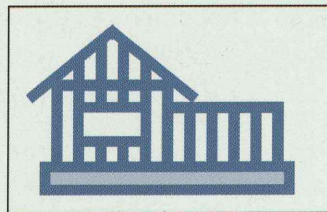
Do you have a personal sponsor? Uhlsport
 Favourite Food: Crumbed Chicken
 Favourite TV Show: CSI
 Favourite Actress: Angelina Jolie
 Distinguishing Features: Tan Skin
 Worst Habits: Driving to Fast
 Most Prized Possession: My dog Zeus
 If you could be any person in History who would it be? Diego Maradona
 List 3 people you would invite to Dinner: Kylie Minogue, Angelina Jolie, Billy Connolly
 Most Annoying Television Show: Russell Coights All Aussie Adventures
 Most Annoying Television Personality: Ricki Lake
 Worst Ever Song: Achy Breaky Heart
 Most Ridiculous Sport: Bull Riding
 Ultimate Sports Fantasy: To score winning Goal in World Cup Final
 If you could have any Superpower what would it be: To be able to Fly
 Favourite Quote: You only get out, what you put in
 Favourite Day of the Year: January 12th My Birthday
 What's in your Fridge: Not much at all
 What's under your bed: A fair bit of dust
 What's in your Soccer Bag: Towel, Boots, Shinpads, Spray Jacket, Boot Polish
 If you had \$10 left in the World what would you spend it on? A Lottery Ticket



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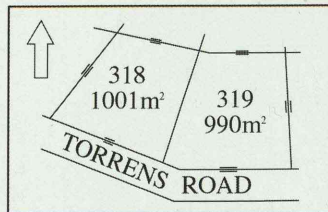
ARE YOU PLANNING TO:



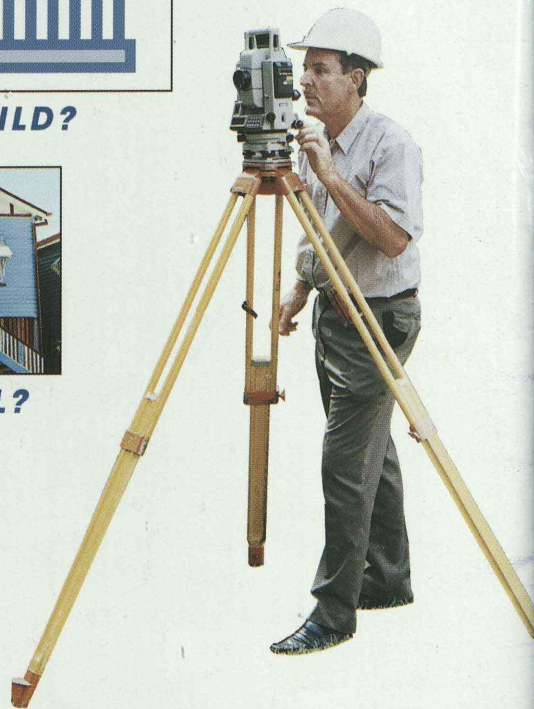
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758 Old Cleveland Road
Camp Hill
Q 4152
3398 2969

PROUDLY SUPPORTING THE BRISBANE STRIKERS

Round Up

Round 25 Review

NEWCASTLE UNITED 1 (E Masi 6') **FOOTBALL KINGZ 2** (H Ngata 5', A Vlahos 87')

Cautions: nil

Venue: EnergyAustralia Stadium Referee: Ben Williams Crowd: 5,065

NORTHERN SPIRIT 2 (A McDermott 66', I Ferguson 71') **MARCONI STALLIONS 1** (G Last 70')

Cautions: I Ferguson (NS) 26', M Thwaite (MS) 54', A Brosque (MS) 57', J Spiteri (MS) 90'

Venue: North Sydney Oval Referee: Brett Hugo Crowd: 3,760

ADELAIDE CITY FORCE 2 (M Kemp 53', R Stanton 81' O.G.) **WOLLONGONG WOLVES 1** (D Men-

nillo 80' pen)

Cautions: J Timpano (WW) 23', D Cervinski (WW) 69', G Lozanovski (AC) 79'

Venue: Hindmarsh Stadium Referee: Mark Shield Crowd: 2,200

PERTH GLORY 3 (M Horsley 4', B Despotovski 14', N Mrdja 74') **MELBOURNE KNIGHTS 1** (A

Pelikan 19')

Cautions: A Kovacic (MK) 55'

Venue: Perth Oval Referee: Eddie Lennie Crowd: 9,176

SYDNEY UNITED 0 **PARRAMATTA POWER 1** (D Barrett 75' O.G.)

Cautions: A Elrich (PP) 44', S Babic (SU) 54', J Buonavoglia (PP) 59', C Menapi (SU) 87'

Red Card: P Cardozo (PP) 45'

Venue: Sydney United Sports Centre Referee: Matthew Breeze Crowd: 3,251

** **SOUTH MELBOURNE VS BRISBANE STRIKERS** - Played 12 February 2003

OLYMPIC SHARKS - BYE



BRISBANE STRIKERS 2002/2003

Player Statistics

Date	Opponents		F-A	Player Statistics																					
	Rnd 1	Rnd 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 9/1	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	3-0	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲
	Rnd 22	Bye																							
Sun 23/2	Rnd 23	Football Kingz	A	3-0	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲
Sat 1/3	Rnd 24	Newcastle United	H	1-1	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲
Wed 12/2	Rnd 25	South Melbourne	A	0-1	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲
TBA	Rnd 26	Sydney United	H																						
				Individual League Appearances																					
				80	173	107	66	143	99	67	43	103	302	91	66	28	22	35	2	38	25	13	20	3	
				0	4	1	2	10	18	27	0	8	76	7	5	0	0	1	0	1	2	0	12	1	

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

Junior Development Report



The last game is upon us and I must admit this season really has flown by. It only seems like yesterday that we were all so excited about the start of the 2002/2003 season with huge anticipation and a great deal of expectation.

Obviously things haven't turned out the way we would like but the one thing I will definitely say about this year is, 'football is a funny game'!

I have heard many people use this saying when describing soccer but never have I truly experienced it till this year.

Obviously the off season is going to be a very long and interesting one, believe me with around a 6 month lay off coming up, it is going to be a very frustrating one too, for all those involved with the Strikers.

I would personally like to take this opportunity to wish Kossie the best of luck in the future, I don't think it will be the same around the club without him and I would also like to thank him for all he has done for me personally and the team in general.

During the extended off season the Brisbane Strikers players will be working overtime in schools and soccer clubs around Brisbane.

Already we have had an overwhelming response to the secondary schools promotion we have been running. Obviously in the coming months we will be extending this to include primary schools and then progressing into junior soccer clubs around Brisbane to enhance the clubs image.

Finally I would like to thank all the players for their hard work in promoting the club this season.

Their willingness has been tremendous and greatly appreciated. I know how difficult it can be at times when you train morning and night then have an appearance for the club as well. Hopefully all their hard work is paying off.

Enjoy the game tonight.

Shane Steffanuto



Working in Traffic



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A Big Thanks to all

Hopefully at the end of tonight's game you will be applauding the efforts by the players during the season, spare a thought for the other Strikers team. The one that wears black and red shirts, because without this team of volunteers none of what you see on the pitch would take place.

These people man the gates, turnstiles, are stretcher bearers, set up the field, sell raffle and double tickets, sell programmes, act as event staff, organise ball boys, PA announcers, Team and Match Officials liaison, Media related duties, acted as ground stewards.

It would be wrong to single out any individual, they have been a team worthy of winning any championship all season,

nothing was beyond them and they never wilted.

Most of them failed to see a full game during the season, turning up hours before the kick off and still being there after the final whistle, their only reward a red and black shirt and occasional beer after the game and tidy up was done.

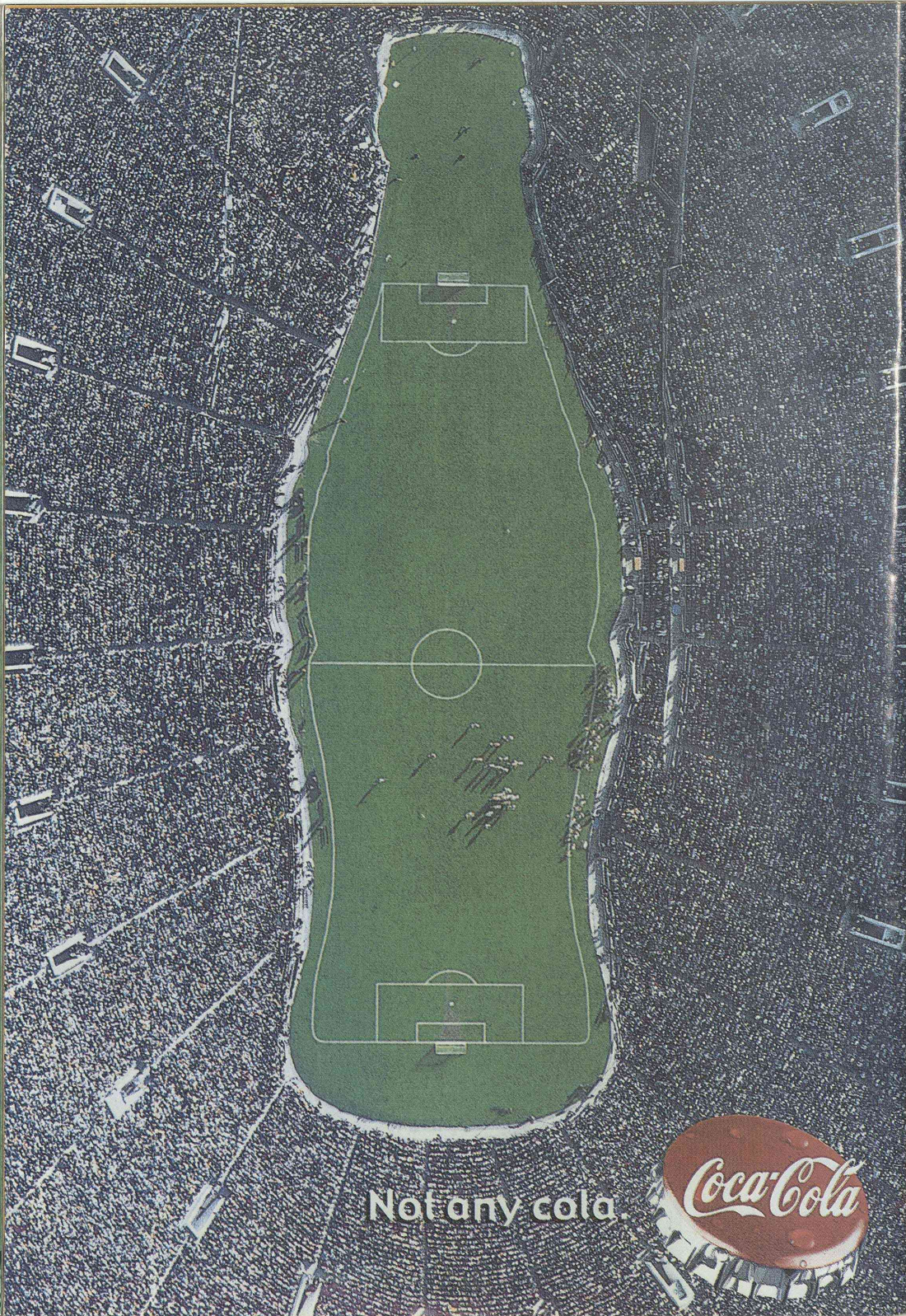
Thanks to our ball boys, cheerleaders and many teams of mascots who have appeared throughout the season.

As the co-ordinator of these people I thank them for their efforts and praise their professionalism and hopefully someday soon, we will do it all again.

Chris Knight

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.



Not any cola



National League Review

NATIONAL LEAGUE SEASON 2002/03

TEAM	P	W	D	L	B	GF	GA	PTS
Perth Glory	23	16	2	5	2	48	20	50
Olympic Sharks	23	15	3	5	2	48	28	48
Parramatta Power	23	11	4	8	2	46	26	37
Newcastle United	24	10	7	7	1	37	25	37
Adelaide City Force	23	11	4	8	2	40	31	37
Northern Spirit	23	11	3	9	2	36	39	36
South Melbourne	23	9	5	9	2	31	33	32
Brisbane Strikers	23	7	5	11	2	37	42	26
Sydney United	23	6	6	11	2	20	30	24
Melbourne Knights	23	6	6	11	2	36	51	24
Football Kingz	23	6	6	11	2	22	40	24
Wollongong Wolves	23	5	8	10	2	24	41	23
Marconi Stallions	23	5	5	13	2	23	42	20

DRAW FOR THE NEXT 2 ROUNDS

Round 26

Fri 14-03-03
 Wollongong Wolves Vs Melbourne Knights
 7:30pm WIN Stadium
 Olympic Sharks Vs Adelaide City Force
 7:45pm Toyota Park

Sat 15-03-03
 Brisbane Strikers Vs Sydney United
 7:00pm Ballymore Stadium

Sun 16-03-03
 Football Kingz Vs South Melbourne
 12.00pm Ericsson Stadium

Sun 16-03-03
 Marconi Stallions Vs Perth Glory
 5:00pm Marconi Stadium
 Parramatta Power Vs Northern Spirit
 5:00pm Parramatta Stadium

Newcastle United - BYE

NATIONAL LEAGUE HOTSHOTS

NAME	CLUB	TOTAL
MORI Damian	Perth Glory	16
GRIFFITHS Joel	Newcastle United	14
ROCHE Anthony	Brisbane Strikers	12
BUONAVOGLIA Johnny	Parramatta Power	12
PELIKAN Anthony	Melbourne Knights	10

Shangri La
 Gardens
 Reception Lounge



PRE-PURCHASED TICKETS

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2002/2003 NSL

Round 26

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

SYDNEY UNITED

- 1 Vanja Ivesa
- 2 Bozidar Cacic
- 3 Boris Pavic
- 4 Paul Bilokapic
- 5 David Barrett
- 6 Nahuel Arrarte
- 7 Slavomir Lukac
- 8 Mile Jedinak
- 10 Gabriel Mendez
- 11 Christian Cevenini
- 12 Damon Collina
- 13 Vince Savoca
- 14 Michael Santalab
- 15 Louis Brain
- 16 Commins Menapi
- 17 Michael Cunico
- 18 Jon Angelucci
- 19 Brendon Santalab
- 20 John Perosh
- 21 Michael Cindric
- 22 Daniel Watkins
- 23 Anthony Doumanis
- 24 Milan Bosnar
- 25 Ante Deur
- 26 Mark Rudan
- 27 Matthew Clowes

Coach - John Kosmina