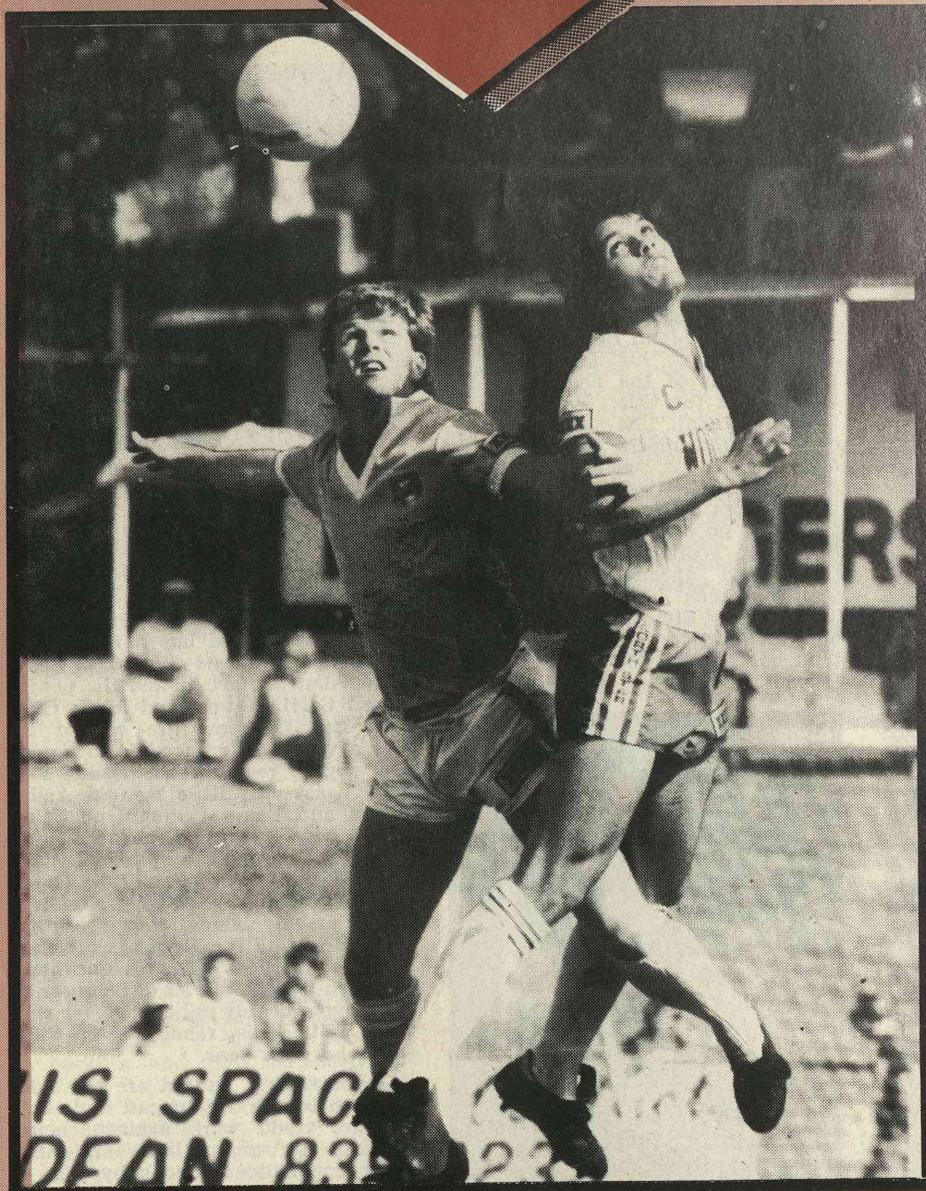


THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE QUEENSLAND SOCCER FEDERATION

GO SOCCER

PRICE: 80c

Vol. 13, No. 1
MARCH 10, 1988



QUEENSLAND
SOCCER FEDERATION



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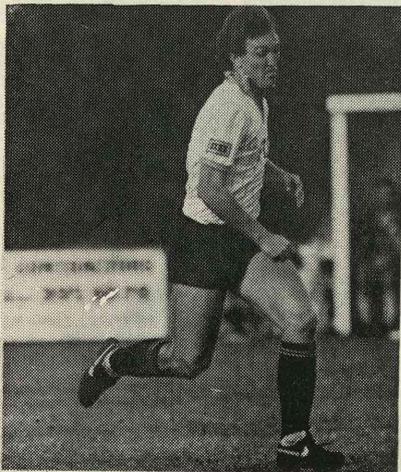


GO SOCCER

Tigers and Wolves are unlikely hunting partners, but the combination of the two at Heath Park is set to result in the mauling of a number of teams in the XXXX League this season.

Without a doubt, if Easts are successful as expected in signing Wynnum players Billy McDermott, Dave Mewburn and Geoff Maltby, they will emerge from the pack as favorites for the XXXX League premiership. Quite simply, the Tigers will be bigger and stronger than most of their opponents and are set to steamroll their way to a bagful of premiership points. Few teams will leave Heath Park this year with anything more than sore and bruised bodies and well-kicked backsides.

Easts coach John Sime refutes the suggestion that his team are the heavyweights of the League, or favourites for the title. "We're looking to play football," he says. But anyone who remembers Sime's playing days with Lions, when he was sent off twice in the first month after his arrival from Scotland, will know that there are no half measures with the Scotsman. Football the Sime way is tough and uncompromising. Easts with big men like Phil Redmond, Tony Kane, Stein Grodum, Maltby and Mewburn are certain to mirror their coach's philosophy. And in McDermott they have a player, who on



Phil Redmond, one of the Tigers' big men who are set to terrorize defences this season.



Rochedale's Craig Low is put under pressure by North Star fullback Gordon Buchanan.

his day, can be the best in the League.

Coalstars coach Brian Styles also is a Scotsman and has a fair share of big men in his side like Mark Brusasco, Alan McFarlane and the newly signed Calvin Daunt and Mark Gilbert. But Coalstars are certain to play a vastly different style to Easts. The engine room of the Bundamba team boast only little men in Andy Ogden and Bruce Penman, plus the squad now includes youngsters like Craig Thompson, Troy Crannie and Chris Slater. Coalstars will be looking for points by playing a short, quick passing game then pushing forward to find the big men up front, Daunt and Brusasco. It's a style which will earn Coalstars a lot of points this year, but probably not enough for the title. With this rebuilt side, that could be next year.

Brisbane City Azzurri are the side expected to win the League, and that pressure could work against them. On their performance last year, losing the premiership to Lions by just a point, the predictions are understandable — if all factors were the same

(Continued next page)

NEWS REPORT

OUR TIP

How Go Soccer tips they will finish in the 1988 XXXX League:

EASTERN SUBURBS
COALSTARS
BRISBANE CITY
NORTH STAR
MOUNT GRAVATT
 Ipswich United
 Olympic United
 Redlands United
 Brisbane Croatia
 Taringa Rovers
 Grange Thistle
 Rochedale Rovers

(From page 2)

as last year. But they are not. A new coach in Matt Carson is on the season and it could take time for him to settle and the players to adapt. The team's early exit from the XXXX pre-season underlined that. But more importantly, this is not the City side of last year. Gone are Frank Mengotti, Martin Nugent, Ken Swan and Alf Catalano — all first team regulars last season. A third of the team is a lot to replace and the fans may just have to understand that this season.

Alan Marley's latest knee injury was tragic both for the player and his club. North Star could find out this season how significant Marley was to the side's overall results. Jim McDonagh will get goals. Possibly just as many as Marley. But he is unlikely to create as many spaces and opportunities for his team-mates as did the Kiwi international. Coach Iain Fagan also has struggled to settle on a backline and only the experience of Billy Williamson has helped disguise the problems which exist. North Star have got to be in the top five, although if Williamson gets injured, a middle of the table position cannot be ruled out.

(Continued on page 12)

POINTS TO PONDER

Lions would do well to exert a little better control over the halftime behaviour of some of their spectators last weekend. Frank Liddell and others had to ignore the taunts from flag-waving children, who after running around the park for the entire halftime break, mobbed the Lions players when they returned to the field. At one stage Liddell was enveloped by a rival supporter's flag.

One of the best stories around town is that of the Christmas party held by one of soccer's electronic media men. The night finished with guests skinny-dipping in his pool. And the best thing about it all is that the story comes with pictures!

Was a night at Rosie's disco and a round of golf compulsory activities at last week's regional director of coaching seminar?

Two non-coaches who have watched as much pre-season football as the experts compiled an interesting list last week. They put their heads together to formulate a likely 15-man touring squad for Fiji. After half an hour of deep thought and discussion, they could produce only 10 names.

Forget Frank Mengotti, former Lions, Gap and Grange Thistle goalkeeper Greg Marshall is about to set a new transfer record — if last week's QSF minutes are believed. A typing slip resulted in Marshall being placed on the transfer list at 41,000. Those typists among us will know 4 is the lower case version of \$ and alas for Marshall's selling club, and a great relief for his buyer, his real price is \$1000.

Coalstars have a real winner in their new clubhouse, but perhaps they could have used a few dollars to mow the grass behind the far end goal. At one stage of last weekend's trial, the match ball and the spare were lost.

FRONT COVER: Jon Burgess (left) and Andy Watson jump for a ball during XXXX League action last season. The two are team-mates at Brisbane City this year.

EDITORIAL

By Go Soccer Editor
GEOFF STEAD

The absence of Brisbane Lions from the XXXX League this season has the potential to give Queensland soccer a huge boost — but it all rests with the players at the other clubs.

Never before have so many players been offered so much. If they rise to the challenge, then the legacy of 1988 will be an unrivalled depth of representative quality players.

In recent seasons Lions have dominated the representative scene with 75 percent of the State squad coming from the Richlands club. This year the club's NSL commitments make those players unavailable for the Maroons tour of Fiji in May. That means Queensland coach Bruce Stowell is looking for nearly an entire new squad.

The QSF has done its job extremely well in planning a season which gives every player a chance to be among the 15 "new-boys" who will tour in May.

The stepping stone to that tour will be the intercity games, which again to the QSF's credit, has been expanded to include the Gold Coast this year. Players in all 12 XXXX League clubs should be giving their utmost at the moment to ensure they are selected in Brisbane or Ipswich

teams. The Gold Coast is certainly taking the series seriously with coach Jim Selby already holding North End versus South End trials.

But on-field performance is not the only criteria considered when picking a representative side and more so a touring team. It is common knowledge that there were several isolated instances on the last tour of Fiji which were not befitting the image Queensland soccer attempts to portray.

A good representative footballer is one who is as professional off the field as he is on. And those hoping to clinch a berth on this year's tour should be seen to be displaying that attitude at club level first.

If ever there was a year for any and every player to give his all — then 1988 is the one. With fixtures kicking off this weekend, Go Soccer wishes every player the very best for the coming season and challenge them with the well-used cliché — who dares, wins.

By QSF Executive Director
ALAN VESSEY

ACROSS MY DESK

This season will be peculiar for the XXXX League clubs in that the work they put in over the next few months will be rewarded when the National League competition concludes in August.

The spotlight will be firmly on the local competition from then through to the finals in October, that's if the clubs put in the work now. It will not just happen as a matter of course. The media naturally will be attracted to the competition if clubs have been seen to be acting in a professional manner and the competition proving itself to be the premier grade of soccer in Queensland.

If clubs, their administrators and players, adopt a casual attitude to this year's XXXX League, then so too will the media. And our corporate backers will quickly follow.

And it doesn't take much for clubs to meet their commitment. It's the simple things that count the most. Does your club phone in half-time and full-time scores to the QSF offices, with scorers full names and goal times where possible? Does your team wear the numbers as in the official programme? Are your matches presented in a professional manner?

We have a good product in the XXXX League, we proved that beyond doubt last year. But the best product in the world will not sell unless it is packaged right.

THOMMO



with
ERIC THOMPSON

TALKING

I should learn to shut my big mouth — all the off-season I have been tipping Lions keeper Jason Kearton to fail in the National League.

I based my assessment on a number of points. I felt he didn't have the strength to play in the NSL and I also thought he had a dream rise to fame last year. He got his place only because Rob Farrow broke his leg and playing in a superior team like Lions were last year doesn't often properly test a keeper.

But now I have got to eat humble pie, Jason is proving me wrong.

His success has been one of the few bright spots in Lions' return to the NSL. But at the same time, I think Jason should be aware of the points I have made. The moment he stops working at his game will be the moment the unexplained and unexpected mistakes begin.

Jason has an excellent keeper's coach behind him in Martin Coe, and should listen to all he says. Undoubtedly Jason has the potential to go to the very top and if throwing the humble pie at his critics like me helps him get there, then keep tossing it my way "J".

Patience and not pressure is what is needed in these early days of Lions return to the NSL.

Anyone who expected immediate miracles from Juan Cutillas was not only kidding themselves, but also showed a distinct failure in understanding the man and his methods. Cutillas proved a huge hit at Olympic and Brisbane City, but if his job had hinged on his first four results in both cases, he wouldn't have lasted the month.

Cutillas takes time to fully assess each player within his squad and obviously it takes time for them to adjust to Cutillas' methods and instructions. I am sure Lions are still not playing the way Cutillas wants them to perform and I am even more convinced that he would be the first to admit the three wins to date were not achieved the way he would have liked.

I believe by the end of the season we will see a different Lions. If the team can get enough points by mid-year to be comfortably away from relegation, I can see Lions pushing for a top five berth by the last few rounds.

With no fixtures on over the Easter weekend, why doesn't Queensland coach Bruce Stowell use the time to begin preparing for Fiji?

I have written in the past about what the XXXX pre-season tournament means to a player and there are three clear areas of concern regarding the competition.

No-one can blame the QSF for wanting a prestigious, orderly competition to impress the sponsor. Nor can the rep. coaches be blamed for wanting to see the best players in their best positions. But then neither can the coaches and players be blamed for using the tournament for what it is, the pre-season.

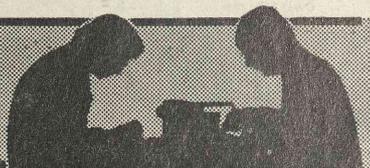
That's why Easter looms as the solution. Stowell should name a squad of 36 players which would include his probables and possibles. The squad should then go into a four-day training camp over Easter which I am sure would remove any question marks or confirm any suspicions the rep. coaches presently may have.

I imagine some of the squad members may resent losing their Easter. But if that's their attitude then perhaps they don't want to wear an intercity or State jersey bad enough.

Some were critical of Iain Fagan's decision last week to withdraw Gordon Buchanan and Billy Williamson from the Brisbane Select team. But I think the decision was warranted.

A coach's first obligation is to prepare his own players, for his own club for the competition in which they are playing. If Iain felt he needed those players on that day, then so be it.

FACE TO FACE.



WITH QLD. DIRECTOR OF COACHING, BRUCE STOWELL

GO SOCCER: The XXXX pre-season tournament was your first look at what is available for selection for the Queensland tour of Fiji in May. What impressed you and disappointed you throughout the tournament?

BRUCE STOWELL: The tournament has reconfirmed that the players I selected in previous State teams from XXXX clubs are still among the players impressing me. There are a few others that I am seriously considering adding to a mental squad which I will finalise after watching the intercity games and the Coalstars trial. Overall, I was disappointed in the lack of organisation in some teams which restricted some players from performing better. Also, while I know clubs have a structure and limited squads, I have seen some players used outside their best positions. I can understand the reasons, but it does not make my job any easier.

GS: Your final 15-man touring squad will not contain any Lions NSL players. How do you feel, particularly after an undefeated representative season last year, embarking on a three-match series against Fiji without some of the players you have relied upon repeatedly in recent seasons?

BS: It's disappointing not to have a group of players I have worked with and who understand what I require. It really puts me behind the eight ball. I will have very little time to organise the new squad, but I intend doing a lot with them in a very short time. I am not going to complicate things, I am just going to try and get them to understand a little more about the game, what I will allow them to do and urge them to do what they are sometimes not encouraged to do in their XXXX teams. I believe there are some players capable of doing more, but at the moment they seem hamstrung.

GS: It must impress you to see so many of your youth teams players, and in particular those from country areas, being recruited by Brisbane clubs this year — Craig Thompson, Chris Slater, Mark Geritz and Glen Sheppard being among the examples. How much more talent is in the country regions and are Brisbane clubs neglecting their duty by waiting until you and your regional directors of coaching do all the work?

BS: There is a lot of talent in the country areas, a lot. I don't mind myself and the regional directors doing the spadework. What I do mind is when clubs know championships are on, particularly 15's and 16's, but no-one ever goes and sees them. To just rely on me is to say that I am the only one that can pick a good player, and that's rubbish. For clubs not to take time out to look is a slight on the game.

GS: Late last year your name was linked as a candidate for the Lions NSL team coaching position, had you got the job, what would you have done differently, who would you have bought and why is the team currently not competing?

BS: I would have recruited basically only players that played in Queensland or were somehow attached to Queensland. I am sure I would have signed two or three players that are still in the XXXX League that I think could have done a job at Lions. I would have talked long and hard with two institute players and I would have tried to get two players that used to play for Lions and are now interstate. I believe Lions are not competing because they are not organised, some players are not in positions that best suit them and I think they are being mixed around too much.

GS: In the past six months you have been overlooked for the national under 16 and youth team coaching positions. How much of a blow was that to your coaching ambitions and what targets have you now set yourself?

BS: It was an incredible blow. I know I have the ability, I have proven that. Initially when I wasn't given the 16's, I set myself a target of coaching outside of Australia. It took me a long time to settle again because of my simply wanting to improve myself. I still believe I have the ability to work at the highest level and I believe I can do the senior national side at least as well as it is being done at present — that is a goal I have got. I hope the chance will be forthcoming, despite that I am based in Queensland. I think they (the ASF) have to look at someone with ability and not just someone from NSW or Victoria. I would be disappointed further if the job became vacant and they looked outside of Australia without looking at what is available here. I would certainly be among those from within Australia that would apply.

ALL ACTION IN LOWER DIVISIONS

The Division Two promotion race has the potential to be every bit as exciting as the XXXX League this season.

Already Acacia Ridge's new coach Eric Thompson has declared his team the "ones to beat". But there are any number of sides fancying themselves to do just that.

The Ridge have retained nearly all of their squad which made a good challenge for promotion last year, but also have made some key signings. Former Lions and Coalstars striker Dave Richardson joins the Blue Army while fellow Irishman Roy Smyth will be back in eight weeks. Former Ridge boy Brad Ryan also has returned to Proud Field after stints at Olympic and Easts while speedy striker Darren Spence has switched over from Inala City.

His former club could be among those to throw out the strongest challenge to the Ridge. Joe Gilroy has been at the helm for nearly two months and has taken his side and the club to new levels of professionalism. Inala have had some good wins in the pre-season and their opening derby against Lions this weekend could be the match of the round.

Wynnum and Pine Rivers were among the pacesetters last year and despite significant losses in Billy McDermott(?) and Lee Scriggins should again be hard to beat. Dick Mitchell has halted the recent at Mitchelton and the Mustangs loom as real darkhorses this season.

Newmarket, with Bob White at the helm and guest player Stuart Pearce on the way, should also have a better season than last year while The Gap will be looking to maintain their revival. Valley Trident have always been competitive and should be hard to beat again while Nerang, Bardon and Capalaba could fight to avoid relegation.

If past seasons are an indication, the lower divisions provide some of the best footballing spectacles each weekend. Kingsridge, guided by player coach Mickey Rooney, are among the more attractive footballing sides and certainly one of the best supported. They will be hard to toss for the Division Three premiership this year. The big challenges could come from former Division Two



Midfield Brad Ryan (centre) who has switched from Easts to Acacia Ridge this season.

club Goodna, the ever-improving Beenleigh and sleeping giants Souths United. Lutwyche United could have found their level this season and should be among the top four while the Toowoomba sides St. Albans and Willowburn can never be under-estimated.

All the action in Division Four could be in the Western suburbs where Kenmore and Moggill are expected to mount strong challenges for promotion. But three teams from the other side of town, Samford, Pine Hills and Albany Creek loom as the major stumbling blocks.

In the other divisions look out for a superfit South Star, a competitive Griffith Uni, a strong Deception Bay and exciting young teams from QSF newcomers Loganholme and Dinmore Bushrats.



THE XXXX PRE-SEASON

A new name was etched onto the XXXX pre-season cup after North Star and Olympic United clashed in the \$7000 final of the tournament at Perry Park this week. In the competition's five-year history, Lions have won three times while Brisbane City were successful in the other two years. The tournament was sponsored by Bond Brewing (Qld.).

GROUP A

Brisbane C. 4 v Rochedale 0 (2-0)
Scorers: City: Chapman pen., Cooper 2, Cahut.

Man of the Match: Ibro Cahut (BC)

Rochedale 2 v Ipswich U. 2 (1-0)

Scorers: Rochedale: Clarkson pen., Low. Ipswich U.: B. Kitching pen., Lindsay pen.

Man of the Match: Jim Hermiston (Ipswich U.)

Result overturned to 3-0 win to R'dale

Brisbane City 2 v Ipswich U. 0 (0-0)

Scorers: City: Scriggins 2

Man of the Match: Andy Chapman (City)

FINAL GROUP A TABLE:

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Bris. City	2	—	—	5	0	6
Rochedale	1	—	1	3	4	3
Ipswich U.	—	—	2	0	5	0



Goalkeeper Brett Beves, who had some strong games for Brisbane Croatia and was named in the Brisbane Select invitation side.

GROUP C

Mt. Gravatt 2 v Olympic U. 2 (0-1)

Scorers: Mt. Gravatt: M. Mulvey, McGregor. Olympic: Vosuga pen., H. Makridakis.

Man of the Match: Noel Davis (Mt. Gravatt)

Result overturned to 3-0 win to Olympic

Olympic U. 2 v Bris. Croatia 0 (0-0)

Scorers: Olympic: Glockner, Vosuga
Man of the Match: C. Vosuga (Oly)

Mt. Gravatt 1 v Bris. Croatia 1 (0-0)

Scorers: Mt. Gravatt: M. Mulvey pen. Croatia: Stepanic.

Man of the Match: Mark Atmore (Croatia)

FINAL GROUP C TABLE

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Olympic United	2	—	—	6	0	6
Brisbane Croatia	—	1	1	1	3	1
Mount Gravatt	—	1	1	1	4	1

WHERE TO GO THIS WEEKEND

XXXX LEAGUE:

Sunday —

Perry Pk, 2.45 pm: **Bris Croatia v C'stars**
 Ebbw Vale, 2.45 pm: **Ipswich U v R'dale**
 S'grounds, 2.45 pm: **Redlands U v Olympic**
 Lanham Pk, 2.45 pm: **Grange T v Easts**
 Dittmer Pk, 2.45 pm: **Mt Gravatt v Nth Star**
 Spencer Pk, 2.45 pm: **Bris City v Taringa**

DIVISION TWO:

Saturday —

Proud Fld, 7 pm: **Acacia R v Bardon L**

Sunday —

McCook Pk, 2.45 pm: **Newmarket v Nerang**
 Maramba Stdm, 2.45 pm: **Wynnum v Pine R**
 Frecman Rd, 2.45 pm: **Inala C v Lions**
 Teralba Pk, 2.45 pm: **Mitcheton v Valley T**
 Fredericks Pk, 2.45 pm: **Capalaba v The Gap**

TOURNAMENT WRAP-UP

GROUP D

Easts 1 v Coalstars 0 (0-0)

Scorer: Easts: W. Corbett

Man of the Match: Stein Grodum (Easts)

Result overturned to 3-0 win to C'stars

Coalstars 2 v Taringa R. 2 (0-1)

Scorers: Coalstars: McFarlane,

Daunt. Taringa: Dines pen., Fegan

Man of the Match: Mark Brusasco (Coalstars)

Easts 3 v Taringa 2 (1-1)

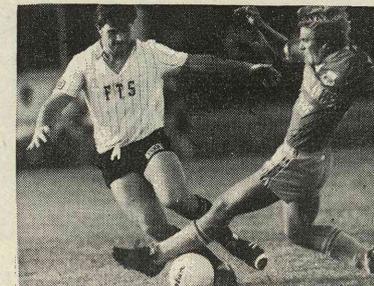
Scorers: Easts: Redmond pen.,

W. Corbett 2. Taringa: Gilroy, Brimson.

Man of the Match: Phil Redmond (Easts)

FINAL GROUP D TABLE

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Coalstars	1	1	—	5	2	4
Easts	1	—	1	3	5	3
Taringa	—	1	1	4	5	1



East's defender Tony Kane (left) is tackled by ANZ Colt of the Year, Shane Haddow. Easts sensationally had a first round win over Coalstars overturned to a 0-3 loss.

Nth. Star 2 v Bris. Croatia 1 (2-1)

Scorers: Nth. Star: Lindsay,

McDonagh. Croatia: Greer own g.

Man of the Match: G. Lindsay (NS)

Olympic U. 1 v Grange T. 0 (0-0) AET

Scorer: Olympic U.: Glockner

Man of the Match: S. Glockner (O)

Coalstars 7 v Rokedale 1 (4-0)

Scorers: Coalstars: Donald own goal, Daunt 2, Brusasco 3, J.

Kitching. Rochedale: Schimkat.

Man of the Match: M. Brusasco (C)

SEMI-FINALS

Nth. Star 1 v Easts 1 (0-0) AET.

Nth. Star won 4-3 on penalties

Scorers: Nth. Star: Williamson pen.

Easts: Redmond pen.

Penalties: Nth. Star: Williamson

(scored), McDonagh (scored), Buchanan (scored), Lobwein (scored)

Easts: Redmond (missed), Thompson (scored), Gordon (scored), McDermott (scored), W. Corbett (saved).

Man of the Match: G. Lindsay (NS)

Olympic U. 2 v Coalstars 0 (0-0)

Scorers: Olympic: Glockner, H.

Makridakis

Man of the Match: C. Vosuga (OL)

XXXX PRE-SEASON FINAL

Nth. Star .. v Olympic .. (...)

Scorers:

.....

Man of the Match:

Player of the Series:

.....

QUARTER-FINALS

Easts 4 v Brisbane C. 2 (2-1)

Scorers: Easts: Corbett 2, Redmond pen., Playle. City: Chapman, Mejias.

Man of the Match: W. Corbett (E)



Brisbane City defender Noel Greenhalgh (top) and Coalstars' Dale Dawes were among those who had strong games in the early rounds of the competition.

CSR Gyprock

The Plasterboard

MAJOR SPONSORS OF CROATIA SOCCER CLUB

This year Croatia Soccer Club is proud to be playing in the XXXX League after being promoted from Division Two last year.

Nearly all first team players from last season have been retained and the club has acquired additional playing strength in gaining fast forward Mick Kelly. Three interstate recruits are expected to be signed this week which will bolster the club greatly this year.

Croatia also has good and upcoming players in Colts Michael Babic and Michael Ecimovic, who have both played in the XXXX pre-season tournament and acquitted themselves favourably against more experienced and stronger opposition. Babic, only 15, is a Queensland junior representative while Ecimovic, 18, is a former Northern Territory Colts and Senior representative player.

The Croatia Club committee, players and all supporters wish our favourite father figure, John Mesic, the very best on March 23 when he will be hospitalised for yet another bypass operation.

John, we are sure all of Brisbane's soccer fraternity wish you well and look forward to seeing your smiling face again around the fields in the very near future.

The appointment of new coach, ex-Melbourne Croatia player Tony Ecimovic, from interstate is proving to be a valuable move by the club as the team already is adapting to playing fine soccer.

Tony is an experienced campaigner representing Victoria, Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory against teams such as Chelsea, Moscow Dynamo, Manchester United and Aberdeen.

The club's new premises are nearing completion and should be one of the best soccer venues in Australia in the near future. This year the club is looking forward to a prosperous and enjoyable season for 1988.

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ROCKLEA

Each week Go Soccer will feature a "guest" tipster. This week is Queensland and Coalstars striker, Mark Brusasco. His success rate will be published next week.

WHAT THE EXPERTS THINK . . .

MATCH	GEOFF STEAD	FLOYD NANGREAVE	MARK BRIGDEN	MARK BRUSASCO
XXXX LEAGUE				
Ipswich U. v Rochedale	IPSWICH U. DRAW	IPSWICH U. OLYMPIC U. EASTS	DRAW OLYMPIC U. EASTS	IPSWICH U. DRAW EASTS
Redlands U. v Olympic U.	DRAW	OLYMPIC U. EASTS	OLYMPIC U. EASTS	DRAW EASTS
Grange T v Easts	EASTS DRAW	EASTS DRAW	EASTS DRAW	EASTS NTH. STAR
Mt. Gravatt v Nth. Star	DRAW	DRAW	DRAW	DRAW
Croatia v Coalstars	COALSTARS	COALSTARS	COALSTARS	COALSTARS
Bris. City v Taringa	BRIS. CITY	BRIS. CITY	BRIS. CITY	BRIS. CITY
DIVISION TWO				
Newmarket v Nerang	DRAW	NEWMARKET	NEWMARKET	NEWMARKET
Wynnum v Pine R.	DRAW	PINE R.	DRAW	WYNNUM
Acacia R. v Bardon	ACACIA R.	ACACIA R.	ACACIA R.	ACACIA R.
Inala C. v Lions	INALA C.	INALA C.	INALA C.	DRAW
Mitchelton v Valley T.	MITCHELTON	MITCHELTON	MITCHELTON	VALLEY T.
Capalaba v The Gap	THE GAP	THE GAP	THE GAP	THE GAP
DIVISION THREE				
Willowburn v Goodna	GOODNA	DRAW	WILLOWBURN	DRAW
Annerley v Oxley	DRAW	ANNERLEY	OXLEY	OXLEY
Lutwyche v Souths	SOUTHS	LUTWYCHE	LUTWYCHE	LUTWYCHE
Beenleigh v Slacks Ck.	BEENLEIGH	DRAW	SLACKS CK.	BEENLEIGH
University v Kingsridge	KINGSRIDGE	KINGSRIDGE	KINGSRIDGE	KINGSRIDGE
Redcliffe v St. Albans	DRAW	ST. ALBANS	ST. ALBANS	REDCLIFFE
DIVISION FOUR				
Albany Ck. v Leichhardt	ALBANY CK.	ALBANY CK.	ALBANY CK.	ALBANY CK.
Toowong v S. Eagles	S. EAGLES	DRAW	TOOWONG	TOOWONG
Pine H. v Kenmore	DRAW	DRAW	KENMORE	DRAW
Moggill v Samford	MOGGILL	MOGGILL	MOGGILL	MOGGILL
RAAF v Logan City	RAAF	LOGAN CITY	LOGAN CITY	RAAF
Darra v Brothers	DARRA	DARRA	DARRA	BROTHERS
SUCCESS RATE	—	—	—	—

RADIO RAVINGS...

This is the first of our weekly columns to keep you informed of happenings on Brisbane's only soccer radio show.

"Soccerworld" is broadcast every Saturday at 10 a.m. on Brisbane's multicultural radio station, Radio 4EB (10.5 on the AM dial).

The show is produced and hosted by Mark Brigden and Bob Butchard. For 30 minutes every Saturday they discuss the relevant soccer issues, preview the local games, present the latest overseas news and feature interviews with all the top local personalities.

Last week the show featured comments from 'Supercoach' Eric Thompson along with special insights into

the XXXX pre-season final from North Star's talented defender Gordon Buchanan.

This week's guest will be the Queensland Soccer Federation Marketing man — one person who has been criticised lately for his low profile. He's been called 'the Marketing Gardener' or the 'Clayton's Promotions man. But those in the know say he's been doing a lot of work behind the scenes. Form your own opinion this week when Mark Gardener is one of several special guests on the show.

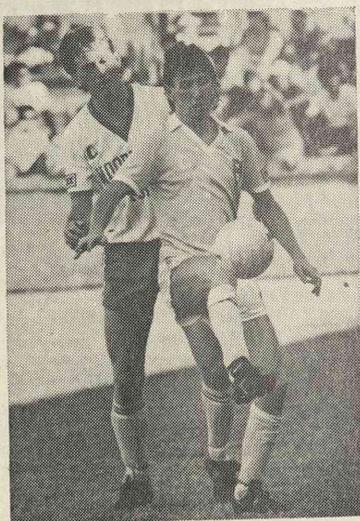
Tune in at 10 a.m. this Saturday.

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SEASON '88

(From page 3)

With Michael Mulvey, Gary and Simon Ireland and Tom McGregor, Mount Gravatt loom as one of the best skilled sides in the League. Their game could be the undoing of several of the bigger teams, like Easts. Noel Davis' return is one of the great comebacks of all time while Dave Costa and Ross Peachey continue to be among the most underrated players in the competition. Coach Ian Steele has done well to rebuild in such a short time. But the results may be a little slower. Consolidation could be the tone of the season, although the top five will loom tantalisingly close, perhaps close enough to grab if luck goes their way.



Brisbane City's Kieran Cooper (front) shields the ball from North Star's Danny Lobwein.

chance won't come along again and now the club has to ensure it earns its right to stay up this time. A lot of key players have left although Chris Fegan and Lindsay Dines will be valuable acquisitions if signed. Taringa surprised in the pre-season and looked organised without being brilliant. If coach Glenn Davis can maintain that organisation, Taringa could stay up.

Grange Thistle and Rochedale are teams of boys. Their enthusiasm is boundless, their ability to win points this year somewhat more restricted. Both clubs cannot be faulted for taking the youth option and building teams for the future. Where Thistle come out ahead is that they took the choice more than 12 months ago. Many of their teenagers have a season of XXXX League under their belts. They will get even better as each game passes this year. But Rochedale are raw. Their only chance of survival is to let the kids use every space they can find on the field and let their youthful speed and enthusiasm exploit any flat or slow-turning defences.

Olympic, Redlands and Croatia have enough good players in their ranks to ensure they pick up points through the season. But they hardly look teams that will roll the League big-guns. And that almost certainly will ensure they remain cemented in the mid-table. Olympic and Croatia are both teams with a lot of skill while Steve Perry's young Redlands team has one of the biggest hearts in the League. But the benefit of this year for all three teams will be that they will have a sound base on which to build next season.

Taringa have used up all the luck they can expect for probably the next 10 years. To regain their XXXX League status was bordering on a miracle. The same

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XXXX LEAGUE — ROUND 1

BRIS. CROATIA v COALSTARS

Perry Park, Sunday, 2.45 p.m.

Referee: BILL MONTEVERDE

Coalstars gave warning of their capabilities last week when they tore apart Rochedale 7-1 in a XXXX pre-season quarter-final.

The Bundamba side could have finished with a heap more and will be keen not to squander any opportunities this weekend. Croatia are virtually the same side they were last year with club officials confident there is enough ability to ensure survival.

But any chance of victory in this match could hinge on Croatia's central defenders, Dan Castello and Tom Novack. The pair will have the job of trying to contain the Coalstars attacking spearhead of Mark Brusasco and Calvin Daunt.

The midfield battle between the hard-working Andy Ogden and clever Mark Atmore also will be a highlight while keepers Kim Wishart and Brett Beves will be out to strengthen their Fiji tour claims.

Next games: Rochedale v Croatia; Coalstars v Redlands

TEAMS

BRIS. CROATIA	COALSTARS
1 BRETT BEVES	1 KIM WISHART
2 GUIDO MOLTONI	2 FRANK BYRNE
3 DAN CASTELLO	3 ALAN McFARLANE
4 JOHN RUSSELL	4 M. McNAUGHTON
5 TOM NOVACK	5 STU WESTON
6 JOHN MIRANDA	6 MARK GILBERT
7 MICK GERRITSEN	7 DALE DAWES
8 MARK ATMORE	8 ANDY OGDEN
9 MICK KELLY	9 CHRIS SLATER
10 JOE CAIRNEY	10 CALVIN DAUNT
11 M. ECIMOVIC	11 MARK BRUSASCO
12 JOE STIPANCIC	12 M. KITCHING
13 MICHAEL BABIC	13 BRUCE PENMAN
14 LOUIS MEJIAS	14 JON KITCHING
15 STEVE PUSELJ	15 GARTH MITCHELL
16 ROBERT SENKO	16 CRAIG THOMPSON
17 ANTONY BABIC	17 TROY CRANNEY
20 MLADEN LEKO	20 BRENT DIFLO

Coach: Tony Ecimovic Coach: Brian Styles

Scores: H.T. F.T.

Scorers:

REDLANDS U. v OLYMPIC U.

Showgrounds, Sunday, 2.45 p.m.

Referee:

Redlands gave a disappointing performance in failing to get through to the XXXX pre-season quarter-finals and will hope to atone for that by getting off to a good start in the fixtures this weekend.

On the other hand, Olympic had a good run in the pre-season and will be keen to maintain that form.

Olympic have some very skilful players who love to run at defences. Their new coach, Ian Johnstone, is certain to encourage that style. But there will be two big stumbling blocks in the Redlands backline which could halt the Olympic charge.

Steve Perry and Kevin Coleman loom as the best central defence combination in Brisbane since the days of Jim Hermiston and Col Bennett. Backed up by the under-rated Rob Harrison, it looks a defence that will be hard to penetrate.

Next games: Olympic U. v Grange T.; Coalstars v Redlands

TEAMS

REDLANDS U.	OLYMPIC U.
1 ROB HARRISON	1 JON PETIE
2 PAUL LAYCOCK	2 ANDY LAMBI
3 STEVE MITCHELL	3 GRAHAM WILSON
4 D. PARSONS	4 MICK CERNAKA
5 KEVIN COLEMAN	5 NICK MORIC
6 STEVE PERRY	6 PAUL BARRY
7 R. VAN WIN	7 ELMER BEDIA
8 DARREN CORBETT	8 C. VOSUGA
9 DON HAWTHORNE	9 JIM BELLAS
10 R. LAYCOCK	10 A. PHOTINOS
11 IAN CARSON	11 S. GLOCKNER
12 RON MILLMAN	12 TSOUMBARIS Jnr
13 STEVE MUELEN	13 M. MAKRIDAKIS
14 STEVE PARSONS	14 H. MAKRIDAKIS
15 MARK CURRAN	15 BILL MYLONAS
16	16 TSOUMBARIS Snr
17	17
20 NEIL OLIVE	20 M. CALOGERAKIS

Coach: Steve Perry Coach: Ian Johnston

Scores: H.T. F.T.

Scorers:

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XXXX LEAGUE — ROUND 1

IPSWICH U. v ROCHEDALE R.

Ebbw Vale, Sunday, 3 p.m.
Referee: ALAN KIBBLER

TEAMS

IPSWICH U.	ROCHEDALE R.
1 PAUL McCLURE	1 NIGEL LOWNDS
2 NEV O'SULLIVAN	2 S. ARMSTRONG
3 DALLAS GRAHAM	3 DUNCAN BLAKELY
4 JIM HERMISTON	4 STEVE DONALD
5 D. McKENNA	5 NEV GOODING
6 R. McKEAND	6 PAUL GROCOTT
7 B. KITCHING	7 M. CLARKSON
8 J. HERMISTON	8 CHRIS COOTES
9 BRIAN McNICOL	9 JIM KELLY
10 PETER VOGLER	10 CRAIG LOW
11 R. BECKWITH	11 KAI SCHIMKAT
12 MARK GOODMAN	12 STUART GREER
13 BRAD SMITH	13 DAVE BEARMAN
14 GEOFF LINDSAY	14 IAN GROCOTT
15	15 NIGEL McCLURE
16	16
17	17
20 D. POTTER	20 STEVE ELWOOD

Coach: Jim Hermiston Coach: John Reid
Scores: H.T. F.T.
Scorers:

The 7-1 thrashing at the hands of Coalstars last week could still be ringing in the ears of the Rochedale youngsters.

And Ebbw Vale has never been a ground where the visitors can get back to form with a good result. But, in Rochedale's favour, they had a very good record against Ipswich sides last year. Rovers took five out of eight points.

Rochedale beat Ipswich United 3-1 at Underwood Park, but lost their return 3-2, but that was at Perry Park.

Much has changed since those two matches, including new coaches and vastly altered squads. Both clubs have introduced many young players into their teams, but it could be an old head in Ipswich player-coach Jim Hermiston that could dictate the terms in this match.

Next games: North Star v Ipswich U.; Rochedale v Croatia

XXX LEAGUE — ROUND 1

MOUNT GRAVATT v NORTH STAR

Dittmer Park, Sunday, 2.45 p.m.
Referee: BARRY POWER

TEAMS

NORTH STAR	MT. GRAVATT
1 D. GALLAGHER	1 MARK PICKUP
2 MARK GREER	2 NOEL DAVIS
3 G. BUCHANAN	3 SIMON ROBERTS
4 B. WILLIAMSON	4 DAVE COSTA
5 PAT LEATHAN	5 DAMIEN BUTLER
6 DANNY LOBWEIN	6 M. MULVEY
7 ROSS SWAN	7 MARK HAIRSINE
8 PAUL FAGAN	8 CRAIG DICKSON
9 ALAN MARLEY	9 GARY F. IRELAND
10 JIM McDONAGH	10 TOM MCGREGOR
11 PHIL MULVEY	11 DOMENIC TONEL
12 KEN SWAN	12 MARK BOYD
13 S. HUMPHRIES	13 ROSS PEACHEY
14 JUSTIN KILSHAW	14 SIMON IRELAND
15	15 GARY IRELAND
16	16
17	17
20 NOEL LORD	20 J. MIDDLETON

Coach: Iain Fagan Coach: IAN STEELE
Scores: H.T. F.T.
Scorers:

Mount Gravatt have one of the toughest starts to the season of any team in the XXXX League.

This weekend's fixture against North Star is followed by ties against Brisbane City and Easts. All three of their opening rounds opponents are premiership contenders.

If the Hawks can emerge from the three match with a healthy return of points, they could find themselves posted as the new favourites. But at this stage of his team rebuilding, new Mount Gravatt coach Ian Steele is certain to be content just to see his team play well. If the team plays the football he believes it is capable of, he knows the results will come.

North Star are at their best when written off, and many have been quick to predict a less than successful season for Iain Fagan's side on their several mediocre pre-season performances.

GRANGE THISTLE v EASTS

Lanham Park, Sunday, 2.45 p.m.
Referee: MORRIE DELLAR

TEAMS

GRANGE T.	EASTS
1 ROSS SMITH	1 STEVE LINDSAY
2 JOHN RIBONE	2 ALAN MELVILLE
3 PETER FLEMING	3 KEN GORDON
4 GARRY HEINIER	4 CARL SCOTT
5 SCOTT WALKER	5 ROD STEIN
6 DARRYL HEINIER	6 SCOTT PLAYLE
7 JOHN RACKLEY	7 STEIN GRODUM
8 A. MOHAMMAD	8 PHIL REDMOND
9 PAUL RAMSAY	9 WAYNE CORBETT
10 SCOTT RACKLEY	10 PHIL THOMPSON
11 LEE HOSIER	11
12 T. SOMMERVILLE	12 TONY KANE
13 JASON BURR	13 COLIN PHELAN
14 ANTHONY LEON	14
15 NIGEL MATHER	15 PAUL MYLONAS
16 JEFF JASCH	16 MARK GERITZ
17 JOHN WILSON	17 CRAIG COLLINS
20 ANDREW HOBBS	20

Coach: Steve Dolan Coach: John Sime
Scores: H.T. F.T.
Scorers:

Grange Thistle won this corresponding fixture last year 2-1 in one of their best performances of the season.

Coach Steve Dolan will be looking for a similar committed effort from his side this weekend. Thistle did well to reach the quarter-finals of the XXXX pre-season tournament and the Grange team showed that it possesses plenty of potential for the future.

But Easts loom as the team of the moment. The side is packed with strength and experience. Coach John Sime will no doubt recall last year's loss at Lanham Park and won't want a repeat performance.

Easts have spent considerable money in recent seasons and the time has come to collect on those outlays. Getting off to a good start is a must.

Next games: Easts v Taringa; Olympic U. v Grange Thistle

BRISBANE CITY v TARINGA R.

Spencer Park, Sunday, 2.45 p.m.
Referee: GORDON NICHOLSON

TEAMS

BRISBANE CITY	TARINGA R.
1 WAYNE EVANS	1 PETER SPEARE
2 GLENN ARCHER	2 R. McCULLOUGH
3 F. GUGLIELMINO	3 STEVE WATSON
4 C. WILKINSON	4 MICK SAVAGE
5 N. GREENHALGH	5 G. DARRINGTON
6 ANDY CHAPMAN	6 CARL PETERSEN
7 RINGO MEJIAS	7 CHRIS FEGAN
8 R. LETTIERI	8 DAVID ASH
9 KIERAN COOPER	9 GREG SWADLING
10 IBRO CAHUT	10
11 JON BURGESS	11 MARK GILROY
12 LEE SCRIGGINS	12 ROYCE SMITH
13 ROD VASQUEZ	13 CHRIS BRAY
14 ANDY WATSON	14 M. FAIRCLOUGH
15	15 S. MORRISSEY
16	16 CALVIN STITT
17	17 CRAIG BRIMSON
20 TONY BELLINO	20 ANDREW LAPA

Coach: Matt Carson Coach: Glenn Davis
Scores: H.T. F.T.
Scorers:

Taringa caused one of the biggest upsets of the final rounds last year when they held Brisbane City to a 3-3 draw at Lanham Park.

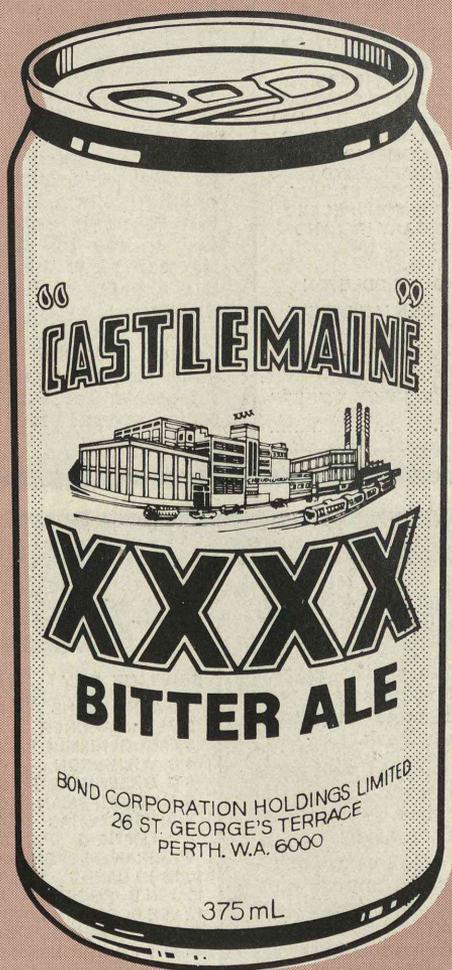
The dropped point could well have cost City the premiership and the chance for re-entry into the National League which went to Lions.

The point though didn't save Taringa from relegation and they are only back in this year by invitation. Taringa will be looking to make the most of their chance and this weekend will be aiming to inflict another surprise result on City.

In the match between the two clubs at Pery Park last year, City won 2-0. That's the kind of result City will be chasing on Sunday to get their 1988 championship challenge off to a good start.

Next games: Ipswich U. v Bris. C.; Taringa v Olympic U.

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