

Eye On **STRIKERS**

v FOOTBALL KINGZ *Round 10*

Vol 11-5, Saturday 23rd November, 2002 \$2.00



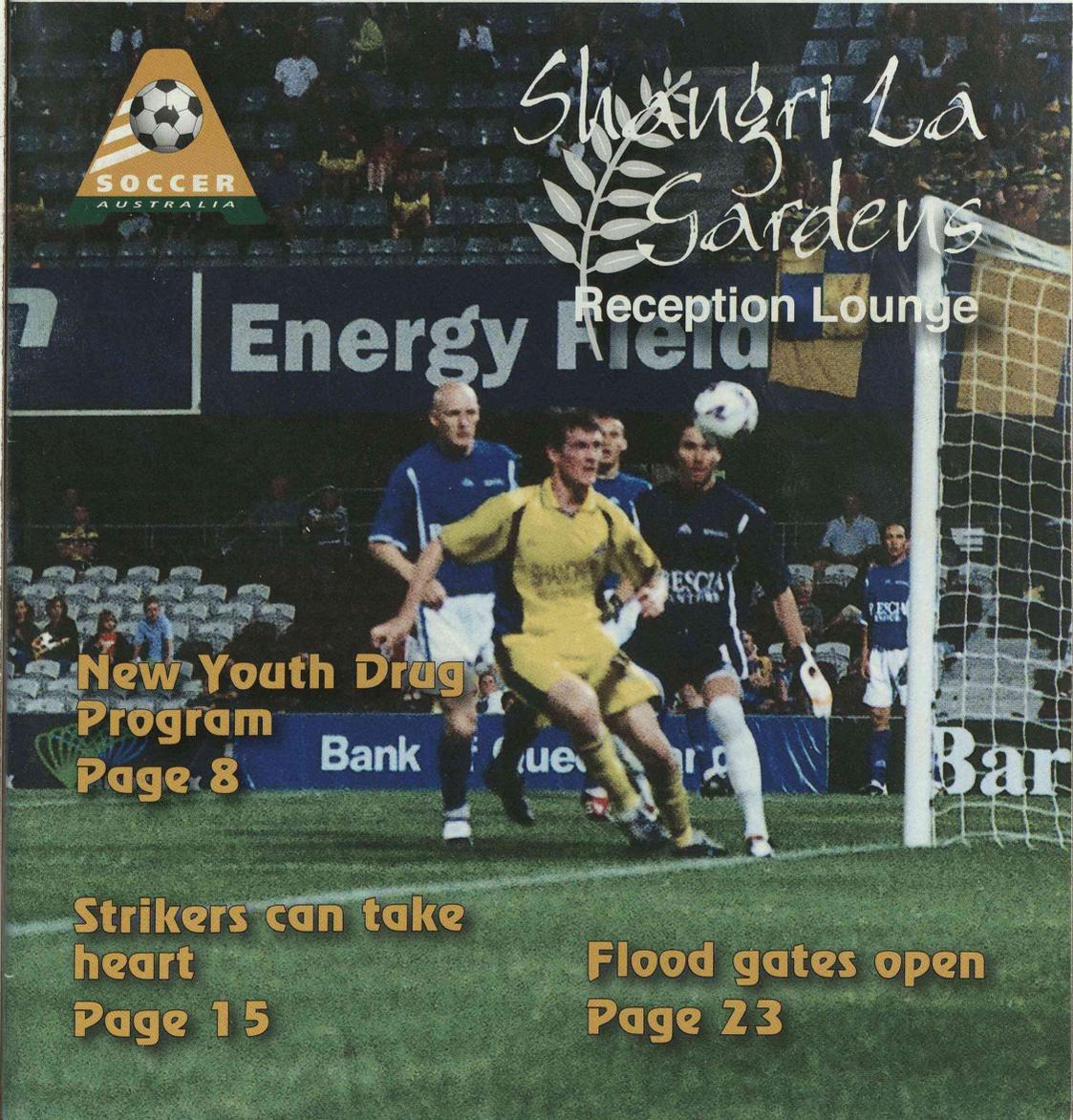
*Suzuki La
Gardens
Reception Lounge*

Energy Field

**New Youth Drug
Program
Page 8**

**Strikers can take
heart
Page 15**

**Flood gates open
Page 23**





BRISBANE STRIKERS
Soccer Club

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www.brisbanestrikers.com

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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

Matchday Media Liason: Melissa Hilton
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COVER:
Anthony Roche at the right place against
the Marconi Stallions



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Shangri La
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The Courier-Mail



Richie Alagich

Date Of Birth: 30/10/73
Occupation: Soccer Player

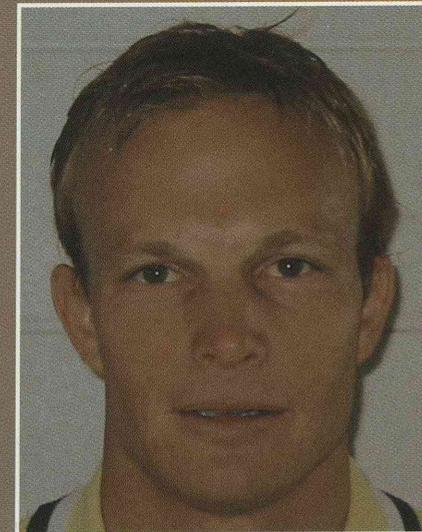
Hobbies\Interests: Golf
Current Playing Position: Midfield
Came to Club: 2001
Previous Club: West Adelaide,
South Melbourne

Nickname: Gich
Star Sign: Scorpio
Ethnic Origin: Croatian
Hair Colour: Blonde
Eye Colour: Green
Height: 176cm
Weight: 74kgs

Do you have a personal sponsor? No
Favourite Food: Pasta
Favourite TV Show: World Sports
Favourite Book: Harry Potter
Worst Habits: Not remembering Names
If you could be any person in
History who would it be? Attila the Hun

List 3 people you would invite to Dinner: Grandfather, Jamie Oliver
Most Annoying Television Show: Day Time Soaps
Most Annoying Television Personality: Day Time Soap Actors
Worst Ever Song: Achy Breaky Heart
Most Ridiculous Sport: Hockey
Ultimate Sports Fantasy: Win World Cup, Average crowds of
35000 at NSL Games

If you could have any Superpower
what would it be: To Predict Numbers
Favourite Quote: I used to be indecisive,
but now I'm not so sure
The day you go on a Overseas Holiday
Food: Carpet
Boots
Lottery Ticket



EVERYONE
WANTS TO BE
A STRIKER

Coach's Comment



Much has been said about the Socceroo captaincy in recent months: who should and shouldn't have it and we've even had a couple of players put their hand up for the job.

For me, publicly asking for the title tells me straight away that you may lack the necessary humility that is an important ingredient for any national team skipper in any sport. In my opinion the best man for the job is Craig Moore, formerly of North Star and more recently earning his keep with Glasgow Rangers.

Moorey has been our most consistent performer for a number of years now, quietly going about his job to the extent of being an unsung hero. Craig first came to my attention as an A.I.S. player back in the early 90's. In fact he was there with Stu McLaren and Clint Bolton.

He went on to perform with distinction in the World Youth Cup held in Australia in 1993. Surprisingly he wasn't wanted by any Australian club so decided to try his luck overseas. Obviously he made the right decision because he hasn't looked back. Craig Moore is a 110 per center. Every game, every training session. He leads by example with consistent performance each and every time he pulls on a shirt for club or country and that is why he should be tossing the coin for Australia.

As you would all be aware Mick De Vere from the Brisbane Broncos has been training with us the past fortnight.

Mick played a few years of junior soccer in Sydney before switching codes so he has a reasonable understanding of our game. That certainly showed up in his first training session when he was the star performer in some 6v6 games we played.

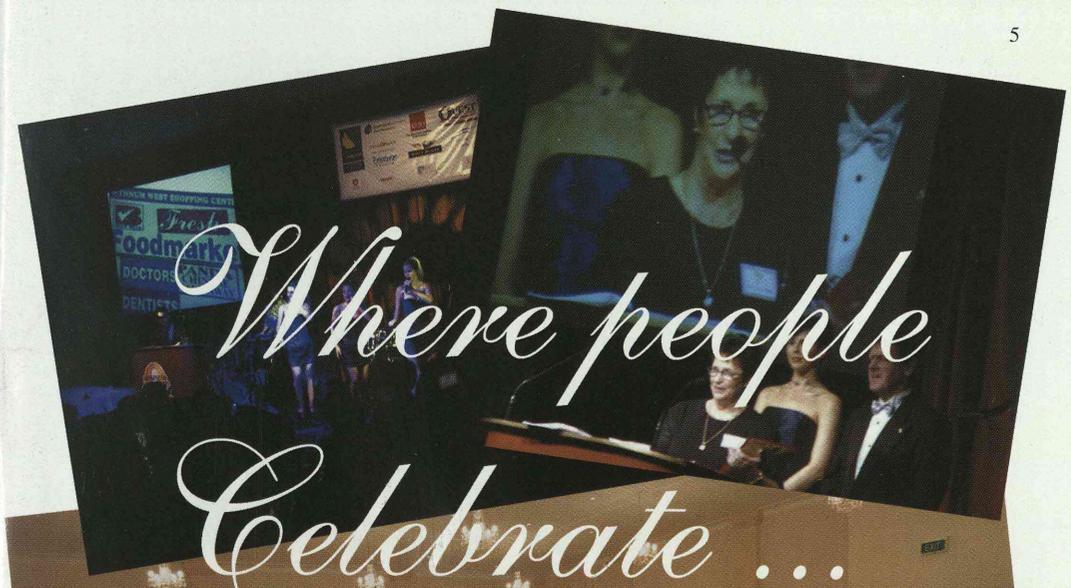
To be honest I think he took a lot of people by surprise but the thing that impressed me was the intensity and application he showed and the simple fact of having a go and giving his all.

I talked with him about it and that is the way he plays Rugby League and that is why he has been so successful at it. He needs to play and train with intensity to be the best he can.

His percentage of penalty and conversion attempts was above 80% last season and even now, long before the Broncos start pre-season, he's been staying behind after training keeping his eye in with the round ball. Mick has been a breath of fresh air these past weeks, a welcome diversion from the norm and just what we needed in these trying times.

Enjoy the game

Kossie.



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...from the
Captains desk



In recent times when the bye has been present in our fixture list it has mostly served as a disruption due to the fact that we have been on a good run of results and ideally would have loved to have kept playing.

This season, however, it has come at a time when results obviously have not been what we have all wanted. So with no fixture to prepare for last weekend we had a great opportunity to take stock and analyse what has taken place so far, identify what problems we've had, and then outline the courses of action we plan to take.

This is not the time or the place (besides I don't think I would be given the ten pages I would need) to go into detail about our discussions, suffice to say that everyone has made a contribution and plenty of positive feeling came out of it all.

One of the main points that stuck with me was something I have thought about quite a bit and it was really rammed home to me when a certain somebody outside the playing squad mentioned it to me. It was simple; there is a huge difference between a reason and an excuse.

With our own situation in mind it is tremendously important for us as players to be totally honest with ourselves and understand the reasons why we are in this position and not offer up excuses.

I could go on and on about this kind of thing but all the talk counts for absolutely nothing unless we put into practice the exact things we have been quite happy to talk about whenever we are out there on the pitch. And if we were looking for a not too difficult game to get ourselves back into good form then I think we'd better join a different league because one glance at the table will tell you how competitive this competition is, and the Kingz will fancy their chances of continuing their good form by taking the points away from Ballymore tonight.

A big thank you from all the lads goes to all the supporters who travelled to Parramatta for our match 2 weeks ago.

I'm sure you would have had huge smiles on your faces had we taken the points from the Power but I hope your trip nonetheless.

Thanks for your support,

Stuart McLaren

New Program seeks to stem the tide of youth drug abuse

According to government research, the number of Queensland teenagers using illicit drugs has increased by 80 per cent over the past three years (up to 99,000). To reduce this alarming trend, the Alcohol and Drug Foundation – Queensland has implemented an innovative “all of community program”, promoting natural high alternatives. The Natural High – Alternative is a social venture that endorses and promotes youth clubs and organisations which provide teenagers and young adults with exciting, satisfying and enjoyable “alternatives” to drug taking and drinking. These alternatives include sports, such as soccer, recreation, music and artistic or cultural pursuits.

The aim is to increase the membership of these organisations (research demonstrates that members of youth organisations are significantly less likely to use or experiment with drugs). Endorsements are now approaching 300, and expected to top 500 by Christmas. Currently employing a sole worker, and utilising the support of casual volunteers, the Natural High – Alternative implements strategies that are more often associated with large-scale corporations and successful PR agencies. These include an interactive web-site (www.naturalhigh.org), high-profile events that give youth a chance to demonstrate their “natural highs”, such as the annual cheerleading tournament and media relations. It also draws heavily on the notion of “capacity building”, a key outcome sought by most social venture activities. To maximise community support, the Natural High – Alternative develops partnerships with various sectors, including sport and recreation, business, the media, and local government. Bob Aldred, the CEO of the Alcohol and Drug Foundation – Queensland, which is underwriting the program until further funding can be secured, says the Natural High – Alternative is “all about enhancing the work of existing groups, many of which do not have the skills, resources or expertise to make others aware of what they do, when they do it and how young people can become involved.” Director of the Natural High – Alternative, David McGovern said organisations, ranging from local youth clubs, sports associations, church youth groups and even schools can seek endorsement from the Natural High – Alternative.

“We’d even like to see the Brisbane Strikers seeking endorsement and working with us to promote the game of soccer as offering a ‘natural high’,” he said.

“By being endorsed, it means the organisation or group supports the provision of drug and alcohol-free activities, as well as entitling them to free publicity undertaken by us,” he said.

“We’re all about enhancing the work of existing groups, who already are making a valuable contribution. Often, however, the grass-root community groups don’t have the skills, expertise or

resources to make others aware of what they do, when they do it and how young people can become involved.”

“A natural high is any activity that gives a person a buzz and makes them feel good about themselves, without the influence of illicit substances or legal drugs such as alcohol,” Mr McGovern said.

“Events like Schoolies Week, programs like Scouts or Surf Lifesaving and clubs such as the local junior rugby league or Police Citizen Youth Club all offer participants or members the chance to experience the buzz we call a natural high.”

Mr McGovern said a “natural high” did not have to just be sports related either. “It can be any drug-free activity that is fulfilling, entertaining and challenging.”

And Natural High offers more than just a catchy name. Evidence from the US, where it was originally implemented, shows that by diverting young people into organised activities, they are less likely to turn to drugs or alcohol, and related crimes.

Mr Aldred said research, and anecdotal evidence, indicates that young people turn to drugs out of curiosity, boredom or to feel good when interacting with their peers.

The Australian Sports Commission is currently researching whether participation in sport and physical activity leads to a reduction in the incidence of crime and other anti-social behaviour. Anecdotal evidence, Mr Aldred said, is that the more there is of the former, the less there will be of the latter.

Brisbane Lord Mayor Jim Soorley has thrown his support behind the campaign as well.

In a letter to community groups contemplating becoming involved, Mr Soorley said the campaign would give young people “choices” and help foster self-confidence.

“It is a welcome change to the negative reports on drugs and teenagers that have become common place,” he said.

During the past 12 months, the Natural High – Alternative has: Conducted two weeks of day-time activities on the beach at Surfers Paradise, for Schoolies; Provided more than 60 hours of entertainment at the 2002 Ekka; Distributed material to hundreds of people at the International Health Expo; Conducted sporting clinics at local schools in Brisbane’s south; Held demonstrations of circus performances, Tae kwon do and BMX riding, along with henna body art and mural painting workshops at Aspley Hypermarket and Forest Lake Village Shopping Centres; Newsletter; Distributed fortnightly editions of its e-mail newsletter, Endorphin to more than 800 schools, youth organisations, young people and businesses; Hosted, and endorsed, skate park competitions, dance parties, youth festivals and open-air rock concerts; Increased the number of hits to its web-site (www.naturalhigh.org); Set up partnerships with up to six local councils.

“The Natural High – Alternative is a step towards making the city of Brisbane, and south-east Queensland, a healthy and challenging place for our teenagers,” Mr Soorley said.



GOOD AS GOLD



Note: The Strikers Cheerleaders are helping in this program

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For the Record

- ▼ In season 2001/2 the season opener was won by the Strikers 2-1 goals for Rech and Foster.
- ▼ The round one clash last season between the Strikers and Football Kingz here in Brisbane saw a number of debuts for thier respective clubs. Alagich, Trajanovski, Kearton and Carbone for the Strikers Atkinson, Bulljucas ic, Goutzioulas, Vlahos and Markovski for the Kingz.
- ▼ Carbone also celebrated his 50th NSL appearance while John Markovski played his 350th game
- ▼ Ken Dugdale the Kingz Coach was the coach of the New Zealand All Whites when they defeated the Australian team in the Confederation Cup qualifiers in Brisbane in 1998 by one goal to nil
- ▼ The record between the two sides in Brisbane heavily favours the Strikers with two wins and one draw scoring six goals conceding three. In Auckland the record is Strikers one win and two losses scoring five and conceding six goals.

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From the BSSA

It's amazing how things can change so fast in the fortunes of football, especially for our team. One moment we're in the league, next we're out..... then we're in again. Last season, we were one of the elite teams. Now we're not.....yet.

For every person out there who's called this season as over, there's one simple reply - it's not over yet. Not by a long shot. Your Brisbane Strikers have shown time & time again that they do have all the pieces in place to be a top side in the NSL. OK, so the road to the finals is now going to be a little bit harder. Perfect. It's circumstances like this that separate the hard-working players from the rest of the competition. Even in our losses, we've seen plenty signs of a team resurgence. Obviously, there are elements that need improving, but if this team was perfect, some people would still be worried.

Speaking personally, times like this really interest me, as it will show the true mettle of our team. Looking up from the bottom, trying to make the top (or for the moment, just the 6th place from the top would be nice) will hopefully see some great play over the next few weeks.

As has been said before, the Brisbane Strikers do not give up. Ever.

So, to all ye who have abandoned faith, I don't believe the fat lady has yet sung, so be patient, and together, we can turn this around.

Also, isn't this "Thor Team's of the Decade" competition getting exciting? Already we've seen many suggestions come in, with formations, tactics, and other nuances.

I know Thor is keeping the secret very guarded. A reminder to check out that section later on in this publication. I'm still formulating my side, and like many punters, for every deserving player I put in, it means I leave another deserving player out. Something tells me this Team is going to be a cracker.

Our next BSSA meeting is on December 19 at Crosbys @ Albion from 7pm, and our website is www.go.to/bssa <<http://www.go.to/bssa>> .

ADAM COLEMAN

"Brisbane Strikers - Keeping The Faith in 2002"



JOIN THE BSSA AND STAND UP FOR THE STRIKERS

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Blanchy's BACKCHAT!

Signing off on a good note

I want to congratulate the Strikers on the way they handled themselves after the game V Adelaide Force. It is hard enough to come off a field after being 2-0 up and getting beaten 3-2, but even harder when you are signing kid's autographs and one irate "supporter" is trying his best to upset you. Jon McKain's words hastened this spectator's rush to his car anyway. It's pleasing to go to a soccer match in Brisbane and hear screaming for their favourite players, it's just a shame there aren't more kids to enjoy it. Australian soccer needs kids to have players they can look up to and also be able to watch them play live instead of or as well as on the TV. Please continue your after match autograph signings as my daughter (who once hated soccer) is keen to get more to show her granddad along with the "Stephan Laybutt and Richie Alagich" she already has and proudly displays.

Brad Malby

We couldn't stop the Players even if we wanted to. It's a win win situation.

Poor taste by Coach

I was disgusted by the extremely poor taste Kosmina showed in his unjustified criticism of the supporters in his column. A team earns respect from its supporters and the team has not been doing that this year. It has shown flashes of promise – the first half of the game he referred to as an example but mostly this year at home games has not shown any of the fortitude that would earn the respect of supporters. I have seen the supporters give rapturous applause where the team was beaten and that showed respect for a team that earned the applause. Respect has nothing to do with winning or losing. The supporters that count stay and applaud the team every time they come to the fence after the game. This is something the team does that has earned respect. More than can be said for Kosmina, who each week, treats the supporters with the same disdain he showed in his column, by never coming across. For my money he should be sacked.

Michael Kuilboer

To be fair, John does not come across with the Players due to Media commitments. There is an Official Media Conference immediately after the Game and then there are individual interviews with both Local and Interstate Media Groups. John is also of the belief that it is the Players the fans want to have contact with not himself.

Strikers Can Take Heart From NSL History

There's no denying the Brisbane Strikers have endured a dismal run of results lately. With a third of the season over, they are bottom of the NSL and many observers have written them off as finals contenders.

But are the pundits right? Are the Strikers certain to miss out on the top six? If not, where do they need to be at the halfway point of the season to have a fighting chance?

A look at past seasons that had a similar number of fixtures as this one - seasons 2001/02 (24 games), 1997/98 (26 games) and 1996/97 (26 games) - provides some clues.

Of the eighteen teams that finished in the top six over those seasons, thirteen were entrenched there by the middle of the season. Only five teams managed to come from outside the elite group to clinch a finals berth. That's the bad news for the Strikers.

The five teams who beat the odds were Marconi Stallions and Melbourne Knights (96/97), who came from seventh and tenth at the halfway point respectively; Marconi again in '97/98 (from eighth) and the Knights again in 2001/02 (from seventh). The other team was South Melbourne (2001/02), who performed a feat which gives everyone cause for optimism - coming from dead last at the halfway point.

Of the five "comeback kings", Marconi in '96/97 and the Knights in '01/02 lost the most matches over the season - ten each. The most games lost at the halfway point by an eventual finalist was seven (South Melbourne).

Confused yet? We'll get to the point in a moment, but before we do let's look at one more set of statistics. How far behind the sixth-placed team were our five Houdinis at the halfway point, and how many points per game were they averaging?

The Knights were only one point adrift in '01/02 (having achieved 1.5 points per game), as were Marconi in '97/98 (1.3). Marconi in 96/97 were three points adrift (1.3), but the Knights of 96/97 and South Melbourne in '01/02 were a whopping seven and eight points adrift respectively, with 1.0 and 0.75 points per game

Therein lies the good news for the Strikers. While they are currently seven points adrift of the top six they still have four games until the halfway mark in which to reduce the leeway.

So, leaving out South Melbourne's freakish example and using the 96/97 Knights as the benchmark, the task for the Brisbane Strikers over the next four games looks like this: Lose no more than once, aiming at a minimum of eight points for a points-per-game figure of 1.0. History says they would then have a fighting chance of a top six finish if they lose no more than ten games over the whole season.

This may seem a tough ask, but it is far from impossible. Last season the Strikers proved they have the ability. What they need now is to recapture the confidence that comes with winning. A first win at home tonight would go a long way towards achieving that.

Steve Pitman

Note: My thanks to SBS's "TheWorldGame" website for the stats.

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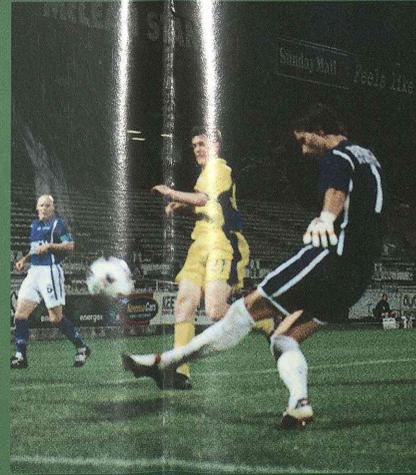
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Word from the QAS Head Coach

Discussion over the last couple of weeks has been about the International between England and Australia at the home of West Ham, Upton Park and whether Frank Farina can select a squad of players capable of beating England or at least being competitive at this level. If Frank is true to his word and only players involved on a regular basis will be selected, not withstanding their shortage of preparation, I believe they will be ultra competitive and we should not rule out a possible result.

What this fixture does throw up is the need for more regular International Competition at all levels of the game but more importantly that players should be brought together on a more regular basis.

With World Cup qualifying rounds of both U/20 and U/17 age groups due to be played in the coming months and a need to win both to have direct qualification into the World Cups proper it is interesting to note that the only preparation for both squads is a week long camp prior to the start

of the competition which in effect will leave our teams as the least prepared of other Oceania Countries competing against us.

It is no longer sufficient to believe that Australia should automatically proceed to the finals when each of these countries has now full-time Coaches preparing there teams against overseas competition at home and away, this then allows both players and coaches to fully understand there responsibilities.

If we are to maintain our standing not only within Oceania but World Football at the U/17 and U/20 levels then a greater emphasis on quality preparation has to be introduced, this in turn will help Frank Farina with his view on demands he places on players for future Internationals at Olympic and World Cup levels.

Enjoy the games this afternoon, talk to you soon.

Bruce Stowell
Head Coach QAS Soccer

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 9

FRIDAY 15 NOVEMBER 2002

ACTAS 2 (Hayes 55', Barisic 63') **AIS 1** (Nedeljkovic 56')

Newcastle United Youth 6 (Moreira 7' 27' 35', Davelaar 33', Mitchell 36', Wallace 42') **Marconi Stallions Youth 0**

SATURDAY 16 NOVEMBER 2002

Northern Spirit Youth 0 Olympic Sharks Youth 0

SUNDAY 17 NOVEMBER 2002

Canberra Deakin 3 (Pideski 23', Spaleta 59' 72' pen) **Parramatta Power Youth 4** (Bridge 32', Bojic 46', Gavaghan 51', Martino 57')

Marconi Mustangs 0 Wollongong Wolves Youth 2 (Martin 6', Majurovski 27')

BYE - Sydney United Youth BYE - QAS

NATIONAL YOUTH LEAGUE 2002-2003 NORTHERN DIVISION LEAGUE LADDER - ROUND 9

TEAM	P	W	D	B	L	F	A	Pts
Parramatta Power Youth	7	5	2	2	0	22	8	17
Wollongong Wolves Youth	8	5	1	0	2	20	11	16
Canberra Deakin	9	4	2	1	3	25	13	14
Sydney United Youth	6	4	0	2	2	15	10	12
AIS	7	3	3	2	1	10	5	12
Northern Spirit Youth	8	3	2	1	3	6	5	11
Olympic Sharks Youth	9	2	4	0	3	8	12	10
Newcastle United Youth	7	2	3	1	2	10	8	9
ACTAS	5	2	1	2	2	8	9	7
Marconi Stallions Youth	7	2	1	2	4	8	17	7
QAS	6	1	0	2	5	9	24	3
Marconi Mustangs	7	0	1	1	7	2	21	1

NATIONAL YOUTH LEAGUE 2002-2003 NORTHERN DIVISION FIXTURES - ROUND 10

SATURDAY 23 NOVEMBER 2002

QAS Vs Canberra Deakin Time: 4.35 pm Venue: Ballymore Stadium

AIS Vs Sydney United Youth Time: 7.00 pm Venue: AIS Soccer Field

SUNDAY 24 NOVEMBER 2002

Olympic Sharks Youth Vs Marconi Mustangs Time: 4.00 pm Venue: Toyota Park

Parramatta Power Youth Vs Newcastle United Youth Time: 4.10 pm Venue: Parramatta Stadium

Marconi Stallions Youth Vs ACTAS Time: 5.00 pm Venue: Marconi Stadium

BYE - Northern Spirit Youth BYE - Wollongong Wolves Youth

NATIONAL YOUTH LEAGUE 2002-2003 NORTHERN DIVISION LEADING GOALSCORERS ROUND 9

SURNAME	FIRST NAME	CLUB	GOALS
Spaleta	Michael	Canberra Deakin	8
Buonavoglia	John	Parramatta Power Youth	6
De Silva	Timothy	QAS	6
Gavaghan	Peter	Parramatta Power Youth	6
Watkins	Daniel	Sydney United Youth	5
Bridge	Mark	Parramatta Power Youth	5
Majurovski	John	Wollongong Wolves Youth	5
Pideski	Carl	Canberra Deakin	5

Thor's Team of the Decade

The Brisbane Strikers introduced Thor the God of Thunder, their mascot to the soccer public ten years ago.

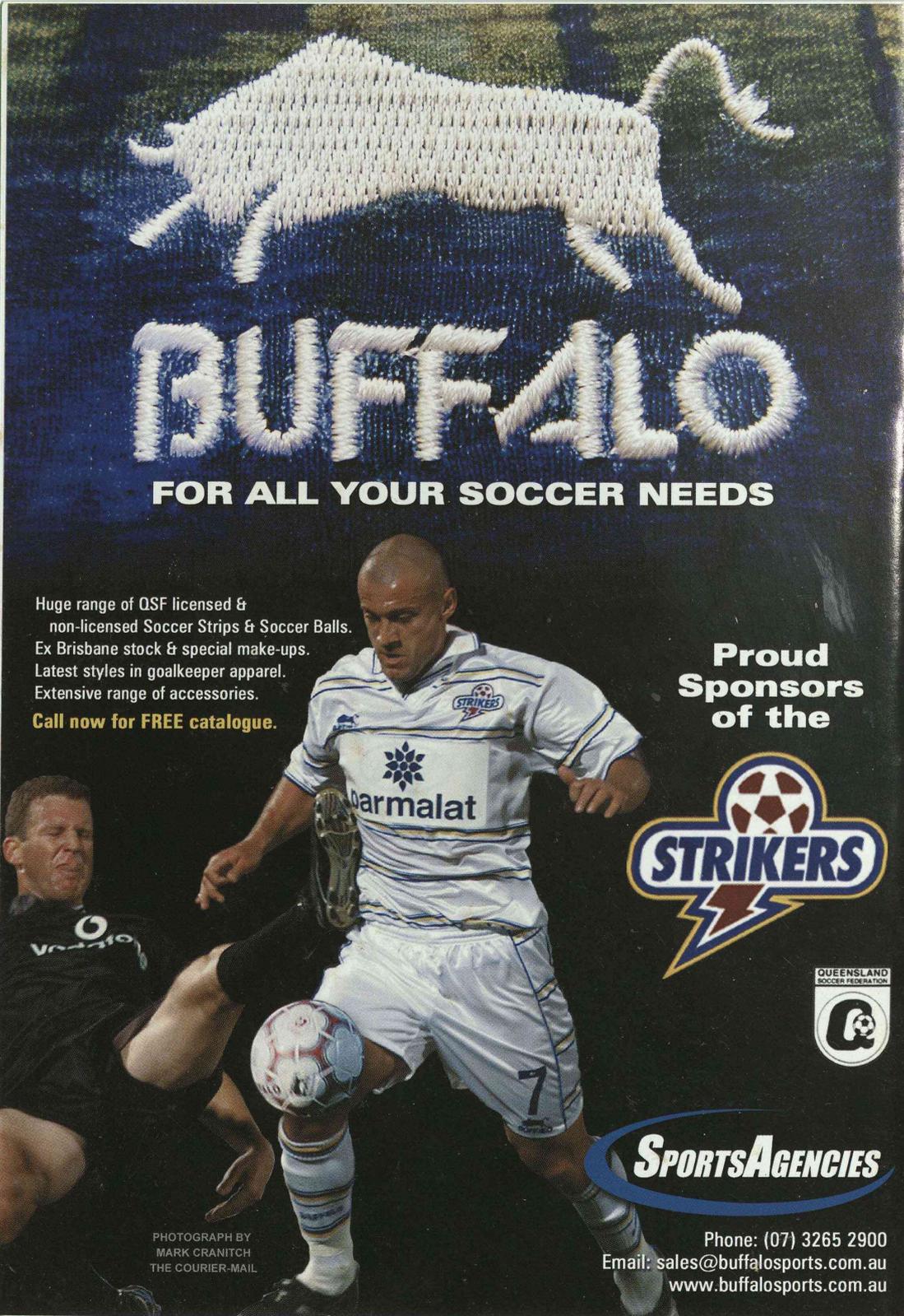
Thor soon became and still is the most recognised mascot in the NSL. In his daring days he's eaten fire, parachuted into the Stadium, ridden his motorcycle with fireworks around the ground, absailed off the grandstand roof all without a stunt double.

To celebrate this decade milestone, you have the opportunity to pick a team of the decade and below here are those players you can chose from all have played in at least one game for the Strikers/Brisbane United.

*Have some fun,
Select your team plus three
substitutes and Email to:-*

strikers@brisbanestrikers.com

We will select a couple of entries each home game and on December 21 Thor will announce his Team of the Decade and the closest entry to that will win a major prize.



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PHOTOGRAPH BY MARK CRANITCH THE COURIER-MAIL

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Richard Alagich m | Daniel Dreger d | Jason Kearton gk | Joshua Rose f |
| Micheal Baird f | Daniel Duke gk | Wayne Knipe f | Graham Ross gk |
| Corey Baldock gk | Peter Dwyer f | Clayton Koch f | Mirko Runje gk |
| Wade Baldwin f | Alunn Evans m | Glenn Kolpak | Chris Slater f |
| Mark Battistin d | Frank Farina f | Leo Langone f | Shane Smeltz m |
| Vedran Becirbegovic f | Rob Farrow Gk | Stephen Laybutt d | Wayne Srhoj m |
| Matt Bell d | Paul Foster f | Andrew Lees m | Shane Stefanutto d |
| Gary Blackford d | Mark Greer d | Robert Markovac m | Stuart Stevenson d |
| Clint Bolton gk | Peter Grierson m | Jim McDonagh f | Joe Stipancic m |
| Andrew Brayshaw m | Stein Grodum d | Jon McKain d | Andrew Stowell d |
| John Brown f | Glenn Gwynne d | Matt McKay d | Daniel Stowers m |
| Red Brown f | Danny Halligan d | Stuart McLaren d | Reece Tollenaere f |
| Royce Brownlie f | Andrew Harper m | Ronnie McQuilter d | Kris Trajanovski f |
| Peter Buljan f | Jeremy Harris m | Kevin Meacock f | Damien Waugh m |
| Steve Bullock m | Wayne Heath d | Frank Mengotti f | Adam Webber d |
| Ibro Cahut d | Chey Hews m | Nick Meredith m | Kasey Wehrmann m |
| John Carbone m | Darren Hillier m | Russell Miner m | Craig Williams d |
| Craig Collins d | Des Hughes f | Jade North m | Danny Wright m |
| Kieron Cooper f | Alan Hunter d | Andrew Packer m | Chris Zoricich d |
| Sean Cranney m | David Hunter d | Gary Phillips m | |
| Troy Cranney m | ian Hutchinson f | David Pilic m | gk Goalkeeper |
| Andrew Davidson d | Danny Invincible f | Frank Pimblett m | d Defender |
| Greg DiLosa m | Steve Jackson d | Jason Polak m | m Midfield |
| Brad Ditton | Brenley Jefferd m | Brent Read m | f Forward |
| Lawrence Drake f | Carl Jorgenson d | Fernando Rech f | |

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Flood gates Open

I would like to start by welcoming you all to the Game tonight. I have been swamped by the sheer volume of emails, letters and faxes for the Backchat Page. I would therefore like to thank everyone personally for his or her contributions. As we all know, Football is a game of opinions and as I suspected, most of you have one or more, on a wide range of subjects.

This now regular feature of our much-loved Program is fast becoming one of the most popular segments in the Match Day Programs long history. Thank you and keep those views rolling in. As I've stated before I'll do my best to publish as many of these as possible, but at this stage, with the huge number arriving at the Office, there'd be no room for anything else in the Program. All I can promise is that every single item that arrives, (The good, the bad and the ugly!) is given my full attention, with all views being treated equal.

As a volunteer, I feel privileged to be part of a small team who write and compile this Program. So I'll let you in on how a large portion of this Program is produced. We'll start with this page, this segment is hand written while I commute to and from the Redcliffe Peninsula to ABC Printing at Milton each day, via the Bus and Train. Once I'm happy with it, I type it up and email it to the Strikers Office and put it on disk for the people at ABC. The Backchat Page is just as much fun as I drop into the Strikers Office when I'm able to pick up anything for me and on most other days I head up to the Redcliffe Library to print off my inbox. (I blew my printer up at Home) Which has all the emails forwarded to it. So if I'm not writing, I'm reading. (And yes, I've missed my stop twice now) The Round in Review, Opposition Line Ups, Thors Team of the Decade, League Table, Hotshots and future rounds, all arrive via email.

These need to be re-typed and formatted for the Printers. Some of you are probably wondering why I do this, well the fact is we now have one of the leading publications in the National Competition. And from the large amount of feedback we receive, the yeah's vastly outnumber the nay's. Which means the most important critic of all, you, has given the improvements the thumbs up. (It has

been suggested to me that ego might play some part as well, Me, Never)

Well enough of what I get up to in my spare time and onto my Match Day adventures. I had the fortunate pleasure of slotting in for the usual Referee's Liaison at the last Home game, due to our regular liaison Allan, having a personal commitment, which made him unavailable for the game against Marconi.

I'm sure a lot of you are asking the same question I was, what does a Referee's Liaison do? I could say, they liaise with the Referee, but that would be oversimplifying an important role. So I'll keep it short and sweet. (All right. I know I've promised this before, but this time will be different)

The job begins with ensuring the Match Officials fridge is stocked with bottled water and soft drinks and that their water drum is full of icy cold H2O. As they arrive, greet and introduce myself, collect the completed Team Sheets and other Official paperwork from both Team Managers, copy and fax all the relevant paperwork for Soccer Australia at the beginning and end of each game, escort the Officials on and off the Playing field and ends with feeding them. There's a little bit more to it, but you get the jist of it.

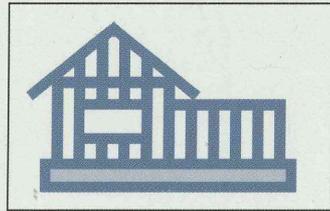
When the opportunity to do a good deed comes along, I generally oblige. As was the case at the last Home Game. It was brought to my attention that a long time supporter and Match Day Program collector, unfortunately missed the Adelaide City game and therefore missed out on his copy of the "Eye on Strikers" So after a quick conversation, I took the Red Roller Skate back over the other side and set about tracking down a copy. It wasn't too hard, I only had to do a quick search of the Opps Room to locate my target. Dash back to this side and help him keep his collection in tact. The Gentleman in question was very thankful, and as I stated at the time, it was "My pleasure." Well as usual I've babbled on enough, so all that's left now, is to enjoy the action.

Blanchy

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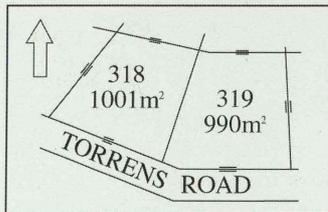
ARE YOU PLANNING TO:



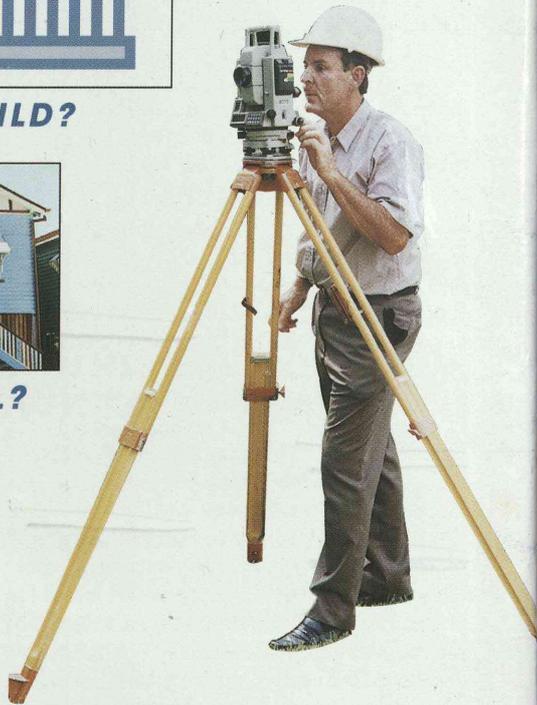
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Round Up

Round 8 Review

MARCONI STALLIONS 2 (J Spiteri 40', 56') **FOOTBALL KINGZ 1** (H Ngata 69')
Cautions: D Longo (MS) 32', C Jackson (FK) 52', P Almendra (FK) 52', D McDonald (MS) 57', A Brosque (MS) 69'
Venue: Marconi Stadium Referee: Brett Hugo Crowd: 3040

PARRAMATTA POWER 2 (P Cardozo 16' pen, R Brownlie 78') **BRISBANE STRIKERS 0**
Cautions: W O'Sullivan (PP) 35', A Webber (BS) 56', N Orlic (PP) 63', M Langdon (PP) 80', A Elrich (PP) 87'
Venue: Parramatta Stadium Referee: Con Diomis Crowd: 2148

ADELAIDE CITY FORCE 4 (S Tunbridge 18', M Durakovic 19' og, S Smeltz 62', C Pelosi 81' pen)
SOUTH MELBOURNE 0
Cautions: S Iosifidis (SM) 11', L Pantelis (AC) 58', D Clarkson (AC) 75', D Pelligrini (AC) 85'
Red Cards: M Baird (SM) 24'
Venue: Hindmarsh Stadium Referee: Eddie Lennie Crowd: 3308

OLYMPIC SHARKS 1 (A Packer 92') **SYDNEY UNITED 0**
Cautions: S Lukac (SU) 83' Red Cards: C Menapi (SU) 12', S Lukac (SU) 90'
Venue: Toyota Park Referee: Derek Rugg Crowd: 3620

MELBOURNE KNIGHTS 2 (A Pelikan 3', L Buhic 44') **NEWCASTLE UNITED 0**
Cautions: S Thomas (NU) 13', S Horvat (MK) 28', I Erdogan (MK) 91'
Venue: Knights Stadium Referee: Mark Shield Crowd: 3955

WOLLONGONG WOLVES 2 (S Babic 35', S Young 62') **NORTHERN SPIRIT 0**
Cautions: B Farrah (WW) 30', M Phillips (NS) 44', D Huxley (WW) 80'
Venue: WIN Stadium Referee: Simon Micallef Crowd: 2925

PERTH GLORY BYE

Round 9 Review

FOOTBALL KINGZ 2 (B Renaud 62' og, P Urlovic 81') **PARRAMATTA POWER 1** (K Salapaidis 4')
Cautions: P Almendra (FK) 84', A Vlahos (FK) 87'
Venue: Ericson Stadium Referee: Derek Rugg Crowd: 2908

NEWCASTLE UNITED 0 MARCONI STALLIONS 0
Cautions: C Gibson (MS) 27', G Last (MS) 33', J Spiteri (NS) 69', A Brosque (MS) 75', J Griffiths (NU) 78', D Longo (MS) 84'
Venue: EnergyAustralia Stadium Referee: Con Diomis Crowd: 6132

NORTHERN SPIRIT 2 (V Tomasevic 77', 92') **OLYMPIC SHARKS 3** (J Watts 2' og, J Porter 17', T Pondeljak 68')
Cautions: J Richter (NS) 71', J Watts (NS) 85'
Venue: North Sydney Oval Referee: Matthew Breeze Crowd: 2795

PERTH GLORY 3 (B Hassell 14', 43', N Mrdja 23') **WOLLONGONG WOLVES 1** (S Young 37' pen)
Venue: Perth Oval Referee: Peter Green Crowd: 12 801

SOUTH MELBOURNE 4 (P Trimboli 1' pen, P Buljan 31', B Damianos 61', N Tolios 67')
MELBOURNE KNIGHTS 2 (L Buhic 30', A Pelikan 43' pen)
Cautions: P Buljan (SM) 5', N Sabljak (MK) 36', V Coveny (SM) 47', R Vargas (MK) 68'
Red Cards: P Buljan (SM) 43', N Sabljak (MK) 45'
Venue: Bob Jane Stadium Referee: Brett Hugo Crowd: 8997

SYDNEY UNITED 2 (J Angelucci 46', 87') **ADELAIDE CITY FORCE 1** (A Vidmar 84')
Cautions: I Fyfe (AC) 25', A Pellegrino (AC) 80', V Ivesa (SU) 84'
Venue: Sydney United Sports Centre Referee: Mark Shield Crowd: 3963

BRISBANE STRIKERS BYE

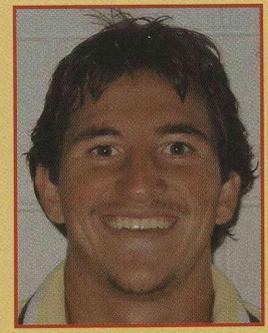
BRISBANE STRIKERS

BRISBANE STRIKERS 2002/2003

Player Statistics	Opponents		Player Statistics																					
	Date	F-A	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
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	1-3	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	
Sat 9/11	Rnd 8	Parramatta Power	A	0-2	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	▲	
	Rnd 9	Bye																						
Sat 23/11	Rnd 10	Football Kingz	H																					
Fri 29/11	Rnd 11	Newcastle United	A																					
Sat 7/12	Rnd 12	South Melbourne	H																					
Sat 15/12	Rnd 13	Sydney United	A																					
Sat 21/12	Rnd 14	Perth Glory	H																					
Fri 27/12	Rnd 15	Northern Spirit	A																					
Fri 3/1	Rnd 16	Wollongong Wolves	A																					
Sat 11/1	Rnd 17	Olympic Sharks	H																					
Fri 17/1	Rnd 18	Adelaide City Force	A																					
Sat 25/1	Rnd 19	Melbourne Knights	H																					
Fri 31/1	Rnd 20	Marconi Stallions	A																					
Sat 8/2	Rnd 21	Parramatta Power	H																					
	Rnd 22	Bye																						
Sun 23/2	Rnd 23	Football Kingz	A																					
Sat 1/3	Rnd 24	Newcastle United	H																					
Sun 9/3	Rnd 25	South Melbourne	A																					
TBA	Rnd 26	Sydney United	H																					
Individual League Appearances					65	165	92	53	130	84	55	31	89	298	81	51	17	20	23	1	33	11	12	7
Individual League Goals					0	4	1	1	9	16	22	0	7	75	7	3	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1

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

Junior Development Report



Well its great to have a competitive game this weekend, as it felt very weird last week not being part of the fixtures. During our week off the players were even busier than normal. Not only did the players have extra training sessions and team building functions, every player did at least two if not three school appearances last week. Speaking from my experience's last week it was very tough.

I thought I would quickly paint a picture in your minds about what a day is like if a player has two training sessions and an appearance for the club!

9 am - arrive for training (most likely left their home at 8:30)

12 noon - Pick up promotional gear and head to appearance. (Sometimes School can be an hour away)

1:30 till 3 pm - School Soccer Appearance. (May have time to get some lunch/May not!)

3-4 pm - Travel back to training ground for another session.

6 pm - Travel home.

As you can see it is a hectic and very draining day's work. As professional footballers we may not work from 9 to 5 everyday but days like the one mentioned above are more difficult then any 8-hour day that I've ever done.

Over the past 6 weeks the players have been visiting numerous schools in the Brisbane district. Hopefully some of these children and their parents will be here tonight. I think a special mention should be given to Jon McKain who was selected to travel out to Mt. Nebo State School, which is about 1 hour and a bit North West of Brisbane. For these children a visit from a real life Brisbane Striker's player was a huge buzz and a definite high light in their school year. It is always a fantastic experience to appear at schools like these, as the children are really appreciative of your work. It really does make the visit so worthwhile. Hope you all enjoy the game tonight.

Shane Stefanutto



Photo: Stuart McLaren with the Northside Christian School Children, All part of the Strikers school development coaching scheme.



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Round Six in Review

It was goals galore in round ten with 21 being scored in 5 games. The only goalless game took place in Newcastle on Friday night with Marconi sharing the points in front of the biggest crowd of the weekend of 6,132

Football Kingz took all the points at home to Parramatta in an exciting game. Parramatta Power took the lead in the 4th minute but two goals in the last 25 minutes through an OG and Paul Urlovic gave the points to the Kingz

Five goals at Northern Oval but no points for Spirit as only two late goals gave the scoreline some respectability. The Northern Spirit have now conceded 21 goals in just eight games and have been relegated to second last position on the ladder. The Sharks also missed a penalty an own goal and further goals by Porter and Pondeljak gave a 3-0 scoreline before Tomasevic scored the two late Spirit goals a drop of 6000 plus in the attendance was another concern for the Spirit administration.

Six goals in the Melbourne derby with Souths scoring four to the Knights two.

A local scribe described the game as the best he has seen in a long time in the NSL. The 2-2 half time scoreline led to an

enthraling second half which saw three more bookings to go with the two red cards issued in the first 45 minutes, goalscorers were Trimboli, Buljan Damianos and Talios for the blues with Buhic and Pelikan replying for the Knights.

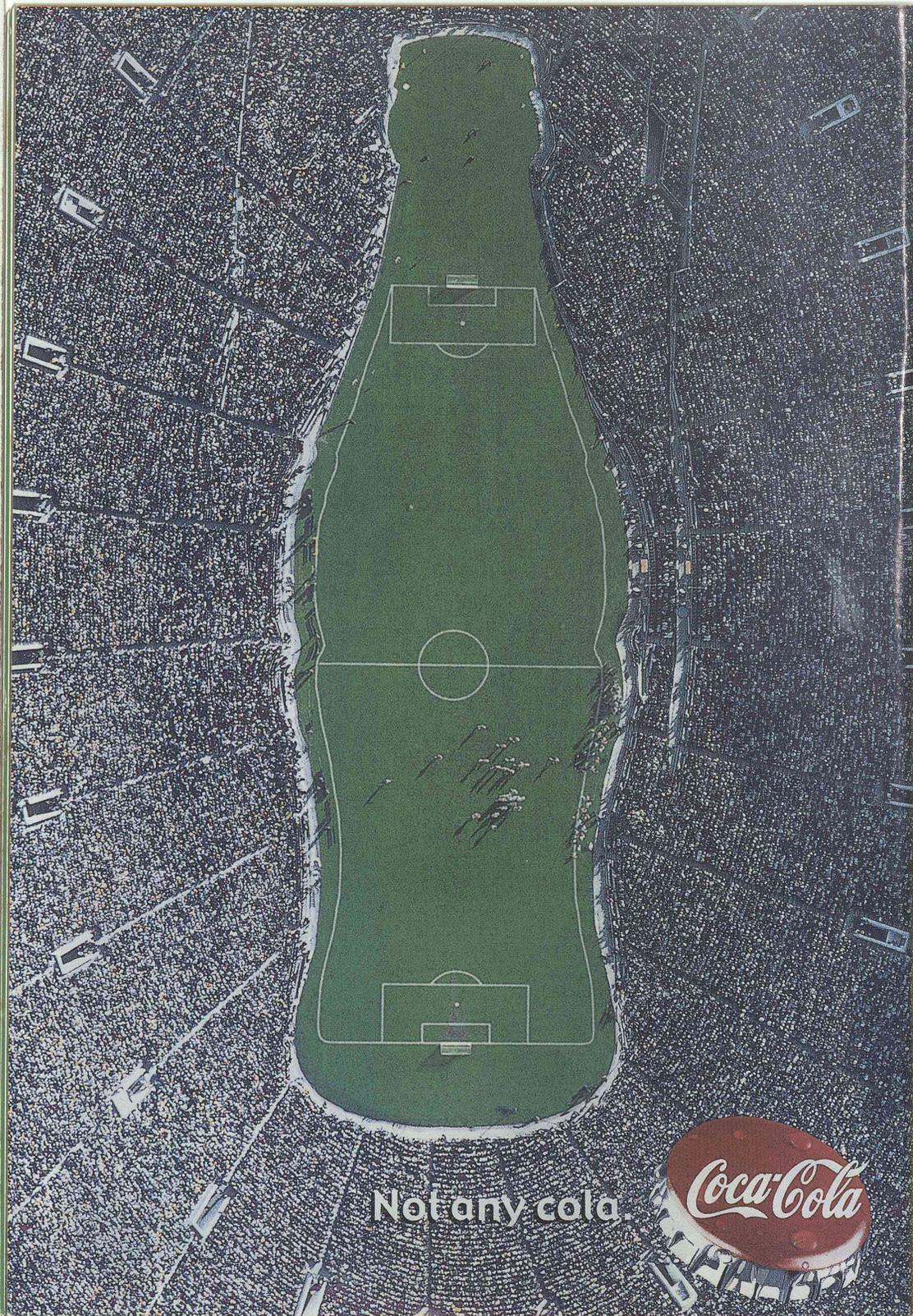
Perth Glory were two nil up after 23 minutes against Wollongong through Hassell and Mrdja before Stuart Young scored from the penalty spot to make the scoreline 2-1 Then Hassell added a second just on half time to give the final score of 3-1 to the Glory.

Jon Angelucci returned from being on loan to lead his Sydney United team to a 2-1 victory against Adelaide City Force. He scored in the 46 and 87 minute. The reply came from Vidmar his fourth of the season.

The Sharks remain on top of the ladder followed by Perth and Adelaide

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.



National League Review

NATIONAL LEAGUE SEASON 2002/03

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Olympic Sharks	9	6	2	1	19	12	20
Perth Glory	8	6	0	2	15	8	18
Adelaide City Force	8	4	2	2	16	11	14
Newcastle United	9	4	1	4	11	7	13
Sydney United	8	3	3	2	8	7	12
Melbourne Knights	8	2	5	1	14	13	11
South Melbourne	8	3	2	3	15	16	11
Football Kingz	9	2	4	3	12	11	10
Wollongong Wolves	9	2	4	3	9	11	10
Parramatta Power	8	2	3	3	10	10	9
Marconi Stallions	8	2	2	4	9	12	8
Northern Spirit	8	2	1	5	11	21	7
Brisbane Strikers	8	1	1	6	12	22	4

DRAW FOR THE NEXT TWO ROUNDS

Round 10

Sat 23 Nov
Olympic Sharks v Perth Glory

Sun 24 Nov
Adelaide City Force v Northern Spirit
Melbourne Knights v Sydney United
South Melbourne v Marconi Stallions
Parramatta Power v Newcastle United

Bye Wollongong Wolves

Round 11

Fri 29 Nov
Newcastle United v Brisbane Strikers
Northern Spirit v Melbourne Knights

Sat 30 Nov
Olympic Sharks v Wollongong Wolves

Sun 01 Dec
Perth Glory v Adelaide City Force
South Melbourne v Parramatta Power
Sydney United v Marconi Stallions
Bye Football Kingz

NATIONAL LEAGUE HOTSHOTS

Damien Mori	Perth Glory	7
Fernando Rech	Brisbane Strikers	6
Joel Griffiths	Newcastle United	5
Harry Ngata	Football Kingz	5
Anthony Pelikan	Melbourne knights	5
Stuart Young	Wollongong Wolves	5

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2002/2003 NSL

Round 7

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 Pilić
- 13 Wayne Heath
- 14 Daniel Dreger
- 15 Matthew McKay
- 17 Chris Scuderi
- 18 Lawrence Drake
- 19 Joshua Rose
- 20 Corey Baldock
- 21 Anthony Roche

Coach - John Kosmina

FOOTBALL KINGZ

- 1 Michael Utting
- 2 Jonathon Taylor
- 3 Mark Atkinson
- 4 Nick Haigh
- 5 Jonathon Perry
- 6 Chris Jackson
- 7 Mark Burton
- 8 Patricio Almendra
- 9 Paul Urlovic
- 10 Jeff Campbell
- 11 Andrew Vlahos
- 12 Heremaia Ngata
- 15 Raffaele deGregorio
- 16 Ben Sigmund
- 17 Paul Dempsey
- 18 Johnny Foundoulakis
- 19 Hiroshi Miyazawa
- 20 James Bannatyne
- 21 Riki Van Steeden
- 22 James Pritchett
- 23 Darren Young
- 24 Steven Turner
- 25 Mark Beldham

Coach - Ken Dugdale