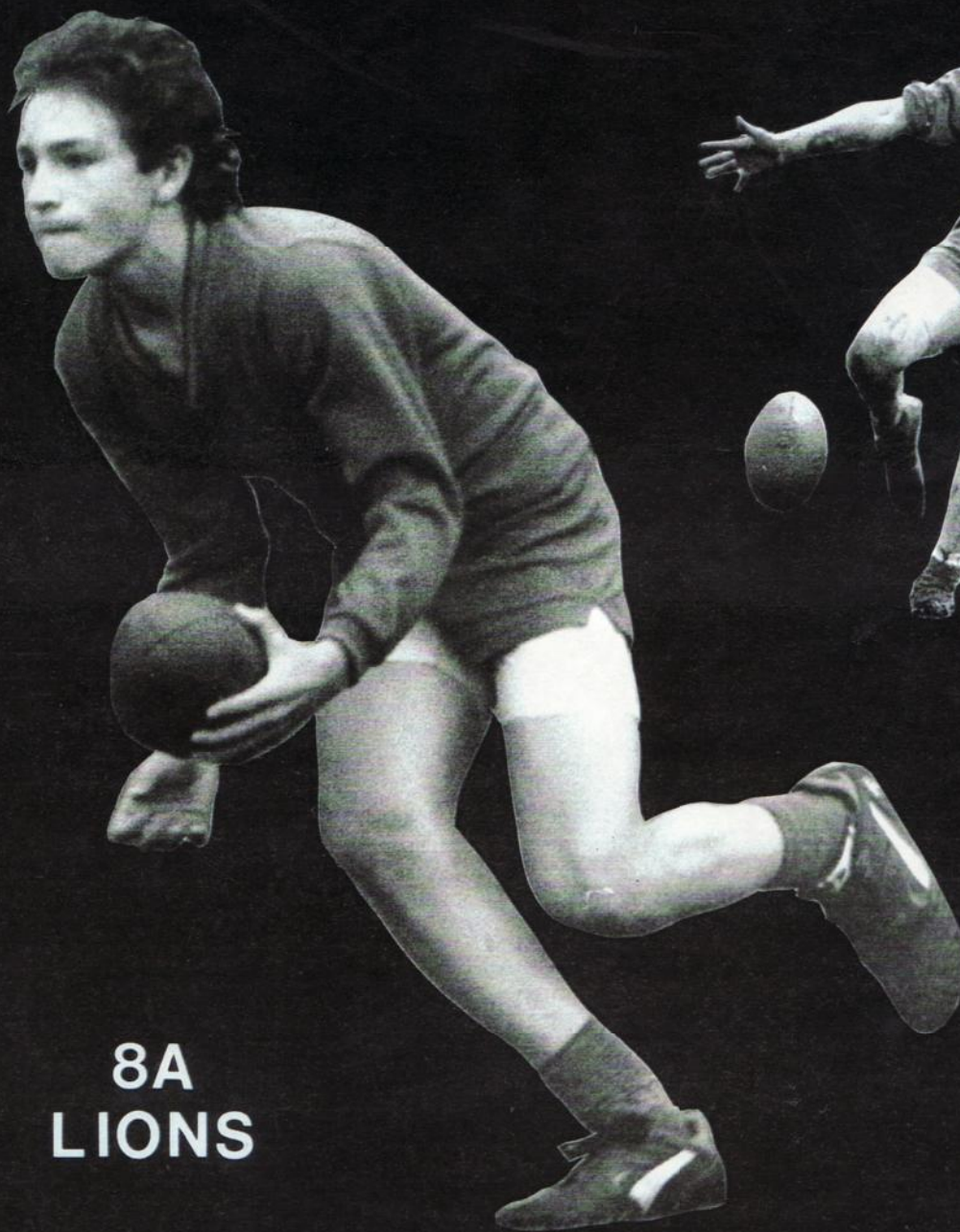
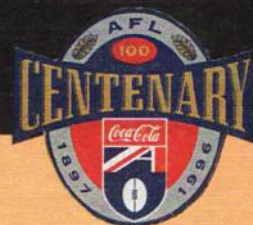


# FOOTBALL Record

1996



8A  
LIONS



WESLEY V THE REST

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**FOOTBALL  
Record**

*"The Football Record" is an OVER-THE-TOP PRODUCTION  
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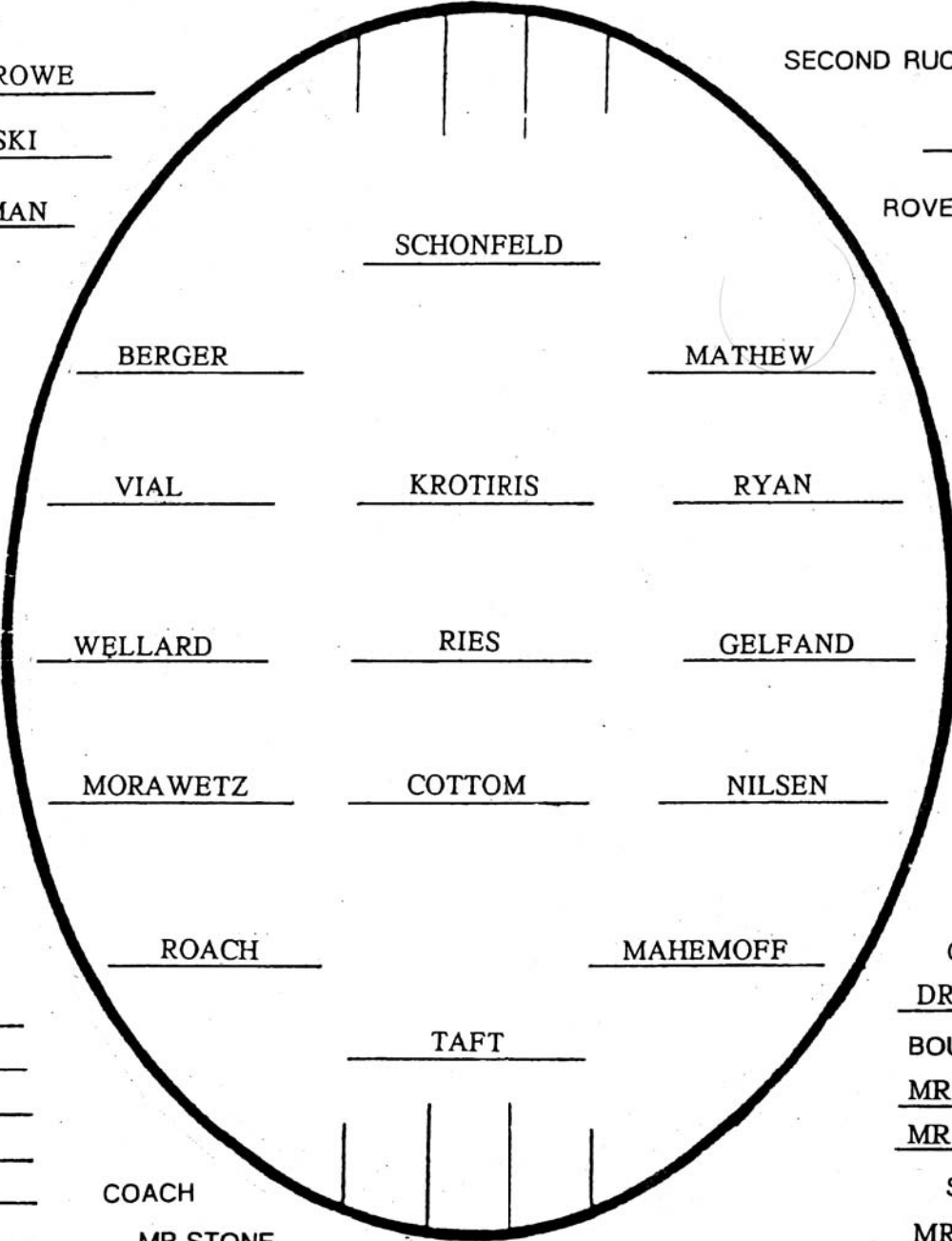


# LIONS 8As TEAM of 96



FIRST RUCK                
               
 ROVER              

SECOND RUCK                
               
 ROVER              



INTERCHANGE  
        
        
        
        
        
        
        
      

COACH  
        
 SKILLS COACH  
        
 TACTICAL ADVISOR  
        
 RUNNER  
        
 TRAINER  
      

MEDIA  
 CAMERA OPERATOR  
        
 SPECIAL COMMENTS  
      

GOAL UMPIRE  
        
 BOUNDARY UMPIRES  
        
        
 SCOREBOARD  
        
 OLYMPIC UPDATES  
        
 CHEERLEADERS  
        
        
      

**MATCH RECORD**  
 Played: 10  
 Won: 6  
 Lost: 4  
 Drawn: -

# LIONS DISPLAY PROMISE

WESLEY 4. 3. 27  
HAILEYBURY 11. 13. 79

GOALS: Wellard, Mahemoff, Taft, Ries  
BEST: Ries, Rowe, Wellard, Roach, Lewski,  
Mathew, Krotiris  
MARK of the DAY: Ries  
GOAL of the DAY: Wellard  
TACKLE of the DAY: Mathew  
RUN of the DAY: Wellard  
INJURIES: Krotiris (nose), Lewski (head)

The Lions launched their campaign for the 1996 Premiership Flag on Saturday against the predictably humungous Haileyburians. Having been held scoreless by the big bullies in recent encounters, the boys were determined to improve their strike rate, and after a nervous opening they did just that. What's more, they fought hard all day and never allowed their opponents to take control of the contest.

Despite Mr. Kennett's promises, the excavations at Albert Park had deprived the 8As of their traditional homeground, and it was with curiosity and anticipation that the Lions made their way to the alternative venue of Fawknor Park. The ground was in good nick and conditions were favourable as the Lions prepared for the season's opener. Preparations were disrupted however when it was noticed that Ellery "He's Always Late" Ryan and Tweeds were nowhere to be seen. Clarky and Dave Vial - recovering from a mystery virus - were rushed onto the field as the Lions took up their position under the leadership of newly appointed skipper, Nick Roach.

The visitors' excessive size and deep voices allowed them to gain the initial advantage as the Lions were put off by the sound of heavy footsteps and loud growling noises whenever they approached the ball. Two early goals set the home team back on their heels, but there were promising signs. Craig "Notta" Rowe(ver) was already proving himself the best tap ruckman on the field, and Nick Ries was demonstrating that he was going to be a player to be reckoned with. There were some impressive passages of play as the ball was moved out of defence by Lions with sure hands and swift feet. Gelfand, Wellard and Lewski were working hard, but Haileybury had the greater rebound strength. Krackers achieved the dubious honour of being the first Lion to spill blood on our new turf and was forced to leave the field for repairs. The visitors took advantage of our player shortage and dobbed another before the siren, giving the Lions plenty to think about during the first interval.

As they resumed their positions for the second quarter, the Lions were determined to take the game up to their opponents. Led by Roachy's example around the packs and in the spaces, the boys lifted sufficiently to match Haileybury's four scoring shots. Shura was attacking the ball with greater assurance at half forward and Ritters was busy, leading and marking confidently - despite his wonky leg! Although finding kicks hard to come by, Alex was providing another target and was using his body well to disadvantage his opponent. Kris "Snapshot" Nilsen was unlucky to miss one from the pocket, but quick thinking by Riesy and Shura set up Wella who threaded our first major from the pocket. Ari was restricting his dangerous opponent, yet still picking up kicks, whilst Daniel Mathew was proving a thorn in Haileybury's side as he attacked the ball fearlessly across half back. "Red" Ed was playing close to the big full forward and George "Rylza" Reilly was keeping his man quiet in the adjacent pocket. Craig managed to find debutante forward, Jonno Mahemoff within scoring range, and Jonno didn't let him down, booting our second major for the quarter.

As the Lions sucked on their oranges they now knew that there was nothing to fear! If determination and fitness could be maintained during the second half, Haileybury would be given a run for their money! With Riesy again setting the pace, the third term was a pretty even affair - each side registering two further goals. Our third sausage came from Shura's sure boot following a pass from Kris, and Riesy dobbed another from the corridor after some intelligent centring from wide on the flank. Danny continued to hassle and harass bigger opponents, whilst Dave Vial and Skuzza were hard workers - running to spaces and chasing tirelessly. Krackers was rebounding repeatedly from CHB and Jesse's aggressive approach to the ball was leaving his opponents flat footed. Rowey meanwhile was continuing to mark strongly and follow up with constructive second efforts.

The final stanza saw Haileybury finish strongly, and although the Lions hung in there, they seemed to be tiring after their gallant second and third quarters. Having had limited opportunities in the scoring zone, Clarky found himself much busier following a transfer to the back pocket, and Ed celebrated his move forward with a couple of strong tackles. Wella's creative running along the flank delighted the crowd, whilst Jonno's one-two at half back and Jesse's dashing options appealed to the connoisseurs!

Despite the final scoreline, The Lions' performance cheered the coach and the cheer squad who will no doubt be looking forward to the coming season with eager anticipation!

# LIONS JOIN CENTENARY PARTY.

WESLEY 17. 3. 105  
CAREY 1. 3. 9

GOALS: Roach 4, Cottom 3, Taft 3, Nilsen 2,  
Krotiris, Mahemoff, Ries, Carcour

BEST: Lewski, Rowe, Ries, Nilsen, Taft, Roach,  
Ritterman, Gavin, Cottom, Wellard, Ryan,  
Krotiris, Gelfand, Skurrie, Mahemoff,  
Reilly, Mathew, Carcour, Schonfeld,  
Morawetz

GOAL of the DAY: Nilsen

RUN of the Day: Skurrie

SMOTHER of the DAY: Rowe

INJURIES: Rowe (leg abrasions)

Following the encouraging season opener against Haileybury last weekend, the Lions were determined to fulfil their promise in Round Two and give their loyal band of supporters something to really cheer about. Despite a lacklustre training session on Wednesday the selectors' worries were eased this week with the availability of Cottom, Carcour and Gavin, and the return to health of Ellery "He's Always Late and Sometimes Doesn't Turn Up At All" Ryan. The Coach's only concern was the fitness of Dave Vial(ently ill) who seemed to have suffered a relapse. His late withdrawal enabled Ben "Bill Sikes" Morawetz to make his season debut after a vote winning game in the Bs.

A perfect morning for footy awaited the Lions as they made their way to Fawkner Park. A dry ground and mild windless conditions would suit the Lions' skilful brand of football, and they started clear favourites over the visitors from Carey Grammar. As skipper for the day, Krackers failed his first test by allowing the umpire to lose the coach's double headed gold coin. Its mysterious disappearance in the Fawkner Park turf resulted in the day's first pack being formed as the seagulls pounced. As the Lions took up their positions, Red Ed was still nowhere to be seen, so Morra slipped onto the field and Ellery became a key defender. Kicking up the hill to the Pavilion end, the Lions struggled for a few minutes, but when Shura "Sure Hands" Taft grabbed a rebounding ball and posted the first major, it was all systems go! Craig took control in the ruck and Ari was soon enjoying his offensive on ball role free of tagging duties. The half back line dug its heels in and very quickly gave Carey the message that their end of the ground was a no go zone! The forward line was finding plenty of opportunities to practise its leading and passing, and it wasn't long before Wella thrust the ball forward in Shura's direction. The relay found Ritters and his well directed kick set up new full

forward Luke Cottom for his first goal. Carey were keen to answer the home team's early scores but the disciplined defensive play of the Lions' centre line and their intelligent rebounding allowed few opportunities. When they did manage to sneak the ball through, Carey found yet another wall waiting for them! Jesse, Krackers and Danny were as tight as a packet of rubber bands. Carey could only watch in admiration as the Lions laid the foundation for a big score with confidence boosting offensive teamwork. Ritters and Roachy were as busy as two little beavers, and it was Roachy who registered the Lions' third at the eight minute mark. Creative football from Luke "Gavin Brown" Gavin set up Cotta for another soon after, and with Roachy reading the play as easily as he would "The Footy Record", it was no time at all before he dropped into a vacant hole and kicked truly as the quarter drew to a close.

A hungry Lion with the scent of blood in its nostrils is a dangerous beast, and the Lions entered the arena for the second term in killer mode! Riesy and Ari continued to combine well with Rowey, and with Wella and Skuzza in fine form, the Centre line remained a dominant force. Strong defence and persistent efforts to push the ball forward paid dividends as the Lions began to build on their five goal opening quarter. Kris "Snapshot" Nilsen's hours of practice finally paid off as he swooped on a stray sherrin and snapped sweetly from the pocket. Not to be outdone, Roachy dopped his third and moments later his fourth as an unselfish centring kick from Cotta found him directly in front. Morra had by now recovered from stage fright, and was displaying glimpses of talent on his flank, whilst Shura was being classy and creative at CHF. His second sausage came when a Ritters pass found its mark. Meanwhile, up the other end of the oval, the Lions' last line of defenders were finding plenty to do. Ed had finally arrived and was waxing lyrical about the merits of the Saints' worthy victory over the Magpies. Ellery and George were busy playing "I Spy", and Jesse had wandered off to look for the missing \$2 coin. Skuzz had been shifted deep into defence but by now the novelty had worn off. Sick of listening to Ed raving about Stewy Loewe he decided to get a piece of the action. So off he sprinted in search of adventure. Eventually he found the footy way down at the other end of the paddock, threw it onto his boot, turned, and sprinted back. "Snapshot" Nilsen gratefully accepted the ball and promptly threaded another through the big sticks! Moments later the cheer squad erupted as they saw Luke Cottom picking the ball from the pack and registering the home team's eleventh!

The Lions had been able to maintain momentum throughout the first half and the visitors had

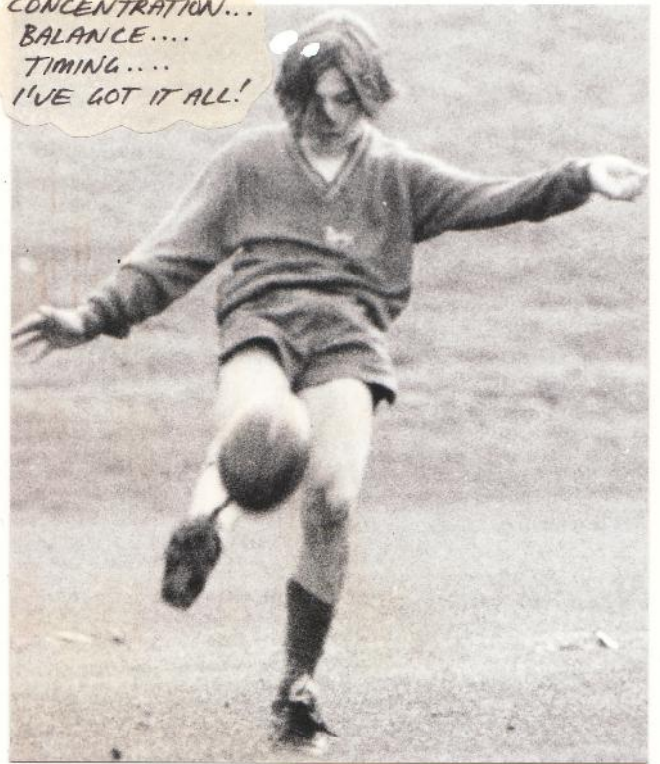
# VISITORS NOT INVITED!

## CAREY MISS OUT ON ALL THE FUN!

recorded a solitary point. It was therefore in the interests of footy that the boys relaxed a little during the third quarter and allowed Carey its one and only goal for the match. Meanwhile, the Lions stretched their lead with a goal to Danny Carcour - thanks to a Nilsen pass - and another to Krackers, enjoying a run on the ball, as Cotta set him up with some strong bodywork. Danny Mathew, Rylza and Ellery continued to apply the pressure on their opponents, and apart from the solitary goal, there was little joy for Carey!

A refreshing drink and a quick pep-talk had the Lions fired up for the final stanza, and Carey were once again reduced to the status of spectators at their own game as the home team fired off seven more salvos towards the big sticks. Riesy dished his first for the day as some tough work by Snapshot and a weaving run from Shura set him up. The latter soon grubbed his third after getting a boot on the passing pigskin. Carey's occasional forays forward were brilliantly thwarted by Red Ed's strong grabs and clearing kicks - and there was nothing they could do about it! Jonno "Moffa" Mahemoff had been providing valuable height on the forward line all day and was by now a vital link in the Lions' set up. The final nail in the Carey coffin came moments before the siren as Riesy passed to Jonno who took the ball without fuss and split the sticks like a veteran. The Lions had run out victors by a mammoth 96 points - a tribute to their determination, skill and teamwork!

CONCENTRATION...  
BALANCE....  
TIMING....  
I'VE GOT IT ALL!



THIS IS THE PART  
I HATE!



**Mitre10**  
Yes, you can.

10/10 BANNER COMPETITION

# LIONS GO ON RAMPAGE!

WESLEY 14. 12. 96  
CAULFIELD 0. 4. 4

GOALS: Roach 3, Taft 3, Krotiris 2,  
Mahemoff 2, Gavin, Morawetz,  
Reilly, Skurrie

BEST: Ritterman, Lewski, Vial, Krotiris,  
Ryan, Gavin, Mathew, Taft, Cottom,  
Roach, Skurrie, Mahemoff, Morawetz,  
Schonfeld, Wellard, Nilsen, Berger,  
Reilly, Guth.

MARK of the DAY: Ritters (the one hander)

GOALS of the DAY: Morawetz & Krotiris

TACKLE of the DAY: Lewski

360° of the DAY: Morawetz

QUOTE of the DAY: "My guy's got bosoms!" (Ed)

With their confidence sky high after last week's thrashing of Carey, the Lions hit the training track with enthusiasm this week and worked hard on refining skills and developing strategies. The selectors were a little concerned when star centreman Nick Ries declared that he had been selected in the St.Kilda cheer squad, would be travelling to Adelaide on Saturday, and would therefore be unavailable for the encounter at Wheelers Hill. The withdrawal of Carcour and Gelfand from the squad opened up further vacancies in the side. Jason Guth was named for his first A's game of the season, along with Dave Vial who had finally recovered from the lingering virus that had kept him out of the opening rounds. Unfortunately he had passed it on to his team-mate Craig Rowe who had been unable to train during the week. Marcel "The Butcher" Berger was put on standby, and he came into the side late on Friday when doctors advised Rowe to rest. Some late shuffling of the team took place and long haired Ellery Ryan was elevated to the first ruck position. Ben Wellard meanwhile was asked to fill the big boots of Riesy in the centre.

Eager to display their streetwise football skills to the unsophisticated country folk, the Eagles rose at the crack of dawn for the long journey into the sticks. Led by skipper for the day, Ed Schonfeld, the Lions looked a mean fighting unit as they kicked the dew and the rabbit poo from Paddock No.2.

It soon became clear that Wesley held all the aces, and barring an earthquake it would be the cityslickers who would take the points from the game. The only question during the opening minutes was could the Lions take some goals as well? The pocket size ground was cramping the Lions' style, and they were finding it difficult to

locate the corridor! Pot shots from the pockets produced a string of minors before a pass from Wella to the running Luke Gavin produced their first six pointer. Caulfield had no answers, and apart from bottling up the Lions' forward line, they seemed to lack any game plan. The on ball trio of Ryan, Lewski and Ritterman were in complete control, and Wella was enjoying his promotion to the pivot. With Krackers, Dave Vial, and Daniel "Don't Call Me Danny" Mathew throwing themselves into the action, Caulfield was unable to penetrate the Lion defence, and at the first change they had not yet bothered the scorers.



Ritters makes a break for it.

During the second term the Lions began to adjust their pattern of play to suit the confined spaces of the playing field, and although the scoreboard did not make major advances, the quality of the Lions' play improved noticeably. Shura had by now recovered from his big night out, and was taking charge at CHF. When a free kick was reversed and a penalty added, he found himself shooting for his first from point blank range. "Snapshot" Nilsen was having a dog of a day, with the ball refusing to bounce his way and it came as no surprise when even his renowned sharp shooting skills deserted him! With the ball being rebounded repeatedly by the half backs, the last line was rapidly losing interest in the game. Marcel decided to follow his man down to the forward pocket for something to do. Ed meanwhile had discovered some interesting facts about his opponent's anatomy! The Lions' second goal for the quarter came from the boot of Taft after he stretched high in the air to take a pass from the busy Luke Gavin.

As they caught their breath and sucked on their citrus segments, the Lions resolved to lift their performance during the second half and to stop mucking around. And so it was down to business!

Spurred on by their loyal supporters and the unmistakable voice of Pete's mum, the Lions raised the tempo of the game a few notches, and left Caulfield floundering!



*Ari Lewski brushes his opponent aside*

Rylza had spent some time in the back pocket during the first half, but had moved to the wing hoping to see some action. The ball had continued to avoid him though, and he had begun to give up hope of getting a kick. Perhaps he should have taken up basketball after all....then suddenly, unexpectedly a football fell into his arms. George looked up at the sky....hallelujah! "It's a miracle" he thought...."now who wants it?" But there was no one around. George looked East towards the mountains. Far in the distance he could see four posts and the beckoning figure of Shura - with nothing in between! "This is your moment George Reilly...just do it! Run!" One bounce, two bounces, and the posts were getting close. Now almost within range...a few more steps and...woof! The crowd rose to its feet as the ball rose high in the air towards the goals. Will it make it? Can George do it? There was no doubt in George's mind! It was all clear the moment it left his boot! The cheer squad went beserk and the Lions were **INSPIRED!**

Moments later Roachy stretched high to gather a Morawetz pass and registered the Lions' fifth, and it wasn't long before a clearing kick from Mathew found Luke Cottom at half forward. His short pass to Jonno Mahemoff resulting in another major. Ari and Ritters were continuing to dictate the play around the ground and Ellery was having a real dip! Guthy was getting the hang of things on the wing, and Snapshot was getting a few touches. Red Ed and Marcel thwarted several Caulfield forays and the Lions answered well as Mora spun out of a pack and threaded his team's seventh. Another sausage from the boot of Roachy before the siren gave the Lions a handy 52 point advantage at the final change.



*Ellery Ryan takes control of a ruck duel*

The scene was set for a **HUGE** last quarter as the Lions prepared to blitz their hapless opponents with hard at the ball, fast moving footy. There was none harder at the ball than Dave Vial, and his example was tremendous. Ritters' ability to shark the packs was fantastic, and Ari's tackling had to be seen to be believed. Shura had left his opponent for dead with his strong leading and marking, and he was able to set up Roachy for his third during the opening minutes. Skuzza had shown his opponent a clean pair of heels for most of the game and soon it was his turn to add to the Lions' tally. Krackers had managed to do a deal with Ellery, and was now running on the ball. He too joined in the fun with a brilliant goal on the run from hard up on the boundary line, and followed up with another as he snatched the ball from a pack. Cottom was working hard out at CHF, but it was Jonno who soccered the next goal from inside the square. Shura's third was the Lions' last as a pass from Skuzza found him within range. A six goal quarter had stretched the Lions' lead to 92 points, and Caulfield had to admit they had been beaten by a better team! A team that had played with determination and purpose!



*Jason Guth leads his opponent a merry dance*



## Rd 4

## LIONS SNATCH THRILLING WIN!

WESLEY PRAHRAN 10. 7. 67  
 WESLEY G.W. 9. 9. 63

GOALS: Taft 5, Roach 3, Mahemoff, Carcour  
 BEST: Lewski, Carcour, Rowe, Taft, Krotiris,  
 Roach, Cottom, Vial, Gavin, Morawetz,  
 Gelfand, Mahemoff, Mathew, Skurrie,  
 Berger, Reilly.

INJURIES: Mathew (crunched leg), Morawetz  
 (cork thigh)

MARK of the DAY: Taft and Roach (a tie)

GOAL of the DAY: Taft

TACKLE of the DAY: Roach

The traditional rivalry between Melbourne and Collingwood is part of AFL folklore, but it pales to nothing compared to the intense, deep seated adversity that exists between the Prahran Lions and the Glen Waverley Pussy Cats. Their annual tussle is always an eagerly awaited date on the football calendar, and fans have been known to queue for days to procure prime grandstand seats. This year was no exception, and Lions' supporters had begun their vigil outside Ms. Mellor's office before recess on Monday morning.

Meanwhile, things were also hotting up at Glen Waverley, where far more than Premiership points were at stake! Having seen their 8A team disgraced on the Front Turf in 1995, the board members of the Glen Waverley Country Club were determined to see Prahran blood shed at the earliest opportunity, and to this end they had ordered their specially trained Syndal Squad to execute a complex strategy of deceit and deception which would ensure that revenge be exacted when their team next met the Prahran Lions. Unknowingly, the Lions stepped straight into the trap on Saturday morning....

The Lions' selectors were cheered by the return to health of big Craig "Tall Timber" Rowe, and were confident of success with the addition of Ries, Carcour and Gelfand to the squad that had humbled Caulfield the previous week. It looked a powerful combination on paper, but that's as far as it got! In the hours leading up to the big match the Syndal Squad set about their cunning strategy to deny the Prahran Lions a seemingly inevitable victory. The plan was simple - to remove vital players from the Lion lineup by stealth and subterfuge. First to go was Red Ed. Diagnosed by a bogus doctor as being really ill, he was instructed to stay indoors until at least 12.30pm on Saturday. Next was Ritters, abducted from Moubray Street by a terrorist disguised as Mr. Whippy. Snapshot and Wella were hit in a double play when another agent posing as an Email mechanic secretly adjusted the air-conditioning at their respective households on Friday and inflicted instant flu on the unsuspecting Lion stars. Early on Saturday morning, Nick Ries

received a call on his mobile from an actor impersonating St.Kilda coach Stan Alves. "Stan" told Riesy that he was a late inclusion in the team for Sunday's game against Carlton, and that he would need to withdraw from the Lions team immediately. A plan to hijack Ellery on his way to the game fell through when the Lion star failed to emerge from his bedroom on Saturday morning.



*The big men fly! Ruckman Craig Rowe contests*

As news of his players' predicaments filtered through to the Lions coach the "powerful combination on paper" began to look less so by the minute, as he was forced to revise and redesign the team, until he was left with a bare sixteen to take the field. Meanwhile, the Pussy Cats were licking their lips in anticipation of the opening bounce. In a last desperate attempt to throw the Lions off their game, the Country Club Committee insisted that each visitor change his proud purple guernsey for a no name yellow jersey. To their horror, the Lions soon discovered that the yellows came in two sizes only - extremely tight and muscle inhibiting, or humungously big and sloppy. Neither would be conducive to skilled manoeuvring!

Kicking to the Southern or railway end of the Kennedy Oval, the Lions, led by Shura "Sure Boot" Taft began promisingly, but failed to convert several opportunities. It was clear that their confidence had been undermined by the absence of their team mates, and instead of attacking the ball and making the play in their customary fashion, the

Lions seemed tentative. The only positive consequence of playing with sixteen players is a guaranteed open forward line, and a centring kick from the boot of Ari found the skipper directly in front for the Lions' first major of the day. "T.T." Rowe was dominating in the ruck, whilst Dave Vial and Jesse were working hard across half back, but a sudden rush of blood forced a Lion defender (who shall remain nameless - but he knows who he is!) to leave his opponent unchecked in the square, and the home team notched a reply. Their second followed a short time later when the Lions' defence again left the square unattended. At the break it was a goal the difference, and even though they were outnumbered, the Lions knew that if they could tighten up in defence and attack the goals with more purpose, they would stand a good chance.

The second quarter opened with a much needed goal to the Lions as Ari kicked long into the square where the elastic arms of Taft stretched high above the pack to pull in a screamer. Despite the early goal, it remained a low scoring quarter during which the Lions defence did indeed tighten up. Skuzza and Daniel "D.C.M.D." Mathew played close to their opponents and Marcell showed great courage and dash in several charges through half back. Krackers was contesting with vigour and Ari was keeping the pressure on the locals with tireless ruck roving. Lukes Gavin and Cottom were not finding it an easy game, but their persistence was helping to keep the Lions in the contest. Mora meanwhile had copped a vicious corky which was beginning to hamper his fancy footwork. The Pussy Cats snuck through their third, but the Lions struck back as the hard work of Daniel Carcour paid off and Jonno Mahemoff hugged a sliding mark well within range.



*Inspirational ruck rover Ari Lewski in action*

At the long interval the scoreboard showed the home team a few points up. The Lions took a well earned breather and pondered their immediate future. "Can we break the shackles during the premiership quarter?" they asked themselves. "Can we overcome adversity and force our opponents to capitulate?" (or words to that effect).



*"Tall Timber" Rowe uses his height to advantage. Daniel Carcour waits for any crumbs.*

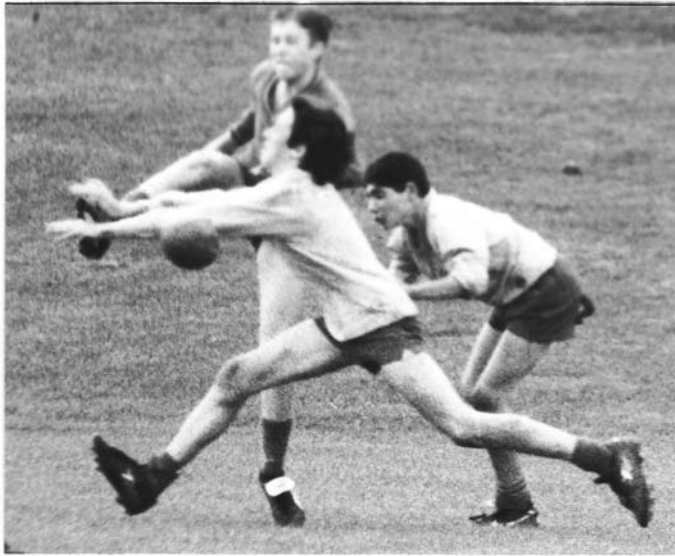
The opening minutes suggested an affirmative response to both questions, as Roachy set up Shura for his third, and a centring kick found Carkers directly in front of the big sticks. Then suddenly the wheels fell off! The Country Club XVIII reached deep within and found something extra....they were not about to be brushed aside - there was too much at stake! The Lions defence suddenly found themselves under enormous pressure as wave after wave of enemy troops surged forward. Despite their gallant efforts they were unable to stem the bombardment and the coach's heart sank as the scoreboard ticked over with alarming frequency. When the siren sounded to end the third term, the Lions were staring at a four goal deficit. Huddling together on the western wing they mused upon their likely fate. Would it be a capitulation, or would it be a gallant struggle, overrun by sheer weight of numbers, but still able to hold their heads high? The coach urged his charges to stick to their guns. Remember the basics, work hard - and the ball will roll your way! The encouragement of the loyal Lions cheer squad raised their spirits, and with firm resolve the boys resumed their positions for a do or die effort!

Led by the inspirational example of Ari and Rowe the Lions lifted all over the ground to take the game right up to the locals. Roachy dished his first, and in a sparkling manoeuvre Shura marked and spun his way towards the goals to boot the Lions' seventh. The Pussy Cats responded, but the Lions were equal to the challenge and when Roachy plucked a magical mark from nowhere and registered his second for the quarter the difference had been narrowed to inside three goals. The home team were not about to give up and they threw

everything they could at the Lions defence but with Krackers and his team pushing up and rebounding brilliantly, scoring was impossible. A Lions victory was no longer a long shot- it was now a distinct possibility! Then tragedy struck! D.C.M.D. Mathew was severely crunched on the far wing and play was held up as he was carried from the field. The Lions could ill afford to lose such a valuable player at this crucial stage, and yet another opening was created on the forward line as Shura was moved further up the field and Jesse was swung to full back. The lone survivor within easy reach of the Lions' goal was the injured Mora, who looked by now as though he was rehearsing for the part of Peg Leg Pete the Pirate in the Middle School pantomime. Time was ticking away as the Lions rushed the ball forward and Shura moved down to snatch a hurried kick towards the sticks - but it was a poster! Back in play Roachy pounced and threaded his way goalward....this time it travelled truly and the Lions were just one kick away from victory...with just four minutes to go! The Pussy Cats rallied and



*Clever forward, Nick Roach about to feed the ball to a running Shura Taft in the dying moments of Saturday's game. Taft's goal sealed a memorable victory.*



*A courageous smother by Lion half forward Luke Cottom.*

pushed forward only to see the ball rebounded. Another thrust...and back it came again. Skuzza, Marcell, Jesse and Vialy were magnificent! Not to mention George! The ball was bombed out towards the wing and Rylza stretched out to grab a vital mark, but the umpire called play on! Cool in a crisis Rylza fed the ball out and in no time it was heading Roachy's way. Too far out to score, and with his back to the goalmouth Roachy spied the running Shura drawn like a magnet towards the goals. Quick as a flash the handball found its mark and with just seconds remaining the skipper drilled the Sherrin! The crowd was ecstatic! The atmosphere electric! The Lions had 'snatched victory from the jaws of defeat!



*"You bloody beauty!" Ecstatic Lions celebrate their hard fought victory!*

## Rd 5

# LIONS ON A ROLL! WESLEY MAKES IT FOUR IN A ROW!

WESLEY 11. 10. 76  
 GEELONG COLLEGE 8. 5. 53

GOALS: Roach 4, Taft 2, Cottom, Lewski,  
 Gavin, Ritterman, Ries  
 BEST: Rowe, Lewski, Roach, Taft, Ries, Krotiris  
 Cottom, Nilsen, Ritterman etc.  
 B.O.G. Rowe  
 MARK of the DAY: Roach (take your pick!)  
 GOAL of the DAY: Ritterman  
 TACKLE of the DAY: Rahill  
 BALK of the DAY: Krotiris  
 HOVER of the Day: Rowe  
 S.F. of the DAY: Ryan  
 INJURIES: Ryan (ankle) Schonfeld (head)  
 Mathew (leg - on the bus!)  
 BIRTHDAYS: Mahemoff

Their spirits high following last week's courageous fightback against Glen Waverley, the Lions were looking forward to the long bus ride that would bring them face to face with their next victim - Geelong College. Despite the unavailability of the injured Gelfand, and professional Barmy guests, Morra and Moffa, the Lions were strengthened by the return of several key players missing from the Glen Waverley tussle, and it was a cheerful and eager group that arrived in Geelong for the early morning encounter. The mysterious absence of Carkers created some concern, but after the acute player shortage of the previous week, nineteen players seemed a luxury!

Geelong opened strongly and before the Lions could shake off the unavoidable after effects of the bus journey, the home team had two goals on the board. The Lions were being run off their feet and appeared flat footed and lethargic. A goal to skipper, Nick Ries, was encouraging but Geelong replied with their third major. Some stirring words from guest runner, Unsa, a quick burst of the Allie's theme song from "Smiley" Reilly and some inspirational ruckwork from the big fella, Rowey, seemed to sting the Lions into action, and a tap on by the hard working Cotta found his running skipper who passed truly to Roachy well within range. Rowey was beginning to take control of the airwaves now, and with "Harry" Lewski providing drive, the Lions seemed to be finally shaking off their bus lag. Geelong however, continued to play the small ground more effectively, and it wasn't long before they moved the ball smartly forward to register their fourth for the quarter.

The Lions would need to play disciplined football during the second quarter if they were to take control of the game. The forward line would need to open up, and the back line would need to provide greater resistance to enemy assaults. Most



*Shura Taft marks strongly ahead of his opponent*

importantly there would need to be an increase in both the tempo and the physicality of the Lions' game. With their loyal (but small) band of supporters providing encouragement, the team hit back hard during the second term and snatched the advantage away from the locals. Led by Rowey, Harry and Ritters, the ball began moving more freely from the centre, and with Taft roaming free in midfield, the Lions looked a more threatening combination. Krackers and his offsiders, "Smellery" Ryan and "Whispering Jack" Vial, had built an impassable wall across half back, and Geelong struggled to find an avenue to goal during the quarter. A pass from Harry to "Sure Boot" Taft gave the Lions the lead for the first time, and soon after Shura returned the favour and Lewski dobed another. The Lions were starting to display their true form now, and another sausage to Shura gave them a handy advantage to take into the second half.



*Jason Ritterman gets his kick in under pressure*



Lions ruck-rovers, Ari Lewski about to feed out a handpass during the final quarter of Saturday's game at Geelong. Flanker Kris Nilsen runs in support of his team mate.

Having feasted on juicy Queensland navels and delicious Kia-Ora cordial, the Lions were well prepared to ram home the advantage when they returned to the arena for the premiership quarter. The home team fought hard, but the Lions were now firing on all cylinders and were eager to give the crowd their money's worth. A scintillating passage of football from Harry and Shura set up Ritters who snapped accurately from the pocket, and with Wella being clever on the wing, it was

only a matter of time before the Lions would have Bruce MacAvaney waxing lyrical. Skilful play by Krackers set up Roachy for a super mark and goal, whilst Alex "Chunky Tackler" Rahill pinned his opponent with a beauty! The home team was finding it tough going with Red, Marcell and "Doc" Mathew defending with aggression, and their frustration was beginning to surface. Roachy copped one behind the play, but stayed cool and simply pointed to the scoreboard!

The final quarter was a beauty, as Geelong bounced back with newfound determination, and the Lions found something extra to match! Skuzza had been enjoying his transfer to the forward line and was instrumental in setting up the Lions' ninth when he passed to Roachy who in turn gave the ball off to Cotta. Cotta's efforts encouraged a bit of unnecessary elbow work from his opponent, but once again, "Scoreboard" was the sharp comeback! "Snapshot" Nilsen had been running well all day on his flank, and after a brilliant lead to space he conveyed the ball towards the goals where the unstoppable Nick Roach twisted his way around an opponent to take a bobby dazzler of a mark before threading his fourth for the day. The Cats replied, but the Lions were not to be outdone, and as Harry propelled the ball forward Luke "Maggie" Gavin chipped in to mark and goal. When timekeeper Unsworth sounded his portable siren, the Lions had clinched a 23 point victory to make it four on the trot!



Ben Wellard concentrates on his disposal

# LIONS LEARN A LESSON!

The Lions learnt a valuable football lesson on Saturday. Skipper, Luke Cottom admitted that his team lost the game in the third quarter when they relaxed and let Melbourne back in. "Yeah, I guess you could say we took it a bit easy. The boys were over the moon after our great second quarter and some of them were already planning the celebrations!"

Coach, Richard Stone agreed. "You just can't afford to relax against the better teams. Melbourne regrouped after half time and we took our foot off the accelerator - and paid the price!"

After an even opening quarter during which both teams seemed overawed by the huge crowd, the Lions turned on a stunning exhibition of play on football to grasp the initiative from a worried Melbourne. Despite suffering from the after effects of three chocolate thickshakes for breakfast, Craig Rowe was in top form again, controlling the aerial duels and giving Ritters and Ari plenty to work with. Alongside him in the centre, Nick Ries was an important contributor, but a serious shoulder injury forced him from the field and left the Lions with just 17 men. Cotta was holding his own at CHF, but Melbourne's big men were forcing the Lions to rely on their running players to bring the ball forward. A skilfully weighted kick by Lewski bounced its way over the heads of two astonished Melbourne defenders and the Lions had their second on the board. Melbourne wasted no time in answering, but the Lions had found a new lease of life, and with Shura roaming free on the forward line they were finding a lively avenue to goal. Snapshot Nilsen marked a Shura pass just thirty metres out, but his kick fell into a pack on the goal line - only to be marked by the long arms of Moffa! The Lions followed up with another major as Moffa fed a handball to the running Shura. Melbourne were finding it difficult to pass the determined defence of Vial and

Mathew, but they managed to sneak another goal before the Lions, not to be outdone, answered with their fifth. Quick thinking by Luke Gavin set up Taft again, and at the long interval the Lions held a ten point advantage. There were signs of panic amongst the Melbourne team, and the Lions felt confident.

Melbourne however, were not about to be knocked off their perch, and they came out a more determined unit for the premiership quarter. The Lions defence was put under immediate pressure, and the barrage continued for the remainder of the quarter, as Melbourne rebounded relentlessly. Despite the efforts of Marcell, Red Ed and Krackers to hold the big guns, it was Melbourne's snipers who kept shaking off their minders and assaulting the big sticks. A couple of charity goals came when kick-ins failed to find their mark, and generous free kicks from the Lions did not help their cause! To cut a long story short, the Lions barely moved the ball beyond the centre while Melbourne added 3.5. The scoreboard was looking grim indeed!

With the memory of their brilliant second quarter kicking to the St.Kilda Road end revived by their coach, the Lions went into the final stanza in a determined frame of mind. An early goal or two and they'd be back in contention! Roachy was up on a wing now, and Wella and Skuzz were eager to set up their team mates nearer the goals, but try as they might, the breakthrough just wouldn't come! Desperate defence by the Lions successfully kept Melbourne at bay - but the Lions needed goals and time was ticking away. When Rowey went down with cramp, guest runner, Nim Prerera begged the coach to let him pull his boots on, but the Lions would have to rely on their gallant eighteen! Captain Cottom tried hard to lift his men, but time was too short, and a last quarter stalemate left the Lions fourteen points down.

## Time n

### WESLEY

1.0 5.1 5.1 5.2 (32)

### MELBOURNE

1.3 3.3 6.8 6.10 (46)

### GOALS

**WESLEY:** Taft 3, Lewski, Mahemoff

### BEST

**WESLEY:** Lewski, Rowe, Taft, Ritterman, Mahemoff, Cottom, Vial, Schonfeld, Wellard

### INJURIES

**WESLEY:** Ries (shoulder), Gelfand (chest) Schonfeld (finger), Rowe (leg & tummy)

### UMPIRE

Baker

### ATTENDANCE

23

### HIGHLIGHTS

The Lions' brilliant second quarter

*Shura Taft's paddle from the wing to the pocket*  
Ari Lewski's bouncing goal

*Jonno Mahemoff's mark on the goal line*

Hamish Opray's guest appearance

### LOWLIGHTS

The mysterious absence of Carcour and Ryan

*The serious shoulder injury to Nick Ries*

The Lions' disappointing third quarter

*Jesse Gelfand spitting the dummy*

### FROM THE ROOMS

**Richard Stone**

"A disappointing result - particularly after our great second quarter. It was hard to cover Riesy, and we certainly missed his drive from the centre. The boys fought it out though, and with an ounce of luck in the last quarter we might have snuck home!"

**Tim O'Shaugnessy**

"To be quite honest we were relieved to come out with the points! Make no mistake, Wesley are as good a team as any in the competition! We were praying they wouldn't get an early goal in the last quarter!"



Lion stars spotted recently at the State of Origin match at the MCG.

# LIONS BACK ON TRACK!

WESLEY 8. 4. 52  
ST.KEVINS 2. 4. 16

GOALS: Taft 2, Cottom 2, Carcour, Nilsen  
Lewski, Ritterman

BEST: Rowe, Lewski, Taft, Krotiris,  
Ritterman, Cottom, Nilsen, Gelfand

UMPIRES AWARD: Rowe

GOAL of the DAY: Lewski

INJURIES: Wellard (eye), Krotiris (nose),  
Skurrie (leg), Ritterman (face)

BEST BEHAVED DEFENDER: Gelfar

CHIEF CINEMATOGRAPHER: Unsa

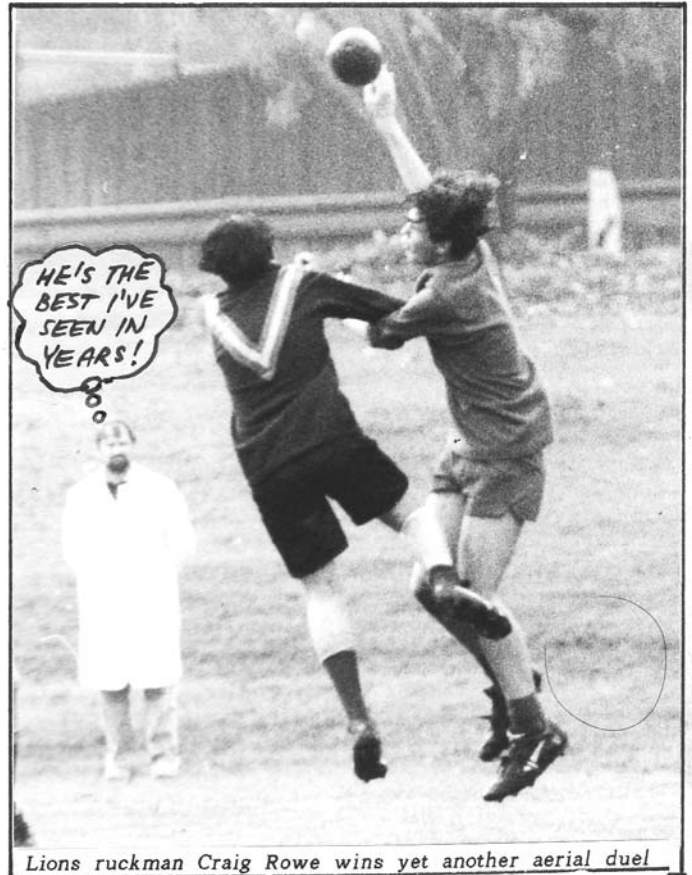
SPECIAL COMMENTS: Ben "McAvaney" Morawetz

Following their disappointing loss to Melbourne last Saturday, the Lions were keen to regain their reputation as a force to be reckoned with, and they began focusing their attention early in the week on their next target - St.Kevins. Although Nick Ries had been ruled out with a shonky shoulder, and Ellery's little toe was still causing the medical fraternity enormous anxiety, the Lions selectors were confident that they could field a combination that would hold St.Kevins at the bottom of the table. The recent good form of Rahill and Clark in the Bs made them logical inclusions, and Carkers promised not to get sick again on Saturday morning! Craig Rowe, meanwhile, promised to adhere to a more sensible pre-match diet.

It was a cold and foggy morning as the Lions ran onto the vast expanse of Como Park, led by Skipper of the Week, Jason Ritterman. The coach had prepared a pre-match quiz to check the astuteness of his team, and he was delighted at the above average IQs demonstrated in the change room. "If only they can convert their answers into actions!" he thought to himself as the ball was bounced to start the first quarter.



Shura Taft is led a merry dance by his St.Kevins opponent



Lions ruckman Craig Rowe wins yet another aerial duel

The Lions' early form was encouraging, and it looked as though St.Kevins would be struggling to match the Lions' classy and determined trio of onballers. Tafty was already showing himself to be an accomplished replacement in the pivot, and Krackers seemed to have regained the form that had deserted him against Melbourne. The home team was unable to take the ball past the ruthless Lions half backline during the opening term, and Marcell and Red had already taken out the pack of cards before the ten minute mark. A pass from Ritters found Shura within range, and the Lions' first major was on the board - much to the delight of the supporters in the Members Stand. The Lions' interchange bench was busy and both Clark and Rahill were on the ground early as Wella managed to poke somebody's finger with his eye, and Krackers stuck his nose into somebody else's business. Meanwhile Rowey was continuing his domination around the ground, and Ari was being his usual busy self. Skuzza and Gavin were mopping up the crumbs on the forward line, and Roachy was already finding useful spaces. A great passage of play brought up the Lions' second as a pass from Ritters hit Nilsen inside the fifty, and a centring chip found Cottom lurking in front.

The Lions had already stamped their authority on the game, and during the second quarter they worked hard to put the game out of their opponents' reach. Disciplined football by Jack Vial,

"Doc" Mathew, and the umpire's friend, Jesse Gelfand, made it tough for the Skevvys, and the big skinhead had met his match in Marcell the Butcher. A brilliant snap from deep in the pocket by Harry Lewski was followed only minutes later by the Lions' fourth sausage as Tafty plucked the ball from a pack and threaded it through the sticks. Sensing the presence of the Optus Vision cameras, the skipper decided it was time he too got in on the act, and moments later the fifth was on the board as Ritters snuck the ball through a pack of players from twenty metres out.

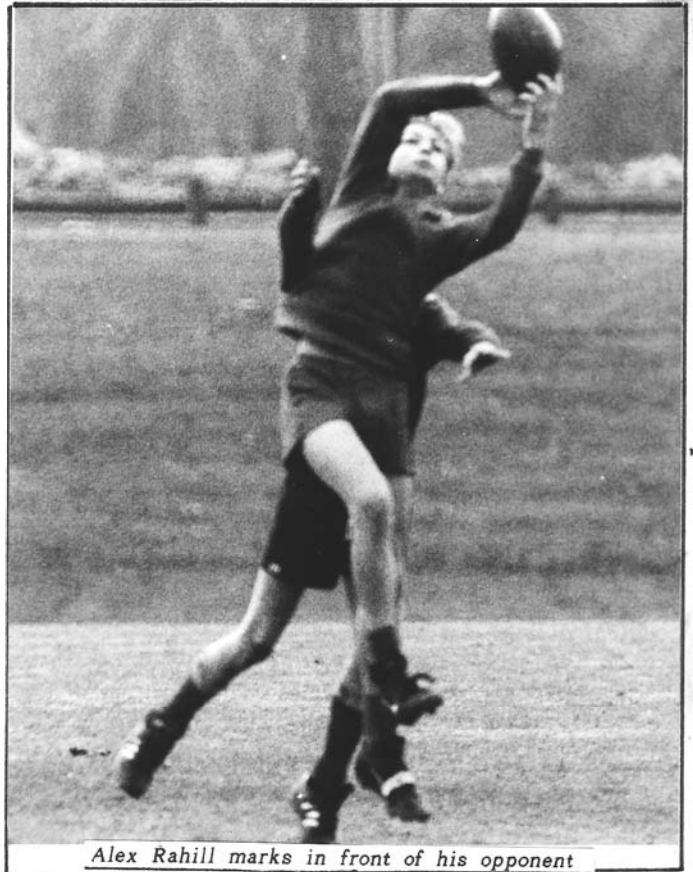


Lion defender, "Krackers" Krotiris competes for the ball

At the interval, the Lions had plenty to talk about, and Ben "MacAvaney" Morawetz had plenty to say to the viewers at home. Remembering their premature celebrations last Saturday, the Lions were well aware of the need to keep the pressure on their opponents during the third quarter, and they did just that, despite a concerted effort by the home team to bottle up the Lions' forward line. Cotta had been a valuable contributor at CHF during the first half, and he continued to be a focus for the Lions, while Alex, Snapshot Nilsen, and Wella were working together to lock the ball forward. The only goal for the quarter came when



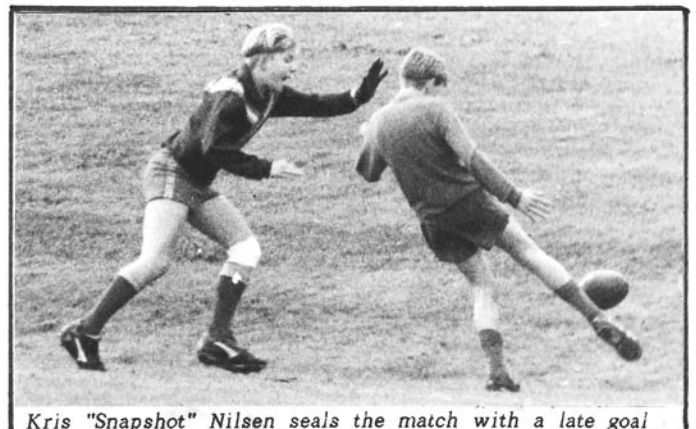
Ed Schonfeld helps out his team mate "Harry" Lewski



Alex Rahill marks in front of his opponent

clever ruckwork by Moffa set up Carkers for an equally clever left foot snap from an impossibly tight angle. Meanwhile, Skevvys were being held scoreless, and Red Ed was bored out of his mind.

At the final change Ritters spurred his team on while the Coach desperately juggled the names on his teamsheet. A few forwards went back and a few backs went forward, but while the Lions were adjusting to their new look lineup, the Skevvy boys saw their chance and snuck through the defence to register their first major. Their determined efforts paid dividends, and it wasn't long before they posted another. By now though, the Lions had settled, and they began to regain control of the situation. Inspired by the "greatest performance by a ruckman this century" the Lions rushed the ball forward for Cottom to sneak (just) a sausage, and soon after repeated the move to set up Snapshot for one of his trademark across the body goals. The home team had run out of answers, and the Lions had cruised to a six goal victory - just what the doctor ordered!



Kris "Snapshot" Nilsen seals the match with a late goal



# GOLD ELUDES GALLANT LIONS

WESLEY 6. 3. 39  
SCOTCH 8. 6. 54

GOALS: Nilsen 2, Taft 2, Lewski, Mahemoff

BEST: Lewski, Rowe, Krotiris, Cottom, Nilsen, Ryan, Vial, Taft, Roach Morawetz, Wellard

GOAL of the DAY: Nilsen's snap from Mahemoff's quick hands.

(QUESTION) MARK of the DAY: Taft

INJURIES: Taft (air supply & nose)

GOLD MEDAL TALLY:

Ryan (Wrestling)

Cottom (Boxing)

Morawetz (Acting for Frees)

Vial (Diving on the ball)

To add to Australia's Olympic woes, the Lions failed in their bid for gold at Fawkner Park on Saturday. Drawn to face the Red nemesis of Scotch College, the Lions appeared underdone during the first half, and the question must be asked of the Wesley Olympic Committee. Should the Lions have gone into such an important contest with just one training session in the past four weeks? Scotch were clearly primed for Saturday's match, and they bounced out of the blocks to jump to an early lead while the Lions were still adjusting their jockstraps. Strong play by the Lions' defence and determined work in the packs by Harry Lewski restricted Scotch's scoring during the first quarter, but the Lions were unable to move the ball with any purpose, and our avenues to goal remained congested. Krackers was playing close to Medal favourite, Big Ben, and Ritters was his usual busy self when the ball hit the deck, but by the first interval the Lions had failed to trouble the scorers.

The extended holiday had clearly eroded the edge from the Lions' game, and the well oiled machine that had demolished Carey, Caulfield, and St.Kevins was in need of a tune up! A few home truths from the coach about footy basics seemed to help and moments into the second quarter Roachy set up Harry for our first major. Then suddenly the prohibited additives in the Scotch quarter time cordial started to take effect, and before Skuzz could say "performance enhancing drugs", the visitors had posted another two goals, and were starting to get physical! Ellery, who had already posted a personal best when he arrived before the opening bounce (but after the toss), saw a medal opportunity and took on the heavyweight champion from the red corner. Shura, meanwhile, had misjudged a headbutt and had copped a footy on the snozza. In an effort to counter Scotch's threatening behaviour, Lions skipper, Craig Rowe was shifted to CHB and a fired up Ellery was

moved onto the ball, but Scotch still had the answers, and added two more goals to their tally. At half time the Lions trailed by 31 points, and the situation looked grim indeed!



Numbers at the ball! Trent Skurrie is overwhelmed in this contest. Luke Gavin anxiously looks on.

The coach demanded some answers..."Why are we dropping marks?" he asked. "Why don't we have numbers at the ball?...Where are the runners?...Come over here Jesse! Look at me Marcell! Carcour! Take those headphones off!"

"But he can't Stoney" interrupted Alex, "Kieren Perkins is going to win gold! Come and listen!"

Suddenly the coach found himself staring at a pile of well sucked orange skins. There would be no answers to his questions. He would need to say no more. Norman May's emotion charged voice crackled from Ari's dad's Walkman...."It's Perkins....it's Kieren's race...they'll never catch him now....it's GOLD TO AUSTRALIA! GOLD! GOLD! GOLD!"

With Norman's words resounding in their ears, the Lions rushed to take up their positions in readiness for the third quarter. "Let's give it to 'em Lions!" bellowed the skipper. "Yeah! Let's stick....to our game plan!" yelled Doc Mathew.

Inspired by Aussie gold, the Lions took the game right up to the visitors, and in no time Krackers had rushed the ball forward for Shura to register our second sausage. Morra had finally resumed his football career after a crippling corky, and in no



*Roachy feeds a handpass to Cotta during the Lions gallant final quarter against Scotch*

time he was the focus of attention throwing his arms wide and pleading successfully for a free in the forward pocket. His kick fell short, but brilliant roving at the back of the pack by Moffa brought up the Lions third. Roachy was enjoying a run on the ball as Ritters took a well earned breather, and Luke Gavin and Wella were beginning to find spaces that just weren't there early in the game. The Lions were now playing with purpose, and the crowd erupted as the ball was relayed with skill and flair by hand and foot along the members' wing. (Or were they cheering Suzie O'Neill's Butterfly victory?) Cotta had discarded his fashion accessories and was providing a valuable target at CHF, whilst up the other end Jack Vial was leading a tight defensive unit with his desperate diving and ball trapping. Only Jesse blotted his copybook when his brakes failed and he cannoned into his opponent's back. The relayed free resulting in the Scotchie's only goal for the term.



*Ritters centres the ball*



*Cotta hugs the Sherrin*

After a quick Olympic update during the final change, the Lions returned to the fray determined to steal the gold, despite trailing by almost five straight kicks. Red Ed had finally found an opponent, and with Marcell shoulder to shoulder with his man, Rowey giving Big Ben a hard time, and Krackers as resolute as always, Scotch found it difficult to advance their tally. The Lions, meanwhile, were creating options both in and out of the corridor. A mark to Morra set up Taft for our fourth, and minutes later a slick handpass from Moffa gave Snapshot Nilsen the chance to post another. Could the Lions perform a replay of the famous Glen Waverley match and snatch victory from the jaws of defeat? But Scotch were not done



*Better late than never! Lions ruckman, Ellery Ryan goes the big fist at a centre bounce*

with yet, and from the bounce they rushed the ball forward to the big buckets of their CHF. Despite windmills and aeroplane spins from Rowey, and comments about his private life from Snapshot, Big Ben snuck it through, and Scotch pushed out their lead again. In desperation the coach sent Alex out with an Atlanta update guaranteed to inspire the boys. The Lions' onballers seized the ball from the bounce and relayed it forward in Cotta's direction. Skuzz rushed in for the crumbs, but Morra nudged ahead and paddled the ball towards the goals. As he reached the edge of the square Nilsen pounced on the slippery Sherrin and squeezed it between the posts for his second and the Lions' sixth. Sadly, it was also the Lion's last, as the siren sounded to end their gallant comeback, just a couple of kicks away from gold!

# LIONS FIND THE GOING TOUGH

WESLEY 2. 3. 15  
XAVIER 8. 5. 53

GOALS: Roach, Taft  
BEST: Lewski, Krotiris, Gelfand, Ryan,  
Roach, Berger, Mathew, Morawetz  
MARK of the DAY: Roach  
TACKLE of the DAY: Gelfand  
GOAL of the DAY: Taft  
HAIRCUT of the WEEK: Morawetz

Every footy comp has its gun team. The team that nobody can beat, the team that dominates. In 1996, the team with the big reputation in the 8A comp is Burke Hall. Legend has it that they whipped Glen Waverley by 100 points and knocked over Scotch by more than 10 goals! When the fixture tells you it's your turn, most teams start shaking in their boots and praying for cataclysmic floods, an earthquake or a horrible mix-up that sends them to the wrong ground. Not so the Lions! It takes more than the likes of Burke Hall to send a shiver down the spines of Wesley 8A footballers!

Following their gallant comeback against Scotch in the second half of last week's match, the Lions were eager to pit their talents against the legendary combination from Burke Hall. The Lions were building themselves up for the inevitably tough encounter, and during the week they threw themselves into a heavy training schedule. On Monday it was swimming, water polo, and rugby at Fawknor Park, on Wednesday it was a footy quiz followed by some serious match practice on the Front Turf. When the selectors sat down on Thursday afternoon, they were faced with the rare luxury of a full list from which to choose, and the combination published in Friday's newspapers would have given the Burke Hall coach something to think about. The return of Nick Ries from injury strengthened an already well balanced Lion lineup, and with all the team's big guns in form, Xavier would not be able to take the game lightly.

The Lions' coach slept soundly on Thursday night, but on Friday his nightmares began...first it was Cotta who managed to crack a knuckle whilst doing his homework, then it was Rowey who got out of the wrong side of bed and twisted his knee, then it was Red Ed who was struck down by a particularly virulent flu virus. The coach was forced to reshuffle the pack, but his hand was further weakened on Saturday morning when he was forced to forfeit an ace - centreman Nick Ries failed to put in an appearance!

Despite these minor dramas, the Lions ran onto the McCutcheon Oval determined to take the game up to the home team. Conditions were woeful - a swampy surface and a gusty westerly guaranteed it would be a hard slog for both teams. Led by

skipper of the week, Snapshot Nilsen, the Lions fought hard to gain a hold on the game early, but Burke Hall showed themselves to be a strong, disciplined unit, and they were able to work the ball forward on several occasions catching the Lion defenders out and notching majors. Ellery "I'm On Time This Week But I Forgot My Socks" Ryan was giving his all in the ruck, and Harry Lewski was matching the opposition with his strength and courage. Shura was on top at CHF, and when he bombed a high ball goalward, Skuzza set himself to claim the Sherrin as it descended, but before he could hug it to his chest Roachy intercepted the missile and converted for the Lions' first goal. At the change Burke Hall held a handy 3 goal advantage, and the Lions knew that they would have to tighten up their game.



Key defender Pete Krotiris outmarks his opponent

The Lions' defence, under the leadership of Marcell and Krackers, applied themselves to the task, and held the opposition to just one goal for the quarter. Close checking by Tim Clark and Jack Vial restricted the hometeam's options, and Doc Mathew was attacking the ball with his usual aggression. Jesse "The Umpire's Friend" Gelfand was repeatedly clearing the ball along the flanks, and Wella was positioning himself well as a target. Despite nearly drowning in a puddle, Ritters was busy around the packs, and Shura once again was able to capitalise on a pinpoint tapdown from Ellery to snap the Lions' second.



*Jonno Mahemoff marks strongly under pressure*

It was heavy going, and the Lions had earned their half-time cup of lemon-crush cordial. On the other side of the oval, the Lions' opponents were feeling the unfamiliar side-effects of a hard fought encounter. Today's game would be no walkover!

The Lions resolved to maintain the pressure, and if possible to outscore the competition champs during the second half - as they had done against Scotch the previous week. Rowey had been resting his wonky knee at full forward, but was itching to have a run on the ball, so Ellery took up duty as the L.M.O.T.B., where he obstructed threatening Burke Hallers. Luke Gavin had a lot on his mind, with the Maggies fronting the Saints later in the day, but he was keeping a clear head when the ball rebounded along his wing and was picking up valuable possessions. Morra was finessing through

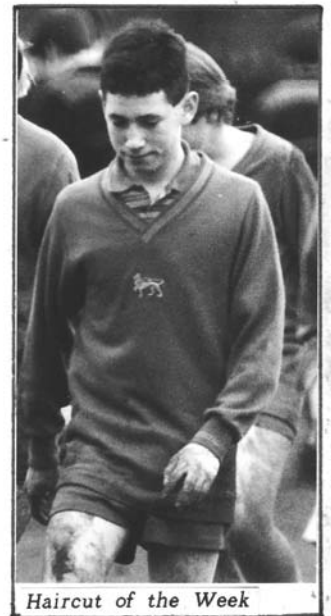


*Shura Taft negotiates the heavy traffic*

the swamp with his characteristic flair, and Moffa was using his height to advantage around CHF. Cotta was being kept busy running messages, and during the second half his wits were well and truly tested as the coach tried desperately to alter the course of the game with some tricky moves. Shura moved into the pivot, Wella to a wing, Morra to full forward, Carkers to a flank, first-gamer Aaron to a pocket, and Skuzza to the bench. Meanwhile Harry and Krackers were continuing to give their opponents a hard time, and Jesse was tackling like a man possessed! Roachy was roaming far and wide in search of stats and he dragged in a screamer in front of the cheer squad. Despite the Lions' efforts, they were unable to add a major to their tally during the third term, whilst Xavier used their extra strength to force three more through the big sticks.

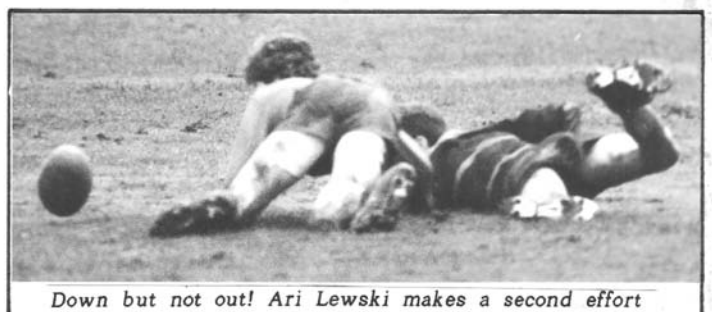


*Tough defender, Jesse Gelfand*

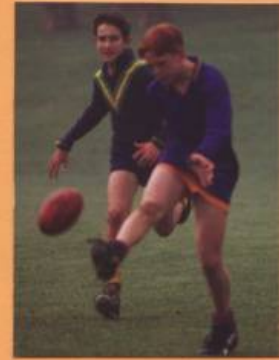


*Haircut of the Week*

The final quarter was a tough, gruelling affair, with the Lions bottling up the play sufficiently to hold the home team to just one more goal. With an ounce of luck the Lions could have registered another couple, but all they could show for their efforts were minor scores. The onballers were desperate, and Snapshot and Moffa tried everything to set up their forwards, but the home team's defence was simply too strong. The final siren signalled a merciful release for players, officials and supporters alike, as the soggy, blustery conditions had taken their toll, and hot showers, dry socks and warm milos were by now high on the agenda!



*Down but not out! Ari Lewski makes a second effort*



CONGRATULATIONS  
**CLARKSON**  
23 100 10/10



8As

'96

# LIONS SIEZE THE DAY!

WESLEY 5. 6. 36  
BRIGHTON 2. 8. 20

GOALS: Taft 3, Nilsen, Mahemoff  
BEST: Ritterman, Nilsen, Schonfeld, Lewski, Krotiris, Taft, Gelfand, Mahemoff, Ries, Morawetz, Berger, Vial, Clark, Rowe, Mathew. Roach, Wellard, Gavin, Skurrie, Carcour (and Tweedie)

INJURIES: Ries (knee)

MOZZ of the DAY: Rowe

UNLUCKIEST INTERCHANGE: Unsworth

SPECIAL COMMENTS: Marty

The final round of the season has always brought out the best in Lion 8A teams, and during the past decade, no Lion team has lost its final encounter. The history books record some momentous matches involving 8A teams, and the current Lions coach has witnessed some beauties - none finer than the gallant draw played out in 1994 at Albert Park against Haileybury!

As their tired bodies and aching limbs slowly recovered from last weekend's gruelling encounter with Burke Hall, the Lions of 1996 began to focus on the final round of their season, and it wasn't long before the awesome significance of Saturday's game began to dawn on them. This would be their swan song...the last time they would lineup alongside their team mates in the purple guernseys. Next season the team list would be trimmed and they would be part of a Prahran/Glen Waverely merger. It was the end of an era!

Determined to finish on a high note, the Lions threw themselves into a demanding training program, designed to fine tune them for the historic match against Brighton. A full scale mid week practice match proved a valuable exercise, but unfortunate injuries to Krackers and the coach threw a cloud over the remainder of the week's preparations. Illness had laid Ryan and Berger low, and they would be forced to face fitness tests on Saturday morning. Despite these problems, the selectors were encouraged by the return to the lineup of last week's late withdrawals, Schonfeld and Ries.

Realising the enormous crowd pulling potential of the Wesley vs. Brighton fixture, the APS sensibly transferred the big match from a forgotten corner of Fawkner Park to the sacred Front Turf. The anticipatory thrill of playing before a huge crowd at this most prestigious of venues further spurred the Lions in their preparation.

As promised, the early drizzle had cleared by the time the Lions arrived at the ground for the big match, but the surface would be soft from the overnight rain. The appearance of Marcell and Krackers (against Doctor's orders - he had snuck

out the back door while his mum was gossing on her mobile) cheered the coach, but the absence of Ellery forced a reshuffle of the lineup. Krackers was to take up light duties at full forward, and the Butcher would move up to CHB. Clarky would take his place in a defensive pocket. As the stands began to fill and the Opray Vision commentary team moved into position, the adrenalin began surging through the Lions' bodies. Guest skipper, Marcell, signalled to the St.Kilda Road goals and the Lions took up their positions.



Luke Gavin and Jack Vial prepare to pounce

Brighton were overwhelmed in the opening minutes as the Lions took charge in the midfield, and made their intentions clear. It wasn't long before they registered the opening goal of the match as a centring kick from Moffa was gathered and snapped by the Lions' prime converter, "Sure Boot" Taft. The visitors tried for the right of reply, but were denied by the committed Lion defence. Riesy was dropping back to rebound, and Red Ed, Clarky and the skipper were in a miserly mood. Although the Lions moved the ball forward with some frequency, opportunities went begging as Krackers decided he could punch the ball further than he could kick it, and Moffa kicked wonkily after taking a great sliding mark. Skuzza and Roachy were crumbing like a pair of hungry seagulls, but at the first change the lead was a mere goal - despite the fact that the Lions had controlled the play for most of the quarter.

The advantage was stretched slightly during the second term, but Brighton refused to lie down, and they kept the Lions under pressure for the full fifteen minutes. Harry "I Don't Want to be Captain" Lewski was never far from the ball, and he continued to contest every issue despite close

attention from the opposition. Wella too, was reading the game with panache, but the heavy ground was allowing him few opportunities to show his opponent a clean pair of heels. Nilsen and Ritterman were working overtime along the Members flank, producing not just second efforts, but third and fourth efforts as well! The problem was redirecting the ball into the corridor, as Brighton continued to block up the main avenue with about two thirds of their team. Eventually it was Lewski who managed to drop a high bomb from the old scoreboard pocket into Moffa's big buckets. This time the tall forward kicked truly, and the Lions advanced to a two goal tally. Luke Gavin dropped onto a wing and picked up four or five valuable possessions in as many minutes, but the Lions were unable to add another major before half time. Brighton meanwhile were being held scoreless up the other end. Whispering Jack Vial and Doc Mathew were wearing their opponents like the proverbial glove, and Jesse "The Huddle's a Waste of Time" Gelfand was running the ball out of danger with characteristic aggression.

In a low scoring game, a two goal advantage at half time was handy, but as the Lions soon found out, they could not afford to relax! The visitors came out firing, and with all their tall timber loaded up forward, it soon became clear that the Lions now had a real fight on their hands! As Brighton rushed the ball forward time after time, it was only the extraordinary mozzing skills of Rovey that saved the Lions from being overrun. With a bold mix of gentle ribbing, cynical asides, sarcastic laughter, and blatant abuse, Craig restricted the visitors to just five behinds for the quarter. Meanwhile, the Lions' forwards fared a little better, as Snapshot Nilsen made the most of a free kick inside thirty. The visitors would need four straight kicks in the final term if they were to overtake the Lions' score - a tall order, but not out of the question!



Man on a mission. Jesse Gelfand boots the ball out of danger



Jason Ritterman is tackled strongly by a Brighton opponent as Nick Roach sprints for the crumbs

Several minutes into the last quarter, Brighton had cut the margin by two, and the Lions were forced to regroup. Were they about to let the red and black pretenders steal the points on such an historic day! No way! Riesy lifted in the centre, Harry moved up a gear, and Morra turned in a star performance on the wing. Carkers threw himself into the action on the forward line, and Krackers put his hand up to be counted - or was that just to save his injured thumb? Harry and Ritters combined to set up Taft for his second, and before Brighton could make a last ditch effort for victory, the busy Nilsen passed to Shura who sealed the game with his third sausage roll! The coach had just one final move to make before the siren, and with under a minute remaining, Evan Tweedie made his way onto the arena, to the delight of the Lions cheer squad. The unlucky Tweedie had been a last minute withdrawal from the season's opening fixture, and had only returned to the As for the final round as a last minute inclusion! While Tweedie rushed off in search of a stat, the final countdown began...40 seconds...30...20...10...5...4...3...2...1...

All too soon the siren sounded, and an era had ended. The home town crowd stood to applaud their heroes and the commentary team on top of the Doggie box sent up three hearty cheers. As the Lions trudged wearily from the field, the coach was sure he could hear another chorus, a distant chorus of stirring male voices...the proud voices of the legions of Wesleyans who had trudged wearily across the same turf in bygone years. Today the echo of their song could be heard again, and it mingled with the excited chatter of the 8As as they crossed the boundary and became part of that same proud history - their exploits already the stuff of legend. "To Wesley honour bring, zeal unflinching..."



# LIONS 8As

**A. "Moosha" LEWSKI**



Modest champion who goes about his task quietly and without fuss. An expert on-baller with all the skills and the ability to make something out of nothing! One of the game's true craftsmen! *Master Builders Awd*

**C.E. "Rowey" ROWE**



Star performer who used every inch of his height to the team's advantage. A tireless ruckman who has re-written the books on centre bounce tactics and the mozzing of opposition forwards. *Chewy on Yer Boot Award*

**P.A. "Krackers" KROTIRIS**

Strong, reliable defender with the ability to force his way to the front of a pack. Always competitive, even against taller opposition. Relished the occasional run on the ball. *Key Defender Award*



**J. "Ritters" RITTERMAN**

Talented rover with an impressive repertoire of skills and an uncanny ability to read the game and be where the ball will be before it gets there. Especially nippy around busy packs. *Top Dog Award*



**E.D. "Red" SCHONFELD**

Reluctant full back who played hard and close on the last line. Stuck to his task despite frequent moments of boredom and a desperate urge to run up the field. A master of the understatement. *Bored Backman Award*



**N.J. "Roachy" ROACH**



Naturally gifted footballer who loves the game with a passion. A handy change rover, but is most at home around the goals. An excellent lead, a sure kick and an extraordinary judge of a mark! *Great Pair of Hands*

**L.H. "Cotta" COTTOM**



Rangy forward who uses his body well in close encounters. A strong mark and reliable kick for goal who is also handy when the ball hits the deck. Can mix it with the toughest opponents *No Fear Award*

**L.P. "Gav" GAVIN**



Shy half forward with good ball skills and the valuable ability to evade his opponent and find unoccupied territory. Maintained enthusiasm despite a series of mysterious injuries. *Gavin Brown Encouragement Award*

**B.R. "Wella" WELLARD**

Pacy wingman with good all round skills and a genuine turn of speed. Hits the ball hard, but hits Guthy even harder at training. Enjoys the wide open spaces and an occasional 100m. dash. *Pacesetter Award*



**M. "The Butcher" BERGER**

Big burly backman who took on the heavy work in defence. Held his ground in one-on-one contests, but was capable of splitting packs when he tucked the ball under his arm and charged! *Boral Cement Award*



**T.J. "Skuzza" SKURRIE**

Effervescent footballer who filled various positions and always gave 100%. Started the season in the back pocket but worked his way forward and into a crumber's role. Allergic to mud. *Weatherwatch Award*



**G.D. "Rylza" REILLY**



Enthusiastic footballer who always puts the team first. Occupied various positions in the early games and set up the last gasp victory over G.W. Poached by the Bs in the mid-season draft. *Grinners are Winners*

**A.M. "Alex" RAHILL**



Consistent contributor in the reserves who made several appearances in the As and impressed with his enthusiasm, hard at the ball approach, and determined tackling. *Chunky Tackler Awd*

**J.E. "Flash" GUTH**



Talented member of the Bs who made a guest appearance out at Wheelers Hill. Fleet of foot and a gifted ball handler, he was only a few inches and kilos away from a regular As berth. *Blink & You'll Miss Him Award*



# TEAM of 96



## N. "Riesy" RIES

Star attraction in the midfield, where he gathered innumerable possessions and set up countless opportunities for Lion goalsneaks. AFL commitments and a serious injury restricted appearances.

*Robert Harvey Awd*



## A.G.A. "Shura" TAFT

Irrepressible footballer with an insatiable hunger for goals. A smooth moving, strong marking, surefooted forward who also enjoyed a run on the ball. Never at a loss for words.

*Hungry Jacks Award*



## D.A. "Jack" VIAL

Ever dependable backman who never allowed his opponent an easy ball. Frequently found at the bottom of packs trapping the ball to his teams' advantage. No relation to Johnny Farnham.

*Keepsings Off Award*



## J. "Mad Dog" GELFAND

Tough, single minded defender with a touch of the mad dog. Has the ability to shrug off opponents and run the ball out of danger. Does not always see eye to eye with the man in white

*Umpires' Friend Awd*



## J.D. "Moffa" MAHEMOFF

Tall option who was one of the season's big improvers. Provided valuable height on the forward line where he shared ruck duties and held important marks. Quick hands were a great asset!

*Quick Hands Award*



## D.J. "Doc" MATHEW

Committed defender who never shrugs an issue even when giving away inches and kilos. Runs in a straight line and invariably ends up with the ball. His chest marking is a highlight!

*One Way Traffic Awd*



## B.Y. "Oscar" MORAWETZ

Idiosyncratic footballer who settled quickly into the team. Performed with style and panache, both on the field and behind the microphone when injured. Nominated by umpires for an Oscar.

*Spin Out Award*



## K.C. "Snapshot" NILSEN

Skilful half forward who is prepared to work hard for possessions. A serious student of the game and a good finisher who relishes the snapshot from an impossible angle.

*Kodak Award*



## E.C. "Ellery" RYAN

A rugged individualist who plays the game his way! Not a lot of class, but plenty of determination and physicality. A boots-and-all ruckman and a mean defender - but a coach's nightmare!

*Captain Snooze Award*



## D.R. "Carkers" CARCOUR

Handy member of the squad who excelled in practice matches, and played the game of his life at G.W. Reads the play, has the skills and likes a goal, but his mystery absences caused some concern!

*Just Cruisin' Award*



## T.R.C. "Clarky" CLARK

Consistent performer in the Bs who earned a promotion. A Happy go lucky defender who enjoyed doing the unglamorous things. A close checker who hates giving away an easy kick!

*Tarzans Grip Award*



## E.J. "Tweeds" TWEEDIE

Tenacious rover who was derailed enroute to the opening round, was dropped to the Bs and had to wait until the last 2 minutes of the season for another chance.

*There's Always Next Year Award*



## H.W. "Oppers" OPRAY

Enthusiastic ruckman who was a mainstay in the reserves, but helped out when the As were desperate. His work as cameraman and director for Oprayvision was invaluable.

*Quest Productions Awd*



## N.J. "Unza" UNSWORTH

Key member of the support crew who was instrumental in maintaining morale amongst the troops.

### A. WALLIS-SMITH

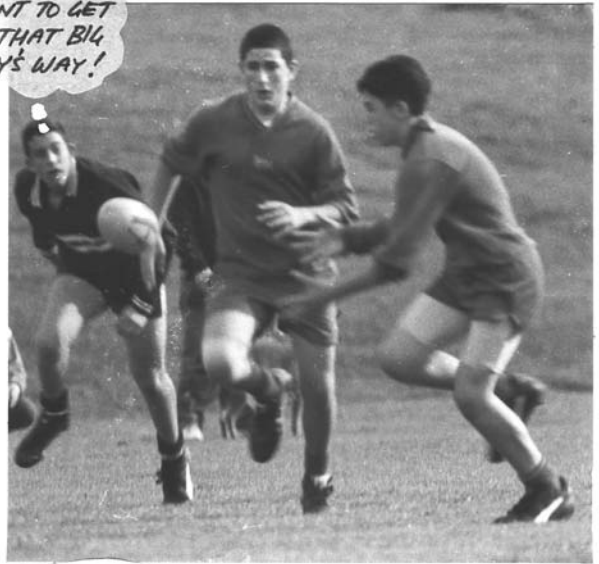
Draftee who came with a big reputation, but at the wrong end of the season.



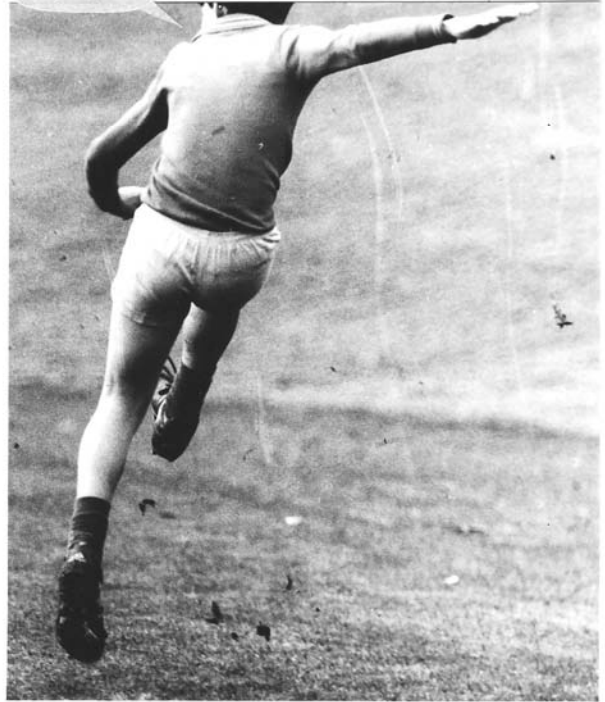


GOOD ONE BUTTERFINGERS!

I WOULDN'T WANT TO GET IN THAT BIG GUYS WAY!



WE HAVE LIFT OFF!



LOOK OUT KIDS! HERE COMES ANOTHER ONE!



OUTA MY WAY CHUM!



THIS IS HARDER THAN IT LOOKS!

# Blockbuster Video's Pie Night

**BLOCKBUSTER  
VIDEO**

Individual winners at the Annual Pie Night Skills Competition were as follows:

## LONG KICKING

**INDIVIDUAL KICK:**  
A.LEWSKI 41.2m  
**AVERAGE:**  
A.LEWSKI 37.1m

## GOAL KICKING

**INDIVIDUAL SCORE:**  
E.TWEEDIE 19  
from a possible 30

## AGILITY RUN

**FASTEST TIME:**  
J.GUTH 17.5

## HANDBALL

**BEST SCORE:**  
N.ROACH  
E.SCHONFELD



*Clockwise from top left:*

**Marcell & Rollo Duvvy races the clock**

**Kris Nilsen shoots for goal**

**Roachy lays into a roost**

**Ritters lines up the AFL bin**

**Marty Brown takes a pot shot**





# UNDER THE HAMMER

with **Hamish Opray**



Ed Schonfeld



Marcell Berger



Tim Clark

## Life in the Backline

What is the best thing about playing on the back line?

That's a ridiculous question! There is no "best" thing. I hate it!

It's good fun running through some little Scotch dude who thinks he's gonna get a fancy goal.

Stopping your opponent from getting a touch, or running the ball up to the wing.

What is the worst thing about playing on the backline?

Getting bored and being ignored by the media. When was the last time a full back won a Brownlow or a Coleman medal?

If we're winning too easily it can get boring and I often get hungry.

Sometimes I miss my mates up on the forward line.

How do you fill in the boring bits?

I play "I Spy" or catch up on my homework.

I count things... like how many birds fly over, or how many trams go past.

I usually tell jokes to my opponent, or discuss international affairs with him.

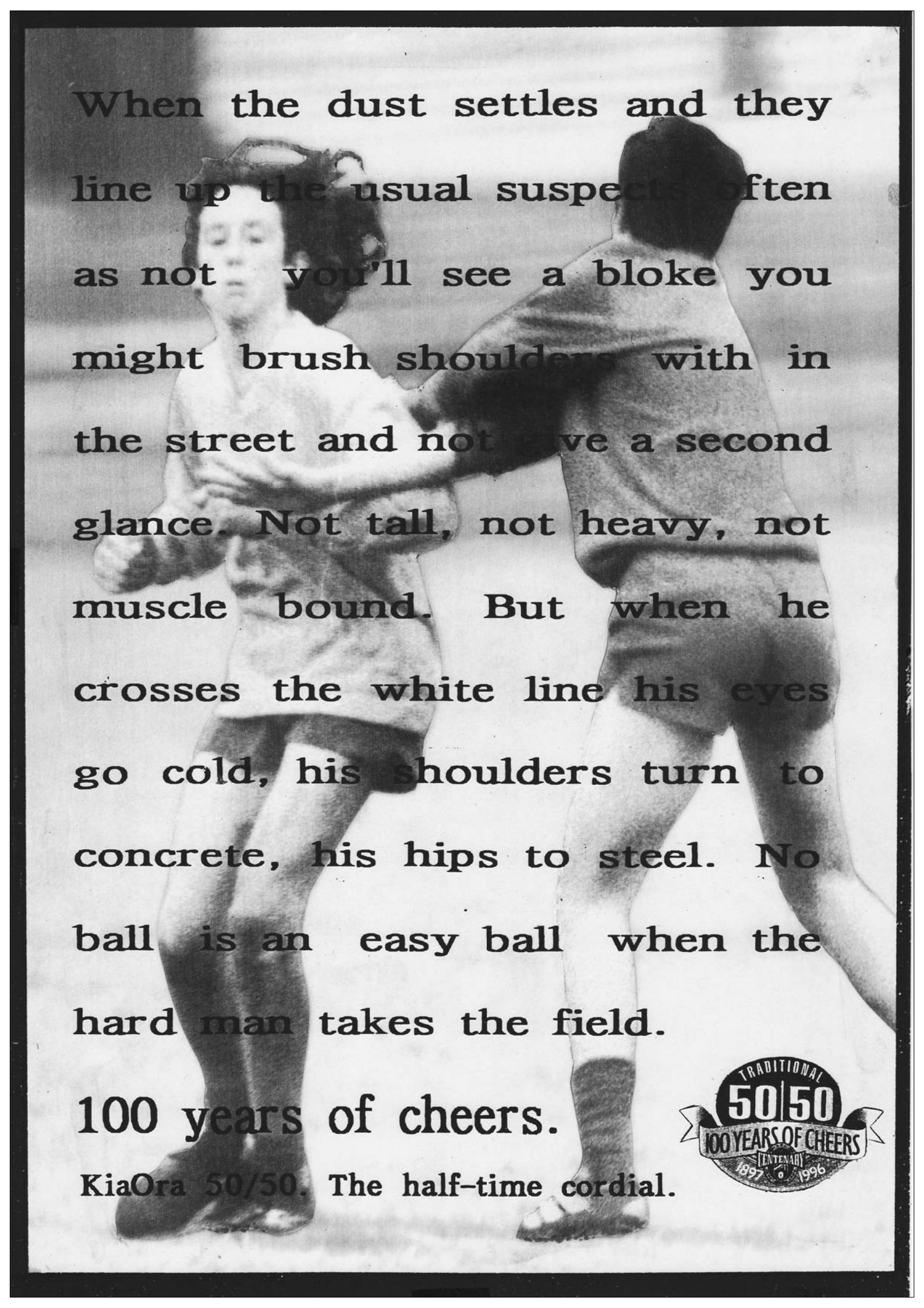
Where would you prefer to play?

On the ball or half forward... anywhere but full back!

I dunno... in the ruck or full forward.

Wherever the coach puts me, Hamish. I'm just happy to get a game!



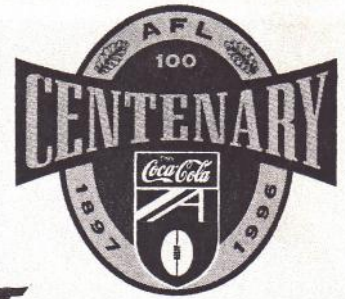


When the dust settles and they line up the usual suspects, often as not you'll see a bloke you might brush shoulders with in the street and not give a second glance. Not tall, not heavy, not muscle bound. But when he crosses the white line his eyes go cold, his shoulders turn to concrete, his hips to steel. No ball is an easy ball when the hard man takes the field.

100 years of cheers.

KiaOra 50/50. The half-time cordial.





# COLLECT YOUR FAVOURITE PLAYER BADGES & PLAYER PROFILE MAGNETS

All Players available from all A.F.L. teams



BEN WELLARD

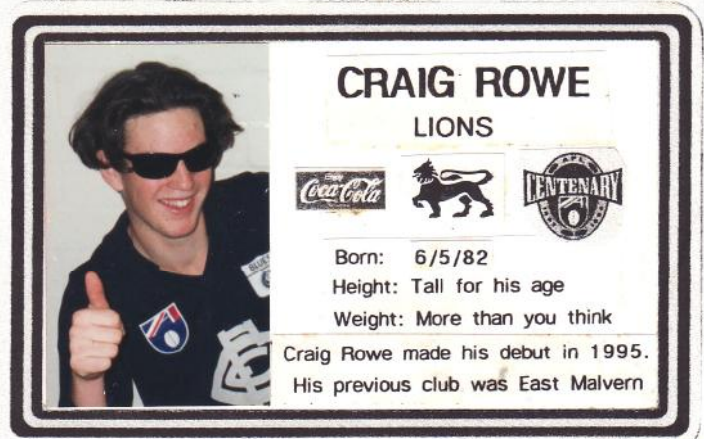
(Actual size shown)

**\$3.50**  
each

**\$3.20**  
order 10 or more...  
each

**\$2.95**  
order 20 or more...  
each

\* DISCOUNT PRICE APPLIES TO MAIL ORDERS AND SELECTED STORES ONLY.



**CRAIG ROWE**  
LIONS



Born: 6/5/82  
Height: Tall for his age  
Weight: More than you think

Craig Rowe made his debut in 1995.  
His previous club was East Malvern

(Actual size shown)

Also available at selected AFL Club outlets, MCG and Waverley Park merchandise outlets, Brisbane AFL shop, selected What's New stores, Sports Trivia stores and newsagents.



## Fashions in the Field

with

"Dashing Dan" Mathew

Ciao trendsetters! I've known some classy footballers in my time - and I don't just mean with the footy! When you're an APS superstar you have to look the goods both on and off the field!



The new Wesley sports uniform was designed by a famous fashion guru, and although it looks cool on Cotta, it's not for everyone! Ellery prefers to mix and match the tracky daks with a timeless white Penguin top, while I prefer to make an altogether more personal statement.

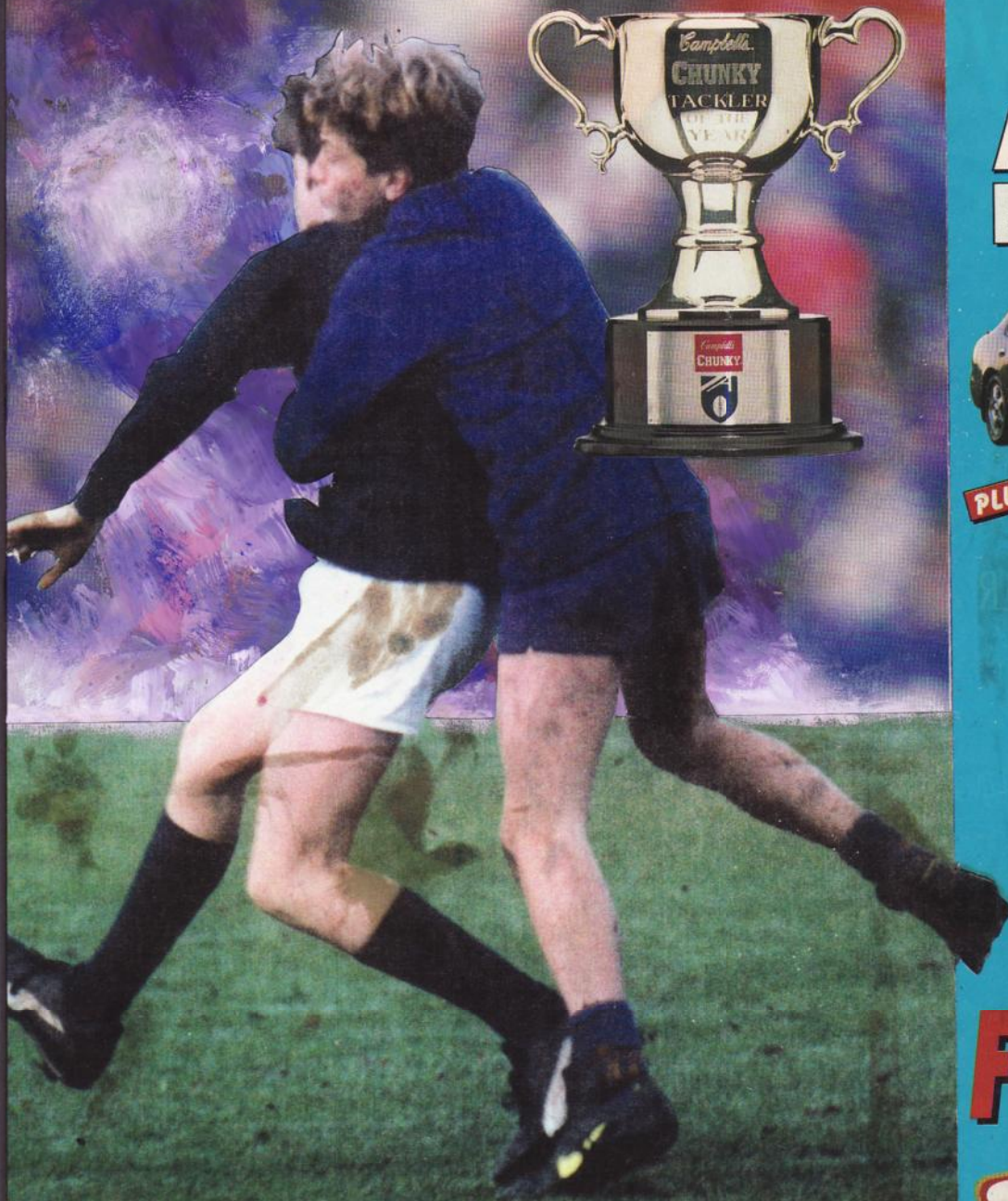


Crossdressing is all the rage at some partys and some of my more adventurous team mates have tried it out. Here's a snap of Roachy, Guthy and Tweeds having a bit of harmless fun. You have to admit they look a million dollars in their Armani gear! Their girlfriends look pretty hot too! I should mention that cross-dressing isn't to everyone's taste, and out my way you'd get your head beaten in if you walked down the street dressed like this.

*Campbell's*

# CHUNKY TACKLER

## OF THE YEAR AWARD



ALEX RAHILL



1996

*Campbell's*  
CHUNKY TACKLE  
COMPETITION

# WIN

## A NISSAN BLUEBIRD



**PLUS \$500 CASH WEEKLY**

TO ENTER  
WATCH THE

WIDE WORLD



OF SPORTS

### SUNDAY

# FOOTY SHOW



# Please, please help Me be a star

Ask your favorite player, and if we publish your question you can win!



with  
**Luke Gavin**

Dear Craig Rowe,  
I barrack for the Lions and I think you're great. Although I'm rarely short of something to say myself, I love the way you put the 'moz' on your opponents. Can you help me improve my 'mozzing'?

*James Barrington  
Glen Iris*

Dear James,  
Thanks for the compliment! To be a good mozza, you need two things, volume and imagination. It's no good resorting to the tired old cliches. "Chewy on yer boot!" or "Your fly's undone!" are unlikely to upset anyone these days. If abuse doesn't work I try a bit of sarcasm or subtle innuendo, but most of my opponents are too thick to understand!

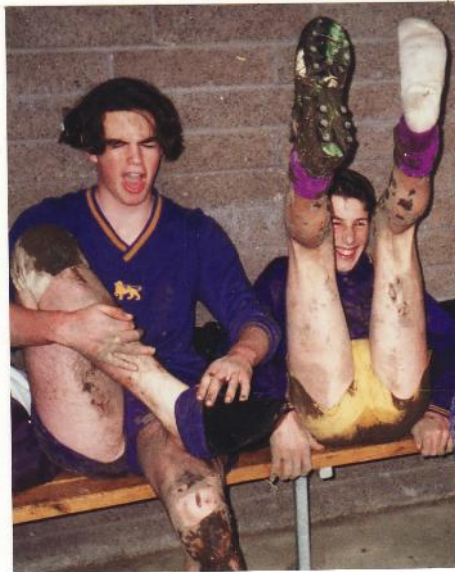
Happy mozzing,  
**Craig Rowe**

Hi footy fans!  
How's your form? Are those handballs hitting their target? Have your torps got plenty on 'em? Don't be afraid to ask your favourite footy star for help. Send your letters to me and I'll pass them on....

Dear Jesse Gelfand,  
Can you tell me what you said to the umpire in the game against Melbourne Grammar? I thought you were playing really well, and he had no right to send you off. If you ask me, some umpires get too big for their boots and try to control the game!

*Tony Shaw  
Collingwood*

On the left you can see me in action putting the mozz on my old mate Ben from Scotch. I'm using the ever popular windmill tactic as a way of breaking his concentration. In the photo below I'm practising a particularly loud and abusive mozz at half time. Shura is demonstrating his famous "inverted moon" mozz - a sure fire winner!



Dear Tony,  
Thanks mate, I reckon I got a raw deal that day too! I only asked him a few harmless questions about the weather and he spat the dummy! If you ask me the only thing umpires are good for is bouncing the ball - and some of them can't even do that properly!

Don't let 'em get you down,  
**Jesse Gelfand**

UMPIRES!  
WHAT WOULD  
THEY KNOW!





Dear Dave Vial,  
I think you're a real legend!  
I love footy and I always  
watch the Lions when  
they're on TV. I'm a bit  
old to play the game these  
days and coaching sucks, so  
I think I might try goal  
umpiring. Can you give me  
some tips?

*Robert Shaw  
Adelaide*

Dear Robert,  
The secret to any umpiring  
is to always look as though  
you know what you're doing,  
and to do whatever it is  
you're doing with STYLE!  
This is especially important  
when you're goal umpiring,  
because everybody is watch-  
ing you!  
Hang in there,  
Dave Vial

On the right you can see me signalling a major.  
Note the superb symmetry and balance.  
Waving the flags is a real art, and here you  
see a master in action. Just look at the fancy  
footwork! Below you can see me in a perfect  
position to judge the flight of the ball as it  
sails through the big sticks.



Concentration....



Frustration....

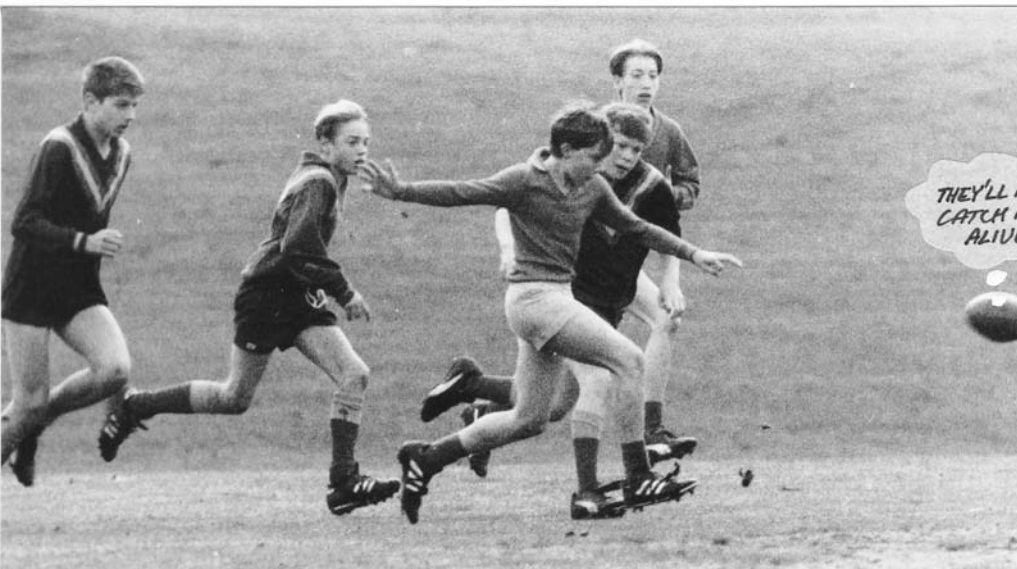
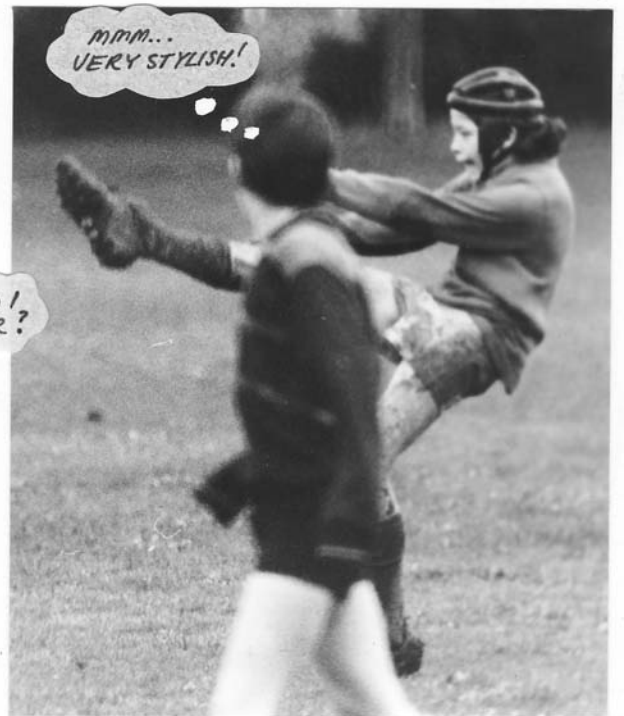
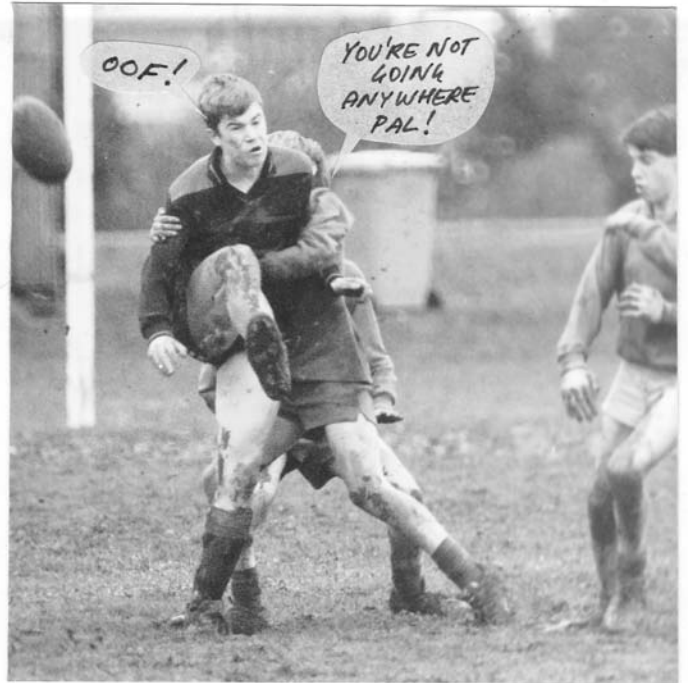


Elation!

Dear George Reilly,  
My mum says you are a  
very unlucky player what  
with getting dropped from  
the A's and all that. I went  
to the footy once with my  
dad and I got embarrassed  
when he yelled and jumped  
up and down a lot. Do you  
have to do that at the AFL?  
P.S. My little sister thinks  
you're cute.

*Kris Nilsen  
North Caulfield*

Dear Kris,  
Going to the footy can be  
a very emotional experience,  
and there's nothing wrong  
with displaying a bit of  
passion! Be proud of your  
dad - at least until the cops  
cart him off! Say Hi to your  
mum and tell your little  
sister to give me a ring  
some time.  
Keep barracking,  
George Reilly



# THE FOOTY SHOW



## PLAYER OF THE YEAR

### A Modest Champ

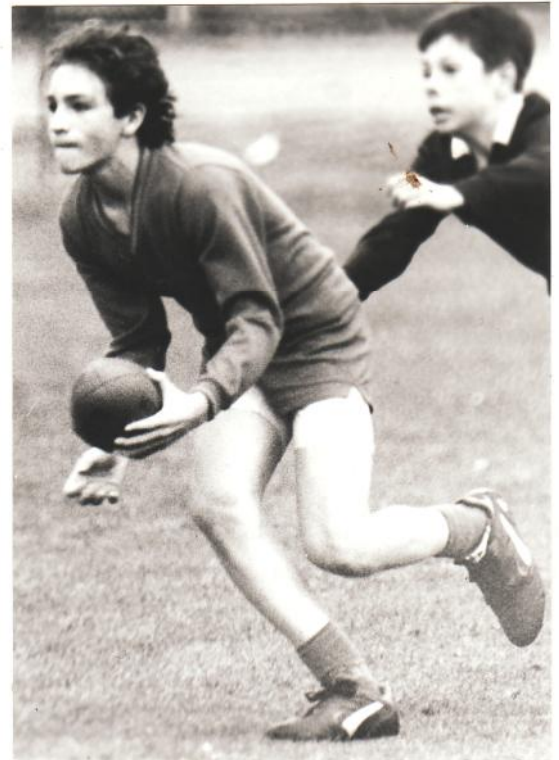
Lion ruck-rover, Ari Lewski had a lot to live up to this season. He had established himself as a legend in Junior School football and his awesome reputation came before him. Inevitably, the question was asked... would he fulfil expectations against bigger, stronger opponents?

Well, Lion fans need not have worried! Lewski was better than ever! Disciplined, determined, hard at the ball, tough in the clinches, a tenacious tackler... the list goes on. He played his on-ball role to perfection, gathering valuable possessions all over the ground and unselfishly sharing the ball with his teammates. His strong marking, accurate kicking and slick handpassing set up countless opportunities for his fellow Lions. Modest and courageous, Lewski is a worthy champion!

#### FAST FACTS

##### ARI LEWSKI

**Date of Birth:** 6.2.83  
**Most admired footballer:**  
 Dermot Brereton  
**Most memorable match:**  
 Prahran vs Glen Waverley  
**Football superstitions:**  
 Too many!  
**Favourite TV Show:**  
 Talking Footy, Seinfeld  
**Previous club:**  
 AJAX



**LEWSKI:** Disciplined and determined

## NORWICH RISING STARS



*Crowd pleaser, Nick Roach.*

Exciting young footballer, Nick Roach has a rare quality found only in true champions. It's that special something that fans will travel miles to see. Gary Ablett has it, James Hird has it. Like these superstars, Roach has the capacity to create something out of nothing - to ignite a dull passage of play with a spectacular mark, to suddenly materialise from nowhere to receive a Lewski pass, or to snap an impossible goal from the bottom of a pack. A sure-fire crowd pleaser!

Jason Ritterman is not a name to be taken lightly in football circles. Short of stature, but big on talent, young Ritterman has already carved a niche for himself in the APS. A quick thinking, quick moving rover with just the right amount of cheek, Ritters is nippy around the packs, creative in attack, and never short on courage!



*Nippy rover, Jason Ritterman*

# THE WORLD 4 KIDS HALF TIME QUIZ



## PICK THE FACES



1.....2.....



3.....4.....

Can you correctly identify the football personalities?

## WHO AM I?

I was one of Carlton's greatest rovers. I began my VFL career in 1973, having been recruited from Eaglehawk. Although I missed the 1979 premiership through injury I was a member of the 1981 and 1982 premiership sides. Several knocks to the head forced me to wear a helmet late in my career. I coached Carlton Reserves from 1989 to 1994 before taking up my current position at Wesley College.



## NAME THE PLAYERS

Hey kids, can you pick the four Lions in this photo? If you can, you could win a great prize from World 4 Kids. Fill in the names on the coupon below and send your entry to "World 4 Kids", PO Box 3347, North Burnley, Victoria 3121.

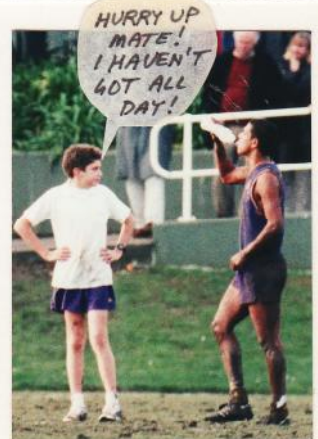
## WORLD 4 KIDS FOOTBALL RECORD COMPETITION

1 \_\_\_\_\_ 2 \_\_\_\_\_  
3 \_\_\_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_\_\_

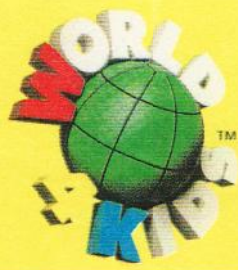
NAME: .....  
ADDRESS: .....  
TELEPHONE: .....

## FOOTY TRIVIA QUIZ

- Q.1 What did Jesse really say to Mr. Baker?
- Q.2 Why do people hate wearing the yellow footy jumpers?
- Q.3 Which Lion ruckman writes love poems in his spare time?
- Q.4 Which Lion player went A.W.O.L. the most in 1996?



- Clayton Vic 1389 - 1391 Centre Road
- Geelong Vic 150 - 158 Malop Street
- Southland Vic Westfield Shoppingtown Level 2
- Airport West Vic Westfield Shoppingtown
- Fountain Gate Vic Fountain Gate Homemaker Ctr
- Greensborough Vic Greensborough Plaza Level 2
- Werribee Vic Werribee Shopping Plaza
- Prahran Vic 277 Chapel Street
- Aspley Qld Home Base 815 Zillmere Road
- Southport Qld 59 - 61 Nerang Street
- Loganholme Qld Hyperdome Homecentre
- Maroochydore Qld Sunshine Plaza Shopping Ctr



- Chatswood NSW Chatswood Chase Shopping Ctr
- Bankstown NSW Bankstown Square Shopping Ctr
- Hornsby NSW Westfield Shoppingtown
- Miranda NSW Westfield Shoppingtown Level 1
- Blacktown NSW Westpoint Shopping Ctr
- Penrith NSW Riley Square (Opposite Penrith Plaza)
- Tuggerah NSW Westfield Shopping Town
- Glendale NSW Stockland Super Ctr
- Campbelltown NSW opening soon!
- Mirrabooka WA 15 Chesterfield Road
- Cannington WA 1419 Albany Highway
- Tea Tree Plaza SA Westfield Shoppingtown

PATTI WICKERS

Hi there goalsneaks!  
 Without a doubt the best thing about playing footy is kicking goals. How many of you have dreamt about launching the humungous torpa through the big sticks to seal a Grand Final? Who hasn't tried a Daicos dribbler from the boundary line, or a banana from the wrong pocket? Come on, own up! Deep down we're all a bit hungry when we find ourselves within range!

The Lions snapped their fair share of sausage rolls this season, and it's no easy task to pick a winner! Shura dubbed the most in '96 and although his snap from the pocket against Burke Hall was memorable, none of his goals was more important than the sealer in the dying moments at Glen Waverley. Cool as they come! Goals on the run can really bring the house down, and Krackers produced a ripper out at Wheelers Hill. Morra snapped a beauty that day after doing a full 360 which was nearly as good as my eye of the needle effort against Carey. Carkers and Ari found the big sticks from tricky angles at St.Kevins, and Ritters threaded a magic goal down at Geelong. Moffa kicked a few this year, but the ones he gave away were better - especially his quick hands to yours truly against Scotch. Well, I have to make a decision, and I reckon Ari's brilliant left foot snap against Melbourne Grammar takes the cake. Sharking the ball from a throw in at the St.Kilda Road end of the Front Turf, Ari chipped a perfectly weighted kick across his body which bounced high over the heads of the Melbourne defenders before swerving between the sticks. You should have seen the look on the full back's face!

*"Snapshot"*

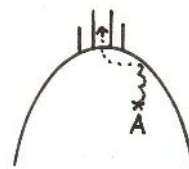
GOAL of the YEAR  
 with "Snapshot"  
 NILSEN



One of my favourite snapshots against St.Kevins

**TRAINING TIPS**

Kicking miracle goals isn't easy, and the more practice you can squeeze in the better! I sometimes stay back after training until it gets dark trying to perfect a really tricky manoeuvre. You can usually talk your coach into staying back by betting him a can of Coke that you can do more than he can! (That way you'll have someone to collect the balls for you!)



**My Favourite Drill**  
 Roll the ball from A towards the boundary. Chase the ball, pick it up and snap across your body. It seems to help if you call out the name of your favourite AFL star as you kick it!



1996 GOALKICKERS

S.TAFT	25
N.ROACH	15
J.MAHEMOFF	8
K.NILSEN	6
L.COTTOM	6
A.LEWSKI	4
D.CARCOUR	3
P.KROTIRIS	3
N.RIES	3
L.GAVIN	2
J.RITTERMAN	2
T.SKURRIE	1
G.REILLY	1
B.WELLARD	1

POCKET PROFILE



Shura Taft: A magnetic attraction to the goals

A Hungry Lion

**NAME:** Shura Taft  
**DATE OF BIRTH:** November 8, 1982  
**NICKNAME:** Hungry  
**MARRIED/IN LOVE:** Well, yes...but I'd rather not talk about it!  
**CAR:** Not yet, but I'm saving up for a Porsche  
**YOUR SPORTING HERO AS A KID:** Dermie "The Kid"  
**7 DREAM GUESTS AT A DINNER PARTY:** Jason Dunstall, Plugger, Gary Ablett, Kevin Bartlett, Peter Hudson, Warwick Capper and Belinda Dixon  
**MOST MEMORABLE FOOTY MOMENT:** Kicking the goal to beat Glen Waverley  
**ULTIMATE FOOTY FANTASY:** To play in a Hawthorn premiership team and kick 151 goals in a season

# A Krackerjack Defender



Peter Krotiris: Loves his mum

**NAME:** Peter Krotiris  
**DATE OF BIRTH:** March 10, 1982  
**STAR SIGN:** Pisces  
**NICKNAME:** Krackers II  
**MARRIED/IN LOVE:** Only me mum  
**BIKE:** Malvern Star  
**SPORTING HEROES AS A KID:** Alastair Clarkson and Tim  
**YOUR ULTIMATE, NON-FOOTY FANTASY:** Winning Best & Fairest in any sport  
**7 DREAM GUESTS AT A DINNER PARTY:** Sam Newman, Kevin Sheedy, John Barnes, Jim Stynes, Jason Dunstall, David Neitz and Pamela Anderson  
**MOST MEMORABLE MATCH:** Prahran vs. Glen Waverley  
**SCARIEST MOMENT IN YOUR LIFE:** Meeting Jesse for the first time!

## OH BROTHER!

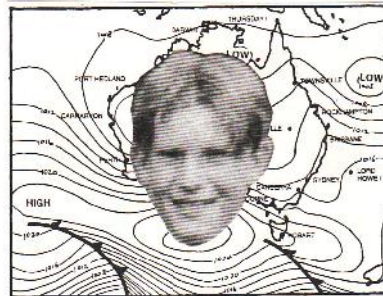
Tim Krotiris says:

"Like most little brothers Pete can be a real pest at times, but he's useful to practise my hip and shoulders on. He's always the first to tell me if I've played a lousy game and he often helps me with my homework, so I guess he's not too bad!"



G'day! I love footy don't you? The only thing that stuffs the game up is the weather. I reckon footy should be a summer sport, then you wouldn't have to worry about all the rain and the muddy grounds. My mum says you can catch menomia if you get wet at training, and she says that mud should be banned coz it stuffs up her washing machine. Anyway, dry days are better coz you can show off your skills and that. Some people I know reckon they like the mud, but not me!

## SKUZZA'S WEATHERWATCH



OW NOW! LOOK AT ALL THAT MUD!

On the right you can see a really yucky photo of Marcell's footy boot after that sloppy game against Burke Hall. You've got to feel sorry for Ari in the other photo. He'll need a long bath when he gets home!



## YOUR CLUB

### ST KILDA

Some good, some bad...

Some people say that you can't combine an APS career with a Sunday footy career and a full time AFL commitment. I used to think it was easy, but after this season I'm not so sure! Most weeks, come Sunday night I was cactus! Cheering for the Saints was a major drain on my energy, even though there wasn't a helluva lot to cheer about in 1996. First we had the Night Grand Final where we whipped the Blueboys, then there was the awesome night at the MCG when we outgunned the Maggies. The next weekend was a bit of a letdown and it was a long trip back from Adelaide! Although we lost (thanks Ross!) the night the lights went out at Waverley was a sort of highlight... that doesn't make sense does it? Anyway beating the Bears was good value, but losing to North was a disgrace! Beats me how we got done by Footascray and the Hawks - you'd think the boys didn't want to play in the Finals! Burkey and Harvs were brilliant all year, and Stewy was great, but most of the rest were a bit hot and cold, although I like Aussie Jones and Matty Young. With a bit of luck I'll be joining them on the other side of the fence in a couple of years! So watch out!

Carn the Saints!

Nick Ries



*If  
you  
don't  
mind  
Umpire!*

with  
Ben  
Morawetz

Greetings fellow thespians!

I really enjoyed my season in the 8As because it provided me with an excellent opportunity to develop my body language, my timing, and my ability to manipulate an audience.

Some critics have described my performances as melodramatic and my gestures as operatic, but umpires are not as quick on the uptake as your average theatregoer, so you have to make it obvious! Holding the ball is my all time favourite, and I would love to have seen Larry Olivier throw his arms wide and bellow "Ball!" to a full house at the Old Vic!

RIGHT:

Although the photo is a bit fuzzy you can still see some top acting by these Lions. How could the umpire not reward such a performance with a fifty metre penalty?

BOTTOM RIGHT:

Shura is proving here that great athletes also make great dancers. Very stylish!

BELOW:

Despite what people say, most footballers have a sensitive side to their nature, but I can't imagine Micky Martin donning a skirt too often!



## CULTURE CLUB

Who's reading and watching what

### MOVIES

**ELLERY RYAN:**  
*Sleeping Beauty* coz I like her attitude.



**DANIEL CARCOUR:**  
*Pinnocchio* because I liked the story and that little wooden guy is a good actor.

**JONNO MAHEMOFF:**  
I don't go to the movies, but I thought Ben Morawetz was super in *Our Town*.

### BOOKS

**RYAN:**  
Books are for nerds! *Phantom* comics are OK but.



**CARCOUR:** I like all the *Mr. Men* books, but *Mr. Happy* is my favourite.

**MAHEMOFF:** Stephen Hawking's *A Brief History of Time* was OK, but it didn't really tackle the big issues.

### TV SHOWS

**RYAN:**  
I love *Ren & Stimpy* but its on too early.



**CARCOUR:** *Baywatch* has some really good stories but all those bimboes spoil it.

**MAHEMOFF:** *Quantum* is interesting, but I prefer more in depth documentaries. When I'm home sick from school I like *Bananas in Pyjamas*.



COME HERE BALLY... NICE LITTLE BALLY...



HURRY UP SHURA! STOP PLAYING GAMES AND KICK THE THING!

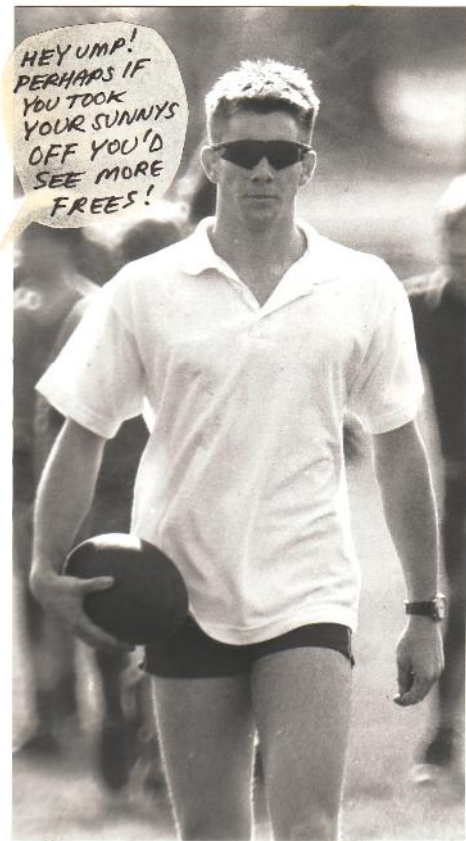


DO I LOOK BEAUTIFUL?

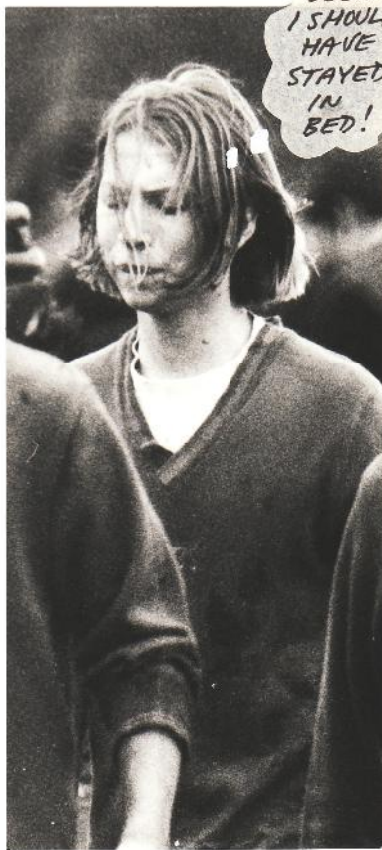
THAT CORDIAL'S GIVING ME HEADSPINS!



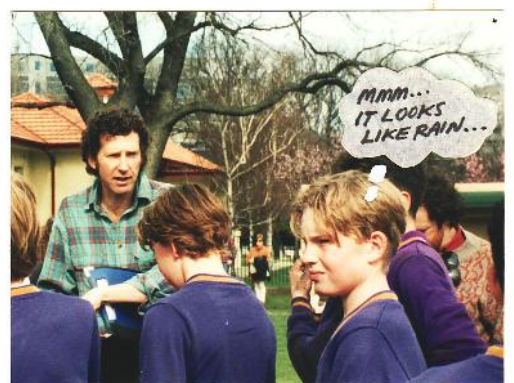
...AND IT'S GOT INSTANT REPLAY!



HEY UMP! PERHAPS IF YOU TOOK YOUR SUNNYS OFF YOU'D SEE MORE FREES!



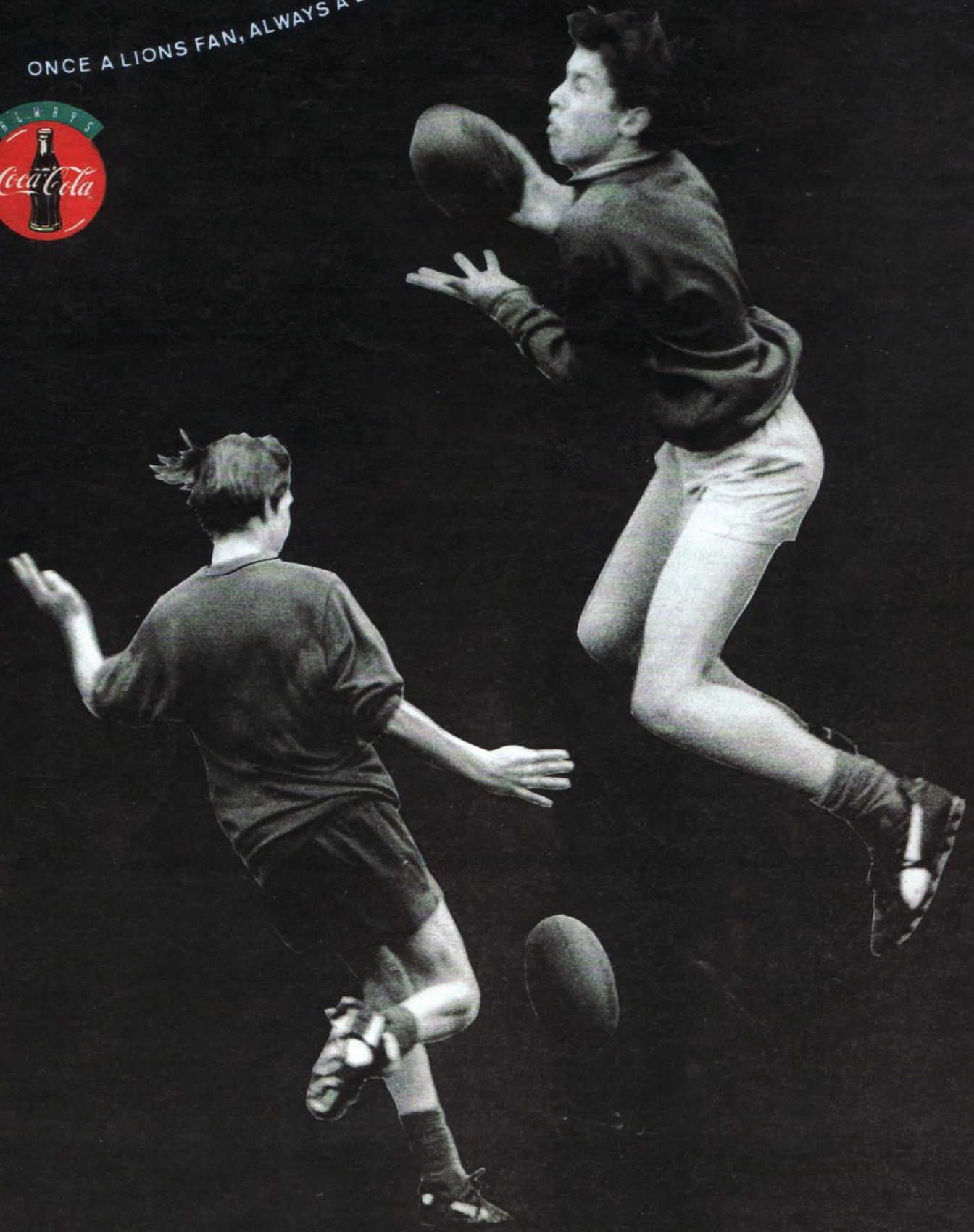
OOOH! I SHOULD HAVE STAYED IN BED!



MMM... IT LOOKS LIKE RAIN...

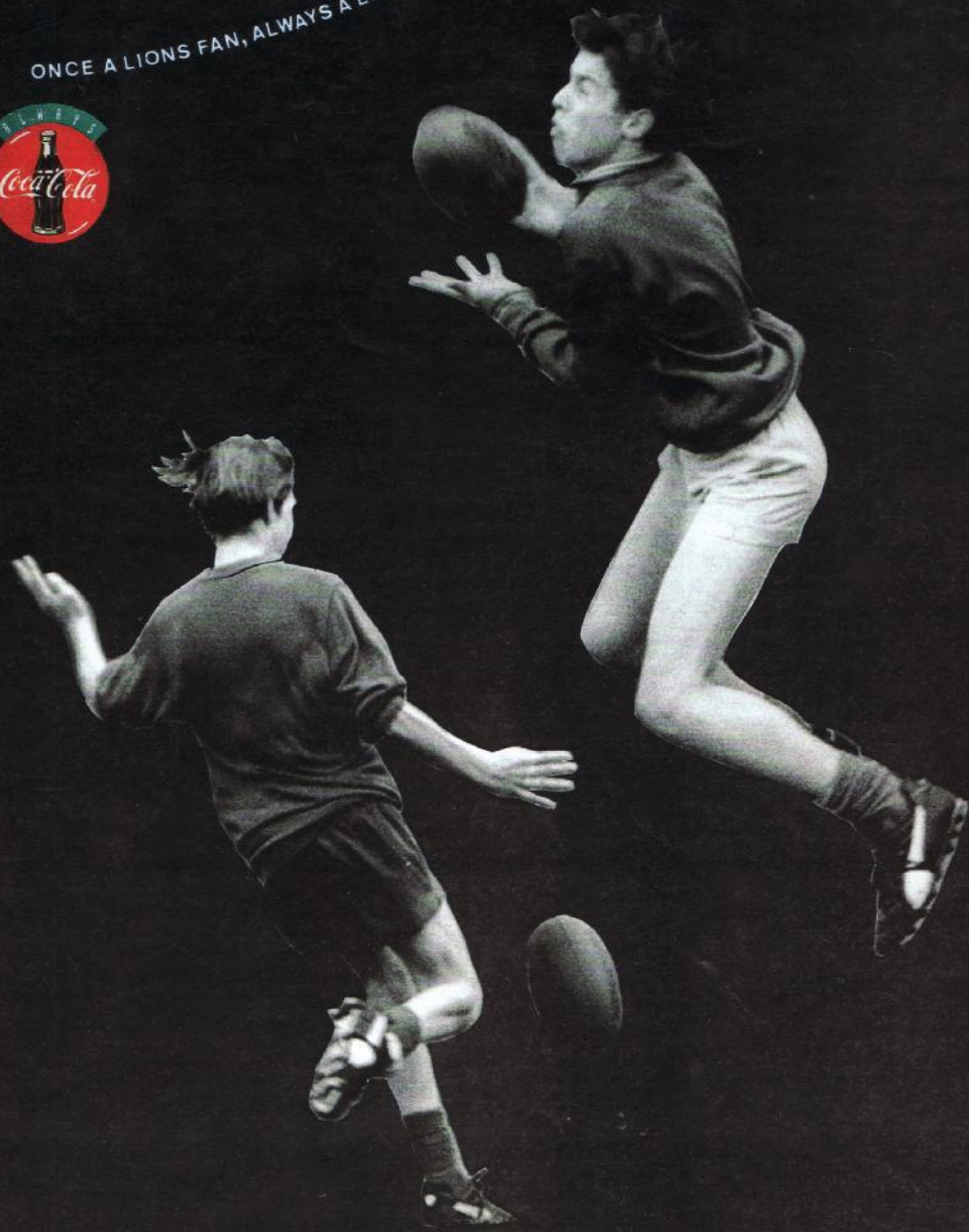


ONCE A LIONS FAN, ALWAYS A LIONS FAN



*Special Collector's Edition*

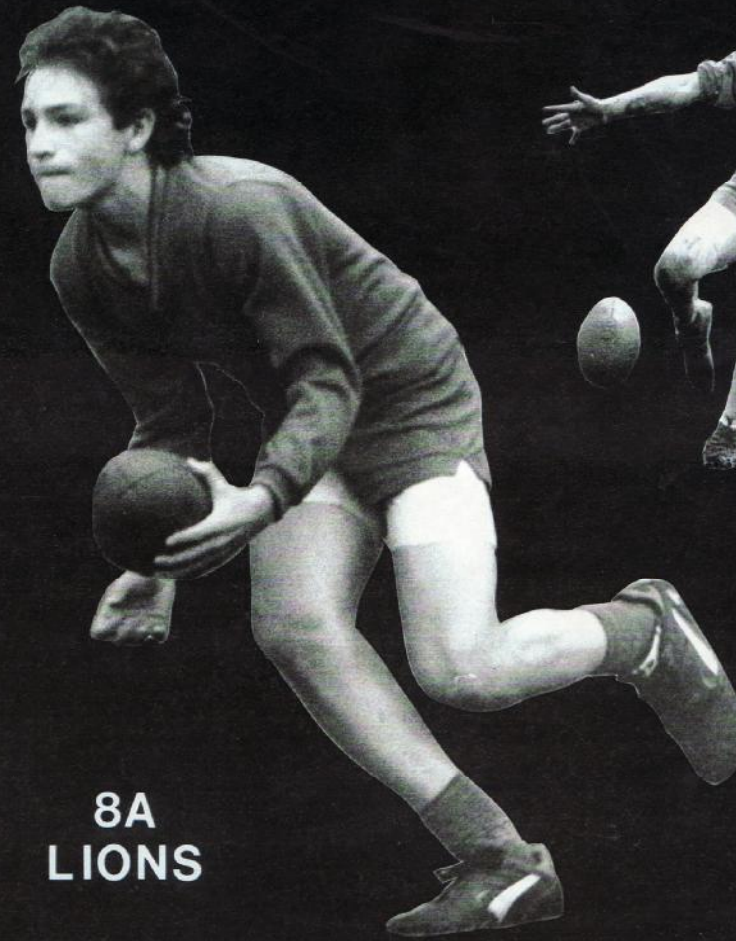
ONCE A LIONS FAN, ALWAYS A LIONS FAN



*Special Collector's Edition*

# FOOTBALL Record

1996



8A  
LIONS



WESLEY V THE REST