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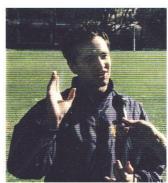
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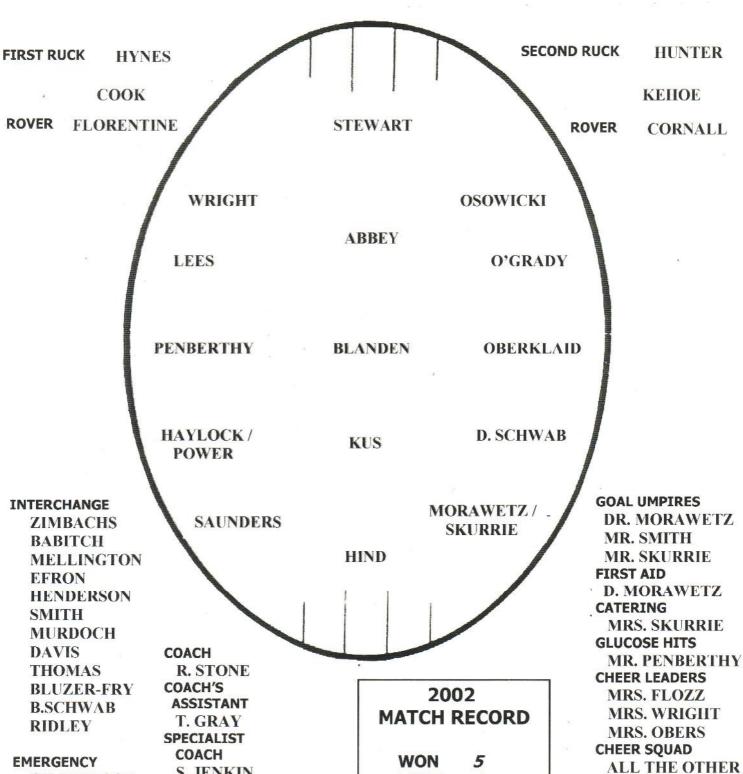




The 2002 FOOTBALL RECORD The Football Record is an OVER-THE-TOP PRODUCTION Designed, written, photographed (mostly) and produced by Richard Stone
VOLUME 12, 2002

WESLEY 9/10B**TEAM OF** 2002





LOST

DRAWN

4

1

MUMS & DADS

(& DOGS!)

GILBERTSON

S. JENKIN

EMERGENCY

COACH R. ABBEY

Lions establish credentials

WESLEY 15 18 108 ST.KEVINS 2 7 19

GOALS: Schwab 3, Blanden 2, Hynes 2, Morawetz 2, Saunders 2, Efron 2, Cornall, Power

BEST: Hynes, Florentine, Saunders, Schwab, Blanden, Cornall, Henderson, Stewart, Morawetz, Power

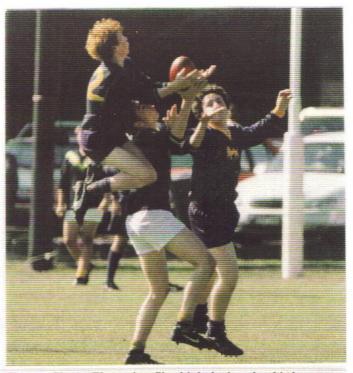
INJURIES: Florentine (ankle), Hynes (leg)

GOAL of the DAY: Power
MARK of the DAY: Florentine
TACKLE of the DAY: Ridley

MOST UNPOPULAR RUNNER: Morawetz

DISCO KING: Saunders

The radical restructuring of Wesley football has been a hot topic in recent weeks. The decision to merge the Year 9 and 10 squads has the potential to change the face of the APS game, and it has prompted football commentators to raise a plethora of questions. It has also prompted the Wesley players involved to ask a few themselves.... like "Who are you?" and "What's your name?" Last week's hitout against Haileybury, under emergency coach Ross Abbey, was very much a get to know you game, but since then the Lions have made a concerted effort to overcome their identity crisis, and Saturday's big win over St. Kevins showed how far they have come. Nine of last season's successful 9A combination provided the core of this week's team for the big game on the Front Turf. Simon "Flozza" Florentine was named captain for the day and he was ably supported by Paddy Blanden — a surprise selection in the pivot — Matt Kehoe, Big Al Wright, Benny Power, Trent "Zimba" Zimbachs, Deano Schwab, Tommy Cook and pocket sized goalsneak. Simon Morawetz. The promotion of Year 9 ruckman Ed Kus to the A's allowed new recruit Dale Hynes to step into Ed's big boots and Dave Ridley to take up a key position. Stewart and Saunders took up their positions at opposite ends of the corridor while Sam Skuzza and Tom Hendo were given crumbing roles on the forward line Abbey and Osowicki were cast in rugged defender roles and Ryza O'Grady and newcomer.



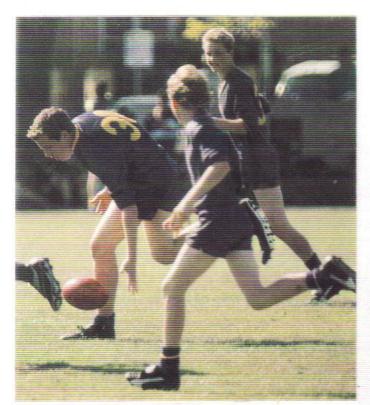
Skipper Simon Florentine flies high during the third quarter

Anton Cornall were named on a back flank and a wing respectively. Oberklaid, Murdoch, Efron and Smith were the unlucky quartet destined to start on the interchange bench.

As Flozza tossed the coin on a perfect Autumn morning, a rumour that Big Al had been abducted on his way to the ground was confirmed. A last minute reshuffle and the game began. The Lions were quick to establish their superiority in the field of play but there was some delay in registering the first major. Dale was dominating in the ruck and Paddy was a driving force in the centre, while Leigh was positioning himself well near the goal mouth. Eventually, it was Morra who started the ball rolling with an accurate snap to the carpark goals. Anton was showing a turn of pace on the wing and Dale was cutting a swathe through opposition defenders, but it was a solo



Pat Blanden steadies as he seeks out a target



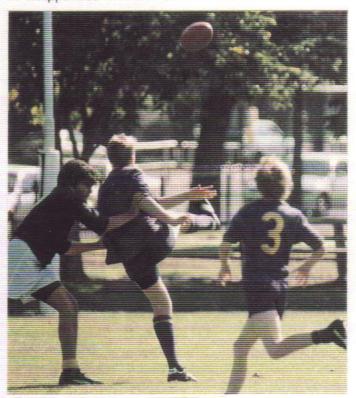
Nick Abbey paddles the ball to his advantage

effort by Benny Power that brought up the Lions' second goal as he dodged and weaved his way towards the big sticks. Skevvys were barely getting a look in, and when Skuzza and Leigh set up Paddy for his first, their heads dropped even further. Morra was having trouble with his kicking boot but Deano's was in fine shape as he converted a crumb and made no mistake with a set shot. Paddy, meanwhile added to his tally and Dave "The Riddler" Ridley laid a mean tackle! At the first break the Lions led by a handy 40 points, and the coach was relieved. Innaccurate kicking marred the Lions' second quarter effort, but it began well when Anton found Morra within range and he made no mistake. Mike "Superboot" Efron disappointed his fans with successive behinds and Deano and Paddy could do little better as the Lions wasted opportunities. Skevvys had upped their effort and were trying desperately to trouble the scorers but Dennis and



Leigh Saunders and Anton Cornall hold out an opponent

Nick were holding firm on the last line. Jesse was giving nothing away and Cooky was hassling and harassing anybody in a blue, green and gold jumper. Obers and Lachy were enjoying the chance to stretch their legs and Zimba was roving with his customary intelligence and flair. Big Al, meanwhile, had escaped from his kidnappers and was ready for a run. The skipper had been working hard all game and his efforts were rewarded when his pass to Lethal Leigh was converted to bring up his team's eighth goal. Matty Kehoe was busy on his wing switching defence into attack and the Skevvy boys were soon shaking in their boots as the coach unleashed the dangerous James Smith from the doggy box. At the long break the Lions were comfortably placed and could only be disappointed with their conversion rate.



Ruckman Dale Hynes snaps for goal



Tom Henderson squeezes a kick under pressure

The premiership quarter was marred by a goal to StKevins, but the Lions provided plenty of thrills for their supporters with some spectacular passages of play. A goal by Deano capped off a superb piece of keepings off by Flozza, Ryzza and Effers. Hendo, who had been finding space and creating opportunities all day, set Lethal up for his second, which triggered an entertaining dance routine from the big fellow. Paddy was continuing to play a disciplined game in the centre and he gave Deano the chance to snag his third. Morra added two more points to his evergrowing tally and Flozza flew high over the pack to take a speccy! Meanwhile Benny showed Skevvys who was boss with a ruthless tackle.



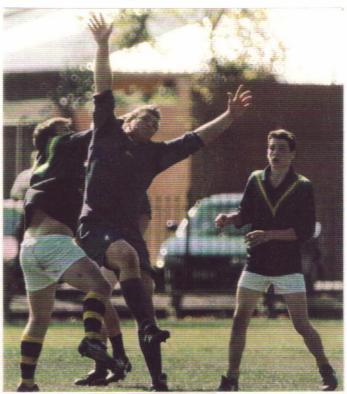
Tom Cook hones in on a loose ball



Big Al gets mean!

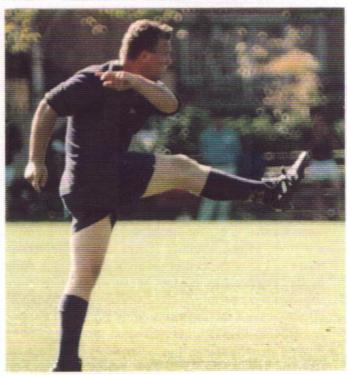


Mike Efron lines up the big sticks



Al Wright strikes an ungainly pose

The coach was besieged at the final change as defenders asked to be relieved of their duties and benchwarmers requested another piece of the action. With his team holding a 67 point advantage he had little to fear and some shuffling ensued as the Lions advanced their lead to 89 points. Two goals to Hynes, resting at full forward as Big Al ran in the ruck, and another sausage to Effers took the tally to 15, but for the third successive quarter minors outweighed majors. Nevertheless, the Lions' fans were delighted with their team's effort and the coaching panel was chuffed.



WOOF! Big Al lets loose

PEGS pegged! Lions too classy

WESLEY 9 17 71 PEGS 1 0 6

GOALS: Cook 2, Hynes, Zimbachs, Oberklaid, Skurrie, Schwab, Saunders, Morawetz

BEST: Cook, Zimbachs, Hynes, Cornall, Power, Abbey, O'Grady, Lees, Kehoe, Skurrie

INJURIES: Lees (leg)

GOAL of the DAY: Cook (either one!) **RUN of the DAY:** Penberthy **SMOTHER of the DAY:** O'Grady

MOST UNFASHIONABLE FOOTBALLER:

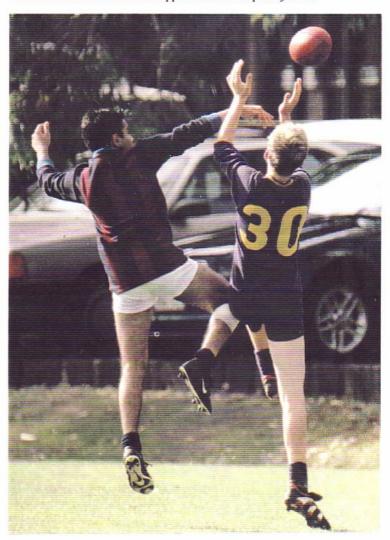
Bluzer-Fry

After last week's confidence boosting win over Skevvys, the NATPEC Lions were eager to test their talents against a better class of team. PEGS had drawn the short straw and were scheduled to front the Nine And Ten Prahran Elsternwick Combine on the picturesque Front Turf. The unavailability of Paddy and Big Straight Al meant that some restructuring of the team was necessary, but Cooky put up his hand for the vacant Centre position and Nick "S.O.R." Abbey was drafted to CHB. Daniel Bruzer-Fly's sensational goal kicking spree in the Reserves last weekend had earned him a promotion and Richard "Dicky" Penberthy was given the opportunity to prove a point to his old club – a club that had cruelly delisted him at the end of the 2001 season. There was further delight for Lion fans midweek when Inside Football broke the news that Greg "Babba" Babitch had decided to emerge from his premature retirement and would be available for selection after a twelve month absence from the field. On the down side however, gutsy onballer Flozza had been struck by a mystery virus and was confined to bed

Conditions were fine, but the ground was surprisingly heavy when this week's skipper, Deano Schwab tossed the coin for choice of ends. Kicking to the Rose Garden goals the Lions were quick to take the initiative, as boom recruit Hynza and rookie centreman Cooky set the ball in the right direction. A point to the skipper opened the books, but PEGS were showing a bit of form, and it was only the desperate efforts of the Lion defence, led by Ryza and Stewie, to bottle up the play that prevented the visitors from posting an early reply. Matt Keyhole and Zimba were busy midfielders for the Lions and Hynza was perplexing the opposition with his daring dashing and



Matt Kehoe shows his PEGS opponents a clean pair of heels.

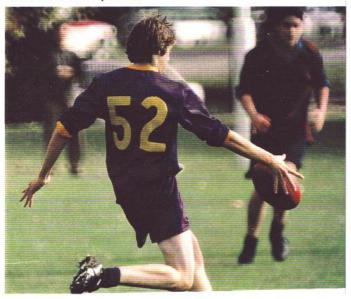


Centreman Tom Cook makes good position for an overhead mark.

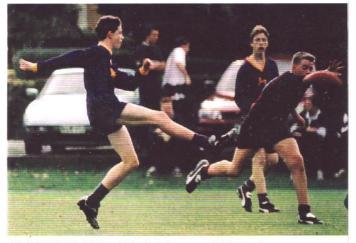
dodging. A head high tackle on Leigh "Disco King" Saunders resulted in a second minor, and a brilliant one-two by Zimba and Hendo finished with another when Anton "Wizard" Cornall failed to convert. The Lions' defence was holding firm and the Swedish double act of Abba and Babba were on song, but as they prepared for an encore the ball slipped past a wrong footed Osowicki and PEGS had scored the first goal of the game. The Lions' attempts to answer

were thwarted as Hendo missed the target and Skuzz failed to clear the outstretched hands on the goal line. It was left to the skipper to lead by example, and Deano's goal late in the term gave his team a narrow five point advantage going into the second quarter.

In general, the PEGS players occupied more space than their Lion opponents, and they tended to occupy it for longer. The speedier Lions were able to run them down and break free on many occasions, and as a result the second quarter went the way of the home team. Morra capitalised on an opportunity when Hendo and Deano set him up at the six minute mark, and Cooky followed up with a clever piece of play, crumbing his own spilled mark in the goal square. Bruzer-Fly was being ubiquitous across the half forward line throwing himself into the action and looking every inch the old time footballer. Benno Power was working hard at CHF and the Wizard showed a touch of class as he sent the footy into the goal mouth where Cooky confused the PEGS defenders by repeating his drop the mark kick the crumb tactic. Ryza was drifting forward and setting up opportunities for his teammates but an OOTF to Morra and behinds to Saunders and Fryza-Blu were all they could manage. Nevertheless, PEGS had been held scoreless for the quarter and the Lions had advanced to a half time lead of 26 points.



Ben Power displays poise and balance as he dispatches the footy



Ex-PEGGER, Richard Penberthy sets sail for goal.

After a piece of cake and three cheers for the birthday boy, Mike Efron, the Lions took their places on the field for the premiership quarter. Early behinds were disappointing for the Lions, but for a few of the PEGS boys disappointment had turned to frustration and Skuzza suddenly found himself sliding over the boundary line and heading into the bushes courtesy of a not so subtle nudge in the back. The Lions rallied to their teammate's cause and umpire Maxwell pointed to the Sin Bin. An accurate pass from the Disco King to Obers resulted in a timely goal as the boy from Strathmore made no mistake from thirty five and the PEGS went quiet again. Effers was finding space in his pocket and the assistant coach was having fun trying to complete his set of Lion fridge magnets. Danny Lees was playing the quarter of his life at half back and Smithy was seen to grimace briefly in a back pocket. Meanwhile, Zimba and Bryza-Flu were playing volleyball at the other end of the oval.



Pick on someone your own size! Cooky gets mean. Skurrie looks on.



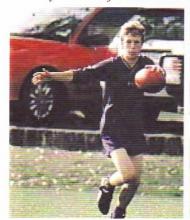
Jesse Osowicki deserts his defensive post to register a goal.



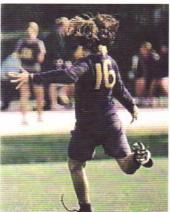
Sam Skurrie scores an opportunistic goal from Dale's crumbs.



The way is cleared for Matt Kehoe to feed off the footy.



Tom Henderson on the burst.



Where did Bluzer get that wig

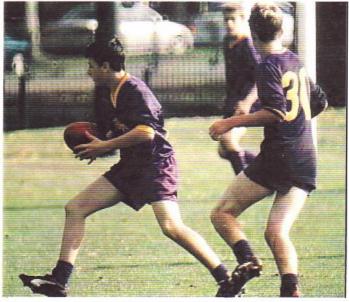


Leigh takes a grab



Dale Hynes shapes to mark

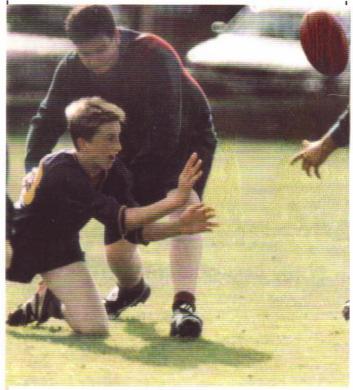
The final term began slowly for the Lions as PEGS made one last ditch attempt to salvage something from the game, but Stewie and his accomplices applied enough pressure t discourage their futile efforts. Dicky Penberthy had a thing or two to show his old teammates and a scintillating dash from half back and a long bomb gave Hynza a chance to double back and kick his first and the Lions' sixth. Enjoying a rest at Full Forward, Dale was soon in the thick of it again setting up Skuzza in the square. Benno was in full stride now, and Matty K was still running well in the midfield, despite some difficulties roosting the heavy ball. Successive behinds to (Be) Hynza were not what the Lion fans wanted, but they were soon cheering again when the Disco King marked and goaled and Jesse and Dale one-twoed a final nail in the PEGS coffin.



Birthday boy Mike Efron finds some space on the forward line



Trent Zimbachs avoids the grasp of a desperate PEGGER.



Tom Cook in danger of being crushed to death.

L

Lions under the hammer

WESLEY COLLEGE 1 1 7 XAVIER COLLEGE 22 15 147

GOAL: Cornall

BEST: Blanden, Zimbachs, Cook, Hynes, Stewart,

Cornall, Wright, Abbey, Florentine

INJURIES: Bruises all round

GOAL of the DAY: Cornall (no prizes for guessing!)

MARK of the DAY: Blanden TACKLE of the DAY: Morawetz LONGEST RUN: Henderson

LONGEST DODGE AND WEAVE: Hynes

SHORTEST FUSE: Saunders

Word had spread rapidly through the APS network that the NATPEC Lions were a force to be reckoned with. Skevvys had been crushed, PEGS had been humiliated and the Lions were on a roll. The Left Foot Kicks were particularly keen to see the Proddys put back in their place so an emergency meeting was arranged in the vestry of St.Pat's cathedral prior to last Sunday's 10 o'clock mass. There, a strategic plan was hammered out by the sportsmasters from Xavier and St. Kevins. A plan which would guarantee the Xavier team a clear advantage over the Lions when they met the following Saturday.

The multifaceted strategy was intended to disrupt the Lions' preparation for the big match and to throw them off their game on match day. By hacking into the Wesley intranet the LFKs were able to obtain valuable information that enabled them to target specific members of the Lions' squad. By providing contradictory and confusing fixture information to the Wesley Sports Directorate they were able to further disrupt the Lions' camp. To stack the cards even more heavily in their favour the Xavier nurse secretly increased the weekly steroid dosage for each of the 10Bs(?) in her care.

Blissfully unaware of the skullduggery going on behind their backs the Lions approached the week's training sessions as they would any other—with their usual mixture of high spirits, snaps from impossible angles and endless crys of "prakky!" The return of Blanden and Wright from a lakeside holiday would strengthen the team, but the unavailablity of Osowicki was a minus. The first signs of the LFK strategy were evident at Thursday's training, but of course the Lions coaching panel had no reason to suspect anything other than misfortune. Amongst the targeted Lions stars were Cornall, Morawetz, and Efron, and each presented the coach with a tale of injury or illness. Cornall had strained his knee early in the week and had been advised by a "Doctor" O"Reilly that he should sit out of the game for the next two months! Efron had been sold a meat pie well passed its use by date at a Kew delicatassen and was confined to his sickbed, while Morawetz had received a sharp elbow to his ribs on the morning tram from a little old lady dressed as a penguin, and he would be



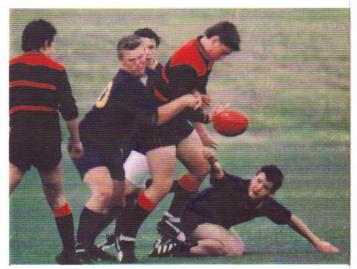
Pat Blanden takes a screamer during the third quarter.

seeking medical advice. The team was announced with Cornall omitted and question marks against the others. Zimbachs had been named captain, but he was another targeted player and when the coin was about to be tossed on Saturday morning he was nowhere to be seen. Relying on his original fixture Trenta had been expecting an 11.30 start, but he had been caught out by the Xavvy's mid week time and ground switch. Cooky stepped into the breach and put the Lions through their paces, but the LFKs had not finished yet. Sam Skurrie had detoured to the ground via Marcellin College and his boots had been stolen from the car while he watched his big brother in action against the Bulleen Micks. As he approached the Xavier ground, Greg Babitch had been confronted with a road block clearly set up to deny him access to the opening bounce. The Lions' camp was in disarray and to make matters worse the Xavier coach blew the siren prematurely, before his Lion counterpart could address his players. The only good news for the purple and gold was the appearance of Cornall who had sought a second opinion on his knee and had been cleared to play, and the arrival of Morra who had also been passed fit. In a selfless gesture he donated his boots to the bootless Skuzza and the game began.



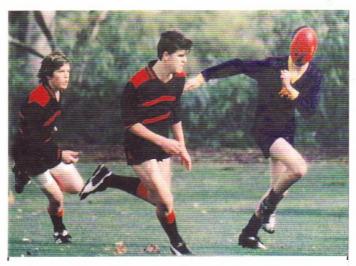
Crunch! Ryan O'Grady crashes into a Xavier opponent.

The steroids had obviously had the desired effect—the Xavvys were all around six foot and in about thirty seconds they had registered the first goal of the match. The Lions were quick to move the ball into their scoring zone, but the avenue to goal was just as quickly obscured by a wall of Xaverians. Captain Cook was determined to set an example for his team mates and he and Flozza had been throwing themselves into the fray from the word go. Bluzer-Fry, resplendent in his Bruce Doull headband, was as enthusiastic as ever, and the Wizard was busy at the fall of the ball, but it was the Lion defence who were kept busiest during the opening stanza as the home team played a confident brand of keepings off football and attacked the grandstand goals. Big Al was strong and Stewy and S.O.R. were as stubborn as ever, but the Lion midfielders were having trouble sticking to their bigger opponents. Zimba had arrived in the nick of time and was showing his class across half forward, and Paddy was adding his strength to the Lions' defensive wall, but three successive goals to the Xavvys diverted the wind from the Lions' sails. Hynza was matching his opponents in the air and was exploiting his ability to bomb it long, but his team was unable to make an impression on the scoreboard.



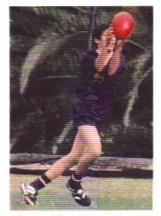
Al Wright thwarts a Xavier forward thrust with a strong tackle.

The second quarter began with the Lions 38 points in arrears, and the players realised that something had to be done to prevent the opposition from running away with the game. Blowza-Frew had heard the coach say something about "numbers to the ball" so he ran off the bench and into the fray, but he had neglected to tell anyone! Dicky Penberthy quietly slipped off the field to make it 18 all, but for most of the rest of the match it seemed as though it was Xavier that had the extra players on the field, so quickly did they move from defence into attack. Big bad bustling Babba was shifted to CHF but when the ball came forward it was via the flanks. and the corridor was more like that useless space between the ceiling and the roof that just gets clogged up with stuff. After a couple of Xavvy goals, Cooky was able to squeeze the ball out of the centre unexpectedly and Hendo suddenly found himself with a clear path down the Barkers Road wing. 'Go for a run son!" cried the Lion supporters, "Take a bounce... and another....and another....go all the way son!" But the excitement was too much for him and the foam football slewed off the side of his boot. The Xavvys were quick to reply, then the Lions had another big chance as Morra fed the ball to his skipper, but the pressure was too much and this time the kick missed the lot. Another goal to the home team gave them a handy 68 point advantage at the long break.



Not even Mr. Football himself could save the Lions this week.

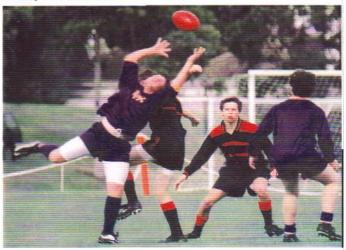
The third quarter saw more of the same, but the Lions lifted their game and made their opponents work harder for control of the footy. Danny Lees and Ryza continued to put their bodies on the line and were fearless in their attack on the ball. whilst Matty Keyhole and Flozza were in and under whenever it was required. Zimba's pace and anticipation allowed him to find space and Skuzza was being elusive when the ball hit the deck. The Disco King had been reluctantly moved into defence, and a strong mark suggested that he could be useful in his new position, but he took offence at a Xaverian, told the ump to look for a new job and was sent to the Sin Bin. This did not help his team mates' cause, but they plugged on regardless. A ferocious tackle by Morra was inspirational, and Paddy and Benno were teaming together well to set something up, but it was Cooky who found the Wizard unattended in the pocket and at long last the Lions were on the board!



Antony Cornall marks

Only 17 goals to go!

The Lions were determined to see the game out and not throw in the towel, and to their credit they maintained pressure on the Xavvys. Although unable to add to their score, they earned the applause of the spectators who appreciated their gallant effort. Abba and Stewy continued to lead the Lion defence and Paddy Blanden was a great contributor. Hynza was tireless in the ruck and his dodging and



An acrobatic Pat Blanden positions himself for another grab.

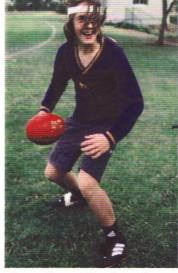


Pat Blanden under pressure.

sonal congratulations to the umpires!



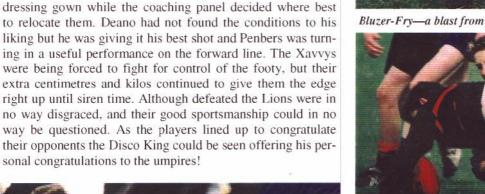
"What can you do?"



Bluzer-Fry-a blast from the past.



Leigh discusses the weather



Captain Cook brings his Xavvy opponent to ground.



weaving would have made a small man proud. Meanwhile, the Disco King was fine tuning his kicking behind the pavilion and Matty Overcoat and Smithy were fighting over the

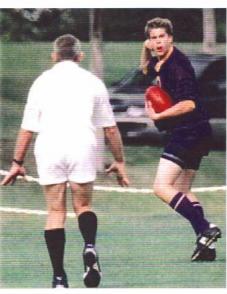
Matt Kehoe fighting hard to retard the opposition.



One of those days! Simon Morawetz slips in pursuit.



Richard Penberthy gets the sit.



Dale Hynes gets a palm to the ball. You've got ta be kidding ump! That wasn't ten!

Numbers to the ball

WESLEY COLLEGE CAULFIELD GRAMMAR

11 10 76 2 4 10

GOALS: Cornall 2, Morawetz 2, Hynes 2, Hind 2,

Schwab 2, Abbey

BEST: Blanden, Hynes, Morawetz, Kehoe, Cornall,

Power, Davis, Abbey

INJURIES: Henderson (back)
GOAL of the DAY: Cornall
PLAY of the DAY: Morawetz
SLIDE of the DAY: Hynes
ROOST of the DAY: Hynes
SHEPHERD of the DAY: Davis

MOST CREATIVE DISPOSAL: Power (tunnel ball)

CLEVEREST FUMBLE: Penberthy

News had leaked out early in the week that Xavier had stacked their Bs team last Saturday with 10A players, and despite the subsequent media outcry, Xavier's principal refused to say "sorry". The Lions were justifiably angry, and their anger continued to build as the weekend drew near. The target of their wrath would be Caulfield—a school still struggling to overcome the stigma of last season's cloning scandal. The Lions were ferocious on the training track, their cries of "prakky!" louder than ever as they sought to fine tune their teamwork in preparation for the big match. The selectors were faced with several compulsory changes as Zimba had received his call up from Jerka, the Disco King was doing a matinee at the Metro and Dennis Stewart had been named as an emergency for the Swans who were to take on the Bombers at Sydney's Olympic Stadium. Doug "I'm actually good at set shots" Hind was being given the chance to find some form in the Bs and was named at full forward. Osowacky was returned to the lineup and B.B.B. Babba was given a chance in the key defensive role. Lloyd Davis' scintillating training form had earned him a guernsey, but Anton's knee was still causing concern and it was deemed sensible to name him on the bench. Tom Cook was named in the squad, but both he and Lion heart-throb Bluzer-Flu had been fighting viruses all week, and it came as no surprise when they failed fitness tests

The fog sat low over Fawkner Park as the skipper, Paddy Blanden, led the Lions through their rigorous pre-match routine. The opposition appeared not have the full compliment, so a deal was brokered which would allow the Lions to field two more players than their opponents. Three brave Lions "volunteered" their services to the Caulfield coach to create a full team but he was confident his remaining players would eventually find their way to the ground and so the ball was bounced with a 15 to 13 ratio. Hynza was quick to place a stamp on the game with his height and strength, and Dougy wasted no time in getting into the action, setting up Deano for the Lions' first goal. Flozza was busy doing rover type things, and Babba wasn't giving anything away at full back. As another Caulfield refugee entered the arena Skuzza left the Lions' bench to maintain the appropriate ratio. Meanwhile,



Simon Florentine is all elegance as he pin points a pass.

the Lion defenders were making life tough for their opponents. Abba was his usual close checking self, and clever switching by Danny Lees maximised the Lions play on game. Ryza was pushing forward at every opportunity and he gave Dougy a chance to score, but he could only manage a minor. It was Deano who snagged his second for the quarter when he soccered a stray ball from inside the square. Benno was full of beanos and was trying everything to keep the ball alive in the scoring zone—including a spot of tunnel ball! The skipper was finding the wet ball a bit of a challenge, but he managed to sneak a behind before the quarter ended.

Although Caulfield was putting up a challenge, it appeared as though the Lions' superior skills would allow them to maintain the edge for the remainder of the game. This was certainly the case during the second term as the Lions hard work continued to pay dividends. Benno Power soon had the fans on their feet with a brilliant run along the members wing, and Dougy had them back on their bums when he spilled a mark from a Kehoe pass. But moments later they were up again as he did a "Cooky" and converted his own crumbs. Big Al and Jesse were giving nothing away in defence and Caulfield were placed under enormous pressure on their occasional forays forward. The best action was inevitably in the Lions' half of the ground. Paddy was leading by example and the Willy boys-Flozza, Matty, Danny and Skuzza- were backing him up with tenacious tearaway footy. A pass from the skipper found Dougy unattended—thanks to a vigorous shepherd by newboy Davo. The Wizard had been threatening to do something really special, and when a clever pass from Benno hit him on the chest, Anton was off and racing along the members flank. The assistant coach made what seemed like a bold prediction, but sure enough, a left foot snap from deep in the pocket sailed home and the Lions moved to a five goal lead. The coach had been asking his players to read the



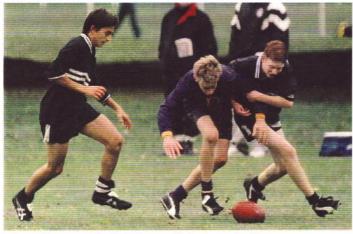
"He hasn't got it ump!" Lloyd Davis is illegally retarded.

game, and Dicky Penberthy, an avid reader of Harry Potter and Ralph magazine, was taking him at his word. "Think ahead" he kept repeating to himself, "Think ahead", so when he found himself alone with the ball in front of the coach's box, instead of gathering the ball and running it forward, he foxed three or four fumbles to draw Hendo's opponent before feeding the ball out to his teammate. Clever play, and at least two moves ahead of everybody else at the ground. As the quarter drew to a close the visitors salvaged a pair of behinds, but at the long break they found themselves trailing the Lions by thirty points.



Matt Kehoe applies full body pressure to his Caulfield opponent.

The third quarter began with a new ball, (Dale had sent the other one into orbit) but the pattern of play was the same. Matt Overcoat was enjoying the extra space on the wings and was delivering effectively into the corridor. One of his passes found Hynza who made no mistake with another long bomb, and it wasn't long before he had another as Skuzza and Paddy combined to send the ball forward for a soccered conversion. Morra was in fine touch and he fed the ball to the ubiquitous Hynza whose kick set up the Wizard for his second. James "The Terminator" Smith was marking strongly in defence, and his accurate disposal had silenced his critics-at least temporarily. With the Lions controlling the play, Big Al and Babba had popped out for coffee and cake and the visitors took advantage of the situation to snatch a couple of face saving goals-but it was to no avail. Going into the last quarter they still trailed by a considerable margin.



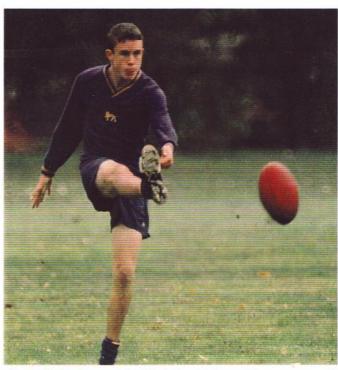
Lion debutante Lloyd Davis puts his body on the line.

Morra had been displaying glimpses of brilliance during recent weeks and his training form had been impressive, but even staunch Lion fans were surprised by his sensational last quarter! Given a chance to run with the ball he was unstoppable.

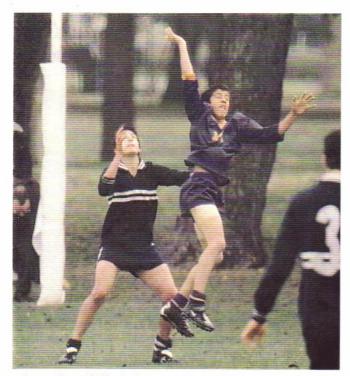


Matt Oberklaid tries out a torpedo. Ryan O'Grady looks on.

Dodging and weaving his way forward through a sea of defenders Morra made no mistake with his disposal and the Lions' ninth was on the board. The coaching panel had been challenged by the demands of fitting 21 players into a 16 man team, and by satisfying individual whims, but the assistant coach had outdone himself, and backs had found their way forward and forwards had found their way back (much to their displeasure!) Abba made the most of his chance to play forward of the centre and he snapped a rare goal. Hynza and the skipper continued to work the ball forward and Matty K was providing the goods in his ruck roving role. Morra was still the real danger man however, and skilful shepherding on the goal line by the Wizard helped him register his second and the Lions' eleventh. Deano couldn't hack being in the back pocket and he drifted forward, but his kick was offline, as were Davo's and Dougy's, so when Jesse produced another wonderfully rich emotive performance on the siren the Lions had to be content with a sixty six point winning margin. A welcome return to the winners' list after last week's aberration.



James Smith demonstrates his unique kicking style.



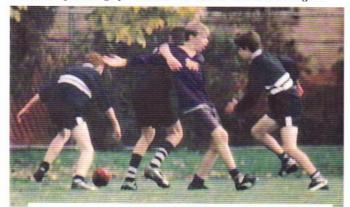
Anton Cornall flies before acceptances.



Simon Morawetz finishes a brilliant passage of play with a goal.



Clever shepherding by "Wizard" Cornall ensures another goal.



Three on one but Lloyd Davis will end up with the kick.



Pat Blanden proves he is a hard man to move!



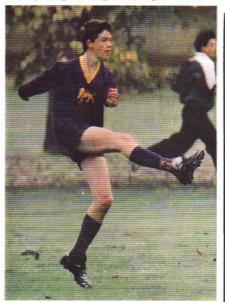
Dale Hynes shapes up for a ruck contest.



Dale Hynes goes long on the left.



Jesse tries the Star Wars theme



Richard Penberthy sinks the slipper.

WRITE A SONG &WIN A PRIZE

The Lions need a theme song with a catchy tune and inspirational lyrics



Lions worry pussy cats

WESLEY COLLEGE GEELONG COLLEGE 12 12 84

GOALS: Saunders 2, Kus 2, Hind, Florentine BEST: Kus, Kehoe, Florentine, Hind, Cook, Blan-

den, Abbey, Saunders, Morawetz, Lees **INJURIES:** Morawetz (all over), Cook (leg)

GOAL of the DAY: Kus MARK of the DAY: Kehoe SMOTHER of the DAY: O'Grady

HOVER of the WEEK: Penberthy

COURAGE BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY:

Morawetz

Although concerned by reports early in the week that Geelong had withdrawn their A team from the competition and re-entered it in B grade in an effort to counter the Lions superiority, the Wesley boys did not allow the news to prey on their minds. Instead the Lions took it in their stride and at no time did they allow the information to deter them from their season's goal—to have a prakky match at every training session. As the day of the big game drew near they kept their minds focused on just one thing - Thursday night's prakky match

The selectors were presented with virtually a full list from which to select a team to challenge Geelong, but there were a few question marks.... Stewart had been forced out by a troublesome groin strain and Bluzer-Fry had avoided training for the third night in succession, but the major concern was talented ruck rover, Anton Cornall, who had gone AWOL on Thursday and could not be contacted. Hendo was still plagued by back soreness and was undergoing intensive treatment in the hope that he might be able to take the field. Benno Power was doing a gig at the Esplanade Hotel on Thursday night and was excused from training, but the big doubt hung over the head of star Lion ruckman Dale Hynes. There was talk around the club that the A's coach had Hynes in his sights and it would only be a matter of time before he received his conscription papers. As luck would have it this was the week, and Hynes was out. His replacement however would be Lion stalwart, Ed Kus, a master of the silly walk and a no frills ruckman who could add a degree of toughness to the Lion squad. Saturday dawned fine and cool for the big match, and as Matty Kehoe walked to the centre of Fawkner Park to toss the coin he noticed that the Geelong squad had more than its fair share of largish, goodish players. He also noticed that Cornall and Benno had not arrived, and that Hendo was wearing his

favourite Demon guernsey rather than the purple and gold. This was cause for concern, and the Coaching panel were

forced to make some last minute adjustments. The Disco King had returned from his "holiday" and promised to be on his

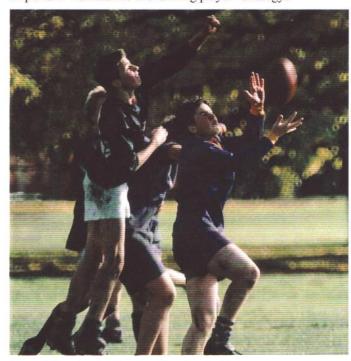
best behaviour, so he was rushed into his old position in front

of goals and Dougy was shuffled up field to fill Benno's spot.



Ruckman Ed Kus demonstrates his ground level skills

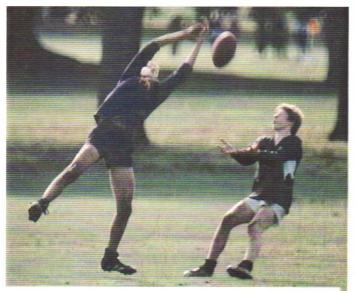
But the question still remained, "where are they?" The assistant coach suggested that they had probably been abducted by aliens, and that perhaps they would be beamed down at quarter time. The coach was sceptical, but humoured his offsider as he turned his attention to the game at hand. Geelong had wasted no time in moving the brand spanking new Sherrin forward, but the Lion defence, led by Jesse Ohsowacky was brilliant in bottling up the play deep in the grandstand pocket. It was a good ten minutes before the visitors were able to extricate a goal from the situation, but it was even longer before the Lions could find the big sticks, and they remained goalless during the opening term. This, despite the efforts of Kus, Flozza and Dougy to set up an opportunity. The best the home team could produce was a behind to Leigh "Disco King" Saunders, while the Cats added two more to their tally. Morra received his first crunching of the day, but bounced back, while Paddy and the skipper were developing the all important "handball to the running player" strategy.



Ryan O'Grady takes front position in a marking contest.

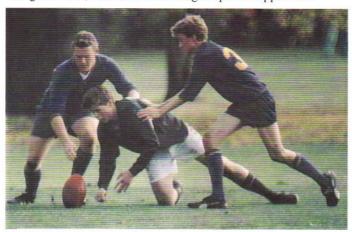
Returning to the field for the second quarter, the Lions knew that they had a game on their hands. The opposition were running enough A level players to make life difficult, and the extra confidence and control that these players displayed gave their team a decided edge. The Lions would need to put their bodies on the line and switch from attack to defense more

efficiently if they were to stay in the game. Desperate measures by Ryza and enterprising play by Cooky showed their team mates the way to go, but Geelong was quick to exploit any loophole in the Lion defence and their score continued to advance. Kussy was providing tremendous value in the ruck, getting his hand on anything in the air and working tirelessly at ground level. He was receiving strong support from Paddy in the pivot and Flozza on the ball, but it was well into the quarter before the Lions were able to register their first major. Kussy had decided that sitting on the wall was no good to anyone and he made a determined charge towards the goals, scooped up the ball in the pocket and threaded a truly marvellous goal. At last the Lions were on the board!

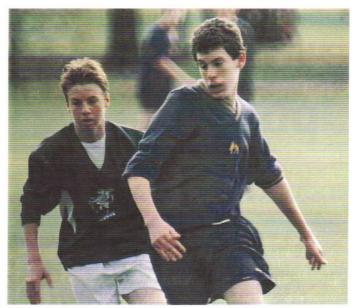


The ball eludes the outstretched arms of Lion forward Doug Hind.

Big Al, Abba and Babba were being kept busy by the Cats' frequent forays forward, but they were holding up well. Only Babba's slightly wayward kick ins were causing concern as twice his long bombs drifted over the boundary line. Danny Lees was bravely placing his body in dangerous situations and MattyO was trying to tag any Geelong player who looked even vaguely threatening. Dougy Hind was presenting himself at CHF, but he was having trouble clinging to the increasingly heavy Sherrin. Matty Kehoe threw himself into a pack to take an inspirational mark, then passed the ball to Skuzza who moved it in turn to Flozza, but although his kick found Deano, the clever forward was unable to convert. Fortunately he redeemed himself moments later when his kick forward was snaffled by Kussy and converted. At the long interval the Lions trailed by thirty nine points, but they felt they were in the game now, and could take it right up their opponents.

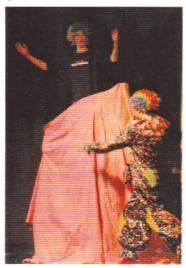


Al Wright and Matt Kehoe keep close tabs on a Geelong forward.



Elusive half forward Dean Schwab jostles for position.

An early third quarter goal to Geelong was disappointing, but the Lions bounced back to control the next fifteen minutes of the match, as Kussy, Cooky and Paddy took over in the midfield. With the Disco King providing a real target, and a pack of lively forwards including Skuzza, Davo and Morra, the Lions were able to keep most of the action at their end of the oval. In a clever passage of play Morra managed to find Leigh with a pass as he was slung mercilessly to the ground by a frustrated opponent. D.K. made no mistake and the Lions had their third. A long bomb from Dougy soon found its mark and Mr.Morra was showing his semaphore skills again. Smithy had been given a rare chance on the forward line, and despite being caught in a Geelong sandwich he rebounded to provide valuable assistance around the zone. Dicky Penberthy had been on a high for most of the week, having received rave reviews for his performance in the new hit musical, "M29 LIVE". He was hoping to put his levitation skills into practice on the field, but his assistant, Kyle the Clown had not turned up and he was forced to remain flat footed.



Richard Penberthy practises his high marking at training.



Sam Skurrie tries a little levitation of his own.

At the last change the Lions felt good. They had matched their opponents for most of the third quarter and now they were determined to finish the game strongly, giving the Cats something to think about on the long bus journey home. The final twenty minutes could show what the Lions were really made of, and we are pleased to report that they are made of the right ingredients; courage, determination and a strong sense of team spirit. The defenders held tight. Helped by MattyO, Abba and his team gave little away—Ryza and Jesse were hard at the ball and Babba and Big Al stuck to their guns. Kussy was in control in the ruck, and he was instrumental in setting up the Lions' next major when his pass to Paddy was conveyed to D.K. who made no mistake.



Leigh Saunders at full stretch.



Ed Kus, Oh so graceful



Dan Lees in action.



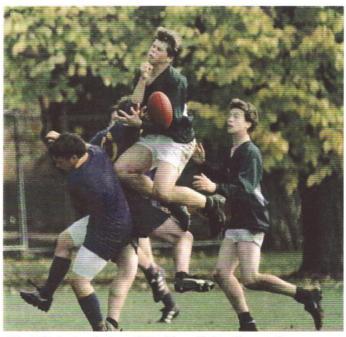
Don't worry, we'll get him!



Matt Kehoe shows his style

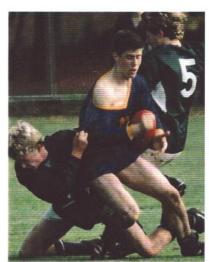


Lions' ruck rover Tom Cook pins his Geelong opponent.



"And this is for what you did to Morra!" Big Al evens the score.

Morra had been running on the ball, and his nippy moves and clever anticipation were getting up the nose of the opposition so an attempt was made to take him out of the game. A swift blow to the solar plexus left the courageous rover gasping for breath but he bounced back, only to be felled again by another dastardly blow. Determined to have the last word, the Lions focused even harder on the footy and when the skipper set Flozza up for a goal the Lions had outscored the Cats in the second half. In fact, they had clearly outplayed their fancied opponents during that time, and as they walked proudly from the field our heroes received a well deserved standing ovation from the purple and gold fan club. Bravissimo!





Nick Abbey clears.

Ed Kus models the off the shoulder look.

Doug Hind harasses.



Lions in limbo!

Controversial finish to big game

WESLEY COLLEGE

(Tick preferred option)

55

MARCELLIN COLLEGE

55

GOALS: Hind 2, Florentine 2, Gilbertson,

Efron, Penberthy, Wright

BEST: Hind, Penberthy, Saunders, Abbey, Power, Florentine, Cook, Skurrie, Wright, Efron Smith, Babitch, Kehoe, O'Grady, Lees, Stewart, Gilbertson, Murdoch

INJURIES: Wright (hand), Babitch (head)

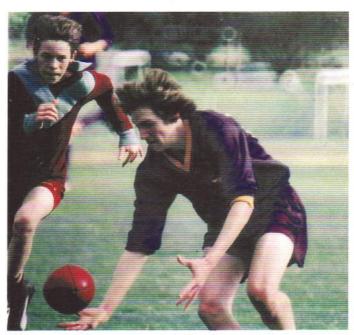
GOALS of the DAY: Efron/Hind MARK of the DAY: Florentine **BOMB of the DAY:** Florentine

BEST CIRCUS ACT: Saunders' kick?

MOST IMPROVED: Smith MOST CONFUSED: Everybody

In a weekend of football highlighted by thrilling finishes, there was no shortage of controversy. Carlton felt themselves hard done by as they went down by a dodgy behind to the Weagles at Optus Oval, and the Wesley 2nd. XVIII had to be content with a draw after victory had been unjustly snatched from its grasp. Meanwhile, the NATPEC Lions were caught up in a controversy of their own. Their Match of the Day against finals contenders, Marcellin College, ended in uproar as both sides claimed victory after the final siren. The extraordinary conclusion to a hard fought, seesawing struggle left players and officials from both sides dazed and confused. No doubt the APS investigation committee will have their work cut out for them as they attempt to solve this curious riddle! For the Lions' coach, the harrowing final moments of the game at Bulleen should have come as no surprise after a sleepless week and a frustrating lead up to the game.

It had been a week of mixed emotions for the coach. Old memories had been flooding back to him, and he was finding it difficult to retain his football focus as match day approached. It was at Marcellin that he had served his coaching apprenticeship before being head hunted by the Lions committee back in 1989, and the thought of taking a Wesley team out to his old hunting ground on the Bulleen flood plain provoked feelings of fear and anxiety. Would he embarrass himself in front of the Lions supporters by unwittingly screaming out "Go Eagles!". A vivid dream returned to haunt him each night. Not only was he cheering the Marcellin boys, but he was wearing a maroon tracksuit and waving a huge banner 18 on which was emblazoned the golden Marcellin eagle! Aaagh



Wingman Ben Power gathers the ball as his opponent bears down.

With training restricted to one night only, and with the senior players committed to a heavy examination program, the Lions were always going to be a little underdone this week. The wintry weather too, took its toll on the training turnout, and fears for the health of Davo and Kussy proved well founded when both players pulled out of the team on Friday. MattyO had been involved in a brawl during PE on Tuesday which had left several players hospitalised, and he had been advised by his doctor to sit this one out. Hendo's back troubles were persisting and he was not yet ready to return. Cornall had "missed" the bus to training, and rumours began to spread that he had gone AWOL again. Confirmation came through on Friday that he had in fact disappeared, and he would be an unlikely starter. There was some good news however, as full back Stewart had recovered from a groin strain and would be returning to his rightful position. Benno Power would also return to the lineup following his sell out season at the Esplanade Hotel. Sometimes good news is bad news, and Paddy received his call up on Thursday night as a reward for his impressive form in recent weeks. All these comings and goings left the Lions below their best on paper, but the coaching panel was confident that the team would rise to the occasion. Big Al Wright had been appointed captain for the big match, but as he made his way to the centre of the Bray oval to toss for ends, he was having second thoughts about the job. Schwabby had decided to go on holiday a week early, and

Osowacky had apparently dropped his footy gear into a

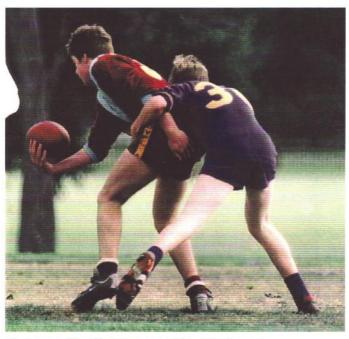
Brotherhood Bin by accident. This left the Lions one short,





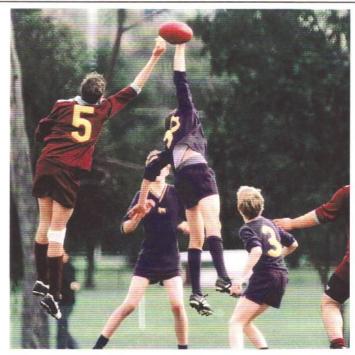
Rare images of the coach in his days at Marcellin. Note the stretch jeans, flanny and mullet on the right. Very trendy!

and the coach was praying that his special guest, Gilbo, would make his escape from Glen Waverley sooner rather than later! Marcellin were lucky to score an early goal, before the Lions adjusted to their new lineup, but once they had settled down it looked as though the crowd were going to be treated to an entertaining encounter. Flozza and Hindy were quick to make an impression on the game in their efforts to work the ball into the Lions' scoring zone. Benno was looking lively on a wing, and the Lion defence led by Dennis "No Frills" Stewart and Ryza was applying plenty of physical pressure. After less than ten minutes of play the Disco King decided to stretch his legs and he called for Smithy to cover the goal square as he went walkabout. Immediately he was in the play at half back, but the Lions were now two scoring options down, and the coach was worried about the consequences. But he needn't have been! Delighted to be back in the team, Effers saw a perfect opportunity. The extra space in the zone allowed him a free passage from one pocket to the other, and having gathered the ball deep in the grandstand pocket he one-twoed with Cooky, received the ball in the scoreboard pocket and promptly snapped a major with a wrong foot banana. The Lions were on the board! Big Al was using his muscle in the ruck contests, and MattyK and Flozza were benefiting from his efforts, but it was the home team who found the goals again after 14 minutes. The Lions were not about to take this lying down, and they responded with a brilliant piece of teamwork that started with Babba deep in defence, passed through the hands of Skuzza, Flozz and Cooky and ended with a goal



Centreman, Tom Cook prevents a Marcellin disposal.

It was level pegging at the first change, and the Lions were keen to be first to gain the upper hand, but their opponents were equally determined. Jimmy Smith was enjoying the chance to play forward of the centre, and he was providing a useful avenue to goal along the outer flank. A pass to Effers could have put the Lions six points up, but the goal post got in the way of his kick. Luckily he was able to redeem himself soon after and his little chip pass hit a diving Flozza on the chest. The gutsy rover made no mistake and the Lions seemed set to get the jump on the Eagles, but then something strange happened. The Lions seemed to ease their foot off the pedal for a moment and the home team took advantage of the opportunity. Determined to keep the ball in their half of the field, Marcellin barely gave the Lions a sniff for the remain-



Doug Hind does the ruck work. Skurrie and Cook wait anxiously.

der of the quarter as they produced a procession of points followed by three successive goals.

At half time the Lions had slipped on the invisible scoreboard to trail by 15 points. Juicy oranges, Gilbo's arrival and a bit of soul searching put the Lions back on course and the third quarter saw the pendulum swing back the purple and gold way. .. But it wasn't easy! Babba had come down with a headache—probably a side effect of the rusty rinse that he'd run through his hair— and Big Al was in a fair bit of pain from a knock he'd copped on his hand. He needed a few minutes recovery time so Dougy moved into the ruck and MattyK dropped into the corridor. Gilbo was thrown onto the ball and Skuzz took over the roving. It seemed to work, and the Lions were a different unit! The ball was being moved forward with a new sense of urgency, and the Lions' defence had tightened the screws. Abba was playing it close and hard, and Danny Lees was getting physical. Meanwhile, down the other end of the oval Flozza did an Ablett- grabbing the ball from a ruck contest and slamming through the Lion's fourth. The skipper had returned to the ground and was put on light duties, but no sooner had he taken his place in the goal square than he found himself on the end of a chain of possessions involving Effers, Gilbo and Skuzz. The ball was thrown onto the boot and two fingers went up. Dicky Penberthy had been feeling his way



"But how did he get rid of it?" Mike Efron asks the question.

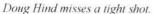
in his new role as wingman, but suddenly he got it! "Hey, I could kick a goal from here!" he thought, and off he went. One, two, three bounces, woof! Goalski! Lachy Murdoch had slotted well into a backpocket, and he was using his height and reach to advantage. He was also putting his body on the line when the occasion warranted. Cooky was busy in the centre and he set up Gilbo for a long goal, soon to be followed by another as Hindy snapped cleverly. In a rare thrust forward one of the Eagle chunkies aimed a long shot at goals which seemed to hover above the goal line, delicately poised on outstretched Lion fingertips before falling back into the field of play. Time stood still for a moment as the players waited for the umpire's adjudication, but it was play on, and before the defenders could save the situation the Marcellin rebound hit the back of the net. At the final change the Lions were well placed with a ten point lead and the momentum seemingly in their favour.



Simon Florentine snaps towards goal as Matt Kehoe shepherds.

Intent on extending their lead, the Lions peppered the goals during the first few minutes of the last quarter, but they couldn't hit a target inside the corridor. Two attempts by Dougy from set shots went wide, but Marcellin created a loose man and rebounded quickly to snare their seventh major. Not to be outdone, the visitors doubled their efforts to provide an answer, but to no avail! Behinds to Effers, Doug, Flozz and rushed kept the Lions' noses in front, but despite the efforts of the Disco King, Abba and Ryza to repel the enemy, the Eagles were repeatedly breaking loose in the midfield and delivering the ball dangerously close to the scoring zone.







Leigh Saunders repels.

The final few minutes were extraordinary! The Lion defence was throwing everything at the opposition, yet Marcellin continued to threaten the goals. Minor scores and OOBs allowed the Lions to maintain the upper hand, but their own inability to score a goal was cause for concern. It was the home team doing all the attacking now, and a free passage through the



Billy Elliot eat your heart out! James Smith displays his ballet skills

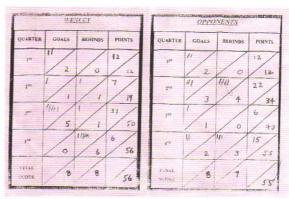
centre gave them another opportunity—and this time they didn't waste it. "Slow it down! Hold it up!" came the cry from the Lions' bench. "Only a minute to go!" Hendo headed off to spread the word but as he passed by the Marcellin camp he heard something strange..."Slow it down! Hold it up!" yelled their coach. "What the...?" thought Hendo, "Why would you say that if you were a point down? Shi...vers." "Stoney, they think they're winning!"

"The scores, Tom, check the scores!!"

"I have..." answered the assistant coach, "we're up by a point! No way can they be winning..."

Meanwhile, the players weren't sure what to do...Attack? Defend? Flood the backline? Bang it long? How can we both be winning? It doesn't make sense!

Suddenly the siren sounded. The players from both teams stopped dead in their tracks and an uneasy silence fell over the ground. Not sure whether to laugh or cry, the Lions gave



The Wesley scorecard. Victory by a solitary point!

the customary three cheers, shook their opponents' hands and trudged, bewildered, from the field of play.

"Stoney" said Hendo, "My dad told me that Catholic schools in Victoria have the worst rate of numeracy of any schools in Australia. Do you think that might explain something?"



Saints bury pretenders

Blues set to take wooden spoon

ST.KILDA 22 8 140 CARLTON 14 13 97

A nine goal blitz in the opening term set the Saints up for a comfortable win over a struggling Carlton. Despite taking pity on their opponents and allowing Carlton back into the game temporarily, the Saints finished the stronger to run out easy victors. In a rare gesture of generosity, Carlton president John Elliott commented that the result was good for footy, and that his team had occupied a higher position on the ladder for far too long, and it was time for the Blues to "eat dirt". "To finish at the bottom of the table will be character building for our boys, and we will be the better for the experience" said Elliott.

In the other important match this weekend Scotch defeated a disappointing Wesley after an even first half. Details below.

WESLEY 6 4 40 SCOTCH 9 10 64

GOALS: D.Schwab 3, Hunter, Kehoe, Morawetz **BEST:** Florentine, Cook, Kus, Stewart, Haylock,

Kehoe, O'Grady, Davis, Hunter

INJURIES: Kus (head), Florentine (ankle)

GOAL of the DAY: Schwab

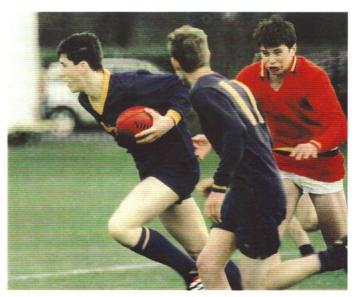
PLAY of the DAY: Hind—Cook—Kehoe—GOAL!

FIFA 2002 AWARD: Morawetz

HAIRDRESSERS' ASSOCIATION AWARD: Cornall

The three week mid season layoff clearly impacted on the Lions' form this Saturday, and fundamental errors and a lack of confidence resulted in a disappointing second half of football. Scotch were quick to capitalise on the Lions' mistakes and their nineteen scoring shots to the Lion's ten told the story. The Wesley team has now slipped back with the pack and will need to regroup if they are to participate in the September action. Now read on....

With only one training opportunity during the week there was always the chance that the Lions would be underdone coming into the return fixture with Scotch, and an unexceptional session on Thursday evening did not bode well. The loss of Henderson, Smith and Kus to the Clunes Football Club in the annual mid season draft had to be dealt with, but on paper the exchange did not look too bad. Haylock, Hunter, Mellington and Rodgers-Wilson were useful pickups, but offsetting this was the loss of Osowicki with complications following cosmetic surgery to change the colour of his hair, and Big Al who was still recovering from serious hand damage obtained during the controversial Marcellin match. The unavailability of Power and Oberklaid did not help matters, and Blanden had been retained by the Seniors to keep a bench warm. The dilemma facing the selectors was eased somewhat by the news that Kus had agreed to turn out one more time for his old club before the transfer took effect, but it was com-



Lion skipper, Ed Kus, breaks clear of his Scotch opponent

pounded on Saturday morning when Abbey arrived at the ground bearing the scars of a Friday night altercation with a hockey stick. Those King Street nightclubs can be dangerous places for underage ravers! Saunders was shifted to CHB and Babba moved to the other end of the ground to take his place, whilst newcomer Mellington took up residence in a back pocket. Kicking to the Rose Garden end for the opening term. the Lions began promisingly. Haylock was in the play early and he teamed well with the Disco King to clear the ball from half back as Scotch made an early foray forward. Captain Kus was already dominant in the ruck, and with Cooky in aggressive form the Lion forwards were soon given a chance. Babba marked well on the grandstand flank and rocketed a pass into the corridor where Sammy was hunting. His kick was true and the Lions jumped to an early lead, but the Scotchys were quick to answer and went one better. Not to be outdone, the home team responded as Sammy relayed the ball towards the top of the square and Deano capitalised on a push in the back. Flozza was showing signs of form and was teaming well with his skipper, whilst Kehoe and Hindy were providing the mid field linkups that enabled the Lions to push the ball forward again where the elusive Deano was lurking. His snap from the angle found the required opening and the home team regained the lead. Scotch attempted a reply but were thwarted by a desperate lunge from Haylock on the last line of defence. Kussy and Anton "Cappuccino" Cornall were developing a clever double act at the kick ins, and with Stewy in good touch the ball was moving well out of defence. The Lions were displaying glimpses of brilliance, and a delightful passage of play on footy from Hindy and Cooky set Kehoe up for the Lions' fourth. At the first change the home team led by a handy ten



Dean Schwab feeds the ball to his Elsternwick team mate Cornall

Despite having gained an early advantage, the Lions struggled to advance their lead during the second term against a more determined Scotch. Too often the Lions allowed their opponents to rebound the ball through the mid field, and as a result the Wesley defence was under pressure for much of the quarter. Danny Lees and Davo were wearing their opponents like the proverbial gloves, and Lethal Leigh was using his body well to foil the Scotch CHF. Stewy was superb at full back and he was using the boundary line intelligently as he switched the ball out of the danger zone, but the opposition's constant barrage eventually reaped rewards and they grabbed the lead at the thirteen minute mark. The Lions attempted to answer, and although Skuzz was busy and Morra was working hard to trap the ball forward, majors were hard to come by. At the long break the Lions trailed by less than a goal, but there was work to be done!

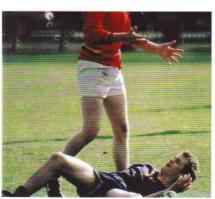


The elusive Anton Cornall directs the ball towards the hot spot

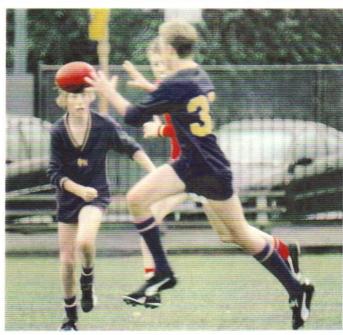
The third quarter would be make or break for the Lions who needed the first goal to regain a hold on the game. It should have come early, but the Lions were unable to capitalise on opportunities and it was sometime in coming. This, despite the efforts of Haylock, Kus and O'Grady who were giving their team every chance in the mid field. Cappa Cornall was as elusive as ever and Mellers was showing promise up the field, but it was Flozza and Cooky who were doing the bulk of the hard work in the crunches. Schwab Junior was adjusting to the pace of the game, but Lachy M was struggling with the after effects of a nasty corky and Penbers was finding few opportunities to employ his preferred running game. Eventually Haylock's efforts paid off and Morra crumbed one of his trademark goals from a stray ball. But then the fumbles set in again, and the Lions seemed to lose their poise. Successive goals to the visitors boosted their confidence, and the Lions could only manage a minor to Kehoe before Scotch advanced their tally by another six pointer. At three quarter time the Lions were sixteen points down, and the coach exhorted his team to hold their marks, trap the ball forward and above all make the play!



Pinned...but who's got the ball?



Did you see that Ump? asks Doug Hind



Quick hands from Sam Skurrie set up a running Matt Kehoe



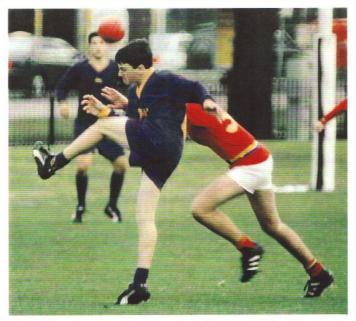
Dan Lees about to pounce on a Scotchy



Skurrie and Kehoe look on as Kus is held off the ball



Anton Cornall marks under pressure



Mike Efron snaps around the corner on his trusty left boot

Kussy had volunteered to return to the ground despite having copped a heavy knock to the head, and Flozza was ignoring the pain of his twisted ankle as the ball was bounced for the final term. The drizzle was settling again over the Front Turf as the Lions attempted to fight their way back into the match, but it was not to be. Fumbles and miscalculated kicks had become the order of the day for the home team, and the conversion of opportunities had become a rarity since the first quarter. Effers and Cappa were trying desperately to register a major and Lachy had a big chance in the square only to see the ball rebound from his ample(?) chest. The Scotchy's confidence had grown by now and they were handling the ball with greater assurance and moving the ball with more purpose. Stewy was like a rock in defence, but he could only do so much, and the opposition continued to chip away until two more goals sealed the Lions' fate. A late goal to Deano added respectability, but the Lions had by now lost the run of the game, and they had fallen four goals behind their rivals. The promise of the first half had not been realised, and the Lions had not been able to live up to their fans' expectations. With another tough match to come next Saturday they will need to refocus and recommit during the coming days.



Another balletic follow through from Ed Kus



Rover, Simon Florentine snaps up a stray sherrin.



Sam Hunter is unfairly squashed. Where is the umpire looking?



"We've got to work on our defensive skills. We gave it away far too easily today"

Xavier rattled!

Lions take game up to ladder leaders

WESLEY 4 12 36 XAVIER 8 16 64

GOALS: Cornell, Mellington, Penberthy, Sargood **BEST:** Hunter, Sargood, Florentine, Cook, Saunders,

Stewart, Haylock

INJURIES: Kehoe (digit), Florentine (leg)

GOAL of the DAY: Cornall

MARKS of the DAY: Power/Hunter

PLAY of the DAY: Mellington—Hind—Penbers = GOAL

SMOTHER of the DAY: Florentine

CHEWY ON THE BOOT AWARD: Schwab SURPRISE RUCKMEN: Florentine, Morawetz

The disappointing loss to Scotch last weekend had fired the Lions and they tackled training with renewed enthusiasm on Monday and Thursday. The cries of "Prakky!" were louder than ever, led by arch prakky freak and Science quiz whizz Dan Lees. The Lions knew they would need to be on the boil for the return match against Xavier, and the match committee put in many extra hours during the week analysing videos of their opponents and discussing strategies to counter their brilliance. Tactical expert, Doug Hinds was invited to join the committee and he presented an all important player's perspective. Hind suggested that the Xaverians advantage was partly due to the fact that they were taller and stronger than most of their opponents, but was mainly because they had black in their jumper. This radical colour theory raised a few eyebrows at first, but Hinds' argument was convincing. "A lot of good teams have black in their jumper" he said, "and most of them, except St.Kilda, have won a lot of premierships. Look at Collingwood and Essendon, for example. Can you name me an AFL premiership team who wore a purple guernsey?" The match committee was forced to agree with the star forward's logic, but the chances of redesigning the Wesley jumper at short notice were slim, so they decided to focus on the other factors in preparation for the big match.

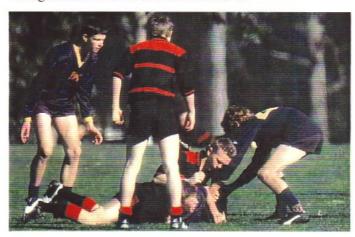
The bad news confronting the selectors was the loss of Kus and the continuing unavailablity of Big Al. Without the height and strength provided by these two players the Lions could be struggling in the match ups, but on the other hand the return of Tim Thomas from his Greek odyssev, Matty Overcoat from his Adelaide adventure and Benno from his surf camp was welcome news. O'Grady's selection in the Commonwealth Games snowboarding team came at an inopportune moment for the Lions, but the dumping of dashing half back Tom Sargood from the As was a bonus for the team. Unfortunately, CHB Nick Abbey had been advised by medical staff to avoid kissing and playing football for one more week following his savage beating with a hockey stick at a nightclub last weekend, and news leaked out that Doug Hind was still battling with a bout of tonsilitis but he would be able to take his place in the squad.

Rugged defender, Dennis Stewart had been rewarded with the captaincy following his sterling performance against Scotch, and he set the Lions kicking to the Chapel end for the opening term. It was a clear, crisp morning and a big crowd had gathered for the contest, but after ten minutes they were



Defender Greg Babitch makes a desperate lunge at a Xaverian

wondering if there was going to be any contest at all as the home team wasted no time in attacking the goals and rattled up a handy lead. The Lions appeared to be overawed, and were playing right into their taller opponents' hands by kicking high bombs and opening up spaces into which their opponents could run. With three quick goals on the board the Xaverians looked the goods, but experienced campaigners, Cooky and Sargers had been here before, and with a few well chosen words, and some gutsy demos they showed their team mates what should be done. Lethal Leigh began to drift up the field into defence where he used his bulk constructively to block the opposition and bring the ball to ground, whilst the skipper, Babba and Benno began to apply more pressure and the Xaverians were forced into erors as they honed in on the goals. Matt Kehole and Tom Hayloft lifted their game in the midfield and the Xavvys suddenly found conversion a more difficult task. Cappa Cornall was proving a slippery customer, and he teamed with Sargers to give Deano a scoring opportunity before the siren, but it came to nothing and the Lions changed ends without a score to their name.



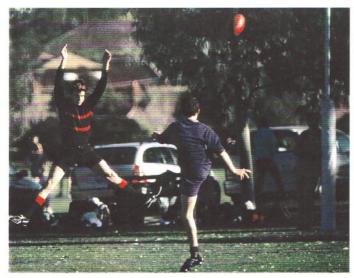
Matt Kehoe refuses to give up the footy. Simon Florentine assists



Sam Skurrie marks



Mike Mellington snaps a valuable goal



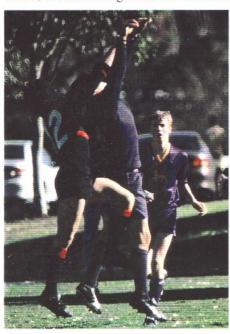
Dean Schwab's trusty goal kicking boot lets him down

It was time for the Lions to begin playing their brand of football, and to stop waiting for the opposition to set the pattern. Sammy Hunter led by example with close contesting and determined second efforts, and Flozza was in and under everything. Despite their lack of inches, Skuzza and Morra were busy linking and leading, and Keyhole was putting his body on the line when it counted. Early behinds gave the Lions heart, but they needed to break the ice with a major. Skuzza and Cappa almost did the job, and a Sargers kick was touched on the line, but while the Lions had possession the Xavvys were unable to advance their score and the Lions had gained some control of proceedings. Danny Lees and Stewy were punching (the ball) with intelligence, and Matty O and Benno were helping to run the ball out of the danger zone. A pass from Benno to Dicky Penberthy, now playing in the forward half, resulted in another point, and after all their hard work, the Lions were flattened when the opposition rebounded with two quick goals. Mellers had been shifted to full forward and a great passage of play with Hindy gave Penbers a chance on the run and he made no mistake. At last the Lions had a goal on the (invisible) scoreboard! Flozza, Hayloft and Cooky continued to lead the Lion effort as half time approached, but another behind to Sargers was all the Lions could muster. One goal and six behinds was a disappointing return for their labours, and at the long break the visitors trailed by 26 points

The game was certainly not out of reach, and the Lions were hoping for just an ounce of luck during the premiership quarter to complement their hard work. An early opportunity went begging as a kick from Hindy that had fallen into Deano's arms ended up out of play as his trusty boot let him down. The next opportunity paid dividends though, as a Hayloft pass set Anton up and his accurate snap on the run sent the Lions cheer squad into paroxysms of glee. Unfortunately they were quietened again as Xavier responded to maintain their advantage, but the Lions had got their old confidence back now, and they went one better by booting the next two goals! The tireless Sam Hunter gave Mike Mellington his first for the day, and two of the Toms, Cook and Sargood, teamed for the Lions' fourth. Tim Tom was presenting well at CHF, but after months of lazing on a sun drenched Greek island he was clearly a little underdone. Lachy Murdoch had shaken off his corkies and was enjoying a rare chance to run free on a wing, and Morra had slipped into the thick of the action since half time. A set shot from about thirty could have helped the little fellow erase the painful memories of last season's disappointment in the opposite pocket, but it was not to be! Stewy and Lethal were providing some frustration for the Xavier forwards, but a lucky break on the siren allowed the home team to snag their seventh goal and take a three goal lead.



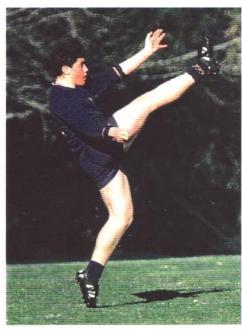
The ball spills free as Mike Mellington is collared by a Xaverian



Leigh Saunders takes front position

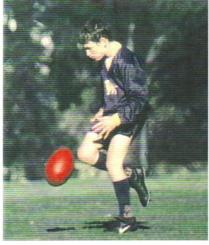


Ruckman Sam Hunter kicks long to a target



Captain Dennis Stewart boots the ball into play





Tom Sargood and Simon Morawetz put the ball to the boot

The Lions were not lacking in enthusiasm as they broke from the huddle, but it would take a concerted effort to erase the Xavier advantage, and they knew they'd be needing an ounce more luck during the final twenty minutes. It turned out to be a closely fought quarter, with neither team really able to take the game by the collar. The Lions continued to hassle and harass their opponents, and there were no gimmes at any stage, but as the old saying goes, tall players don't get any shorter in the last quarter, and the extra Xavier height began to tell. Sargers was running on the ball in place of an injured Kehoe, and Sammy and Flozza continued to battle it out, but the Lions just couldn't do enough to whittle Xavier's lead to manageable proportions. The damage had been done during the first half, and the Lions could only rue their lacklustre opening minutes and their wayward kicking during the second quarter. After twenty minutes of hard slog the siren sounded out to end the Lions' valiant struggle against the ladder leaders. Disappointed again, but in no way disgraced.







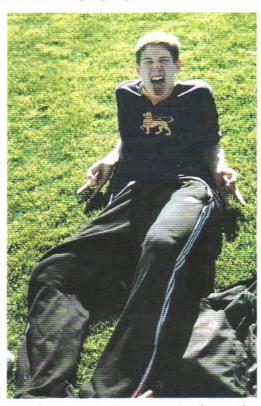
Tim Thomas takes a breather



The luxurious vistors' rooms at Xavier



New recruit Mike Mellington flies for a mark



Lion furny man Ben Power entertains the crowd

Saints on a roll!

ST.KILDA 18 10 118 FREMANTLE 11 13 79

For the second successive week the Saints have proven too good for their opposition This time it was the turn of the would be finalists from the west to feel the awesome power of the St.Kilda machine. Once the Saints had hit the front late in the third term it was all over red rover...(continued page 37)

Lions back on winning list

Caulfield falls apart under pressure

WESLEY 13 13 91 CAULFIELD 1 5 11

GOALS: Hind 3, Cornall 2, Oberklaid 2, Morawetz 2

Hunter, Schwab, Penberthy, Haylock

BEST: Hunter, Haylock, Cook, Florentine, Penberthy,

Cornall, Saunders, Morawetz, Lees, Skurrie etc. **INJURIES:** Haylock (nose), Murdoch (chest)

GOAL of the DAY: Oberklaid SMOTHER of the DAY: O'Grady

MISS of the DAY: Hind BALK of the DAY: Morawetz

PLAY of the DAY: Schwab—Penberthy—Cornall—

Schwab = GOAL!

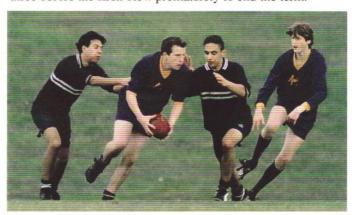
MOST ANNOYING OPPONENT: Helmet head UNLUCKIEST UMPIRING VICTIM: Babitch

The Lions' form in recent weeks had been encouraging against strong opposition, and the thought of a rematch with the struggling Caulfield came as a tonic at a stage of the season where wheels can fall off and bundles can be dropped. The loss of Matt Kehoe with a dislocated finger, the promotion of Sargood, and the withdrawal of rugged full back Stewart would leave holes in the Lion lineup, but it was expected that the return of Big Straight Al, Snowboard champion O'Grady, and strongman Nick Abbey would offset their unavailablity. The news that Tim Tom had been laid low by a mystery virus came as a blow to the selectors, but the match committee was confident that they had the players to step up as required.

Popular pipsqueak, Simon Morawetz had given notice that this would be his last appearance for the Lions for 2002, and the vote was unanimous to grant him the honour of captaining the team as it ventured out to the Wheelers Hill Wilderness Park. The early morning drizzle had cleared by the time the Lions arrived, but they were in for some bad news as once again the home team were unable to field the full eighteen. In another charitable act the Lions agreed to reduce their number to sixteen, but when it was discovered that several Caulfield "A" players had been dropped for "disciplinary reasons" including one of the cloned ruckman who figured in last seasons' scandal-the Lions' coach felt a little uneasy. But he need not have worried. His team was equal to the task, and despite an early goal to Caulfield and a low scoring second quarter, the Wesley boys held their opponents firmly in check throughout the match.

Kicking to the Elephant Enclosure end for the opening term, the Lions began well with an early goal to the slowly recovering Hind who was set up by the class of Cornall. With Sammy holding his own against Caulfield's blond beanstalk, and Hayloft cutting the opposition to pieces around the packs, the Lion forwards were finding plenty of opportunities. Dicky Penberthy, promoted to the key CHF position was relishing the open spaces and was moving with the assurance of a veteran. A clever sidestep by the skipper resulted in a minor

score, but Cooky was marking and rebounding with monotonous regularity, and in no time the Lions had posted their second goal as Deano slipped the ball to a running Penberthy whose long, low trajectory drop punt found its target. The home team was able to muster the occasional foray forward, but with Lethal Leigh and Big Al outsizing their opponents, and Danny Lees taking no prisoners, its avenues to goal were few. Meanwhile, at the other end, the dangerous Deano was finding plenty of open space and in an inspiring passage of play he followed up his pass to Penbers, received from Anto and finished with a sausage. Inspired by the occasion Penbers tried some fancy balking in the corridor, but he was unable to repeat the dose and the Lions' score advanced to three goals three before the siren blew prematurely to end the term.



Nick Abbey on the burst while Lachy Murdoch does the hokey pokey

Caulfield bounced back during the second quarter, and fired up by their embarrassed coach they made a serious attempt to join the contest. Unfortunately for them however, the Lion defence stood firm, and Abba, Babba and Ryza refused to play along with their little game. Frustrated even more by their inability to kick another goal the locals began to resort to their alternative plan. It soon became apparent that the ball was no longer the sole object of their attention, as they attempted to throw the Lions off their game. Cooky was treated harshly, but he stood up for his rights and refused to be intimidated. Flozza was showing his usual blend of courage and skill in the clinches and with Tommy Hayloft continuing to get plenty of touches the Lions were soon back on top, but just as they were resetting their rangefinders the siren sounded. Another fifteen minute quarter! This couldn't be mere coincidence. It was clearly a tactic designed to reduce Caulfield's humiliation and would have to be rectified. As the home team returned to the rooms for a breather, the Lions grabbed the footys and made up for lost match time with some serious lanework. Despite their efforts during the first half, the Lions' lead was only fifteen points and the coach asked for something special. It was time to put the opposition out of their misery!



Simon Florentine in action



"So where do you work out?" Leigh makes conversation

LIONS **TEAM OF** 2002

S.B. "Flozza" FLORENTINE

Courageous rover who could be relied upon, week after week, to engage the enemy in the front line Inspired team mates by his heroic example and unfailing spirit of sportsmanship. Courage Under Fire Awd



T.C.C.M. "Cooky" COOK

Graduated from fringe status in 2001 to occupy a central leadership role in the combined team. Developed into a consistent, hardworking midfielder who never shirked the onepercenters. Never Say Die Award



D.T. "Danny" LEES



Continued his career as a solid halfback flanker who never allowed the opposition an easy get. Not afraid to do the dirty work & put his body on the line. President of the Prakky at Practice Party. Prakky Time Award

D.A. "Deano" SCHWAB



Enigmatic and elusive half forward who bobbed up with goals when least expected. Preferred the soccered dribble and the off hands crumbing goal to a set shot from any-Not From a Standing Start Award

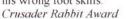
R.G. "Ryza" O'GRADY



Keen sportsman with a laid back approach to training and match days. Read the game well, showed good skills and used his body strength to advantage, but did not enjoy the back line! Gain Without Strain Award

S.M. "Skuzza" SKURRIE

Cheeky little crumber who scouted the half forward zone. Knew where to be to give and receive and was not afraid to mix it with the big boys. Suffered from Training Sickness Syndrome but surprised with his wrong foot skills.



R.L. "Dickie" PENBERTHY



athletic half Rangy, flanker who back proved a useful addition to the team. At his best when he saw a paddock in front of him! Recorded a P.B. against Brighton with bounces.

Straight Lines Award

G. "Babba" BABITCH



retirement to recommit to the Lions cause. Played the standard distance from opponents, but preferred unorthodox clearance methods.

Blonds Have More Fun

D.E. "Hyndy" HIND



Keen student of the game who set himself high standards. Became a key forward after being squeezed out of the A's. Read play well and made good position, but finishing was sometimes a problem! Don't Worry be Happy Award

L.D. "Lethal" SAUNDERS



Volatile big man who began the season in attack but showed excellent close checking and rebounding skills at half back. Entertained team mates and opponents with amusing banter but umpires were less impressed. Disco King Awd

D. "Dale" HYNES



Strong, determined ruckman recruited from the VSDC. Controlled centre bounces and set up numerous forward thrusts until discovered by the As coach. Could kick a country mile! Superboot Award

T.W. "Tommy" HAYLOCK



S.A.T. "Sammy" HUNTER

Rugged, no-nonsense ruckman picked up from Clunes F.C. in the midseason draft. What he lacked in style he more than made up for with commitment, honesty and staying power.

Keeps on Going Award



L.J. "Davo" DAVIS

A real livewire who was capable of sparking at either end of the ground. Stuck like glue in defence and worked hard for his team mates up forward. Not afraid of physical contact, but did suffer from bouts of T.S.S. Surprise Attack Award



T.L. "Hendo" HENDERSON



Talented forward flanker whose season was curtailed by back problems. Demonstrated competency with both hand and foot before leaving for extended treatment at the Clunes Spinal Clinic. Spinal Health Award

M.J. "Mellers" MELLINGTON



Promising recruit who joined the Lions as part of a trading package with the Clunes Goldpanners. Displayed energy, athleticism and well developed ball skills. Flexible limbs were an asset. Hyper Extendibilty Awd

D. "Bluza" BLUZER-FRY



Unfashionable footballer who evoked memories of a bygone era when individualism was considered a virtue. A boots and all utility player who viewed the game as one small fragment in life's rich tapestry. Philosopher's Stone Award

M.P. "MATTY" KEHOE



Second year player who stepped up naturally into leadership role. Worked hard as a winger and onballer to keep the midfield alive as defence became offence. Adoring fans confirmed his potential as a ladies man S.N.A.G. Award

S.Y. "Morra" MORAWETZ



Irrepressible crumber who suffered at the hands of bullying opponents but always bounced back. Clever around packs and dangerous near the goals especially when the ball hit the deck!

Resilient Rover Award

B.J. "Benno" POWER



Former team clown who relished the opportunity to be taken seriously(?) Proved a valuable ball getter around half forward where he helped bring others into the game. Resurrected the lost art of the drop kick.

Football is Fun Award

M. "Matt" OBERKLAID

Effervescent footballer whose cheerful approach to life is infectious. Enjoyed the freedom of the wing where his run and accurate passing were assets. Surprised everyone with his goalkicking spree at Wheelers Hill. Silky Skills Award



A.R. "Big Al" WRIGHT

A valuable, larger than life presence on the backline who left a lasting impression on anybody he tackled. Stepped into the breach at Bulleen where he rucked heroically with a broken It's Only a Scratch Award



D.J. "Stewy" STEWART

Solid, reliable full back whose serious approach to the game was balanced by a quiet sense of humour. Played close and used his long kick to advantage, but his season was hampered by niggling injuries. Switch the Play Award



N.L. "Abba" ABBEY



Big lump of a lad with impressive footballing pedigree. A bulldog at heart who proved to be a dogged defender on the field. Held firm at CHB and never allowed opponents an easy kick. Where do you Think You're Going Award

A. "Wizard" CORNALL



Freelance footballer who proved a valuable addition to the team. Provided a spark around the packs, where he crumbed intelligently and glided silkily over the turf. Knows where the goals are-but not always so sure about the ground! Wizard Awd

P.J.C. "Paddy" BLANDEN



Chunky centreman who played the pivot to perfection. A strong mark and sure kick, he read the game well and rarely lost his focus or his balance. Earned a promotion to the A's but returned for one final fling

Chunky Moves Award

E.M. "Kussy" KUS

A tremendous asset to the team during his occasional appearances. Threw himself into everything and rucked tirelessly from full back to full forward. Kicking style upset the purists but nobody could question its effectiveness.

Leave Them for Dead Awd

J. "Jesse" OSOWICKI

A straight running, hard talking footballer whose season was curtailed for medical reasons. Proved to be an enthusiastic team man who fitted comfortably into a back pocket much to his displeasure! Talking Football Award



M.P. "Effers" EFRON

Promising left footer whose natural ball sense and feel for the goals made him a likely candidate for a forward flank. Tended to drift in and out of the play until he finally drifted away from training altogether!

Happy Snapper Award



T.T. "Zimba" ZIMBACHS



Talented half forward and crumber who remained hidden from the A's coach during the opening weeks, but so impressed with his anticipation and ball handling that his promotion was inevitable. And it came to pass.....

Quality Crumbing Award

L.J. "Lachy" MURDOCH



Entertaining and idiosyncratic support player who filled gaps allover the field. Has height, agility and the ability to entertain those around him simply by breathing. Susceptible to soft tissue injuries.

Laugh a Minute Award

J.C. "Smithy" SMITH



Mild mannered, even tempered footballer who kept the lid on at all times. Worked hard to improve his skills at training, and gained valuable match practice on Saturdays before being drafted.

The Beast Within Award

B.D. "Bretta" SCHWAB

The younger half of the "buy one get one free" deal brokered by the Schwab's lawyers. If one played at Fawkner Park, they both played at Fawkner Park. Earned the coach's respect by supporting The Saints.

Putting on the Mozz Awd



T. "Tim" THOMAS

Strong, well balanced key position player who spent the first half of the season lazing on the Greek Islands. Jet Setters Award

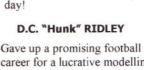


Dropped in for a late guest appearance and showed that he had lost none of his dash.



S.A. "Gilbo" GILBERTSON

10A star who helped out during the second half at Bulleen when we were seriously undermanned. Almost saved the





D.C. "Hunk" RIDLEY



career for a lucrative modelling contract with Dolly magazine



Ruckman Sam Hunter kicks towards the big sticks

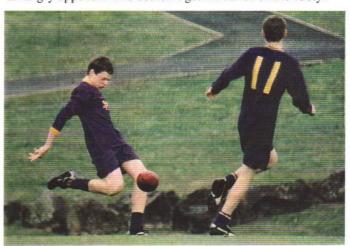
The Lions were serious now, and they shifted up a gear for the premiership quarter. Sam Hunter took control of the ruck contests and Cooky confirmed his monopoly in the midfield. The Lions' tackling was unforgiving and the Caulfieldians could not escape the pressure. Finding their usual avenues to goal securely sealed by the Lion defence they were forced to kick the ball backwards as they sought alternative routes. Early behinds to Hayloft were followed by a succession of goals which left the home team floundering. A strong hip and shoulder by Flozza cleared the way for Anto to register his first for the day and a clever little left foot chip by Skuzza deep in the pocket set up Dougy for his second. Quick hands by Deano gave Matty Overcoat a rare goal kicking opportunity, and the lad from Strathmore made no mistake! Behinds to rushed and Penbers marginally advanced the Lions lead before another deft little wrong foot dab by the ambidexterous Skurrie gave Hind a third goal. At the final change the Lions lead by a healthy 42 points, and their opponents had been well and truly shut out of the game. By now, Caulfield's frustration was approaching boiling point and the ref was forced to intervene before things got ugly, but the Lions never lost sight of their objective!



Tom Haylock makes his escape from the scene of the crime

It was more of the same during the final twenty minutes as the Lions rallied behind their skipper and bombarded the offensive zone. Mellers and Lachy were moving well around the flanks and Babba had pushed up to CHB while Abba took a breather. Yet another left foot chip by the dangerous Skurrie found its mark, and Anto brought up the Lions' eighth major. MattyO was providing plenty of drive along the members wing, and a pass to the skipper could have set up his team's ninth, but Morra's kick deviated from the desired flight path.

Dougy had been demanding the ball at full forward but the Lions' running options were many and he had been starved of opportunities. Eventually his chance came and he gathered the ball deep in the left hand pocket, but the voodoo struck again, and as the goal face opened up, Dougy's kick skewed off to the right. Occasional forward thrusts by the home team were cut off and rebounded by the Lion defence as Big Al, Danny Boy and Lethal stuck unflinchingly to their task. Morra was keen to keep up his goal kicking strike rate, and he was delighted when Cooky picked him out with a pass and this time he made no mistake. Meanwhile, Babba had been unjustly dispatched from the arena following a skirmish with an angry opponent who couldn't get his hands on the footy.



Mike Mellington sets up his forwards. Tom Haylock in support

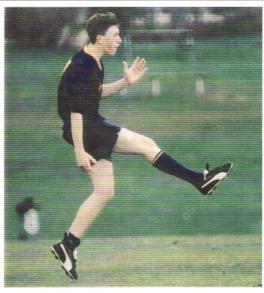
A courageous smother by Ryza allowed Sammy the chance to add to the Lions' goal tally, and the irrepressible Tom Cook booted a long bomb to the square where the skipper crumbed one of his characteristic opportunist goals. The Lions had advanced to a 67 point lead, but it wasn't over yet! The Caulfield coach was wishing they'd been five minute quarters as he watched his team wilt under the Lions' relentless onslaught. A deceptively short long bomb by Lachy surprised everyone except Tommy Hayloft who marked and converted from thirty five, and the icing was added to the purple and gold cake by MattyO when his snapshot travelled truly to bring up the Lions' thirteenth and final goal. An impressive victory and a fitting send off for the Lions' Libba.



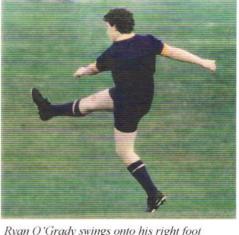
It takes two to tango! Tom Cook spoils a Caulfield mark



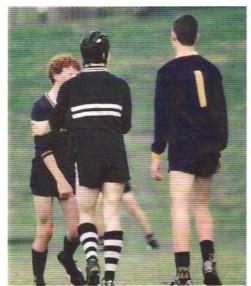
Tom Cook adds to his stats sheet



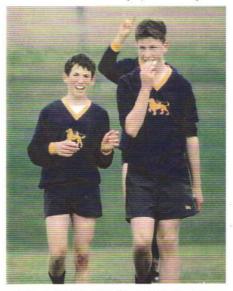
Matt Oberklaid demonstrates a perfect technique



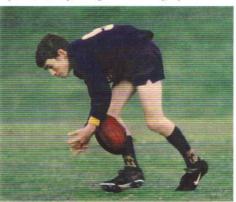
Ryan O'Grady swings onto his right foot



Flozz gets feisty after some unnecessary attention



All in a day's work! Morra's swansong



Oops! The ball eludes the skipper's grasp



Sam Skurrie pounces on the loose footy



...the innocent victim



Sam Skurrie blocks an enemy escape route



Penberthy applies the shackles



Full forward Doug Hind miscalculates a snap on the run



Goal umpiring legend Dr. Morra

Brighton Blitzed!

Lions finish season on a high

GOALS: Power 5, Cornall 4, Thomas 3, Kehoe 2, D.Schwab 2, Cook, Wright, Blanden, B.Schwab,

Stewart

BEST: Power, Cook, Florentine, Hunter, Thomas, Blanden, D.Schwab, Cornall, Penberthy, Wright, Kehoe, Hind, Lees, O'Grady, Oberklaid, Stewart, Abbey. Saunders, Mellington, Davis, B.Schwab,

INJURIES: Murdoch (leg), Hunter (hand),

ATTENDANCE: 37 & assorted dogs

GOAL of the DAY: Kehoe MARK of the DAY: Power

PLAY of the DAY: Hunter—Thomas = GOAL! RUN of the DAY: Penberthy (5 bounces)

CIRCUS OZ AWARD: Schwab Jnr. (handstands)

THROW in of the DAY: Abbey (Snr)

BLAST FROM THE PAST: Benno's drop kick

Last weekend's morale boosting win over Caulfield put a spring in the Lions' step this week, and the extended prakky on Monday night provided the opportunity for some impressive lairising. The assistant coach, however, tried one fancy turn too many, and ended the week on crutches. Although painful and embarrassing, this was to prove a minor error of judgement and would later be forgotten in the light of his next

Morra had ruled himself out of the season finale, enticed to Mt. Buller by a bevy of snuggly snow bunnies, and Tom Haylock was to receive an honorary doctorate in Play On Football at Adelaide University on Saturday night. So the Lions would be without two of their star players for the big match against Brighton. Babba's unavailability and the late withdrawal of Skurrie, still troubled by a foot injury with a long and unpronounceable medical name, were further blows, but the team would gain from the return of Tim Tom, Paddy, Stewy, Benno, Osowacky and the cheeky crumbster, Davo.

The double booking of the Front Turf for an International Mud Wrestling extravaganza had forced the rescheduling of the Lion's match to Fawkner Park, but only a roofed Colonial Stadium could have prevented Saturday's game from being marred by a strong, blustery North Easterly. As captain Doug Hind made his way to the centre of the oval to toss the coin under the watchful eyes of Umpires Smith and Hooper, he correctly assessed the direction of the wind and chose to kick down the hill to the Albert Park end. This proved a wise move and immediately paid dividends. The coach had stressed the need for a positive start to the match, and there had been an emphasis on goal kicking during the week, but he couldn't have wished for a better opening quarter.

An early behind was merely a range finder, and in no time the Lions had sussed out the location of the wind tunnel. A long bomb from Penbers found Wizard Cornall in range and the first major was on the board. Benno Power had been investigating alternative football codes in recent weeks and he was keen to put some theories into practice. When the Wizard centred a snap towards the square Benno pounced and dribbled accurately in fine Ronaldo fashion. Brighton were rattled 32 and in their desperation to curb the Lions they sent one too



Tim Thomas and Simon Florentine fly for a mark. Tom Cook watches

many into the centre square and Sammy received a bonus kick. A well directed pass found Tim Tom in the corridor and he wasted no time in roosting a long bomb through the sticks. Paddy and Cooky were dominating the midfield, and Ryza and MattyO were in control of the members wing. A straight shot from the pocket by Matty Keyhole brought up the Lions' fourth, and the home team seemed to be making a mockery of the windy conditions. Flozza's busy beavering was paying off and a chip towards the hotspot was marked strongly by Benno who was ON FIRE! The Bledisloe Cup had clearly been an inspiration, and in true Matty Burke fashion he attempted a conversion with a drop kick. Unfortunately he miscued, but a second effort almost produced the desired result as MattyK recovered the wayward kick and returned the ball to Benno who narrowly missed the goals. The skipper was not going to miss out on the action and he gathered the kick in. fed the ball off to his centreman Paddy and watched as a power packed kick held its own in the swirling breeze to register another for his team. Sammy was controlling the ruck and another long bomb set the Wizard up for his second. The Lions lead was extended moments later as a Flozza pass found Deano and his quick hands gave Benno a chance to redeem himself in front of goal.



Dashing half forward Richard Penberthy is all elegance

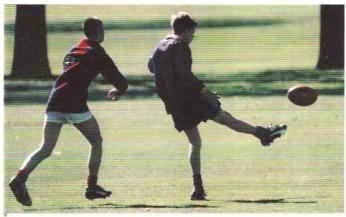
Meanwhile, up the other end of the ground Stewy and Big Al were already losing interest in the game. Watching their team mates running rings around the opposition was thirsty work, and when they called for a water bottle the assistant coach was nowhere to be seen. In his second error of judgement for the week he had left the drink bottles at home! Al and Stewy had no option but to dash across the park to the 7eleven for a Coke. Lethal Leigh and Abba followed, and just as they reached Punt Road a lucky free kick allowed the Brightonians to breach the Lions' skeleton defence and kick a goal!

The Lions were quick to regain the upper hand however, and a slick handball from MattyO gave Cooky the opportunity to bring up the Lions' eighth for the quarter. Deano could have made it nine, but his kick after the siren drifted in the breeze and the Lions had to be content with a 45 point lead at the first change.



Ruck rover Tom Cook directs another perfect foot pass

Kicking up the hill in the second quarter the Lions found it more difficult to establish a clear avenue to the goals. The opposition had decided to try and bottle up the play and although the Lions held the ball in their forward line for 90% of the term, their was considerable congestion. A run of behinds to Paddy, rushed and Lethal Leigh was eventually broken when a clever snap from the pocket by Schwab Jnr found the correct aperture. Big Al had drifted downfield in an effort to become involved in the game and he managed to help Benno soccer his third major. The Lions' camp was a hive of activity, and the interchange steward was working overtime. Davo had been given his chance, and he was unlucky not to score a goal with his first kick. Big Al dropped the ball perfectly into the hole for Dougy to mark, but he could only register a minor. Brighton was all at sea, and Flozz and Sammy made a mockery of their opponents by temporarily swapping ruck and roving roles. Penbers was having no trouble finding space across half forward, and a delightful pass found Wizard Cornall, whose handpass set the Skipper up for his first. Tim Tom was presenting well at CHF and Mellers was an active participant in the offensive proceedings., but Stewy, Abba and Danny Lees were considering packing their bags and going home. Life was such a YAWN on the backline! Benno, on the other hand, was having a fantastic time. His quarter was spoilt only by another failed attempt to score from the unpredictable drop kick. As the Lions sucked on their citrus segments, the realisation that this was their final game for the season began to sink in. Suddenly the coach found himself under more pressure than the Brighton defenders as his interchange bench demanded more opportunities and his defenders pleaded for a piece of the action!

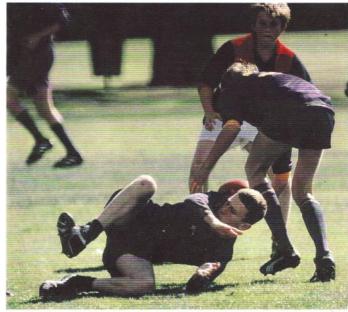


Cheeky crumber Lloyd Davis sets sail for goal

After some serious shuffling of the lineup in which backs went forward and forwards went back, the Lions took to the field with renewed enthusiasm. "Goals! Goals!" they chanted, and goals, goals, goals they got! A number of interchangers had tried their hand as boundary umpires during the first half, and Mellers had impressed with his style, but he was no match for Abba Snr. whose cunningly disguised throw in picked out Abba Jnr. at the side of the pack. His quick pass found Tim Tom who made no mistake, and the Lions were back on the rampage. The Schwab boys, sporting "two for the price of one" aerodynamic haircuts were moving especially well, and Deano answered his little brother's goal with one of his own. MattyK produced his own little piece of magic as he grabbed the ball from a throw in and snapped his second. Abba had moved into the midfield and Lachy had returned to the field after recovering from an early knock to his troublesome thigh, but it was the little Chilean wizard who snapped the Lions' fifteenth major. Big Al was relishing his release from the back pocket and he was involved in the next two goals-the first from his own boot and the other from that of his offsider Stewy, also happy to be free of a strictly defensive role. A courageous mark by Davo deserved better than a behind, and the skipper would have loved his kick to travel truer, but a six goal quarter was not to be sneezed atparticularly when the opposition had been held scoreless!



Dennis Stewart performs his famous bird of prey party trick



Brett Schwab takes a tumble, but his team mate gathers the ball



Lion strongman, Al Wright centres the ball. Matt Kehoe shepherds

The coach advised that the team would return to its starting lineup for the final term, and he suggested that the last quarter of the season might be the perfect time to achieve that elusive personal goal. Set yourself a challenge... and above all, enjoy your final twenty minutes together! Deano began proceedings with an accurate shot at goal, and a long kick from Abba allowed Tim Tom to register his third major for the day. Penbers had demonstrated a liking for a run and a bounce during the season, but when he grabbed the ball at half back and saw a paddock in front of him his eyes lit up! Five bounces later the ball was in the hot spot, and didn't the crowd love it! Benno's dream of a drop kick goal had been thwarted on two previous occasions, but when he lined up from fifteen metres out he made no mistake! Paddy and Cooky had been instigators all day and along with Flozza and Sammy they were continuing to keep the ball moving to their team's advantage. Danny Lees was continuing to put his body on the line and Hindy was making a contest whenever the ball lobbed into the scoring zone, but it was Benno's day, and he turned a half chance into another goal to take his personal tally to five. MattyO was displaying silky skills and Ryza and Osowacky as always, were being hard at the ball, but it was Anton who grabbed the spotlight one last time with a clever snap to bring up the Lions' twenty second major. The final margin was a modest 152 points, and although you had to be proud if you were a Lions' fan, you had to feel a little bit sorry for the opposition who had been completely outclassed by a confident purple and gold unit playing a wonderful brand of the great Australian game. I know not, I care not....whiz bang zimbah...



"I didn't think he'd do it!" Ben Power executes a perfect drop kick



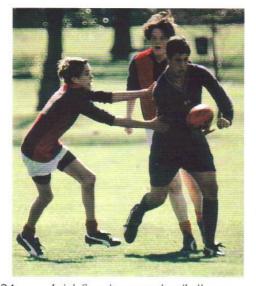
Ben Power snaps one of his five goals. Dean Schwab assists



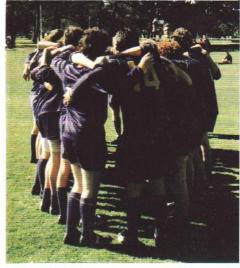




Doug Hind reflects...



Ben Power salutes his team mates



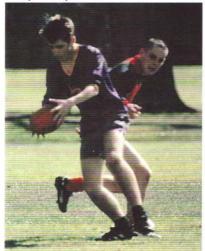
"I know not, I care not...whiz bang



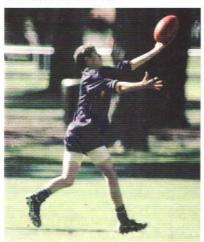
"On your marks..." The Lions try a new centre bounce tactic



"Hey! Wait for me!"



Dan Lees breaks clear



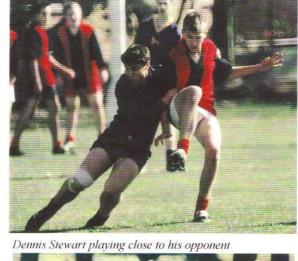
Anton Cornall takes a one hander



Anton Cornall snaps a major



The skipper does the ruck work





Sam Hunter drives the ball forward



"To Wesley honour bring, zeal unfaltering...." A happy team of Lions

THE BIG STICKS

with Anton



I was pretty happy at my new club this season, and I was happiest when I was kicking goals! The snap from the boundary on the run is my favourite, but I'll take 'em any way they come. I reckon if Deano and I had kicked straight this year we'd have got a ton between us!



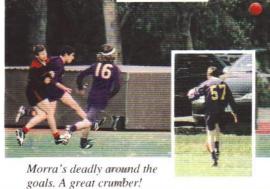
Effers is a much under rated goalkicker. Great balance—even under pressure!



2002 GOALKICKERS

D. SCHWAB	12
A. CORNALL	11
D. HIND	8
S. MORAWETZ	8
B. POWER	6
D. HYNES	5
L. SAUNDERS	5
P. BLANDEN	3
M. KEHOE	3
S. FLORENTINE	3
T. THOMAS	3
M. OBERKLAID	3
T. COOK	3
M. EFRON	3
R. PENBERTHY	3
E. KUS	2
S. HUNTER	2
A. WRIGHT	2
N. ABBEY	1
S. SKURRIE	1
M. MELLINGTON	1
T. ZIMBACHS	1
T. SARGOOD	1
S. GILBERTSON	1
B. SCHWAB	1
T. HAYLOCK	1







A brilliant bit of shepherding by one Anton Cornall guarantees another Lions goal. Mr. Skuzz adjudicates



Effers snaps on his trusty left foot





Deano's a bit of an enigma. He's fantastic kicking goals on the run and off the deck but you wouldn't put money on his set shots! Doug's a good bloke and all, but I wouldn't be betting my TAC footy on him kicking a crucial goal!







How did he miss this one! It must have been the wind!

QUICK **HANDS**

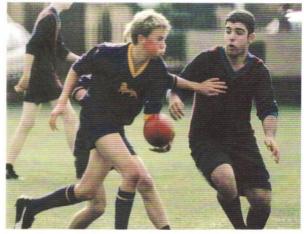
with Skuzza



Hi kids! If you wanna be a top footy player you've gotta think quick and act quick. Don't muck around! Run hard and demand

the footy from your teammates. If you've got the ball the first option is usually the best. Quick hands mean quick goals!





Matty Kehoe is a master of the linking midfield handball. Here you see him receiving (a brilliantly judged disposal from myself) and preparing to give the ball off to a team mate.



Deano is in a bit of trouble here, but quick hands to Anton will save the day



Deano's on the receiving end now as Jesse whips out a quickie



If Tommy's receiving here he's in big trouble! And I mean BIG



It helps to be ambidextrous too! Here Leigh goes with the left.

SmokeFree



NAME: Sam Hunter D.O.B. 22/9/87 SPORTING HEROES AS A KID: Tiger Woods **FAVOURITE AFL PLAYERS:** Adam Yze, David Neitz **BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON** YOUR GAME: Schwarta

OTHER CLUBS PLAYED FOR: Prahran, East Sandringham MOST MEMORABLE MATCH:

Coming back from 3 goals down to win the Grand Final for Prahran

MOST ADMIRED TEAM MATE: Matty Kehoe because he's a leader on and off the field

MOST ENTERTAINING TEAM-MATE: Leigh because he's always got something to say APART FROM FOOTBALL WHAT IS YOUR GREATEST TALENT?

Violin, golf, cricket etc. SCARIEST MOMENT IN YOUR LIFE: Meeting Tom Haylock FAVOURITE FILM: Snatch

7 DREAM GUESTS AT A DINNER PARTY: Cameron Diaz, Pamela Anderson, Jenna Jameson and the Red Hot Chilli Peppers

Pocket Profile

Lions

RYAN O'GRADY

NAME: Ryan O'Grady **D.O.B.** 3/1/88

SPORTING HERO AS A KID: Pat Rafter

AFL TEAM SUPPORTED: Saints (Good to see: Ed)

FAVOURITE AFL STARS

Harvs, Burkey, Stewy, Stevie Milne and Nick Riewoldt

BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON YOUR GAME:

Stewy Loewe at a footy clinic.

OTHER CLUBS PLAYED FOR: East Brighton, East Sandringham

MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: Under 11 Grand Final when I kicked 3 goals and was B.O.G.

MOST ADMIRED TEAM MATE: Matt Oberklaid MOST ENTERTAINING TEAM MATE: Lachy Murdoch - one funny ass bitch

SCARIEST MOMENT IN YOUR LIFE: Training with Jerka

FAVOURITE SINGER: Weird Al Yankovich **FAVOURITE FILM:** Can't say...my mum might read

APART FROM FOOTBALL WHAT IS YOUR GREATEST TALENT: Being lazy

WHAT IS YOUR ULTIMATE NON-FOOTY

FANTASY? Holly Vallance, Shannon Elizabeth, Imogen Bailey, Jessica Alba, Jenna Jameson and Silvia Saint in the same room with me





Nick's a gonna here



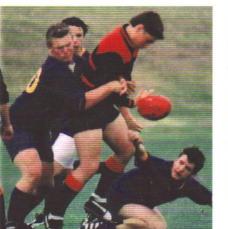
He's a strong boy this one...and he was going full tilt!



A neat tackle by No.30 (me)



Too late mate! Lloyd has already got rid of the footy



Way to go Al! That'll teach the Xavvys to stack their team!



A rare photo. The Flying Tackle is rarely seen outside the wrestling ring.



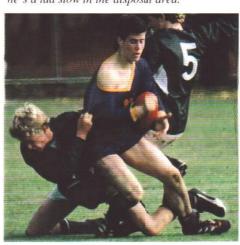
with

Cooky
Remember in the old days at the footy when everybody used to yell "BALL!!" Well nowadays the crowd screams "PRIOR OPPOR-TUNITY!" when a player gets pinned with the footy. It doesn't have quite the same ring to it does it? Anyway, it all means the same thing-a great tackle has brought an opponent down. There were some determined tacklers in our team this year and the camera has caught a few of them in action. Enjoy!



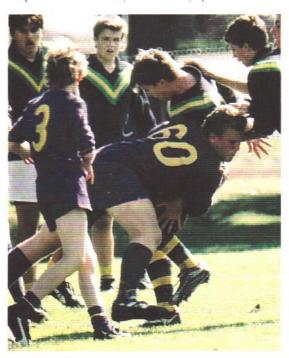


Ed Kus is a great competitor and he can lay a tackle with the best of them, but sometimes he's a tad slow in the disposal area.





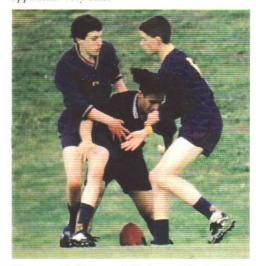
Desperate as ever! Matty Kehoe always puts in 100%



You wouldn't want to be the Skevvys guy here! When you're tackled by Big Al you stay tackled!



Anton receives a friendly hug from his PEGs opponent. Very cute!



No way out! Deano and Dicky combine to effect a demoralising gang tackle



CARLTON DRAUGHT MARK OF THE YEAR



Simon Florentine

A CUT AHEAD

A few of my team mates Jesse went to great lengths to attract the umps attention this season...







Red hair rocks

eh Flozz?

from black to cappuccino to salt and pepper

Plenty of body Bluzer and bounce!





Babba BEFORE & AFTER



The Schwab brothers

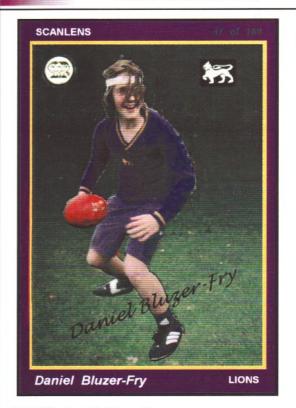


Two haircuts for the price of one!

Pocket Profile

Lions

DANIEL BLUZER-FRY



NAME: Daniel Bluzer-Fry

D.O.B. 22/4/88 (But don't let that fool you—I'm really a child of the sixties)

SPORTING HEROES AS A KID: Bruce Doull. Pat Cash, Dennis Lillee

FAVOURITE VFL/AFL PLAYERS: Bruce Doull and Carl Ditterich because of their headbands and Ted Hopkins because he won a Grand Final for Carlton and wrote poems about it.

BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON GAME: Che Guevera and the Dalai Lama

OTHER CLUBS PLAYED FOR: Prahran MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: This year's successful grand final for Prahran

GREATEST FEAR IN LIFE: Getting a haircut FAVOURITE SINGERS/BANDS: The Beatles, Simon and Garfunkel, Bob Dylan, The Doors, Hendrix

FAVORITE SONG: San Francisco by Scott McKenzie (A huge hit during the Summer of Love, '67)

FAVOURITE FILMS: Woodstock, Blow Up, Easy Rider

APART FROM FOOTBALL WHAT IS YOUR GREATEST TALENT? Playing the double bass, chatting up chicks, spinning bullsh...

7 DREAM GUESTS AT A DINNER PARTY: Tiny Tim, Martin Luther King, Lulu, John Lennon, Emma Peel, Dusty Springfield and Jessica Lees



Two famous footballing headbands Big Carl & The Flying Doormat



KEEP YOUR COOL!



Says Lion Star "Lethal" Leigh Saunders

G'Day kids! You know there are some people who reckon that footy is "just a game", but I know now that it's much more than that. I heard Dennis Commeti say that footy is a microchip of life and I reckon he's right! Answer me truthfully...how many of you guys get angry with your mum when she tells you to clean up your room? Most of you I bet. And how many of you have lost it on the footy field? Get my drift? Now ask yourself... what's the point? Getting angry doesn't help anyone. It just makes your mum cry and makes you the most unpopular person on the footy field-especially with the umpires! My message is simple-KEEP COOL! Grit your teeth and count to 100...very slowly....



THE OLD ME giving the umpire an earful



Take a Chill Pill Dale!



Umpires can be a major source of frustration, but remember... they're only human! Babba copped the rough end of the stick at Wheelers Hill and was sent off for nothing

He could have got really angry, but he showed great self control. I'd hate to hear what Babba was muttering under his breath though! Expletive deleted!



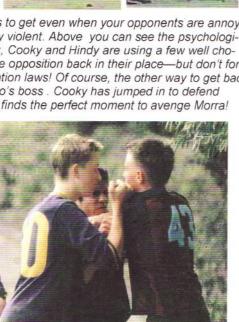








There are two ways to get even when your opponents are annoying or unnecessarily violent. Above you can see the psychological approach. Flozz, Cooky and Hindy are using a few well chosen words to put the opposition back in their place—but don't forget the racial vilification laws! Of course, the other way to get back is to show them who's boss. Cooky has jumped in to defend Skuzz, while Big Al finds the perfect moment to avenge Morra!





THE NEW ME I got a bit angry at Xavier as you can see, but now I just grin and

count to 100...1..2...3...4....



You have to learn to ...

TAKE THE GOOD WITH THE BAD says



Morra

Life's full of ups and downs-and so is footy! The trick is to bounce back after you've been knocked over. If you're a little guy you'll know what I'm talking about. My dad calls it resilience... I call it having the last laugh! Remember the old cliché - You can't keep a good crumber down!



BAD How did I miss this one?



BAD So frustrating ... all that effort for nothing!



BAD and painful! What did I do to deserve this?



VERY BAD Ouch! I copped one in the breadbasket here -but where was the umpire?



EXCRUCIATING The big bully! No wonder Caulfield are having "disciplinary problems



GOOD A pin point pass to a team mate



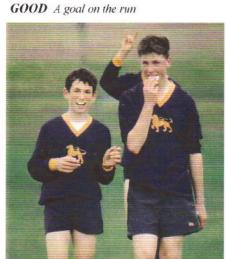
SENSATIONAL Another goal. It warms your heart!



NOT AT ALL GOOD A double whammy here. Two Lions have hit the dirt simultaneously. Ouch and oucher!



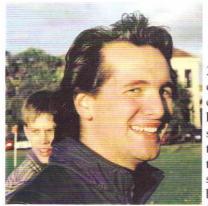
BAD BUT NOT THAT BAD Doug has days where the whole world seems to be against him but I suppose it's hard to be optimistic when you're a Magpie fan. Chin up Doug!



EXCEPTIONAL That winning feeling







COACHING THE GRAYBOY WAY

2002 has been a real learning experience for me. Working alongside such coaching legends as Jerka and Stoney has taught me a lot. Although their styles are quite different they both try to bring the best out of each player and to develop a strong sense of team spirit. This showed up in the way the boys in each team played as a unit. (Is that what you wanted me to say?)



"But Stoney, didn't we kick that way in the first quarter?"



"Wipe that smirk off your face you cheeky little bugger!"

ASSISTANT COACH'S DIARY

Here are a few extracts from my diary which you might find interesting.

...Training Thursday: Another weird drill with 5 groups, 3 footys, 7 witches hats and alternating kicks and handballs. Something about manning the mark and rebounding. No idea what was going on. Where does he get them from?

.... Xavier Saturday: A real schmozzle after half time. We were supposed to have had 6 on the bench, but Bluzer decided to put himself on again without telling anyone. Lucky the Xavvys can't count! Leigh spat the dummy and told the umpire where to go.. TWICE!

....Training Tuesday: Played a prakky for a change. I was in scintillating form. Took a mark over Skuzz and ran through Morra. Kicked an amazing goal from the boundary and bombed a couple of 60 metre torps.

....Training Thursday: Was dominating in the prakky until I went over on my ankle. A real bummer!

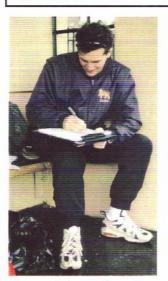
....Fawkner Saturday: Put in a shocker. Running late and I left the drink bottles at home. Very windy = bad hair day



"Yes, well Ben If I were coach there are a few things I'd do differently ...

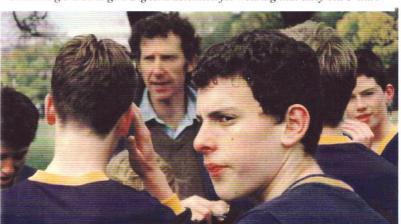


"First thing I'd do is give Big Al a detention for wearing that dirty old T-shirt'



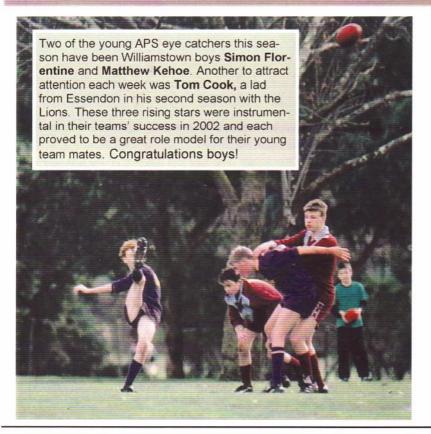


An essential part of coaching today is knowing how to use a clipboard effectively. Do I look professional?



Stoney's forgotten to stick with the KISS approach again! Too many big words and he's lost Deano. I reckon one idea per quarter is plenty for most players.

2002 APS RISING STARS







DANCE THE LIGHT FANTASTIC

with Lachy

Hi. Dancing is an underated part of football culture. All this macho crap stops most people from acknowledging its existence, but a footy match allows for all manner of personal statements. There's something for everyone from rustic folk dancing to the most elaborate of classical routines. From improvisatory solo free wheeling to precisely plotted choreography, football can accommodate all styles and satisfy all tastes. So don't just stand there! Get down and boogie!



I'm not sure if Cooky's partner went to the rehearsal! They seem to be dancing to the beat of a different drum!



I'm not usually a fan of the Scotchies, But these guys are good. Lovely work



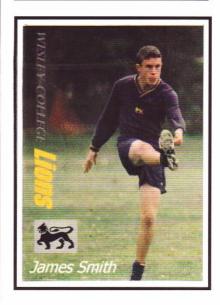


James always has something new to say! Doug does a tango



Paddy is not someone you would naturally associate with the classical repertoire, but he is surprisingly graceful. Here he performs his famous interpretation of "Swan Lake" before a sell out crowd at Xavier



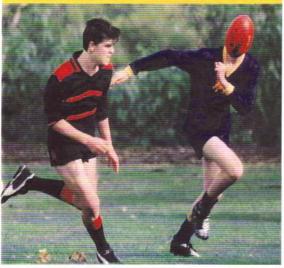


for kids anly

Proudly brought to you by

AFL AUS Simpson

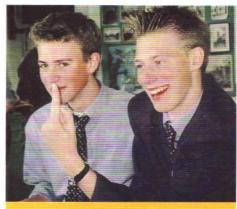
FUNNY PHOTO No. 1



Thanks to Mrs.Penberthy of Essendon for No.1 and to Andrew Scott of Williamstown for No.2

with Lloyd & Jacko

Hi kids! This is the fun page especially for you. We hope you get plenty of laughs from the funny pictures!



FUNNY PHOTO No. 2

JOKE OF THE SEASON

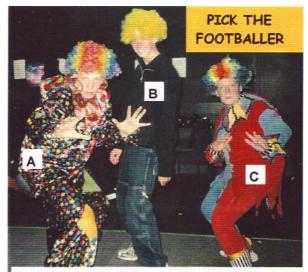


We haven't stopped laughing over Lachy's joke.. but this is a kid's page, so we can't tell you what it is. Sorry...

FUNNY CAPTION COMPETITION



What is Leigh saying? Send us your answer.



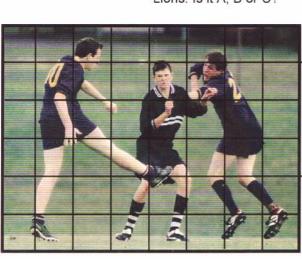
One of these zany clowns plays football for the Lions. Is it A, B or C?

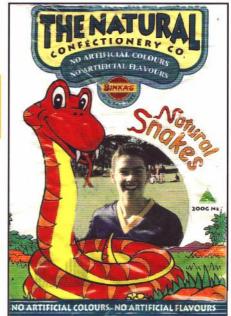
SPOT THE FOOTY

What are Nick and Sammy up to here? Just put a cross in the square where you think the footy is and win a great prize. This week it's a dinner for you and your mum with the lovely Jenna Jameson! Quick get me a pen....



There's nothing particularly funny about this picture, but Ryan wanted us to put it in. So here it is!





talent quest



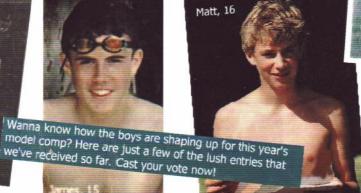
Dave, 15





oh boy!







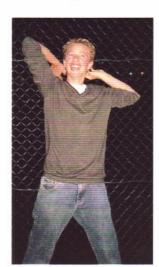


2002 次



Lions heart throb Matt Kehoe says that you too can be a

CHICK MAGNET



Be brash and out there ...

Flaunt your assets, give them the come on, but then play hard to get.It works every time! Believe me, it's true! If you follow my simple philosophy you too could be an Ozzie Hugh Hefner.

My first tip is don't be one dimensional - be all things to all women. Be prepared to show them all the facets of your personality and the whole gamut of emotions. Be shy, be in-their-face, be a tease, be debonair, be feral, be knowing yet innocent, childlike yet worldly. Arouse their passions then appeal to their motherly instincts. In other words, hedge your bets. Something's

bound to work! Good luck!



Be cheeky...



Be sultry and seductive



Be aloof



Be cocky ...

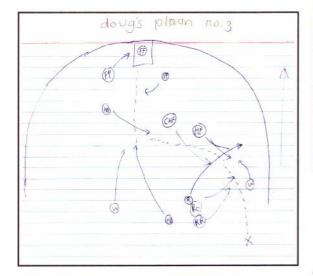
TALKING FOOTY

There are 3 major ingredients in the footballing mix: *Inspiration, persperation* and *brains*. Sorry! I mean 4... you'd better add *skill* to that list! Of course

with **Doug**



only a few footballers have got all four in equal measure. Most often they're a bit short in the *B* department, but that's where I come into my own. I see it as my mission to educate my team mates and to keep the coaching staff on track. To this end I've developed some sophisticated, but user friendly software packages which should be in every young footballer's locker.





Stoney's an OK coach but he would be better if he consulted me more often



Ed tries out one of my programs.

On the left you can see a sample of the clear, up to date graphics that I developed especially.

Order your copy of "Footy by Doug" today from Doug@wesley Discounts for Lion team members



What hope have we got with these two clowns in charge! Dunuh!

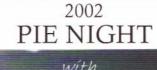


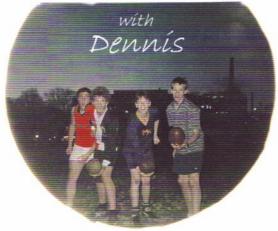
What is Stoney talking about! There's no way that'll work. Why doesn't he listen to me?

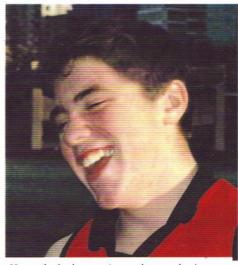


Dan and Matt have got the right idea. Change the team while the coaches aren't looking!

The Annual Pie Night was a bit of a disappointment this year cause the Year 10s were on work experience and lot's of guys couldn't be bothered coming. But I suppose it was alright because there were more prizes for the rest of us. I can't remember all the results but I think I got the biggest kick, Dickie was the fastest runner and Jack was more of a clown than usual!







Honestly Jack... you're such a wacker!



Lachy attempts to knock over as many flags as possible



Dickie Penberthy demonstrates his speed & agility



The boys watching the goal kicking. I'm not sure what Charles is doing. Perhaps he's preparing for the next contest, but by the look of it Jack's already got that one well and truly wrapped up. You could say he's got the wood on the other competitors!



SINKING THE SLIPPER

with

Deano

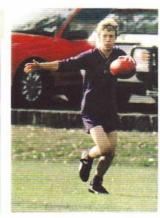
Accurate kicking is a funda-

mental of our great game, but lots of kids take booting a footy for granted. You've got to get the basics right. Have a look at some of my team mates in action - you might learn a thing or two!

APPROACH & RELEASE



I like the way Ben is guiding the ball towards his boot and minimising the chance of error. Could this be a drop?



Hendo shows plenty of style—what a pity his season was plagued by injury

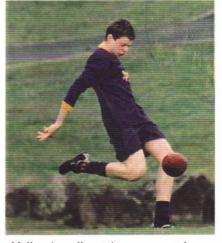


Dale is a real superboot! When he gets onto a roost the ball goes into orbit

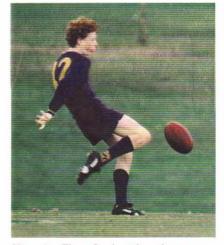
DELIVERY & CONTACT



What style! What poise! What balance! A true champion



Mellers is really putting some oomph into this kick... but it's a bit of a mongrel off the boot!



Very nice Flozz. Look at those leg muscles. Like a tight spring about to uncoil

Pocket Profile

Lions

RICHARD PENBERTHY

NAME: Dickie Penberthy

D.O.B. 8/10/87

SPORTING HEROES AS A KID: Michael Long, Dick Reynolds, Wayne Carey

AFL TEAM: Bombers FAVOURITE PLAYERS

Hird, Bolton, Simpson, Bell, Chick, Archer, J.J.



BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON GAME: My dad my grandfather and athletics

OTHER CLUBS PLAYED FOR: PEGs, Aberfeldie

MOST MEMORABLE CAREER MATCH:

Brighton because we won by 152 points and PEGs because I knew half the team

MOST ADMIREDTEAM MATE: Flozz because he always goes straight for the ball

SCARIEST MOMENT IN YOUR LIFE:

Running into a beehive

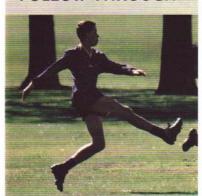
7 DREAM GUESTS AT A DINNER PARTY:

Sheeds, Norm Smith, Bob Skilton, John Coleman, Alan Aylett, Brooke Burke, Carmen Electra

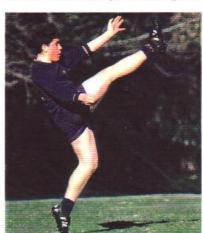
YOUR ULTIMATE NON-FOOTY FANTASY

To own my own island

FOLLOW THROUGH



You can't beat Dickie for sheer elegance



What an awesome extension! No wonder Dennis has groin troubles



Notice how Ryan's arms act as a counterbalance as his leg begins its follow through. Copybook stuff!



Not bad for a hockey player Charles. Keep practising!

Who are you calling a

DROP KICK?

asks Benno

It's about time I got a serious page!

I'm sick of being treated as the team clown. People forget that I can actually play football. I'm going to tell you all about the drop kick... so if you want to be an AFL or NRL star pay attention NOW!



These old photos show how the drop kick was once popular with Aussie Rules players. The bloke doing the demo is none other than Kevin Sheedy!







Demon great Robbie Flower shows you how to hold the footy for the drop kick but I bet he never tried it in a game!

Pocket Profile Lions BEN POWER



NAME: Ben Power **D.O.B.** 4/12/86

SPORTING HEROES AS A KID: Alfie Langer, George Gregan

AFL TEAM SUPPORTED: Hawks FAVOURITE AFL PLAYERS:

John Platten

BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON YOUR GAME: Taste and texture of water

GAME: Taste and texture of water, angles of blades of grass on the field OTHER CLUBS PLAYED FOR:

Mt.Garnet Rugby League U/9s/10s Eagles U/11s

MOST MEMORABLE MATCH:

First game with Mt.Garnet. I caught the ball from the kickoff and ran the full length of the field only to be stopped 5 metres from try line!

MOST ENTERTAINING TEAM

MATE: Matty O. I enjoy our midquarter chats

7 DREAM GUESTS AT A DINNER

PARTY: Salvador Dali, George Gregan, Meatloaf, M.C.Escher, Bundaberg Bear, Moby, Gandhi

FAVOURITE MUSOS: Meatloaf, Moby, Nirvana

APART FROM FOOTBALL WHAT IS YOUR GREATEST TALENT?

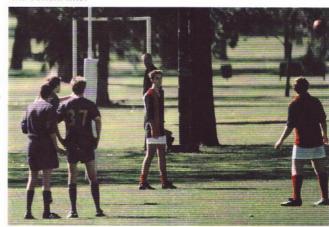
My singing and my handwriting WHAT IS YOUR ULTIMATE NON-FOOTY FANTASY? Play for the Wallabies, to live but to die in a state of grace

The drop kick doesn't get the attention it deserves from Aussie Rules players. The rugby boys still use it but I reckon you Southerners are scared of its awesome power. Either that or you're scared that it might go all wobbly. Don't be a wooss! Give it a burl at training then if you're a real man you can try it in a match! I saved it as my secret weapon for the last match of the season and although the opposition laughed at my first attempts, when I booted a fifty metre goal with the sweetest drop kick they were gobsmacked! It just had to be good for footy!



Fig. 2.14 Flight paths and distances of kicks shown in Fig. 2.13

This fascinating diagram is one for the physics nuts, but I'm not sure how accurate it is. I've seen plenty of drop kicks grub along the bottom line!



A defining moment in my career! This is a photo of my famous drop kick goal in the last game against Brighton. I'd tried a few earlier but didn't really get onto them... but this one was a real bobby dazzler!

Pocket Profile

Lions

PAT BLANDEN

NAME: Patrick J.C. Blanden **D.O.B.** 12/9/86

SPORTING HEROES AS A KID:

Peter Brock, John Platten

AFL TEAM SUPPORTED: Hawks FAVOURITE AFL PLAYER: Coxy

aka Professor Chrome Dome
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON YOUR

GAME: Amount of sleep

OTHER CLUBS PLAYED FOR: Vic Kick, 10As

7 DREAM GUESTS FOR DINNER:

Fangio, Jim Clark, Damon Hill, Sublime, Jackie Stuart, my missus

FAVOURITE BANDS: NOFX, Meatloaf





mystery footballer

I attended Wesley College and played in the First cricket and football teams. After graduating in 1989 I played footy in central Victoria but a back injury forced me to hang up my boots - except at training where I like to bomb goals from outside 50 and snap goals from the carpark

Out & About

with Danny Lees

Some people reckon that all footballers are jocks, but I'm here to prove them wrong. For most of us there's more to life than deep heat and pumping iron.



Here I am at Crown Casino for the 10A medal count. With me is the winner, Simon Gilbertson.



Bluzer with "Dolly Supermodel" finalists



Paddy Blanden at the gala launch of J.T.'s latest CD. With them is DJ Arny



Matty gives the thumbs up while chatting with 10A stars Scotty and Donnas



Matty Oberklaid & friends enjoying a cappuccino at the opening of "Bar Italia"



Matty Kehoe struck it lucky at the Year

10 Formal. Three times in fact!

Matty sizes up the



Sam Skurrie spotted at the opening night of "M29 LIVE"



The Year 10 Formal was a great place for the Lions to strut their stuff. Our cameraman snapped a blond Greg Babitch with his very attractive companion and a hip-hopping Dougy Hind.



Man about town Sam Skurrie discusses the finer points of life with the lovely Imogen Bailey at a recent photo shoot



Benno Power at the Tri Nation Rugby dinner with the owner of the Brisbane Broncos, Canadian media tycoon Jonathan Anglin



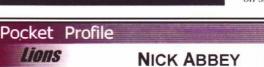
ABOVE: Matty O leaves his mark at the unveiling of the new Art room tables LEFT: Simon Morawetz chews the fat on stage during M29 LIVE



Doug Hind at the opening of his first one man exhibition at the Cato Gallery



Flozza, Bluzer and Scott Levy performing live at the Sydney Opera House last May



NAME: Nick Abbey **D.O.B.** 26/12/87 SPORTING HEROES AS A KID: Brad Johnson Nathan Brown, Chris Grant

AFL TEAM SUPPORTED: Western Bulldogs

BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON YOUR GAME: Me OTHER CLUBS PLAYED FOR: Strathmore, Prahran J.F.C.

MOST MEMORABLE MATCHES: 4 Grand Finals (98, 99, 2000 and

2002) Two premierships. MOST ADMIRED TEAM MATE: Ed Kus MOST ENTERTAINING TEAM MATE: Benny Power

SCARIEST MOMENT IN YOUR LIFE: Charles

GREATEST TALENT OTHER THAN FOOTY: Hockey

7 DREAM GUESTS AT A DINNER PARTY: Imogen Bailey, Sarah M Gellar, Ali G. Jenna Jameson, Tatiana Grigoriova, Cypress Hill



The Man in White Is Always Right...

says Jack Watts



You know when you go to the footy and some clown in the crowd spends all his time abusing the umpires? Well you can bet your bottom dollar he's never had a whistle or a pair of flags in his hands! I've had a bit of experience with the flags and it's not as easy as it looks. There's a lot of pressure on you to do the right thing—especially if your big brother and his mates are playing!



Mellers is obviously new to the game. He can't possibly put in a strong accurate throw from this awkward position...



"It can't be that difficult. You just hold them over your head and wiggle your hips!'



Sensational style! Leigh knows how to do it! He must spend a lot of time talking to umpires...



This was the biggest match of my career. Wesley and Xavier playing for top spot. Boy, was I taking some stick from the home crowd! I tell you, I'd much rather have been playing!



A maestro in action



Mobiles can be really useful to check the score with the other ump, but they can be a pain too! Especially when your mum rings during a big match!



Winners are grinners!



James M-L on the break



Scotty snaps a great goal



Stevo the water boy with Sammy



Bluzer tries the banana

PRAHRAN U/15s WIN PREMIERSHIP

You'll always find some Wesley footballers who are prepared to give up valuable Sunday study time to work at their game. About a dozen or so Lions decided to make the sacrifice this year and front up for Prahran. Scotty and Jimmy must have been studying on Saturday mornings instead...



Bluzer lays a tackle in defence



Stu Inglis takes off



Kussy in a bit of strife



How did the Wesley talent scouts miss this one?

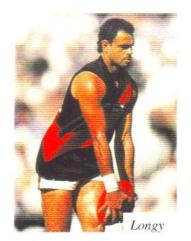


Andrew Hay shows poise



A strong grab by Harley









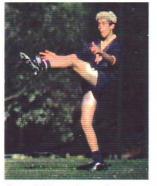
Silky Skills with Matty O

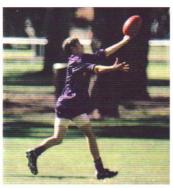
Dennis Cometti talks about certain players and their "silky skills". Just what does he mean by this? When I

was a kid I had some silk worms but I don't think many AFL players live in cardboard boxes and eat mulberry leaves, so that can't be the connection. I've done a bit more research though and I think I've got some answers. First of all it helps to have dark skin, but people used to think that you had to be black to play jazz, so obviously it's not compulsory. If you look at the silky players in the AFL they are all smooth movers who never look like they're trying even when they're probably busting a gut. You have to play footy as if it's as natural as breathing, eating or watching TV. So in the end I guess a few of us lucky ones were blessed and the rest of you missed out.



Not silky but awesome! How alike are Tommy H and Plugger?



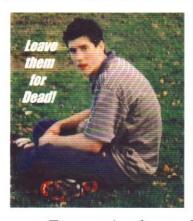


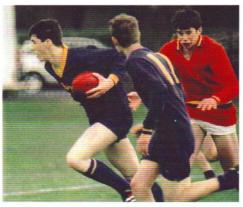


Effers is a pretty smooth mover



I would have to say Anton was one of the silkiest Lions this season





Just grab the thing and run! Note the similarity





Way to go Nick! Just get the hell out of there!



Jesse's a tank so nobody's going to get in his way!

Forget the fancy footy.... LEAVE THEM FOR DEAD

says Ed

I'm not so sure about this silky stuff. I reckon footy's a bit simpler than that. What's the point of playing sport if you don't work up a bit of a sweat? It's much more fun to barge your way through a wall of Scotchies than to pussy foot around, dodging and weaving and being fancy. Remember, *Cruisers don't get bruises*. Apart from the ridiculous rules Rugby's got a lot going for it y'know.



MEDIA WATCH

Ben gets the lowdown on your fave Lions



"No... that's not true Ben. On the contrary, I have a very good attendance record this year. Just ask Tom..."



"I'm sorry, but I can't speak to you without my manager's permission"



"I know it looks weird, but its aerodynamically styled... and it was cheap"



"Go on, laugh if you must....but my tip is Buckley for the Norm Smith medal"



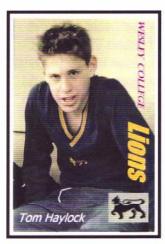
"No Ben, I don't use any artifical stimulants. I was just born this way..."



"Let me ask you a question Ben... Have you ever washed that singlet?



9/10B TEAM PHOTO 2002. FINAL ROUND vs BRIGHTON







9/10B TEAM PHOTO 2002. ROUND 6 vs MARCELLIN



Lion tells fans: It's OK to be a pacifist on the footy field

Q Leigh, me and my friends were wondering what you really said to the umpire that day at Xavier?

Eddy M. Everywhere

Well Eddy, I'm not sure I remember exactly what I said, but I think I asked him which umpiring academy he had attended and did they offer refresher courses. We also chatted for a bit about the weather.

Leigh

Q Brett Schwab, what do you think is the best way of putting an opponent off when they are having a kick for goal. I've just started playing footy and there's so much to learn!

Nicky R. St. Kilda

Thanks for writing to me Nick. I like what I saw of you this season but you can never ask too many questions of more experienced players such as myself. Distracting an opponent in the situation you describe is often referred to as "Putting the Mozz" on someone. Some players prefer the purely verbal approach and mention details of their opponents private life that have become public knowledge or they may even choose to pass judgement on their opponent's mother's reputation in the kitchen. Others like myself, try to surprise the kicker with a variety of strange physical movements. A handstand is particularly effective. My buddy Leigh does a fantastic John Travolta impersonation, and was even referred to as "The Disco King" by one imaginative journalist! You might like to try a blend of the two techniques. Perhaps a bit of kangaroo type hopping together with a few well chosen words could break Mr. Carey's concentration when you find yourself on the mark at Football Park next season!

Brett

Q James Smith, my dad and I love watching the Lions play, but he says you should be "more of a mongrel". What does he mean. Should you bark or lift your leg on the goal post or something?

Angus H. Elwood
P.S. I don't think there's anything wrong
with the way you kick either!

Thanks for the compliments (I think). I have to admit that your dad's not the first one to mention my "nice guy" image on the field. Well, Angus, you can tell your dad that Mahatma Gandhi was one of the Bombay Bloomer's greatest ever ruck rovers (Dual Sanjay Medallist and All Indian Captain) and his commitment to pacifism is well known! Just remember Angus, you don't have to suffer from "white line fever" to be a successful footballer.

James



Mahatma Gandhi - a fine example of a non violent footballer. An all -Indian captain and Sanjay Medallist

Mike Efron, I'm one of your greatest fans so I was really disappointed when you retired during the season. It wasn't clear in the papers why you did it so I was wondering if you could tell me what your real reasons were. I used to love watching you snapping goals - or even points - with that trusty left boot. I thought you were just finding a bit of form and couldn't believe it when you got dropped to the C's.

Caroline E. East Bentleigh

Caroline, it's nice to know you have been following my career so closely. I have to admit my mid season retirement came as a bit of a surprise to me as well! It wasn't something I'd planned. The newspapers said "personal reasons" and that's about it. I'd reached a stage where a combination of work commitments, poor health and limited opportunities on the field made it impossible for me to continue in 2002. But don't worry, keep the posters of me on the wall Caroline, I'll be back!

Mike

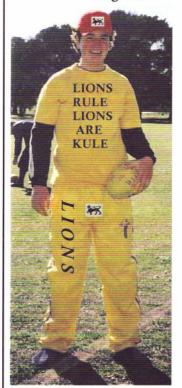


Support your club... Buy direct from the LIONS SAVE AT OUR END OF SEASON SALE!



"Come on supporters" says Big AI. "It's all very well to yell and cheer at the game, but a true blue fan will always put his money where his mouth is. Support your club on and off the field with this fantastic range of products... and remember, if you don't dip into your pocket.. well me and my mum know where you live!"

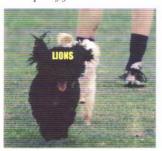
Big Al



COVERALLS Ryan looks the goods in his matching T-Shirt, cap and track pants. All sizes with choice of slogans.



FLAK JACKET Flozz looks a million dollars in this waterproof jacket. S to XXL



MASCOT Buy a matching set of Lion mascots or purchase individually. They make great pets and kids love them!



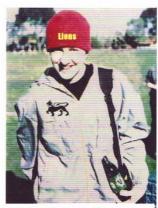
LION HEADBAND Bluzer came up with this great idea! One size fits all. Yellow or white



LION PHONE Jesse's favourite! Keep in touch with your team mates. Never get bored on the backline!



SIREN Jesse blows a mean tune on his Lion siren. Easy to play. Instructions included. Hours of fun! LION TATTOO The girls love 'em!



WINDBREAKER Lightweight and wind resistant. BEANIE Trendy yet sensible. Tom wears his to bed!

SNAPSHOTS



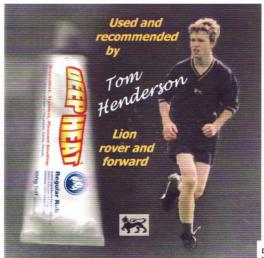
FAVOURITE HOLIDAY SPOT: Greek Islands FAVOURITE FOODS: Fried octopus, souvlaki, moussaka FAVOURITE SINGER: Nana Mouskouri













The last word....

ACTION SNAP OF THE YEAR by Matt Oberklaid











It's not fair. Why didn't I get a dressing gown?



The coach celebrates another victory



A crisp morning in the air conditioned pavilion at Xavier



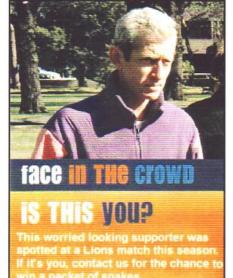
Glucose hit anyone?



We're just good friends! Speak for yourself Leigh!



Jerka must really hate me





Not bad, but I prefer Californian Navels



That's my boy! What a star! We're so proud of the little chap If only he'd do his homework!

