

Football Record 2005

Lions



Jack
Parsons



2005

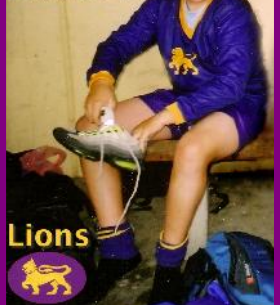


Lions

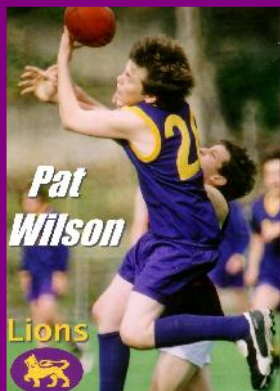


Tom Candy

Harley
Waddell

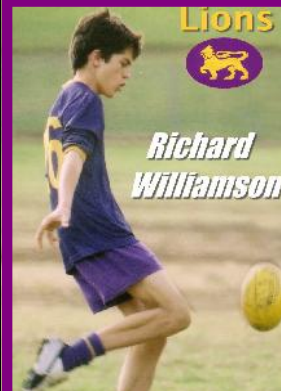


Lions



Pat
Wilson

Lions



Lions



Richard
Williamson

INSIDE...
That Was The Season That Was
2005 reviewed round by round
PLUS...
Team of the Year, stats, coaching tips, pin ups, penpics and all the goss on your favourite Lion stars

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The 2005 FOOTBALL RECORD

The Football Record is an
OVER-THE-TOP PRODUCTION
Designed, written, photographed
(mostly) and produced by
Richard Stone
VOLUME 14, 2005



WESLEY SKR / Elst 9/10B 2005
Final Round vs. St.Kevins

WESLEY 9/10B TEAM OF 2005



FIRST RUCK TRUDZIK

SECOND RUCK BEERENS

PARSONS

KAMENER

ROVER FORD

McMULLIN

ROVER SPILLER

COOK

VICKERY

McGREGOR

RUSKIN

CANDY

ADAMS

MENZIES

HAWKINS

WILLIAMSON

NEWTON

BAGNARA

INTERCHANGE

WILSON

COHEN

WADDELL
VATOUSIOS
DAY
GAINNS
O'NEILL
CRONE
WRIGHT
McINERNEY
O'HARE

COACH
R. STONE

COACH'S ASSISTANT
A. WRIGHT-SMITH

ASSISTANT'S ASSISTANTS
L.KRAFCHER
G.ROWSTON

GOAL UMPIRES
Mr. WADDELL
Mr. BAGNARA
FIELD UMPIRES
THE COHEN
FAMILY
FIRST AID
Dr. WILLIAMSON
SECURITY
Mr. NEWTON
(& DOG)
CHEER LEADERS
Mr. WILSON
Mrs. WRIGHT
CHEER SQUAD
ALL THE OTHER
MUMS, DADS,
BROTHERS &
SISTERS etc.
VIDEO
WES WADDELL

2005 MATCH RECORD

WON	5
LOST	4
DRAWN	-

Lions strike first blow !

An undermanned Wesley outclasses opponents....

WESLEY COLLEGE 13. 14. 92
SCOTCH COLLEGE 5. 2. 32

GOALS: Ruskin 3, Ford 3, McGregor 3,
 Waddell 2, Parsons, Newton

BEST: Parsons, Kamener, McGregor, Ford,
 Ruskin, Menzies, Adams, etc.

INJURIES: Menzies (knee), Ruskin (thigh),
 Wilson (proverbials)

MARK of the DAY: Parsons (under pressure)

GOAL of the DAY: Ford (clever snap)

TACKLE of the DAY: Menzies (ouch!)

SMOTHER of the DAY: Parsons (desparation)

3 Ps Award: (Pin Point Palming) McGregor

The lead up to the opening round of the 2005 season was not encouraging. Having returned empty handed from an international recruiting mission, the coach discovered that two of last season's Year 8 stars, Zac and Cass had been offered lucrative contracts to switch to the World Game and were uncertain starters. The Annual Music camp had shortened the available list and several stars would be denied the opportunity to confront first round opponents Scotch. Furthermore, Kammers and Parso were relaxing on a holiday cruise around the Gippsland Lakes and were unable to train during the week. The selectors could only hope that at least 80% of the listed team would turn up on Saturday morning.

Melbourne's dry Autumn continued into the weekend and the Scotch Oval was firm but lushly carpeted as the Lions were put through their rigorous prematch routine under the watchful eye of their Specialist Coach, Adam W-S. Skipper Parso elected to kick to the Freeway end and it wasn't long before the Lions superior skills became evident. Despite being two players down, the boys in purple and gold took control of the game from the opening bounce, and in next to no time they were peppering the target area. Kammers and stopgap ruckman Harry set the tone in the midfield while Rusko at CHB was quick to establish a firm line of defence. A rushed behind and a thwarted forward thrust were followed by minor scores to the skipper and Ollie Ford, but at the seven minute mark a clever snap from the outbound lane pocket by Ollie found the space between the big sticks.

The Scotchies were trying desperately to get some kind of grip on the game but the Lions were not giving an inch. Cooky, Matt Spiller and Vickers were covering Scotch's primary targets and Willo, Ben Menzies and Rusko were rebounding with gusto. With Kammers and Parso taking clean grabs and showing their opponents clean pairs of heels, the ball was spending most of its time in the Lion's attacking half. Quick hands from Sam Adams set up Rusko for his first major and the visitors were looking comfortable. Richo was still adjusting to the challenge of CHF and Lion spearhead, Sammy Newton was swamped by three or four opponents every time his team moved the ball forward, so Parso tried to bypass the corridor but his left foot couldn't quite cope with the tight angles and the Lions had to be content with a 17 point advantage at the first change.

Keen to build on their good start, the Lions lifted the intensity of their game during the second quarter. A courageous smother by the skipper and a great diving mark by Benno set the tone, and with Harry controlling the aerial contests with his pin point palming, crumbers like Harley and Timmy were being kept busy. Adams set up Ollie for the Lions' third, but Scotch replied with a charity goal, and although Willo tried to recapture the advantage his kick was offline. The Lion one percenters were proving invaluable, and Hawko was setting a great example on the wing with his blocks, shepherds, tap-ons and jumper grabs. A strong shepherd from big Sammy allowed Harry to unleash a long bomb which found its target and after Richo snuck a behind, it was big Sammy's turn. Capitalising on the skipper's clever play Sammy snapped the Lions' fifth goal to send his team further ahead.



"Oops.... I thought I had it!" One that got away from Ollie Ford



The big men fly during the last quarter of Saturday's game

The third term opened well for the Lions with a little chip from Timmy Bagnara setting Ollie up for another goal, but the advantage was lost when Cooky miscalculated a kick in and the Scotchies responded with their third. As a result, the home team seemed to lift and some dashing play by their ever popular superstar, "Scrubber" Turner, brought them into the game. But it was only temporary, and the Lions' soon regained their poise. The backline tightened the screws and with Vickers solid as a rock and Menzies tough as nails Scotch struggled to find an avenue forward. Willo thought all his Christmases had come at once when Timmy and Harley fed him the ball in front of an open goal, but the umpires saw things differently and the score was negated. The on ball duo of Parso and Kammers were running rings around their opponents and a scintillating run from Josh gave the injured Rusko an off hands goal before the siren. Going into the final huddle the Lions had advanced to a 33 point lead and they were feeling pretty pleased with themselves!



Lion defender Paul Vickery remains steady under pressure

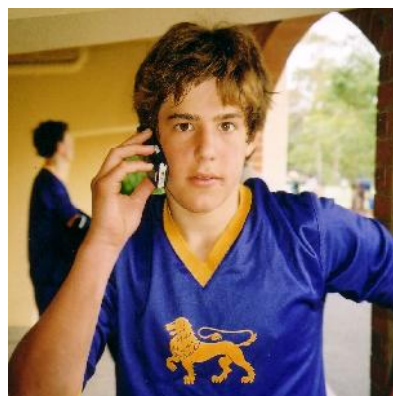
With the final twenty minutes approaching the Lions decided that enough was enough! It was time to put the foot on the accelerator and show the Scotchies what footy was all about. A few adjustments were made to the team and all was in readiness. Spills had moved on to the ball, Kammers had been shifted into defence to extend his running potential and Richo had assumed a defensive role, allowing the heavily corked Rusko to remain resting downfield. The quarter began well as Parso marked strongly at half forward and passed to a goal hungry Harley who didn't let his skipper down. In case anybody in the crowd had missed it, the boys repeated the manoeuvre moments later and the Lions took a stranglehold on the game. Sammy Newton was enjoying the relative freedom of CHF and he positioned himself well to be on the end of one of the plays of the day as Parso, Harry, Ollie and Willo played keepings off with their opponents. Harry had been rucking tirelessly since the opening bounce and he was justly rewarded with a pair of goals to take the Lions tally to eleven. Adams, Spiller and Hawkins were offering plenty of linking options in the midfield and Willo seemed to have recovered from a low blow. At the thirteen minute mark Rusko pounced on a kick in rebound from Sammy and added the Lions' twelfth, but it was Ben Menzies' ruthless tackle and body slam on the Scotch pinup boy that brought the crowd to its feet! A timely nudge by Kammers took his opponent out of the contest and his long bomb was swallowed by the skipper waiting in the square. Goal number thirteen was Parso's first and the Lions' last, but it was a scrambled behind by Benno in the dying moments that sealed a sixty point thrashing for the Scotchies. Wizz Zimbah Rah Rah rah!



Harley and Willo sport winning smiles



Menzies sinks the slipper



"Of course we won!"



"That was some tackle!"

Lions Maul Pussy Cats!

Geelong no match for the Kings of the APS Jungle

WESLEY COLLEGE 20. 13. 133
GEELONG GRAMMAR 2. 8. 20

GOALS: Parsons 5, Kamener 4, Ford 3,
 Camov 2, Beerens 2, Waddell, Newton, Wilson

BEST: Parsons, Kamener, Trudzik, Ford,
 Menzies, Spiller, Bagnara, Wilson, Ruskin,
 Adams, Camov, Beerens, Vickery, Cook,
 Waddell, Hawkins, Newton, Day

INJURIES: Beerens (Bruised arm, grazed leg)
 Hawkins (heel)

GOALS of the DAY: Waddell / Ford

MARK of the DAY: Menzies

TACKLE of the DAY: Ford

PLAY of the DAY: Last quarter

Adams-Wilson-Ford-Kamener-Camov

BODY on the LINE AWARD: Kamener

BLIND TURN of the DAY: Adams

TORP of the DAY: Ford

MISS of the DAY: Camov (tsk, tsk)

In the wake of their successful season opener against Scotch, the Lions were eagerly awaiting the upcoming encounter with the Corio Cats. Star midfielder Ollie Ford was particularly keen, because he had watched his big brother's team go down to the Catters First XVIII during the first round and he wanted REVENGE! During the week he spread the word that the Lions' pride (no pun intended) was at stake and by Thursday's training session the boys were clawing the ground in anticipation.

Come Friday however, the coach was scratching his head with frustration after hearing the news that talented onballer Jack Parsons had been placed in the Prahran remand centre for an indefinite period pending his trial for lewd behaviour. With Harry promoted to the A's and Richo unavailable for selection, the team could ill afford to lose the loveable larrikin, so hot shot lawyer Tony Howard was called in to plead his case. By 2.30 that afternoon a deal had been struck and Parso was released on bail for the weekend. This allowed the selectors to finalise a squad that included four welcome new faces - ruckman Alex Trudzik, Year 8 champion Zac Beerens, utility player Jordan Camov and muso Hugh Day.

Melbourne's run of fine weather was continuing and it was perfect for footy at the Harry Trott when Kammers and his country cousin tossed the coin. The Lions would be kicking to the Luna Park end for the first quarter and they wasted no time in locating the target area.. Hawko and Harley were in the play early, but it was reluctant spearhead, Beerens who snapped the Lions' opener. Geelong bounced back with a behind and a bit of



Ben Menzies pulls in a screamer during the last quarter

physicality, but the Lions were unfazed and rebounded in next to no time. A dodgy Geelong handball landed Zac a free kick within range and he made no mistake. Jack was relishing his unexpected freedom and he was being particularly lively across half forward. When his little chip towards the square tumbled over the pack Harley was quick to pounce, converting the crumb and taking the Lions to a three goal break. Trudzy was proving to be a force in the ruck and he was being well supported by Ollie and Spills. Geelong were trying to establish some kind of system in their game but the Lions' close checking and relentless pressure allowed them few opportunities. Cooky and Benno were giving nothing away and Rusko was pushing off his opponent with confidence. When he marked strongly and sent the ball steeping through the corridor it was the skipper who found himself on the end of the kick. Despite a momentary fumble, Kammers was able to convert and his team moved further ahead. Sammy Newton was happy not to be the centre of attention this week and he was in the thick of the action at CHF using his body to advantage and setting up Parso for the Lions' fifth. Ollie snapped truly from the pocket and the lead was stretched to six goals as the opening stanza ended and the Lions took a well earned breather.

Geelong caught the Lions catnapping during the opening minutes of the second term and posted their first, but Ollie could not forget Charlie's humiliation the pre-

-vious week and wasted no time in posting the reply, snatching the ball from a throw in and snapping truly. Although the Catters fought back and tried desperately to get involved in the contest the Lions were far too pumped and with Cooky, Vickers and Hughy keeping the screws on their opponents Geelong had few scoring options. The Lions' determination was evident all over the field. From Timmy's never-say-die running and scragging, to Ben Menzies' hustling and Zac's cross-country soccering, the Wesley boys demonstrated that they wanted this game more than the jackaroos and rouseabouts in powder puff blue. A dashing goal on the run from Parso brought the capacity crowd to its feet and that was where they stayed as the Lions presented their own version of Celebrity Circus. An elegant side-step and swivel performed at high speed by Sammy Adams and a death defying leap into the unknown by the skipper Kammers gave the fans plenty to talk about as the Lions headed into half time with a healthy lead of 41 points.



Rover Tim Bagnara on the break. Jack Parsons in support.

The third quarter was a Lions blitzkrieg! In twenty minutes of nonstop thrills and spills the home team set up twelve scoring shots to zilch. Once again it was Ollie's cry of "Let's do it for Charlie!" that fired up his team mates and to show that he really meant what he said Ollie set up the opening goals of the quarter by feeding new full forward Jordo for number nine and then linking a Trudzik centre tap with a Kammener mark and goal. Trudzy's intelligent ruckwork had been a highlight all day and his quick hands from the bottom of a pack soon gave Kammers his third. Hawko had been shifted forward to rest his aching foot and he made the most of the opportunity by marking and allowing Jordo and Jack to team together for the Lions' twelfth. Rusko was in control at CHB and neither he nor Benno were allowing the Cats to get away with anything! The forwards too, were doing their bit to prevent any purposeful opposition manouevres from being hatched in the backline and their constant pressure produced inevitable errors.



Centremen Ollie Ford — cool, calm and collected at all times

When a pressured clearance landed in the corridor, Willo pounced and added another to the team's tally. Sammy Newton's second efforts around the goals had been invaluable, but his attempts at marking had been less successful, so it was a pleasure to see him grab a centred kick from Ollie and kick home the Lions' fifteenth major as the Premiership quarter drew to a close.



The ambidextrous Jack Parsons centres with his "wrong" foot



Winger / forward Lewis Hawkins makes the ball his object



Ben Ruskin puts everything into this long bomb from CHB

The snakes worked their glucose magic and the Lions found enough motivation and energy to complete the massacre with another twenty minutes of exciting football. Harley and Hugh swapped ends, and although Zac was looking comfortable on a defensive flank, Cooky was keen to get into the action and Beerens soon found himself at full back. Vickers had been working hard all day but decided that he too wanted a piece of the action and set off on a mission into uncharted waters (i.e. the forward line). Meanwhile, Willow was enjoying the chance to play forward of centre and he was finding plenty of holes to drop into. A snap from Ollie found its mark and with a bit of luck Jordo could have twice added to the team's tally, but a couple of momentary concentration lapses left him disappointed. The skipper, Jacko and Spills were continuing to lead by example and the way the Lions ran the ball through the midfield had to be seen to be believed! There were plenty of one percenters too - the tackling, shepherding and centring were particularly impressive. Tim and Willo set up Hawko for a goal, and a pair of six-pointers to Parso took the Lions closer to the twenty goal mark. A hover to Benno had his fans screaming with delight and goals to Willo and Jordo prompted the release of flares and smokebombs from the grandstand. The siren sounded and the Lions had run out winners by 113 points! We did it for you Charlie Ford!



Ben Menzies in trouble



Jack Parsons on the burst



Josh Kamener and Matt Spiller demonstrate their kicking styles

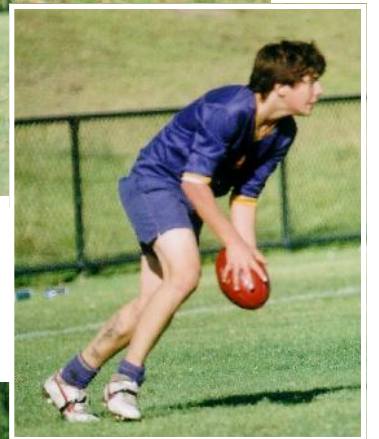


Lions in Action

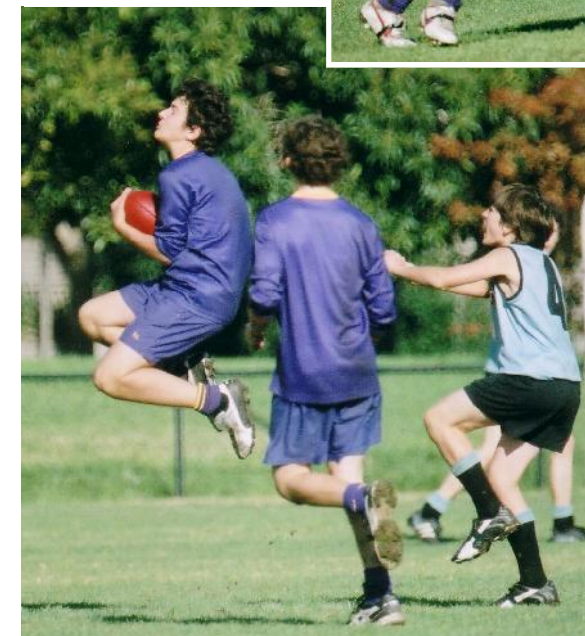
Oops! Jordan Camov miscues.



Ruck-roller Jack Parsons looks to centre the ball



*"This one's mine buddy!"
Ben Ruskin marks strongly*



Lions display tenacity!

Wesley shrugs off half time deficit to take points

WESLEY COLLEGE 8. 8. 56

TRINITY GRAMMAR 7. 8. 50

GOALS: Williamson 2, Parsons, Kamener, Camov, Newton, Ruskin

BEST: Kamener, Menzies, Parsons, Ruskin, Bagnara, Trudzik, Beerens, Adams, Spiller, Williamson Hawkins, Vickery, Day, Camov, Newton, Waddell

INJURIES: Hawkins (heel) Camov (body)

GOAL of the DAY: Williamson

TACKLE of the DAY: Ruskin

RUN(S) of the DAY: Bagnara

SMOTHER of the DAY: Ruskin

PARTY TRICKS AWD: Menzies & Williamson

The Lions emerged triumphant on Saturday after four hard fought quarters of football that had their fans cheering, cursing, laughing, scratching their heads and biting their fingernails (but not all at once!) The game was non stop entertainment from first bounce to final siren as the Lions battled challenging meteorological conditions, a talented and vigorous opposition and more than a few moments of self doubt... and that was only on the field!

The rumour mill had begun to turn early in the week as the news leaked out that Trinity Grammar, a wild card in the APS pack, had whipped a Xavier combination last weekend and were confident of inflicting the same fate on the Lions squad. The news that a former Wesley teacher was coaching the opposition sent a shiver through the Lions camp when Harley remembered seeing Mr.Callow taking a close interest in the Year 8 games last season. "What if he knows things about us like if we're left footers and stuff?"

"...or what if he knows about our secret quasi double zone splitting huddle tactic?" added a worried Vickers. "What if they sell coffee at the Trinity tuckshop?" asked Willo. "We can't even buy Ovaltine at ours! That wouldn't be fair."

This was the least of the Wesley coach's concerns. His main worry was how to replace star centremen Ollie Ford who was to be promoted to the A's for Saturday's game. Injuries to Cook and Wilson compounded his concerns but the return of Williamson was a bonus. His other concern was how his team would handle the windy conditions on a Front Turf bereft of its historical windbreak. Another worry emerged on Saturday morning when skipper for the day, Ben Ruskin tossed the coin and sent his forwards to the St.Kilda Road end of the oval - to join Trinity's forwards. Mmmm...unusual tactics he thought, but then great minds do think differently... but is Rusko thinking outside the square... or is he just weird?



Kamener and Day keep the pressure on Trinity's dangerman

Trinity were quick to capitalise on the Lions' confusion and in no time they had a goal on the board but, the home team settled and replied with one of their own thanks to Richo who skilfully sharked a throw in and snapped truly from the Pet Cemetery pocket. Trudzy was up against a large lump of a lad, but he was still able to find running targets in Josh, Parso and Ben Menzies who had moved into the pivot in Ollie's absence. The skipper was working hard to marshal his troops in defence but Trinity took advantage of the favourable breeze and rushed through a second major. Clearly the Lions were going to be tested by Trinity's fleet of runners. Number 9 looked dangerous and Number 7 seemed to be everywhere.. until the ever alert Sammy Adams noticed that there were in fact two Number 7s! Timmy Bagnara was displaying courage and tenacity on his flank and Spills was in and under at every opportunity, but the visitors were kicking long and straight with the wind and soon they had added a third to their tally. Parso didn't much like the idea of losing to an AGS school and he cranked his game up a notch or two as the Lions surged forward. Taking the ball by the scruff of the neck (?) he hurled it onto his boot and disposed of it thoughtfully through the big sticks. However, his joy was shortlived as he was soon watching Trinity moving the ball topside towards the St.Kilda Road goals. At the first break the Lions trailed by 13 points and there was a lot of work to do!

The wind was blowing across the ground but it seemed to be favouring the Lake end, so the Lions were confident that they could make good use of it during the second term. The quarter opened well enough with Hughie Day starting Bags off on a run that ended with the ball in Sammy Newton's arms and another goal to the Lions. The mid field was working overtime to set up the forwards, but despite Hawko's thoughtful play and



Ben Menzies searches for the best option as Jack offers advice

clever moves from Sam Adams, the pressure on their team mates was considerable. Trinity were outwitting the Lions, blocking their offensive avenues and defending tirelessly to the dead scoreboard pocket. Behinds to Richo and Harley, and a circus trick by Benno to keep the ball inside the boundary line were the best the Lions could produce during the next ten minutes. Trinity, meanwhile, were not having it all their own way, and Rusko, Jordo and Vickers were applying their own brand of pressure - not to mention Timmy's ferocious tackling! Unfortunately for the Lions, the enemy did manage to squeeze the ball through a gap late in the quarter and at half time the margin was still 13 points.



Tim Bagnara fires out a quick handball to Zac Beerens

The Lions knew that it was now or never! With the wind clearly favouring one end, something had to be done before the game slipped away. The coaching panel did its bit, moving Zac into the ruck, switching Jordo and Big Sammy and sending Richo into the open spaces. Now it was up to the boys! The skipper set the tone with a powerful tackle and Parso and Trudzy lifted their work rate to move team two points closer. Trinity replied but the Lions were looking more assured now, running with purpose and stringing possessions together. Great running from the backline by Josh and a fine passage of play involving Hawko, Harley and Trudzy resulted in the Lions' fourth goal, but Trinity wasted no time in replying and the boys were back be-

hind the 8 ball. "C'mon guys! We can do better than this" screamed the skipper as the ball returned to the centre. "Yeah! Let's do it" added Spills, "They're only a grammar school! Wes bang zim Wesley now & always"

Wise words indeed, and they had an immediate impact. Benno decided to take the centre bounce and the hard running Kamener responded to his skipper's words with a valuable six pointer. Hughie was doing a great job tagging Number 9 and Trinity seemed to be losing a bit of puff. Pin point passing and creative running through midfield sent the ball in Jordo's direction and the resultant mark and goal took the Lions to within two points at the final change. A significant turn around - but the fat lady hadn't sung yet!



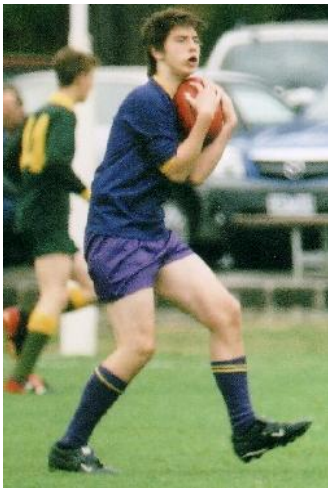
Hugh Day gets boot to ball despite pressure from his opponent



Zac Beerens is cornered but Matt Spiller is ready for the up and over emergency handball.



Spiller has done the hard work, now Camov takes over...



A strong grab by Trudzik



Zac Beerens launches a bomb

There had been a rush on caffeine tablets during the week and the coach was unable to find a packet anywhere in Melbourne, but he knew well the benefits of a glucose hit, so it was snakes all round as the Lions discussed their prospects for the last quarter. If we can use the wind to our advantage and continue to make the play we are a good show suggested the specialist coach. "Yeah! Let's whip their you know whats!" added Big Sammy.



Ruckman Alex Trudzik marks strongly in the forward line

The quarter began well with the Lions' marathon men, Bags and Kammers teaming to get the ball to the skipper who had drifted forward. Rusko's goal gave his team the lead at last, and despite Trinity's efforts to regain control by throwing the Lions off their game, the home team were not about to relinquish their hard earned advantage. A bit of unnecessary rough stuff in the corridor resulted in a scuffle and Benno was sent to the sin bin - but he wasn't alone and the opposition lost two men for the price of our one! Richo was happy to take the resultant free and he made no mistake sending the Lions to a very handy 10 point lead. Trinity, however, were not throwing in the towel and a lucky free kick allowed their two Number 7s to share a goal.



Harley Waddell positions himself for Trudzik's quick hands

It was time for a possession game, and all over the ground the Lions tightened the screws. Defenders closed in on their opponents and attacked the ball hard when it came within range. Vickers and Rusko were relentless. Midfielders continued to work tirelessly and the forwards made second and third efforts to trap the ball in the zone. Timmy and Richo ran rings around their opponents and Jordy was throwing his aching body on the line time after time. Zac was in everything and Spills was still diving under packs regardless of the consequences. The last few minutes of football was nail biting stuff as the teams traded points and the match hung in the balance. A valuable behind to Richo gave the Lions a useful six point advantage, but anything can happen in footy and the Lions could not afford to relax. With only moments to go, Trinity made one last desperate attempt to tie the match but the siren sounded and it was all over, red rover! A gallant, hard fought victory to the purple and gold!



Richard Williamson on the run



Oops! Menzies misjudges



"You have to laugh!" Ben Menzies finds a friend for life!

Lions take no prisoners

Richo bags 10 as Wesley show Xavier no mercy...

WESLEY COLLEGE 23. 15. 153

XAVIER COLLEGE 1. 2. 8

GOALS: Williamson 10, Beerens 4, Parsons 2, Camov 2, Candy, Menzies, Spiller, Kamener, Ruskin

BEHINDS: Bagnara 3

BEST: Ruskin, Williamson, Parsons, Beerens, Candy, Menzies, Kamener, Spiller, Wilson, Bagnara, Adams, Hawkins, Vickery, Waddell, Camov, Day, Newton

INJURIES: Wilson (finger), Beerens (shoulder) Bagnara (lip, elbow, etc.)

GOALS of the DAY: Menzies (on the run), Camov (checkside), Candy (off hands), Williamson (take your pick!)

SMOTHER of the DAY: Ruskin

PETER CRIMMINS Award for Courage: Wilson

Last weekend's tough encounter with Trinity had left the Lions a little battered and bruised but the thought of confronting Xavier at the historic Glenferrie Oval was enough to ease their pain. The fact that the fixture had been rescheduled to midday was a bonus for the sleepy-heads and the party animals. Vickers was especially happy as he could have breakfast in bed and watch the reruns of "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles".

The weather had turned wintry when the Lions rocked up at the Linda Crescent ground. New recruit, Tom Candy volunteered for the skipper's duties and chose to kick to the Glenferrie Road end. Although Kammer was yet to be sighted, the Lions opened well with Parso on the ball and Zac in the ruck, replacing the recently promoted Trudzik. Richo was quick to make an impact on the game with an early goal, and birthday boy, Ben Ruskin was clearly going to be in for a good day! Willo gave his opponent the slip and with the aid of a strong Parso shepherd he was able to feed the ball to Beerens who made no mistake. Jack almost negated his good work by giving away a penalty in the opposition's half, but a behind was all the Xavvys could muster. At the 15 minute mark there was an excited cheer from the street as "Romeo" Kamener stepped from his stretch limo and made his way onto the ground through a crowd of fans and well wishers. Meanwhile, Richo snapped his second from the swimming pool pocket. Matt Spiller was reading the game to perfection and was dropping into hole after hole. When his little chip found Zac, Josh was quick to offer himself as a target and he wasted no time in posting the Lions' fourth goal.

The second term opened with more of the same, as Timmy Bags and Hawko set Richo up for goals on the run. The Lions were getting plenty of run out of defence

Memories of a golden era...

Richard Williamson's 10 goal haul against Xavier on Saturday brought back memories of a golden era at the Glenferrie Oval. Thirty five years ago during the last round in May 1970, Hawthorn goalkicking legend, Peter Hudson booted 13 against South Melbourne. He went on to finish the season with an amazing 146 goals! Hawthorn cheer squad veteran, 75 year old Alf Smith was at the ground on Saturday, just as he had been on May 23, 1970. "Watching that young Williamson brought tears to my eyes" he said. "His goal sense is uncanny. I couldn't help thinking of young Huddo in his long sleeve guernsey slotting them from every corner of the ground. We'll have to watch out for him in the 2008 Draft!"



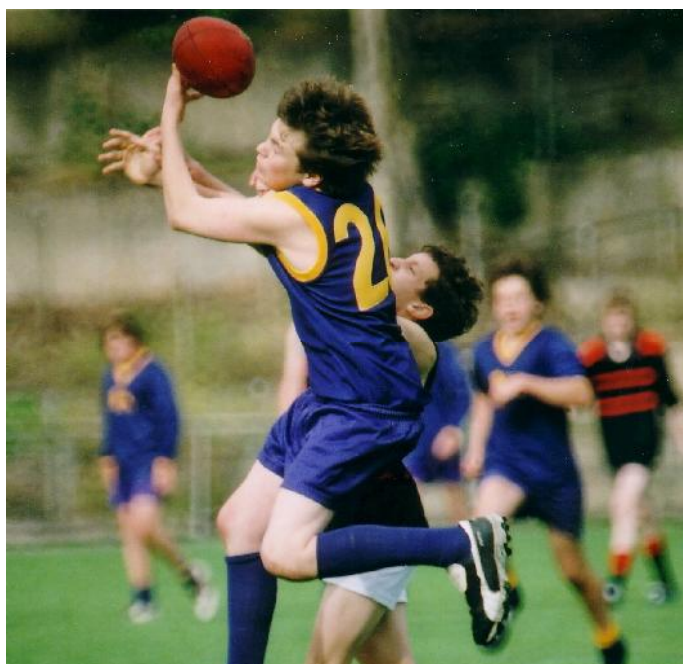
Richard Williamson makes himself at home at the Glenferrie Oval. Williamson ended the day with a career best 10 goals.



Hawthorn's Peter Hudson in action at the Glenferrie Oval

through the efforts of Kammers, Rusko and Captain Candy. A dashing downfield disposal by the skipper ended with Spills receiving a free kick, but before he could get to his feet Richo had taken advantage of the advantage rule and slotted his fifth! An overeager attempt to score another sent the ball off into the grandstand, but the resultant Xavier free kick landed with pinpoint accuracy in Matt Spiller's arms for a "gimme" goal. Big Sammy was getting bored at full back and was happy to relieve Zac in the ruck, but when he received some unnecessary attention from a frustrated Xavvy he responded in kind. For their efforts, both players were sent to cool down in the Sin Bin, but the Lions quickly regained their composure and successive goals to Beerens set the scoreboard ticking again.

No wonder the Xavier players were frustrated! Out thought, outpaced and outplayed all over the ground they were struggling to string possessions together. Sammy Adams, Hawko and Ben Menzies were giving nothing away in the midfield and Hughie and Vickers were wearing their opponents like the proverbial glove. The quarter ended with another major to Richo and a barnstorming goal on the run to Benno. At the long break the Lions were comfortably placed, resting on a 75 point cushion.



Paddy Wilson juggles a one hander in this close contest

Despite losing Sammy and the assistant coach before half time, the Lions bounced back after the break full of running. Josh and Willo carried the ball forward for Jack to register his first for the day and Richo was soon in the action again as he brought up his seventh. Bags had seen plenty of action during the first half but he had little to show for his efforts apart from a bloodied elbow and a cut lip. He was tired of Richo grabbing all the glory and was determined to join the goal kickers list, but it just wasn't his day! All he could manage for the quarter was three lousy behinds. Meanwhile, Richo added an eighth goal to his personal tally.



The elusive Josh Kamener evades another Xavier tackle

Rusko and Vickers were as solid as ever in defence despite a shortage of players. Hughie had dropped into the full back position vacated by Newton and was annoying the opposition by punching the ball away from every contest. At the other end of the ground Harley was being busy around the goals, but like Timmy he was having trouble finding the six point zone. There were no such worries for Zac however, and his tireless work in the ruck was rewarded with a fourth major as the Lions surged further ahead. As the quarter drew to a close, Candy couldn't resist another dash downfield. While Rusko minded the shop, he snatched the Sherrin from a ball up inside the fifty, and made no mistake to take his team to a handy 111 point lead at the final change.

The snakes were well received and after Jordan had discovered and distributed the coach's secret cache of jelly babies, the Lions were literally leaping out of their skin! It was all the coach could do to stop them running straight back out for the final quarter! A few words of encouragement and several positional changes later, the Lions were set loose again. The Xavier players must

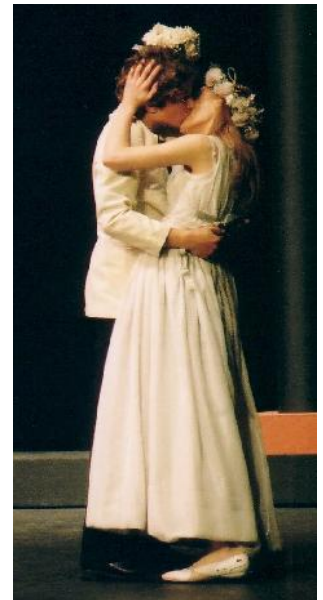


Sam Newton and opponent on the way to the Sin Bin

The Lions were making no compromises. The last stanza of the match was action packed as their superior team work and skill level allowed them to control the game all over the ground. Benno chipped the ball into Parso's waiting arms and he posted the first goal for the quarter. Kammers set Rusko up for a major and the free running Willo popped the ball into the square for Jordo to simply pivot and tap through an energy efficient goal. Everything seemed to be going right for the Lions until a lack of discretion by Ben Menzies reduced the number of players on the oval by two. However, with or without Benno, the Wesley midfield was unstoppable and there was still plenty of run in the legs of Adams, Wilson, Spiller and Hawkins. A dislocated digit was not holding Willo back and there he was again passing to Spills who gave the ball off to Richo for his ninth. A clever check-side snap gave Camov another, but Xavier replied with a goal of their own as the Lions were temporarily distracted by the 1.26 as it sped out of Glenferrie station.



Parsons takes a specky



Kamener in a close tackle



Jack was annoying hell out of the opposition (and the umpires) with his chatter, but nobody could complain about the standard of his football! Richo was getting anxious... the clock was running down and he'd promised his dad a double figure tally, so it was a great relief when the ball found its way to him again and his magic boots didn't let him down! As the ball was bounced in the centre and cleared towards the railway wing, one Wesley player did not move. Zac had collided with an opponent and his dodgy shoulder had slipped out of its socket. Emergency treatment by Dr. Williamson saved the day but the game had fizzled to a close as the Xavier players finally lost interest and wandered off towards the boundary. You couldn't really blame them.



Tom Candy delivers long



Williamson slots another



A one percenter from Sam Adams

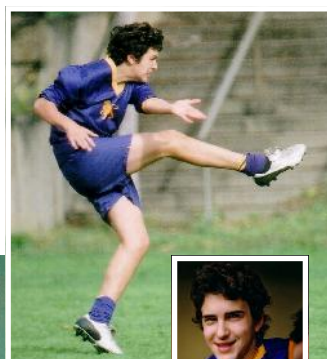


Berens nurses his shoulder



Williamson feeds a runner

Zac Beerens does the ruck work
Below: *Birthday Boy Ben Ruskin*



Matt Spiller traps a passing footy. Josh is ready to run!

SPORTING MONDAY

Monday June 6 2005

with *Ollie Ford*



"Hey, watch that elbow!" Skipper Ben Menzies is sandwiched.



Lion Ruckman Aran O'Hare takes a strong overhead grab



Courageous onballer Jack Parsons is ridden to the ground

LIONS DECEIVED! *NATSEC Lions outmanned outgunned and outwitted...*

WESLEY SKR/E Not much
WESLEY GW Quite a lot
BEST: Parsons, Adams, Menzies, Ruskin,
Spiller, O'Hare, Candy, Vickery
INJURIES: Adams (eye), Spiller (nose), Newton (leg)
POINT of the DAY: Ruskin
PLAY of the DAY: Ruskin - Williamson -
Wilson - Camov - Ruskin = Poster
RUN of the DAY: Candy
BORED FORWARDS AWDS: Camov, Waddell
NEVER SAY DIE AWARD: Parsons,
HEADER of the DAY: O'Hare
HARD AT THE BALL AWARD: Spiller
SECOND EFFORT AWARD: Adams
PLAYING TALL AWARD: Hawkins
BEST BOUNDARY THROW IN: Day
WORST THROW IN: Richo's Dad
BEST KICKERINERER: Newton
SPOILS of the DAY: Vickery, Day
CHEST MARK of the DAY: Cook
CAN'T TAKE A TRICK AWARD: Wilson
ONE OF THOSE DAYS AWD: Bagnara, Richo
GUTSY MARKS of the DAY: Menzies

Saturday's long awaited shootout between the competition leaders, the NATSEC Lions and their rural counterparts the GW Lions, was the weekend's major sporting letdown. After all the hype, the game on the windy William's Oval proved to be little more than a farce.

Although Club officials refused to be drawn on the matter, it is understood that the NATSEC Lions will be registering a formal complaint with the APS.

When I approached the NATSEC coach for a comment after the game, he insisted that his lips were sealed, but his players were not so reticent. I caught up with the team yesterday morning at a bayside cafe after their post-match swim at South Melbourne beach. Over a glass or two of cordial the players proved more than happy to speak candidly about the game.

Skipper Ben Menzies made the situation quite clear. "To put it simply Ollie, we was duped! How is it that Glen Waverley had about eight interchange players and we didn't even have a full team? How come so many of our good players have been poached by the A's and their players haven't?"

"That's right" added an angry Jack Parsons. "And how come we had to wear our guernseys inside out? How can a team play proper footy wearing pussy little pastel blue jumpers! We should have tossed a coin."



Just one of those days! Jack Parsons loses his footing

“...and that’s not all” added Harley Waddell. “All week we thought we were playing on the Kennedy Oval so we practiced the special Kennedy oval drills during the day and visualised a big win on the Kennedy Oval when we were in bed at night. Vickers even rang up the Weather Bureau to find out about how the wind would be blowing on the Kennedy. So what happens is, when we get to the ground some dude tells us that we have to play on the other ground where the wind is coming from the wing! So all our work was wasted. It’s just not fair!”

The others nodded their heads in agreement. The boys were obviously upset. I took the risk and raised the question of match day performance. “But the GW players looked more switched on” I said. “They seemed to be in the zone.”



“Take this!” Tom Candy prepares to dump his opponent

Until now, Lion strong man Ben Ruskin had said nothing, but my comment triggered his rage.

“Yeah, but what were they drinking? It was more than water they had in those bottles! I know coffee breath when I smell it, and their CHF reeked!”

“I reckon they were all on steroids” volunteered Lewis Hawkins “they were humungous!”

Timmy Bagnara refilled his glass and added his two bob’s worth.

“...and my Dad said he had to walk for ages just to get water for our bottles!”

“Tim’s right, Ollie,” chimed in winger Sam Adams. “You can’t expect to play well when you’re dying of thirst. That ground is a dump!”

“It sure is” said Paddy Wilson, “it’s a real paddock. You can’t even bounce the ball properly. It goes all over the place.”

Another group of players joined us

“Have you said anything about the umpires yet?” asked Slammin Sammy Newton. “I’d say there was a bit of favouritism going on there.”

“Too right Sammy” proffered Hughsie Daysie. “The Glen Waverley boundary umpire always threw the ball straight to their ruckman. You can’t tell me that was an accident!”

“...and what about my mark in the square” added FF Jordan Camov, “their goal umpire said I was over the line! That was so much bulldust”



Tom Candy just beats the Glen Waverley double smother

Cooky and Aran nodded in agreement as A’s veteran Tom Candy stood up to make a point.

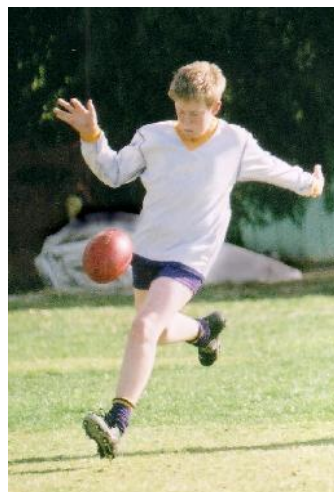
“The thing is” he said, “none of the guys in that team train with the A squad. I reckon they’ve been hiding out so they can get an easy kick in the B’s. I bet Hibbo doesn’t even know they exist!”

“And you know what really sucks?” came a voice from the back of the café. It was Lion sharp shooter Richard Williamson. “I didn’t even kick a goal!”

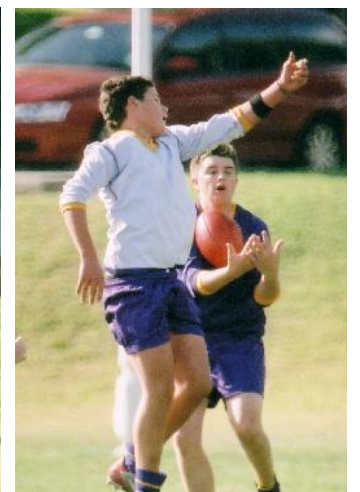
I still had a few questions to ask, but skipper Ben Menzies indicated that the interview was over.

“Don’t get us wrong, Ollie. We’re not whingeing or anything. We just want to set a few things straight. Anyway, we have to go. We’re off to see “Star Wars” again.”

“What about the cartoons?” asked Vickers. “You said we could see Nemo today. That’s not fair!”



Paul Vickery prefers cartoons



Sam Newton miscalculates

Lion lured to Hollywood

Star ruck rover Josh Kammener missed Saturday's clash with Glen Waverley due to an offer "too good to refuse". Josh had been invited to Hollywood by none other than celebrated Australian director, Baz Luhrmann!



Together with fellow thespian, Lewis Mitchell, Josh flew out on Friday night for an audition at MGM Studios. Just last week the boys received rave reviews for their performances in the ATC production of "Romeo and Juliet".

Luhrmann is planning a remake of his 1996 adaptation of Shakespeare's perennial favourite.

"You know" he said, "there's a whole generation of 14 year old girls out there who don't even know who Leonardo Dicaprio is! What we need are fresh faces for a fresh generation. I reckon these two guys have got what it takes... and besides, I gotta pay the rent somehow."



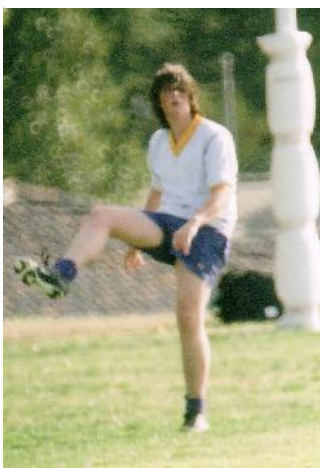
Jack Parsons holds his ground and takes the footy



Waddell is swamped but he still manages to elude the enemy



"Ouch! Watch where you put your hands buddy!"



Will Cook clears the ball



"They must be on something!"

Lion in tug-of-war



Star Wesley ruckman, Zac Behrens is caught in a major tug-of-war between two of the world's leading Soccer powers. Once the news leaked out that Behrens shoulder injury would prevent him from fronting up with the Lions again this season both Liverpool and AC Milan

authorities were quick to pick up the phone. With fellow Ozzy, Harry Kewell falling out of favour with the English club the management is known to be looking for another colonial. Zac's speed, agility and courage would make him an ideal replacement.

Following their recent defeat in the European Championships, the Italian club is also keen to add Behrens to its lineup.

Zac hopes for a quick settlement to the dispute. "I just wanna play footy" he said, "but I reckon Italian food tastes better and they tell me Italian women aren't bad either!"

Dirty work at the crossroads!

Lions have a dirty day as mid season slump continues...

WESLEY COLLEGE 9. 5. 59
BRIGHTON GRAMMAR 23. 14. 152

GOALS: Williamson 5, Spiller, Bagnara, Ruskin, Menzies

BEST: Parsons, Menzies, Adams, Williamson, Vickery, Newton, Bagnara, McGregor

INJURIES: Everybody (grazed knees, turned ankles, dirty fingernails)

GOAL of the DAY: Bagnara (under pressure)

MARKS of the DAY: Vickers, Menzies

FLY of the DAY: Parsons

RUN of the DAY: Parsons

PLAY of the DAY: Adams-Bagnara-McGregor -Spiller- Ruskin = GOAL!

The Lions preparation for the first clash after the mid-season redraw was far from ideal. Following the heart-breaking loss to their country cousins the boys were searching for any excuse to avoid training. After his goal less performance Williamson was so close to a breakdown that he admitted himself to the St.Kilda Sports Clinic for an intensive after-school rehabilitation program. The Year 10's focus slipped still further as they entered, then exited a challenging period of examinations. The situation worsened when injuries and poor form hit the College First XVIII. As more of the 10As were promoted to the big time, the ripple effect became a major threat at the shallow end of the Wesley footy pool. To make matters worse, the goal posts on the Front Turf were moved and the earth spun momentarily off its orbit.

When the first of the Lions arrived early on Saturday at the impressively titled Castlefield Reserve they found more dirt than Wacko Jacko's team of private investigators could ever dig up! What little grass remained on the oval was being nonchalantly nibbled by a small flock of



Jack Parsons takes another courageous mark under pressure

tatty looking sheep, a moth-eaten llama and an assortment rabbits, guinea pigs and chooks. A couple of snorting pigs were rooting around in the congealed mud where you'd expect to find a Centre Half Forward.

Trudzy was horrified but Vickers was beside himself with excitement. "This is just like the Children's Farm! he exclaimed to Lewis. "Wow, look at that big cow thing over there. Do you think they'd let me ride on it?" "I think that's Sam's Rottweiler, Paul. I wouldn't go near it if I were you!" advised Matt Spiller.

Meanwhile an old chap in gumboots emerged from the change rooms with a couple of tired looking kelpies and began shooing the sheep into the next paddock.

As the Lion's specialist coach began the usual pre-match routine he noticed something strange. Brighton seemed to have about twice as many players. A quick count confirmed his suspicion. There were only about a dozen Lions on deck! Sam Newton reached for his mobile. A few moments later it was all good. "They're on their way. Jack says not to start without them!"

Captain for the day, Patrick Wilson was introduced to his opposite number but instead of tossing a coin he had to play a silly game of "guess which hand the whistle is in?" before the match could start. "We'll kick to the old dam end thanks, but could you move that tractor out of the goal square please?"

The Lions opened well. Richo's therapy sessions paid immediate dividends and he posted his first goal for the day, but there were some worrying signs. A very large Brighton ruckman, an even larger full forward and a confident mid fielder looked dangerous, and all around the field (paddock) the opposition seemed to be tuned into a different frequency. A couple of careless errors allowed the opposition to register back to back goals and despite some courageous play by Jack and



Harry McGregor gets down and gets dirty but has nowhere to go

the Lions were unable to convert several half-chances. Tom Candy was running well off half back and Sammy Adams was already involved in a life and death struggle with his opposite number, but with Camov home by the fire and Rusko hampered by the effects of a flu bug our defence was finding it difficult to cover Brighton's scoring options. Four unanswered goals set the Lions back on their heels, and although the skipper did his best to inspire the boys with his famous 360 party trick, it was Brighton who scored again before the quarter



Eyes on the ball! Defender, Paul Vickery punches clear

closed. Once again the Lions began the new quarter well, and after his first effort missed the target, Richo made no mistake when he received a handball from Bags. Sadly though, Brighton responded with another four unanswered goals. Their big full forward was proving a handful for Sam Newton and too many opposition players were being allowed to roam free when the ball crossed the centre line. By contrast the Lions were lacking experience up forward. Dave Vatousios, in his first game for the season, was presenting well, but without forward pockets to assist him, his task was a difficult one. Sammy A was enjoying his tussle on the wing and when he and Timmy combined to send the ball forward the team produced a passage of quality football as Harry Mac's kick found Spills and Rusko finished it all off with a significant goal. Parso was displaying his usual blend of skill and creativity, but after a heavy Friday night he was struggling with the defensive running. Rusko and Richo teamed together to give the Lions their fourth, but Brighton finished the half with another swag of sausage rolls—despite the determined efforts of Vickers and Logie winner Hughsie Daysie. At the long interval the Lions found themselves 83 points in arrears!



Centremen Ben Menzies swings onto his trusty left foot

During the break the whisper spread through the Lion's camp that Brighton's oversized ruckman and full forward were leaving early to play in a fixture for older boys. Mmmm... The Lions' specialist coach suggested that he might pull his boots on to even things up, but he too had to leave to play in a fixture for old boys.

Not surprisingly, the second half was a much more even contest. Sammy opened in the ruck and Trudzy and Vatousi added some height to the defense, but it was a general lift in performance level all over the ground that made the difference. Although Brighton opened and finished with a goal, the Lions controlled the play for much of the quarter. Good work by Newton allowed Jack the chance for a long shot, but the kick didn't quite have the carry. Richo had no such problem—if he was too far out he would gain ground by short passing to himself! Ben Menzies was continuing to work hard in the midfield and when he pushed forward he looked dangerous. A quick handball to Bags was not wasted and Timmy snuck the ball between the big sticks for his team's fifth goal. Tommy Candy and the skipper were providing some dash along the flanks, and although outsized, Hawko was being his usual constructive self when the ball came within range.



Tim Bagnara withstands the pressure to sneak a goal

With memories of Friday night fading, the Lions began to focus for a big last quarter, but Brighton jumped the gun and hit the target first. "Come on guys, we can do better than this!" yelled Jack, "I didn't stay up all night to get whipped by these pretenders!"

"Same here" added the two Bens. "Let's give 'em a run for their money!"

Grabbing the ball at the centre bounce, Parso and Ben Menzies one-twoed it through the sand pit and through the big sticks. "See, it's not that difficult boys!" Jack exclaimed. Sammy Newton was contesting well in the ruck and although he was a step ahead of himself at times, he was making a difference. The two party boys teamed up again to help Spills to a goal and then Vickers ventured out of his comfort zone long enough to send the ball to the running Richo who goaled from the outer flank. The roar from the crowd set Richo's adrenaline pumping and when Benno passed the ball in his direction he provided an encore performance for those who might have missed his previous effort. When the umpire realised that Wesley was actually taking the game up to his boys he intercepted a stray footy and took a long shot himself. Eyebrows had been raised earlier in the match when he had awarded two goals for the price of one, but this was taking things a shade too far! Luckily, he shanked his kick and Parso capitalised on the rebound with a record breaking run - but it was all too late. What a pity we hadn't started the game like this!



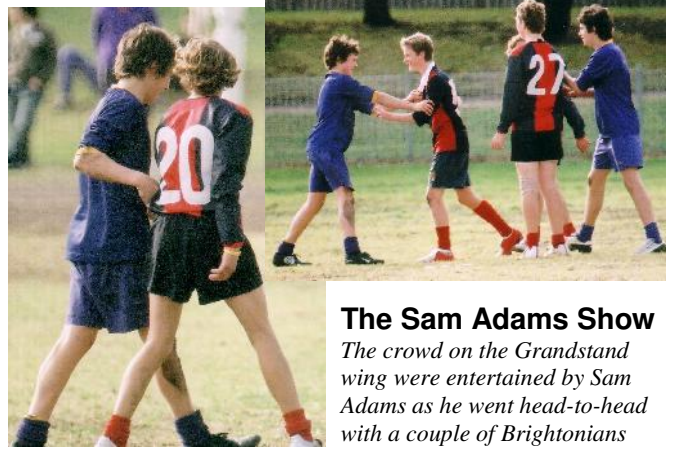
Players enjoy the spectacle of a field umpire shooting for goal



"I'm sticking to cordial from now on!" Sam Newton marks strongly



Richard Williamson gets back on the goal kicking list with 5



The Sam Adams Show

The crowd on the Grandstand wing were entertained by Sam Adams as he went head-to-head with a couple of Brightonians



STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS APS LAUNCHES SECRET INQUIRY



Tim gets a good look at the dirt

Reliable sources report that the APS is far from satisfied with the condition of Brighton Grammar School's showpiece stadium, Castlefield Reserve. The surface of the oval paddock has drawn regular criticism from opposition coaches and players this season and the Lions were quick to add their support to the "Plough up Castlefield and Start Again" lobby following Saturday's game.

"It's bloody dangerous!" commented Lion captain Patrick Wilson, "you could break an ankle out there!"

"We thought it must have been the Brighton Tip when we first saw it on Saturday!" added Tom Candy.

We contacted Wesley's internationally renowned, award winning curator for an opinion, but he was unwilling to discuss the matter, except to say that he remembered seeing more grass at an Anti Vietnam protest back in 1969.

It is believed that the APS has called in a troubleshooting team from the CSIRO to analyse the surface and provide a full report.



Close up of the controversial surface



Jack "Parso" PARSONS

Irrepressible bundle of energy who never gives less than 100%. Reads the play well, hits the ball hard and kicks both feet. Great team player who talks to encourage, support and just for the sake of it. Big future predicated for this loveable larrikin.



Rising Star Award

WESLEY COLLEGE 2005

Oliver "Ollie" FORD



Talented, hard working footballer who made a big impact in the opening rounds before earning a promotion. Has all the skills, time to spare and the ability to snap freakish goals. Returned to the team for the final rounds to be with his mates.

Quality Time Award

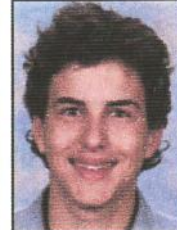
Sam "Sammy" ADAMS



Cheeky wingman with a strong defensive game. Attacks balls and opponents with equal vigour and has a good turn of speed. Allergic to training, but a leader in onfield fashions. Turns each match into a social event.

Sam Just Wants to Have Fun Award

Ben "Zorba" RUSKIN



The quiet achiever of the backline who made the CHB position his own. His direct approach on the ball, courage in close contests and commitment to the team effort was admirable. Suffered from jet lag during the final rounds.

No Pasaran Award

Tom "Tommy" CANDY

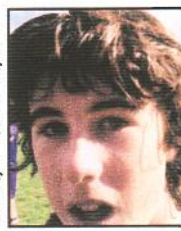
Reliable defender with a wacky, anarchistic streak, who was able to inspire his team mates with dashing runs and desperate defensive lunges. Pushing off half back his long searching kicks broke the lines and honed in on downfield targets.



Crossing the Lines Award

Matthew "Spills" SPILLER

Courageous and skilful rover prepared to get down and get dirty at the fall of the ball. Dived fearlessly into packs and did his best work at ground level. Showed a nice turn of speed when not hampered by niggling injuries.



Fall of the Ball Award

Patrick "Paddy" WILSON

Sporting allrounder from a long line of Wesley footballers. Reads the game well but plays like a forward regardless of his position. Has all the orthodox skills and has invented a few moves of his own. Look away handballs are a speciality.



Slick Skills Award

Josh "Hollywood" KAMENER



Received rave reviews wherever he appeared this season. On the field he entertained with his polished performances as a ruck rover. On the stage he impressed as a passionate Shakespearean lover. Attracted by the bright lights of the 'A's mid season.

Star Turn Awd

Jordan "Cammo" CAMOV



Willy boy who emerged from early retirement to augment the Lions' key position options. Began at full back but niggling injuries forced a transfer forward. Operated effectively on one leg from the goal square (when his taxi ran

Save Your Legs Award

to sched-

Harry "Mac" MCGREGOR



Talented youngster with poise and skill who attracted the eye of the 'A's coach after an impressive ruck performance in the opening round. Returned midseason and displayed versatility, fronting up as a wingman, rover and CHF.

Tip Top Tap Dog Award

Zac "Danger's my middle name" BEERENS



Year 8 star who was tempted by the glamour of FA Cup glory but was persuaded to switch back to the local game. Showed talent in the ruck and around the goals before a troublesome shoulder forced him back to the soccer pitch on doctor's orders.

A Tragedy for Footy Award

Toby "The Man In White's Always Right" COHEN

Clever, opportunistic forward picked up from Clunes in the mid season draft. Displayed all the skills—particularly around the goals where he found holes, marked courageously, crumbed astutely and snapped truly.



Umpires' Friend Award

Hugh "Hughsie" DAY

Happy-go-lucky member of the second term squad who tried his hand in a number of positions before finding his feet as a tagger. Stuck to his opponents as tenaciously as Steven Baker while earning a few valuable kicks of his own.



Tag Me to Your Leader Award

Hamish "Yaawn" GAIRNS



Enigmatic sports enthusiast who is his own worst enemy. Proved a handy defender with a killer drop punt, but his on field performances were often compromised by his laid back approach to life. Hates training and prefers afternoon

What's the Rush Award

fix-

Matt "Matty" CRONE



Enthusiastic sports lover who transferred from Clunes in time for the final rounds. Showed encouraging signs of talent when given a run up forward, where he read the play well. Will benefit from a full season in 2006.

Lions Roar Award

Aaron "Azza" O'HARE



Honest, hard working ruckman with a good leap who played all but one game with the "A's" Performed well in his only outing despite the on-sided nature of the contest.

Limited Opportunity Awd

NATSEC LIONS

Benjamin "Benno" MENZIES



One of the season's surprise packets. Led by example from the midfield where he was hard at the footy and at anybody who got in the way. A strong mark and a mean tackler whose social life occasionally hampered his match

Play Hard Party Hard Award preparations.



Richard "Richo" WILLIAMSON

Lean, athletic footballer with a long reach and a handy turn of speed. Proved himself an ideal half-forward flanker who could make and find space. Although he sometimes lost track of his opponent he never lost sight of the big sticks.



Magnetic Attraction Award

Sam "Sammy" NEWTON

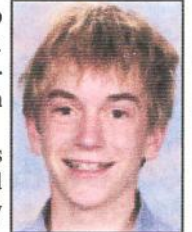
Volatile key position player who performed creditably at either end of the ground - despite a preference for the offensive half. Liked to move the ball quickly but in his eagerness was often a step ahead of himself. Stayed cool in most crises!



Chill Out Award

Tim "Bags" BAGNARA

Enthusiastic rover who hates playing in defense. Often outweighed by opponents but never outdone in the courage department. Bounced back from bruises and bloody noses to feed off and receive the footy with equal enthusiasm.



Scared of the dark. *Never Say Die Award*

Will "Cooky" COOK



Keen footballer who made an impression in defense. What he lacked in elegance he made up for in determination, playing close and denying opponents easy gets. Nagging injuries disrupted his season but he suffered most pain on Grand Final day!

Grounded Eagle Award

Paul "Vickers" VICKERY



Ever reliable, dependable defender born to back pocket greatness. Plays close and hard but can't resist the occasional dash downfield. An astute football thinker in the mold of illustrious AFL back pockets like Malthouse & Sheeds

It's in the Bag Award

Alex "Trudzy" TRUDZIK



Big lump of a lad with a level headed approach to the game. Early experience in the 'As' was put to good use and his height and strength made him an automatic choice to fill a key position or to do the heavy ruckwork. Always gave 100% whatever the task.

T-Train Award

Harley "Harls" WADDELL

Enthusiastic sportsman who played most of his football as an offensive crumber, but served some time in defense. Read the play well and made good position around packs. Inspired Nick Davis with his opportunistic goal against Geelong Grammar.



Hungry Crumber Award

Lewis "Lewy" HAWKINS

Valuable wingman who was never daunted by bigger opponents. Instead of flying with the big men he annoyed them by focusing on the "one percenters". Harassed, shepherded, blocked and spoiled tirelessly but also proved a valuable link in the mid field chain.



Little Things Count Award

David "Dave" VATOUSIOS

Multi talented allround student who managed to squeeze a few games into his busy academic and cultural schedule after shaking off several nagging injuries. Showed glimpses of ability near the goals but spent more time stretching than actually training or playing.



Better Safe Than Sorry Award

Will "Macca" McMULLIN



Useful mid season pickup whose height and strength proved invaluable. Uncomplainingly plugged gaps at Full Back, CHB, CHIF and in the ruck, but could not demonstrate his true potential in just three games and so many positions.

Offensive Defensive Award

Alex "AI" O'NEILL



Another Clunes draftee who displayed promise despite limited opportunities. Played mainly in defense where his clean ball handling and accurate disposal made him an asset. Achieved celebrity status with a late season television appearance.

Celebrity Status Award

Adam "ADDS" WRIGHT



Lively addition to the squad who returned to the Big Smoke looking for action after serving his term at Clunes. Threw himself into the onfield action hassling and harassing in defense and crumbing effectively up forward.

24 / 7 Award

Dylan "No Name" McINERNEY

Arrived from Clunes with a big reputation, impressed in his one outing at CHB then went AWOL. Was it a hamstring, a heartstring or heart palpitations? Last seen courting a young gal when he should have been at training.



Previous Engagement Award

ALMOST PLAYED DEPARTMENT

MARCUS



SHOULD HAVE PLAYED DEPARTMENT

CHASE



Adam "Brittle Bones" WRIGHT-SMITH

An important cog in the Lions machine who displayed glimpses of form in the half court prakys but bombed out on Saturdays by breaking both arms. Should consider a non-contact sport or early retirement.



Give Me a Break Award

LIONS UP AGAINST IT!

Wesley perform creditably despite fixture mismatch....

WESLEY COLLEGE 3. 1. 19
THE OTHER ONE 14. 19. 103

GOALS: Williamson, Cohen, Vatousios
BEST: Candy, Parsons, Trudzik, Menzies,
 Adams, Gairn, McGregor

INJURIES: Adams (corky)

GOAL of the DAY: Vatousios (clever banana)

MARKS of the DAY: Parsons, Menzies, Cohen

TACKLE of the DAY: Adams

BODYSLAM of the DAY: Candy

SMOTHERS of the DAY: Candy, McGregor

WILL BRING RAIN AWARD: McGregor

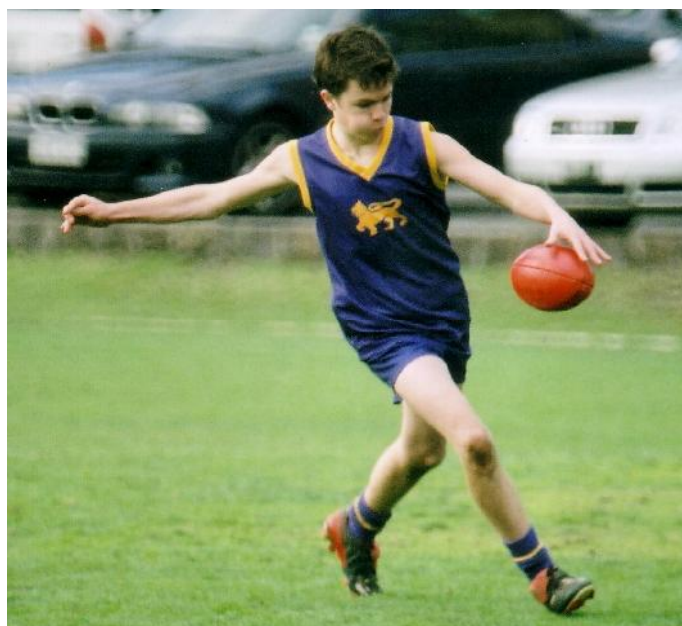
ANOTHER ONE OF THOSE DAYS AWD: Wilson

The recent holiday period was marred for many of the Lions by the unpleasant thought of fronting up for a return fixture against their country cousins. With a number of star players being held hostage "for disciplinary reasons" by the 10A coach and an equal number of GW stars being returned to their local team, there was little cause for optimism. However, the NATSEC Lions were looking forward to being joined for the second part of the season by several new faces as a result of the mid-season draft. In a behind the scenes deal, Vickers, Hughsie Daysie and Hawko had been exchanged with the Clunes F.C. for Will McMullin, Dylan McInerney, Toby Cohen. Matt Crone, Adam Wright, Hamish Gairns, Alex O'Neill and Matt. All very well on paper, but injuries to Spills and Camov meant that the team would still be shy of full strength for the big match.

Nevertheless, the boys approached the warm up with enthusiasm and Bags was fired up for the toss. Trudzy was keen to make an imprint on the match and from the opening bounce he set an example with his determination. Parso, too wasted no time in throwing himself into



The ever reliable Jack Parsons sends the ball out of danger

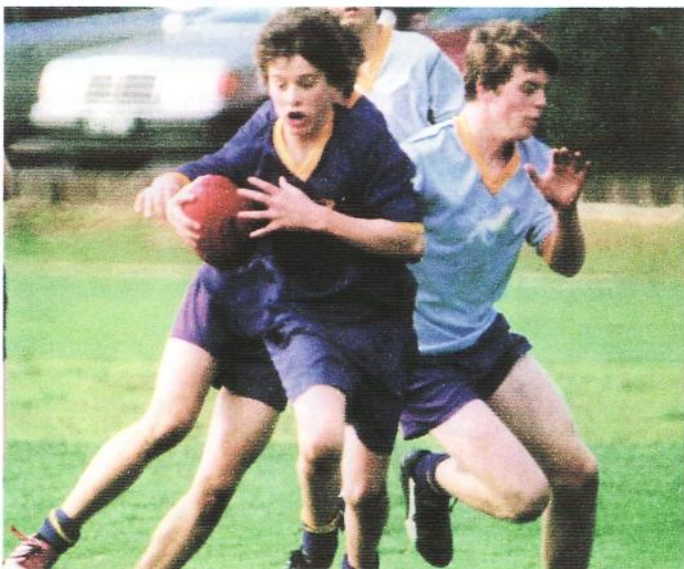


Man of the Match, Tom Candy effects another clearance

the contest, but the Lions soon realised that their opponents were still that bit taller and more accomplished all over the field. Before long the visitors had registered three successive goals and the Lions could have been in for a looong morning, but to their credit the boys took up the challenge. Jack soon found a running Vatousios with a little chip and Dave didn't let him down, threading a clever checkside snap through the hi-diddle-diddle. The new boys were settling in well with Will Mac strong at Full Back and Dylan Mac looking good at Centre Half Back. Toby impressed with a skillful 360 turn and Hamish and Alex showed touches of class in defence. Tommy Candy had arrived late thanks to Willo's confusing instructions but once on the field he was quick to give the Lion fans a few thrills. A desperate lunge on the last line prevented another opposition goal and at the first break the difference was sixteen points.

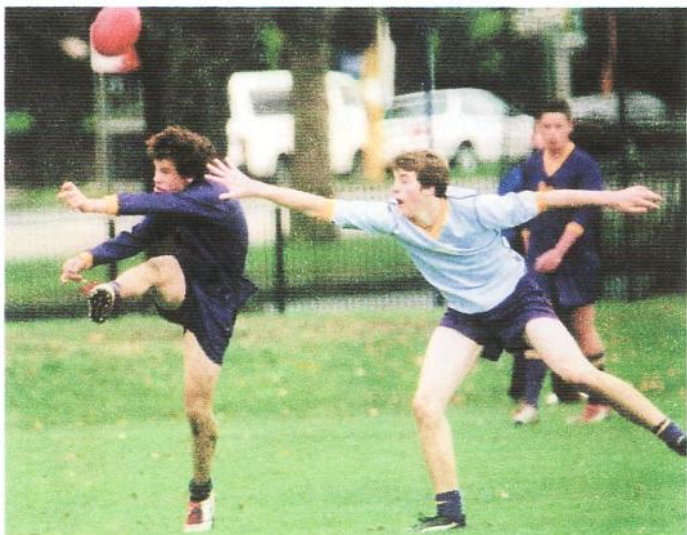
The second quarter scoreline was almost a carbon copy of the first as the Lions continued to press hard and take the contest up to their opponents. A lucky goal off the ground to GW was matched by a goal to the home team from the boot of Cohen as a consequence of a fine passage of play from Trudzy, Willo and Hamish. The coaching panel had been afraid that Sammy Adams would be exhausted after his huge training session on Thursday, but he had recovered well and was at his niggling, hassling best. Benno was attacking the footy (and anybody who happened to get in the way) with zeal and Jacko was not letting a painful wrist injury slow his attack on the ball. Another major to the opposition was unfortunate, as was Richo's inaccurate reply, but Tommy Candy kept the flag flying until half time with great running off half back.

Despite their good intentions and their determination, not much went right for the Lions during the third term. Benno, Jack and Trudzy continued to give it their best shot in the midfield and Timmy was showing the courage you'd expect from a skipper, but the height difference over most of the ground was making it hard for the Lions to capitalise on their possessions. Harley, Dave and Richo were becoming frustrated forwards and Big Sammy was having trouble finding an entry point into the game so he and Will swapped places. At least Sammy was now assured of a few stats as the GW for-



Cheeky winger Sam Adams breaks clear of his opponent

wards were pressured into some inaccurate goal kicking by the Lion defence. Adam was a scary sight in his sleeveless guernsey and opposition players were seen to tremble when he flexed a bicep. Meanwhile, Hamish and Tommy were repeatedly rebounding from half back in the direction of the effervescent Sam Adams and the lively Harry McGregor who had stepped up a gear. Paddy Wilson, the thinking man's footballer, was doing his best to set up the switch to the Members' Wing, but it was just as well nobody saw him because he was having a dog of a day. At the final change the Lions were 59 points in arrears and victory was no longer an option.

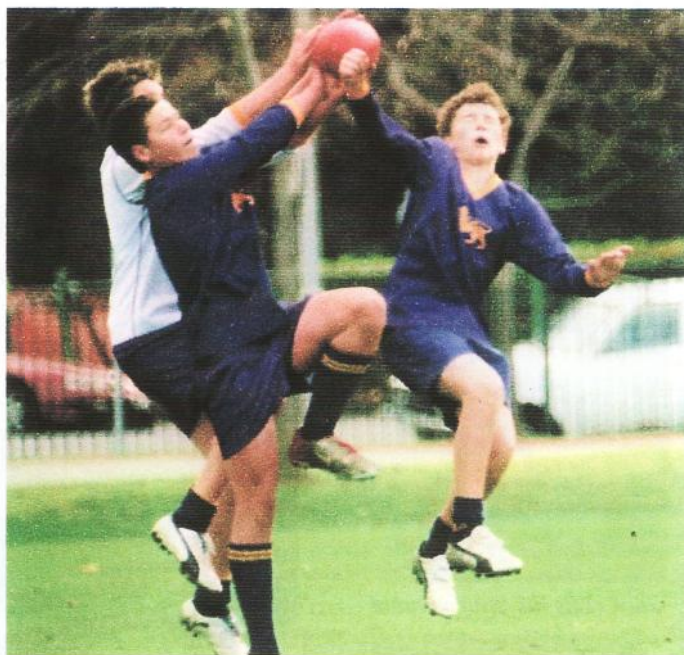


Rover, Harry McGregor kicks long out of the danger zone



Richard Williamson stretches out for another big roost

Disappointed by the turn of events, the Lions had their pride to consider now. By maintaining pressure on their opponents around the ground the game was kept alive, even if the scorecard indicated otherwise. There were no gimmies for Glen Waverley as Dylan, Big Sammy and Matty Crone stuck to their job on the last line and the onballers refused to give in. A great smother by Harry set the tone and Hamish provided a courageous example when the ball hit the deck. Trudzy continued to dominate in the ruck but was forced to take a breather after copping a knock. A clever switch from Harry set Richo



Defenders Sam Newton and Matt Crone compete for the ball

up for the team's third goal, but GW replied. Candy was on fire and laid a killer tackle with body slam attached, while Benno continued to remind the opposition that it is, after all, a physical game. Harry had decided that if we weren't going to win the points it was his duty to make the game memorable for some other reason. Setting his sights on the Guinness Book of Records he attempted to launch the Sherrin into the stratosphere. His first try almost lodged in the top branch of the old oak and his second sailed so high that Toby had to wait about ten minutes for the ball to return to earth.



McGregor attempts a spoil while Dylan McInerney looks on



Oops! Tommy Candy produces a rare miskick under pressure



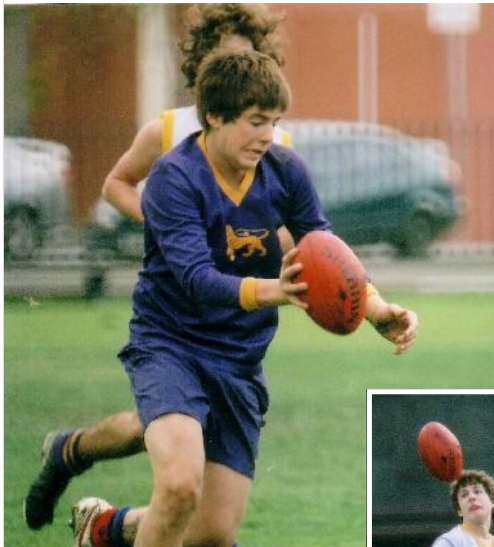
OUCH!! Another one bites the dust!



Stop laughing...this is serious!

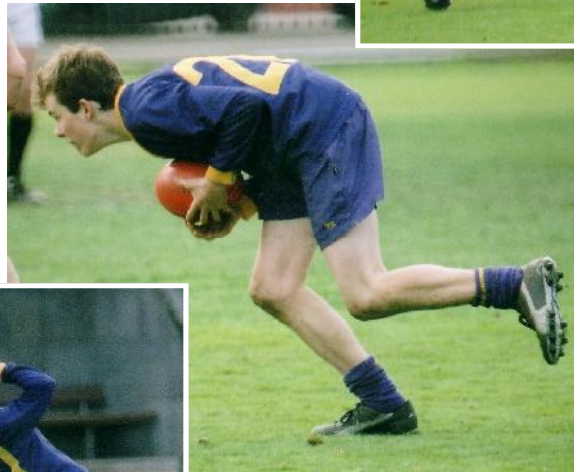


Toby shows courage



Jack rests his injured hand

Action from the Front Turf



Hamish Gairns leaves the blocks



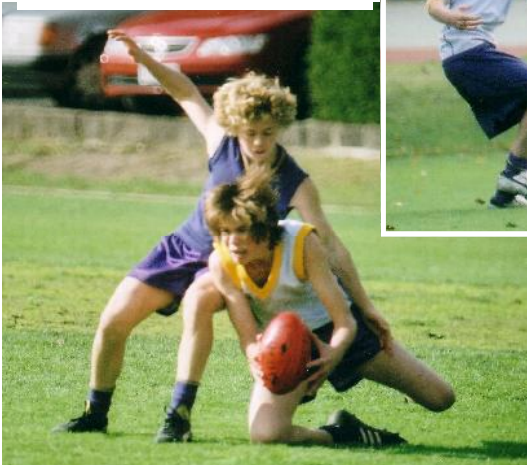
"Mmm...tastes good!"



Harley Waddell tries some juggling

Adam Wright tries the bucking bronco

Pat Wilson has one of those days!



Lions Hit Purple Patch!

Wesley show a little mercy but do a demolition job

WESLEY COLLEGE 24. 19. 163
P.E.G.S. 1. 6. 12
GOALS: Ford 4, Cohen 4, Trudzik 3, Camov 2,
 Williamson 2, Bagnara 2, Parsons 2,
 Menzies 2, Wilson, Wright, McGregor
BEST: Parsons, Ford, Trudzik, Candy, Adams,
 Newton, Menzies, Bagnara, Cohen, McGregor,
 Williamson, Menzies, McMullin, Wilson, Spiller,
 Vatousios, Camov, Cook, Gairns,
 Wright, O'Neill, Waddell, Crone, (for both teams)
INJURIES: Trudzik (hip), McMullin (leg),
 Bagnara (head etc.) Spiller (still recovering)
GOAL of the DAY: Camov
MARKS of the DAY: Ford
RUNS of the DAY: Newton, Cook
SNEAKY HANDBALL of the DAY: Wilson
PERSISTENT PADDLE of the DAY: Adams
BRAVE LITTLE SOLDIER AWD: Bagnara
CHEWY ON YER BOOT AWARD: Williamson



Tom Candy performs a pas de deux with his PEGS opponent

Having been starved of victory for almost two months, the Lions were desperate to chalk up a win against the struggling PEGS. A record number of participants at training plus the return of Ollie Ford, Jordan Camov and Matt Spiller to the lineup augured well for the contest on the recently redecorated Front Turf. Unfortunately, McInerney was forced to withdraw from the squad for "personal reasons" (i.e. women problems) and Camov missed the opening bounce due to transport complications, but the assistant coach's absence was well and truly covered by the presence of Wesley sporting leg-



Lion rover Ollie Ford breaks clear from the opposition

-ends Grant "Rowdy" Rowston and "Lethal" Leigh Krafchek,, both members of the Wesley Year Nine Team of the Century.

Led by "Big Al" Trudzik, the Lions wasted no time in registering a claim on the game. An early goal to Ben Menzies set the tone and it wasn't long before clever play by Alex O'Neill set Toby Cohen up for another. After weeks of being buffeted in the As, Ollie was quick to take advantage of the game's more leisurely pace and ran his full measure to kick a long goal. Richo was next with a dribbling six pointer but his next attempt missed everything. Meanwhile Will Mac and Sammy Newton were successfully keeping PEGS spearheads out of the game whilst the Lions midfielders were cutting off the opposition supply lines. A second major to Cohen was followed by a passage of purposeful play from Parsons, but the result was a minor score to O'Neill— disappointing, but better than Richo's next attempt! At the first change the Lions were happy to hold a 34 point lead, but they knew they could do better!

Good footy by Parso and Harley set Cohen up for an early second term goal and a strong mark and goal by Ollie added a sixth to the Lions' tally. PEGS were being frustrated by the Lions' running backmen, Candy and Bagnara and confused by the energy saving defence of Gairns, but one big effort brought them a goal at the seven minute mark. Ollie provided the answer but Richo continued to struggle with accuracy. Sam Newton set off from full back to show Richo how it's done but he only got as far as half forward before he was forced to release the ball. Another behind resulted and a set

shot from Harley went down in the history books as the first purple poster on the Front Turf. Like Big Sammy, Tim “I don’t want to play in the back pocket” Bagnara decided that he too wanted a piece of the action and pushed up the field only to be clobbered as he grabbed a mark. Bravely he staggered to his feet, but his kick fell short and he was forced to take a breather on the sidelines. A slick over the shoulder handball by Wilson in the scoreboard pocket kept the ball moving goalward and a skilful manoeuvre by Jordo registered the Lions’ ninth goal.

Whilst his team was relishing its particularly succulent citrus refreshers, the coach spent the half time interval determining bench rotations, negotiating positional adjustments and considering charitable donations.



Matt Crone sets up his forwards after marking strongly



“Ball!” McMullin pins an opponent. Harry awaits the crumbs

Poor PEGS were having a dog of a day—their bus had been late, they were undermanned, and now two of their players had suffered serious hand injuries. Their coach’s plea did not fall on deaf ears and the Lions generously agreed to a short term inter-team personnel loan. Crone and Wright drew the short straws and introduced themselves to their one time opponents as the second half got under way.

The oranges clearly had the desired effect and the Lions moved up a gear, running hard and attacking the ball with gusto. Long goals to Camov and Menzies were

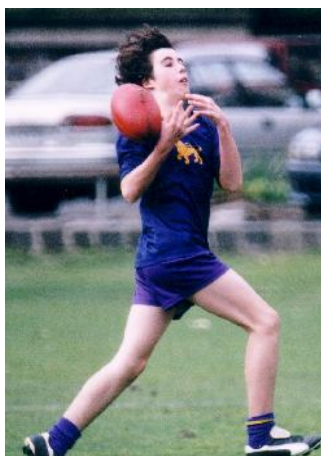


Ben Menzies is challenged by some unusual PEGS tactics

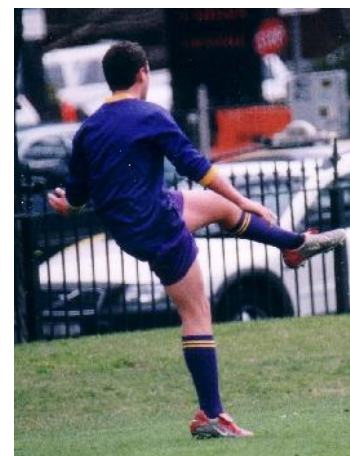
followed by majors to Willo and Jack to take the Lion’s lead to an impressive 79 points. PEGS had few opportunities as the Lion defence continually rebounded any thing that happened to slip past the mid field. Cooky, Will Mac, Spills and Tommy Candy were giving nothing away and Sammy Adams was wearing his shorts at an all time low. The skipper was suffering from a corky so Dave Watusi moved into the ruck while the instant ice pack worked its magic. Ollie and Jack were continuing to be the Lions’ prime movers for which the opposition had no answers. A one handed specky by Ollie set up another goal and Jack helped Toby to his fourth for the match before dobbing one of his own. Meanwhile Richo was beginning to have serious concerns about his eyesight as he added two more minors to his tally. Harry had been relatively quiet at CHF but he produced a goal before the siren to take his team to seventeen goals - still with a quarter to play.

Of course, every man and his dog wanted to play on the forward line for the final twenty minutes, so the coach had his work cut out again during the break. Meanwhile, Willo departed for the MCG, Alex and Harley turned their jumpers inside out to join the opposition camp and the PEGS coach wished he was home in bed.

The Lions maintained their fierce attack on the ball throughout the final quarter, and they continued to impress the fans with their skill and team oriented play.

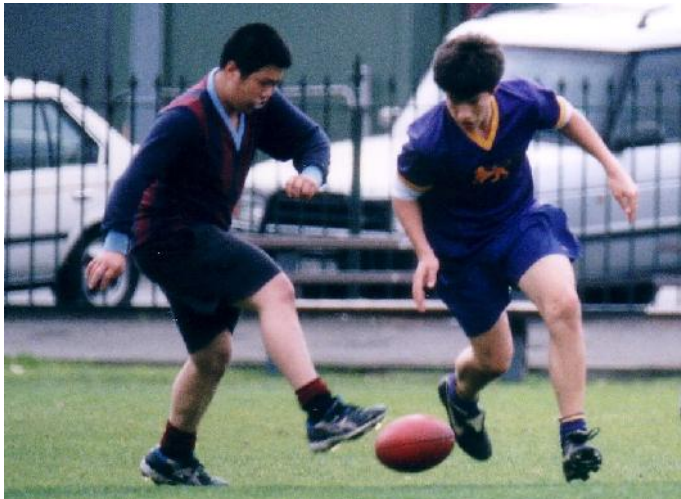


“Oops!” Spiller spills



Newton kicks to the hot spot

Courageous Timmy Bags bagged the first of the quarter and the skipper followed with an accurate snap across the body. Bags dobed another from the pocket and the Lions' target of 25 goals looked well within reach. Cooky made a dash out of defense but Ollie could only reward him with a point. Sammy Newton was enjoying a run on the ball and was picking up valuable possessions in the forward half. Matt Crone and Adam were pleased to be in purple again and whilst Matt marked strongly in the corridor Adam snapped a goal. Sam Adams, meanwhile, was playing his usual brand of persis-

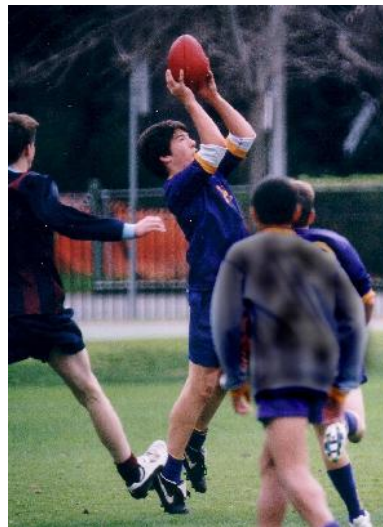


Ollie Ford prepares to pounce on a stray ball

tent, second-effort football on the members wing. At long last, Richo broke the drought and kicked a major, but Ollie could only find the secondary opening and pushed his daily behind tally past his goal tally. With only minutes remaining the Lions were determined to be the first team to record a 25 goal tally on a purple posted Front Turf and Trudzy led the final charge. A rare hand-ball from Richo found its mark and the skipper snapped the twenty third. Effective ruck work by Vatousios at the centre bounce set up another final thrust and a pass from Hamish found Trudzy waltzing into an open goal... but would there be time for one more? Well, no actually. The Lions had to be content to be the first team to kick 24 goals on a ground with purple goal posts.



Skipper Trudzy snaps a goal. Hamish Gairns looks on



Ollie Ford marks strongly



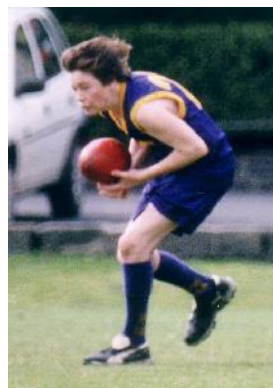
"Sorry we beat you..."



Toby Cohen ready to mark



Richo wearing his opponent



Wilson hugs a mark



Alex Trudzyk kicks his third



Concern over Richard Williamson's inaccurate kicking for goal on Saturday led the club doctor to run some tests on the star forward. It was discovered that Richo suffers from a rare form of colour blindness. His inability to distinguish between purple and brown explains why he was aiming at trees instead of goal posts during Saturday's game.

COACH'S NIGHTMARE!

Frustrating defeat marks the end of Lions' season

WESLEY COLLEGE 5. 6. 36
SCOTCH COLLEGE 15. 16. 106
GOALS: Williamson, Ford, Parsons, Newton,
 Cohen
BEST: Parsons, Ford, Menzies, Candy, Cohen
 Trudzik, Adams, McGregor, Cook etc.
INJURIES: Bagnara (nose & headache)
 Spiller (leg soreness)
GOAL of the DAY: Ford
HARD AT THE BALL AWD: Menzies
SARTORIAL ELEGANCE AWD: Parsons
SLEEPY HEAD AWD: Gairns



Talented Lion rover, Ollie Ford sets up his forwards



The coach's dilemma... "Has anybody seen Sam, Alex, Jack, Ben, Harley, Hamish, the other Ben or Adam?"

The final match of the Lions' 2005 season proved a disappointing affair. Not only was the team comfortably defeated by a not particularly impressive St. Kevins unit, but the Match Committee was disheartened by the lack of commitment shown by a number of players during the week, and indeed the hours, leading up to the game. Although there were no doubts about the level of endeavour displayed on the field, the limited preparation time allowed by several key players left supporters and officials pondering what might have been.

Record low attendances at training, failures to register a change of venue, failures to take notice of alarm clocks and an inability to read a Melways contributed to the team's disappointing performance and added a few grey hairs to the coach's scalp. What should have been a tight struggle from the opening bounce became a game of catch up football for the home team as St. Kevins took advantage of a depleted Lions' outfit and jumped them on the scoreboard. With Camov and McMullin late withdrawals due to illness, a strong Lion lineup on paper had already been weakened prior to the opening bounce.

When Parso met with his opposition number to toss the coin he had a bare thirteen players available to support him. Despite hiding first the ball then the umpire's whistle the Lions coach attempted to stall the opening bounce but he could not hold off the inevitable and the game began with a limited Lion lineup. Four unmarked Skevvy players were bound to create problems and a string of early goals struck an ominous chord. Jack and Ollie were trying hard to create some drive from the midfield but the sparse Lion forward line was hard to find and scoring opportunities were few and far between.

Gradually the gaps in the Lions' lineup began to fill as first Alex rocked up, then the terrific trio skidded to a halt after completing their preliminary speed trial around the Grand Prix circuit. Meanwhile, back at the game Richo set Toby up with a long pass and the Lions' first goal was on the board. Trudzy added a behind, but Skevvys responded with their fifth major and the Lions found themselves trailing by 27 points at the first change.

Although unable to add to their goal tally, the Lions took the contest right up to their opponents during the second term.



Lion skipper, Jack Parsons takes a dive. Note the odd socks!

Ben Menzies led the way with his courageous attack on the ball and anybody who happened to get in his way. Sammy Newton was struggling to hold his opponent so emergency full back Will Cook took over at full back and Harry Mac added his experience to the defense. Bags was showing his usual degree of guts and had copped a blood nose for his troubles, whilst Tommy Candy and Matt Spiller were demonstrating determination on their respective half back flanks. A free to Benno sent the ball forward but Ollie could only effect a



Jack Parsons flies from behind against two opponents

minor conversion. A long bomb from Ollie gave Toby a chance but a second quarter goal continued to prove elusive. Unfortunately, Skevvys replied with two majors and at the long break the Lions deficit had increased to 41 points.



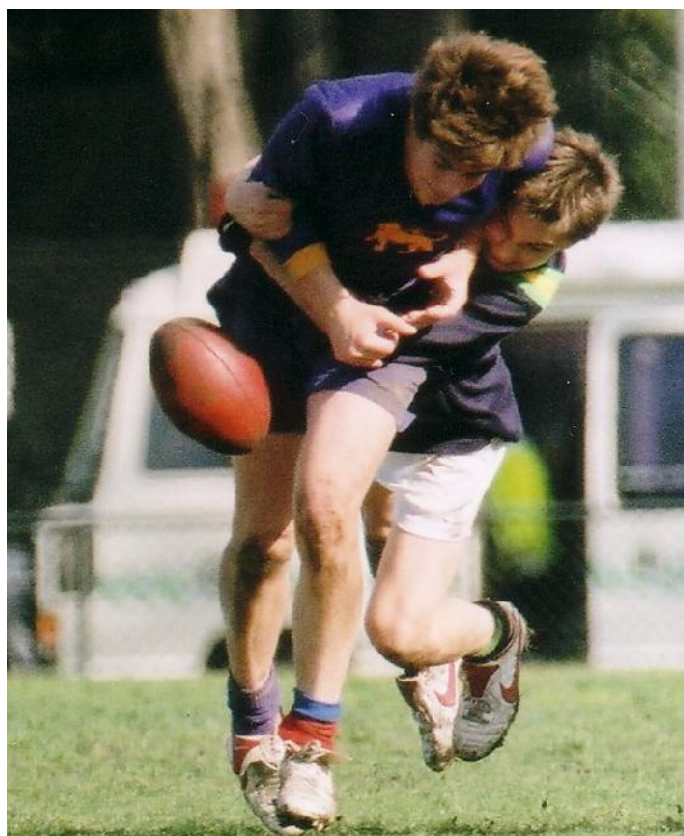
Mr. Football aka Richard Williamson takes another pot shot for goal. Note shepherding by Alex O'Neill

The second half opened with a goal to the visitors, but clever play by Paddy Wilson — clearly inspired by another St.Kilda victory the previous evening— sparked a Lion move and with FF Dave Watusi's assistance, Richo found the big white sticks. Rusko was beginning to adjust to the pace of play after a leisurely six week



A StKevins player is pushed off the ball by strong Lion defence

cruise around the Greek Islands, and Hamish's body clock had finally caught up with EST. An unfortunate kick on the last line from the skipper provided Skevvys with a gimme, and a few words of encouragement to the umpire by Sammy Adams landed him in the sin bin. The resultant 15 metre penalty helped the opposition to register their tenth goal. Ollie's mysterious "other brother" was being kept busy with the water bottle and his words of onfield encouragement helped keep the Lions focused. Richo provided another behind, but a long, searching kick from the skipper found Newton in a scoring position and he didn't let the team down. Not long later a long bomb from Ollie allowed Trudzy to add another goal, and the Lions edged a little closer.



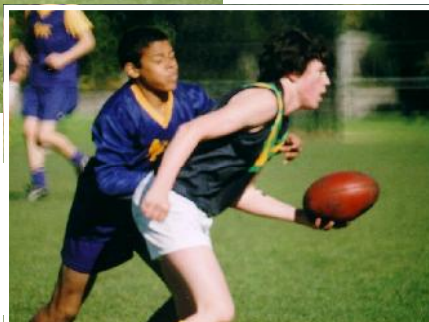
A clear view of Jack Parson's controversial odd socks

Chewing on their snakes and approaching their final quarter for the season, some of the Lions discussed the possibility of producing a miracle victory. Others considered the possibility of providing a hard fought, closely contested twenty minutes of quality football. The team's supporters were hoping for an entertaining finish to the season. Hamish just wanted to go home to bed.

Well, an honest effort was made, but it just wasn't the Lions' day. One memorable passage of play involving Toby, Ollie and Jacko produced one miserable goal whilst Skevvys kept pumping away at the big sticks. Continuing pressure from the defenders forced the majority of opposition scoring thrusts wide of the mark, but the scoreboard continued to advance in their favour. The Lions were running the ball effectively through the midfield and Matty Crone and Alex O'Neill were finding space and teaming well on the outer wing, but scoring oppor-



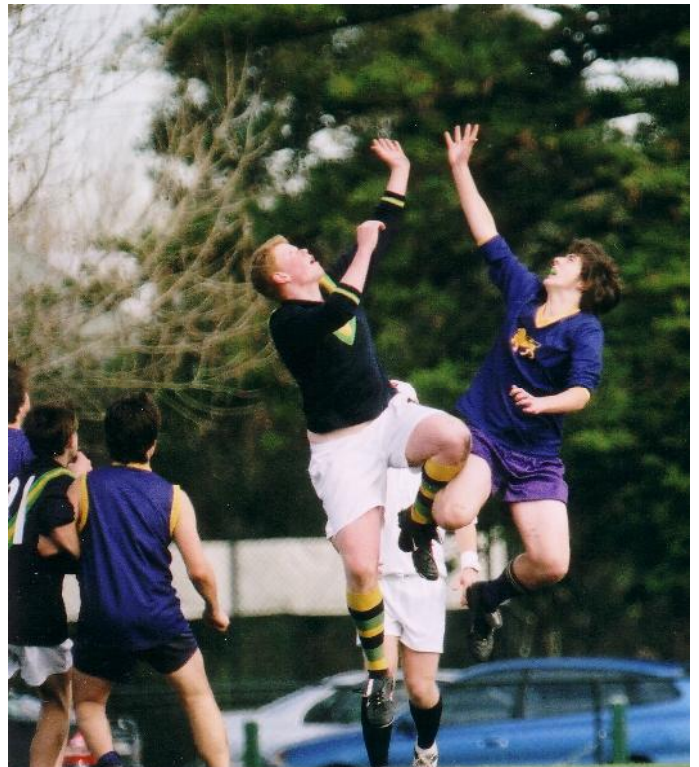
Dangerous forward, Toby Cohen wheels onto his right boot



Winger Alex O'Neill applies pressure to a Skevvy opponent



Jack Parsons kicks the Lions' only last quarter goal



Tireless Alex Trudzik leaps high at a centre bounce contest

-tunities were few. Trudzy continued to ruck tirelessly and Ollie, Benno and Jack just kept having a dip. Cooky, Harry and Rusko kept the pressure on their opponents, and Big Sammy and Dave were offering targets up forward, but not even Richo could find a clear path to goal. Sadly, the Lions could manage the one solitary goal for the quarter, and to rub salt into the wounds, the opposition added a further three goals seven behinds to run out comfortable winners by seventy points.

Despite the prematch hiccups and the disappointment of losing the final game, the Lions' season had produced its share of highlights, and the boys could be proud of their on field attitude and effort.

Flag loved loyally, purpled royally, Wesley now and always. Wiz Bang Zimba Ra Ra Ra!



"What can you do?" Toby and Sam farewell the 2005 season

Between the Purple Posts

with *Richo*



What were they thinking? Not only can you not see the top of the posts but the purple pads look like four skinny Wesley players out of the corner of your eye



Trudzy gets a gimme against PEGS



You've gotta have a bit of cheek when you're crumbing around the goals. Adam's certainly got plenty of that!

2005 GOALKICKERS

R. WILLIAMSON	21
J. PARSONS	12
O. FORD	11
J. CAMOV	7
B. RUSKIN	6
J. KAMENER	6
Z. BEERENS	6
T. COHEN	6
H. MCGREGOR	4
S. NEWTON	4
B. MENZIES	4
H. WADDELL	3
T. BAGNARA	3
A. TRUDZIK	3
M. SPILLER	2
P. WILSON	2
T. CANDY	1
A. WRIGHT	1



Jack strikes an elegant pose as he torps a goal at the Harry Trott



Very stylish if I might say so myself! You have to aim at the third tree to right of the scoreboard from this angle.



G'day fans. Some people say I'm a goal magnet. Others reckon I suffer from white stick fever. All I know is that when I find myself inside the conversion zone my heart rate goes up to Billyo and I feel some kind of weird force dragging me towards the goal square. We had a couple of goal-fests this year so there were plenty of opportunities for hungry Lions!



It was a great privilege to play a game at the Glenferrie Oval this season. I could feel Peter Hudson's ghost guiding my kicks towards the big sticks (He aint dead yet: Ed)



Put down your glasses! Williamson doesn't miss these!



Here I am setting a new record with my tenth goal at the Glenferrie Oval. Notice how my dad's in perfect position to judge my kick—although I'm not likely to skew this one!



There were some impressive contenders for this season's *Toyota Goal of the Year*. Yours truly dobbed some very stylish goals, Harley, Tommy and Toby crumbed some clever ones whilst Ollie threaded a few amazing kicks from difficult angles. Jordan and Dave chose to score with checksides, while Ben produced a beauty on the run. Timmy's goal under pressure was good too, but at the end of the day, my dad reckons that all of mine were classics and he could do with a new car so come on down Richard Williamson!



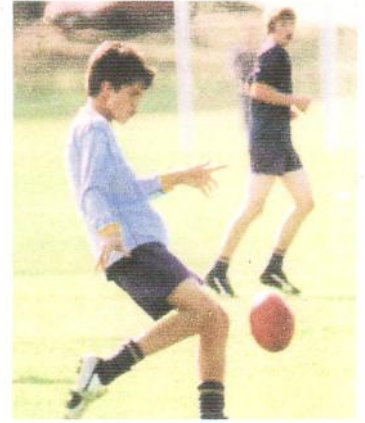
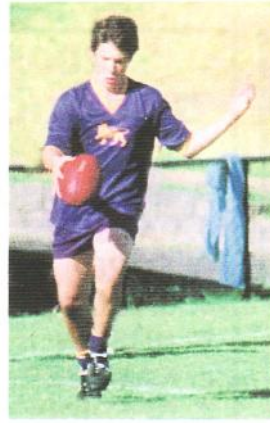
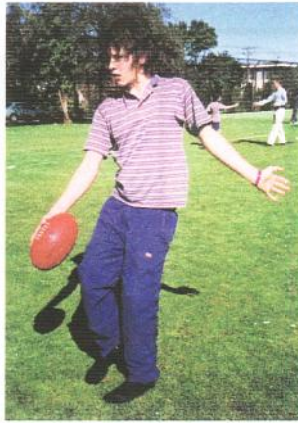
Timmy beats three opponents to thread this gutsy goal. Ollie is a master

KICKING THE COVER

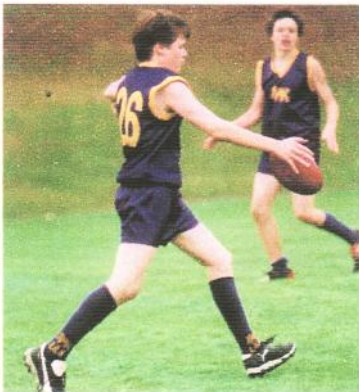
with Matt Crone



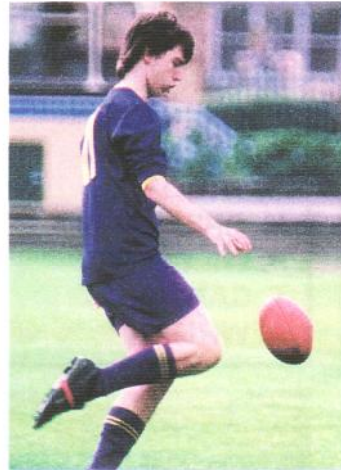
Some youngsters seem to think that kicking a footy is easy. Just throw it onto your foot and you're away. Of course there's a lot more to it than that! I've asked some of my team mates to demonstrate the finer points.



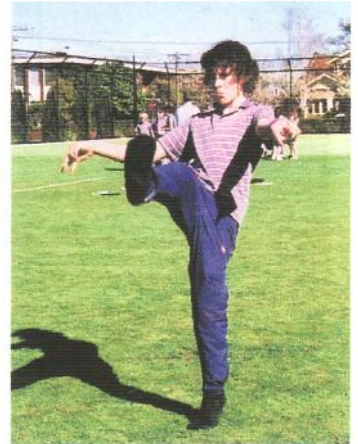
Balance is the key to your initial approach. Make sure you watch the ball onto your foot



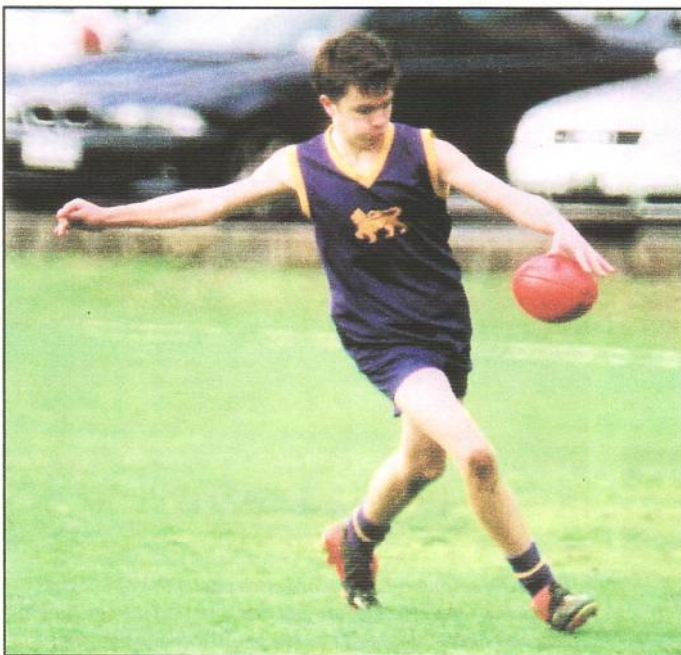
Try to guide the ball onto your foot like Willo. Paul is letting it go a bit early, but he looks like he knows what he's doing. Below is a great action shot of Tommy Candy clearing the ball from the half back line. What poise, what focus!



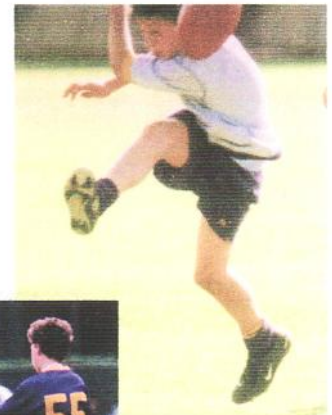
Trudzy is all concentration



Sam demonstrates a well balanced follow through



Rusko has a nice style. I like the way he points his toe. This suggests that he has kicked low and long and not up and under.



Sam swings the ball into the hot spot



Myself looking smooth and laid back

FOOTY SPEAK Footy words explained

BANANA
Anyone who thought this was just a tasty, yellow fruit should think again! A banana kick is when a player boots the footy from the outside of his foot. The ball bends in one direction and then goes the other way, travelling in the shape of (you guessed it) a banana. This kick is ideal for when a player is lining up at goals from the boundary line. Or when he's not so confident on the wrong foot!

The banana is also known as a checkside kick or back screwie, but that's another story!

Jordan & Dave

BANANA EXPERTS

Swan Talk

Way to go SWANNIES! I haven't stopped grinning since Grand Final day. What an awesome effort! Leo Barry should be Prime Minister and Barry Hall should be Archbishop of Sydney! *Harley Waddell*

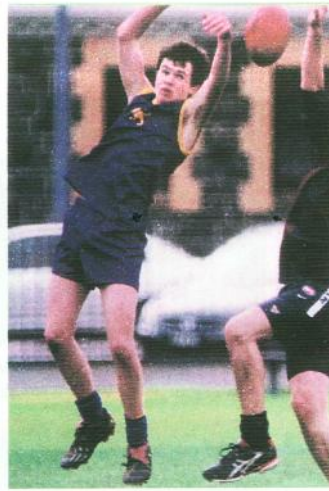
"EYES ON THE BALL"

says **Ben**

You have to admit it. Everybody loves a spekky! If you're in the grandstand you dream about seeing an "Ablett", if you're on the field you can't wait to get the sit and take a hanger, but when you're trying to win a footy game it's the hundred ordinary grabs that matter most. So don't worry about the spekkys. Get the basics right and the hovers and slips catches will look after themselves!



Sammy shows how NOT to take an overhead mark. Rule No.1 - Don't look at the camera



What is Tommy up to here? Somebody should tell him... He's not playing volleyball!



Oops! Jordan's made a mess of this one. Normally he's a reliable mark of the footy



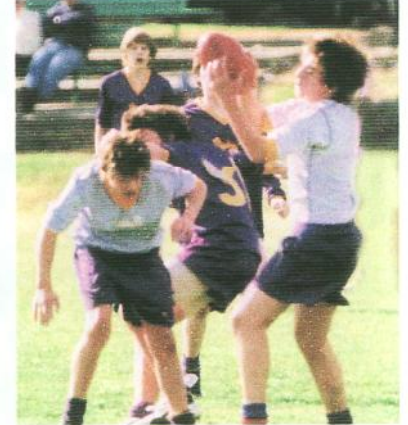
Look at that hyper-extension! No wonder Zac has got shoulder problems!



Two hands for beginners Sam!



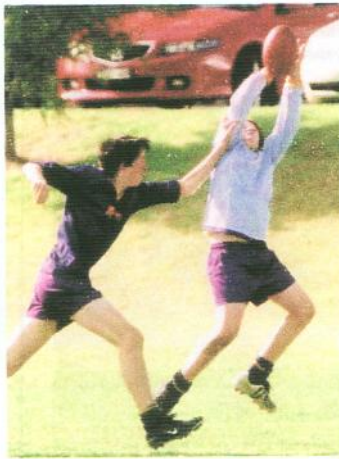
Is this one of Willo's party tricks?



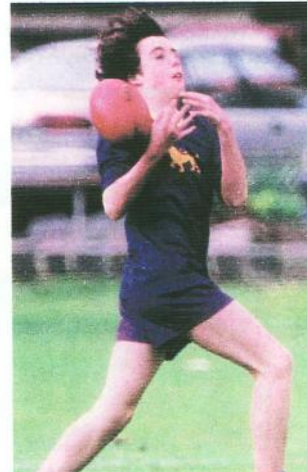
A strong grab by my fellow party animal, Jack. He doesn't miss many marks



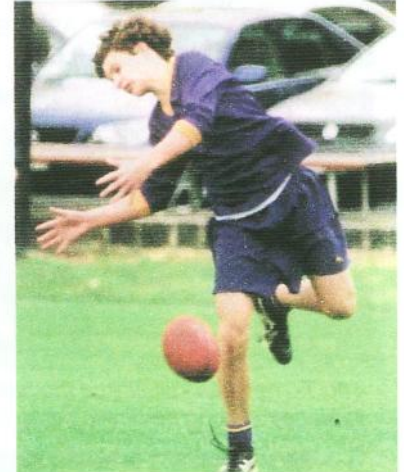
The "T-Train" is a hard man to get around when he sticks out his bum like this or hugs the ball to his chest like it was a faithful old teddy bear



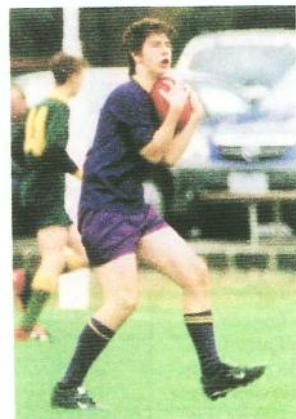
Great positioning Harley



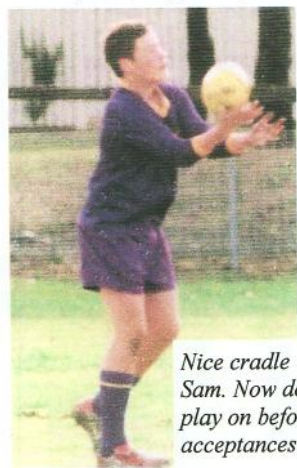
Matt Spiller lives up to his name



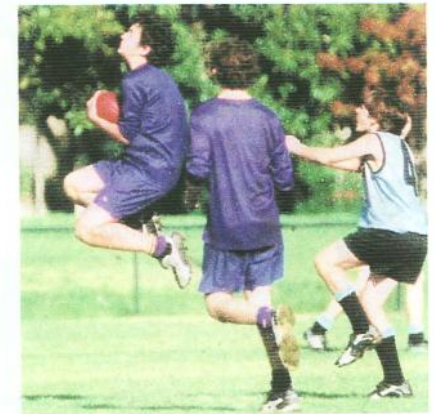
The sun must have got in my eyes here



Nice cradle Sam. Now don't play on before acceptances!



Gutsy effort by young Toby



Attack the ball! Not much gets past Rusko

Quick Hands



with
Timmy

Hi there footy fans!

The 2005 season was pretty ordinary if you were a Bulldog supporter but if you followed the NATSEC Lions you would have enjoyed some quality footy. The sort of play on football that we play requires lots of clean crisp handballs and our quick hands gave us the edge on most of our opponents. Have a look at these great shots of me and the boys in action.



Very stylish Will!



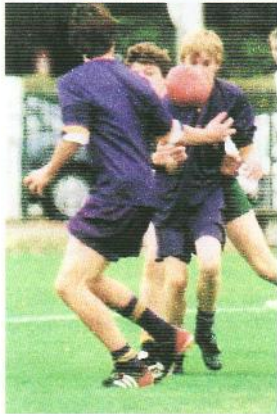
Notice how Richo has kept his hands free of the tackle. Smart boy!



Obviously too far out to score!



Jordan had better be quick!



ABOVE: Here I am feeding off a pinpoint handpass on the run. Nice.
LEFT: Me again threading an "eye-of-the-needle" handpass to Zac



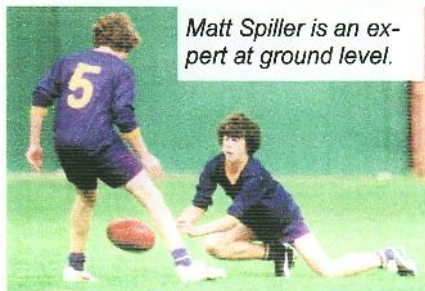
The T-Train has just flicked the ball out to Harley. I hope he doesn't drop it!



Come on Toby... give it to me mate! I really want it... I'm here for you pal... there's a goal on the end of this



BELOW: Not sure who it is on the ground here, but Rusko's ready and waiting for a quick handball



Matt Spiller is an expert at ground level.



STREET CRED

with



The Candyman

Success in life comes from two things - ATTITUDE and IMAGE. The first depends on your genes but the second depends on your jeans. (joke)



Wicked! Dan and James are two cool dudes!



Smooth! If you have to wear it wear it like Sammy!

Remember the old saying: "Labels maketh the man"



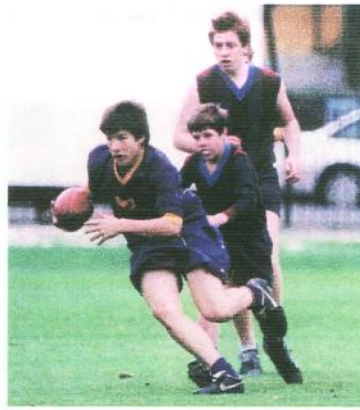
How low can you go? Hipsters are all the rage today. I really don't know how Jack does it!



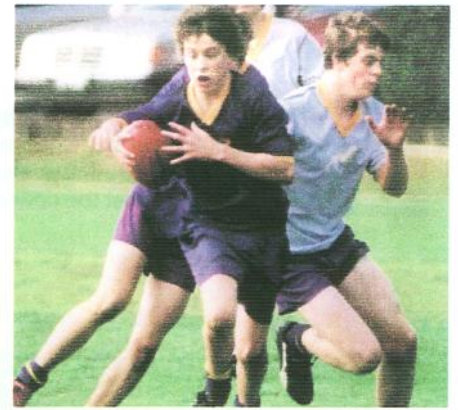
On the Burst

with Lloyd

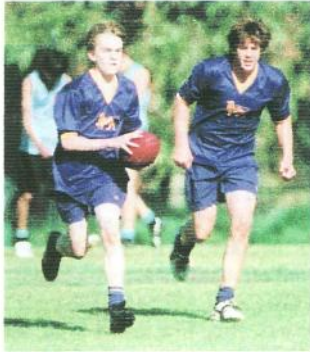
Hi, my name's Lloyd. I'm not much of a footy jock but I do know a thing or two about moving fastly. I've chosen a few pics of Lion players on the burst as they say.



Ollie is all style. Beautiful!



Wow! Sammy is so quick out of the blocks



Timmy and Jack are relay specialists. AWESOME!



Hamish has kicked off nicely



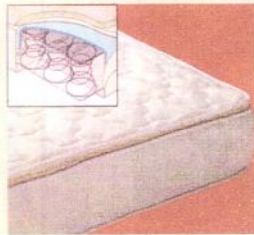
Jack finds that bit extra as he closes on the goals

My Favourite Things



We asked Lion star Hamish Gairns to tell us about his favourite things...

Well... I really like sport. I especially like cricket... and footy of course. I like drawing and I sometimes take my cricket bat to bed with me... but most of all I like my BED. It's got the best mattress! In fact, it's so comfortable there are some days when I just can't get out of it.



Hamish's mattress. What a beauty! Just look at those springs! LUXURY!

Medibank Private



Don't wait for an accident to happen!
"Better safe than sorry" says Lion star Dave Vatousios

The Man in White is Always Right ?

says Toby



You'd probably say the same if your family was full of umpires! Actually, it's not strictly true because even umpires are human and they occasionally stuff up, but don't tell my Dad that.



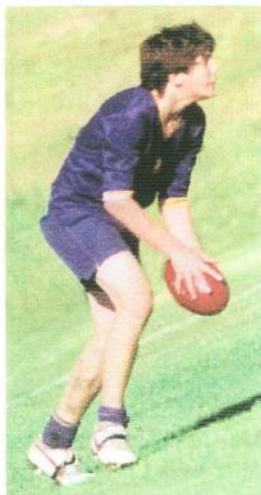
James used to play footy with my brother. I like this firm and decisive gesture!



Just like us players, umpires have different styles. My Dad (centre) says that you shouldn't notice the umpire. My big brother Jules (left) doesn't tolerate any funny business. My other bro, Hugh (right) looks after me because if he doesn't I'll bash him.



LION CUB ON THE RISE



Talented youngster Jack Parsons is this season's Rising Star.

Jack attracted attention this year with his all round skills, his whole hearted attack on the ball and his never say die attitude. He earned votes in every game and provided a great example to his younger team mates.

Playing mainly as a ruck rover, Parsons worked tirelessly to set up his forwards and to facilitate the Lions' play on game. His larrikin streak has already made him a crowd favourite.



Down but never out!

Footy's a game of ups and downs and we all have our good days and our not so good days but what really matters is your ATTITUDE! Always look on the bright side and never let the downs get you down!

Jack



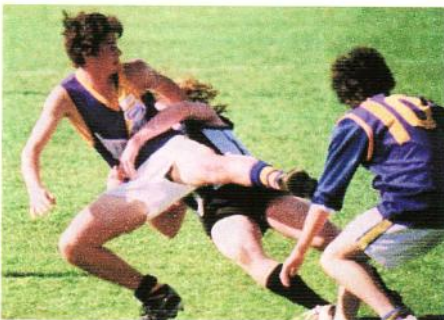
*On your feet Sammy!
Up and at em!*



*I've come a cropper here but don't you worry...
I won't be down for long!*



*Willo is so disappointed with his efforts that
he's punishing himself with a few push ups*



*Jordan about to be body slammed in his club
Grand Final. Although Jordan bounced back
his team didn't! Below he is forced to take a
back seat against Trinity*



*You can't go anywhere sitting on your bum
Willo! The challenge is to bounce back*



*That's me under the pack. Lunchtime is a good
time to practise a bit of resilience!*

Pocket Profile

Lions

MATT SPILLER



D.O.B. 7/2/91 **FAVE AFL TEAM:** Tigers
SPORTING HEROES: Richo, Pat Rafter
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON GAME: Dad
CLUBS PLAYED FOR: South Districts

MOST ADMIRED TEAM MATE: Ben
Menzies because he's always going hard
and never gives up.

MOST ENTERTAINING TEAM MATE:
Jack Parsons with his jokes and comments

SCARIEST MOMENT IN YOUR LIFE:
Nearly fell off a cliff at Barwon Heads

7 DREAM GUESTS AT DINNER PARTY:
Olsen sisters, Brad Pitt, James Hird, Paris
Hilton, Kelly Slater, Tim Cahill, Richo

FAVOURITE BAND: Cat Empire
GREATEST TALENT APART FROM

FOOTY: Surfing
ULTIMATE NON-FOOTY FANTASY:

To play soccer for Manchester United
or to get paid to go surfing

Jack Parsons

Position: No.8
Height: 191cm
Weight: 110kg
Born:

Go to the [WestON website](#) for more details

Quit. Smokefree HEROES

Lions



Will Cook

DOB: 24/7/89 **SPORTING HERO AS A KID:** Schumy
AFL TEAM SUPPORTED: West Coast Eagles
FAVOURITE AFL PLAYERS: Chris Judd, Ben Cousins,
Michael Gardiner
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON YOUR GAME: Mr. Stone's
awesome coaching
OTHER CLUB'S PLAYED FOR: East Malvern Knights,
Prahran Football Club
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: Kicking 5 goals in a
club match from Centre Half Back
MOST ADMIRED TEAM MATE: Ben Menzies
MOST ENTERTAINING TEAM MATE: Jack Parsons
— one funny guy!
SCARIEST MOMENT IN YOUR LIFE: Rolling down a
steep hill in a shopping trolley heading for a Merc
GREATEST TALENT APART FROM FOOTBALL:
Maths (Ha, Ha, Ha)

THE NATURAL CONFECTIONERY CO.
NO ARTIFICIAL COLOURS
NO ARTIFICIAL FLAVOURS

Natural Snakes

NO ARTIFICIAL COLOURS. NO ARTIFICIAL FLAVOURS

"Perfect for that half time
glucose hit" says Lion star
Hugh Day. "Yum Yum"

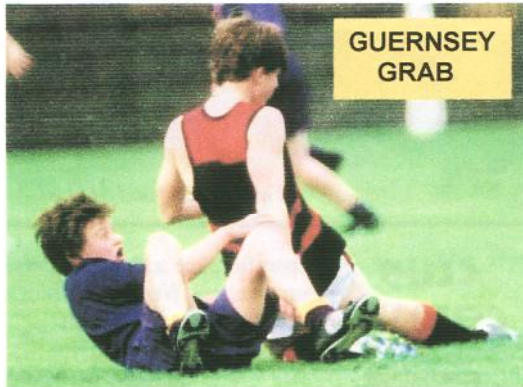
ONE%ERS

"It's the little things that count"



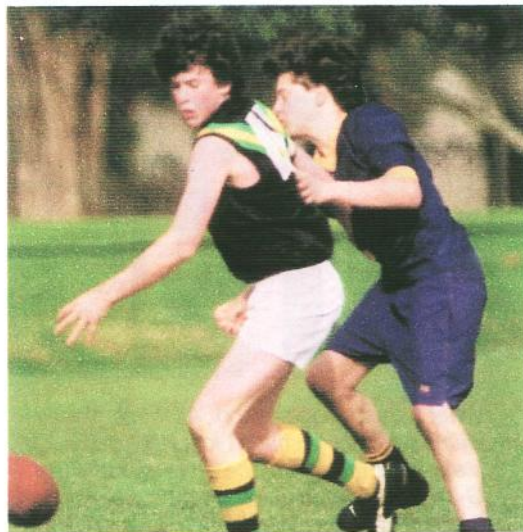
says *Lewis*

Hi. Thanks for joining me. I'm here to draw attention to the less spectacular side of our great game. Don't you get sick of all the media hype about marks of the year and goals of the year? Why don't they give prizes for the spoil of the year, or the shepherd of the decade? If you are challenged in the height an weight departments you can be really useful by expanding your repertoire of one percenters. Here are a few to try out.



GUERNSEY GRAB

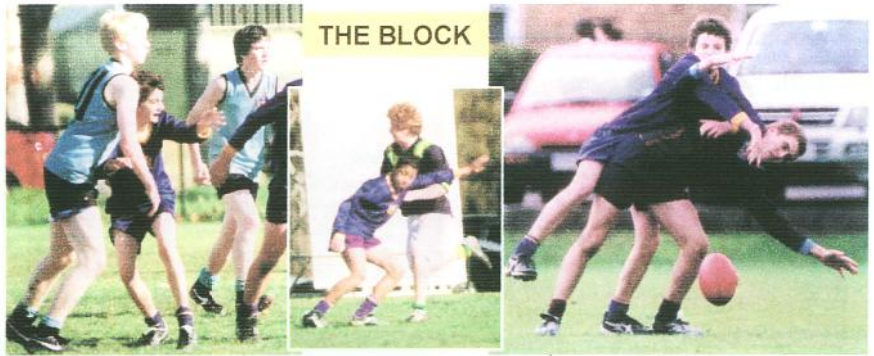
A much under rated one percenter. A timely tug of the guernsey is a great way to slow down an opponent. Good work Sammy but don't let the umpire see you!



A clever double play here. A punch and a little tug at the same time makes this one a two percenter!



Here's a good strong grab from Matt! Now Tommy can escape with the footy. Old fashioned jumpers are best. The new shiny ones can be really hard to grip.



THE BLOCK

That's me keeping the big blond guy out of the action

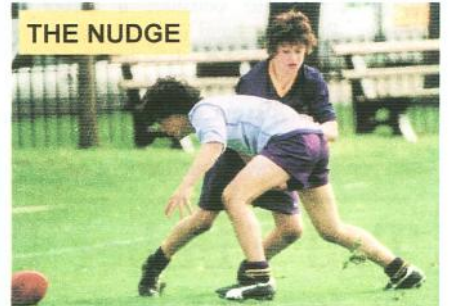
More commitment Alex! He's giving you the slip

Ben's in trouble here. It's very hard to get past a full body block like this



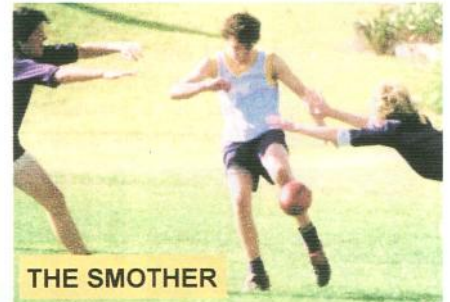
THE PUNCH

Paul is the master of the well timed punch. A great weapon in any defender's arsenal



THE NUDGE

Timing is the key to a good nudge. Sammy pushes his opponent off balance & off the ball

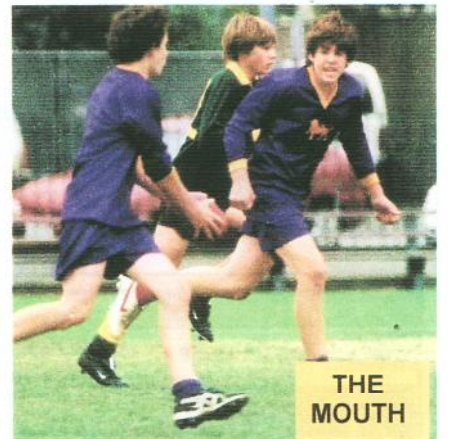


THE SMOTHER

This is a rare photo of a double smother, but I think Tommy was too quick for them!



Sam Newton thumps the ball clear



THE MOUTH

This is where talkative team mates are a real asset. Jack is giving Ben valuable advice — about the weekend's party schedule

SEPARATED AT BIRTH



Alex O'Neill



Andrew Symonds



A bit obvious! Ben will get a free here. Not even a Xavier ump could miss this one.

The Back Pocket

with *Paul Vickery*



G'day kids!
How was your footy season? Did you bag a few kicks? Did you get to play where you wanted to play? Most importantly, did you get job satisfaction?

If you had a few downers this year it may be time to consider a career change. Put your hand up next season for the Back Pocket. It's a secure, steady job with clear guidelines and expectations. It's not a superstar pay-pocket, but you meet interesting people and you get to travel (but only one way)



Me getting a feel for David Parkin's pocket



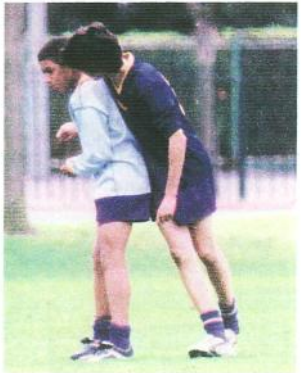
Switch Ben! Switch!



Defence is a serious business!



I love it when there's a paddock in front of you. I try to run to the centre at least once every match. It keeps you in touch with the real world.



They're just good friends!



Tall Timber

with *Alex the T-Train*



It's a man's life in the regular ruck and you certainly earn your money—but I love it all the same! Although I did most of the heavy work, the Lions tried out a few ruckman this season. Here are some of them in action.



Zac was good value



A good snap of me



Harry is a tip top tap dog!



Dave showed promise

CLUB CORNER

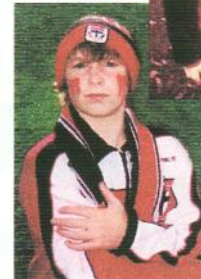
Apart from me and my brothers some famous Wesley identities have a Sinters connection. Here are a few of them!



Stoney and the Saints go back a long way... cute isn't he!



with *Paddy*



Josh has got all the gear. Very impressive

What a frustrating season! All those bloody injuries! If only we hadn't lost Kozi, Azza and Maxy near the end of the season and if the G-Train had been fit we would have whipped those Swannies. What about Banger? How good is he? I reckon he could go on for ever Roll on 2006. THE YEAR OF THE SAINTS!

Pocket Profile

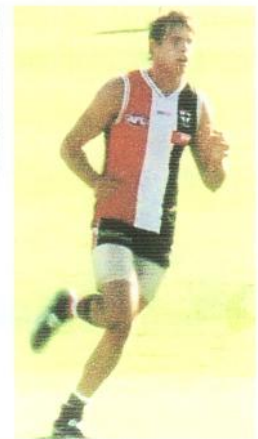
Lions Zac Beerens



DOB: 22/5/1990
SPORTING HEROES AS A KID: Chris Grant and Mick Doohan
FAVE AFL TEAMS: Bulldogs and Bombers
FAVE AFL PLAYERS: Buckley and Lloyd
CLUBS PLAYED FOR: Sunbury Lions
MOST ADMIRED TEAM MATE: Harry McGregor for his love of the game
MOST ENTERTAINING TEAM MATE:- Sammy Newton because he's a nut
SCARIEST MOMENT IN YOUR LIFE: Falling off my motorbike in mid air
7 DREAM GUESTS AT A DINNER PARTY: Stoney, Hugh Heffner and five chicks from the Playboy mansion
FAVOURITE FILM: Swordfish
GREATEST TALENT APART FROM FOOTY: Failing school
YOUR ULTIMATE, NON-FOOTY FANTASY: Being a dole bludger



Nick Stone plays for the Saints now but he was in Stoney's team once. Here he is with his special trophy in 1995



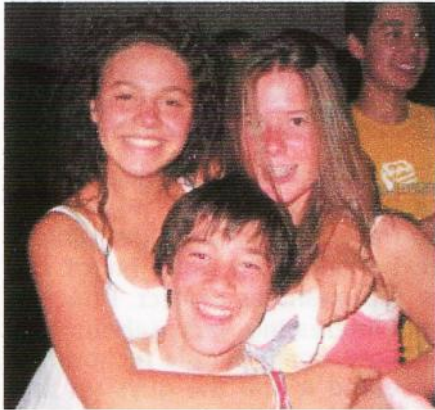
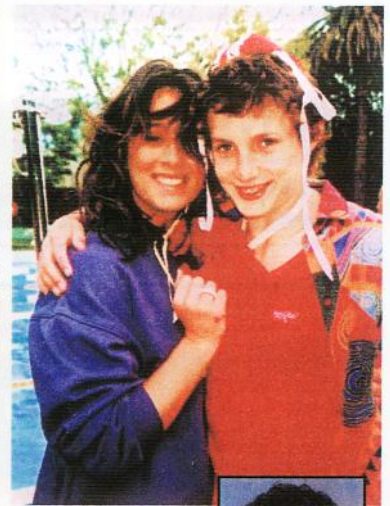
OUT & ABOUT

with *Ollie Ford*

What do I like about Wesley? Well, it's a cool school because you don't have to be a jock to play footy. This year's team was incredibly talented both on and off the field. We had actors, musos, party boys, theatre techs and international jetsetters. Even our coach is an artist and a tour guide! Oh, by the way, the other thing I like about Wes? Well, It starts with a "G" and rhymes with "pearls"!



ABOVE: *Matty Spiller is a bit of a chick magnet.*
RIGHT: *Ben and Beth celebrate a Freddy success*



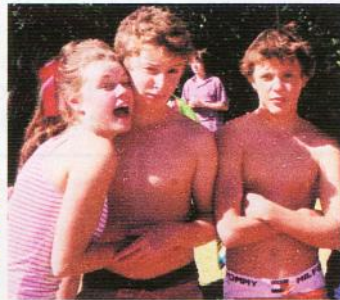
This is me at a Clunes disco night



Dave ready to loosen his feet



Lion's number one ticket holders!



Smile Josh! She's just an extrovert

EAT WELL says PLAY WELL Harry



Being a full time student and a pro sportsman can be tough. Especially when your busy schedule stops you from eating when your mum wants you to. Just in case, I reckon you should grab a bite to eat whenever the opportunity presents itself. IRS BBQs are good value and the tuckshop sells a wide range of gourmet chips and stuff so you should be able to maintain peak fitness throughout the season.



Tim enjoys an Aussie favourite



The greasier the better!

Dance the Light Fantastic



with
Sammy

Footy is fun, but some days when you're getting a hiding you have to find ways to amuse yourself. Try asking your opponent to dance! It's good for a laugh and it'll take him out of the game for a while. I recommend a tango or a foxtrot.



"That's better.. put your right foot here... then a little turn to the left..."



*Flavoured mouthguards!
What a great idea!*



Sam Newton is particularly fussy about his diet - and the company he keeps!



No way..you promised! It's my turn to lead!"



"Not so close buster! It's only our first dance!"



"C'mon.. forget the footy! let's do another spin!"



"Come back! They're playing our song!"



"I told you before... I don't dance dirty!"


100% PURE FOOTBALL



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HARRY TROTT EXPRESS



West Pinnac Golden SuperCar

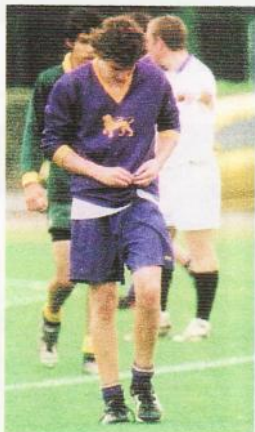
The Sin Bin

with *Sammy Newton*

If you ask me, umpires play too big a part in today's game. They always want to get involved in player's private affairs. I mean I can sort things out without their help. Why do they bother?



This Xavier guy mouthed off once too often, so I decked him. Now, I ask you... what's so wrong with that? Someone had to shut him up!



Benno stepped in when a Trinity player went psycho. Why should he be punished



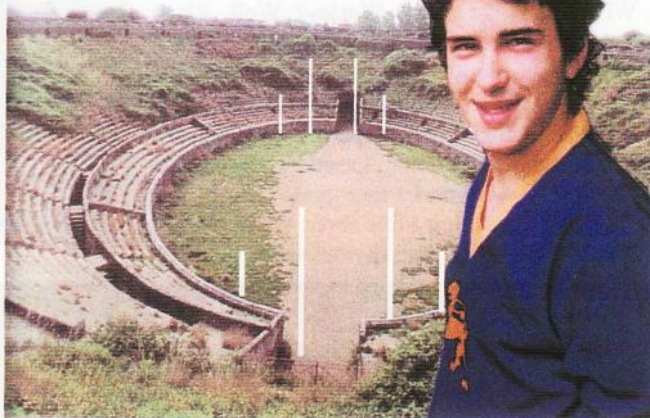
Jack chose community service instead of a spell in the Sin Bin.



This little Greek guy reminds me of Willo doing a look-away handball

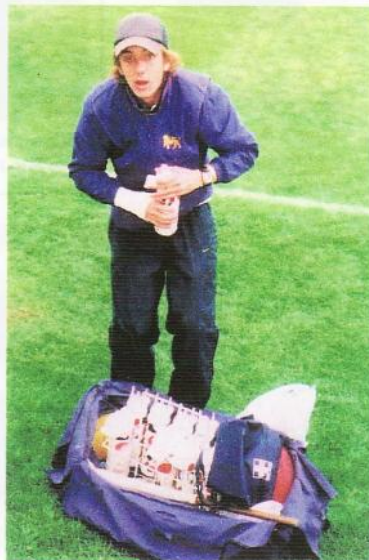
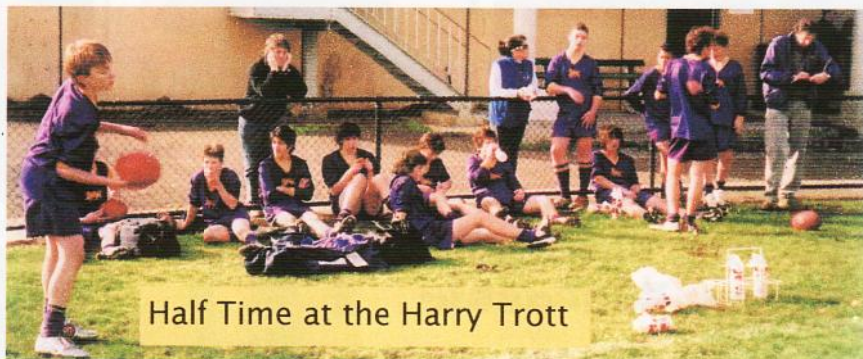
AUSSIE RULES

AN INTERNATIONAL GAME

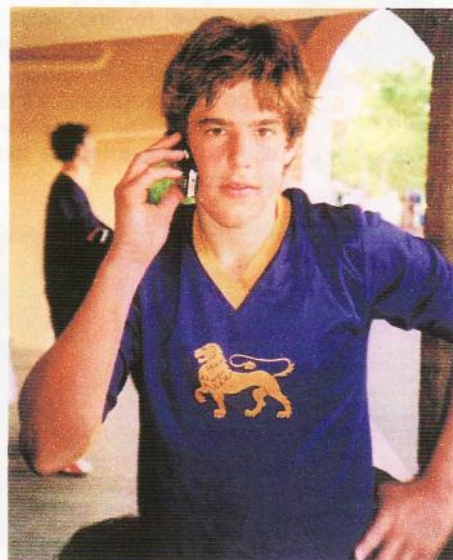


A Wesley boy shooting for goal at Stonehenge

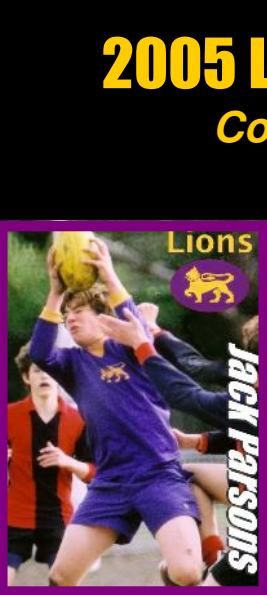
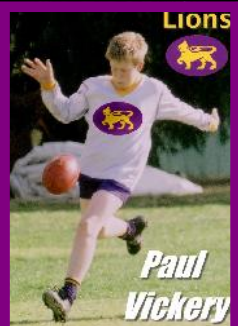
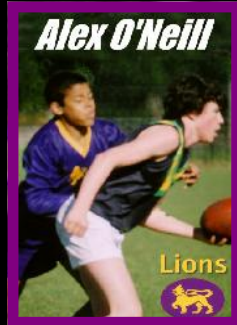
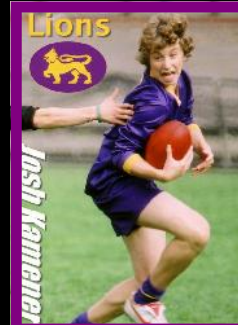
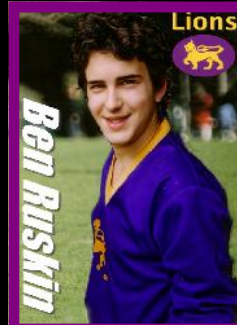
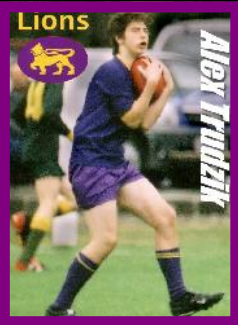
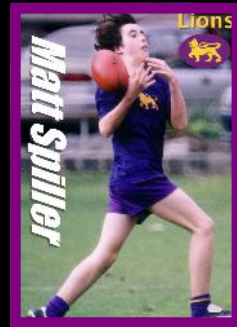
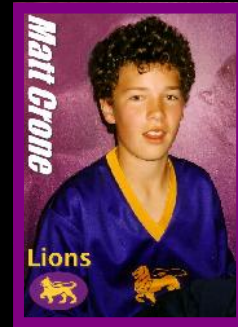
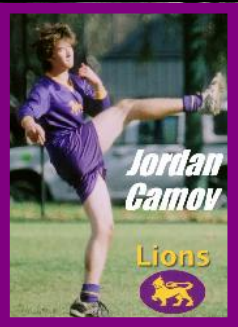
Ciao! Hola! My name's Ben. I play Centre Half Back for the Lions. I was lucky enough to travel OS this year and while I was there I thought I'd do a bit of research for a Humanities project. I uncovered some interesting facts about the history of footy. Some people reckon the Koories invented it and the guys up the road at Melbourne Grammar say that they played the first game, but my theory is that they were playing something like Aussie Rules way back in Ancient Greece and Prehistoric Britain. Check out my pics and make up your own minds!



"No, I don't see it as a career. I'll probably get a real job one day"



"Sorry Hibbo. Can't help you mate... I'm under contract till the end of the season"



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