

Editorial



Last week, members of the community leagues met with AFL Chief Executive, Andrew Demetriou, to discuss their place in Victorian football.

The AFL has supported the AFL/VFL clubs in Victoria to the tune of \$130 million for facilities. While the AFL CEO stated "our biggest enemy is the other codes infiltrating into our venues," community clubs can apply for AFL funding up to only ten percent of the project cost. This is not enough.

The AFL recognises the need for improved facilities and on your behalf we will be lobbying them for greater allocations to improve club facilities and make the job of volunteers more pleasant.

The relationship between senior body and AFL Victoria appears to be improving. The AFL filled two of the four AFL Vic board vacancies with its General Manager of Game Development, David Matthews and General Manager of Legal and Business Affairs, Andrew Dillon. Applications for the other two board positions closed last week and those appointments will be made by the end of the month.

With a new AFL Victoria Board and a stronger communication link to the AFL, the VAFA is in a good position to build our relationship with our peak bodies.

Many supporters of the Amateurs are disgruntled with the aspects of the AFL, but it is imperative that we work with them to ensure the continued prosperity of our game. Denigrating the AFL and other metropolitan competitions does nothing to make our game better or make our own competition stronger. The VAFA has much to offer, but other leagues provide opportunities that we don't wish to compete with.

The volunteers and supporters of community football are the drivers of our game. These are people who are watching the matches on TV,

buying memberships of the clubs, bringing the kids to the matches and talking footy at home. The AFL needs to work harder with competitions like ours to ensure the game's continued prosperity.

There have been fewer better examples of the VAFA's positive community atmosphere than at Waverley Park last Saturday. The match between De La Salle and Old Xaverians lived up to all expectations. It is always difficult to guess numbers at suburban grounds, but well over 2000 people streamed on to the field at the quarter and three quarter time breaks to listen to the words of the coach or to just catch up with friends. A coach's huddle is the perfect meeting place.

The game was as good as it gets. Neither team gained real ascendency until the final term when Xavs appeared home, but then Leigh Harrison single-handedly dragged De La back into it with his incredible skills. It was amateur footy at its best.

As a former coach, I can't help but analyse the matches. The biggest change I have noticed this year is the brave running of our young players, who are literally running rings around some of the more slow legged players. It is a pleasure to watch. None of this slowing down the tempo to steady the ship after unanswered goals, but more bravery, harder running and more risk-taking to get the next one. And it's working a treat! If you want to hold a premiership cup aloft in September, the message is clear: Start running!

Finally, on behalf of everyone in the VAFA family, heartiest congratulations to Peter Brabender of Old Paradians on his magnificent 400 game achievement.

Michael Sholly
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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Big V Club

The Big V Club's third annual lunch will be held at the RACV Club on Friday 10 July.

The Big V Club is open to all who have served VAFA representative football as players, coaches, umpires, support staff or administration.

This year's function will focus on the achievements of teams from 1959, 1969, 1979, 1989 and 1999.

The lunch is always energy packed, and provides an opportunity to catch up and swap tall stories with others who represented the Big V with pride.

Price for over 60s is \$85 per ticket, while Juniors (Under 60) pay \$95. Please ring Jessica Ware on 9537 6777 or email jess@vafa.com.au to book your seats or tables.

As well as Members, the Big V Club has two special categories, Legend and Champion.

Legends and Champions of the Big V Club are selected on record, ability, integrity, sportsmanship and character. There is no automatic selection of Legends and Champions based solely on number of games played, coached or umpired or years of service, though these will of course be considered. Only those who have retired are considered for elevation to Legend or Champion status.

In the two years since the formation of the Big V Club, nine of its members have been selected as Legends. These are Bruce Bourne; Paul Considine; John Fisher; Robbie Fuller; Geoff Hibbins; Jock Nelson; Jim Peters; Manson Russel; and Shane Murphy.

There are five Big V Champions: Rick Brockwell; Rohan Brown; Ian Cordner; Peter Hutchinson; and Phil Kingston.



1999 Remembered

By Mark Seccull

How time flies. It's crazy to think it was a decade ago that we played Victoria Country down at Kardinia Park. I feel very blessed to still be playing football at the youthful age of 41 and cherish pulling on my Old Haileybury jumper every week.



A lot of water has gone under that bridge since I captained the VAFA team in 1999, although it is good to see Andrew "Rambo" Ramsden, Ben Garvey, George de Crespiigny and Ben Jordan still going around (apologies if I have missed anyone).

Football has been very good to me and when it is all over, I'll think back on it all. Wearing the Big V will be among my most cherished memories.

We welcomed the South Australian team to Elsternwick on the June long weekend. The preview in the Amateur Footballer was headed "The Only Sure Tip – Another Close Match". Not so. We kicked four goals in the first term, which was all the Croweaters managed for the game. We won by 66 points, with Ben Jordan, Steve Collins, Denver Artz, Simon Lennox and Andrew Dillon among the best. Adam Jones kicked four, with Nick Mitchell, Cam Aubrey and Matthew Jackson getting three each.

In late July, we ventured down the Geelong freeway full of confidence ready to take on (from what we had been told) a very strong Vic Country team sprinkled with former AFL players.

Coach Nick Bourke and his support staff had everything covered, so the players only had to focus on winning. Not having played on Kardinia Park (by then, known as Shell Stadium), I

was amazed to see the massive size of the ground.

Unfortunately the VCFL side was pretty massive too. They got the jump on us in the first quarter to lead by five goals, which we managed to reduce to four at the half-time break. We kicked six goals in the third term, but they managed five themselves. I remember Rambo covering the ruck and centre half back as we struggled to stop the dam from breaking in the last. At the end of the day, we were beaten by 38 points.

I had been given the task of stopping goal kicking machine Simon Goosey, but he kicked a couple of cheapies early and had four on me at half time. Adam Merrington went onto him in the second half, but he still managed nine before the final siren sounded, though three of these came in junk time.

Our better players were Rambo, Cam Aubrey, Matt Jackson, Steve O'Flynn, Gill McLachlan, with Mitchell and Aubrey kicking splitting six goals.

We all play football to win premierships, but the next best thing is representing your state. It was an honour to play in the Big V, but to be given the opportunity to captain such a select band is something I'll always regard as something very special.



To me, winning is and will always be the most important thing. Though we didn't beat the Country team, I'll never forget walking off the ground and seeing my father's face, full of pride at seeing his son wearing the Big V. Priceless.

Let's hope our VAFA boys will develop some of that famous Big V camaraderie and knock off the Country team in a couple of weeks.

FOR THE LOVE OF THE GAME...

Peter "Plugger" Brabender of Old Paradians makes history this weekend when he brings up his 400th game. This achievement is all the more spectacular given that since his ascension from the U19s, Plugger has played every game in the seniors.



Still going strong at 39, Plugger has been twice Best and Fairest winner and was named in the Paradians Team of The Century. He has represented Victoria, has been club captain for more years than anyone else and has been at the club since 1985.

Brabender has not only been a great player, but is a great clubman and a great bloke. He is a true legend and champion of Old Paradians Football Club and the Victorian Amateur Football Association.

And he has no plans to retire.

From a veteran to a real rookie... **Alan Mdewha** hails from Zimbabwe and has been in Australia just a month. He has a rugby background and is now trying his hand at aussie Rules at that hotbed of international relations, the Snakepit. There were great scenes last Saturday when he took the field for the Snowdogs' 2s. Having shocked the crowd with a few quick rugby passes that brought penalties from the men in white, Al was instructed by coach Nick Smith to stand in the goalsquare. The Bernies got the message and sent in several long bombs, and just before time ran out, Mdewha grabbed one. The umpire raced in to line him up for the shot, which took a while. (Not sure whether it was Al or the umpire confused). Anyway, the Sherrin went

flying through the uprights and the rookie was mobbed by teammates as if he'd scored the winning goal in a Grand Final. To their great credit, his Old Carey opponents gathered around him to congratulate him too.

Last Sunday, De La Salle played the St Kevin's Old Boys Club XVIII in the Anthony Molan game, which commemorates the life of their young player who died as a result of an accident in this fixture in 2003.

Each year, the teams play off for the Anthony Molan Trophy and it has come to be regarded by both clubs as being the most important game in the Clubbies season. This year, De La held a Past Clubbies lunch attended by over 90 people, with another 150 there to watch the game.

As is tradition, the clubs observed a minute's silence at the start of the game and then Anthony's mother Fran tossed the coin.

The Molan family, aunts, uncles, cousins and friends, along with those who had played that day were all in attendance for the game, and at its conclusion, all players from both sides came into the social rooms where Tessa Molan (Anthony's sister) presented the trophy to winning skipper, De La's Mark Lafferty.

Fran and Chris Molan were roundly cheered by all for their generosity in opening up the bar to show their appreciation to the players and friends of Anthony who gave up their Sunday to be part of this special game.

De La President Martin Kelliher thanked the SKOB players and officials who supported this game. *"It means so much to the Molan family, who are a very special part of De La. The way they have continued to embrace our footy club is really quite humbling,"* Kelliher said.

Justin Horsburgh, one of Old Westbourne's greatest servants brings up the 250 this weekend. Debuting in '94, 'Juck' has had a stellar career at senior-level, being an integral part of two senior flags and winning the Club Champion Award twice. He is the all-time leading goal scorer at the Warriors, with 488 goals to date. He kicked the ton in 2004 to make the VAFA scribe's Team Of The Year. He has dedicated sixteen fantastic seasons to the Warriors and we salute Jucka's fine contribution.

Jack Coventry of the famous Collingwood clan attended the Collegians versus Uni Blues game to follow the fortunes of his grandson **Dirk "Diggler" Heinz**, who plays for the Varsity. Jack's eyesight is not what it used to be but InnerFM's hard man behind the mike **Ken Petrucco** arranged for Jack to sit next to the commentary team in the luxury of the Lion's clubhouse so he could follow the game more closely. Well done Ken.

VAFA Admin Manager **Sue Anderson** (pictured) escaped Melbourne's winter chill when she took off for Europe on Tuesday for a long overdue break. In true style, Sue was busy at her desk right up until the stretch limo arrived at HQ to whisk her away to Tullamarine. While away, she will visit both Gallipoli and the Western Front, as well as take in some action at Lords and in Vegas.



Richmond Central's captain **David "Spanker" Speakman** plays his 100th game for the Stationmasters this week. Since joining the Club in 2003, David has clocked up an astonishing array of achievements. Five seasons as captain, two best and fairests and selection on the half-back flank in the All-Star team of his club's first twenty years are testament to his consistently outstanding football. His influence off the field has been no less profound, with David putting in a power of work in his role as Vice President and VAFA Member and being the current holder of the Jim Redfern Award, the club's recognition for outstanding service over many years.

Several months ago, VAFA flag waver **David Murray** was involved in a car accident and though he was not hurt, his vehicle was a little worse for wear. More recently, he received a City Link infringement notice, which at closer inspection, revealed the date of transgression as the same day of his prang. This puzzled the man whose calico work and mathematical genius is on show weekly, until his investigations revealed that his license plate had been picked up by the scanners as it was being towed away for repair. When we last checked, Muzza had retained the law firm of Gibson, See-it and Ping-it to sort out the mess.

One of Yarra's favourite sons played his 100th game last week. **Shane "Sprucey" Laird**, the nephew of former Test opener Bruce "Stumpy" Laird, was recruited to the YVOBFC Bushrangers in 2002 and played in the centre in

the reserves premiership that same year. Always a reliable backman and a strong mark for his size, Shane capped off a stellar year in 2008 winning the Players' Player award, as selected by the club's leadership group.

With the financial year now closed and accountants reappearing like spring daffodils, the annual registration rush is also complete. The Operations folks at HQ took in forms from several clubs before the Tuesday deadline, featuring such names as **Richie Vandenberg** (Uni Blues), **John Barker** (NOBSPC), **Shane Wakelin** (Old Haileybury), **Fraser Gehrig** (Caulfield Grammarians) and **Masaya Nakamura** (Box Hill North's latest addition from their annual trips to Japan). Ten players in the EJ Whitten game last Tuesday night are or were on VAFA lists.

Elsternwick's **Justin Hunter** brings up his 100th game this week after joining the Wickers back in 2002. The full-forward in their premiership team in 2005, he worked in the UK for two seasons and played Aussie Rules with the Putney Magpies, though Hunter's fast leads and strong pack marking weren't quite enough to get those Maggies over the line in the Grand Final last year. On his return to the Wickers, Justin put his hand up to join the committee.

The Twitter VAFA Score service, by which we are entering progress scores from around the grounds on to vafa.com.au and delivering them to mobile phones, continues to grow. We hope to have a wide network before season's end to enable Ammo fans to stay in touch with happenings wherever they may be.

Fitzroy's **Ben Atherton** reaches his hundred for the Roys this week. A graduate of St.Pat's Mentone (Vultures) U19 grand final team in 2001, Ben moved to Fitzroy in 2002 and has become one of the club's gun midfielders. He played in the club's 2003 and 2005 premiership teams and won the Best and Fairest in the year between.

SBMT's Matt 'Cubba' Hecker hits 150 VAFA games this weekend. A little Cubba joined the club in 1988 as a 6 year old and played three seasons in the U9s before playing up through junior ranks to the senior sides. All told, he has pulled the Tiger jumper 280 times and now wears a much, much bigger jumper as his nickname suggests. He still possesses the silky ball handling skills of his brothers Sam and Michael (dec), and though his game stats may not equal those of his mighty brothers, his love of the game is there for all to see. His dry wit is legendary at Brindisi Street.

VAFA IN THE MEDIA



SATURDAY

- 9.00-11.00am: **The VAFA Footy Show**
 1.45 pm: Exclusive Live Broadcast.
Marcellin v Old Brighton
 6.30 pm: Local sports Round-Up



THURSDAY

- 3.30pm: John Kelly's live interview with VAFA CEO Michael Sholly, including a review and preview of VAFA matches.

SUNDAY

- 9:30 - 10:30am: VAFA SUNDAY



SUNDAY

- 6.00-9.00pm: North West Amateur Footy Report including special club features in all sections:

Old Essendon (A), University Blacks, St Kevins, St Bernards (B), Rupertswood, North Old Boys/St Pats, Fitzroy (D1), Therry Penola, Old Paradians (D2), West Brunswick (D3), LaTrobe Uni, North Brunswick (D4)



Leader Community Newspapers produces 30 mastheads weekly across Melbourne, covering all the VAFA.

From match reports to feature stories, reporters Paul Amy, Brad Beitzel, Megan Hurstwaite and Michael Gleeson have your VAFA news covered.

SUNDAY



All VAFA Match results in The Age & Herald Sun each Sunday



UMPIRES CORNER

by Steve McCarthy & Leah Gallagher



Hungry Jacks

This week the column is dedicated to Hungry Jacks, as we have no Macca's this week - **Steve McCarthy** will be sunny himself in Fiji by the beach sucking on some cold ones. Macca has knocked back the traditional holiday venue of many University clubs by swapping the snow for surf. Helping me this week is none other than **Tim Sutcliffe**.

Milestone

This week reaching 100 games with the VAFA is the current President of the Umpires Association **Russell Davidson**. In a short time in the VAFA, Rusty has amassed a wonderful CV of games.

Highlights include three A Section Grand Finals, three Representative games and VAFA umpire of the year 2006.

Rusty came to us from the VFL where he spent 10 years, umpired 106 games, 48 reserves games and plenty of U/19 games. Rusty umpired the 1997 Senior Preliminary and was awarded in that year the John Russo Trophy (*In recognition of on field excellence and off field commitment to the Association*).

Rusty, have a great day and all at the VAFAUA wish you the best with more games to come.

Romance at Katandra

Congratulations to **Elise van Grondelle** who became engaged to **Nathan** (we presume he's real although no body has met him yet) a few weeks ago. The deal was signed at sunset in Katandra (up Shepparton way) and followed by a surprise dinner with both families.

Congratulations to Elise and Nathan, and everyone one at the VAFAUA wishes them much happiness.

Get a GPS

Last week field umpire **Jarryd Barry** was late to his game because he got stuck in traffic. No problem - **Jarryd** did the right thing and notified his partner early that he was running late to Caulfield Grammar. After the game he asked directions to get onto Burke Rd so that he could get back to Balwyn, his team asked him was the traffic bad coming down Burke Rd earlier? "No" Jarryd said, "the traffic was bad at the MCG". Balwyn to Caulfield via the MCG??? Get a GPS mate.

Sausages for sale

The VAFAUA staged a successful fundraising event last Sunday at Bunnings in Keysborough. The VAFAUA took charge of the BBQ stand for the day and provided breakfast, lunch, dinner and everything in between to the locals. Funds raised will go to upgrades of the Clubrooms at Elsternwick Park and to supporting VAFAUA Community Programs.

Despite a lack of cooking and serving skills, the event was a success and everyone was pleased to get through the day without any abuse.

Thanks to all the umpires who supported this event by volunteering their time.

Website has all the news

It has been a while since Umpires Corner plugged the website so here we go again! *Umpires Corner* goes online every Wednesday, Milestones and Promotions every Friday and heaps of other news throughout the week. And don't forget the *Appointments* can be viewed from the VAFAUA website homepage every Friday. Visit www.vafaua.asn.au every day to keep up to date.

Benny's Rule of the Week

Counting Of Players

5.5.1 The captain or acting captain of a Team may at any time during a Match request that the field umpire count the number of players of the opposing team who are on the playing surface.

5.5.2 Procedure

- (1) Stop play at the first available opportunity;
- (2) Call into line within the centre square the players from both teams who are at the time on the playing surface and count the number of players;
- (3) Upon completing the count, ensure that each team has the permitted number of players on the playing surface and re-commence play at the position on the playing surface where the field umpire stopped play; and
- (4) As soon as possible after the match, report to the VAFA that a request was made to count the number of players in a team and the actual number of players actually counted.

5.5.4 Correct Number and Request Without Merit

Where a count reveals that the opposing team has the permitted number of players on the playing surface, the following shall apply:

- (1) A Field umpire shall award a free kick to the captain or acting captain of the opposing team, which shall be taken at the Centre Circle or where play was stopped, which ever is the greater penalty against the offending team;
- (2) A Twenty Five (25) metre penalty shall be imposed from the position where the free kick was awarded.

Social

Reminder that the Golf Day is on the 12th July some spots left, cost \$62.50 at Waterford Valley.

RESPECT THE UMPIRE – RESPECT THE GAME!!

A.F.C.A.



V.A.F.A.

"Your Coaches' Association"

Invites you to

AN EVENING WITH THE ST KILDA COACHING STAFF



Tony Elshaug



Leigh Tudor

St Kilda Assistant Coaches Tony Elshaug and Leigh Tudor will give their insights into the world of AFL coaching and well as providing useful tips for amateur coaches.

The night will also incorporate an AFCA/VAFA coaches' forum where VAFA coaches will have the opportunity to make contributions including submissions to the rules committee as well as coaching development and support suggestions.

SPORTSCOVER AREA – WEDNESDAY 22nd JULY, 2009
6.30 – 8.30PM

The night is free for all VAFA coaches. Light refreshments will be served
RSVP: jeremy@vafa.com.au by Wednesday 15th July, 2009

coates

Proud Sponsor of AFCA/VAFA

ROUND
TWELVE

NEXT WEEK'S MATCHES

July 11th 2009



A SECTION

OLD XAVIERIANS v MARCELLIN
OLD IVANHOE v ST BEDES/MENTONE TIGERS
OLD SCOTCH v DE LA SALLE
COLLEGIANS v OLD ESSENDON
OLD BRIGHTON v UNI BLUES

B SECTION

OLD TRINITY v ST BERNARDS
OLD MELBURNIANS v ST KEVINS
OLD CAMBERWELL v UNI BLACKS
ORMOND v OLD HAILEYBURY
OLD CAREY v HAMPTON ROVERS

C SECTION

PARKDALE v BULLEEN TEMP
AJAX v MHSOB
OLD GEELONG v MONASH BLUES
CAULFIELD GRAM v OAKLEIGH
BEAUMARIS v MAZENOD

D1 SECTION

FITZROY v WHITEFRIARS
OLD MENTONIANS v STH MELB DIST
RUPERTSWOOD v NOBSP
AQUINAS v PRAHRAN
WERRIBEE v EMMAUS ST LEOS

D2 SECTION

THERRY PENOLA v PENINSULA
OLD PARADIANS v GLEN EIRA
BANYULE v YARRA VALLEY
IVANHOE v OLD WESTBOURNE
WILLIAMSTOWN v ELTHAM

D3 SECTION

MONASH GRYPH v BENTLEIGH
UHS-VU v ST JOHNS
WEST BRUNSWICK v POWER HOUSE
ELSTERNWICK v HAWTHORN
ST FRANCIS XAVIER v ST MARY'S SAL

D4 SECTION

LA TROBE UNI v MANNINGHAM
BOX HILL NTH v STH MORNINGTON
RICHMOND v ALBERT PARK
CHADSTONE v SWINBURNE UNI
KEW v ELEY PARK
NTH BRUNSWICK v MT LILYDALE

U19 PREMIER

OLD XAVIERIANS v MARCELLIN
Toorak Park at 9.30am
OLD TRINITY v BEAUMARIS
ST BEDES/MENTONE TIGERS v OLD SCOTCH
DE LA SALLE (BLUES) v RUPERTSWOOD
UNI BLACKS v UNI BLUES

U19 SOUTH 1

MAZENOD v OLD HAILEYBURY
Central Res. Oval 2 at 9.30am
DE LA SALLE (GOLDS) v ORMOND
Waverley Park at 11.40am
OLD BRIGHTON - BYE
ST KEVINS v CAULFIELD
OLD MELBURNIANS v COLLEGIANS

U19 NORTH 1

MANNINGHAM SHARKS v BANYULE/VIEWBANK
BULLEEN TEMP v OLD CAMBERWELL
OLD CAREY v FITZROY
OLD ESSENDON v ST BERNARDS

U19 NORTH 2

AQUINAS v THERRY PENOLA
Aquinas College at 9.30am
IVANHOE v RUPERTSWOOD
Ivanhoe Park at 9.30am
EMMAUS ST LEOS v OLD GEELONG BLACKS
LA TROBE UNI v OLD WESTBOURNE
OLD XAVS v FITZROY
Sportscover Arena at 2.00pm

U19 SOUTH 2

AJAX v PRAHRAN
Lindsay Hassett Oval at 1.00pm
MHSOB v HAMPTON ROVERS
MONASH BLUES v BEAUMARIS
OLD MENTONIANS v PARKDALE
BENTLEIGH v PENINSULA

UNDER 18

UHS-VU/FLEMINGTON v THERRY PENOLA
Brens Oval at 9.45am
ST BERNARDS v OAKLEIGH
St Bernards College at 9.45am
ST MARY'S SALESIAN v OLD CAMBERWELL
Ferndale Park at 2.00pm
ST BEDES/MENTONE TIGERS v NORTHERN BULLANTS
Southern Rd Oval at 2.00pm

CLUB XVIII (1)

ST KEVINS v PRAHRAN
ST BERNARDS v OLD SCOTCH
OLD MELBURNIANS v COLLEGIANS
OLD XAVS (2) v UNI BLUES
Sportscover Arena at 11.40am
DE LA SALLE v OLD XAVS (1)
Gardiner Park at 11.40am

CLUB XVIII (2)

OLD CAMBERWELL v FITZROY
Gordon Barnard Reserve at 9.30am
MAZENOD OC v OLD TRINITY
NOB/ST PATRICKS COLLEGE v MONASH BLUES
WHITEFRIARS OC v MARCELLIN OC
Koonung Reserve at 11.40am
UNIVERSITY BLACKS v OLD BRIGHTON

CLUB XVIII (NORTH)

KEW v NORTH OLD BOYS/ST PATS
Victoria Park - Kew at 9.30am
WHITEFRIARS v OLD WESTBOURNE
BULLEEN TEMP. AFC v OLD IVANHOE
WERRIBEE v WILLIAMSTOWN CYMS
OLD ESSENDON v THERRY PENOLA
OLD CAREY v BANYULE AFC

CLUB XVIII (SOUTH)

HAMPTON ROVERS v ORMOND
OLD SCOTCH - BYE
OAKLEIGH v OLD GEELONG
ST MARY'S SALESIAN v OLD MELBURNIANS
ST BEDES/MENTONE TIGERS v CAULFIELD GRAM



... Retrospective

by Geoff Reilley

5 YEARS AGO – 2004

VAFA CEO, Phil Stevens, was pleased to report the first AAFC Three-Year Championship Series had ended as it began with the Victorians dominating the championships to take out the title undefeated over the duration of the six match series. The three participating State bodies, the VAFA, SAAFL and WAAFL had committed to a second Three Year Series beginning in the 2005 season. The All-Australian team was chosen and consisted of 12 VAFA players namely **Murray Pitts, Nigel Credlin, Ewan Thompson, Mark Corrigan, Luke Hawkins, Tim Harvey, Ben Jordon, Andrew Ramsden** (Vice-Captain), **Bernie Dineen, Tim Biggs** and **Tim Ockleshaw**. The Coach was Victoria's **Nick Bourke**.

D2 Section revealed the possibility of the top four remaining unchallenged for the rest of the season. With **Bentleigh** (fifth) playing **Ivanhoe/Accumption** (fourth), this may be the last opportunity to upset the existing ladder. Bentleigh went into the game full of confidence out at Ivanhoe Park and showed their intentions in the first quarter although the home team held a 7 point lead at the first turn. With straight kicking Bentleigh remained in the race at half time but had fallen to 4 goals down. By three quarter time Ivanhoe Assumption increased their lead and pulled away in the final term to win 17.13 to 11.4. Ivanhoe's **Colin Brown**, in his 100th game, did an exemplary job restricting leading sharp shooter, Justin Paul, to only 2 goals. The result meant that Ivanhoe Assumption would remain in fourth spot and Bentleigh, still in fifth position, were 4 games plus a lot of percentage behind. Best players – **Brown, Harris, Lee, Iosefo, Tucker (5), Wood** (Ivanhoe/Assumption) and **Ferris, Mikkelsen, Vukic, Robertson, Smith** (Bentleigh). Central Umpires were **Graham Thwaites** and **Daniel Dineen**. In **D3 Section** the Oakleigh juggernaut continued on their merry way and won at home against the previously undefeated **Rupertswood**. It was a very clear victory 17.14 to 9.8 and the Krushers had narrowed the gap to be only 1 game behind in second position. Oakleigh's 7 goals to 1 second quarter made all the difference. Best players – **Earl, Bell, Mackenzie (7), Britt, Hogan, Treacy** (Oakleigh) and **Reid, Spinner, Wenn, Johnson** (Rupertswood). **Steve McCarthy** and **Jamie Gunn** were the "men in white". In **D4 Section**, there were considerable margins in each game with the closest match, **Old Westbourne** (second) versus **Elsternwick** (third). At three quarter time an upset had been looming with the Wicks up by 4

points but the lads from the West really piled on the goals (9.5) in the last quarter to run away with the points. Elsternwick could only manage 1 goal 1 behind; final score 15.9 to 7.9. Best players – **J Horsburgh (7), Huntington, Lever, Pavez, Walker** (Old Westbourne) and **B Mahoney, S Grace, Missaglia, Lefoe, S Mahoney, D Grace** (Elsternwick).

10 YEARS AGO – 1999

Match of the Day in **C Section** was **Whitefriars** (1st) versus **Old Geelong** (4th) out at Donvale in the most rustic setting in the VAFA. It would sure be a test for the Geelong boys as the Friars had been hot for most of the season. As predicted, Whitefriars imposed themselves from the start although a 3 goal lead was not a winning margin. Geelong were trying hard to get their system working but the Friars continued to widen the margin and were 8 goals up at the main break. Only a 7 goal last term by Geelong saved them from complete annihilation with a final score of 18.17 to 12.9 favouring Whitefriars. The loss cost Old Geelong fourth spot. Best players – **Bateman, A Carbone, Power (4), Northey, Pasqualotto, Phan** (Whitefriars) and **J Paul, Welsby, J Taylor, W Paul, Middleton, L Wilson** (Old Geelong).

D Section was a twelve team competition and a final five would compete in the finals. It seemed **AJAX, Monash Blues** and **Old Essendon** were pretty certain of being there at the end of the home and away games with the remaining two spots being up for grabs. Old Camberwell made sure of the opportunity against lowly placed **Kew** and were never threatened before posting a final score of 22.16 to 9.13. The Wellers' defence, headed by **Robert Pratt, Matt Whitehead** and **Andrew Bryson** was outstanding with only **Craig Bradley, Adam Felmingham** and **Tom Moore** holding their own for Kew. This win would consolidate Old Camberwell for the time being. Best players – **Pratt, Imberger, Whitehead, Bryson, Gladman, D Walker** (Old Camberwell) and **C Bradley, Felmingham, Tinnetti, Bell, Harrison, Morre** (Kew).

Banyule congratulate **Stephen "Hoota" Gray** on playing his **350th game** with the Bears. Included in the total were 110 games for the junior section of the club. **Stephen** had achieved a number of honours throughout his career including several best and fairest wards, life



membership and the title of **Club Legend**, Banyule's highest honour.

Old Camberwell's Cameron Strachan joined the illustrious **200 game** club. A past **Premiership player**, **Cameron** was a highly respected club member with great contributions on and off the field.

20 YEARS AGO – 1989

In a terrific round of amateur football, **A Section** saw a number of changes to the ladder. All grounds were subject to heavy conditions and at the E E Gunn Reserve both home team **Ormond** and visitors **Old Xaverians** found it difficult to score. The Xavs were great in the first term with 3 goals to Ormond's 1 but could only add another 2 majors for the rest of the game and Ormond won 5.11 to 5.5. Ormond would now go to second from third place. Best players – **Clarkson, Robertson, Connell, Brown** Paul McDonald (Ormond) and **Meehan, Richard Curtain, McClelland, Dann, Warhurst, Mortenson** (Old Xavs).

Collegians (2nd) met top team **Uni Blues** and it was tight all the way before Collegians took control in the final quarter and won 12.8 to 9.8. Best players – **Scott, Wright, Tregear, Bennett, Pollock (3), Wallace** (Collegians) and **Wylie (3), Furphy, Gust, MacInnes (4), C Taylor, McCarty** (Uni Blues). A costly loss for the Blues as they dropped to third place!

The big game in **B Section** was between **Old Brighton** (top) and **Old Melburnians** (3rd) at the Beach Oval. By half time Brighton had taken a valuable 3 goal lead and increased it by 1 at three quarter time. Melburnians finally dropped off the pace in the last term as the Tonners finished on top 19.12 to 12.14. Best players – **Hoar, Fisher (4), Burns, Lade, Grant, Tregaskis** (Old Brighton) and **A Witts, Webb (3), Tyrell, Nelson, Pisarski, Zarni** (Old Melburnians).

30 YEARS AGO – 1979

In **A Section**, it was a very interesting encounter between **De La Salle** and **North Old Boys** in the battle for second place. At the windy NOBS' oval it was torrid and untidy in the first quarter with NOBS failing to make the most of their opportunities (1.4) but keeping De La scoreless. Although NOBS got the ball forward for a couple of scores in the second quarter, it was all De La Salle as their running players cut loose and broke through the opposition defence to record six goals straight and a three goal lead at half time. In the critical third term, North wasted numerous chances but still scored 7.8 while holding the D's to only 1 behind. It was then up to NOBS to hold De La which they did in the main with De La unable to take full advantage of the wind. Final score – NOBS 9.16 to DLS 9.4 and both sides were even on points. De La were now in second

place on percentage, one game behind ladder leaders University Blues.

In **B Section** it was a great competition with only one game separating 4th from 9th. On top of the ladder, **AJAX** got a fright from **Collegians** who stormed home with a 7 goal last term but AJAX steadied to win 13.18 to 12.8. Best players – **H Ritterman, S Marks, Kalmus, M Hampel, Feldspicer, M Ritterman** (AJAX) and **Balsillie, Wagstaff, Bickford, Hinchen, Parsons (4)**, **Hibbins** (Collegians).

40 YEARS AGO – 1969

In **B Section**, **St Bernards** continued their winning way at the expense of **Geelong Amateurs**. It was an important game for both clubs and it was Geelong that jumped out of the blocks with a bit more purpose. St Bernards lifted their game and had taken a narrow lead at half time, relinquished it narrowly at three quarter time but played a great final term (8 goals straight) to win 21.3 to 17.8. Best players – **Hannaberry, Hancox, Mahoney (7), Considine, J Fox, Dunn** (St Bernards) and **Allden (3), Smith (5), Wilson, Robins, Marshall, Flucker** (Geelong).

200 games to **Bob Hammond**, **Hampton Rovers'** popular stalwart. Business commitments had forced "Hammo" to partake in Reserve's games but it had not adversely affected his off-field commitments as a member of both the general and social committees.

Brunswick veteran, **Max Pitts**, played his **200th game** and was the current leading goal kicker in **E Section Reserves**. As one of the most colorful, vigorous and accurate kicks in the Club's history, members hoped Max's association would not be severed for many years to come.

One of **De La Salle's** most consistently good players, **Col Glover**, reached the **150 game** milestone against **Kew**. Always a regular vote getter De La were hoping for many more games from Col.

50 YEARS AGO – 1959

In **B Section** the top four looked quite safe at this stage of the season – **De La Salle** (9 wins), **Commonwealth Bank, Coburg** and **Old Melburnians** (all 8 wins). Maybe **Kew** on 6 wins could challenge as they played **Geelong** with only three wins. It was an even first half after Kew opened well against a shaky Geelong defence but Geelong got their act together and gradually moved to a slender lead. It was all down to the last quarter with not much separating the two teams but Geelong suddenly went into top gear to score 6 goals in a row and won 16.10 to 9.11. This loss by Kew would probably mean the top four would remain unchallenged. Best players – **Anderson, Redpath (6), Norwood, Hinchcliffe, Bent (3), White (Geelong) and Stokes, Mort (3), Brown, Woods, Rogers, Snell** (Kew).

ROUND 10 WINNER ESMOND PROWSE (OLD XAVERIANS)

Old Xaverians' utility Esmond "Mouse" Prowse is this week's winner of the Club Warehouse Rising Star Award.

In just his ninth game of senior football, the twenty year-old played a pivotal role in Xaverians' narrow victory over De La Salle last weekend. After picking up possessions all over the park, the elusive and unheralded Prowse displayed enormous sangfroid with a vital goal in the final quarter, his second for the match.

Prowse is a product of Xavier College where he was Captain of the School. He played in the Xavs' U19s last season after a year away from football. This year he has proven adept at winning the hard ball and getting full value from his disposals.

He is keen to cement a place in the strong Xavs' lineup and to play in the finals.

Congratulations, Esmond.

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Senior Coach of the Month – June Gavin Kerr – Rupertswood

Gavin Kerr is in his first year coaching Rupertswood in 2009. His playing career was shortened due to a serious leg injury and accordingly he turned to coaching. After successful stints as an assistant coach at Avondale Heights (EDFL) and Jacana (RDFL) he returned to Avondale Heights in 2002. He took the club from a battling B grade team to premiers and champions in 2004. His efforts were recognised with the North West Metro Coach of the Year award. After two very competitive years in A division Gavin retired to turn his attentions to his young family. Gavin has settled into his role at Rupertswood extremely well with the team undefeated in D1 this year. Gavin is a great communicator and teacher which are great qualities when coaching such a young side who are really benefitting from his experience and enthusiasm.

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SPORTSCOVER ARENA DRAW 2009 (JULY)

FRI JULY 3	NORTHERN BULLANTS v OAKLEIGH (U18) 7.00pm
SAT JULY 4	OLD ESSENDON v OLD SCOTCH (A)
SUN JULY 5	DE LA SALLE v OLD IVANHOE (A)
FRI JULY 10	NO MATCHES
SAT JULY 11	OLD XAVS (2) v UNI BLUES (Club XVIII) 11.40am OLD XAVS v FITZROY (U19 Nth 2) 2.00pm
SUN JULY 12	FIDA

Fines – Round 9 – 20/06/2009

LATE SCORES: First offence (\$5); second offence (\$25); third offence (\$50); fourth offence (\$100); each subsequent offence (\$100).

After 4pm

D1 Reserves: North Old Boys/St Pats

D2 Reserves: Ivanhoe

After 5:30pm

U19 North 2: Ivanhoe

U19 South 2: Hampton Rovers

U18: St Mary's Salesian



Incorrect Scores – Round 9 – 20/06/2009

C: Mazenod
D3: Elsternwick
D1 Reserve: North Old Boys/ St Pats
D3 Reserve: Elsternwick
U19 North 2: Emmaus St Leos
U19 South 1: Old Haileybury

pe

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200 Games - Jono Dixon

All at Collegians would like to congratulate Jono Dixon who is scheduled to play his 200th game this week.

Jono has simply been sensational for our club. He has been through the highs and lows, up and down through the grades, played through some serious injury, always leads the way on the track and on the ground, and has become without a doubt, one of the great Collegians over the past 25 years, if not longer. He has proudly represented the VAFA, been a premiership player and leading goal kicker. Regularly courted by clubs far and wide, his loyalty as a player and a friend, and to Collegians and the VAFA has been outstanding. His ability to combine a very demanding professional life with football has been phenomenal. He might not have reached the heights of his father Brian (whom we know is very proud of his son's achievements), but in context and in his own way, his football career has been just as good.

We wish you all the best mate, hope there is a few more in the tank yet.



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U19 SECTIONS

by Ross Mitchell (U19 Premier), Damien Ractliffe (U19 North 1 & 2),
Justin Waldron (U19 South 1 & 2)

U19 PREMIER

Round 10 Review

After blowing my word limit well and truly last week this week I'll be brief. Seems to me that some low scores in the mid year assessments have inspired a few performances especially from those fighting for Premier survival, while at the pointy end Old Scotch may have discovered that there is quite a gap between the top half and bottom half of the top four. Old Scotch playing what was the first of 6 home games for the second half of the season were never in the hunt against a rampant De La Salle (Blues). **Lachlan O'Connell** was the main destroyer up forward for the visitors chipping in with a lazy 8 in what was fantastic team effort from De La. **Pollard** and **Clinch** also on fire for De La.

Beauy will be ruing their poor start against the visiting Old Xavs, failing to trouble the scorers in the first stanza then working hard to be in front at three quarter time only to see The Claret and Stout over run them late in the day. In a tight contest which we've come to expect from Xavs it was **James Woods** and **Shaun Cross** who had the Sharks at 6's and 7's while in Blue and Gold it was **Myles Lewis** and **Mike Globan** who flew the flag.

After a harsh mid season assessment St Bedes Mentone Tigers traveled to the pavvy determined to prove yours truly wrong and also send a message that they are definitely still up to their eyeballs in season 2009. A resounding away win against Uni Blacks was the result as The Tigers showed they had too many avenues to goal. **Bastion** and **Zagami** again amongst the best for St Bedes while for Blacks Nettlefold and Phelan were shining lights. Marcellin hit some great form as they showed Rupertswood around The College's number 2 oval. The Eagle's 8 goal win set up by a standout 6 goal performance from **Dan McMahon** will prove very handy as Marcellin settles a game clear of the drop zone. **Coburn** and **Murphy** also amongst the best for The Eagles.

Meanwhile next door it was Old Trinity who also refused to raise the white flag after a less than glowing mid year report. The T's hit the lead early through great work from **Spassopoulos** and **Chadwick** and continued to apply the screws up until three quarter time. A late Uni Blues charge headed by **Jack Townley** was almost enough to pinch the game however the T's prevailed to record win number 2 by 1 straight kick.

Round 11 Preview

This week sees Old Scotch hosting Old Trinity and I'd expect a better showing from the Cards after their disastrous performance last week. With the T's tasting success last week expect a close affair here with Old Scotch getting up by 3 goals. Uni Blues roll out the welcome mat for St Bedes Mentone and will be desperate to correct last week's poor form. The Tigers though are showing great form and have shown a liking for the Crawford Oval.

SBMT by 4 goals. Marcellin will look forward to running out at home again against Uni Blacks who are struggling to kick enough score. While Blacks will be more competitive this week I'm tipping Marcellin to continue their new found winning ways and beat Uni Blacks in a close one. Rupo and Beauy front this week disappointed with last weeks form. The Sharks may find this road trip too big an ask as I tip Rupo to bounce back and take the chockies by around 2 goals. In the top of the table clash I'm expecting the comps best forward line to finally break open the comps best defence as De La Salle cruise to a handy win. In what could be a dress rehearsal for the GF De La Blues by 4 goals.

Congratulations to U19 Premier regulars **Stephen Muller** (DLS), **Tom Clune** (OS), **Sam Leetham** (OT), **Daniel Noonan** (OX) and **Ben McClure** (UBLUES) on their selection in the A and B section dominated VAFA U19 Rep squad.

U19 NORTH 1 AND 2 DAMO'S BALL

Round 10 Review - North 1

Old Carey's hopes of playing finals were dealt a huge blow top of the table Camberwell on the weekend, losing by 67 points. Old Carey will be forced to make up ground now as they slip to 6th on the ladder. Old Camberwell however are sitting sweetly on top, with **Ben Hart** putting in a best on ground performance for the Wellers. **Bas Simpson** was the best for Old Carey. Old Essendon have started laying the cement for their position in the finals with a big win over Bulleen Temp at home. **Shepherd** and **Troost** were pivotal for OEG



Ross Mitchell



Damien Ractliffe



Justin Waldron

