

2021

## Good Composure: Mapping Shifting Norms in the Language of Televised Australian Rules Commentary

Samantha Allender  
*University of Wollongong*

Follow this and additional works at: <https://ro.uow.edu.au/theses1>

### University of Wollongong

#### Copyright Warning

You may print or download ONE copy of this document for the purpose of your own research or study. The University does not authorise you to copy, communicate or otherwise make available electronically to any other person any copyright material contained on this site.

You are reminded of the following: This work is copyright. Apart from any use permitted under the Copyright Act 1968, no part of this work may be reproduced by any process, nor may any other exclusive right be exercised, without the permission of the author. Copyright owners are entitled to take legal action against persons who infringe their copyright. A reproduction of material that is protected by copyright may be a copyright infringement. A court may impose penalties and award damages in relation to offences and infringements relating to copyright material.

Higher penalties may apply, and higher damages may be awarded, for offences and infringements involving the conversion of material into digital or electronic form.

Unless otherwise indicated, the views expressed in this thesis are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the views of the University of Wollongong.

### Recommended Citation

Allender, Samantha, Good Composure: Mapping Shifting Norms in the Language of Televised Australian Rules Commentary, Doctor of Philosophy thesis, School of the Arts, English and Media, University of Wollongong, 2021. <https://ro.uow.edu.au/theses1/1132>

Research Online is the open access institutional repository for the University of Wollongong. For further information contact the UOW Library: [research-pubs@uow.edu.au](mailto:research-pubs@uow.edu.au)



UNIVERSITY  
OF WOLLONGONG  
AUSTRALIA

# **Good Composure: Mapping Shifting Norms in the Language of Televised Australian Rules Commentary.**

Samantha Allender

Supervisors:  
Michael Griffiths  
Leigh Dale

This thesis is presented as part of the requirement for the conferral of the degree:  
Doctor of Philosophy

This research has been conducted with the support of the Australian Government Research Training  
Program Scholarship

University of Wollongong  
Cultural Studies/Media Studies

August 2021

## **Abstract**

This thesis has its origins deeply rooted in astonishment and curiosity. When I sat to watch a televised game of Australian Rules football in 2009, after a viewing absence of over two decades, I found that the language was so distinctly foreign, the positioning of the ordinary so unexpected that it took a while to locate. The contrast between my expectations, however deeply buried they may have been, and the actuality seemed a seismic shift in the ideology of what (in my raised-in-Melbourne-mind) is not only Australia's national sport, but also the greatest contest game on earth. Degrees of ambivalence were communicated through the commentary that were unfamiliar to me and I was curious to see how language in broadcast football commentary had transitioned from that I imagined I remembered to that now being heard over an interval of more than 20 years. As it turned out my investigations into broadcast commentary begin in the same decade I have actual, if debatably accurate, memory of (the 1970s). Therefore, it is as much against my own life experiences and understandings that these changes in the words we use in our ordinary lives have been mapped, as it is of the scholarly theorists whose work has guided my prodding, most particularly Walter Benjamin and James Clifford. We are each shaped by our environment and this is reflected nowhere more accurately than in the words we choose to use. It appears likely language is instrumental in facilitating transition between one accepted ordinary and another, states of ordinary which are today rapidly superseded by newer ordinaries in part because of the ability to communicate with unprecedented range and reach.

In the early days of television, particularly in Melbourne, football was a social knit-stitch that pulled far-flung communities closer. Fifty years ago there was more than mere distance between industrial Geelong and bayside Moorabbin or inner-city Fitzroy but football, very present in the everyday, wove connecting threads where there were few other commonalities, for man, woman and child alike. Establishing club allegiance was an early question in any new friendship or random introduction. The people who watch are as important to the longevity of the game as the players are. The few people who describe the game to the many people who watch – both those that attend games physically, and those removed watching broadcasts – are immersed in a world that their audience enters and leaves at will. Increasingly these commentators are ex-players, even further submerged in the game, its politics and its ethos. Although football has been played by men chasing an erratically bouncing oval ball for more than one hundred years, the language with which it is communicated has changed through the decades. What the commentators of today are choosing to say to those watching is different because when they look at men chasing an erratically bouncing oval ball, they are no longer seeing the same things their predecessors did.

Tracking how language reflects the changing of that which is seen has been made possible by a process of immersion in the world of football. I have watched 325 full games of football (listed in Appendix 2), several of them more than once, purely for the exercise of listening to the commentary. The final quarters of 69 games have been transcribed in full; the travails of converting audio to text, and the selection processes are outlined in the Methodology chapter, page 20. Without including reading or research, simply listening and transcribing has exceeded the equivalent of 25 forty-hour work weeks (1000 hours). Aware few are afforded such opportunity to indulge a curiosity it must be acknowledged that listening with intent is a habit, once acquired, difficult to discard. Submersion in the idiosyncrasies of any narrowly defined culture must alter one's world view.

This, therefore, is an in-depth look at how that which is accepted as ordinary within the language of televised Australian Rules football commentary has changed between the 1970s and the 2010s. This work was formally begun in 2015, a time which within the writing of this has already become the past and will be forming an interpretable aura of its own. Within the industry of football as a marketable product on a media system as competitive as the code itself, is a language, a form of communication that has moved through time in tandem with the game. This is history. The changes in the ways in which Australians wield language in the world of Australian Rules football, a competitive contact sport with such broad and varied reach, reflects altered perspectives over half a century. What follows is the story told by a collection of transcripts from five decades of televised football.

## Acknowledgments

The following people have contributed not only to this work, but to major changes in my perception of the world in which I live.

The girl who was Judy Burns, my mother, who fed my hunger without agenda or censor  
Greg Boardley (Roger), who never understood, but provided me with Foxtel and supported me as graciously as he knew how

Matilda Allender who exploded boundaries, fire-bombed obstacles and insisted on change

Rowena Parry for opening a door I had been scratching at for years

Elizabeth Ellis for her honesty

Thorald Merrett, Dick Mason and Dennis Cometti for rekindling a love of commentary

Brian Taylor for remaining true to his era

Mark Davidson (AFL House) for deciding I wasn't a crackpot

Pamela Barnette (NAA) who was sure I was

The unknown archivist who saved the random games from the 1970s, without which this could never have happened

Thank you to all whose work I have piggy-backed on (see Works Consulted)

And most of all

Mike Griffiths and Leigh Dale whose patience and skills have been thoroughly tested

A sign is something by knowing which we know something more

- Charles S Pierce

## **Certification**

*I, Samantha Jane Allender declare that this thesis submitted in fulfilment of the requirements for the conferral of the degree Doctor of Philosophy from the University of Wollongong, is wholly my own work unless otherwise referenced or acknowledged. This document has not been submitted for qualifications at any other academic institution.*

**Samantha Jane Allender**

---

*Samantha Jane Allender*

*10 August 2021*

## Referencing

MLA referencing has been used throughout.

Transcribed games of football (Appendix One) are referenced in date and play order. For example, a quote marked (1973.4 23) refers to the fourth game transcribed in 1973, which is the Hawthorn v Richmond game played on 26 May 1973. The quoted information will be located on page 23 of the Transcripts. (2012.3 433) refers to the third game transcribed from that season, Geelong v Melbourne game played 05 May 2012, and the quoted information is from page 433 of the transcripts.

Games that have not been transcribed but that have been referenced within this text will be found in Recorded Games Accessed, located sequentially by the date on which the game was played. Dates have all been entered year, month, day to allow for computerised chronological ordering. For example, 19721007 refers to a game played 07 October 1972. Where more than one game was accessed on any given date, the game will be identified within the text by team names.

Due to the large amount of quoted speech, the use of double quotation marks (“ ”) indicate actual speech taken from filmed recordings of games or interviews, single quotation marks (‘ ’) indicate a quote taken from a written text.

# Table of Contents

Abstract .....	1
Acknowledgments.....	3
Certification.....	4
Referencing .....	5
Table of Contents.....	6
Life-Cycle .....	8
Section 1: Introduction.....	10
Outline.....	10
Fundamentals of Australian Rules football.....	12
Orientation .....	14
Methodology.....	21
Process .....	21
Theorists.....	32
Walter Benjamin .....	33
James Clifford.....	33
Pierre Bourdieu .....	35
Zygmunt Bauman.....	36
Michel Maffesoli .....	36
Literature Review .....	37
History of football .....	38
Indigenous contribution.....	39
Business/Professionalisation .....	40
Spectators .....	40
Crowds .....	41
Audience .....	42
Listening.....	43
Language, General. ....	44
Australian Language.....	44
Commentary .....	45
Masculinities/Violence.....	45
History .....	49



1858-1896 .....	50
1897-1970 .....	54
1971-1986 .....	59
1987 – present .....	61
Commentary.....	64
Section 2: Analysis.....	73
Body.....	73
Mind .....	98
A Winter’s Poem .....	124
Voice.....	125
Vision.....	146
Time.....	154
Section 3: Discussion .....	170
Works Consulted .....	180

## Life-Cycle

For Big Jim Phelan

By Bruce Dawe (1967)

When children are born in Victoria  
they are wrapped in the club-colours, laid in beribboned cots,  
having already begun a lifetime's barracking.

Carn, they cry, Carn... feebly at first  
while parents playfully tussle with them  
for possession of a rusk: Ah, he's a little Tiger (And they are...)

Hoisted shoulder-high at their first League game  
they are like innocent monsters who have been years swimming  
towards the daylight's roaring empyrean

Until, now, hearts shrapnelled with rapture,  
they break surface and are forever lost,  
their minds rippling out like streamers

In the pure flood of sound, they are scarfed with light, a voice  
like the voice of God booms from the stands  
Ooohh you bludger and the covenant is sealed.

Hot pies and potato-crisps they will eat,  
they will forswear the Demons, cling to the Saints,  
and behold their team going up the ladder into Heaven,

And the tides of life will be the tides of the home-team's fortunes  
- the reckless proposal after the one-point win,  
the wedding and honeymoon after the grand-final...

They will not grow old as those from more northern States grow old,  
for them it will always be three-quarter-time  
with the scores level and the wind advantage in the final term,

That passion persisting, like a race-memory, through the welter of seasons,  
enabling old-timers by boundary-fences to dream of resurgent lions  
and centaur-figures from the past to replenish continually the present,

So that mythology may be perpetually renewed  
and Chicken Smallhorn<sup>1</sup> return like the maize-god  
in a thousand shapes, the dancers changing

But the dance forever the same – the elderly still  
loyally crying Carn... Carn... (if feebly) unto the very end  
having seen in the six-foot recruit from Eaglehawk their hope of salvation.

(Dawe 86)

---

<sup>1</sup> Smallhorn, Wilfred (Chicken) played for Fitzroy 1930-1940. Winner of the 1933 Brownlow Medal.

## Section 1: Introduction

### Outline

Spoken language is difficult to render concrete, it remains insubstantial, smoke-like: even capturing the words in print does not convey correctly their meanings – tone of voice cannot be represented by the alphabet, interpretations are dependent on individual habitus and perceptions. The difficulty should not preclude the attempt – there are changes in language spoken in everyday arenas that are important and need to be understood, or at the very least noticed. The content or the intent of language cannot be seen so it is accepted as invisible which is not the same as being without substance. The very ordinariness of language makes it unnoticeable, perhaps reason enough take pay attention.

The first section is the Introduction which includes this summary along with a brief outline of the fundamentals of Australian Rules Football, followed by an orientation of the main conceptual ideas and tools that best describe the propelling forces of enquiry, information on the methodology and process, an overview of the theorists whose work has guided and informed my own, a Literature Review which illustrates the scope, a brief history of Australian Rules football, and a precis on television commentary in Australia.

The chapters History and Commentary have been included to provide both background and context. Experts in either field will bewail the omissions and gaps: however, the history of the game is intended as a thumbnail sketch, and the introduction to commentary in Australia is likewise an outline. As this work is based upon the relationship between the two, it is necessary that each is given space. Neither is self-sustaining without the other and although co-dependant, commentary has largely been rendered invisible, without value. This is illustrated by the immediate relaxing of suspicions and generous access to the recordings by AFL House once they realised the *images* were not the subject of interest. Ironically, the energetic protection of the images (previously considered unworthy of preservation) obliterates the value of the words.

The purpose of the chapter History is to illustrate the grassroots connection Victorians (emulated by Tasmanians, South Australians and Western Australians) have with football, to share the unknowable truth of football's influence in the cultural and social environment of a suburban organism that divided and multiplied with the growth of the population, sending out connective threads, forging community while proclaiming territory. It is this longevity of the game that cannot be replicated in other states, the evolutionary processes of play incorporated

into the rapidly changing cultural environment. The growth and the changes of the game have moved in tandem with its people, and as such has been acknowledged as the game of the people.

The chapter Commentary is both a brief history and a progression. The commentary shows what the commentators are cognisant of and what they expect their listening public to understand without explanation. It is not possible to call football without intimate knowledge of the game, and more recently, of the players themselves. The commentators who call Australian Rules football inhabit a unique position of immersion when compared to the public to whom it directs itself: it is on this basis they are precariously balanced between professionalism and passion and are considered expert.

The second section is Analysis, which contains five chapters; Body, Mind, Voice, Vision and Time. These chapters use data from the transcripts to make observations about changes in what is visible, verbal and vital in the game throughout the relationship between the game and television commentary. Beginning with the premise of injury, the chapter Body quickly took an unexpected direction, simultaneously providing a broadened entry point for the following chapter, Mind, which also opened out in an unanticipated manner. The chapter, Voice, is concerned with the embodiment of language itself, and in Vision, the images accompanying the language are discussed. What is seen does not always match that which is heard, and interestingly, the words will override the imagery almost every time, particularly, as shall be shown, when they are not used at all. It is not possible to discuss language changes without acknowledging the passing of time. This was unexpected but with hindsight, inevitable. The understanding of genealogy as points of germination, and the recognition of changes to the perception of ordinary via the visibility of the aura of the past, has required a chapter on time itself. Time is not only a measure of history but the changes in the way time is both perceived and utilised is culturally significant. A focus on time is also a natural segue to the final chapter of the thesis, the conclusion. Here, the time spent invested in the examination of language, the reading of the isolated data and the assertions derived from therein, produces a 'post-match' germination point of its own.

The third section is Discussion, in which observations are examined and summarised. It is here the slow realisation that the excavation of ideas leads only to further enquiry, and never to a reasoned position of finished-ness arises. This thesis attempts to locate an observation in time, providing a starting point for further and broadened exchange and analysis, the potential of which generates an excitement I hope to transmit to my reader.

It has been necessary to include separate appendices for the transcriptions of the final quarters

of 69 individual games, which are located in chronological order in Appendix One. Appendix Two contains lists of games viewed but not transcribed, commentators whose names appear within this work, and a list which shows the frequency of words used in each of the decades included which illustrates the expansion and contraction of the language over the half century.

## **Fundamentals of Australian Rules football**

Victory is awarded to the team with the most points at the end of the match, which sometimes, thrillingly, is after the final siren has sounded, if a mark or a free kick has been awarded prior to the siren. Football fields vary in length and width but are all oval in shape and divided into uniform positions. At each end are four posts. The taller two (6 meters minimum) in the centre are goal posts. If the ball is kicked between them, six points are scored. If an opposition player touches the ball as it passes between the goal posts the score is reduced to a single point. Likewise, should the ball touch the goal posts on its passage through, a single point is scored. An opposition player under pressure may also 'rush' the ball between the goal posts, conceding a single point rather than risking a goal being scored. On either side of the goal posts are two smaller (3 meters minimum) 'behind' posts. If the ball is kicked between a goal post and a behind post a single point, also called a behind, is scored.

A 'mark' is when a player catches the ball directly from the kick of another player of either team. The ball must have travelled a minimum of 15 meters and not have been touched by any other player or have hit the ground. A mark is awarded if the player has had hands on the ball long enough to control its trajectory. Marking with the hands above the head is safer than catching the ball against the chest, which allows more opportunity for an opposing player to punch the ball away. A 'specy' (spectacular) mark is one in which a player leaps onto the back of another player to gain height and pluck the ball from the air.

Stoppages are when play is halted and the counting down of the time remaining in the quarter is paused. This occurs when:

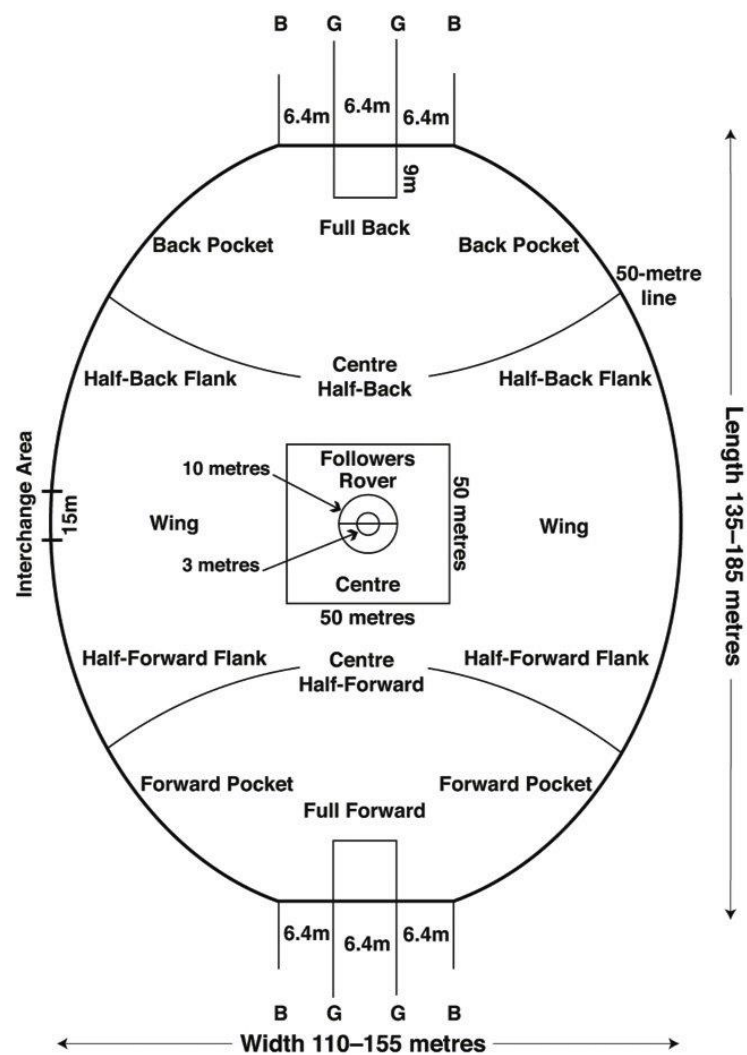
a goal is scored and the ball is returned to the centre circle to be bounced again,  
restarting the match as at the beginning,

a behind is scored and an opposition player kicks the ball back into play from the goal square,

the ball crosses over the boundary line and an umpire needs to throw the ball back into play,

a player is injured and must leave the ground, either escorted by trainers and medical staff or via the medivac cart,

a bleeding player is sent from the ground by an umpire because of the 'blood rule'.



**Aussie Rules Football**  
DIMENSIONS

## Orientation

September 1979. A lounge room in a rambling brick house in a fringe suburb of Melbourne, out beyond the end of the railway line. To the north east, bustling civilisation; to the south west, scrub and beach. Gum trees, blue tongued lizards and the occasional goanna or snake in the garden. Two little girls, aged 10 and 12, wearing Carlton football jumpers, their bikes parked in the driveway, are pacing in front of the colour television. They are eagerly waiting the unlovely blare of the siren to start the Victorian Football League (VFL) grand final. This is the third successive year that the grand final has been televised live, but the first time the girls' team have been finalists. Their team has had a spectacular year, winning 19 games and losing only three. In all 22 of those games they had scored over 100 points, breaking South Melbourne's record, held since 1934. Carlton is playing arch rivals Collingwood. The girls barrack for Carlton, as their dad does, and they hate Collingwood blindly. (Their maternal uncle barracks for Collingwood, so this is personal.) What they do not understand is that hating Collingwood is melded into family politics, petty jealousies and working-class snobbery. Winning is all that matters. All they know is that the best team wins, and the team they follow must be the best. Because if your team is the best, then you are best. The siren sounds, the crowd roars and the ruckmen fly. Both girls fizz with the thrill of it. Within seconds Collingwood kick a behind, a minor score, and the 12-year-old bursts into tears, much to the bewilderment of her younger sister.

A love of sport has shaped the landscape of Melbourne, Victoria with ovals, pitches, courts, tracks and pools, reflecting the sentiments of the population as surely as the abundance of theatres, art galleries and museums. Melbourne is no place for those who do not like sport. Iconic Melbourne journalist, Keith Dunstan, writes in his autobiography:

Of all the sporting cities, the most dedicated, the most manic is Melbourne. Melbourne attracts the biggest crowds for racing, the biggest crowds for tennis, the biggest crowds for cricket, and the crowds for football are more than double those of anywhere else in Australia (*No Brains at All* 192)

It is not possible to convey the full extent that football permeated my life as a child during the 1970s and 1980s to anyone who has not experienced Melbourne, Victoria, in winter. Then it was the way the newsprint from the back pages of the paper seeped into the skin, carrying football stories into the body. The way in which it was breathed in the air, absorbed into the bloodstream via the smells of water-logged leather and wet muddied woollen jumpers, cigarette smoke and yeasty beer. How the commentary lodged in the mind, words weaving their way into



memories and personal experiences. Football itself became a connector, a language through which to identify familiars. It was a language with which I could speak to my Nan or the boys next door or anyone just met. I've never understood the strategy or the statistics but I've always loved the community, the energy and the colour. I love watching athletes run fast, jump high and kick the ball. I love the way football exercises the emotions and the senses. Australian Rules football became an integral part of my personality, one way or another, as it did for millions of others living on the southern and western edges of Australia. It is as natural as sunshine, as inevitable as death. It just is.

The 12-year-old who burst into tears, mere moments into a game, can with the benefit of distance attribute the distress to many possible causes. However, in 1979, all that mattered was the football. Carlton finished the first quarter without a goal. They kicked only two behinds, one of which was a sure goal from only 12 metres directly in front that had hit the post. The anguish of that miss is beyond description. The surface of the playing field had large bald patches which had become muddy quagmires, the players were filthy, the game hard fought. Collingwood inched their lead to 28 points. Then suddenly, Carlton roused. At half time, they were one point in front of Collingwood. The pure torture of having to survive the second half, of having to live through every second of each of the minutes, was intolerably exquisite. Carlton won the game by five points. The lesson of loss was reserved for another time. Instead, the lessons 'never give up' and 'fight to the end' were instilled.

Footy, a metaphor for life. Carried from the suburbs of Melbourne, into the wider world. I went to London and was surprised to find sport barely mentioned in the papers, rarely discussed at work. There seemed little coverage on the television. When the tennis was on at Wimbledon, I only knew because my nana (in Australia) told me, so I went. In the days before internet, telephone calls from one side of the planet to the other were expensive and fast. The whole family would gather around the phone, securely attached to the wall, and each would have a few seconds to say hello and share some news, impersonating race callers. A whirlwind round of voices and emotion then the busy tone as the phone was slammed down, each fleeting second costing precious dollars. The recipient of the news would then dissect tones of voice, patching snippets of information from various sources into a more coherent picture. Without fail, football featured; a staccato shorthand of animated glee or leaden anguish as wins, losses and the all-important position on the ladder were communicated.

While living in London during the 1980s, I saw three games of Australian Rules at The Oval, an international cricket ground in South London. These were post-season matches played by the grand finalists, and Carlton played in each. It was while seeing only one game a year in a

foreign environment that I understood Australian Rules Football represented me; me and my tribe, the hundreds of Aussies who turned up and drank deep as well as those at home, so far away. These games were an opportunity to take the slightly supercilious English and the curious Continental friends we'd made, to explain the rules and to impress with the fearlessness and ferocity of the Australian footballer. If there was a biff (and there always was), even better. All the homesick Aussies would attend. Red leather footballs would miraculously appear for the huge kick-to-kick afterwards when the crowd would flood onto the field and kick footballs; grinning, laughing, running up and down and jostling good naturedly with complete strangers – with *familiars* in a foreign land. Football was such an everyday part of my environment that I saw nothing remarkable in it until I felt it represented me. Because, as I knew but didn't understand, this game gave me a sense of nationality. And I found that incredibly soothing; it made me proud. I had to travel abroad to find that which was so ordinary it was not visible (de Certeau 50). So reassured was I by my understanding of football and its place in my life, I moved through the next twenty-something years without watching, listening or reading about football. I didn't take any notice.

When I sat to watch televised football in 2009, it was the slickness, the packaging and presentation of the modern game that shocked first. The grounds were immaculate fields of manicured grass, the players were wearing odd microfiber guernseys in unfamiliar designs, the umpires no longer wore white lab coats and hats but figure-hugging green and grey. The away-team used to be identified by the colour of their shorts, now there was an entire kit to be worn away from home. Scores of lolly-pink clad attendants scurried back and forth across the ground during the game. Pink? At the football? There seemed to be more players on the field, the game was faster, polished. There was a McDonald's logo on the ball and often the ball itself was yellow. The commentary was bewildering, more voices than before, a focus on statistics and numbers that was new, and an unfamiliar overuse of words such as 'composure', 'leadership' and 'courage'. Even the spectators were different, wearing mass produced merchandise in team colours, many waving what appeared to be paper flags with generic slogans. There was not a single hand-knitted beanie or scarf to be seen (I looked). Many were wearing baseball caps in team colours. Most shockingly perhaps because it was the line of assimilative connection, pulled taut and snapped, the crowd with whom, as a spectator, I identified with most closely booed the opposition raucously. This was largely ignored by the commentators. In the 1970s or 1980s, had I booed at a match I'd have been rewarded with a swift clip across the ear and a lecture on good sportsmanship. Booing the opposition for no other reason than that they are the opposition appeared to be the height of bad manners, yet it was barely acknowledged by anyone. Booing at the football appears now to be commonplace. The first few times it happened I waited in vain for an indignant commentator to respond on my behalf. But the crowning glory

of all that was strange was the vision of Tim Watson, former Essendon Bomber, resplendent in a well-cut and expensive-looking overcoat, fashionable scarf snuggled around his neck, polished shoes on his feet, speaking into a microphone on the ground at half time. This was Tim Watson, tough man of explosive speed, best and fairest, brilliant footballer, dressed up like a cartoon character. Why was no one laughing? Sitting on the couch I felt disconcerted and strangely disappointed. My friend saw all these unfamiliar components of the game as completely normal and was annoyed by my questions. For me, something was misaligned, out of kilter. The everyday had become alien.

The unmentioned presence of pink on the field represents changes in attitudes and acceptance in an arena in which pink had been strictly tabooed – as a gender identifier in a masculine, competitive environment. Other observed attitude changes include behaviours such as applauding the removal of the broken, and the booing of the opposition. These are norms that have transitioned from one thing to another, where the prohibited becomes the everyday. It was the visual presence of the pink that startled and sharpened attention to other changes in acceptable responses that were noticeably different to those I remembered.

Veronika Koller identifies the use of pink clothing as a gendered cultural marker. ‘Colour plays a vital role in clothing’s function as the quintessential social code, establishing taxonomies for grouping individuals and positioning them in relation to society as a whole’ (402). As a tool of visual communication, pink has instant association with the feminine, and by extension to ‘stereotypically feminine products, services and events’ (410), such as tending to the bodily needs of others, in a caring capacity. Further research also links pink with increased feelings of optimism. ‘Our findings demonstrate that even a subtle environmental manipulation has the power to influence optimism levels. Environmental cues are relatively easy to manipulate’ (Kalay-Shahin et al. 733). Dressing service providers in pink not only identifies them as legitimate providers of care but may also go some way toward subconsciously assisting in stressful situations. From providing a drink to a thirsty player, whispering a helpful tip, right through to tending the injured, pink is present and compassionate, an unmentioned ‘environmental cue’.

Less immediately obvious than pink-clad runners, altered perceptions of bodies and their capabilities emerged as the second point of enquiry with sustained exposure to the game. Not only the commentators, but the very players themselves, appear to view bodies as mechanisms for performance. Bodies appear to be separate from the people who occupy them, and this idea of separation, perhaps bought about by the broad acknowledgement that people consist of minds and bodies simultaneously, invited questions about protection and management. Bodies become

mechanisms through the language of injury and repair. Violence to bodies, particularly those not our own, is regulated and legislated for. There are, it would seem, rules, and these rules are Australian. We know that because the name of the game, originally Victorian Rules, is now Australian Rules football. Here, in the language, the rules of violence and injury are clarified for the wider public. These are the rules pertaining to the hurting of others, broadcast benignly into private homes and public bars. The circumstances under which injury or harm are permissible is an ongoing and open debate. Thrillingly, it is just as likely to be a furious granny waving a fist and shouting advice as it is a young man. Everyone is included so the rules are universally debated, fine-tuned, improved throughout the history of the game by those who claim membership. Each supporter, irrespective of any identifying marker such as age, gender, cultural background, etc., has a voice. Football and its rules represent active social ferment. Football has only been incidentally about hurting people, but the rules respond to injury in ever increasing degrees of formality and generate within its parameters discussion and debate about acceptability of many more things than bodily harm.

The injuries sustained by the players now seemed different, and somehow, more dispassionately brutal. Rather than fist fights when tempers flared, players launched themselves into the game with seemingly no regard for their bodies, resulting in some spectacularly serious injuries. Immediately a little golf cart with a stretcher on board, crewed by a judiciously pre-selected variety of medical staff, would race across the field and the game would halt, players milling about, the commentary focussed on the legality of the 'hit', the possible outcomes, the excellence of the medical staff's qualifications, but mostly on the level of courage displayed by the victim. The performance art of having the injured player moved to the stretcher, the dramatization of the arms folded across the chest like a corpse, the immobilisation of the neck, the standing ovation as the player was removed from the field, seemed surreal and overly theatrical. The focus on the physical and the ritual of care almost eliminated the person at the centre of the attention. Somehow in all this the human element seems to have been removed. The injured player was a body; the body was a mechanism. The array of medical staff poised for action authorises their need, and indeed permits instances of injury as anticipated events. This is substantially different to having the St John's Ambulance team loitering by the pie van in case of an accident. The game appeared to be played with impeccable mental discipline. Mind and body were separate, and it was the mental courage that drove the physical, overriding fear of hurt or even inherent self-preservation. The standing ovation as the body was driven away, neck brace notwithstanding, seemed a bizarre ritual of respect, almost an echo from the days of gladiators in colosseums to the grandstands at modern-day stadia. Yet despite such age-old connotations, unfamiliar and shocking.

Confused by unfamiliarity of the behaviours and language, I turned to the commentary to reposition my understanding. Although it was not immediately clear how, it felt different. The undertone, the ideology, the tenor had changed. The language of football had changed utterly leaving me a foreigner in my own land, providing a third entry point for investigation. Commentary as remembered was rich in action, praising cleverness and ability, overlooking mistakes and lauding effort. Professionalisation of the game had introduced a jargon of statistics and strategies and threaded an intensity of expectation into the language. There are now between four and six commentators per game where before it had always been just two. Commentary bordered on the evangelistic: full of instruction, opinion and evaluation. Where I expected the commentators to respond with shock or horror, they blithely carried on, valorising the injured, ignoring the booing, building heroes and shaping reactions. My responses were not aligned with those of the general football community. The game I was watching bore small resemblance to the game remembered so fondly. It was patiently explained to me that the game had since become professionalised so of course it was different (read better). Everything had changed. The shock was in the disconnect only. It is still football, a game that gestated and grew in white Australia, the Australia I inhabit. It's almost as old as white Australia, and '[a]s much as any other cultural form, football connects us to identity, location and a true and fundamental sense of community and belonging' (Smith *The Art of Football* 111).

Hundreds of thousands of Australians attend matches each weekend during the season. AFL Tables list attendance rates at every game since 1921 (overall attendance in 1921 was 1340858) to the present day. Many thousands more watch on the television and listen on the radio. Five-year-old children are enrolled in Little League and Auskick programs around the country. Women are forging their own league. Nobody else seems to be aware of the gap I am feeling. My discomfort has driven me to try to understand the way in which ordinary people see these things as perfectly normal on the sporting field. If I went back over the twenty years of football I had missed, perhaps this altered understanding of the everyday would become less jarring and more easily accepted. I realised I should be taking cues from the commentators – their unconcern should guide my own. I must merely lack the connecting bridges that had been built in the years while I wasn't watching. I had missed the transition from one ordinary to another where the previously unthinkable had morphed into the everyday. Australia in 2018 bears small resemblance to that of the 1970s or 1980s. This is apparent in technological advances, the equipment that allows broadcasting of television itself, and the universe its creation germinated: camera operators, sound experts, information technicians, commentators, directors: an industry.

Core to this parsing of language change is conceptual understanding of violence, physical and mental. This is not because football is particularly violent, or that violence is more interesting

than other aspects of football. However, violence and injury generate language and debate, help to define public understandings and social parameters. Violence is present in attitudes, such as booing; in perceptions of bodily injury, where players are physically harmed; in emergent understandings of mental, or emotional, damage where the non-tangible is wounded. I suspect violence was generally more prevalent in everyday Australian suburban life in the 1970s than it is now, although then, as will be shown, there was no language for it.

Words, then, hold the clues to the answers being sought; the changes in the language of commentary should move in tandem with changes in spectator perception. Because language is my focus, I wanted to hear it spoken. Written language is not the same thing as spoken language. Written language, even when informal, is edited, formed and polished. To hear spoken commentary of football would be the best way to analyse use of language through the twenty years I'd missed. This meant either radio broadcasts or television commentary. Radio commentary is vastly different to television commentary; without images to accompany the words the commentary is more tightly connected to the game, it requires the broadcaster to continuously paint a mental picture of the action as it unfolds (Hyde 2). Commentary with vision of the players allows a freedom beyond the mere reporting of the action, often resulting in discussions with a far broader social and cultural undercurrent. Television commentary can be rich in excitement or it can be idle conversation, it is always couched in language of the era, using words, phrases and imagery pertinent to the listening audience of the time. Because it is live, transmitted as the action happens, it is spontaneous, unedited and largely unrehearsed. There is no opportunity to alter words with afterthought, or to take back something blurted in the heat of the moment. When a commentator names a player on the screen, the player becomes recognisable to the spectator in a way not possible through the radio, nor even when present at the game. The words and tone of the commentator further contribute to perception and knowledge of the named player, his actions and standing. Language is used to solidify observation, to form opinion and to create an understanding.

If, as Maffesoli suggests, 'the nature of spectacle is to accentuate either directly or by euphemism, the sensational, tactile dimension of social existence' (77), then changes in the tenor, the baseline thread of the language of the spectacle itself must be regarded as culturally significant. The introduction of new words and the discarding of old is not remarkable in itself. What is, however, of interest is the ambient content of the words being chosen. Parameters have broadened and the scope of what is understood as ordinary has altered. While I suspect these changes are not unique to this country, or specifically to those who follow football, I am struggling to isolate an objective view of what these changes might signify. There is a confusion between natural processes of observation and understanding and the ordinary influences of

ageing and nostalgia. There is a temptation to say that the 1970s were a simpler time, erroneously implying the assumption that simpler means better.

## **Methodology**

### **Process**

Convinced television commentary would provide the best material for analysis, it was necessary to access recordings from the past. In this age of modern technology and instant access, I envisioned no obstacle to this pursuit. Preservation of the past is of necessity a collection of materials to be preserved. What is collected for protection is dependent entirely upon whoever, individual or institution, is doing the collecting. Preservation has 'become our principal mode of appreciating the past' (Griffiths 195). The past is history and it can also be tangible. Anthropologist James Clifford views collecting as a 'crucial process of Western identity formation', 'an exercise in how to make the world one's own' (Clifford 218). Both Clifford and Griffiths talk about collecting physical objects, examples of which would be football players collecting accolades, or their clubs collecting trophies. Another way of doing this would be collecting recordings of games. These recordings allow a reliving of a representation of an experience, removed from its temporal place and time. While the game itself cannot be repeated, the copy, or the duplicate version, can.

The ordinary is the unacknowledged backdrop against which moments of history are recorded – those things so out of the ordinary that they are labelled extraordinary – a moon landing, royal weddings, tsunamis, wars. Escalators were once a novelty; can there today be anything as ordinary as an escalator? Or a hamstring injury? From one ordinary to another, and not always as the result of a televised public education campaign. Change is the transitory step between two accepted ordinary points in time. Something that was ordinary – a rotary telephone on a table in the hall (everyone had one) has gone through a process of change that makes individual 'cell' phones ordinary. Not one telephone per house, sometimes with an 'extension' in another room, but one telephone per person, small enough to fit in a pocket (everyone has one). That which was once shared has become intimate and personal; currently so ordinary yet destined, assuredly, for quaintness. While written stories of football span more than a century, television commentary is a far more condensed source in that it has a recent start date. Perhaps it is this very compactness of its history that led to my erroneous presumption of archival integrity. Access to information is today an ordinary assumption. It never occurred to me that there would be little or no information available to retrieve.

Avid fans of all kinds of visual media have access to extensive DVD collections: sitcoms, films,

sport, music. Numerous media ecologies from Hollywood to Hong Kong cinemas to local Australian productions such as *Countdown*, the *7:30 Report* and *Number 96* (to name only a limited number of examples) are given to decaying archives susceptible to being lost and discarded. Recordings of VFL and AFL games are no exception. Modern consumerism has invented the boxed set. We live in an age of apparent easy access to the past, which has engendered an expectation of availability. In search of an archive of televised football, I contacted the Australian Film and Sound Archive, eager to immerse myself in old football matches. Envisioning pleasant afternoons in state-of-the-art facilities, I was surprised and disappointed to find they held no footage other than flashes that made the evening news or the odd panel show. No games. It soon became apparent that even the clubs themselves do not have recordings of the games in which they played. There were no recordings because the copyright holders had not made the original films available. This reason was trundled out by almost everyone approached when trying to access copies of the game from the early days of television. AFL House in Melbourne, the headquarters of the Australian Rules Football League, has no systematically archived audio visual of games prior to 1996. They have every game from 1996 onwards, but before that, only a small scattered collection of film snippets a minute or two in length, literally bits and pieces. They explained that the ABC held the copyright and controlled access to broadcasts made prior to 1996, but that I might be able to find video tapes of earlier games. Twenty odd years ago seems not very long in the scheme of things, yet 1996 appears to be a magical date when suddenly every football game ever filmed became available to anyone. Football has been shown on television since it first came to Australia in 1956, sixty years ago. What happened to forty years of Australian history? Frustratingly it appears the protection of these films was not conceived of on *any* level, yet a generation later there are multiple and obvious reasons for the collection and protection of such an archive, not least of which is language analysis.

Networks of scholars in media studies and sport history were tapped, and further mainstream sources checked. The ABC Archives returned zero response, as did TARA Online - the ABC database of its broadcast history. Initial searches on the National Archives of Australia website returned nothing. The National Sports Museum, The Clearinghouse for Sport, the National Sports Information Centre, the National Library of Australia and the State Library of Victoria all turned up nothing: no audio-visual material. While written material such as newspaper reports, biographies and club histories could be accessed with little effort, recorded images and voices seemed to no longer exist. The ABC insist, perhaps because of the cost of film, that the majority of games filmed for television were recorded over. Others were discarded as being without value. HSV7 would not speak with me, other than to state categorically that all their football footage had been destroyed in a fire. Investigation shows that Channel 7's frequent use



of archived footage in documentaries and other retrospectives consists of the same snippets available to everyone. Trove, the National Library of Australia's online digitised archive, had nothing. I went to the Melbourne Cricket Ground, which has the largest sports library in the world – every item in it printed, not a single audio file to be found. Media Monitor manages the storage of radio recordings in Australia, keeping recordings available for six weeks before disposal. The sheer volume of the material currently prevents long term preservation, a situation that may alter in time. Name-A-Game, a now defunct business that supplied sport DVDs and claimed to be the largest, most comprehensive provider of AFL games to the general-public, had a few of the more sensational games, mostly preliminary or grand finals available for purchase, but not nearly enough to fulfil my needs. The incongruity of this dearth of information both perplexed and worried me.

I met with the official AFL Historian, Col Hutchinson, in Melbourne. He was sympathetic but unable to provide any real assistance. He told me that footage existed but the only chance of accessing it lay in approaching the general-public for help. Weeks were ticking into months and all I had done was read when the data-gathering for the thesis was supposed to have been focussed on listening. Trawling charity stores in NSW, Victoria and South Australia had resulted in a selection of player biographies with minimal effort and expense.

Akermanis, Jason with Gary Smart. *AKA: The Battle Within*

Barassi, Ron and Peter McFarlane. *Barassi – The Life Behind the Legend*

Cousins, Ben. *My Life Story*

De Moore, Greg. *Tom Wills – First Wild Man of Australian Sport*

Elliott, John. *Big Jack: My Sporting Life*

Hanson, Brian. *The Jack Dyer Story – The Legend of Captain Blood*

Jones, Percy and Brian Hanson. *Percy. A Blues Legend*

Kernahan, Stephen with Tony De Bolfo. *Sticks – The Stephen Kernahan Story*

Lockett, Tony. *My Life*

Madden, Justin. *Harry – The Words and Wisdom of Justin Madden*

Malthouse Mick and David Buttifant. *The Ox is Slow but the Earth is Patient*

McGuire, Eddie and Jim Main. *Pants – The Darren Millane Story*

Nicholls, John with Ian McDonald. *Big Nick*

Pavlich, Matthew. *Purple Heart*

Platten, John with Ken Piesse. *The Rat – A Football Braveheart*

Ricciuto, Mark and Shane Mensforth. *Roo*

Richards, Lou. *The Kiss of Death – Memoirs of a Sporting Legend*

Richards, Matthew and Martin Flanagan. *Richo*

Roos, Paul. *Beyond 300 – An Autobiography*  
Rosevear, Jim. *Knuckles – The Neil Kerley Story*  
Sexton, Michael (Editor) *Fos Williams on Football 1959-1965*  
Whitten, Ted with Jim Main & Friends. *EJ*

I had easily amassed a collection of histories and projections of the game and the individual clubs on both a state and national level:

Alomes, Stephen. *Australian Football – The People’s Game 1958-2058*  
Blainey, Geoffrey. *A Game of Our Own – The Origins of Australian Football*  
Button, James. *Comeback – The Fall and Rise of Geelong*  
Cartledge, Elliot. *Footy’s Glory Days – The Greatest Era of the Greatest Game*  
Critchley, Cheryl. *Our Footy – Real Fans vs Big Bucks*  
East, Bernard. *Australian Football in a Commercial Era*  
Fitzgerald, Ross and Ken Spillman (Editors) *The Greatest Game*  
Flanagan, Martin. *The Call*  
*The Game in Time of War*  
Frost, Lionel. *Immortals – Football People and the Evolution of Australian Rules*  
Gullen, Scott. *Greatness – Inside Geelong’s Path to Premiership History*  
Hess, Rob, Matthew Nicholson, Bob Stewart and Gregory de Moore. *A National Game – the history of Australian Rules Football*  
Holmesby Russell and Jim Main. *The Encyclopedia of FA Footballers – Every AFL/VFL player since 1897 – seventh edition*  
*This Football Century*  
Hunt, Paula. *Shirt Front – A Short and Amazing History of Aussie Rules*  
Linnell, Garry. *Football Ltd – The Inside Story of the AFL*  
Main, Jim. *In the Blood*  
*Plugger and the Mighty Swans*  
*Shake Down the Thunder. From Ugly Ducklings to AFL Premiers. The Story of the Sydney Swans*  
Porter, Ashley. *Something to Crow About – A Celebration of the First 100 Game*  
Quayle, Emma. *The Draft – Inside the AFL’s Search for Talent*  
Richardson, Nick. *The Game of Their Lives*  
Roberts, Michael (Editor). *Heart of the Game – 45 Years of Football on Television*  
Shaw, Robert. *Heart & Soul. A Tribute to the Game and its People*  
Stewart, Bob. *The Australian Football Business – A Spectator’s Guide to VFL*  
Stocks, Gary. *Flying High – Every Player, Every Game. West Coast Eagles 1987 – 2011*  
Zurbo, Matt. *Champions All – A History of AFL/VFL Football in the Players’ Own Words*

and collections of anecdotes and stories from players and spectators:

- Barassi, Ron. *Australian Football Stories*
- Brereton, Dermott with Ken Piesse. *Dermott Brereton's 101 Favourite Football Stories*
- Cash, John and Joy Damousi. *Footy Passions*
- Collins, Ben. *The Champions – Conversations with Great layers and Coaches of Australian Football.*
- Cometti, Dennis. *Centimetre Perfect – The Classic Commentary*
- Cometti, Dennis with Jon Pierik (editors). *The Game – A Collection of the Best AFL Stories*
- Corris, Peter and John Dale (editors). *Best on Ground – Great Writers on the Greatest Game*
- Daffey, Paul. *The Search for Perfection – The Winning Ways of Football Icons*  
*Beyond the Sticks – Country Football Around Australia*  
*Local Rites – A Year in Grass Roots Football*
- Daffey, Paul and John Harms (Editors). *Footy Town – Stories of the Australian Game*
- Dimitriadis, Phillip. *Fandemic – Travels in Footy Mythology*
- Dyer, Jack and Brian Hansen. *The Wild Men of Football*  
*Captain Blood's Wild Men II*  
*If Ya Don't Mind, Umpire -The Wildmen of Football Volume III*
- Fitzgerald, Ross and Ken Spillman (editors) *Australia's Game – Stories, Essays, Verse & Drama*
- Fitzgerald, Ross (editor). *Heartfelt Moments in Australian Rules Football.*
- Hunt, Paula. *Mongrel Punts and Hard Ball Gets – An A-Z of Footy Speak*
- Hyde, Don with Jim Main. *Beyond the Call – Great Commentators of Australian Football*
- Main, Jim. *Our Game – Classic Aussie Rules Stories*
- Matthews, Brian. *Oval Dreams, Larrikin Essays on Sport and Low Culture*
- McAvaney, Bruce. *Learning from Legends – AFL*
- Petkovski, Suzi. *Drop Punts and Torpedoes – The Best Ever Footy Quotes*
- Piesse, Ken. *Great Australian Football Stories*  
*Favourite Footy Yarns*
- Richards, Lou. *Shooting from the Lip*
- Sheahan, Mike. *Open Mike – Conversations from the Ground-breaking FOXFOOTY program*
- Sometimes, Alicia and Nicole Hayes (Editors) *From the Outer – Footy Like You've Never Heard it*
- Warner, Dave. *Footy's Hall of Shame*

The complexities of football have spawned plays such as Australian dramatist and playwright David Williamson's 1978 classic, *The Club*, now available on DVD; poems, examples of which are included in this work, ranging from the oblique references of Henry Lawson and Adam

Lindsay Gordon quoted within the History chapter, page 52, and contemporary poet and cartoonist, Michael Leunig, page 122, through to Bruce Dawe's dedicated anthem *Life Cycle*, page 11; and songs: Mike Brady's *Up There Cazaly* and *One Day in September*; Greg Champion's *That's The Thing About Football*, and Paul Kelly's *Leaps and Bounds* are those that spring to mind. Mike Brady's 1979 single *Up There Cazaly* became Australia's largest selling single up until that time, with sales of over 250 000. (Without a turntable to call my own, nearly 40 years later I still have my copy.)

There are vast numbers of essays, biographies and even novels. I attended The Wheeler Centre in Melbourne in April 2015, where a Women Writing Footy seminar was hosted by radio breakfast host Alicia Sometimes. Nicole Hayes, co-host of the all-female AFL podcast, *The Outer Sanctum*; novelist, Miriam Sved; and novelist Catherine Harris discussed their experiences of contributing to Australian Football's literary canon.

However, I hadn't yet heard a word of early spoken commentary. While the overlooking of language as a measure of culture can be excused because of its very conspicuousness, the neglect of preservation of the actual films themselves, for the visual component, is much less easily understood. Given the value of photographs, surely, film itself must be comparably precious, if not more so? The juxtaposition of football as a highly valued and broadly adopted social phenomenon being viewed as so ordinary a part of life that it wasn't special enough to preserve is difficult to reconcile. Then out of the blue, three months after an initial email, I got a response from the National Archives of Australia (NAA). It wasn't a very promising message, but it was contact from someone who had found a last quarter of a game in the early 1970s.

So began a working relationship with Pamela Barnetta of the NAA. Together we have searched the catalogue forwards and backwards between 1960 and 1996, the latter of which being when the AFL themselves began to keep records. The NAA are only able to archive materials released to them, in this case, by the ABC. Grand finals and preliminary finals are available, as are a multitude of fragments from news reports, talk shows and highlight reels, most of which are a minute or two in length. I had hoped for entire mid-season games but there are none. Listening to commentary from regular games would allow relationships between the commentators to emerge, providing examples of the usual in the ordinary. Grand finals and preliminary finals are considered special, the pinnacle of the years' hard-fought games, so they were rejected as non-representative of the ordinary, which is where my interest lay. Snatches of commentary taken from games give no context or storyline. We have uncovered 17 useable recordings from the 1970s, all of which are final quarters of games played throughout 1973. The randomness of the material suggests perhaps their preservation was an accident.

Preservation is the rescuing of a thing, be it ideas or artefacts, from disappearing into the past on the conveyor belt of linear time. ‘The collection contains what ‘deserves’ to be kept, remembered and treasured. Artefacts and customs are saved out of time’ (Clifford 221). Films with audio are tangible items, they can be handled, sorted, boxed and stored. They do not dissolve or decompose or vanish. They must be deliberately and physically destroyed, discarded or repurposed. That no one valued these early films enough to preserve them is difficult to comprehend, particularly when so many were involved – the cameramen, the clubs, the players, the spectators, the producers, the television stations, the administration staff. These few remaining recordings are now period-pieces, their rareness inflating their worth. Their survival also highlights the incongruity of that which is so ordinary being deemed without value.

It took eight months from my initial foray to gain access to those few archived recordings. Even when some little material had been located, it had first to be formally requested from various storage locations, digitised by a ‘Preservation Department’, then vetted for viewing, each a laborious process. Usually it is only possible to request a small number of items from the NAA at a time. However, when it became clear I was looking for a ‘substantial’ amount of information, more than the usual request of two or three items, the NAA accommodated my needs by allowing a bulk requisition to allow wholesale processing and vetting of the audio-visual materials, thus saving everyone time. More than half of these precious recordings are audio only, the Preservation Department of the National Archives advising the visual components were too fragile for copying. All of the final quarters have come from Melbourne. I also requested two 1970s current affairs programs from Perth that focussed on violence in football. Not one of the items requested has ever before had any formatting or vetting, none has ever been looked at since they were shelved. This makes the use of early television commentary as a primary research resource more poignant.

While the vetting of the 1970s final quarters was being done at the NAA, a relationship with Mark Davidson, the AFL’s archive librarian, was being established. Mr Davidson is chief guardian of a visual library that, as noted, has every game played since 1996 as well as a smattering of bits and pieces, mostly a minute or two in length, from the ‘80s and earlier. He explained on the telephone that all football footage is guarded jealously and is heavily protected by copyright rules. Once the (apparently real) possibility of my being a ‘crackpot’ had been eliminated, several emails and telephone calls establishing the novel concept that it was the words that were of interest, Mr Davidson proved generous beyond all imagining. This decision emphasises that it is not only historians who ‘have long prioritised the written over the spoken and the visual over the auditory’ (Damousi 3), but that such a view is common enough to be

considered ordinary. Conceding my interest in the sounds of the recordings could cause no harm, Mr Davidson arranged for me to have access to an editing suite at AFL House for the month of October 2015, after the football season had finished. Permission to use the editing suite and view the footage was given free of charge. Finally, after eight months of frustration - a veritable deluge of football commentary.

Having uncovered scattered commentary from the 1970s and with access to commentary from 1996 onwards, the 1980s yawned empty. This is where AFL historian, Col Hutchinson was proved correct, and the general-public held the answers. Through the efforts of a football fan friend with established connections to the online universe of football blogs, a call was made for copies of private recordings for the purposes of research. This resulted in a private collection of video recordings from the 1980s and early 1990s being found and digitised. It was now possible to generate transcriptions in a methodical sequence. Temporarily discounting the randomly available footage of the '70s, it was decided to use the then season-yet-to-come of 2017, and to work backwards in five-year intervals. This would allow the use of two rounds of football per decade for comparison. Round six appeared to be available. Games played in round six are ordinary games. The top eight haven't settled, the season is still open. For many teams round six can be a point of turn, there is room here for optimism, encouragement and being in the moment. This would be a useable sample of ordinary mid-season football from 2017, 2012, 2007, 2002, 1997, 1992, 1987, 1982 along with the available games from 1973. In this way five decades of football commentary could be analysed, as originally intended. This also allowed a structured visit to the archives at AFL House, avoiding a waste of time and resources. As it happened, the rounds from the private collection are incomplete but rounds six in all other years have been transcribed in full, and all transcriptions are included in Appendix One.

National Archives of Australia 17 final quarters – transcribed on site in Sydney.

1973 – 17 final quarters

Private collection 10 digitised final quarters – transcribed at home

1982 – 2 final quarters

1987 – 4 final quarters

1992 – 4 final quarters

AFL House archives – 33 final quarters – transcribed on site in Melbourne.

1997 – 8 final quarters

2002 – 8 final quarters

2007 – 8 final quarters

2012 – 9 final quarters

[www.afl.com.au](http://www.afl.com.au)

2017 – 9 final quarters – transcribed at home

Television (Fox Footy via subscription) 320 games watched in full (listed in Appendix II).

Official AFL DVDs 5 full Grand Final games – 1968, 1970, 1972, 1981 and 1995.

Interestingly, archived games are game time only. Pre-match programming with discussions of team members, injuries, inclusions, training and strategy are not retained. At half-time the home viewer is treated to discussions by ex-players and experts, passages of play are highlighted, analysed, debated. It is this talk, this non-game commentary, potentially so rich in cultural material that is being lost. These opinions, these jokes, these expressions of outrage and disgust, by commentators self-consciously expert, are also recording moral and ethical attitudes and changes. Games are archived with commentary as an incidental inclusion, not as a valuable resource for tracking the kinds of attitudes to the body, voice and other social attitudes encoded in the game. There are no listings of commentators in any of the multitude of records of games played, player lists, officiating umpires or crowd statistics. ‘Sports commentators are the forgotten men and women of sport, yet they provide a service which has become an integral part of the fabric of Australian life’ (Meares 8). Currently, the voices that accompany the images are not deemed independently important.

My intent from the outset has never to argue for or against this sport itself, merely to understand the trajectory of its changes and to locate the stories the processes of change might hold. Having established that an archive would have to be self-made, transcribing the final quarters of the games I had been able to access was my first step. This laborious task of transcribing of the television commentary has produced over 322,000 words of data. This is pure football commentary, words about football and footballers. Transcribing speech has its own difficulties. The question of how to apply commas, full stops and exclamation marks has never required as much thought. Inevitably perhaps, transcribed language, even when punctuated deliberately, bears small resemblance in tone or structure to that spoken. The very act of pinning sound to paper transforms its composition in such a way that precise articulation is not possible. Nonetheless, an attempt to convey brings it into existence and identifies a viewpoint. Changes in the language of televised football, as will be seen, do reflect changes in the social environment supporting it.

Transcribing commentary into printed words proved again and again the importance of diction

and the decline of enunciation. Being unfamiliar with many of the players' names, it was often with hilarity that I corrected my own misinterpretations, but sometimes with shock.

*Afltables.com* is a website devoted to providing every AFL/VFL match, player and coach statistic. Each team's statistics are listed, even those teams now defunct, such as University and Fitzroy. South Melbourne is now listed as Sydney proving the continuum, and Brisbane Bears are listed separately to Brisbane Lions clearly defining two individual teams.

Being able to print player lists for the transcribed quarters allowed cross-checking of player names and spellings, and further information on individual players was then located in Russell Holmesby and Jim Main's *Encyclopedia of AFL Footballers – Every AFL/VFL player since 1987* (7<sup>th</sup> Edition). Despite careful listening, misspellings were common, partly because the names come from a wide range of cultural backgrounds, but also because of commentator mispronunciation. The one that stands out the most is the contortion of Anthony McDonald-Tipungwuti's name. Each of his appearances in my original drafts of the transcripts is as McDonald-Tippenwoody. Upon realising my mistake, I emailed the Essendon Football Club for clarification – all recorded uses of the name I could locate on the internet, in video and commentary clearly pronounce the last as 'woody'. Valerie Deed, Essendon's customer service officer replied, "The best way I am able to explain how to say Anthony's name is Tippenwooty. His nickname is either Tipper or Walla. "This was both a feared and expected response. Australians generally use language lazily and 'd' is often substituted for 't'. the correct pronunciation of a person's name is a basic mark of respect. Perhaps nicknames should be used if a full name presents any difficulty. It appears that the ability to speak clearly is no longer valued as a commentary skill.

Extensive exposure to recorded television commentary has been necessary to familiarise myself with the ideology and terminology, to enable recognition of change when it does occur. To ensure as comprehensive an understanding as possible, many other games from throughout this fifty-year period have been watched in full but not transcribed.<sup>2</sup> On occasion reference is made to these non-transcribed games. Allowing approximately two hours for a televised game and 40 minutes for the transcribed final quarters, it is estimated that 700 hours have been spent actively listening to commentary. Allowing that it sometimes took several hours to transcribe a single final quarter and that several games have been listened to multiple times, these estimates are extremely conservative.

By separating the transcripts into decades and beginning with a few words pertinent to my basic

---

<sup>2</sup> These games are listed chronologically by date of play, in Appendix II



questions, word searches were conducted, the results charted, and compared. What began as a perfunctory task quickly became a rabbit hole of Alice in Wonderland proportions, evidenced in Appendix II. The seemingly trivial language of sport commentary, here Australian Rules, has proved a veritable mine of rich cultural data. Clustering words, for example those such as ‘aware’, ‘focus’ and ‘know’ then makes provision for closer reading of the information contained within the transcripts. Supporting evidence is then sometimes sourced from an array of texts outside the primary data set. However, all research presented is generated from within the transcripts, either using information present, or information absent as a basis of further exploration.

Attendance at live matches has also been useful for gauging spectator responses and reactions. Memories of muddy standing room only, huddled into a prized duffle coat and a hand-knitted beanie become blurred when attending matches in designated plastic flip-down seats with alphanumeric references on digitally printed tickets. Most games attended were watched in tandem with radio commentary via headphones. At some games, however, a deliberate effort was made instead to listen to the crowd. Concrete stands, polite social spacing and relentless half time entertainment do little to dampen the zing and tingle of the ambiance, the thrilling whoosh of sound when the crowd roar in delight or groan in dismay. There is still plenty of friendly interaction among the crowds, lots of twisting around to grin at someone’s smart alec comment a couple of rows back, a sense of camaraderie amid the rivalry. All games attended were watched again on replay, to listen to the television commentary. This enabled measure and compare of floods and rushes of emotion and sensation when directed by commentators. It also identified gaps in connection, where perhaps I had understood one thing only to be confused by a commentator’s perspective, highlighting the difference of perception between being on the ground literally, and the birds’ eye view of the commentary box.

To broaden and update my personal understanding of football several football discussion shows have been watched regularly throughout each season since 2015. These programs include but are not limited to:

*AFL 360* (Fox), hosted by sports commentator and writer, Gerard Whateley and co-hosted by Mark Robinson, chief football writer for Melbourne’s Herald Sun newspaper. Neither Whateley nor Robinson have played professionally, so present news and issues such as rule changes, controversies and conduct breeches from a journalistic rather than an ‘insider’ viewpoint, four nights a week during the season.

*On the Couch* (Fox), a weekly, informal chat show as the title suggests, hosted by Gerard Healy,

retired player of 211 games, accompanied by a cohort of retired players of a similar generation who discuss each week's games and interview either a player or a coach.

*The Marngrook Footy Show* (SBS) Thursday nights, on NITV (National Indigenous Television), a panel show about AFL unique in two ways. It began as a radio broadcast to provide voice for indigenous commentators and when it made its way to television regularly included women panellists, Leila Gurruwiwi and Shelley Ware, in its line-up. Hosted by Gilbert McAdam, who played for both St Kilda and Brisbane, Marngrook is a fun combination of football in the here and now with interviews, tips and local stories featuring indigenous footballers.

and

*AFL Tonight* (HSV7) a daily program hosted by sports journalist Neroli Meadows largely covering injuries, reports and tribunal news.

This added up to approximately 200 hours of viewing time.

Newspaper reporting of football has been deliberately avoided, with a focus instead trained on verbal discussions, conversations and speech. I have where ever possible begun conversations about football. Particularly fruitful were those with strangers or acquaintances, people I did not personally know. Some truly memorable conversations have taken place, some of which I have felt privileged to have shared. Everyone, fan or not, seems to have an opinion on this game and a story of some kind to tell. Twenty-odd years ago I had an old wooden school desk, with two hinged lids, holes for ink wells and a built-in bench. People visiting would slip into the seat and unprompted begin to tell stories of their school days. Aussie Rules is strangely like that desk, in that in Australia, my experience is that literally anyone has a story or can make a connection with the smallest encouragement.

## **Theorists**

In structuring an investigative approach comparable time to that spent watching and listening has been spent reading and questioning. The Works Consulted illustrates the diverse range that has contributed to the formation of this work, however, the focus of my questions drew five specific theorists to the forefront. Without devaluing the impact of the multitude of other works read, Walter Benjamin redefines perceptual vision, James Clifford permits my questioning, Pierre Bourdieu explains language conceptually, Zygmunt Bauman introduces the responsibility of the individual within the mass and Michel Maffesoli authorises and validates the mass. It is

this combination of approaches that underpins my mapping of how that which is ordinary morphs and changes.

### **Walter Benjamin**

Walter Benjamin in *The Work of Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction* (211) speaks of the aura of the original - in this instance the game being played in real time. Benjamin questions the possibility of the aura being lost or altered through mechanical reproduction, the recording of a version of the game. For if we look at a broadcast recording of a football game, what we see is not the game itself. We see a perspective from multiple camera points, directed, selected, and orchestrated in a manner that the game itself never could be. We are seeing a mechanically produced version, an alternative to the original. Benjamin himself separates film from other cultural media as being a particularly powerful agent of reproduction. Mechanical reproduction (filming) produces a secondary version of the original, removed from authenticity in time, space and perception and suggests that the reproduced version is not a duplicate of the original, but rather a form of art that is alternate to the original. This ability to mechanically reproduce art (here, football) removes it from its place in temporal space and time, instantly and permanently, transforming it from what it is into what it was, placing it in the past by simultaneously projecting it into the future and providing an interpretable text for generations to come.

This concept allows me to reflect on the cultural form under study here: television commentary of football games; its relationship to temporality, sociability, and social space. It is the reproduced version that may be repeated identically, again and again, while the original is never able to be reproduced. My perspective is that the aura of the original is not lost nor misrepresented, rather it is intensified as time passes, becoming condensed and visible in a manner not possible in the original. Art, mechanically reproduced and projected beyond its original time and space permits the aura of 'now' to hypothetically solidify and become identifiable as the aura of 'then'. This is where film has a distinct advantage as a tool for analysis of the past. This is how things not yet visible emerge as the aura slowly deepens, gains clarity and strength and becomes legible. Film, magically, captures aspects which may only be seen from a future perspective via the medium of mechanical reproduction and subject to time. This raises the question – are there elements not yet visible that will appear as Benjamin's aura deepens and exposes that which we cannot yet see? The possibility must be entertained.

### **James Clifford**

Clifford proposes that culture is now better understood as a transplanting and translating of what was previously seen as concepts of origins and roots, which resonates from a post-colonial,

multi-cultural perspective. Clifford articulates the possibility of examining changes in language from a mobile position, a revolving spatial and temporal perspective perhaps that acknowledges the past and the possible future from a stance fixed firmly in the present. He ‘probes the late-twentieth century predicament of living simultaneously within, between and after culture’ (blurb) and encourages the recognition of the ordinary as worthy of record.

Clifford invites participation in the collection of evidence of the everyday. For instance, he says that ethnology is anthropology from a ‘standpoint of participant observation’ (9). While this research has no basis in ethnology, it may well be anthropology from the standpoint of a lapsed spectator wanting to understand the impetus of changes observed in Australian Rules football. Cultures are constructed upon that which is ordinary. Collection, says Clifford, is a way of authenticating and validating culture, of appreciating and recording the past. Collecting what, and by whom, has no boundaries or limits. While Clifford may envision ‘artefacts’ as primary resources, perhaps in this case a collection of trophies or football cards, it is also true that language may be collected for analysis. Stories have been collected as the brothers Grimm have shown. Collections begin with an interest. Suddenly, I felt included, permitted to collect my data and to search for evidence of change. Interest is fostered by an ability to see – value, curiosity, quirkiness, – something that appeals on a deep and personal level.

Clifford locates himself clearly: his book *The Predicament of Culture* is ‘Written from within a ‘West’ whose authority to represent unified human history is now widely challenged and whose very spatial identity is increasingly problematic’ (13); he rails against the traditional ‘pith helmet’ approach of anthropology. This immediately positioned my thinking as reactive to imagined ‘pith helmet thinking’, simultaneously enabling a perspective not previously available to me. Clifford’s viewpoint (and strangely, his permission) have formed perhaps the bedrock of my research, by modelling perspective. Clifford’s take-home message is – Look. If you do not look, then how can you see? Look not at the past, nor to the future, but look at now. All things hold an echo or a shadow, a zygote of origin, a projection of the future; the only constant is change. Clifford authorises investigative looking, which cannot be separated from listening in order to hear, particularly as this work is centred on language and changes to language.

Spending several years listening has altered forever my reception of information. Listening specifically to hear is retraining the mind’s ability to understand both what is being said and what is not being said. Listening and questioning are inseparable, because the measure of listening is probing comprehension.

## **Pierre Bourdieu**

It is Bourdieu's interest in situated language that is of relevance here. The social conditions of language are revealed by using Bourdieu's theory of 'focusing on the institutional aspects of language use and probing them with an astute sociological imagination' (10). Performative utterances germane to individual paradigms are endowed with an authority that is recognised and accepted by the membership group. In a sense these utterances become a shorthand, or a dialect; linguistic signifiers within a specific paradigm. They have emerged from within a specific social historic institution and are recognised as such by the cohort.

Football commentary can be isolated as an 'object domain which is in fact the product of a complex set of social, historical and political conditions of formation' (5) and as such, open to analysis without 'substantive assumptions' (5). Modern football commentary is emotive, persuasive, and baldly instructional. It provides an opportunity to test Bourdieu's suggestion that it is the language which generates the community structure by analysis of the cultural changes evidenced within the commentary itself.

All linguistic communications contain and perpetuate social influences and structures and are generated inherently through habitus. Habitus is an amalgam of inculcated dispositions which equip the individual with a 'state of being', a set of guidelines along which to perform as a social participant. Football commentary, a contributor to habitus for those who listen, has acclimatised spectators to changes on the sports field, making ordinary that which in another context might be extraordinary. Social, historical, political, economic and emotional influences shape individuals uniquely, providing an embodied naturalness of perception and response within specific institutions. Commentary assists in normalising potentially abnormal behaviours.

The premise of normative and dominant language use implies a homogenised, and to a large extent, idealised language base from within which differing levels of adeptness relegate individuals to their position in the chain of authority. Bourdieu is describing the position of power allocated via the linguistic adroitness of the individual. However, 'practical competence of speakers is not uniformly distributed throughout a society in which the same language, such as English or French, is spoken' (18) – much less in a society in which multiple languages are spoken. Language is the use of words selected to convey a message, however, attached to the words chosen are a myriad of connotations and understandings, therefore comprehension is meshed with individual ability of interpretation built upon habitus. The malleability of language within a specific socio-historic context and the extended communication through implied meanings and understandings, will become visible through analysis of commentary. Football

commentary provides an amorphous linguistic connector within and between demographics.

### **Zygmunt Bauman**

Core to my questioning of altered understandings of ordinary, namely sanctioned booing and permissible acts of violence, were questions about morality and ethics; the social aspects of conditioned responses en masse. Sociologist Zygmunt Bauman describes the separation of the individual from the mass and allocates autonomy.

Duties tend to make humans alike; responsibility is what makes them into individuals. Humanity is not captured in common denominators - it sinks and vanishes there. The morality of a moral subject does not therefore have the character of a rule. One may say that the moral is what *resists* codification, formalization, socialization, universalization. The moral is what remains when the job of ethics, the *Gleichschaltung*, has been done (54 [original italics]).

Bauman looks for potential, not completion. He insists on continuous and fluid adaptability as a response to changing environments. It is not change itself, but *rapid* change that is the hallmark of our time, and survival, the ability to thrive, is dependent on individual ability to adapt. Maintenance of morality in a shifting environment is a vital social component. ‘...[I]t is the personal morality that makes ethical negotiation and consensus possible, not the other way around’ (34). There is a disjunct between the condoned damaging of especially trained and conditioned bodies, the disrespectful booing by those who watch and the applauding of the incapacitated.

Bauman’s gentle urgings for adaptability and fluidity echo Clifford’s from a different viewpoint and represent a more esoteric interpretation of Foucault’s genealogical archaeology, which advocates the tracing of points of convergence to locate the emergence of the new. Spectacle has been a constant in recorded human history. Crowds have gathered to watch humans hurt each other deliberately or incidentally; the drawing and quartering of the guilty, hanging or guillotining, stoning or whipping. The history of civilised humanity is remarkably uncivilised. Contact sports; jousting, martial arts, wrestling, various football codes all require body contact as a fundamental condition of their definition.

### **Michel Maffesoli**

Bauman carefully prises the autonomous individual from the mass, and Maffesoli places that same individual securely back into the seething throng. *Time of the Tribes – The Decline of*

*Individualism in Mass Society* is a panacea for existential angst in this age of technological isolation. The human propensity to forge connections is integral to the survival of our species. That has remained unchanged throughout our history. What has changed is the way these connections are made, tribes are identified, and membership is experienced. From suburban rivalries to inner city stadiums, football has always been as much about those who support it as it has been about those who play it. It is the depth and breadth of the supporter base that positions Australian Rules uniquely and makes changes in the language worthy of investigation. Maffesoli has allowed recognition of the connections being made notwithstanding the political, multicultural, and societal diversity of a population that has small reasons for coherence.

Thus, lifestyles which are foreign to each other can sketch the outline of a way of living together. And this occurs while remaining curiously faithful to the specificity of each. (100).

Maffesoli makes clear the need of the individual of the mass. This is the player within the team, the fan aligned with a club, the supporter within a given population. We are not alone. Connection is quicksilver in the cracks of social structures; the indomitable human urge toward connection to the mass – a brutal word that strips emotional integrity from community – is a reptilian brain function. Football in some (large) parts of Australia provided community indistinguishable by age, gender, education or social status. A connection that bubbled and overflowed, seeped and spread, connecting all in its path; even those who reject it are actively responding.

## **Literature Review**

Australian Rules Football first made print in August 1858 and has been written about with enthusiasm and passion ever since. Examples of the range of popular books are listed in Methodology, pages 20-22, a random sample easily obtained with little effort or expense. The purpose of this linguistic study has been to analyse language as it is used specifically in Australian Rules football. Deliberate exclusion of other sports has made this more difficult. I believe this ‘insularity’ necessary, as this is a sport with a unique social and cultural context, primarily because it belongs exclusively to Australians in its origins and history, and as such is indicative of its peoples’ group acceptance or rejection in the governance of behaviours. The ordinary is wily prey, cloaked in the invisibility of the every day. For this reason my own work rests atop a kaleidoscopic selection of literature both academic and non-pedagogical.

## History of football

Alomes, Stephen. Australian Football – The People’s Game 1958-2058

Blainey, Geoffrey. A Game of Our Own – The Origins of Australian Football

Cartledge, Elliot. Footy’s Glory Days – The Greatest Era of the Greatest Game

Cashman, Richard and Michael McKernan. Sport in History

Cashman, Richard and Rob Hess. Sport, History and Australian Culture

De Moore, Greg. Tom Wills – First Wild Man of Australian Sport

Dunstan, Keith. The Paddock That Grew – The Story of Melbourne Cricket Club

Flanagan, Martin. The Call.

-The Game in Time of War

Frost, Lionel. Immortals – Football People and the Evolution of Australian Rules

Gillmeister, Heiner. On the Origin and Diffusion of European Ball Games. A Linguistic Analysis

Hay, Roy. A Tale of Two Footballs: The Origins of Australian Football and Association Football Revisited

Hess, Rob, Matthew Nicholson, Bob Stewart and Gregory de Moore. A National Game – The History of Australian Rules Football

Holmesby, Russell and Jim Main. The Encyclopedia of AFL Footballers – Ever AFL/VFL player since 1897. 7<sup>th</sup> edition

- This Football Century

Hunt, Paula. Shirt Front – A Short and Amazing History of Aussie Rules

Kell, Peter. Good Sports – Australian Sports and the Myth of the Fair Go

Richardson, Nick. The Game of Their Lives.

The role of sport in a colonial environment, rife with segregation of clearly defined social strata, emphasises the cultural importance of self-regulated recreational sport. A need for autonomous expression produced the game of the people. A game likely played by infamous bushranger Ned Kelly (for Williamstown, no less<sup>3</sup>), drew people together and allowed rivalry. It is what we do in our ‘down’ time that lays foundations for the development of self – individual or nation. Australian Rules, A Game of Our Own, The People’s Game – eloquently simple descriptors full of heart. A game that bought disparate people together, centred communities and evolved eventually from excluding ‘other’ to including all. The hope for the future is a movement from benign tolerance to unthinking acceptance. Ordinary. Invisible. A seamless morphing.

---

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.heraldsun.com.au/news/victoria/no-really-bushranger-ned-kelly-played-footy-for-williamstown/news-story/c378d14ed04e8d1b80ad494827ww11e8>



Questions of interpretation of the past, even a past as recent as last week's televised football match, raise different issues. Australian historian, Ann Curthoys and Professor John Docker's *Is History Fiction?* acknowledge

history presents the results of its enquiries, its research as narrative and so necessarily enters into and partakes of the world of literary forms ... literary qualities and literary forms and genres are not something decorative or merely added to an account or analysis, but help explain what the historian in the present takes to be the meaning of past events and occurrences (11)

### **Indigenous contribution**

Gorman, Sean, Dean Lusher and Keir Reeves. Introduction: The AFL's Rule 35

Hallinan, Chris and Barry Judd. Changes in Assumptions about Australian Indigenous Footballers: From Exclusion to Enlightenment

-Duelling Paradigms: Australian Aborigines, Marn-grook and Football Histories.

-Race Relations, Indigenous Australians and the Social Impact of Professional Australian Football

Hocking, Jenny and Nell Reidy. Marngrook, Tom Wills and the Continuing Denial of Indigenous History – on the Origins of Australian Football

Pascoe, Robert and Papalia, Gerardo. Australian Football as a Construct of the Frontier Contact Zone.

Ruddell Trevor. The Marn-Grook Story: A Documentary History of Aboriginal Ballgames in South-Eastern Australia.

Tatz, Colin. AFL's Black Stars

Thompson, David. Marngrook and Aussie Rules: The Continuum of Football in Australia.

There is a growing canon of Indigenous history and involvement in football in Australia. Suggestions that aboriginal ball games that focussed on leaping and catching influenced Tom Wills when first he proposed his new game are strangely contentious. What little academic focus there has been on the language of Australian Rules football is primarily located in racial studies. The use of language by those in positions of authority in football have been investigated by Hallinan and Judd. They recorded and transcribed verbal interviews with football recruiting staff, looking for emergent themes in the choice of language used. Findings showed that while the AFL congratulates itself on race relations and intolerance of racism, widespread beliefs that

indigenous players possess ‘natural’ athleticism diminish perceptions of work ethic. Biological and cultural determinism resulted in indigenous players being

viewed as exceptionally talented Australian football players not because of the efforts of individuals to achieve excellence in the sport but due to a set of ‘unique’ prescribed characteristics and traits determined biologically in their ‘Aboriginal’ genes and culturally in their ‘Aboriginal’ knowledge of time/space (*Assumptions* 2369).

### **Business/Professionalisation**

Critchley, Cheryl. Our Footy – Real Fans v Big Bucks.  
East, Bernard. Australian Football in a Commercial Era  
Elliott, John. Big Jack. My Sporting Life  
Linnell, Gary. Football Ltd. The Inside Story of the AFL  
Stewart, Bob, The Australian Football Business – A Spectator’s Guide to VFL.

### **Spectators**

The game would not have the longevity it has enjoyed without the support and indeed, the passion, of the spectators, the fans who have supported their clubs through times of depression, war and ordinary winter afternoons. Beginning with newspaper reports of an outraged female fan who jabbed an umpire with a hatpin, spectators have provided broad scope for study.

‘A Football Row – Cowardly Attack on an Umpire’ The Argus, 27 July 1896:5 Trove  
‘Winter Sports by an Outsider’ The Australasian Sketcher 3 July 1880:157 Trove  
Cash, John and Joy Damousi. Footy Passions  
Dimitriadis, Phillip. Fandemic – Travels in Footy Mythology  
Griggs, Gerald, Katherine Leflay, Mark Groves. Just watching it again gives me goose bumps – Examining the Mental Postcards of Sport Spectators  
Harvey, Andy and Agnieszka Piotrowska. Intolerance and Joy, Violence and Love Among Football Fans: Towards a Psychosocial Explanation of Excessive Behaviours  
Kennedy, Dennis. Sports and Shows: Spectators in Contemporary Culture  
Neale, Larry and Daniel Funk. Investigating Motivation, Attitudinal Loyalty and Attendance Behaviours with Fans of Australian Football  
Sometimes, Alicia and Nicole Hayes (editors) From the Outer – Footy Like You’ve Never Heard It

Tales of spectator devotion and response to Australian Rules football leads naturally to academic research on the behaviour of crowds, in an attempt to understand how the seemingly mild mannered and ordinary everyday person transforms into a passion driven sports fan.

## **Crowds**

Bianca, Carlo and Christian Dogbe. A Mathematical Model for Crowd Dynamics – Multiscale Analysis, Fluctuations and Random Noise

Kok, Ven Jyn, Mein Kuan Lim, and Chee Seng Chan. Crowd Behaviour Analysis: A Review where Physics Meets Biology

Le Bon, Gustav, *The Crowd: A Study of the Popular Mind*

Nash, Ulrik, W. The Curious Anomoly of Skewed Judgement Distributions and Systemic Error in the Wisdom of Crowds

Plotz, John. *The Crowd: British Literature and Public Politics*

Shiying, Pan. Simulation Analysis of a Statistical Model for Herd Mentality Trend

Stott, Clifford and Stephen Reicher. *Crown Action as an Intergroup Process: Introducing the Police Perspective*

Maffesoli, Michel. *The Time of the Tribes – The Decline of Individualism in Mass Society*

Spectatorship and crowd mentality become entangled with understandings of community and ethics. Gustave Le Bon's *The Crowd: A Study of the Popular Mind*, Benedict Anderson's *Imagined Communities* and Zygmunt Bauman's *Postmodern Ethics* combined provide an interesting lens when immersed in a capacity crowd at the MCG. John Plotz in *The Crowd: British Literature and Public Politics* extrapolated the following from Charles Dickens' *Barnaby Rudge*, an intimation that played on my mind particularly throughout the writing of the chapter Voice:

Die rioting and you die justly, Dickens suggests, but let none be put to death in non-crowd time for what happened in a crowd (6)

Onus, the individual and crowd or herd behaviour have long intrigued social psychologists, whose studies variously uphold the sentiments of Dickens. Although not condoned, the usurpation of self-identity by social identity within an emotive crowd has been found to be intrinsically human. Clifford Stott and Stephen Reicher in *Crowd action as intergroup process: introducing the police perspective* interviewed police officers involved in the 1990 Poll Tax Riots in England. Acceptance exacerbates the bewilderment in these quotes:

The most mild-mannered person... behaves like some sort of imbecile  
Ordinary chaps the same as us ... just flip  
Something disengages in their brain. I am not a medical man or an  
expert in crowd behaviour, but something goes and they become part of  
the crowd (9)

Spectators lead to crowd analysis, which in turn transitions to understandings of audience as this investigation is related primarily to television and media.

### **Audience**

Bianculli, David. *Teeliteracy – Taking Television Seriously*

Biltreyst, Daniel. *Media Audiences and the Game of Controversy on Reality TV, Moral Panic and Controversial Media Stories*

Bird, S Elizabeth. *The Audience in Everyday Life – Living in a Media World*

Bonner, Francis. *Ordinary Television*

Boyle, Raymond and Richard Haynes. *Power Play – Sport, the Media and Popular Culture*

Brooker, Will and Deborah Jermyn (Editors). *The Audience Studies Reader*

Cranny-Francis, Anne. *Popular Culture*

Cunningham, Stuart and Roby Miller. *Contemporary Australian Television*

Duncan, Margret Carlisle and Barry Brummett. *Types and Sources of Spectating Pleasure in Televised Sport*

Edgar, Andrew. *Three Ways of Watching a Sports Video*

Eriksen, Hilary (editor). *The Media's Australia*

Graf von Pahlen, Kai. *Painful TV*

Herd, Nick. *Networking. Commercial Television in Australia – A History*

Hindley, Heather and Andrew C Billings (editors). *Examining Identity in Sports Media*

Lull, James. *Media, Communication, Culture. A Global Approach*

McMahon, Barrie and Robyn Quinn. *Real Images – Film and Television, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition*

Moran, Albert and Chris Keating. *Historical Dictionary of Australian Radio and Television*

Mulvey, Laura. *Visual Pleasure and Narrative Pleasure*

Partington, Angela. *The Best Bits: Non Narrative Pleasures and Creative Practice*

Roberts, Michael (Editor), *Heart of the Game – 45 years of Football on Television*

Seale, Clive (Editor), *Health and the Media*

Television as influencer is much written about. Author, Frances Bonner in *Ordinary Television* explores the often overlooked – the chaff of television, the stuff of the everyday. Here the

removal of formality in language is normalised, and the *conversationalisation* of language identified (50). Here, also, the deliberate manipulation of the viewer to identify and connect to what is being shown. This is as much the viewer as it is the viewed. Further, author Elizabeth Bird, in *The Audience in Everyday Life – Living in a Media World*, points out that the switching off the screen does not separate the audience from what they have been watching.

Stories that do take on life tend to be dramatic and personal...  
allow(ing) concerns to be raised that otherwise would not be. Showing the personal side of public events is probably the most effective way to make people understand the impact of those events (23).

Packaged for consumption, truth, information prepared and edited, becomes a work of art in the age of mechanical reproduction (Benjamin).

Australian researchers, Brett Hutchins and David Rowe's publications, *From Broadcasting Scarcity to Digital Plenitude. The Changing Dynamic of a Media Sport Content Economy* and *Sport Beyond Television – The Internet, Digital Media and the Rise of Networked Media Sport* document the loosening grip of television stations over the broadcasting of all sport, a major component of recent televised sport history. Current availability of sport footage in real time is vastly different to the original partial broadcasts, aired after the games had been completed.

Television is a visual media, however, language requires listening for comprehension, and listening itself is often overlooked.

## **Listening**

Dreher, Tanja. Listen across difference: Media and Multiculturalism beyond the politics of voice

Lee-Shoy, Tiffany and Dreher, Tanja. Creating listening spaces for intergenerational communication – Tiffany Lee-Shoy in conversation with Tanja Dreher

O'Donnell, Penny, Justine Lloyd and Tanja Dreher. Listening, pathbuilding and continuations: A research agenda for the analysis of listening

Thompson, Ben. Ways of Hearing – A users guide to the pop psyche from Elvis to Eminem

At last, listening brings us to language, the focus of this foray.

## **Language, General.**

Bahktin, M M. Speech Genres and Other Late Essays

-The Dialogic Imagination

Bourdieu, Pierre. Language and Symbolic Power

Byrson, Bill. Mother Tongue

Crystal, David. How Language Works – How Babies Babble, Words Change Meaning and Languages Live or Die

Halliday, M A K. Spoken and Written Language

Harold, J. The Art of Sledging

Hansan, Ruqaiya. Linguistics, Language and Verbal Art

Kiesling, Scott Fabius. Homosocial desire in men's talk: Balancing and re-creating cultural discourse of masculinity

Klement, Alice and Carolyn Matalene. Telling Stories, Taking Risks – Journalism, Writing at the Century's Edge

Kress, Gunther. Linguistic Processes in Sociocultural Practice

Pinker, Steven. The Language Instinct

-What our Language Habits Reveal

Quinn, Naomi (Editor). Finding Culture in Talk – A Collection of Methods

Recup-Stiegelbauer, Laura-Rebecca, Tirban, Narcisa and Onofrei, Paula-Andreea. Oral History and Oral Communication in Today's Culture

Sherza, Joel. Speech Play and Verbal Art

Language in general then narrows to English in Australia.

## **Australian Language**

Baker, Sidney J. The Australian Language

Damousi, Joy. Colonial Voices – A Cultural History of English in Australia 1840 – 1940

Damousi, Joy and Desley Deacon (Editors). Talking and Listening in the age of Modernity – Essays on the History of Sound

Delbridge, Arthur. Standard Australian English

Hunt, Paula and Glenn Manton. Mongrel Punts and Hard Ball Gets – An A-Z of Footy Speak

Price, Jennifer. New News Old News: A Sociophonetic Study of Spoken Australian English in News Broadcasting Speech

Richards, Kell. The Story of Australian English

Australian Historian, Joy Damousi in *Colonial Voices – A Cultural History of English in Australia 1840-1940* lays bare the reasoning behind the parental admonishments to ‘speak the Queen’s English’ of my childhood and the resultant ‘you talk funny’ barbs of the playground. Language as signifier locates the speaker on a social strata. The BBC English of early football commentary was considered and deliberate. Further, Damousi and Desley Deacon, editors of *Talking and Listening in the Age of Modernity – Essays on the history of Sound* highlight and validate the importance of auditory perception. Sounds of history matter. What we hear and how we hear it contributes to what we understand. The soundtrack of the commentary throughout my life has influenced my perception of ordinary.

Finally, language, Australian language takes us to the core issue: football commentary.

### **Commentary**

Barber, Red. *The Broadcasters*

Booth, Dick. *Talking of Sport – The Story of Radio Commentary*

Bryant, Jennings, Paul Cominsky and Dolf Zillman. *Drama in Sports Commentary*

Caldwell, David. *Working Your Words – Appraisal in the AFL post-match Interview*

Cominsky, Paul, Jennings, Bryan and Dolf Zillman. *Commentary as a Substitute for Action*

Cometti, Dennis. *Centimeter Perfect – The Classic Commentary*

Hyde, Don and Jim Main. *Beyond the Call – Great Commentators of Australian Football*

Interestingly, with the notable exception of the works of Paul Cominsky, Jennings Bryan and Dolf Zillman, even work focussing on commentary pays little attention to the use of language. *Centimeter Perfect* by former commentator Dennis Cometti is a collection of some of his more memorable utterances. A fan of gonzo journalism and a verbal artiste himself, Cometti’s retirement from national broadcasting of football commentary is a sad loss to those who enjoyed his linguistic joie de vivre.

### **Masculinities/Violence**

Football cannot be discussed without reference to violence, a shorthand term for physicality resulting in bodily harm, ranging from bruising to broken bones. American sociologist, Michael Messner, who specialises in gender and the sociology of sport, suggests in *Power at Play – Sports and the Problem of Masculinity* that the violence in sport is used to construct and maintain understandings of hegemonic masculinities. Not inherently aggressive by nature, boys

are inculcated into violence as a means to an end through sport. Feminism, by applying gender to the masculine, has provided opportunity for men to evolve different understandings of masculinity – evidenced in the vision and transcripts, as will be explored in the chapter Body.

Anderson, Eric. *The Rise and Fall of Western Homophobia*

Anderson, Eric and Mark McCormack. *Cuddling and Spooning; Heteromascularity and Homosocial Tactility among Student-athletes*

Angelini, James R. *How Did the Sport Make You Feel? Looking at the Three Dimensions of Emotion Through a Gendered Lens*

Ateo, Don. *Blood and Guts. Violence in Sports*

Beale, Bob. *Men – From Stone Age to Clone Age – The Science of Being Male*

Bird, Sharon. *Welcome to the Men's Club: Homosociality and the Maintenance of Hegemonic Masculinity*

Bly, Robert. *Iron John – A Book About Men*

Braudy, Leo. *From Bryant, Jennings, Dolf Zillman and Arthur A Raney. Violence and the Enjoyment of Media Sports*

Buchbinder, David. *Performance Anxieties – Re-Producing Masculinity*

Butler, Judith. *Gender Trouble*

Carlson, M, A Marcus-Newhall and N Miller. *The effects of situational aggressive cues: A quantitative review*

Cashmore, Ellis and Jamie Cleland. *Fans, Homophobia and masculinities in association football*

Cover, Rob. *Vulnerability and Exposure – Football Scandals, Masculine Identity and Ethics*

Crotty, Martin. *Making the Australian Male – Middle Class Masculinity 1870-1920*

De Bois, Sam and Jeff Hearn. *Are men getting more emotional? Critical sociological perspectives on men, masculinities and emotions*

Dunning, Eric. *Sociological Reflections of Sport, Violence and Civilization*

Fletcher, Jonathan. *Violence and Civilization -An Introduction to the works of Norbert Elias*

Flood, Michael. *Bent Straights. Diversity and Flux Among Heterosexual Men*

Gieseler, Czarly M. *Pranking Peter Pans: Performing Playground Masculinities in Extreme Sports*

Grange, Pippa and John H Kerr. *Physical aggression in Australian Football: A qualitative study of elite athletes*

Gucciardi, Daniel F, Sandy Gordon, James A Dimmock. *Development and preliminary validation of a mental toughness inventory for Australian football*

Harry, Joseph. *Conceptualising Anti-Gay Violence*

Hazlitt, William. *On the Pleasure of Hating*

Herek, Gregory M. *The Context of Anti-Gay Violence – Notes on Cultural and Psychological*



Heterosexism

Holloway, Richard. *Between the Monster and the Saint*

Howe, Adrian. *Sex, Violence and Crime – Foucault and the ‘Man’ question*

Hutchins, Brett and Janine Mikosza *Australian rugby league and violence 1970 to 1995: a case study in the maintenance of masculine hegemony*

Ions, Edmund. *Against Behaviouralism – A Critique of Behavioural Science*

Kidd, Bruce. *Sport and Masculinity*

Kiesling, Scott Fabius. *Homosocial desire in men’s talk: Balancing and re-creating cultural discourses of masculinity*

Krien, Anna. *Night Games – Sex, Power and Sport*

Laurendeau, Jason. “Just tape it up for me, ok?” – *Masculinities, Injury and Embodied Emotion*

Lindley, Margaret. *Taking a Joke too Far and Footballers Shorts*

Longest, Kyle C and Peggy A Thoits. *Gender, the Stress Process, and Health: A Configurational Approach*

Looker, Peter. *Doing it with your Mates: Connecting aspects of modern Australian masculinity*

McCormack, Mark. *The intersection of youth masculinities, decreasing homophobia and class: an ethnography*

McCormack, Mark and Eric Anderson. ‘Its just not acceptable any more’: *The Erosion of Homophobia and the Softening of Masculinity at an English Sixth Form.*

-*The influence of declining homophobia on men’s gender in the United States: An argument for the study of homophobia*

McKay, Jim, Michael A Messner and Don Sabo. *Masculinities, Gender Relations and Sport*

Messner, Michael A. *Men Studying Masculinity: Some Epistemological Questions in Sport Sociology*

-*Power at Play – Sports and the Problem of Masculinity*

-*When Bodies are Weapons: Masculinity and Violence in Sport*

Morton, Tom. *Altered Mates – The Man Question*

Nixon, H L. *Coaches’ views of risk, pain and injury in sport with special reference to gender differences*

-*Explaining pain and injury attitudes and experiences in sport in terms of gender, race and sports status factors*

Pease, Bob. *The politics of gendered emotions: disrupting men’s emotional investment in privilege*

Porges Eric C and Jean Decety. *Violence as a source of pleasure or displeasure is associated with functional connectivity with the nucleus accumbens*

Pringle, Richard. *Masculinities, Sport and Power – A Critical Comparison of Gramscian and Foucauldian Inspired Theoretical Tools*

Rail, Genevieve and Jean Harvey. Body at work: Michel Foucault and the sociology of sport  
Ruddock-Hudson, Many, Paul O'Halloran and Greg Murphy. The Psychological Impact of  
Long-Term Injury on Australian Football League Players  
Saunders, Kay and Raymond Evans (Editors). Gender Relations in Australia – Domination and  
Negotiation  
Seidler, Victor Jeleniewski. Masculinities, Bodies, and Emotional Life  
Walby, Sylvia. Theorizing Patriarchy  
Ward, Tony. Sport in Australian National Identity – Kicking Goals  
Warren, Ian. Violence in Sport: The Australian Context  
White, Garland F, Janet Katz and Kathryn E Scarborough. The Impact of Professional Football  
Games Upon Violent Assaults on Women  
Young, Kevin, Phillip White and William McTeer. Body Talk: Male athletes reflect on sport,  
injury and pain

Masculinity as a subject has been a hotbed of conjecture in the past four decades. The research  
difficulty has been the selection process. Colonisation, white superiority, a deeply divided social  
strata have resulted in an environment heavily weighted in favour of the hegemonic male. Oddly  
enough, football commentary has provided tangible evidence of a change in accepted norms of  
masculinity, a strange marriage of physical aggression, mental toughness and Flood's *Bent  
Straights – Diversity and Flux Among Heterosexual Men*.

## History

Creating a comprehensive history is not my intention, nor is it necessary for this examination of language. However, it seems pertinent that a basic history of football and its relationship with television be provided as foundation upon which to conduct a dissection. Although football has been broadly studied, little attention has been paid to the language of football (other than to perhaps suggest its occasional inappropriateness), much less to the ways in which the language of football may influence those who listen. Hallinan and Judd (*Assumptions*) have found that language implies inherent athleticism and spatial awareness to indigenous players; a complimentary language that does not acknowledge work and effort. Histories are written anew each time a different lens is applied. This does not negate those that came before, but rather adds another dimension to a reality composed of multiple intersecting layers of truth that lean on each other for their very existence. Historians such as Hess et al. Sandercock and Turner, Blainey, Holmesby and Main, and de Moore<sup>4</sup> have painstakingly traced both the origins and the spread of this game from Victoria across the southern coast into Western Australia, into the regions of the red centre, Queensland, New South Wales, and as far afield as New Zealand, and briefly, South Africa. Exhibition matches were played internationally in the early twentieth century in places as diverse as San Francisco and London. Unsaid but inferred, but for world war, this game may well have been established in more countries than one, and the parochial temperament of states within Australia could have instead been a unifying force. Acknowledged in other research, the game itself was carried into both world wars,<sup>5</sup> and the cry “Up there, Cazaly!”<sup>6</sup> was heard as foot soldiers ran headlong into battle in the Middle East. However, for the purposes of this discussion, the rich and colourful history of Australian Rules football will be broken into four parts, and necessarily selectively condensed. These four parts are 1856-1896, in which the newly invented game was established and the Victorian Football Association (VFA) was formed; 1897-1970 in which the Victorian Football League (VFL) split from the VFA and the history of football converges with that of television in Australia – the birthing

---

<sup>4</sup> Hess, Rob, Matthew Nicholson, Bob Stewart and Gregory de Moore. *A National Game – The History of Australian Rules Football*. Camberwell: Penguin. 2008. Print.

Sandercock, Leonie and Ian Turner. *Up Where, Cazaly? The Great Australian Game*. St Albans: Granada. 1982. Print.

Blainey, Geoffrey. *A Game of Our Own – The Origins of Australian Football*. Melbourne: National Australian Football Council. 1990. Print.

Holmesby Russell and Jim Main. *This Football Century*. Melbourne: Wilkinson Books. 1997. Print.

De Moore, Greg. *Tom Wills – First Wild Man of Australian Sport*. Crows Nest: Allen & Unwin. 2011. Print.

<sup>5</sup> Richardson, Nick. *The Game of Their Lives*. Sydney: McMillan. 2016. Print.

Perry, Roland. *The Changi Brownlow*. Sydney: Hachette. 2010. Print.

<sup>6</sup> Roy Cazaly, 1911 – 1927 St Kilda 99 games, South Melbourne 99 games. Sensational ruckman and a great mark. His South Melbourne team mates called ‘up there Cazaly’ to encourage ever higher marks, and the footy public picked up the call, later immortalised in a chart-topping song (Hunt 65, Holmesby and Main 128). In Ray Lawler’s play, *Summer of the Seventeenth Doll*, Cazaly is referred to as an ordinary term of encouragement.

point of television commentary; 1971 - 1986 when spiralling player payments created an Australian sporting elite and drove several clubs to the brink of financial insolvency; and finally, from 1987 to the present, in its current form, seeking to dominate the national sporting landscape as the Australian Football League, the AFL. This history is Melbourne-centric but acknowledges that other states were heavily and continuously involved with their own Victorian Rules (as it was originally known) leagues.

### **1858-1896**

There are some individual names that have shaped and mythologised this sport and, to some extent, the history of the game and the country in which it has been played. The very first of these names is that of Tom Wills, credited with the invention of the game of Australian Rules, although the game he proposed bears little resemblance to that played today. Debate rages in small corners about the origins of Wills' ideas: that they are composites of rugby, Gaelic football and an indigenous ball game called Marngrook. It is fact that Wills was a cricketer of exceptional skill, and an accomplished rugby player. He wanted to devise an energetic sport to be played in the winter months to maintain the fitness of the cricket team some of whom were otherwise, as Wills himself pointed out, 'inclined to become stout and having their joints encased in useless super-abundant flesh' (Main, *Our Game* 3). Greg de Moore, in his biography of Wills, astutely surmises the surface of the Richmond paddock on which the game was originally played contributed as much to the shaping of the game as Wills' insistence it be played primarily with running, leaping and kicking (de Moore 94). Reluctance to have the players injured by being thrown onto the hard ground was a primary consideration in composing the rules. Injured men could not work, those who did not work could not support their families; injuries were to be avoided.

Early games were played by groups of men who turned up and 'moved freely among the teams' (de Moore 104). The first recorded game (not the first game played) was that played between Scotch College and Melbourne Grammar School starting on 7 August 1858. It was conducted over three separate weekends by teams numbering forty a side. Historian Geoffrey Blainey makes the romantic suggestion more than one hundred years later that:

during the anarchy of these first games, when the loose rules were varied from match to match, certain ways of playing became more legitimate. The footballers were groping towards effective rules that suited the mixture of players and the distinctive open spaces and climate of Melbourne. (Blainey 19)

But it is Henry Colden Antill Harrison, the second name connected to the history of Australian Rules, who spoke with the knowledge of one who was there: 'It was a rather go-as-you-please affair at first, but a set of rules gradually evolved, which experience taught us to be best' (Hess et al. 44). Harrison's life was linked with Wills' from its beginnings. They shared a grandmother, and Harrison married Wills' sister, Emily. He shared with Wills an innate athleticism and was known throughout Victoria as 'the champion runner of the colonies' (43). While Wills may have instigated the formation of a game to be played under local conditions, it was Harrison who went on to be recorded as the 'father of football', instrumental in overseeing the establishment of rules and administration. He chaired the first meeting convened to discuss and review the rules in 1866 and when he moved to Geelong, became instrumental in the promotion and development of the game. For Wills cricket was, and remained, his first love. Harrison became enamoured with the fledgling game of football.

Throughout the 1860s the growing railway assisted in the expansion of the game, providing the means for both players and spectators to participate in the various competitions that were active throughout most of Victoria. This game has always promoted local or regional identity, it has never symbolised national cohesion. Clubs came to symbolise the area from which they originated, and links were established with small businesses.

Community pride was increased when teams won, and the game in the 1870s was perhaps the most talked-about recreation. It brought together different social classes. Local schools and church groups all came to link in and be identified with football clubs in a manner that perhaps had not happened with any other sport in colonial society. (Hess et al. 70)

The rough and tumble of football is far removed from cricket, long recognised as the sport of gentlemen. Photographs of crowds show that from the beginning, women and children attended football matches in large numbers. Newspapers of the day reported that barmaids and shop girls mingled freely in the crowd with the ladies, for whom no special accommodations had been made. In 1870, responding to accusations of 'savagery' in a game, Harrison wrote in *The Australasian*: 'Football is essentially a rough game all the world over, and is not suitable for men-poodles or milksops' (Melbourne v Albert Park 30 July 1870). Despite modern Australia remaining a notoriously gender-divisive society, the inherent gender inclusiveness of football crowds from the game's inception makes it even more unique. The Australian Bureau of Statistics collected information regarding attendance at sporting events in 2005-2006 and again in 2009-2010. Australian Rules Football games were attended by 1.7 million males and 1.2 million females, 15 years and over. Rugby league by comparison was attended by 1 million

males and 0.6 million females, 15 years and over.

Powered by community acceptance, by the late 1870s it became clear that Victorian Rules, as it was then known, required an organising body. At the end of the 1877 season, the Victorian Football Association (VFA) was formed. William Clarke, 'the wealthiest man in Victoria' (Hess et al. 87-88) was President and Harrison and Robert Robertson, Carlton President, were joint vice presidents. All six of the senior clubs - Carlton, Melbourne, Hotham (which became North Melbourne), Albert Park (which became South Melbourne), St Kilda and Geelong - were represented within the association by two delegates. The primary function of the Association was to act as a central body for the review of rules, dispute management, administration of revenue and to oversee promotion of the game.

The VFA was enormously successful at embedding the game into the landscape and the culture of the thriving Melbourne economy. Increasing numbers of spectators at the matches in the 1880s resulted in soaring revenue. (Hess is at pains to make clear that in 1880 the English soccer Football Association Cup Final drew only 6000 spectators while at the same time in colonial Victoria ordinary games between 'prominent teams' were regularly drawing between ten and twenty thousand [Hess et al 99]). It is around this time that early imaginings of television in Australia first surfaced, and they were connected to sport, albeit, horseracing. In 1885 Henry Sutton of Ballarat invented a 'telephane' system (Moran xvii), 'one of television's earliest prototypes' (Herd 2). Sutton's motivation was a desire 'to see here in Ballarat, by the aid of electricity, the race for the Melbourne Cup' (2). Football could be seen live at the local oval, the Melbourne Cup, however, could not.

Professionalism as opposed to amateurism in sport has always been contentious, from rugby union to tennis and Australian Rules is no exception. Tom Wills himself was criticised for abandoning amateur cricket at about the time he created the emergent game of Australian rules. Revenue collected from football games was used primarily for improvements to venues, and a percentage was allocated to charities. The VFA insisted that funds surplus to ground improvements be donated to charity and not go to members of the clubs. It is a little difficult today to imagine it being important that sport be played by amateurs, and not by professionals playing for payment, but it is such an environment in which Australian Rules football was conceived. 'Amateur stems from the Latin word for love suggesting that sport is played for its intrinsic rewards, while professional suggests motivation for extrinsic rewards' (East 59). The payment of players was discouraged for two reasons. The ability of more financially sound clubs to purchase good players would disadvantage less financial clubs, but it also allowed for the corruption of players, and the 'rigging' of matches. Players who could be paid to play might

also be paid to lose. As noted earlier, players were working men who had to be protected from accidental injury in a time when there was no insurance, no welfare and no payer payments. The richer clubs could also provide spectators with better amenities and grandstands, which perpetuated their larger attendances, and increased revenue. Some of the inner-city clubs, lacking funds but compensating with ‘a close and often fanatical identification of the football clubs and their local communities’ (Sandercock 40), resented the wealthier clubs making clandestine payment to their players, sometimes in the guise of ‘prizes’.

The VFA ruled unimpeded for a decade, during which time Australian Rules was structurally and administratively established. It was the insistence that the VFA oversee administration of revenue from all clubs collectively that was largely instrumental in the breakaway of the ‘cream’ of the clubs, to form their own, self-administered competition. At the close of the 1896 season, the eight most financially secure clubs - Melbourne, Carlton, Geelong, Essendon, South Melbourne, Fitzroy, St Kilda and Collingwood - ceded from the VFA and formed the Victorian Football League (VFL). Notably, except for Collingwood, these teams were not only the most successful financially, but also those of the greatest longevity, having played a formative role in the development of the game. Collingwood, a club of fewer than five years, however, ‘had already forged a potent connection with its local community’ (Hess et al. 109). Importantly, each of these clubs also had a home ground easily accessible by public transport.

Providence gives us recorded sentiments in verse from these early days of football. Poet and keen sportsman Adam Lindsay Gordon (1833 - 1870) played football and held strong opinions as to the value and nature of sport, an attitude that shaped the nature of the game. He was a Victorian, who also spent some time in South Australia.

No game was ever yet worth a rap  
For a rational man to play,  
Into which no accident, no mishap,  
Could possibly find its way  
(Gordon xxii).

Poet and fiction writer Henry Lawson (1867 - 1922) loathed sport and held equally strong opinions as to its value and nature. Perhaps his residing in New South Wales rather than Victoria was influential in shaping his attitude.

In a land where sport is sacred,  
where the lab'rer is a god  
You must pander to the people,  
make a hero of a clod!  
(Lawson 230)

## 1897-1970

The year 1897 is significant as it is the first year that the VFL oversaw a competition played alongside, and in direct opposition to, the VFA. Each team in the VFL would play each other twice, once at their own home ground, and again at the other team's home ground, in a 'home and away' system. The main changes the VFL instituted were reducing the teams to 18 a side and introducing a behind score. A goal was worth six points, and an 'almost goal', a 'behind the goal post score', was allowed at one point. It was felt that this not only eliminated the preponderance of drawn games, but also advertised the true on-field effort. The winning team was not the team with the most goals, it was the team with the most points. 1897 is also the first year a finals series was introduced. Previously under the auspices of the VFA the team at the top of the ladder at season's end was awarded the Premiership Flag. A play-off was only required if two teams finished the season with the same number of points. This system saw the team at the top of the ladder as consistently the best team, and therefore the premiers. However, this saw a depletion in the crowds at the tail-end of the season, as the last games held little real meaning. Seeking to reinvigorate end-of-season attendances, the VFL introduced a finals system to lure the spectators back from Flemington, where they had drifted to watch the horses (Hess et al. 182). Establishing a successful finals system was a process of trial and error and took a few years to perfect. However, by season's end of 1897 the VFL had established itself as the premier code, capitalising on its better venues to maintain crowds and revenue and using the finals series to extend a more evenly contested competition.

In 1902 the 'Argus'<sup>7</sup> system of finals was settled on, in which the first and third teams played for the right to contest the grand final, as did the second and fourth teams. The winners of each 'semi-final' match then played in a Grand Final to establish the overall Premiership team of the year. This system was maintained until the 'Page'<sup>8</sup> system was implemented in 1931 which was deemed fairer for all and coincidentally extended the finals series, collecting more revenue. Under the Page system of finals, the third and fourth team played a first semi-final, the loser

---

<sup>7</sup> *The Argus* was the leading newspaper of the time

<sup>8</sup> Named after football official, Percy Page (Holmesby and Main, *This Football Century* 68)



being eliminated. The first and second teams played a semi-final the following week, with the loser gaining a second chance playoff against the winner of the first semi-final held the week before. This was a preliminary final, the winner of which was then eligible to play the winner of the second semi-final in a grand final.

In the early years of the twentieth century, pre-season training commenced roughly six weeks prior to the season and consisted of a couple of hours on Tuesday and Thursday nights after work, usually followed by beer and cigarettes. Matches were attended by an average of 100 000 spectators a week, which was approximately ten percent of Melbourne's population. It was not unusual for the umpires to require police escort from the grounds after heated games, or for spectators to rush onto the grounds and contribute to melees between players. The tribunals established to hear charges laid against players and to administer fines and suspensions rapidly became as newsworthy as the games themselves. In 1902 an Essendon player, Albert Thurgood, 'regarded as the greatest player of his era and [who] ranks as one of the best players ever' (Holmesby and Main *Encyclopedia* 787-788), was suspended for striking a St Kilda opponent. Indicative of the time, shocked Essendon supporters responded by giving Thurgood three cheers prior to the game in which he could not participate.

League delegates voted in 1911 to openly pay players, ending the suspicion and controversy about surreptitious payments that had been argued over for several years. In this same year two players in separate matches were charged with assault. Jim Martin of Essendon, suspended for 12 weeks after striking a Fitzroy player, was later 'charged by police over the incident and served with a summons prior to a game' (Holmesby & Main, *Encyclopedia* 496).' Fined five pounds, he appealed and had 'the matter overturned which placed the League in an awkward position as it had found him guilty' (496). Martin Gotz of Carlton was issued a summons for assault after knocking University player Thomas Trood unconscious. 'The court imposed a fine of ten pounds or two months jail' (297), but this time the VFL did not make any decisions until the appeal had been heard, and the charges overturned. It would be 74 years before another assault charge was issued for conduct during a game.

The league expanded in 1907 with the approval of Melbourne University's application to field a team, and by accepting Richmond's overtures to step up from Association and join the League. University was to dissolve in 1914 when war split public opinion on the morality of playing sport while others were risking their lives. Others, however, believed continuing as normal was morale boosting and football continued to be played during the war years, by fewer teams with fewer players, smaller crowds and less intensity. Nick Richardson in *The Game of Their Lives* canvasses the divisive public split and the struggles of football to remain viable throughout the

war years and immediately after; simultaneously recording the unforeseen benefits and consolations of a red leather Sherrin football being smuggled in an Australian backpack to Egypt or France.

In post-war Australia it took some years for football to regain its footing. For Victorians, the loss of University meant the introduction of a bye, which was unsatisfactory, and much debate went into which team might replace them. In the end the VFL surprised everyone by admitting not one but three new teams into the League in 1925: North Melbourne, as had been suspected by the footballing public, but also Footscray and Hawthorn. Now twelve teams competed in the VFL's home and away season, striving to qualify for the finals series.

The Geelong-Melbourne semi-final played at the MCG in 1925 was the first game broadcast on radio in real time. A professional broadcaster, A.N. Bishop, and a feted retired Geelong player, Wally 'Jumbo' Sharland, 'discussed a variety of football topics and whenever a goal was kicked would chip in with the latest score' (Hyde 49). BBC journalist Hamilton Fyfe went to the USA in 1926 and wrote an article to prepare British listeners for sports broadcasting on the radio. He explained that at some football matches:

a continuous description of the play is broadcast from the field by an eye witness ... He spoke as if he were telephoning. He was telephoning but in the box was a microphone and his voice, when it reached the radio station in Chicago, was broadcast into hundreds of thousands of homes all over the country (Booth 26).

That same year Mel Morris, Richmond centreman, best and fairest in 1922, and three-time representative of Victoria, made the first broadcast 'call' of a game in Australia. (Holmesby and Main 564; Hyde 11). Morris, 'renowned for his graphic descriptions of play' (Hyde 11), also 'called' cricket, reading from cables as though present at the match, 'knocking a pencil against the desk to imitate the sound of a cricket ball on a bat' (About.abc.net). Again in 1931, the potential for 'witnessing in our own homes, the Melbourne Cup as it was run' (Herd 14) was cited as a compelling reason to bring television to Australia, a desire stymied by having a small population spread over a large area and requiring broadcasting infrastructure beyond existing capabilities. Radio remained king and by 1932 four radio stations were regularly calling the 'big' matches, with 3KZ's Norman Banks becoming 'the first superstar of football commentary' (Hyde 11).

Roland Perry records in *The Changi Brownlow* how Australian Rules sustained Australian

prisoners during the Second World War. Football provided a connection among familiars in an alien environment, fostering solidarity, bravery, courage and mateship. The war was declared over on 2 September 1945 and on 29 September 1945 the VFL grand final, played between Carlton and South Melbourne entered the history books as the 'Bloodbath'. Many of the 62 986 spectators were returned servicemen and women. Many of the players were returned from war and turned loose on the field to perform a contact sport that encouraged physical battle. That the game got out of hand in retrospect is no surprise. Ten players were reported, the newspapers were full of condemnation, and the public was perhaps a little shocked at the violence unleashed.

Nonetheless, after the Second World War and prior to the introduction of television in Australia, Australian Rules 'was the largest [and wealthiest] spectator sport in the nation... with around 210 000 people attending the weekly fixtures organised by the VFL, SANFL and WANFL during the winter season' (Hess et al. 223). Queensland was nurturing Australian Rules in enough schools and clubs from Townsville, Mt Isa and Brisbane to be able to contest in interstate carnivals. NSW, determined to adhere to rugby league, nonetheless had a few enclaves where Australian Rules took hold. For example, Newcastle in 1958 had a robust competition within the schools' system, and clubs in both senior and under-age competition.

Television arrived in Melbourne and Sydney in 1955, some years after the United States of America and Europe, which accounts for the preponderance of imported content then on offer. Programs such as *I Love Lucy*, *Douglas Fairbanks Presents*, and *Father Knows Best* were early staples (Herd 48). It is accepted as folklore that television came to Australia in time to televise the Olympic Games in 1956. This is true as a serendipitous event only, coverage hastily organised only three days prior to the opening ceremony, and it was only in Melbourne that any events were televised live. Berlin was in fact the first to televise the Olympic Games four years earlier, but Melbourne has the dubious honour of being the first to use advertising (49).

Originally, local programs were recorded, copied and flown between the states for broadcasting. However, by the end of the 1960s, technological development allowed microwave transmission between capital cities, enabling shared broadcasting. In his history of Australian television, Herd quotes the Sales Manager of GTV9, R. A. Kirkwood, speaking in 1959: 'Wherever there is a television set in a street, that house is destined to become the social centre for the neighbourhood' (47). Australians, however, hastened to own more television sets per capita than other Western countries, and the changeover from black and white to colour in Australia during the mid-1970s happened with unprecedented rapidity.

Television and sport was an inevitable coupling, however, when televised sport first became possible it was resisted by many, not just the governing body of the Victorian Football League (VFL). The acknowledged potential of television's popularity hampered its inception. If spectators could watch from home, attendances at games would drop. As a revenue protection measure, amendments to the Broadcasting and Television Act in 1956 provided all sporting institutions and venue owners with the right to refuse television access (Herd 234). The VFL refused to allow live broadcasting of matches. The WANFL allowed only match highlights to be shown and the SANFL refused both live and delayed broadcasts (Hess et al. 230). When the VFL was convinced to allow live transmission of the final quarters of games in 1958 attendances did drop sharply. A compromise was reached, after just one season of live televised football: final quarters could be broadcast by any of the three channels (ABC2, HSV7 or GTV9) for a sum of £600 per game, but only after the match had finished (Linnell 165). For this reason, whole games were never filmed, yet the televising of football had begun in earnest.

From 1956 seven Melbourne radio stations (including Geelong's 3GL) were broadcasting live football directly from the games, however, right throughout the 1960s the VFL only allowed televising of delayed broadcasts of games or the showing of highlights packages. Nothing was to be shown until after the games had been completed. These first telecasts of football were called by Ian Johnson (GTV9), Tony Charlton (HSV7), and Ken Dakin (ABC2), who had all been successful radio commentators.

**Tony Charlton** When television started and football was to be telecast, we were prevailed upon to understand that it didn't require a radio commentary, that it should be done the way the English did the soccer: Smith, this is Jones, over to Warwick, et cetera. But we quickly found this didn't work; it didn't have the excitement the audience expected because they had been raised on radio commentary. (Hyde 49)

Football panel shows flourished, and with all four Melbourne television stations showing match replays on Saturday nights, and newspapers filled with football photographs and stories, saturation point was reached. In 1968 Melbourne journalist Keith Dunstan's colleague Douglas Wilkie, the foreign affairs writer, bemoaned football's monopoly of the media, and Dunstan, on a whim created the original AFL – the Anti Football League – whose defiant members were identified by a squared football badge. Dunstan's view that 'living in Melbourne during the football season is like suffocating in a sauna bath – football seems to ooze out of one's pores. The sport dominates the newspapers, the radio and television' (No Brains at All 192), still held when he wrote his memoirs some twenty-five years later. It was Dunstan who once suggested

the key to unlocking the mysteries of Australian culture lay in understanding the national obsession with sport.

### **1971-1986**

The 1970s saw the erosion of a long-held separation between sport and commercialisation, but not with just football, and not only in Australia, and it was largely to do with television. It was not until the early 1970s that the Australian Broadcasting Commission (ABC) could claim status as a national broadcaster, and television was recognised as having the ability to create ‘a strong sense of national identity and citizenship’ (Eriksen 4). Perth and Hobart could tune in at the end of that decade, although some remote and regional areas of Australia were without reception as late as the 1980s. In 1971 the WANFL sold their arena fence spaces to advertisers who hung boards, ensuring the almost instant demise of cloth banners hung by fans (Hess et al. 281). In 1973 the VFL Players Association was formed providing players, no longer amateurs but semi-professionals, with some collective negotiation power over their contracts and conditions. By 1975 the VFL had organised itself into setting up a Properties Division for the purposes of licensing and marketing VFL-approved merchandise. I still remember the shock felt when a neighbourhood child proffered a mass-produced machine-knitted football scarf for my inspection. It was *flat*. It was regulated shop-made flawlessness encroaching on a place of imperfect emotion and raw intensity; it was vulgar and tolled the beginning of an end. ‘Football is no longer recreation for those viewing or participating. It is a business, big business. It’s commerce’ (Madden 83).

Football continued its trajectory of ‘acceptable’ violence throughout the 1970s. A ‘good’ game was one with heat and passion, in which one or more players limped or were carried from the field. Knocking an opponent senseless and possibly unconscious via a hip and shoulder bump was lauded and, again, considered an elemental part of the game’s fabric. The bump from Barry Lawrence that knocked out Robert Walls at Princess Park during a game against St Kilda in 1975 was described on the Monday after as ‘perfectly executed’. Walls had been carried off on a stretcher. (Cartledge 119)

The ban on live telecasts remained in place, not to shield the public from such displays of aggression, but to protect the takings at the gate, and lasted until 1977 when the Grand Final was broadcast both live and nationally on the proviso that the game was sold out. The VFL agreed to revisit live telecasting of finals in future years, always on the condition that the game had been sold out first, a decision that led to two little girls pacing in a suburban lounge room.

If the 1970s were about commercialisation, the 1980s were largely focussed on professionalisation. Transfer fees and escalating player payments began to threaten the viability of some clubs. The clubs with the most money were the clubs winning matches and flags. Players began to follow financial incentives at the cost of club loyalty, and the fans made clear their displeasure. A selection of figures produced by Elliot Cartledge illustrate the ‘wild excesses in spending on transfer and recruiting payments’ (18):

North Melbourne’s expenditure in 1970 was \$90,329. Ten seasons later it was \$1,133,271, an increase of 1476 percent

Collingwood paid its players a total of \$124,000 in 1975. Ten seasons later that figure had swollen to \$1.22 million

Some 1867 paying spectators were needed to pay the average VFL player’s annual salary in 1972. By 1980 the figure was 13,422 spectators

Between 1972 and 1982 transfer fees increased by 1000 percent. (Cartledge 18)

The early eighties saw clubs struggling to remain viable. There was talk of relocation and of mergers, much to the horror of supporters. East Perth Football Club had made an application to join the VFL but their proposal was summarily dismissed. In 1982 South Melbourne, facing insolvency, agreed to move to Sydney rather than fold. Despite the efforts of their fans to block the move, the Swans played 11 home games in Sydney, changing the landscape of football permanently. In 1983 when the players were to be physically relocated to Sydney, Silvio Foschini took the VFL to the Supreme Court, seeking release from the club. ‘On April 15, Justice Crockett ruled there had been a restraint of trade and that the VFL rules and regulations regarding player movements were invalid’ (Main, *In the Blood* 275).

Friday night football was launched in 1983, and Sunday games were introduced amid roiling debate in 1984. Live telecasts of games played in Sydney were shown in Melbourne, so that Swans fans in Melbourne could see their beloved team play on Sundays. A salary cap was pioneered to curb uninhibited spending on players and to level the playing field. This also effectively prevented the purchasing of bodies, the leverage of money over bodily performance, but the relevance of this was not to be seen for some years to come.

In 1985 Hawthorn captain, Leigh Matthews, broke Geelong player, Neville Bruns’, jaw in a game that had deteriorated into nasty aggression. Matthews was charged by Victoria Police with assault and fined \$1000, which was later reduced to a 12-month good behaviour bond. To this day, Leigh Matthews is bewildered by the charge, believing what happens on a football field to be governed by the parameters of play. The Matthews/Bruns incident resulted in much debate

over the role of the law in sporting incidents, raising more questions than it answered, such as: what role does the law play in sports violence? When does “whatever happens on the field, stays on the field” not apply? And: could the law (specifically police) ever intervene mid-match where officials have lost control? (James Smith [www.insidesport.com.au](http://www.insidesport.com.au).)

### **1987 – present**

Australian Football changed again in 1987, with the inclusion of the West Coast Eagles, a team from Western Australia, and the Brisbane Bears in Queensland, the first real advances in nationalising the professionalised game, and live telecasting was permitted so that the Victorian fans of teams competing in Perth or Brisbane could still see their teams play in real time.<sup>9</sup> The VFL officially renamed itself the Australian Football League in 1990, and ‘expansion’ clubs proliferated. Adelaide Football Club joined in 1991, the Fremantle Dockers in 1995 and Port Adelaide in 1997. The Gold Coast Suns sputtered into being in 2011 and in 2012, the addition of Greater Western Sydney concluded expansion for the time being. Eighteen teams now compete in the AFL. To provide competition each state other than Victoria (and Tasmania) is now home to two representative AFL teams. Ten teams are still Victorian based, eight are ‘interstate’. Hawthorn and North Melbourne play some of their home games in Launceston and Hobart to include the tiny island state with a proud Aussie Rules history in the national agenda.

Fielding teams from Western Australia and South Australia was contentious in that the WAFL and the SANFL were as well established within their own states as the VFL was in Victoria, and amalgamating a first, and later a second team from each league was divisive. The problems associated with building teams in states with poor or non-existent Australian Rules acceptance were different again. This required large scale relocating of players and coaching staff, often against their wishes, and the subsequent isolation and difficulties of having no or low supporter bases. Teams each played 22 matches over a 23-week season, having a bye in between rounds 11 and 13, allowing a week’s rest.

---

<sup>9</sup> 1987 was important as the first year after the activation of AUSSAT, the satellite that gave Australia a genuinely national media space for the first time in history, with attendant impacts on sport and televisual modes of address in general. The classic account of this, written soon enough after the satellite launch to be imaginatively involved in its effects, is Tom O’Regan’s *Australian Television Culture* (1993). The book’s emphasis on changes in spatial imaginaries and modes of belonging as new “corridors” of information opened up gives a context for the beginning of the decline of state-based parochialisms more widely.

In 1992 a discussion paper *The Role of the Commonwealth in Australia's Cultural Development*, a proposed blueprint for a decade of cultural policy development, was released by the Department of Arts. 'Throughout the document, the term 'cultural industry' is used to cover the traditional arts, and popular culture and broadcasting without discrimination' (Ericksen 13). This paper encompassed sport broadcasting protocols within the framework of official public policy, acknowledgement of the cultural value of the language with which it is broadcast. Sport has always had a strong presence on television, the production costs are low, and statistics prove that 'week in, week out, the footy and cricket deliver audiences measured in millions' (Salter 211). Battles between television stations for broadcasting rights of Australian Rules football have subsequently become legendary within the industry, the campaigns themselves generating broad media coverage. 'The television value of AFL is now so great that one network alone can no longer afford exclusive rights' (Salter 218). When subscription television commenced in Australia in 1995, the Australian Government was eager to avoid replicating the situation in the UK where Premier League football broadcasting rights had been monopolised by a subscription channel, Sky Television. Provision was made in the Broadcasting Service Act 1992 for a list of events which must be offered for sale first to free-to-air stations before they could be sold to television for which viewers must pay to access. This list, which included sporting events and movies, was known as the 'anti-siphoning' list (Herd 242).

The resulting distribution among the networks has enabled every game each weekend to be televised, although some are available only on subscription pay television, most notably via Foxtel, which has a dedicated Australian Rules channel. Games are now played on Friday nights, Saturdays and Sunday, and increasingly on Thursday nights and public holidays. Games can be watched in real time (live) or as a replay. This broad coverage has led to a burgeoning of commentators, the growth of a profitable and hotly contested industry itself. Where once games were commented by a team of two, not it is not at all unusual to have as many as five or even six commentators contributing to the calling of a game.

Games are still billed as being home or away but the Victorian teams, except for Geelong, are playing from either the MCG or Etihad Stadium, (a purpose-built stadium, the name of which alters with sponsorship). Both are city venues, the suburban grounds having been abandoned in favour (arguably) of greater capacity and better facilities. Each Victorian team is required to play at least one game per season in Perth, ensuring the disadvantages of travel and time zone changes are experienced by all. Fixtures are manipulated to prevent teams lower down the ladder meeting top teams twice. This kind of intervention, necessary to eliminate unfair advantage, destroys the long tradition of each team playing each other team twice. Gone is the



opportunity to make good a loss, to exact revenge against an enemy or to hammer home a point within the frame of the season. And introduced is the possibility of human intervention influencing outcomes through the fixtures.

Along with the expansion of the AFL itself, the growth in the number of clubs and the infiltration of 'rugby country', the televising of the game has also grown and changed. Full games began to be broadcast with the advent of subscription television, dedicated sport channels, including Fox Footy, a specifically dedicated Australian Rules channel have materialised. Fox Footy rolls games and panel shows over and over, providing 24-hour access. In the off-season, they have themed 'history months' and play older games or run highlight packages of prominent players. Commercial television supports a range of sport and football shows across all channels and has influenced the timing and duration of games. Commercial television snaps to an ad break when a goal is kicked, filling the time it takes to return the ball to the centre of the ground with advertisements for fast food, cars or (increasingly) law firms. Umpires may be observed glancing upwards before bouncing the ball – searching for a signal that the ad break has finished and it is okay to recommence the game. Game times have shifted slightly to accommodate television stations. In 2012 with the addition of a ninth game to be played in each round, it became possible to watch five live televised games in a weekend, if so desired. Friday night football, immensely successful, is played at 7.50pm EST or 8.40pm if hosted in South Australia or Western Australia. On Saturdays it is possible to select one game in the afternoon and watch another, twilight match, at 4.40 before the night game at 7.30. Sundays there are two games, unfortunately overlapping, the second of which was changed to begin at 3.30 instead of 2.40 to lead in to Channel 7's evening news program.

The opportunity to watch five live televised games in a weekend illustrates a move, recognised by Media and Communications Studies Professor, Brett Hutchins and Cultural Researcher, David Rowe, from 'broadcasting scarcity to digital plenitude' (1) particularly as broadcast football moves from its now 'traditional' base of radio and television into modern cyber media. Additionally, these 'new media technologies have remade our idea of what spectating 'live' means' (Redhead 9). Watching live televised football is the viewing of a produced version of a game, projected in real time. In this way the original broadcast is viewed as being 'live' at the time of the game itself, but the same footage loses its 'liveness' once the game is concluded, forever after assuming the role of 'replay', despite its obvious 'liveness' at the time of recording. This now redundant 'liveness' is perceived correctly as a manufactured recording, no longer as a live broadcast. Professor of Cultural Studies, Steve Redhead goes on to muse '[w]e live, interestingly, in theoretical times. Previously we lived, theoretically, in interesting times' (9).

Each week there is a home game played in every participating state, the two 'home' teams alternating in WA, SA, Queensland and NSW. It is always possible to either attend or watch a game from each state during the season. AFL will continue to be seen as largely a Victorian affair as long as each of the 'interstate' participants sees themselves as a two-team state, rather than as an AFL state. As an institution the AFL is encouraging all participants in all states to see themselves as members of a national league, and at the same time fostering heated rivalries between the pairs of representative teams. The West Coast Eagles and the Fremantle Dockers fight a bitter Derby twice a year, and in South Australia the Adelaide Crows and Port Adelaide Power have an explosive Showdown. Queensland teams participate in a Q-Clash. The Sydney Swans and the GWS Giants flitter between being 'cross-town rivals' having a 'battle of the bridge' in the guise of a 'big brother-little brother contest'. Surprisingly, there is no active competition for the potentially available fan-base in this traditionally 'rugby union' territory, where an increase in membership is vital to viability. In fact, despite commentary's efforts to rile them up they appear to get along rather well. The same cannot be said of Western Australia or South Australia, their two teams genuinely battle for supremacy, and the huge supporter base is violently opposed. Commentary is also seen recently to be fabricating rivalries between teams that have no real basis in fact, but that are becoming real through the power of suggestion.

## **Commentary**

Commentary is the descriptive spoken explanation of an event or a performance given in real time, as it happens. Here the function of commentary and the role of commentators in televised Australian Rules is briefly outlined so that such changes and transitions that occur over the half century being looked at can be more readily recognised. It must be remembered that commentary had its genesis in radio, and that radio required the commentator to be constantly drawing a mental picture for those listening, being 'able to extract the essence of the game and communicate it in words at the moment when his mind and eyes are moving on to the next stage' (Booth 33). When television arrived in Australia, commentary already had a thirty-year history in the popular and descriptive medium of radio. It is also important to note that both radio and television protocols in Australia were modelled on those of Britain, referred to as the 'home country', within the circles of those bringing these technological advances to what was still very much regarded as a colonised outpost. Language was terribly important. Used almost exclusively in early Australian broadcasting, Received Pronunciation British English (RP English) was considered to have the broadest geographical distribution. As late as 1981 Australian English was listed in the first edition of the *Macquarie Dictionary* as 'that dialect of

English which is spoken by native-born Australians' (Delbridge 267).

Historian, Joy Damousie in *Colonial Voices* gives account of the social importance of elocution among Australia's English speakers, particularly during the Victorian era, that of Australia's colonisation. The use of the English language, which included the often-overlooked ability to *listen*, was an important structural component of early Australian colonial culture. The ability to use clear, expressive speech became a marker of education and social status; a tool for establishing 'civilisation'. The arrival of public broadcasting was viewed as an educational tool, not least of which was the perpetuation of elocution as a 'subtly powerful social force, acting as both a reinforcer and shaper of culture through the expression of the English language within the English-speaking world' (3). Broadcasters were selected, as much if not more, for their speech as their knowledge.

The surviving 1970s games are all ABC recordings, called by Dick Mason, Thorold Merrett, Ken Dakin, Doug Heywood and Peter Ewin. Mason, Dakin and Ewin were professional broadcasters passionate about the game but had never played at elite level. Merrett and Heywood successfully transitioned from playing to calling. These men all spoke BBC English, understood grammar and punctuation and called 'ball by ball' the game on-field, often with great excitement, never with hysterics. They aimed for accuracy in an era without access to videotape to familiarize themselves with the players and achieved it, on balance. Dennis Cometti, regarded as one of the best football commentators of modern times, prepares to call games by re-watching tapes of the previous week's matches:

**Dennis Cometti** I marvel at, uh, you know, the old commentators of yesteryear, how they could have done as good a job as they did without tape. (*Off-Field* podcast)

1970s commentary retains echoes of radio in that who, where and what is constantly given to the listener. Who has the ball, where it is, and what the score is. Locating the play is hugely important. Knowing that the television viewer can see only limited parts of the ground, the commentary is instrumental in keeping the position of both the players and the ball clearly referenced. For example, in the first game transcribed, the commentators identify the grandstand wing as different to the gasometer wing, locating the play on the field for a viewer who may only be able to see a square of grass, a player and perhaps a row or two of spectators. The ball travels in directions described as 'towards full forward, to centre half forward, the gasometer flank, centre wing grandstand side, around the flank' and 'a few yards in from the boundary line', to name a few (1973.1). The players themselves are positioned on the wing, at centre half

forward, in the back pocket, on the half forward flank. By 2017 such references have gone, almost obsolete in the language. In the last game transcribed, the location of the ball is given twice. Once it moves in ‘the Cameron direction’ (2017.9 563) which tells little other than the name of the player to whom the ball was kicked and does not identify where Cameron may be on the ground at that point in time, and a very generic ‘blasted through the middle’ (2017.9 563). There is general talk about the number of marks taken inside 50 and two players are identified positionally: ‘Short, all the way from full back’ and ‘Eddie running to his pocket’ (2017.9 569, 570). This is one indication of the way the immediacy of commentary has altered over time, the geography of football has morphed into general comment, generic conversation. Listeners in the 1970s were presumed to know what centre half forward translated to as a positional reference pertaining to play, no such demands are made upon the modern listener.

In 1973 ABC commentator, Dick Mason, for unknown reasons, bravely called the Footscray v Richmond game (1973.12) alone. Despite his best efforts, a lack-lustre commentary it was without the conversational component. This rare broadcast emphasises that it is the dialogic form of commentary that provides depth and substance. There are moments within the commentary where a second voice is anticipated and does not arrive:

Oh, great mark. Royce Hart’s hurt on the ground, Bernie Quinlan’s got the ball – he’s hurt too. Umpire Sutcliff’s speaking to Casey, I don’t know why (1973.12 78).

A second commentator would have reiterated the greatness of the mark taken, perhaps added information about the injuries to one or both players and may have seen the reason why the umpire is speaking with Casey, or at least offer speculation. These seemingly unintentional calls for conjecture may also signal an entry point where a companion commentator might contribute, allowing the main caller a moment’s respite. The provision of opportunity for response or participation appear to be naturally embedded in the structure of language. The substantiation and explanation of opinions and claims within a discussion further clarifies and solidifies views expressed, the banter and debate between the commentators allows the listener to digest and absorb, assisting in the formation of their own opinions and responses.

The 1980s, ‘90s and ‘00s saw a proliferation of ‘expert’ and ‘special comments’ providers added to the commentary teams<sup>10</sup>. These are retired players whose analytical comments

---

<sup>10</sup> Graeme Turner’s *Ending the affair: The decline of television current affairs in Australia* (2005) examines the cross-genre emergence of new “American”-style modes

complement the call. They do not call the game but explain why particular decisions were made, what the thinking behind play may have been, authorised by their ‘insider’ knowledge. A ‘boundary rider’ was added in the 2010s, a special comments reporter at ground level, not in the broadcast box. The role of the boundary rider is primarily to report from ground level on injured players. Commentary teams are currently a mix of professional broadcasters and retired football players. History shows that retired football players do not always transition to being broadcasters smoothly. Brian Taylor (BT) and Rex Hunt are two exceptions, both establishing successful commentary careers, largely due to their flamboyant personalities. However, by 2017 most callers are ex-players, indicating recruitment priorities have also shifted.

Commentary requires more than enthusiasm for the game, knowledge of the rules, and the ability to give an accurate description of what is going on in the field of play. As will be evidenced, the commentary does much to influence how the spectator understands what is happening, ironically, more-so when visual images are also available. Words facilitate comprehension. Bonner, in *Ordinary Television*, refers to the ‘conversationalisation’ of language (50), a removal of the formality associated with British-inflected speech and a relaxing into a more intimate conversational exchange. The premise of commentary, however, is the provision of information, and when the commentary dwindles into a conversation among those calling the game, the spectator is often excluded, becoming an eavesdropper rather than the intended recipient. Much of what passes for commentary today is merely conversation, which is not the same thing at all. There seems also a confusion between what is required for radio (aural) and television (visual).

**Drew Morphett** These days it is a million miles an hour on television because a lot of people are doing radio and television, and I reckon most of them don’t know the difference... I think too many people are saying too much these days (Hyde 240).

**Tony Charlton** So often we over-talk the situation, but out of that has come a

---

of performative intimacy amongst TV anchors, commentators and journalists in the late 1980s. Current affairs was a key site for debate about this at the time: a key event was the scandal created when Richard Carleton started appearing for *60 Minutes* and was encouraged to behave like a “dinner guest” in people’s lounge rooms, rather than a journalist neutrally researching and reporting the news.

uniquely Australian way of describing football matches (Hyde 49).

**Gerard Healy** I think what we're seeing now with the explosion of outlets is a lot of B and C grade callers. I think that the A graders really stand out, which is great for the guys because they're all getting an opportunity to make the transition from a B grader to an A grader (Hyde 135).

A list of commentary providers that appear within the transcribed quarters is included in Appendix II. There are 63 different names, and less than one third of these are of professional commentators, the bulk of them being of special comments contributors. Many of the 'B and C grade callers' Healy is talking about may be special comments providers confusing themselves with commentators. Having the ability to play well does not necessarily translate into an ability to speak well. 'Since he cannot limit himself to talking about what he knows, the Expert pronounces on the basis of the *place* that his speciality has won for him' (de Certeau 8 [original italics]). Others may be callers who love football but lack the necessary commentary skills to inspire those who are listening. Gradually, over the time span being looked at, voice - the importance of timbre, tone and vocabulary - has bowed before equality and representation. By 2007 a laughing commentator advises 'you let them ones go' (2007.1 330) causing some listeners to flinch.

I'm actually amazed at the lack of training in the media... the attitude was simply sink or swim which is good to a degree because it puts the pressure on and you either survive or you don't, but a bit of extra training wouldn't have gone astray on camera management and how to react. (Hyde 146)

Dick Mason, Ken Dakin, Peter Ewin, Drew Morphett, Tim Lane and Dennis Cometti, professional broadcasters all, received ABC training, which may contribute to their standing in the field. Broad vocabularies, clear enunciation, regulated voices, and an ability to control the tempo of the broadcast are common among them. However, it takes more than dulcet tones and clear, fluent speech to be successful as a commentator. Having an ability to confer authority through knowledge and 'a personal resonance and warmth that is instantly attractive' (Booth 298), is also essential, but by no means the complete package. Those commentators who are ultimately the most successful, those who have listeners tuning in regularly and with inherent expectation, are those who possess the ability to construct stories on the run. Commentary is story-telling on the hop, the ability to relate what is happening as it occurs. Vocabulary, imagination, creativity, passion. A good commentator is an astute oral word smith.

Needs of commentary, however, are changing. As football expands into other states, a sport attempting to colonise new domains, it must convince those to be converted of its worthiness. Football likes to win wallets, but really it is about snaring the hearts. It does this by understated acknowledgement of spectator connection and constant references to history. Commentators are no longer preaching only to the converted, they are proselytisers seeking not only to maintain their flocks but also to add to their folds. The words they choose to use are their tools. Illustrative of this are the words ‘team’ and ‘club’. The two words and the multitude of meanings each word conveys are not interchangeable. In the push for expansion the team has become the flagbearer, and the club, that which the team represents has been ignored. This may be necessary particularly when clubs are embryonic, they do not yet represent anything, they are nothing more than a team. Within the transcripts the word ‘club’ appears 32 times, the word ‘team’ however, is used almost four times as often, 126 times.

‘Old’ commentary addresses the spectator. It relays the action as it happens, literally providing verbal vision. Modern commentary renders the spectator eavesdropper. Six people is a convention, it is only natural that they would speak to each other, not the invisible, imagined audience. It’s an open conversation, but it remains largely conversation made public. Commentary comes from a place of investment in the play, in the game itself. The players understand this game as work for which they are paid and that any game could be their last. The footballer’s mindset has indeed changed, yet the commentary continues to press idealised values onto the players, values no longer relevant to them. It would be interesting to hear a team of two commentators, perhaps Cometti and Taylor, call a game now, the way Mason and Merrett did. Some of the old-school thinking in the commentary box, idealised as it is, does not match the imagery, the picture being shown. So, the commentary is telling a story that is being accepted as fact, when it is in fact, a story. There is a mismatch between the ideology of commentary carried from the days of the VFL (WAFL, SANFL, etc), community-based team football, to the AFL where teams are a mosaic of personal interests; a transplant destined to fail. The codes share ancestry but occupy different space.

The spectator at home, the audience to whom the commentary is supposedly directed, is rarely acknowledged. When it does happen, it tends to be by the older of the commentators, those who were brought up on the now obsolete style of commentary.

**Brian Taylor** if you’re sitting at home and you’re a Melbourne fan – stand up!  
You’ll need to!! (20120602)

Technology over time has changed the way viewers see the football, and it has also changed the

way commentators verbalise what they see. Commentary called from a screen, a monitor, is fundamentally different from commentary called with a view of the field. Commentary appears now as conversation between ‘experts’; the audience is no longer addressed. Rather, the *vision* is addressed. Commentary looks at what is on a screen and discusses it. Bruce McAvaney still stands and calls games while watching the field, an anomaly among those calling from ‘vision’. Once it was ordinary for the commentators to watch the game being played before them and to describe what they saw (1973); now, it is ordinary for commentators to watch a screen and describe what they are shown (2017).

Good commentary at any point in the recorded history of televised football is immersive. A good game provides consummate commentators with opportunity to use their language skills, to break free of conversation and soar into skilled story-telling, dragging those who listen inside the present, placing them in the now as a ball is buffeted and bundled up and down a field by deadly serious young men. This is when the present leaves no room for the future. This absorption in the present allows an experience of powerlessness, vulnerability, anticipation – what happens next can only be experienced as it occurs. There is no opportunity, or little opportunity, to second guess outcomes. This is occupation of the moment, the inhabitation of time’s elasticity, a transcendental experience focussed on possibility.

The increase in numbers of commentary teams allows a generational mix which is different to earlier commentary when the two were of a similar generation, presenting only one view of the game. In a crew of six it seems one pair are selling the future, another is anchoring the present in the past, and the last is spouting statistical information that suggests an alarmingly narrow focus. Today the older commentators describe football with more attention to movement and skill, while the younger seem more interested in critiquing strategy and performance. This crossover between generations does not always work well. In 2016 particularly, Brian Taylor and Matthew Richardson were often uncomfortable to listen to, flaring at each other across a generational divide. Taylor, later, trying to articulate a cultural difference:

What you don’t understand, Richo, is that I had to fight every day for my  
playlunch money while you were handed yours on a silver platter  
(Collingwood v Footscray 250518)

Interaction between the generations is sometimes poorly modelled. Current day commentator Cameron Ling is frequently disrespectful of his older colleagues in a thinly disguised attempt at humour. Older players turned commentators refer to ‘modern’ football, and occasionally compare it to their own playing days, often intimating that the current day player is cossetted.



The 'modern' game is first referred to in AFL commentary in 1997 by commentator Leigh Matthews, an ex-player (1969 – 1985) and coach (1986 – 1995 and 1999 – 2008) of unparalleled standing.

Football commentators, particularly those who have played and coached, are immersed in the world of football so completely that the language they use makes unconscious assumptions. Commentary assumes a knowledge and an understanding, commentators speak to a demographic that shares their own interest, to those who care. Immersion and expression combine to produce an environment uniquely constructed, one into which and out of which the spectator moves voluntarily, but one in which, it appears, the commentator remains rooted.

For the viewer of the televised game, it has been established that sports commentary 'substantially altered perceptions of play' (Bryant et al. 258). Normal play given commentary that emphasised aggression and roughness elicited greater appreciation in tested subjects than aggressive play did if the commentary did not accentuate the violence. The subjects' enjoyment levels of the game are correlated to their perception of aggression. This embellishment may be an attempt to replicate for the viewer the emotional intensity experienced by spectators in the stadium.

**Michael Christian** That's the challenging part of calling football and calling any sport for that matter. If you're not there at the ground the one thing you miss is the atmosphere. And I think if you can somehow get that across to your audience, then you are doing your job (Booth 56).

Comisky et al. in their paper 'Commentary as a Substitute for Action', suggest that commentary is so influential as to precipitate the viewer to "'see' fierce competition where it does not exist' (150). Idealised commentary, words that render a game with meaning disconnected from actuality, nonetheless provides response cues for the viewer. This has been illustrated in the changing responses to physical injury on the field. This may also be seen when the commentary insists an injured player is despairing over the ill-luck that has removed him from the play and who desperately wants to regain the field. The vision often shows a young man in a tracksuit top, sitting on the bench watching his teammates with no sense of urgent anguish, rather exhibiting placid acceptance (*never* evidencing pain). 'It is now the words which, structurally, are parasitic on the image' (Barthes, *Image-Music-Text* 25). When the image seen is at odds with the language spoken, what is heard tends to override what is seen. Moreover, as the commentary suggests, the viewer responds; particularly in relation to emotional intensity. Commentary matters.



## Section 2: Analysis

### Body

My intention in this chapter is to use analysis of the language of commentary responding to incidents of aggressive play and actual injury within 69 transcribed final quarters of games of football, from 1973 through to 2017, to investigate possible changes in the social attitudes of the footballing public framed from a (lapsed) spectator viewpoint. Kinds of changes are attitudes towards violence and injury, the medicalisation and quantification of football, and the changed relationship between the spectator and the game itself. Having access to five decades of games provides clear contrasts between language use and the evolving way in which the spectators are positioned to view football. Although primarily driven to explore differences in language, it soon becomes apparent that the way in which football is televised visually is also very different, prompting many of the changes in commentary. As technology has evolved, the space between the spectator and the player has been eliminated. For example, where once an injured player was seen as a distant figure on the ground, now the camera has the ability to fill the screen with an injured player's face, allowing the spectator to *judge* pain levels for themselves. There is a voyeurism which could be ghoulish yet generates no comment. Raw pain is no longer personal. As technological evolution has changed the ways in which football may be seen by the spectator, the commentary has had to evolve to keep pace with the images it is working with. This has generated a change in the use of language, in the focus of the commentary and in the information absorbed by the spectator. What seems to have slipped notice is the way in which commentary may influence opinion and understanding of things beyond football, even while couched in the very language of football. Attitudes toward racism, sexism, violence and injury have changed within the commentary; sometimes seemingly subconsciously responding to changes in the wider social environment, other times apparently deliberately driven.

In much the same way as words have altered impact over time, so too has public understanding of violence and aggression in sport. Michael Messner, an American sociologist interested in gender and sport, and R W Connell, an Australian sociologist best known for theorising the construction of masculinity, are both influential in defining the concepts of masculinity and aggression/violence used here. It is necessary that separation be made between acts of aggression and instances of violence within the arena of football. They are not one and the same thing. Importance lies in the differentiation of the two, and the understanding of what is legitimate and what is beyond socially accepted parameters. Initially, altered understandings of physical violence will be mapped, but later, the emergence of verbal violence will be also

looked at. Changes in acceptable language have emerged through an altered understanding of what constitutes aggression, violence and *injury*. Messner arrives at the conclusion that

it seems reasonable to simply begin with the assumption that in many of our most popular sports, the achievement of goals (scoring and winning) is predicated on the successful utilization of violence – that is, these are activities in which the human body is routinely turned into a weapon to be used against other bodies, resulting in pain, serious injury, and even death (*Bodies as Weapons* 203).

Bredemeier and Shields, in researching the contextual morality of athletic aggression, define aggression in sport as, without exception, having ‘an intent to injure’ (22) either physically or psychologically. This suggests both that aggression need not be physical, and that injury need not be experienced bodily. They further insist that ‘the label aggression must be applied only cautiously since it is a term loaded with negative moral connotations’ (25). Understandings of aggression as displayed within the commentary of Australian Rules football are instead more an intent to confer advantage through force and hostility rather than to inflict injury; violence is the achievement of injury.

Contact sport such as football provides an arena in which aggression on the part of the players is lauded. The measure of aggression is control. The more aggressive the player, the more control required. It is the control that drives admiration, not the actual aggression. Instances beyond control are differently labelled and experienced as violence. Control over aggression can only be defined by a breaking point, and sometimes breaking point is nothing more serious than the last teabag bursting or an accidental elbow in the ribs. Structurally, this component of the team has been constant throughout the history of the game, each team has always had one or two known aggressors. The measure of stretch is expansion shy of breaking point, the testing of rules is no different. The further they are tested, the more they are defined. In this regard, football seems to have been testing the torque of the human body for quite some time.

The idea of body as weapon, although rarely identified as such, is understood by both player and spectator. Former North Melbourne player now commentator, Wayne Carey, however, articulates the implicit responding to an aggressive, physical passage of play.

You’re a real weapon, aren’t you, when you can, when you can take contested marks like he can and then kick from that distance and kick accurately from that distance, you are a weapon. That’s exactly what you are (2017.1 513).

Carey also implies praise when complimenting an Adelaide player, Josh Jenkins, who is learning how to play football using his body to full capacity (without caution).

...using his body as a big man, coming forward to the footy, using his space...  
he's played like a 6 foot 6, hundred kilo player in the last two weeks and good  
on 'im ...if he can do that, they will be really dangerous, the Crows (Adelaide v  
Western Bulldogs 20170707)

Perhaps more pointedly, as will be shown, there is an objectification of the body in modern football that was not visible in the 1970s and 1980s in the same way. This may be the result of increased focus on injury. Analysis suggests the ways in which commentary refers to injury has changed markedly since the 1970s, which may have had a twofold germination process. Firstly, the provision of replay, in which the injury can be seen to happen repeatedly, often from varying angles and perspectives. Commentary must continue as the same elongated moment is shown again and again. Secondly, public attitudes toward bodies and violence in general have undergone dramatic changes in the broader social community and these changes are reflected in the commentary over time.

By isolating instances of injury within the transcripts, it is possible to see how understandings of violence and responsibility have changed. Analysis suggests the changes in the language of televised football commentary reflect altered understanding and acceptance or rejection of violence. Early broadcasts assume violence as inherent, so natural a part of play as to be unworthy of comment. The concept of responsibility or even of blame for perpetuating violence is non-existent. The culpability of the body is ignored, its measurable ability to withstand punishment is only a litmus test of decisive masculinity. 'The body is virtually assaulted in the name of masculinity and achievement' (Connell 58) and the commentary reports this as exciting, normative behaviour. The way bodily violence is spoken about in football commentary has transitioned from being so natural as to not warrant attention to being a focal point, with attendant physiological and medical understandings implicit. And it should be made clear that my interest is in tracking the shifts in attitudes to violence reflected in the commentary as much as in the violence itself.

What constitutes an injury has also become problematised. Injury can be inflicted verbally, which makes the physical definition of injury potentially impossible. At what point does an act of aggression become injurious? That, it seems, depends on the incalculable variations of a recipient's individual mental attitude and material strength. There can be no single, blanket

definition. The focus of this analysis is the way the words selected by those providing commentary influence, direct and impact the understanding of those listening, implicitly engineering changes in understandings of violence and aggression, of injury and harm.

Throwaway lines in the commentary such as “It’s good to see Todd's bit of aggression like that” (1997.6 246) position aggression positively. “Fremantle aren’t quite as aggressive to the footy as they were just before three-quarter time” (2002.2 279) suggests a diminution in Fremantle’s standing. Aggressive attitude and behaviour are promoted as desirable. Aggression normalised through commentary allows the spectator a level of comfort with acts of violence within the game.

I thought he could have been cleaned up then, Andrew MacNish, not that I’d want to see him cleaned up, but I thought David Dwyer could have gone a bit harder and put him under a lot more pressure (1987.4 158)

Look at Cyril, using his head as a human drill! (20120605)

Hamish McLaughlin, responding to a situation where two competing players have clashed heads at full speed, both knocked flat and one now unconscious, states a fact: “It is a brutal, uncompromising game and it is a reminder just how much danger these players are in every time they play the game” (20140823). When the player retaining consciousness clammers to his feet: “And Firrito stands up. And players and fans applaud from around the country” (20140823). Masculinity celebrated. By merely rising to his feet Firrito is lionised. The moment of *survival* is experienced as the ultimate triumph. Cameron Ling, commentating in 2017, eagerly anticipates physicality, “I’m looking forward to this first five minutes in particular. There’ll be bodies flying everywhere!” (20170429). Ling is more specific as he thrills about increased aggression being shown by the Adelaide Crows in a game against the defending premiers, the Western Bulldogs.

**Cameron Ling** I wanted to see a ruthless edge from the Adelaide Crows, a nearing on, bordering on nasty edge to it and I’ve seen it and I’ve loved it. I loved what Walker’s done, Rory Sloan, Josh Jenkins, it’s been there, just that hard ferocity and that’s what the good teams have (20170707)

As an isolated comment, this is benign. However, the reference to “what Walker’s done,” refers to an incident in which Tex Walker of Adelaide shoved Jason Johannissen, a Bulldogs’ player who was running at full speed, into a goal post. Johannissen’s head snapped against the post

with force, and he lay, stunned, for several minutes before being assisted from the ground. Immediately called as accidental, the players from both sides shaped up for a retaliatory push and shove. The umpire is clearly heard to say, “you can watch it online” to determine intent. The seething mass of players calmed, the game resumed, without Johannissen. Ruthlessness, bordering on the nasty, has been condoned even though it resulted in injury.

The spectator must see and hear what others have decided. To watch football on television is to surrender autonomy and choice, to be restricted to that which is shown. Sometimes the images shown on the screen may not be what the spectator is interested in seeing. For example, occasionally in a closely contested game the camera will focus on the reactions of the coach in the coaching box, rather than the action on the field itself. Because the commentary must describe what the viewer is seeing the coach becomes the subject although the spectator on the couch might prefer to be keeping pace with the ball. Or an injured player may be followed by the camera to the bench. The commentary then must discuss the potential injury, possible treatments, likely outcomes, all taking precious moments away from a game which continues in the background. The introduction of the inset screen has ostensibly allowed the viewer to follow two separate cameras, one perhaps on the coach’s responses and the other on the field of play. However, it remains that commentary itself has changed over the years, and today much of the commentary appears given to instructing the spectator in how to interpret what they are being shown, rather than the mere reportage of games. Beyond this, there is also a barrage of ‘statistical trivia so mindless as to be a parody of sport’ (Booth xv). The spectator recognises the commentator as an authorised speaker thereby on some level accepting messages spoken and implied as valid, even if contestable. However, commentary provides response cues. It is when these response cues are deliberately cultivated that a potential problem arises. The reflection of social changes in commentary is natural. Commentary that actively tries to direct social changes may be problematic.

The rules that govern football have infiltrated the stands and lounge-rooms of those who watch. Football is a game of rules for those on either side of the fence. The existence of rules enable just punishment of those who do not conform via social condemnation, most often through a process of shaming. The importance of rules must not be underestimated. Michael Messner makes a salient differentiation in which the notion of rules is the decisive factor. ‘Aggression is usually not defined by men as ‘violent’ as long as it is rule governed rather than anger induced’ (69). As violence as a concept has emerged on the football field as an entity to be controlled, so has it appeared among those who watch as a behavioural issue that must be contained. The interpretation of violent, harmful behaviour has changed in the stands as well as on the field, and therefore also in the other places where football is watched or listened to, in homes and the

workplace for instance. (A point to which we will return in the chapters Vision and Voice.)

Over time, much about football has changed. The game itself is faster, slicker, harder. This is due to advances in sport science, ground maintenance and the implementation of rules. It also results from the commercialisation of the game into a profitable televisual format, with opportunity for sponsorship and advertising. It may seem the men playing football today have skills and talents their predecessors did not. This is true in the most marginal of ways only. What has improved over time are the conditions and the accessories. Journalist, David Epstein, in questioning ever-improving sporting performances, gives an example of channels at the sides of swimming pools that eliminate splash back of waves caused by movement, ensuring as level a swimming surface as possible (Epstein, Ted Talk). This means the swimmer expends less effort fighting turbulent, choppy water, therefore being able to move faster. The human did not improve, the conditions did. Football's playing fields, once quagmires, dust bowls, tussocky expanses or combinations of all three are now level manicured turf. Presumably players of forty years ago would also run faster and leap higher on such a playing surface. The capabilities of a human body are finite - technology and science can only assist. It would be interesting not only to line up five decades worth of football boots – but the socks as well. There would be as much change in the fabric of the sock as there is in the construction of the boot. Of importance is the fact that human bodies have not improved, rather the methods of utilisation, the training and use of bodies has evolved. A large part of increased athletic ability comes from the support systems of sports science and technology, and from a greater specificity of certain body types for particular roles (Epstein).

It is not clear that a spectator time-frozen in the 1970s would understand some of what a modern spectator knows without realising. Physiological descriptors such as 'hyperextension' have entered the lexicon, replacing now obsolete physical, geographical markers such as 'the gasometer' – a landmark unknown to many today.<sup>11</sup> There are differences in what a spectator was presumed to know then and what a spectator is expected to have an inherent knowledge of now. Noticeably different is the medicalisation of the commentary, the identification of body parts, the injuries and potential treatments. Commentary has moved from seeing a torso, limbs and a head to understanding bones and joints; connectors such as shoulders and hips. Ankles debuted in 1982. Muscles became visible, thighs were acknowledged. Corkies<sup>12</sup> entered the football lexicon in 1992. The use of ice as a treatment is first mentioned in the transcripts in

---

<sup>11</sup> A geographical landmark at the Arden Street home ground of North Melbourne, when football was played in the suburbs of Melbourne, mentioned 12 times in the transcripts.

<sup>12</sup> Corky refers usually to a corked thigh, a common injury in contact sports where the quadricep muscle is crushed against the femur bone of the thigh, resulting in rupturing of the muscle, haemorrhaging and inflammation. (More rarely a buttock, calf or upper arm muscle)



1997. The word ‘hamstring’ does not appear until 2002. Neither does the word ‘groin’, although injuries to both would have occurred throughout the 1970s and earlier. As ligaments and tendons have risen into view, the language has expanded again to accommodate them: medials, adductors, anterior cruciate ligaments – fondly abbreviated to ACLs. However what is clear is that from the perspective of the commentary, historical changes in attitudes toward violence have shifted from romanticism to clinical dissection even, ironically as professionalism has made an impact on the players’ body in a more sustained way.

Damage to a player’s body in the game of football is an accepted risk, acknowledged by those who play. The responses of the commentators and through them, the general population, to injury and hurt has undergone transition within the (relatively) brief history of televised football. As a socio-historical case study, televised commentary provides examples of changes in language and attitude regarding male bodies, violence and privacy. In the following two examples from the 1970s, the commentary ignores the physicality of injury and the possibility of pain or indeed any potential damage to the body of the player involved. The first occurs in the Footscray v St Kilda game, 1973. St Kilda player, Gary Colling is knocked flying as an opposition player charges through. The camera finds him wobbling on his hands and knees, a small crowd of umpires, trainers and players standing around him. He shakes his head and collapsing, rolls onto his back. The commentator, Dick Mason, declares “Salmon went straight through and Colling accepted the challenge” (1973.3 19). A decision is made. The trainers, one on each side, pick him up by the arms, and the player lolls, groggy between them. As the trainers prop him up the dazed player sways between their arms then lurches and kicks the ball. (!) “It’s a short kick. But it’s effective” reports Mason and slings himself back into calling the game (19). The player, Colling, who was far from all right, is not mentioned nor seen again that day. Nor is his replacement announced. Dick Mason dismissed the incident because as he has stated, Colling had accepted a challenge.

The unfortunate Colling was by no means the only player involved in such an occurrence. Rod Osborne, a Collingwood player, had a particularly rough game against Hawthorn. The camera is focussed on Parkin who has kicked the ball. A gasp is heard from the crowd. An incident has occurred beyond the range of the camera, which swings immediately to where a man is lying on the ground, obviously hurt.

**Dick Mason** That’s one of the accidents of football. One of the axioms is, when you’ve got a head of steam up you don’t stop and Matthews had only one intent and that was to spoil that mark. He did. ...That’s one of the accidents of football.

**Thorold Merrett** No malicious intent there, whatsoever.

**Dick Mason** None, whatsoever. (1973.5 30)

Of additional interest here is the fact that the commentators were not watching the same thing as the camera operator. Mason and Merrett have seen what the camera, and therefore the viewing audience, did not. Osborne is compensated with a free kick and play resumes with only a momentary hesitation. Nearly ten minutes later, “Osborne, is down” (1973.5.31). Osborne is seen lying motionless on the ground beyond the area of play, with trainers racing toward him. The ball is kicked, the camera follows, and Osborne is no longer in the frame. Within minutes Mason advises that Leigh Matthews is “...down, but moving.” Thorold Merrett: “Waiting to see if whether he might get a 15-meter penalty, no he’s not. So he’s on his feet, quite bright, quite cheerful...” (32). Osborne and any potential injury are forgotten until Mason later asks “Obviously Osborne has gone off, Thorold, has he? ...I didn’t see Osborne get up from that heavy tackle, that heavy bump. Anyway...” (32). The severity of the second heavy knock sustained is acknowledged but the possibility of harm is incidental. No blame is attributed for either of his flattenings, nor is there any hint of sympathy. Neither is there any suggestion of courage or player ability to absorb and withstand such physical aggression. This is Connell’s unquestioned hegemonic masculinity beamed directly into homes for all to see.

This is not to suggest that aggressive physicality is not *enjoyed*. Physical aggression and potential bodily damage have always been a core element of the game, ‘simply part of the culture of competitiveness’ (East 86). Mason again: “...there was a decent shoulder to shoulder crunch and Hardeman won’t be getting up from that one quite very easily...” (1973.7 44). And on occasion, individual bravery is acknowledged. For example, when Norm Bussell, ‘a tough, hard-hitting defender’ (Holmesby & Main *Encyclopedia* 109) remained on the ground after a ‘physical clash’ (1973.2 11) with Des Tuddenham, ‘one of the toughest competitors ever to pull on a pair of boots’ (Holmesby & Main *Encyclopedia* 799), Thorold Merrett pays homage without hyperbole; “Blood was streaming from his right eye and it has been a courageous effort, I would imagine, for Bussell to remain on the field” (1973.2 11).

What emerges from the analysis is a propensity for certain commentators to enjoy violence more than others. Dick Mason and Bruce McAvaney particularly, appear to relish the clashes, collisions and crunches of football. Neither man played professionally. Contact sport ‘focuses attention on certain ways of being a man and ignores or arouses suspicions about others’ (Braudy xvi) via the commentator’s choice of what to highlight or overlook. Sport, particularly in the absence of war, offers expression of idealised masculinity through regulated violence, physical prowess, endurance of pain and opportunity for honour.

Early broadcasts assume violence as inherent, so natural a part of play as to be unworthy of comment. The concept of responsibility or even of blame is non-existent. Gradually, awareness alters. An example of this transition occurred in the Geelong v Fremantle game at Kardinia Park in May 1997. Minutes into the final quarter Dennis Cometti displays dry wit: “Burns slides backwards into the fence. He’ll feel no pain at the moment though; he’s having one of those days. He’s been alright” (1997.4 197). Burns is a man on fire, pain does not register with him. His focus is the game. However, some minutes later, a young player, Heath Black, is injured. Cometti and Peter McKenna discuss the possibility of the injury being an acromioclavicular (AC) joint in the shoulder, a very painful injury with a long recovery time. Pre-injury status of the shoulder’s movement is never fully regained. Play is stopped and a stretcher called as the 17-year old boy lies on the ground, stunned. McKenna laments the “rotten luck for this promising young player” (199). Pre-golf-cart, a man runs with a stretcher in one hand out to the injured player. Once Black is carried from the ground by half a dozen sturdy men in tracksuits, the commentary swings back to the replay. Everyone needs to understand what happened, and why.

**Dennis Cometti** Just watch how this all happened. Steinfort’s got the ball and the shepherd just 5 meters to the left of Steinfort. Nothing to it, Brownless, a big man coming in hard on the youngster, and Black off the ground. It’s often the way it seems, it’s almost been a lost cause now, down by 41 points but you’ve got to keep your wits about you. The game might be hopeless but you can’t ease off, not saying that Black did, but...

**Peter McKenna** You have to learn Dennis, just not to relax. Now watch this on replay. [Second replay.] Now there it is. He probably didn’t think he’d be handled in such a way by another player when it’s so far from the action, but you just never can relax in a game of football, especially when you’re near the action<sup>13</sup>.

**Dennis Cometti** Especially when there’s not a lot to play for, the game all but done  
(1997.4 226)

Black, it is clear, is responsible for his own injury. He ‘eased off’ and ‘relaxed’ in the final minutes of the match, nowhere near the play, his team soundly beaten. The lesson dealt with ferocity, the image of the boy blinking pain who will never again be so silly as to let his attention wander during a game.

---

<sup>13</sup> Note: although Black was ‘so far from the action’ he was simultaneously ‘near the action’ – all bases covered.

There is a subtext here of the blooding of the young, an accepted initiation of boys to men. Cometti illustrates it clearly with his choice of words, words he had no time to give thought to. "...a big man coming in hard on the youngster..." Here, an act of acceptable physical aggression has resulted in bodily harm, and it is acknowledged – and blame is attributed – to the victim. The recipient of acts of violence either deserve them or earn them. The everydayness of this assumption suggests this view extended beyond the football field and into the wider social strata.

Victim blaming as a concept has its academic generation point in the early 1970s when sociologist William Ryan published *Blaming the Victim*. Ryan suggested that by making victims responsible for their misfortune allows a justification of, and also a distancing from, the suffering of the innocent. For example, it is the fault of the poor that they are poor, via mismanagement of income, effort and/or opportunity. Another example would be that a sexual assault victim may have foolishly been alone, or in an unsafe place, or even be wearing clothes that invited trouble. The 'provocation' defence is no longer applicable in relation to domestic violence or assaults. Since the laws regarding murder were 'substantially altered in 2014' extreme provocation may be allowed only as a partial defence, reducing the charge from murder to manslaughter ([gotocourt.com.au/criminal-law/nsw/the-defence-of-provocation](http://gotocourt.com.au/criminal-law/nsw/the-defence-of-provocation)). "S/he asked for it" is no longer a feasible excuse for battering, maiming or murdering.

Indeed, the concept of victim blaming was understood far more broadly than justifying away the poor and the beaten. This is built upon Canadian sociologist Melvil Lerner's work on his 'Just World Hypothesis' in the 1960s where he postulates that a belief in a morally fair world is used to rationalise the suffering of others. There is a strong correlation with religiosity with this thinking, where the world is perceived as one in which good things happen to good people and conversely bad people are beset with trials and tribulations. Mental illnesses, homosexuality and physical disabilities could be thus accommodated as evidence of moral defect, perhaps in the bloodline, hence stigma and taboo, which have taken decades of concerted public education campaigns to reduce.

So, the response to young Heath Black's injury is one constructed on a conventional understanding of the victim's responsibility. Throughout the early commentary are references to players 'hurting themselves'. They are rarely hurt by others, but almost exclusively hurt themselves, either by landing awkwardly, misjudging a contest, relaxing their guard, or merely being inexperienced. Those who are harmed have, through their own action/inaction, not prevented the injury and are therefore personally responsible. This type of injury is acceptable

because it was self-inflicted. It becomes not injury per se, but misfortune, and this view is in evidence for at least 35 years.

He's definitely hurt his leg (1973.2 p 24)  
Umpire Della's hurt his shoulder (1973.8 p53)  
He's hurt himself as he came down (1973.12 p72)  
Hurt himself too, knee injury (1973.14 p82)  
He must have hurt himself (1982.1 p110)  
It appears as though he's hurt an ankle (1982.1 p111)  
There's Duckworth, obviously hurt his arm (1982.2 p117)  
Teasdale looking as though he hurt his knee (1982.2 p119)  
Actually, he's hurt himself that time (1987.1 p121)  
Strooper, hurting himself at the back (1992.1 p150)  
Crow's hurt his shoulder again (1997.2 p185)  
I think he hurt himself, in a collision with Ben Doolan (1997.3 p 193)  
Selwood hurt himself, in that previous contest. (2007.4 p359)

In 1993 Carlton's Greg 'Diesel' Williams is seen to be shaking his fist in disgust at an umpire, clearly believing he was denied a free kick. Something has occurred behind play, beyond the camera. Commentator Sandy Roberts introduces a replay of the incident with "Let's see what happened to Williams." Williams is shown standing on the field with an Essendon player bearing down on him. The Essendon player locks his forearm to the back of Williams' neck and shoves him face-first to the ground. Roberts continues: "He [Williams] runs into a bit of trouble, but he's okay" (19930904). Although something has '*happened to*' Williams, it is a virtually stationary Williams, blindsided with aggression from behind, who '*runs into*' trouble. Roberts was able to replay vision that had been filmed separately and simultaneously to that already shown, footage that had not yet been seen. This provision of additional information, available almost instantly was an option that Mason and Merrett did not have in 1973.

It takes another decade for an understanding of perpetration and responsibility to surface. In 2007 an injury to one player, Kane Cornes, is caused by another player, Byron Pickett. There is no suggestion that Cornes was responsible in any way for what happened to him: Pickett is clearly labelled perpetrator. Again, a stretcher is used, the neck immobilised, the golf-cart makes its debut in the transcripts. As Cornes is wheeled away his teammate and brother, Chad, runs to his side in a show of support, then returns to the huddle bristling "like a[n]... evangelist, talking to his teammates" (2007.4 398) It is almost possible to hear Bruce McAvaney smacking his lips and rubbing his hands as he thrills "How hot's this footy gunna be, you reckon?"

(2007.4 398), now there is a score to settle. Bryon Pickett does not look happy, standing alone outside the cluster of players. Pickett is later described in another player's biography as having 'deservedly won the Norm Smith Medal<sup>14</sup> for his performances that included skill, courage and toughness in equal measure' (Brown 205). Here, however, he does not look like a man pleased with the results of his actions. The tackle was dangerous, it was controversial, but at the time it was legal (it has since been banned). However, in 2007, Pickett "known for his aggressiveness" (2007.4 398) was playing hard footy, with unfortunate results. It is obvious he was an early recipient of the duty of care concept – one that was bubbling into existence. Suddenly there are parameters to the violence, especially when not self-inflicted<sup>15</sup>.

The narrative, the story being told by those in positions of authority, is a vital accompaniment to the images. The way in which the commentators react to specific incidents of exemplary play, injury or violence contributes to the way in which the spectator understands. When Dick Mason asks with exasperation "What is Umpire Lyons giving that free kick for? The ball, in my opinion..." (1973.3 19) it is against Mason's opinion that the listener shapes an opinion of their own, however tenuous it may be. The listener must form a thought that either agrees with or contests that of Mason. By the time the young and inexperienced Black relaxed and paid the price (1997.4 199), the commentary is more instructive, leading opinion in a particular direction. Byron Pickett never stood a chance, the commentary painted him guilty, 'given his record' (2007.4 345) and the listener, the spectator is positioned to agree. It is possible to see how acts of physical aggression move from being so normal as to be unremarkable, to being the fault of the recipient, to then becoming the responsibility of the aggressor.

If we use the examples given above of Collings, Black and Cornes, it is clear that the manner in which the viewer is exposed to the images changes dramatically in each. Blurry black and white images, filmed at a distance, show Collings collapsing to the grass and then being held upright to perform his duty. His miniaturised body belongs inside the grainy world of television. With improvement in technology, Black is homed in on by the cameras, his pain writ large on his clearly visible face. General body language has become intimate facial expression. Black is seen by spectators as though they are physically close to him, *inside* the boundary fence. The prostrate body of Cornes is visually unstimulating – completely unconscious; but Pickett, sullen, uncomfortable, and *guilty* (afraid?) is a veritable visual feast, as is Cornes' bristling (self-righteously aggressive?) brother. As the number of cameras being used and the sophistication of the equipment and technology has advanced, the viewer is not only provided with replays from

---

<sup>14</sup> The Norm Smith Medal is awarded to the best player in a Grand Final

<sup>15</sup> There is a single line reference to this incident in *The Footy Almanac 2007*: 'As if summoned by Alfred Hitchcock, seagulls circled as Kane Cornes was driven off on a stretcher after a Pickett tackle' (121).

multiple angles but is also brought closer to the injured player. The closer the viewer gets to the injured player, the more connection there is, the more words must be applied to accompany the images resulting in acknowledgement of both body and pain. Thought, response, reaction is provoked through repeated viewings of both the incident itself and the resultant raw pain and is verbalised. In each of these three examples, an injury has occurred, and is acknowledged as an injury.

While Dick Mason relished violence as integral to the game and appeared unmoved by injury, in the 1970s Ken Dakin and Doug Heywood revered the battle aspects of football, those involving courage and grit. Working together, their commentary is laden with the joy of physical competition. During the Melbourne-North Melbourne game (1973.6), for example, the language of battle is distinct, and it is the attacking aspect they most enjoy. The frequent use of the words ‘attack’, ‘fight’ and ‘battle’ to describe action in a tight, contested time frame normalises the concepts of violence: in this one quarter, these words are used 43 times. While the match itself is referred to as “a tough, bruising sort of game” (35) there are no actual injuries incurred during this quarter, although one player is “labouring under a leg injury” (35) sustained earlier. However, lest the perspective be skewed, it is important to point out that the language of combat is presented in terms of pleasure and praise. If the word ‘good’ is used as a baseline positive descriptor, used 25 times, and recognising upgrades on this – great (14 times), brilliant (7) and magnificent (5); positive descriptors outnumber words of war. ‘Love’ even makes three appearances, ‘beautiful’ and ‘beautifully’ two each. Many times, praise is used to enhance appreciation of acts of violence as well as displays of skill.

In comes Callery, Callery can’t pick it up, he battles for it does it well, goes for the run and boots Melbourne into attack (37)

Bourke, Melbourne’s best player, boots them into attack with a good 55-meter kick (38)

Wells comes in to Greig, and brilliantly done Wells, this tenacious, battling fearless player takes it over the line out of bounds. (39)

He loves to fly, loves the big ride on the back and uh that was a tremendous mark and broke up a promising looking North Melbourne attack. (39)

Wade well played, fights it with him, down to the ground and Wadey won’t give up (40)

My word what a great player this Wells is, he’s never beaten, he’s tireless and uh never gives up. He’s a great tactician as well. (44)

Attacking, being attacked, defending and protecting are all components of the game. The ball is

hit, the players are hit, the goalposts are hit. Sometimes even the umpires are hit. Football *requires* bruising. This has not changed. Deriding the want of effort during a lacklustre game in 2007 a commentator sneers: “They wouldn’t have a bruise out there tonight, seriously, they wouldn’t bruise a grape” (2007.8 408).

Largely, in the transcripts of 1973 there is little point verbalising individual courage or bravery because the tenor of the commentary is one of admiration for such traits. Embedded in the positive language of commentary, a language which favours enjoyment of the game, is a reverence and appreciation of boldness and valour. Losses are not failures if they have been hard fought - there can be dignity in defeat. This preferences strength and determination. Courageous football is acknowledged, desperation of effort, refusal to give up.

Kevin Murray, defends grimly (1973.1 7)

Scott, a tower of strength (1973.2 11)

Don Scott, the rugged Scott, defeats all and sundry. Martello, who is equally rugged... (1973.2 12)

Leon Rice, who refused to let Kevin Morris beat him (1973.4 25)

this tenacious, battling fearless player (1973.6 35)

What a great little trier this fellow is (1973.6 38)

Replay has altered commentary, without doubt, and not only in respect to violence or injury. Spectacular marks and miracle goals are also shown in replay, and the commentary must again accompany repeated showings of a single moment, this time focussing on physical prowess. Where once a single comment may have been made there is now room, even necessity, for multiple expressions over the one incident. Having a team of as many as six commentators negates any laboriousness – each may enthuse individually, rather than a pair of commentators having to comment many times each on the one action. In 1973 a spectacular mark is called:

**Doug Hayward** ...Ross Brewer. Brewer!

**Ken Dakin** Oh what a mark, Doug, oh what a mark!

**Doug Hayward** What a soaring leap by Ross Brewer. (1973.6 38)

Without the facility of replay, the mark is reported with great excitement and the commentary is then immediately compelled to follow the play.

Conversely, modern commentary, while lauding courage and composure and quick to acknowledge what they call ‘clever play’, has an undercurrent less joyous and more critical. It



appears that the limits of the human body are no longer finite; missed marks and bad kicks are mistakes rather than attempts at the impossible. Australian Rules football is unique in many ways, not least because the body is required to perform, regularly, actions that human bodies are not designed to perform. In the 1970s ‘can’t’ was beyond the limit of expectation – if a player ‘can’t take the mark’ it was likely it was an impossible mark to take. Around the turn of this century, the hypothetical began to influence thinking and the phrase ‘can’t take the mark’ began to imply a lack on the behalf of the player. There may have been a different outcome had the player responded in another way. Australian researcher, Dr Margaret Lindley, musing the complexities of gendered (female) appreciation of football, is succinct. The joy of football has always been that it ‘provides images of extraordinary grace and beauty as well as ferocity and determination’ (Lindley 65). No other sporting code, other than gymnastics, requires such a range of physical skills (65), especially not when meshed with iron clad mental composure, as it is now. It is ‘dangerously, beautifully wild – rollicking, rolling, airborne, swerving, twisting’ (65). Yet there has been a slow creep of reference to ‘almost’ – the mark ‘nearly’ taken, which devalues the moment. The tantalising possibility not yet realised but surely, humanly possible, has begun to flower. Almost is so close to achievement, just a little further stretch or spring... It appears possible that domesticating the ‘wild’ of football into a professionalised sport is an attempt to legislate and train the limits of human ability beyond reasonable expectation, resulting in a form of body abuse hitherto unseen.

In the 2017 Carlton and Sydney game, half-way through the third quarter, Gary Rohan flies to take a mark. Landing with his full body weight on his neck he is completely unconscious by the time his legs hit the ground. Play is stopped for seven minutes. Eight medical staff, the medivac cart and driver attend his prone body, and the commentary lauds the “excellent medical staff ... you can see how careful they are” (20170429). Rohan does not regain consciousness between the incident and being removed from the ground. The vision of his landing is repeated four times in rapid succession, twice from one angle, then from two different perspectives, the sickening impact on his neck, the utter absence of signs of life. The speed of the incident, the speed of the replay itself is strangely juxtaposed as the footage is slowed allowing horrified viewers to track and register, to *anticipate* the moment of impact. Twice more the leap and ill-fated landing are shown, six times in total. These uses of patterns in quick succession and their discussion as words indicate a sense of the valuing of the narrowing of focus. There is something voyeuristic and inappropriately intimate in being able to see Rohan’s stilled eyelashes while he is so nakedly vulnerable and unaware. He is denied privacy in an intensely personal moment.

Later, in the fourth quarter, Cameron Mooney reports from the boundary line:

Gary is awake and talking and has full range of movement. But is having scans as a precaution. We'll update further post-match but looks like he's okay which is a great relief. (2017.3 530)

What is silently acknowledged is that Rohan may not have woken with the facilities of speech and movement. Rohan's injury is Rohan's responsibility. He landed awkwardly. Rohan is fearless. He has attempted with his body that which his body is not designed to do. His leap for the ball is proof of his total disregard for his own body, a disregard that is fundamental to the standing of players<sup>16</sup>.

As the pace of the game increases and earnings escalate, injuries become more frequent and spectators are conditioned into accepting as normal these physical abuses. The wounded are applauded as they are removed from the field, on battery operated motor-carts rather than a horse-drawn wooden-wheeled wagon. Rohan did not register the applause, but will appreciate it later, when watching the replay. The high visibility of the lolly-pink clad attendant medical staff is part of the performance art. The heavy emphasis on the excellence of the medical care provided, reinforced by the commentary, reassures spectators that the injured are given the best of care. Footballers willingly play football fully aware of the potential consequences. They accept the risk, as Dick Mason implied so long ago.

When violence was inherent there was no language with which to address it. As it has become visible, an entire lexicon has sprung to accompany it. The fact that 'descriptions are necessarily ordered by the present state of knowledge' (Foucault, *Archaeology of Knowledge* 5) prompts the question of where along a given timeline the current state of knowledge may be. Stylised violence is enacted in the arena of sport, accompanied by the roar of the crowd. Repeated depictions of injury to the same site – multiple injuries to the same ankle, repeated dislocations of the same shoulder - result in an increased medical and physiological vocabulary and understanding in the spectator. Familiarity with injuries and their treatments lessens apprehension.

**David King** ...It looked like a medial to me, it didn't look like the full blown AC which looked to be great news at this early stage.

**Eddie McGuire** let's hope so, as Johnno said, it seemed to be, the ankle went first, and then the knee, so hopefully between the two absorbed enough of it

---

<sup>16</sup> Rohan missed the following two rounds before resuming his place in the team and continuing to play as fearlessly as ever.

(2012.2 421)

The injury is discussed as though divorced from the body of the player. ‘A’ medial, ‘the’ ankle, ‘the’ knee objectifies the body parts, disconnecting them from the physicality of the body. It is not so much ‘his’ ankle or ‘his’ knee, belonging to him, but rather a universal, self-contained entity that is disadvantaging its carrier. The inference is that the knee has hurt the player, rather than the player has hurt his knee. This reversal of understanding is often perceived by the injured player ‘as a form of bodily betrayal’ (Young et al. 185). This is a long way from the insinuation that the player has hurt himself as evidenced earlier. Accountability is removed from the individual and applied instead anatomically. David King uses a medical shorthand, ‘medial’ and ‘AC’ to describe the injury and it is the older man, Eddie McGuire, who parses it back to an ankle and a knee. Commentary is instrumental in the acclimatisation of the spectator to the increasing number of injuries and familiarisation with the attendant medical language.

Assisting in this transferral of responsibility is a perceived separation from the body and the self. Television viewers are often shown vision of players receiving treatment at the sidelines. It is now common to see a player jog from the ground, flop to his stomach and drink from a water bottle while keeping a keen eye on the play, seemingly oblivious to the two people kneeling behind him, briskly tending to his thighs. In 2017 no comment is warranted when a physio carefully tucks the player’s shorts higher to protect them from lubricant. The physio drops unguent on the naked thigh and with open hand, caresses the muscle. Perception of appropriate male behaviour is being adjusted without a word being said.

There seems, however, a confusion blending pain tolerance with bravery. Bravery is what permits the player to stand his ground, to use his body knowing full well the price will be physical hurt, perhaps even actual bodily damage. Here, bravery is taking the risk, accepting the unpleasant consequences for the good of the team. Conceptually, bravery (mental) offers up the body (physical) as proof of its existence. The players themselves appear to understand this not so much as bravery, but rather, as a ‘hardness’. This hardness is what prevents flinching in the face of certain physical harm, an overriding of naturally hardwired inclinations toward self-protection. The opposite of hardness can only be softness – and there is no room on a football field for softness. In a television interview in 2012, former North Melbourne player Glenn Archer (1992 – 2007), is introduced by Mike Sheahan: “In his 311 games, Archer rarely, if ever, gave his own safety a second thought in his quest for the ball or the man who had it in his possession” (Sheahan, 25). With the last question of the interview, which has ranged over some professional and some very personal areas, Sheahan commends Archer’s ‘hardness’ and asks if he is “worried about the hardness of the modern game?” (35).

**Glenn Archer:** ...people get confused with what hardness is. They think having a punch-on is hard. My son can go punch someone in the face. That's easy, but, put a ball down there with Jonathan Brown coming the other way and you've got to put your head over it – that's hardness (35).

Of understated importance is the implication that the temporal space allocated to the 'game' requires a suspension 'cognitively and emotionally from the instrumental concerns that permeate most of our existence' (Bredemeier and Shields 16). Games are temporally finite, played in specific locations under strict guidelines. Sport, football in this case, is something permitting, even requiring, 'moral adaptations' (16) from everyday life. This hiatus from 'reality' is responsible for much of the appeal of contact sport – often touted as vicarious relief from overregulated domestic life. 'Many aspects of the sport structure function to release participants from the responsibility of moral decisions' (Bredemeier and Shields 19). This appears applicable to both the footballers themselves, who renounce moral responsibility to their coaches and the rules under which they play, and the spectators, who are legitimately able to temporarily express a full range of intense emotional responses. While moral and ethical codes within the sphere of sport are different to those that operate in everyday life, there does always remain 'a tacit awareness of the beyond the game reality' (Bredemeier and Shields 21) and 'a recognition that game morality is legitimate only to the extent that it does not have serious consequences for nongame reality' (Bredemeier and Shields 24).

Commentary leads listeners to adopt particular attitudes and ethical orientations which in other contexts might challenge the 'legitimacy of traditional morals' (Maffesoli x). There is implicit suggestion that aggression, violence and injury within a sporting context are removed from conventional social understandings of right and wrong, and instead have altered parameters of appropriateness within a sporting context. It is the commentary that allows this understanding to exist by promoting an environment in which shared responses between those speaking and those listening align. The conduit of connection is emotion, no matter where on a scale it registers, from the barest flicker of response through to face-painted, hair-dyed, tattooed obsession. This is a deliciously ambivalent juxtaposition because hegemonic masculinity, upon which most understandings of Australian rules football are predicated, is traditionally grounded in emotional detachment and competitiveness. Australian Rules football through its deliberate policies of inclusiveness, provides a unique cultural arena for expression of communal ethics. 'The ritual perpetuates itself, and through the variety of routine or everyday gestures the community is reminded that it is a whole' (Maffesoli 17). Nonetheless emotional responses are manipulated, or managed. If an emotional response is triggered in the spectator, the commentator then directs

that emotion. If horror at an injury jerks a television viewer upright from being slumped on a couch, the commentary must reduce the impact, normalise the event, a conductor soothing or inciting as deemed appropriate.

Corporeal distress is something that must be endured, absorbed, integrated into the evolving footballer's body. The grim enjoyment of good football played hard occasionally gives way to moments of schoolyard glee. When the commentators laugh at the suffering of a player it trivialises the pain being experienced, reducing it to little more than acceptable collateral damage. This shifts the concept of pain resulting from physical aggression into a different paradigm. As pain becomes acknowledgeable, it must be accorded response, and trivialising it renders it manageable for the viewer.

**Anthony Hudson** Green's come up with a little bit of pain.

**Brad Johnson** He's copped a few whacks today, Josh Green (*laughing*)  
(2017.7 574)

Leigh Matthews, one of only four Australian Rules football players to have been charged by the constabulary with assault during the history of the game<sup>17</sup>, is nonetheless one of the most respected figures in the world of football. Indeed, he is the holder of the 'Footballer of the Century' title. While calling a match between Collingwood and Adelaide in 1997, he laughs as he describes the courage of Peter Caven who stood his ground, resulting in being flattened by Sav Rocca. "You don't want to be standing there when one of the Roccas is coming at you because they do attack the ball hard. Good play by both players - good contest by Rocca, good contest also by Caven" (1997.2 187). Caven was knocked senseless. He knew he was likely to be hurt badly, yet he did not move. 'Lethal' Leigh Matthews, famous for his own brutal brand of football, respected his courage, but laughed at his pain.

In 2002 a young Nick Riewoldt models his potential through his ability to absorb punishment. "He's sore, he's sore Riewoldt, he got clobbered. He's a good kid" (2002.1 234). Being clobbered in a game, which is also a livelihood, is a rite of passage. "Look at him sucking it in, that hurt, well done. That won't go down as any stat. But you see it up here you admire them for it" (235). Watching a young player being relieved of his illusions regarding his own capacity to absorb rough treatment can be amusing. Further, watching this young man being tested physically in an *arena*, as entertainment for a viewing audience, condones his pain. "Still doubled up Riewoldt (*laughing*) oh that hurts" (235). Playing boys with men is a deliberate act

---

<sup>17</sup> Bredemeier and Shields' "contextual morality": the reification of the rules of the game free the participants from the responsibility for moral choices' (Messner 70).

of initiation where no quarter is given, evidenced earlier by young Heath Black (who went on to have a 169-game career). The organised institution of contact sport is a manufactured arena for the testing of masculinity. 'Elaborate and carefully monitored rules bring these bodies into stylised contests with each other' (Connell 54). Sporting prowess encompasses more than inherent ability to perform athletically, it includes also the ability of the body to withstand punishment; the willingness of the mind to allow the body to be used so. For those watching, such passages can be laughed at to lessen discomfort at another's pain.

Physical pain and injury are not always something that can be laughed at. In the transcripts from 2012 a knee injury instantly sobers the crowd.

Everybody's watching Crameri and not the ball at the moment, in the crowd there's stunned silence at the moment...

...a splendid tackle Heppell but still stunned silence here at Etihad Stadium with everybody wondering how bad Stewart Crameri's knee injury is (2012.2 420).

...

Well they'll be looking to next week as well when they play the West Coast Eagles here at Etihad Stadium and that's why there's the silence, one in hope that Crameri's okay, but two, they need their key forward against the West Coast Eagles (421).

Crameri writhing in agony on the grass trips a chain reaction of dismay throughout his team's supporters in the stands, transmitted in turn via the television broadcast to those watching beyond the stadium. The hope that Crameri is okay politely precedes the key issue – an injured Crameri potentially disrupts the entire team's chances of success in the future. Here now is a moment of serious concern about the extent of the injury in relation to its ongoing effect on the team and their chances. Replays are scrutinised, measuring Crameri's reactions in order to make a judgement on the potential outcome. His personal responses to severe pain are public property. The primary value of Crameri as an individual is as a component of the whole. Australian Rules football has long 'promoted the view that the tribe came before personal safety. Supporters endorsed this view' (East 86). This is where the concepts of sport and war coalesce, particularly when looking at history. Physical fitness is no protection against machine gun fire, or mortar blasts. Literally any body will do (Booth 99). The real value in sports, particularly contact team sports, is in mentally equipping participants and spectators with an understanding that it is socially acceptable to use physical violence to achieve a goal. This behaviour is not inherent, but learned in sport; along with unquestioning obedience, underpinned with team concepts of

mateship and sacrifice of self for the common goal. These are the qualities, not physical prowess, that drive men to charge into artillery fire, or to smash their bodies on a playing field. Qualities indeed beyond value.

Repeated vision of the moment of a debilitating injury, such as that of Rohan or the young Bulldogs player who snapped his own leg while running is 'good' television. It made viewers sit up and watch with horror. Then nothing. It was a 'single-serve'<sup>18</sup> incident. Experienced intensely by those watching, then gone, the body removed from the field, and little if any further information forthcoming. There is an undercurrent of disposability.

**David King** he's in a real bad way, Wallis. It could be as bad as a broken leg, this, boys.

**Anthony Hudson** oh

**David King** It's a really bad break. It's an unfortunate set of circumstances but he's in real trouble, boys, he's in real pain. The game will have to stop here

**Anthony Hudson** this is turning into a disastrous night for the Dogs

**Gerard Healy** Yep

**Jason Dunstall** They've called for the stretcher

**Gerard Healy** Oh, they'll hold it up now

**David King** this will be horrible vision. It's a really bad break of the leg here for Mitch Wallis

**Anthony Hudson** oh

**Jason Dunstall** oh, he's actually kicked the back of his leg, hasn't he? With his other foot. He's kicked the back of his left leg with his right foot because of the contact with Savage

**Gerard Healy** it's the Nathan Brown injury of many years ago at the uh Richmond Football Club

**Jason Dunstall** ooh, gee that was bad

**Gerard Healy** Chris Newman did the same thing. It's a horrible injury

**Jason Dunstall** the foot just went floppy, didn't it?

**Anthony Hudson** it did. That is exactly the horrible description that we saw (20160723)

In 2016 the Western Bulldogs had a season plagued with injury. Almost every game resulted in a player being removed from the ground with an injury that would sideline him for not only that

---

<sup>18</sup> *Fight Club*, Chuck Palahnuik, 1996

game, but often the following week or longer. In the Round 14 match against St Kilda the commentators struggled to maintain composure when 23-year-old Mitch Wallis broke his leg. This happened shortly after another Bulldogs' player, Redpath, had been injured and was seen to be "punching the turf" in pain. Gerard Healy attempts to familiarise the Wallis injury by connecting it to other players. He acknowledges the injury as "horrible" but quickly names players who have suffered and survived similar damage. Wallis, however, submits to his agony. The "horrible vision" is repeated. The innocuous description "the foot just went floppy" is credited as being adequately horrible, because at the next replay the spectator had eyes only for Wallis' foot, which indeed, flopped.

David King identifies 'real pain'. Earlier Redpath was also said to be "in real pain" and "in incredible pain". These are evaluative statements. It is the stopping of the game, the calling for the stretcher that emphasises and underlines the extent of the pain being suffered, and the seriousness of the injury. Redpath was helped from the ground, grimacing. A screaming Wallis is strapped to a stretcher and driven away to applause with "supporters of both sides wishing him all the best, trying to encourage him" (2016), 'a conditioned response to a conditional stimulus of a specific situation' (Eiser 131).

In most such cases, the injured player is loaded into an ambulance and removed from the premises. A brief statement is made after the game, and the incident, such as that of Heath Black or Gary Rohan, experienced intensely, is not mentioned again. With Mitch Wallis, that did not happen. He left the ground approximately 12 minutes before the final siren. When the players returned to the rooms Wallis was still there, screaming in agony. This created a situation of 'experiential blindness' – no prior experience matching this had been experienced by the playing group before – new information was being received and having to be processed. Brains, according to psychologist Lisa Feldman Barrett in a Ted Talk, do not react. Rather brains predict and construct meaning based on previous similar experiences. If no correlating experiences are found by a brain searching to make sense of a situation, a new emotional response is constructed. Distraught players and staff were crying. Distressed sport journalists were using words such as 'heartbreaking', 'haunting', and 'weeping uncontrollably'<sup>19</sup>.

The courage required by the modern-day player to stand his ground, or to commit to action that will result in being hurt, is simultaneously revered and expected. Whenever possible, the player is patched, sometimes stitched, sometimes injected with painkillers and returned. Barry Hall

---

<sup>19</sup><https://www.google.com.au/search?q=mitch+wallis+injury&oq=mitch+wallis+injury&aqs=chrome..69i57j0.5334j0j8&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8>



reports matter-of-factly that a player is “going down to get his eye stitched, he shouldn’t be too long, just getting his eye stitched” (20140419). Stitched, mopped, and bandaged, the player is returned to the field, unlike his predecessor who remained on-field with blood “streaming from his right eye” (1973.2 11). The introduction of the ‘blood rule<sup>20</sup>’ dictated any bleeding player must be immediately removed from the field unable to return until all traces of blood have been removed. This involves replacement of clothing, and the wrapping and bandaging of the bleeding body part. The blood rule is first mentioned in the transcripts in 1997 (1997.4 226). The drawing of blood is incidental, an inconvenience; in 2015 each time a player left the field bleeding, a Blood Bank advertisement ran along the bottom of the television screen: GIVING BLOOD FEELS GOOD. Bleeding is not a cause for concern, the presence of blood is an indicator of a donation, a gift of self for others, a red badge of courage and selflessness.

Bandaged players are accorded no concessions but rather attract intensified aggression. In 2012 the commentators laugh when Jonathan Brown deliberately makes contact with an obviously strapped shoulder.

**David King** He’s already got a damaged left shoulder as it is and I think Brownie’s just tested to see if it’s still functional at the moment, (*laughing*)  
**Dwayne Russell** There’s strapping on it  
**Dermott Brereton** There’s a target.  
(2012.2 425)

Mike Sheahan interviewing Steven Baker of St Kilda, renowned tagger with a penchant for stretching the rules, questions the ‘morality’ of targeting already injured players.

**Steven Baker** ... I thought, it was just a bit of playful fun, trying to break his hand even more, then he got me a ripper at the end. That was probably one of the best I’ve copped in my 12 years.

**Mike Sheahan** What do you think now about the morality, for want of a better word, about targeting a players’ injury in a game? Have you got any qualms about that?

**Steven Baker** Well, obviously, I think it’s okay

**Mike Sheahan** but you did at the time. I’m talking now, reflectively

**Steven Baker** No, I think if you’re on the ground, you know you’re a target and you should be targeted if you’ve got an injury. It’s a man’s game, I’ve said it’s

---

<sup>20</sup> Introduced in the 1980s as a protective measure in response to the HIV epidemic.

been getting soft over the last four or five years (Sheahan 41)

Two stories spring to mind about players deliberately bandaging the ‘wrong’ limb in order to protect the injured one. Most recently, in 2016, television viewers watched as Lin Jong of Footscray wrapped his good shoulder to draw focus away from his injured one, determined to prove his match fitness and qualify to play in a final. As expected, his opponent gave the bandaged shoulder a hefty bump which did little harm to Jong, but instigated a retaliatory brawl.

**Eddie McGuire** Yeah, the old bandage is a giveaway. Charlie Sutton in the uh grand final had a bad thigh, he wrapped up the other one, because he knew they’d be trying to hit him, back in ‘54. (*laughing*) (2012.2 425)

Jong was said to be ‘channelling Charlie Sutton’, also a Footscray player, who famously bandaged his good leg in the 1954 Grand Final, thereby eliminating what the opposition may have seen as a weakness. His ploy also ensured his name would echo through the ages at irregular intervals.

Inadvertently, the return of bandaged players to the field adds to the psychological threat for the opposition. Given that many players begin with their bodies protectively strapped against further injury, modern games often end with what looks like a group of unravelling mummies coming from the ground. On occasion, trailing bandaging or wrapping can provide amusement.

**Eddie McGuire** What’s hangin’ off Goose?

**Dermott Brereton** Oh (*laughing*) it’s his strapping,

**Eddie McGuire** Ball comes out the back to Polec. Rockliff, Rich,

**Dermott Brereton** surely Goose McGuire doesn’t travel that quick he leaves a vapour trail?

(*Laughing*)

**Eddie McGuire** is that, oh, here we go, there’s a vapour trail, Davey, if he can get going he’ll leave one (2012.2 422)

Connell and Messner have both convincingly suggested that many ex-athletes suffer ‘damaged bodies and chronic pain’ (Connell 58, Messner 71). A modern example would be Jonathan Brown, ex Brisbane Lion (256 games) renowned for his courage which sometimes bordered on recklessness. Moving from the playing field to the media, he now commentates and is a member of television football panel shows. Whatever else he may have been, Jonathan Brown was a boy who loved to play football. He finished his career with his right leg shorter than his left,

changing his gait and eventually causing long term problems with his hips, groin and core muscles. He admits in his biography that he has ‘15 plates and 64 screws in my face’ (Brown 294). He has suffered effects of broken bones and multiple concussions. After retiring (reluctantly) he acknowledges that

Those September [finals] campaigns between 2001 and 2004 were brutal, and a lot of the boys never really recovered from them. We did a lot of damage to ourselves by playing hurt. But none of us would change it for the world (219).

Brown’s reference to ‘September campaigns’ utilises military language – the language of war. He uses the words ‘brutal’, ‘damage’ and ‘hurt’ to describe ‘playing’.

One commentator, Cameron Ling has a morbid fascination with injuries and the potential treatment possibilities. Ling played 246 games with Geelong Football Club, winning best and fairest in 2004 after being runner up twice. In 2017 Ling, while commentating, acknowledges changes in the treatment of injured players. Liberatore has been taken from the ground after a (legal) tackle that left him concussed.

...it shows how far the game has come. ... Go back ten years, Libba’d go back on the ground, this game’s in the balance, it’s a huge game. Libba would go back and take the field. Great to see the doctors now have the players’ best interests at heart – don’t let them back on. (2017.1 515)

On a world scale, Australian Rules football players do not comparatively earn a lot of money. Some of them are paid handsomely, but they do not earn anywhere near the salaries or bonuses of professional athletes internationally. However, within Australia, their incomes are enviable to many and combined with elevated social standing, ensures the ready supply of bodies, young, fit and willing, anxious to offer themselves physically to the game. Very well-paid athletes who are prepared to sacrifice their bodies, who refuse to give up, hold the viewer to the concept of focus. It appears perhaps by being made aware and focussing, the reality of what is being seen slips into that blurry area beyond the point of focus. Are these young men being paid a fair price for the damage to their body parts? What price a body? That’s what salary caps are for – clubs are lawfully restrained from purchasing bodies. The minds within those bodies must be convinced, there is something so far beyond money for which the body must be pushed beyond its design limitations.

## Mind

While bodies have risen into view through the commentary, the mind is experiencing an emergence of its own. This chapter maps the gradual surfacing of the mind, the mental, which can be physically tracked through the transcripts by changes in use of language, the choice of words introduced and those discarded, and identifying the altered implications of some of the words that remain. Mind is rising through the commentary to work in tandem with the body, however, mind is currently viewed as ‘soft’, where the body is ‘hard’. In acknowledging that meaning is produced through the language of football commentary, and that the harnessing of the mind has blossomed as an acquirable skill, a good starting point is use of the word ‘think’. ‘Think’ was used 107 times in the transcripts of final quarters from 1973, an average of 6.29 times a quarter, increasing to 15.93 times per quarter, by 2017. ‘Thought’ is used 27 times in 1973, increasing to 45 times by 2017. Close reading of the transcripts shows how representations of ‘thinking’ itself has changed within the commentary over the time span.

Throughout the 1973 transcripts ‘think’ is almost exclusively used in the first person singular to flag uncertainty or to garner opinion.

Wellington I think, no, it was Delahunty (8)

I think he can be excused (12)

...it would be pre-war, I think, if it’s ever happened before (13)

Only three references to ‘think’ are linked with someone other than the commentators themselves. The first appears in the very first paragraph of the transcriptions. It is credited to an unimpressed crowd when Dick Mason deduces from the booing that “North Melbourne supporters don't think much of the display given today by Umpire Robinson” (1973.1 1). The second is when Mason congratulates North Melbourne’s Arnold Briedis for his “good thinking” (1973.1 5) and the third is Mason again when he admits bafflement: “I don't know why people think it’s such a great sin that uh it is determined to be” (1973.8 54). Each other use of ‘think’ is directly tied to either the person speaking, as in ‘I think’ or ‘I don’t think’; or to the commentator sharing the call. Mason again: “Be better Thorold, don’t you think, to come straight up the centre?” (1973.1 2).

It is not until 1987 that a commentator, Peter McKenna, presumes to know what a player is

thinking. McKenna, who played in the VFL between 1965 and 1977, is described as having been ‘the most popular footballer in Australia with a following to rival that of a pop star’ (Holmesby and Main *Encyclopedia* 525). Drawing on his experience as both a respected player and trusted commentator, McKenna translates for the spectator the player’s response to the umpire’s call via his body language. “Look at Annear, and he’s not happy with that decision, he sort of thinks, he thinks it should have been paid the advantage rule there” (1987.4 163). Here is a convergence point of multiple trains of thought – that of the umpire, the player, and the commentator. The umpire rules against the player’s understanding and the commentator offers the spectator an opportunity to assess for themselves and make a judgement. Alignment with either the umpire or the player becomes then a choice for the listener.

It is around this time that a thinking process is aligned with the group rather than just with an individual. Players become components of a whole. Rupert Betheras (1999 – 2003), a Collingwood player recruited from East Perth, illustrated this from a player perspective when he describes the pleasures of collectivity: ‘The best thing about footy is when the team’s working as one and you become part of something bigger than yourself’ (Flanagan in *Aust. Sports Writing*, 2002, 7). Commentators respond by attributing to teams themselves the capacity for thought.

Maybe they think he can win the match for them, (1987.2 146)  
all of a sudden they think they’re uh half a chance. (2002.7 315)  
are they saving the game or are they thinking attack? (2007.4 367)

In 2017 thought is represented as a process that influences outcomes: “if they think their way through here they might be in” (2017.5 558). Here, combining the ‘if’ and the ‘think’ produces an invitation for composure, identifying an opportunity and implying control of the outcome depends on the calculated responses of those involved. Chance plays no part, it is the thinking processes of the team that will determine success or failure. A successful result will be credited to thought, an unsuccessful one will be attributed to poor thinking. In this way commentary also provides a platform for dissection of the result, either way.

Driving such changes in interpretation are fundamental shifts in perception of play. Early commentary was focussed on chance and time – the remaining number of minutes in the quarters was unknown, there was no clock counting down the final seconds, nobody knew exactly when the final siren would sound. Time was volatile and unknown to player, commentator and spectator alike, creating an environment of anxiety and suspense. Chance on the other hand was available without warning, had to be grasped when the opportunity arose.

Chance was closely tied to luck.

**Lou Richards** Having a bit of bad luck, North Melbourne too, I'll say the luck's running Hawthorn's way a little bit but if you're going to win games you've got to have a bit of luck running for you. ... they say in football you make your own luck (19820501)

Chance, the opportunistic utilisation of luck, was mentioned in commentary on average 13.94 times per final quarter in 1973. Chance is one of the words that has slowly been eroded from the mainstay of football parlance, appearing only 3.56 times per final quarter in 2017. Within the transcripts, the two major losses in language use from the 1970s are those relating to chance and to cleverness. The two major increases have been those of contest and thinking. Detection of this shift in language flags what interdisciplinary scholar James Clifford identified as his primary goal: 'to open space for cultural futures, for the recognition of emergence' (*Predicament of Culture* 15-16). Emergent here is a shift in the politics of action, of the understanding of the principles of the actions selected. This change in the language illustrates not only a shift in the tenor, the general meaning of the words chosen, but also in the very timbre of the language, the distinctive character of what is being conveyed. Autonomy, individual responsibility for choice of action, enters the aura of the game but is not yet articulated.

The connections between the words lost and those gained are interesting. If chance has been replaced by contest, and cleverness with thinking, or if chance has been replaced by thinking and cleverness by contest, what is the difference in the values or assumptions underpinning the commentators' perception of the game? Chance is for the opportunistic, contest is deliberate intent. Cleverness is spontaneous, thinking is induced. Commentary has opened an access point to the intangible. Chance (opportunity) has been replaced by contest (intentional), and cleverness (of response or action) by thinking (the use of the mind). It is now assumed to be an ordinary outcome that professionalization has relocated spontaneity and replaced it with deliberation, and it seems possible that the language of football guided the change. Deliberation is, by definition, intentional recognition and consideration of multiple aspects or outcomes linked inextricably to individual responsibility for an action.

The transcripts of 1973 yield four instances of 'the psychological moment', a phrase that injects a Hitchcockian thrill into an intensely physical passage of play. Dennis Cometti has used the phrase as late as 2016, but all recorded instances in the transcripts are from 1973. Commentators identify the psychological moment as the moment of optimal advantage, the most appropriate

moment for achieving a desired effect. Its use in football commentary appears to be the germ from which the concept of composure sprang. Exploring its use, meaning and subsequent expansion will help illustrate how the discussion of matters mental has become ubiquitous in descriptions in a game of physicality.

A psychological moment is a recognisable spike in awareness in which the most effective action or decision can be made. In football commentary, however, the use of the term usually identifies the moment in which advantage is lost.

the push, or the bump, at the psychological moment, caused the ball to go out on the full. (1973.2 11)

Loses it at the psychological moment and out of play it goes. (1973.9 63)

but Southby arrives at the psychological moment, and he races away with it (1973.14 88)

he slips at the psychological moment (1973.15 101)

Moments of psychological import have not been eliminated or reduced, rather, they have increased and expanded. The magical symmetry of a psychological moment, that glittering point in time when intent has its crystalline perfection shattered, has transformed from a pinpoint of time into deliberately sustained employment of intent. A psychological moment is only observable in its moment of destruction. The heightened focus of cause and effect present in a psychological moment has expanded to become a deliberately contrived mental state, sought after and maintained for extended periods of time. Thus, the achievement of a moment is converted into a discipline, a moment is transformed into a 'zone'. Composure. Managed use of the mind.

Composure is an off-shoot of the psychological moment; it is the ability to rein in the psychological moment, to ride the physicality of danger and remain in control mentally, achieving the desired effect at the critical time for action. One way to achieve composure is to either eliminate or precipitate a range of possibilities; to be prepared for the unexpected or the potential. In contrast to the psychological moment, composure is visible at its moment of being enacted, rather than at its moment of loss.

Show a little bit of composure (2007.7 400)

Just great composure with ball in hand (2012.1 417)

He should have the composure here to work it out (2012.3 434)

Really good composure from the big man (2012.6 464)  
losing balance, didn't lose his composure, (2012.6 467)  
You know, the composure. Everyone's tired, (2012.6 472)  
and then have the composure to kick it on your left foot (2017.1 517)  
Wright was able to show composure (2017.3 531)

Composure is the mastering of the psychological moment, with advantageous results. If the psychological moment is viewed in the same way as the body of a 1970s footballer, it would follow that as bodies moved from trunks and limbs to bones and joints then to muscles, tendons and nerves; psychological moments will also develop from that unseen and unacknowledged into the visible and relevant. The intellect has entered the arena. Or, better: the intellect has always been present, but not visible, and is emerging into view as the new frontier, following the gradual emergence of the body. Identification of 'the psychological moment' opened a gateway to the psyche, allowing words and actions to be seen as harmful and debilitating as torn muscles and broken bones. The body is carrying the mind into view.

One side effect of the maintenance of composure is the prevention, or reduction, of mistakes. The more composure a player has, the more pressure it takes to force an error, or a poor judgement. This pressure is now premeditated as never before. Errors, mistakes, are seen as being forced.

Symmons to swoop on it, force an error, (1997.1 201)  
accelerates right at the last to force the error, terrific work by Farmer, (2002.2 285)  
Great work out on the work there by Carlton, their tackle and their chase and their forced error, and they hit hard, (2002.4 299)

Mindset becomes an identifier of poor performance, mentioned when an unforced error or careless mistake is attributed to sloppy mental preparation. Here, it is the thinking that is being questioned, not the action.

just your mindset's gotta be perfect, a lot of work goes in getting the ball down to you to let it go through your hands like that (1997.8 263)  
Well, one of the issues here for Adelaide is the mindset. (2012.6.472)

Being able to slow down and consider options is key in retaining or establishing control.



Now look for them to just slow things down. (2007.4 371)

Okay, he's decided he's going to take his time (2007.4 374)

Swan, very careful about this approach, they don't wanna rush things.  
(2007.5 377)

Handball after handball. Ends up with Philips. Doesn't get rushed. Doesn't just  
blast away (2017.8 587).

Football is, despite the continued clash of bodies, also a game played with the mind. Pressure may be exerted physically, and it may also be applied mentally. Interestingly, while this allows for recognition of players having feelings, even fragilities, there remains no provision for expression of physical pain resulting from bodily injury beyond an occasional grimace. Feelings are limited to the mental, and intellectual. Feelings of pain from physical damage to body parts remain taboo, a breach of which, such as with the Wallis injury, causes emotional confusion among those who witness it. Men are encouraged to acknowledge pain if it is mental, not if it is physical. Injured players who reject help in leaving the ground, or who refuse to leave the ground, are accorded hero status.

Stories abound of players who have achieved such lofty heights at great personal risk. The 1989 grand final between Hawthorn and Geelong contains two such examples. Hawthorn's coach Allen Jeans commanded his players to "Pay the price - *today!*" (McAvaney 49). His player Dermott Brereton was crash tackled in the opening seconds, and refused to come off, playing the match vomiting in pain from two broken ribs. He nonetheless took a mark and kicked a goal, earning himself hero status. Likewise his teammate, Robert DiPierdomenico, who suffered a punctured lung in a 'heavy knock', hid in the toilets at half time so no one could see him fighting for breath. "As the game went on, my body was starting to inflate like the Michelin man. My voice was going really high. ... I didn't want anyone to see I was crook" (67). DiPierdomenico collapsed at the end of the game and was removed in an ambulance. Pain, felt by the body, is overridden, pushed through, ignored. It is the mind of the player himself that allows this to happen. Both the game and its ravenous public value and reward such displays of mind over body.

In 2013 Jack Ziebell lands awkwardly on a leg that has previously been broken and healed. His pain is clearly visible and impossible to miss – three more times in extreme slow motion, his landing, twisting of his foot, bending of his leg is shown, his face contorted with pain. Staying on the field is no longer an option. The commentators list his previous injuries between exclaiming over the vision. Tim Watson's admiration is palpable: "Well, most blokes would go off on a stretcher, he wants to walk off" (20130911). Assisted from the ground, Ziebell,

Cometti's "tough hombre" (20120911), makes one last effort to help his team.

**Cameron Ling** Talk about toughness. Sorry Bruce. Jack Ziebell on his way to the bench here and he stood up and took that mark. He wants to give it off though (20130911).

It is evidence of pain that is looked for by the camera operators, the commentators and the spectators whenever a physical injury occurs. Judgements are made measuring responses to physical pain. A man may writhe in agony but make no sound. He may wince in pain but not shed tears. Mitch Wallis with his broken leg and his complete submission to the pain he was experiencing required new responses from those who had not been exposed to such expression. There is still a divide between the physical and the mental, a distinct separation between mind and body. A man may cry without damaging his perceived masculinity when he is emotionally overwhelmed; a grand final loss, or retirement at the end of an illustrious career. He may not cry when his bones are broken, muscles are torn or body parts are dislocated. There is a perception of the mend-ability of the physical body that is not shared by the intangible substance-less mind. They are, however, at least on the ground together, if disconnected, and seemingly at odds with each other; particularly given the history of the use of the mind on the field – it has always been a weapon. Mental strength has developed a vulnerable underbelly that has disrupted the equilibrium and upended a fundamental masculine certainty.

Quite separate from the exercise of mental control over the player's own body are the deliberate attempts of players to mentally overpower or undermine their opponents. In football, as in many sports, this has been a method of gaining advantage likely to have been present from inception. In its crudest form this is sledging, the insulting of an opponent in order to distract them from their game. Cricketers are famous for using humour in their sledges. Indeed, the success of a sledge is often judged by its wit, as may be evidenced in a multitude of books dedicated to sporting insults<sup>21</sup>. However, the effectiveness of most sledging is in its ability to distress or discombobulate its target. As such, sledging that vilifies has largely been politicised out of sport, much as bad behaviour and bad language have been generally erased from the crowds.

**Mike Sheahan** Did you work on the principle that you could get in their head, and if you could, good luck?

---

<sup>21</sup> Some examples:

J. Harold, *The Art of Sledging*. St Leonards: Allen & Unwin 2008

Merv Hughes. *Merv Hughes Best Sporting Insults*. Sydney: Allen & Unwin 2010

Gershon Portnoi. *Why Are You So Fat? Cricket's Best Ever Sledges*. London: Simon & Schuster 2010

Michael Winkler. *Kick it to the S#!t House – Great Australian Sporting Quotes*. Camberwell: Penguin. 2012.

**Martin Pike** Yes. And I had a lot of fun doing it, seeing blokes get upset by a few words and it did throw people off their game. (Sheahan 278)

This 'modern' game must meet the requirements as understood of modernity. Bauman says; 'Modernity is about conflict-resolution, and about admitting of no contradictions except conflicts amenable to and awaiting resolution' (*Postmodern Ethics* 8). Post-modern sensibilities identified as political correctness, for example, the idealised elimination of racist sledging, streamline the conditions of contest. As the mind is exposing its propensity for damage, the achievement of mental dominance on the field must also be groomed. The removal of, or the policing to the edge of extinction, extraneous components such as class, race and religion has purified the terms of contest, reducing the 'conflict' or 'competition' to those purely of body and mind.

Michael Voss, player (1992-2006) turned coach (2009-2013), reminiscing on his extraordinarily successful playing years as a three-time premierships captain and Brownlow medallist:

I tended to not only want to play war with their bodies, I wanted to play war with their minds. My strategy was: How do I affect their performance not just physically? How do I hit them hard? And how do I mentally get into their heads? That's where I guess I was different in the way I fought my war (McAvaney, 222).

Perhaps the only real difference from many of his contemporaries is Voss's perception of his own motivation, not necessarily the method by which he battles. Voss wields mental domination like a metaphorical club with which to subdue his opponents; the mind is conquerable in battle and he sets out to dwarf others with sheer determination. Robert Harvey, also a Brownlow medallist, stalwart of the St Kilda Football Club sees it otherwise, more as a balanced contest, a meeting of equals and a testing of individual mental preparation:

We're assuming that everyone at the AFL is now physically well prepared so a lot of it comes down to the mental side of the game. You're hoping that your opponent hasn't done quite as much preparation, and that he might just break before you (McAvaney 94).

The way in which mental dominance is identified in the commentary is oblique, but present. It is present in the 1973 transcripts, even though conceptually it was not recognised as it is today. Commentators acknowledge when one player is 'on top' of another. Another expression in the

vernacular is ‘all over him’, indicating clear positioning of control by one man over another. Not every reference to being ‘on top’ or ‘all over him’ is one of recognition of mental supremacy but, in context, enough of them are to demonstrate a tendency.

Greg intercepts, ahead of Fletcher, he’s starting to get on top of Fletcher (1973.8 53)

Stoneham’s kick to half forward. Ablett though all over him. (1992.3 182)

well certainly, ah, uh, Archer had been on top of Holland (1997.5 234)

Geoff White’s the danger man now. He’s got on top of Ricky Mott (2002.6 314)

I think by this stage Hawkins is now giving up the the [sic] lead because he just knows that Frawley’s all over him. (2012.3 436)

Both expressions clearly place one player above another, suggesting the weaker of the two is under or below. This has nothing to do with material physicality, but with strength of mind and is without doubt defining masculinity as dominant and the weaker, or the dominated as feminine. Domination is performed not with the body but with the mind. This is a major difference in modern football when viewed beside football of fifty years ago, when the ever-present mind was barely visible and rarely acknowledged. The lack of recognition of mental contribution within the language allowed space for arbitrary chance, instead, to rule the commentary.

**Thorold Merrett:** Chance for Wilson along the gasometer wing, Cowton a chance now for North Melbourne ... A chance for Rhodes and uh Smith but neither of them can control it ... (1973.1 3)

Merrett uses chance as a descriptor three times within one brief passage of play, in the first game transcribed. Chance appears within this one game a total of 13 times. In each use it is the *possibility* that is identified, a possibility that has morphed, with the application of mathematics, into statistical evidence. Over time chance has gradually come to be relabelled as intent. Rather than the player availing himself of a chance that arrived serendipitously, he instead uses his agency to ensure his part in the play – no random event, but deliberate intent. Chance becomes ‘work rate’, a touch of the ball becomes a ‘possession’, use of the ball a ‘disposal’, the numbers of which are tallied and charted at the end of each game.

**Matthew Richardson:** Said Tommy Lynch, he averages 21 disposals, well he’s had 21 again today and he’s kicked three goals to go with it. There’s the

contested possessions, 9 to one in this last quarter. We've highlighted that. The least Richmond could do is try and match him in contested possessions (2017.9 561).

Chance, possibility, opportunity have been groomed; domesticated into intent, deliberation and option. Chance is located in the realm of fate, choice is firmly planted in the field of thinking, of deliberation and decision - firmly in the hands of the protagonists. The possibility of having 'options' makes its first appearance in the commentary in 1987. Throughout the 1973 commentary, players have opportunities. Opportunities decrease over time and options expand. Opportunity is singular – a reading of circumstances that allow a window of possibility. Option suggests multiples from which to make a choice. Again, a broadening of an understanding that changes the beginning stance and causes a subtle shift in the construction of ordinary. An opportunity is a chance, an option is a choice. As chance becomes choice options presumably increase. As opportunity becomes optional action, choices appear multiplied. Choice denotes onus; that which was once feather-light assumes the burden of responsibility, the ownership of which can be problematised.

Here is a bold step from reactive to proactive thought. Football as a contained microcosm illustrates this movement from fate (chance) to choice (thinking). Movements toward choice lead necessarily to an increase in personal responsibility. Fate is provided by outside forces, beyond control. Choice is an internal decision, a 'modern' right of autonomy. As chance fell by the wayside the transcripts provide interesting evidence of the emergence of the mental. For example, where in the 1970s the commentators may ask "will he?" the question now, asked twice as often, is "can he?". Here the ability to choose extends into a question of willingness to test personal capabilities both physical and mental. "Will he?" is questioning the players' capacity to make a choice. "Can he?" is querying his ability to achieve the attempt. Gary Lyon, former captain of Melbourne Football Club and veteran of 226 professional games, is now providing special comments for television broadcasts, and appearing on panel shows. In 2018 he is succinct: "It's not a game to make young men feel comfortable, it is to ask a question of them" (Essendon v Melbourne 290418). The question appears to be 'what is a body capable of?'

Bourke will come to it, will he get to it first (1973.6 40)

will he be allowed to play on? (1973.9 64)

McKenna should of got the free kick there, will he get it? (1973.15 98)

Hall, can he get it to Goodes? (2007.4 369)

to Djerrkura, can he, ball coming back. (2012.1 416)  
Can he do a Patton? (2012.1 494)  
So, can he hit it sweet? (2017.7 550)  
Can he put them into a better place? (2017.7 544)

‘Will he?’ tacitly assumes achievability, at the very least, ownership of the choice made to either accept or reject the available options. ‘Can he?’ introduces the notion of failure, but it also fragments the binary of yes and no into a multitude of possibilities, some of which involve success. The psychological moment for the *spectator* is then expanded exponentially. ‘Will he?’ may be answered with either yes or no. Either he will or he won’t. Here, the question is asked of a concrete situation, the response a concrete expectation. ‘Can he?’, however, is a different question all together. To ask if he can is to question possibility, so the options available expand dramatically; this is the hypothetical being taken seriously. This is not answerable based on logic and fact, this is answerable using abstract considerations, by applying reasoning to the potential. When the commentators asks ‘can he?’ the listener is asked to assess, analyse and predict. Anticipation and expectation are generated because consideration is given to the player’s physicality, the ability of his body to respond to a specific situation, the state of play, the weather conditions, his personal history and presumed mindset, the levels of desperation, determination and sheer dedication to the moment at the given time.

When a commentator says:

And it might just be beyond him this distance, (1973.7 48)  
Ian Stewart, not beyond him, the distance. (1973.12 77)  
55 meters isn’t beyond him, (2007.4 369)  
this is not beyond Cloke (2012.1 414)  
you’d think this would be beyond him. (2012.7 480)  
Is he beyond his range? (2017.2 526)  
just beyond his range probably (2017.9 592)

listeners are primed to ask themselves, ‘can he?’ The change in language for what is essentially the same question has become verbal invitation to participation, that in no way need even be acknowledged or directly responded to. Any yes or no outcome, if considered further becomes dependent on what the player is capable of and capabilities are measured by what one can or can not do; not what one will or will not do. ‘Can he?’ engages participation between the commentator and the world he represents at this given moment and unknown people before television screens many miles removed. ‘Can he?’ is an invitation to those listening to weigh up

the situation and to apply the earlier identified concepts of hypothetical questioning. This now has left the known and ventured into the unknown, the myriad possibilities of ‘if’.

‘Will he’ changing to ‘can he’ as a dominant question in the commentary happened as football players became career players, full time professionals dedicating their bodies, minds, souls and families to a world so narrowly focussed on contact sport that the commentary provides a portal to possibility, a temporal space where different rules apply, both to what is possible and what may be possible. Players’ willingness to test what they *can* do influences their overall worth. Should the question the commentators ask change again from ‘can he?’ to ‘should he?’<sup>22</sup> then an interesting state of affairs football will be in.

Another concept mushrooming in the commentary after the turn of the century is the word ‘test’ and all that it implies. Tests theoretically reveal strengths and weaknesses measured against an abstract criterion. Testing individual physical ability is also testing mental composure – the necessary stilling of internal doubt, fear of failure and the possibility of physical harm. Absent entirely in the 1973 transcripts, now it is often the individual players themselves who are subjected to testing,

And now Hall from 40 meters out, this will test him, (1997.4 226)

Big test for young Johnstone here. (2007.7 399)

A test now for the young man’s steel, (2007.7 400)

The set shot here will really test him (2017.1 513)

Always think a 50-meter kick tests him (2017.8 587)

Each of these comments implies an understanding of player capabilities and acknowledges here a moment in which those capabilities may be extended. Failure of this test will return the player to the status formerly held, passing of this test will enlarge upon what the player is capable of ‘moving forward’ – football parlance for the future. In each of these examples, the player in question is about to attempt kicking a goal. His mental composure is as much under scrutiny as his physical ability to heft the ball in the correct direction with his foot. Commentary in the 1973 transcripts refers to player preparation for kicking a goal as merely ‘lining up’ – aligning himself with the posts in preparation for his kick. Of the 32 times the present tense ‘lines up’ appear within the total transcribed quarters, 22 of those appear in 1973.

Rantall lines up but its offline for one behind. (1973.1 3)

---

<sup>22</sup> Not present in the transcripts

Peter Welsh lines up, torpedo punt, he's made the distance, but I don't know, but yes, the accuracy is there, (1973.3 16)

Clark comes in to help him, lines up the goal, and it's a good shot, it's off line, (1973.6 41)

No thought is attributed to the preparation other than the taking of the time to 'line up'. There is no mastering of the moment, no zen preparation, no test of composure. Ron Barassi, 'probably the most famous football personality in the history of the game' (Holmesby and Main 41); 'the glowering, angry, self-motivated football machine, [who] ranted, raged and whipped himself through a career of playing and coaching theatrics (1953 – 1995) not to mention unparalleled success' (Hanson and Dyer, *Wildmen III*, blurb) was famously a ruthless disciplinarian as a coach. Failure, in his eyes, was useful. It provided information about how the following attempt could be structured differently. The attempt was all that mattered, that effort be applied. It contributed to the bank of knowledge the player could draw upon when next making the attempt – a mental element, a thought process acknowledged as necessary. Coach Barassi states: 'Plenty of people fail, but the only disgrace in failing is if you have only half-tried, or three-quarter tried, or 99 percent tried' (Petkovski 166). There is no room for chance here, only ability and grim determination, and an opportunity to see what the player 'can' do, utilising the knowledge and mental acuity that comes with practice and concentration.

Composure contributes to a player's ability to explore his own capabilities. It is not the elimination of risk, but the elimination of fear of risk. It is a fluidity of mind and body, an immersion in the now, labelled as composure. Dwayne Russell, who played for Geelong, and has been broadcasting since 1997, writes:

The right decisions, the cleverness, the tactics and the freakish talents of the stars are football instincts so well refined in their brains that they almost never have to consciously calculate what to do. True champions calculate a ball's trajectory, their own leap, the position of other players, and the best method of taking possession, without resorting to conscious thought (Russell, *How to Play Australian Football* 9).

This is the payoff that countless hours of training provide, the engaging in deliberate application to push minds and bodies beyond the usual capabilities and reaching always for an extension to what is possible. Psychologist, Anders Ericsson has said that it takes 10 000 hours of purposeful practice to achieve elite performance in any skill from playing chess to dancing ballet. Key here are both the dedication to 'actually do things that the amateurs consider not very enjoyable' (9),



and the constant striving to improve on standards already achieved (12). Such training, ‘typically supervised by a coach’ (9) permits the ‘intuitive judgement [which] is the hallmark of expertise (8). Minds, here, are so well prepared through practice that they function without assistance, blending smoothly with body responses and achieving what might be labelled football nirvana. An example of this from 2012, where former player Dermott Brereton gropes toward understanding:

**Brad Johnson** That is a great goal, isn’t it, Ed, because the handball makes him stop. No look, knows exactly where the goals are. That’s just a classic goal from Davey, from 50 too, on the turn.

**Dermott Brereton** You make a great point there, Johnno, and that is, given where you are on the ground, your knowledge and whereabouts of the 50 line, the curve, how close you are to the boundary, some players can snap towards goal and know that they’re hitting it between the sticks without ever looking at it. And it’s a unique talent a few people have (2012.2)

This is not so much a ‘talent’ as a state of synchronised mind/body resulting in type of spatial hyperawareness. The player is at one with the game, because his mind does not have to work separately to his body. He is in a state of flow. Psychologist Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi, in his research on optimal experiences, describes flow as a ‘state in which people are so involved in an activity that nothing else seems to matter’ (4).

The best moments usually occur when a person’s body or mind is stretched to its limits in a voluntary effort to accomplish something difficult and worthwhile. Optimal experience is thus something that we *make* happen. (Csikszentmihalyi 3)

The two key words in Csikszentmihalyi’s quote are ‘voluntary’ and ‘worthwhile’. These moments of flow can only occur when the individual is invested in the activity deeply and personally and sees the pursuit as intrinsically valuable to themselves. Immersion is both physical and mental, complete and momentary. Perhaps like the psychological moment, moments of flow may be transformed into a discipline, a sought for and maintained status that can be extended deliberately with concentration.

In his half time address to his team in 1975, Hawthorn coach John Kennedy grappled with a concept not yet articulated. He urged his players “Don’t think, don’t hope – do!” (Holmesby and Main, *Encyclopedia* 423). He was earnestly imploring a mind/body fusion that was not yet

properly understood. As a development, it is difficult to fault: it lends a purity of purpose that shocks in its seeming recklessness. The more the player succumbs to this focus, this composure, the more commentary responds by counterbalancing with conjecture.

Sherman was caught under the footy, he could have worked harder second effort I reckon but he he had the momentum of the footy, (2012.1 416)

Ward is right there with him, could have tackled through, keeps it in, (2012.9 499)

Stopped, propped, probably should have kept going. (2017.1 512)

Should have just kicked it straight away (2017.2 522)

He could have chipped it as soon as he got it but he tried to get back inside. (2017.4 542)

Ben Brown. He could have put that into the top deck. He sort of half held off on it. (2017.5 551)

High ball, Sexton up in front, maybe should have stayed down. (2017.5 551)

Riewoldt hands it over. Should have gone for home, there was no one ahead of him. (2017.9 590)

The premise of having deserved something, to deserve, is to provoke a reaction through exhibited qualities or actions. Only when actions or qualities are observed, whether by the self or by others, are they able to be measured as deserving and to what extent. The premise as either reward or punishment is a natural follow-through for the recognition of self-consciousness.

Darren Gaspar in an unusual situation as well, not renowned for being a goal shooter, deserves a goal, though as mentioned, he has worked pretty hard (1997.8 256).

Here the deserved goal is positioned as a reward for effort – Gaspar has worked hard and deserves to be rewarded with a goal he would not usually kick. If he misses kicking a goal that he would usually have missed, even if he had not worked so hard, does that then mean he has been wrongly denied reward for his effort? Is this luck transformed into reward, where the work ethic should pre-empt the ‘deserved’ reward? To be deserving is to be linked to a judgement. Even the most well-informed judgements must be naïve, made in the present and forever subjected to changing readings in the future.

Responsibility seeps from the one into the many. Scope of the judgement has expanded, included more in its sweep.

...big fly by Goodes, in the back, free kick Melbourne and they deserve one too because Barry Hall just shoved out his Demon opponent at the other end of the ground. And they're just missing too many of those clear ones.

Here, the commentator is awarding a free kick to Melbourne as a deserved consequence of an unrelated incident early in another part of the ground, perpetrated by a different player. A *team* deserves a free kick because an *individual* got away with something in a separate part of the game. Actions warranting a deserved outcome then transition into situations where a perceived deserved outcome may be anticipated, expected, considered a fair and natural *entitlement*. In 2002 the word 'demand' enters the transcripts for the first time. Players begin to 'demand' for themselves. "Alessio demanding front spot in that ruck contest" (2002.2 271), "Pavlich demanded front spot and got it" (2002.2 271). Then players begin to 'demand' from others: "Very deep, White demanding a fair bit of Ebert, can he get there?" (2007.7 380) and "That kick demanded a fair bit of Chad Cornes and he was equal to it" (2007.7 382). The right to make demands is authorised according to a measure of deservedness, and this deservedness is calculated in an awareness of self that appears new. Illustrating ordinary, in my local supermarket there is a sign on the deli: 'Sliced on demand' and I wonder what happened to 'request'. The possibility of 'no' has been eliminated and inferring an entitlement.

It is the smallest of changes in language that flag the biggest of changes in perception. The word 'if' mentioned 2.58 times per final quarter in 1973 increases in use to 24 times per final quarter in the same time span in 2017. That is a total of 44 uses in 1973 and 384 uses in 2017. 'If' is a gateway word, enabling commentators to provide a hypothetical alternate outcome, an alternative to that which has occurred. This marked increase in its use demonstrates psychologist James Flynn's theory of the increase in the hypothetical being considered every-day in his tracking of increasing human intelligence. 'If' is a word that can be utilised when opportunity becomes choice, when choice is an option against which alternate outcomes can be theorised.

Clever attempt by Matthews, that's been typical of his play all day, if he hasn't got a clear run or break away with the ball himself, he's tapped it cleverly across to his teammates. (1973.2)

Whoops, 15-meter penalty for sure. Max Richardson, what are you doing?  
Could be a 30-meter penalty if he carries on like that (*laughing*). (1973.9)

What a gallant, magnificent player is Bartlett. He doesn't look as if he could stand up, he looks so frail, yet he's full of courage and one of the best players in

football. (1973.17)

If, in these examples, is used to further understanding of what is happening on the field, as far as the player himself is concerned. Max Richardson's 'carrying on' could earn him further penalty, but is still viewed in a spirit of positive entertainment, the jovial 'whoops' and the laughter setting the tone. Bartlett's frail looks belie his courage and ability. Descriptors are clever, gallant, magnificent. Conversely:

...it can be dangerous though if your arms are pinned. (2017.1 508)

**Brian Taylor** ...Umpire gives him the benefit of the doubt. Said it was a ricochet

**Bruce McAvaney** Well, it wasn't

**Cameron Ling** Dunno if that was a ricochet at all there (2017.1 517)

The Giants are two up, they can't go back too far because if they make a mistake back here, they're going to give the Dogs time to win it. (2017.1 518)

If you're going to go forward to the contest, you've gotta impact the contest. (2017.2 525)

We know their last quarters have been horrendous but if ever there was a chance to get the monkey off their backs, here it is (2017.5 550)

Here, 'if' connects more closely with negative than positive responses. Although the last statement is an attempt by Basil Zempilas to offer a positive spin, nonetheless, his observation begins with pointing out an uncomplimentary truth. Descriptors are: dangerous, doubt, mistake, impact and horrendous. This contributes to the overall tenor of criticism in modern commentary, of unmet expectations. Players become components, rather than entities, the subject matter is generalised, broadened in its reach. It appears that the less focus the player has on 'if' the more the spectator hears it. The more certain the player is of his actions and responses, the greater his composure, the more broadly the options available for him to choose from are explained to those watching/listening. For a commentator, the choices rejected by the players are as often expanded upon as those adopted.

he should have perhaps kicked, he tried to handball to Gallagher and the Blues take it away, (2002.4 284)

went the safety option with the punch, could have marked it. (2002.6 299)

that's just unforgivable, he should have nailed that (2002.7 311)

Perhaps could have attacked it just a little harder, he waited for it to bounce.  
(2002.8 321)

he could've changed the kick direction (2007.3 344)

if he was on his game, there he should have been in front, sparring with him  
(2007.8 389)

he could have worked harder second effort I reckon (2012.1 400)

Gee King should have gone short to Miller then, (2012.8 466)

That was a lazy kick there from Josh Hill, should have done a lot better there  
(2012.9 480)

The players are positioned in a constructed arena of performance, locating all others outside. This increased use of 'if' in the commentary is evidence of a more nuanced connection with the listener. Steven Pinker, experimental cognitive psychologist and linguist, suggests that a negotiation is woven between speaker and listener, in which "the implicated content, the reading between the lines that we count on the listener to perform allows the listener to derive the interpretation which is most relevant in context" ('Language Habits'). The seeding of hypothetical possibilities alters understanding of the game and substantially strengthens the importance of decision making by the players. Instead of focussing on what has happened, there is the far broader implication of what *may* have happened. An element of supposition is introduced, rarely as well articulated as in the following example:

Over the back now to Lonergan, he's under more pressure, Mackie will be under pressure as well.

That was a great decision by Mackie not to take possession

Wiley customer, isn't he? Knew if he took it he'd be taken to ground.

(2017.8 585)

In the 1970s commentators acknowledge a player can anticipate how the passage of play will unfold and credited him with having the ability to 'read' the play.

read it brilliantly, (1973.2 10)

Well Davis read that ball like a veteran, read the play beautifully. (1973.14 87)

Reference to reading the play has slowly increased over the following decades, until by 2017 its use has more than trebled, from 9 instances in 1973 to 32 in the 2010s. This suggests both a rise in the number of players being judged able to read the play and an increase in the ability of the commentators to recognise such occurrences. In effect, the commentary is acknowledging the

thought processes a player may have used to ‘play’ the game. This implies an understanding that enables a knowledge. The word ‘know’ was used 2.29 times per final quarter in the 1973 transcripts, ballooning to 8.66 times per final quarter in 2017.

‘Aware’ first appears in the transcripts in 1997 and increases in use in the 2010s. ‘Awareness’ is first heard in 2000, also increasing in use through the 2010s. These words indicate both knowledge and understanding. The commentary picks up instances where the player lacks awareness, clearly implying that had the player been aware, outcomes would have been more successful. In the 1997 transcripts the commentators use ‘aware’ to suggest that thinking has not taken place when it may have been beneficial.

Ellis, could have nearly taken the mark, maybe wasn’t quite aware of the situation (1997.1 199)

...so Stewie’s just gotta be a bit aware just where he’s pushing backwards. (1997.6 241)

Ten years later, the commentators are commending use of awareness, which has become a skill.

good awareness from Noel Lade there, he was running against it and the ball just fell into his hands (2007.7 396)

reinforcing what you said, Shawy, I reckon Tom Lynch has got real good game awareness, he knows to play back and forward and get rid of his opponent (2012.4 441)

Tuohy had great awareness to get the handball out the back but Crisp got on the end of it, (2017.8 580)

A counterpart to awareness is focus, which also makes its first appearances in the 1997 transcripts and becomes established in the jargon. Focus suggests a concentration of awareness, a narrowing of scope, a delineation of intent. However, while being ‘aware’ morphs from being used to point out an absence of acuity into a positive, acquirable attribute, ‘focus’ remains an indicator of negativity, of lack.

perhaps the focus can go away from Stewie a bit (1997.6 249)

their entire focus should be on doing what they’ve done from day one, that’s apply pressure... (2007.4 367)

gee Saints have lost focus here (2012.5 456)

no one lifted up their focus (2017.9 591)

It is not until well into the 21<sup>st</sup> century that the word ‘mental’ appears in the transcripts. This has been a slow germination from a growing questioning of the ability to ‘read’ the play, awareness, and focus. In its first uses, ‘mental’ flags the possibility of distress or harm on an intellectual level. Here is the first implication that the mind may suffer, that it may be exposed to harm.

Is it a bit of that mental let down the following week, (2012.6 467)  
and as you know, mentally, that can hurt you (2017.4 545)

Here, now the mind is accorded a capacity for bruising. This suggests a softness. In a game where ‘hardness’ is a sought-after attribute – hardness of body and of mind – how can such a softness be accommodated? As ‘being aware’ began to be used in commentary as an indicator of lack, developing over time into an acquirable skill, so too perhaps might words such as focus and mental. They have certainly entered the lexicon with the potential to develop positive connotations, perhaps already hinted at: “you’re still involved in the game mentally and physically” (2017.9 589).

The journey to the recognition of vulnerability of the mind within football commentary has not happened in isolation. This is clear reflection of wider cultural changes. Thinking as an intellectual activity is twinned inseparably with feeling, as an emotive response. Overall, there is a 170 percent increase in the number of words that are used to imply thoughts and feelings<sup>23</sup>.

	Times used 1973	Times used 2010s
Concern	-	10
Disappoint	8	21
Feel	5	31
Happy	4	25
Know/s/n/ing	39	156
Think	107	255
Thought	27	45
Tired	5	15

Conversely, appreciation of that which is deemed clever or intelligent has more than halved, with a 57 percent *decrease*. This is accompanied by a reduction in the use of words to describe

---

<sup>23</sup> A full list of words with frequency of use appears in Appendix II

physical actions. The steady decrease in use of such words, and the broadening of the vocabulary of indicators of feeling and thought corresponds with a social shift in perceptions of masculinity.

Taking figures from just two decades, the first being looked at and the most recent, there are glaring differences in the type of language being used, which means the content, the intent, of the commentary has changed. The game has altered over this time, but the fundamentals remain the same: get the ball and kick goals. The most basic of words, action words, those presumed most obvious in the verbal translation of a physical sport, are declining. Given that there are nearly 13,000 *more* words in the 2010s (18 games) than in the games from 1973 (17 games), and that there are now as many as six commentators where once there were only two, this decrease must be noted.

‘Kick’ is one such word in decline. It has plummeted from 1098 appearances in 1973 – 64.58 uses per final quarter to 677 in 2010s, only 37.61 uses per final quarter. Other words signifying aggression have also waned in use:

	Times used 1973	Times used 2010s
Throw	92	47
Thump	52	14
Battle	29	1
Punch	46	15
Boot	182	51
Push	75	51
Shove	8	2

‘Ball bursting’ kicks are relics of the 1973 transcripts, although Cameron Ling has been heard to say, “no need to kick the cover off it” (20130928). Ling’s language lacks visual impetus.

‘Courage’, such a prerequisite for a football player, appears only half as often now (8 times) as it did in 1973 (16 times). The words that have filled the gaps left by these reductions are of a different ilk altogether, changing the tenor of the commentary. Words that did not appear at all in the transcripts of the 1970s or the 1980s but that have been used increasingly since the 1990s follow: attitude, aware, choice, concern, fatigue, focus, good call, magic, superstar, work ethic, vision, mental and mindset, making a very different tenor. The ability to utilise language has not changed, indeed a purist may suggest it has deteriorated. Beautiful expressions are no longer commonplace. Grammar has been routinely butchered. Audiences will never again be invited to admire a ‘burly torso’ (1973.6 p38). Yet the vocabulary has expanded, and the meaning has



shifted. The language used to commentate the aggression and physicality of a game played by bodies that were not recognised has morphed into a more abstract and emotive language suitable for a game structured around the emergent mind.

So, where once it was the ability of the body to resist damage, now it is the body that encases a mind so fragile and frail that words, mere vibrations on the air, can cause greater pain than broken bones, prevent sleep more effectively than the singing ache of torn muscles. It seems incongruous that damage to the non-physical mind can be more detrimental than damage to the physical body. The very act of defining elements of violence, physical and verbal leads to questioning the relation between the two. As mind as driver becomes key, so too does language as weapon become more fleshed.

A larger problem that needs its potential resolution assimilated into cultural projections and understandings is that minds, once acknowledged must accommodate, however reluctantly, a reversal of emotional detachment which has been the cornerstone of hegemonic masculinity in Australia for many generations<sup>24</sup>. Men, it would appear, are struggling to connect emotional content to a lived physicality.

Sticks and stones  
May break my bones  
But words will never  
Hurt me

A schoolyard rhyme repeated through the generations at least since its first written recording in 1862, where it was described as an ‘old adage’<sup>25</sup>, is less a defensive chant than a protective incantation. A broken bone may mend, hurtful words can damage permanently. The identification and husbandry of mental acuity has led to the necessity of instruction, of deliberate and visible example. Example, in football, has always been the province of the captain, delivered to inspire and motivate when physical effort was required from his team. Commentary acknowledged active captaining during play:

Barry Davis. One handed Barry Davis! Been a great, inspirational captain for North Melbourne today. 23 kicks. And it’s another boomer. (1973.1 1)  
And Murphy, John Murphy the Fitzroy captain, who rarely gets less than 30 kicks takes another one. (1973.1 3)

---

<sup>25</sup> <https://www.phrases.org.uk/meanings/sticks-and-stones-may-break-my-bones.html>

Clever play by Davis no doubt about this fellow, he's set the example for the North Melbourne players today (1973.1 4)

Thorpe in the middle really urging his charges on. Thorpe, the Footscray captain, urging the Bulldogs forward. Two points the difference (1973.3 16)  
Nicholls moves in. He's kicked three. And he has put it through. Great captain coach's effort. Big Nick. (1973.14 87)

...taken by Hart and uh Hart the uh brilliant captain of uh Richmond who has been on one leg most of the day (1973.16 104)

It seems the acknowledgement of mental application has expanded the responsibilities of the captain such that support is required for his role. This has manifested in modern football as the leadership group, the very name of which trumpets transition. Leaders are teachers - who is writing the syllabus for these elected representatives to extoll? Leadership and role models are clearly labelled, highlighted and accorded a kind of respect that sits just a little off centre. It smacks of a self-congratulatory post on social media. Who is reassuring whom and why has it become necessary to reassure anyone? It has become our everyday - leadership is a dot point on a curriculum vitae. Rather than leadership being a mantle bestowed upon the experienced by those willing to learn, it has lost its organic growth and become an actively acquired skillset, making the integrity of such leadership questionable.

**Jonathan Brown** Have a look at this, so pre-game they had their full team meeting, Alan Richardson and the St Kilda players, then most of the players left, he kept the leadership group back there, see some of the names, Reiwoldt's in there, Jack Stevens, Josh Breust. He asked for a bit more effort from his leaders today, to come out, lead from the front. There's the captain Jarryn Geary. They've done that fantastically well today and he's obviously very happy with his performance. Leigh Montagne another senior player has been outstanding today on half back flank. He's organised really well behind the ball. He'd be rapt I reckon with his team's performance, especially from his leaders (2017.2 498)

Leadership groups are constructs made to replicate the input of wisdom by elders. Elders are not voted into leadership groups, they earn their place with tenure and experience. In slow rotation, elders come and go, initiates come and grow and the bleeding of boys is performed in the company of men, in full view of the tribe. The focus on youth has largely eliminated the elders in the team, these past few years seeing the retirement of the last of a generation. A seasonal social ritual followed by the southern and western states of this country has been discarded in

the push towards nationalism embodied by the freshest talent available.

**Paul Roos** I tell you that's great coaching from the Sydney Swans, but a lack of awareness from the Crows. I don't know if they had an extra player back, double team Reid. You have to be back inside your defensive 50 because you've gotta know, exactly, what you called it up here in the commentary box Jase, so they had to know what's going on in the Crows coaching box as well, but they had no one back inside 50 and Jetta was allowed to do what he's been doing all year.

**Jason Dunstall** and sometimes you haven't got time to get a message out there.

**Paul Roos** But that's where you need your on-field leaders to make a call  
(2012.6 451)

The above extract perhaps illustrates materially what has become a problem of lack within the game: electing leaders from a pool of almost equal inexperience within club formats where loyalty and team cohesion are conceptual only. Is there a parallel between Maffesoli advocating a value to the mass and the slow realisation that worship of the individual fractures the cohesion of a team? Discussing the dilution of the team ethos, Brian Cook, Geelong Football club CEO says:

Some players take pride in the number of Facebook and Twitter followers they have but we don't want it to be a club of various player brands. More sports are heading towards individualism, about getting as much talent as you can at whatever price. We are trying to say it's about team. I worry we're fighting a losing battle (Button *Comeback* 315).

When some are more leaders than others and each player must focus on his role there is reduced room for the spontaneity of fusion, of flow. Teams no longer appear to have the mental cohesion evident in the earlier state league teams. Around a select few star players and the hand-chosen leaders rotate an interchangeable conglomerate of desperate young men, who each week must prove their worth on the field, stay out of the reserves team, qualify over their contemporaries for a position.

**Danny Frawley** He has he's gotta make it as a forward now. He's kicked three today. Well Lachie Henderson, yeah, Lachie Henderson's obviously taken his spot down back, you've got Jamison, Tower, Dyson, Rowe. Laidler when he's fit. So Brett Thornton's best opportunity is to kick his two or three and really do some defensive pressure down in the forward line. You've got Jarrad Waite

sitting in the grandstand, you've got Andrew Walker, obviously Betts and Garlett a walk up start, so he needs to compete, and compete well (2012.7 474).

He's doing well Jake Kelly, Roo, worked his way into the senior side and uh the challenge for him is to obviously hold his spot. Couldn't get a game last year (2017.9 588).

Within football the meaning of the word 'team' has changed from what was once ordinary – a selected group working together – to what is now ordinary – an expanded list vying against each other. When the teams run onto the ground these clean boys with interesting haircuts clash shoulders, engage in some push and shove, posture like fighting cocks – a *display* of combative competitiveness. Their aggression is an assumed thing, not a pulsating drive, because today's opponent may be next season's teammate.

Captaincy has been reduced to the head role in a leadership group. There is a team within a team, that suggests that some are more equal than others, and the mantle once assumed with pride is now heavy with additional responsibility, administrative rather than active, and not always welcomed.

**Dwayne Russell** Riewoldt still essentially a leader of this club but handed over the captaincy pre-season and has been a great combo these leaders of this club this afternoon again. There is Riewoldt on cue. Stevens couldn't get it to him. Minchington and Burgoyne did well. Ball.

**Jonathan Brown** and I think Nick Riewoldt would be really enjoying uh the fact that he doesn't have that extra responsibility, it's mainly the extra responsibility around the club from Monday to Friday.

**Alastair Lynch** yep

**Jonathan Brown** He'll continue to play as captain on the weekends, but uh, won't have to go to as many meetings, Lynchie. (2017.2 406)

Responsibility burgeons with intellectual awareness. Unsurprisingly, the word 'responsibility' first appears in the transcripts in 2007 (377) at the same time as the duty-of-care concept. Football players are being asked to address abstract matters and to use their reasoning skills objectively. Reference to team leaders is first seen in 2012; by 2017 leadership groups are unremarkable in their everydayness. This is an arrangement of the ordinary by production teams intersecting with business. The depiction and implicit understandings of what is ordinary and what is not is being decided, perhaps in business meetings.

The reinterpretation of leadership and the heightened importance of having leaders within a team is perhaps the result of redefining masculinity, a process with ill-defined parameters, further blurred by the addition of a mental component. Factoring emotional and intellectual aspects into a traditionally laconic physical environment was never going to be a smooth transition. Australian identity in general, but masculinity in particular, has long been associated with strength, durability and hardness. Post-colonial imagery of an ANZAC soldier, or a musclebound lifesaver has become obsolete in the cosmopolitan realities of a global understanding of self, individual and country. Now even though bodies are still perceived as expendable, repairable, the impervious mind has revealed a vulnerability to harm that demands attention. Perhaps as care of the mind makes advances in the same manner repair of the body has over the decades, a point will be reached where the levels of care currently being suggested will be reduced. What is important now is that, culturally, being aware of mental vulnerability is necessary in all aspects of social experience.

## **A Winter's Poem**

A clever creature is the snake  
Who spends his winter not awake  
He snuggles in his long thin bed and  
Brews up venom in his head

The human is a different sort  
He spends the winter watching sport  
He yells abuse in concrete stands and  
Empties out his poison glands

Michael Leunig  
Poems: 1972-2002

## Voice

Televised football contains many voices, and this chapter will identify and examine voice not only from the commentary, but also that present in the recordings of the spectators, and the more recent addition of those of the umpires themselves. Through listening to the games and transcribing the commentary it has become obvious that there are substantial changes in the sounds of the crowd as well as in the commentary. Identifying changes in the tenor of the commentary raises questions about how these changes are received by those who listen. There are clues to accompanying changes in crowd responses littered throughout the commentary, always peripheral, but present nonetheless. Australian football is diaphanous in nature, one thing composed of many overlaid components, each separate, all necessary. Modern football crowds have been wooed and groomed, subjected to bag checks, shepherded through turnstiles, allocated alphanumeric seating and have agreed (however reluctantly) not to smoke or behave drunkenly. For the most part language has been sanitized, on threat of eviction. In short, a trip to the footy has been cleaned up. Despite this, at times it appears that the more professionalisation smooths and slicks the players on the field, the more the overtly organic, feral elements emerge behind the barriers in the crowd. The original shrill shock experienced when the crowd booed players, not umpires, has muted with exposure into tolerance but not acceptance. The unbidden question is whether this change in the tone of the commentary has occurred in tandem with an altered spectator response.

Football in Australia is unlike any other spectator sport in the world. It is unique in what it demands of its players, bodily, psychologically. And it demands of Australian culture permission to do this, and permission is, not granted, but pressed upon, in a spirit of communal camaraderie. Part of this camaraderie is expressed vocally, and so much of the sound is wordless. The roar, the boo, the disgusted huff, the disappointed groan. The held breath, clasped hands, fist pumps and feet stamping. Even for the spectator, football is physical, although this physicality has never spilled over into the violence of European soccer crowds. This is true also for spectators in private environments, even spectators alone watching telecasts can be propelled to physical and verbal action. The football spectator is permitted voice in a communal arena. Wordless roaring eliminates swathes of social and cultural segregation. Wordless it may be, but its very wordlessness reflects the social structures absent; ignored. Indeed, there is a pleasure to be found in joining in the roar of a crowd, a deeply satisfying expansion of self, a melding and transcendental experience in which the individual becomes part. There is a seamless and a smoothness in the transformation of many individuals into a single entity, resulting in a sense of cohesion that in itself may be euphoric.

Gender and age diverse crowds at the football have always been raucously participatory. Julian Thomas, writing as *The Vagabond* in 1877 expresses it this way:

Football, as now carried on here, is not only often rough and brutal between the combatants but seems to me to have a decided moral lowering and brutalizing effect among the spectators. (Hutchinson, *Great Australian Football Stories*, 27)

More than one hundred years later in 1983 Bob Stewart echoes *The Vagabond's* sentiments:

Men and women who during the week are apparently polite and affable and go to their work in a rational and controlled manner, will – when attending a game – want to swear, insult opposition players, encourage their own players to commit violent acts, continually argue with opposing supporters and ridicule the umpire. (Stewart, 13)<sup>26</sup>

One aspect of spectator response that cannot be sanitized is that vortex roar of the crowd, that wordless release of emotion. Emotive responses stretch the seconds, lengthen the minutes to allow the experience of emotion to obliterate all else as hope, fear, anguish and delight share the same space. Outside the stadia, the roar is more a yell or a shout in the lounge room, a slumped groan or a fist pump. Each game evokes its own response. 'As radio commentators went 'around the grounds' for score updates, there was a palpably different atmosphere at each setting' (Cartledge 11). Football then is a socially accepted space for emotional expression on-field and off. It still demands physical expression. It is a place for uninhibited emotional response to which the commentators refer: "The crowd are going wild! ... Oh! Listen to this crowd going mad!" (1982.2 131). Watching football allows the viewer to exercise a range of emotional responses in a legitimate environment. Theoretically, it is possible Australian Rules has such wide appeal because it allows the spectator/fan to 'exercise' 'emotional' responses without fear of reprisal. Football provides possibility to physically experience joy, amazement, disgust, pride, community, alienation, hope, anxiety, delight and unity and at the same time, be validated in the expression of such emotional responses, even if they are only internally experienced and not physically expressed, by being one of the self-avowed. Permission is

---

<sup>26</sup> Stewart's observations bear resemblance to the comments made by baffled police interviewed by Stott and Reicher on page 36.



granted by those in the commentary box.

**Matthew Richardson** I need a thesaurus! I'm running out of superlatives. I've only got two or three and I've used them about 20 times each! (20130921)

Booing was almost always acknowledged by the commentators in the 1970s games, and it was usually directed at an umpire, the figure of authority.

North Melbourne fans still not very enamoured with Umpire Robinson (1973.16 6)

The fans are booing, I don't know what for Umpire John Sutcliff has hardly made a mistake (1973.12 79)

listen to the booing crowd, the St Kilda supporters, because in my book it was a beautifully judged mark (1973.16 104)

Umpire Deller has paid the mark amidst the protests of the Richmond crowd to George Bissett (1973.17 113)

With Australian Rules it has ever been thus, although the language may have changed:

And so, while thousands who will shortly be abusing the umpire, applaud a decision, a yell of hatred and contempt rises from the throats of other thousands, who will shortly be applauding him. He is an Ishmael with every man's voice against him

*(The Argus 30 September 1912).*

The 1970s commentary counterbalanced adverse crowd responses to umpiring decisions with acknowledgement of their efforts, ensuring the authority of and respect due to umpires was reiterated.

Umpire Harvey Lyon who's had a pretty hard job this afternoon, a hard game to control, has done a pretty good job. (1973.3 20)

Umpire Sutcliff has done a good job today, Richmond fans won't tell you so but he's pleased uh most commentators I fancy, and other experts. (1973.4 27)

holding the man it is, and it could have gone either way. That's the decision by Umpire Sutcliff who's done a remarkably good job, in this very tough, tense game, (1973.5 32)

27 minutes gone in the last quarter and the umpire is Sutcliff and done a pretty

good job today. (1973.7 51)

Umpire Robinson who's done a very good job this afternoon. (1973.14 92)

It is possible that the true genius of the game of Australian football lies in the interpretability of the rules. They are ambiguous and abstruse, they morph from one thing to another, from one moment to another, from one season to the next. The umpires have always had final say, and often the commentary must backpedal to accommodate umpiring decisions. It is umpires' reading of the play, their interpretation that counts. Commentary has functioned to clarify where there has been uncertainty especially when the umpiring decision is unpopular or not clearly understood.

**Dick Mason** But, what's going on? Is he being asked to come back and kick over the mark?

**Thorold Merrett** Yes,

**Dick Mason** and for what purpose?

**Thorold Merrett** well, the rule of course, the interpretation would be that it was outside the 5-meter radius (1973.1 9)

Originally, the role of the commentator was to explain and Mason and Merrett, identifying an unclear action then clarify it to each other and to the listening audience.

**Dick Mason** No, everybody realises what the rule is. The ball has to be entirely out of bounds for it to be out. Now the player was certainly out, but the position of the player doesn't matter. It's the ball that has to be out completely. (1973.4 25)

Mason ensures that everybody does realise what the rule is by spelling it out so there is no room for confusion or misunderstanding. A listener who was unsure or unaware is informed and incorporated into the 'everybody' without having to admit ignorance. There are times, however, when the commentators feel compelled to call an umpiring decision as questionable:

**Peter Ewin** Oh that's a controversial decision

**Dick Mason** He's allowing Scott to take the kick and he had definitely played on and had been caught.

**Peter Ewin** Controversial decision by Umpire Harvey Lyons with three points the difference, 30 and a half minutes gone. (1973.3 21)

Other times rules have been altered and the spectators must be reminded:

The umpire said he did and that's the rule of course, held bouncing the ball.  
That rule of course was changed uh I think largely because of Kevin Bartlett.  
It's nice to have the rules changed after you. (1982.2)

There are also moments in the play when the commentators themselves must work through what is happening. Leigh Matthews here talks himself into an understanding of what has just happened. His initial response is that the rule has been applied unfairly.

I don't think it was the holding the ball rule, I think it was maybe unfair when its adjudicated that way but he did have prior opportunity and he didn't dispose of the ball correctly, so it is a correct decision even though maybe from the spirit of the law, uh one would argue that point. (1997.2 212)

Umpiring decisions are not always clearly understood by the commentator, and may be acknowledged as such, without prejudice.

I thought there might have been a free kick there to Essendon for round the neck, but the umpire didn't pay it and so be it, that's his judgement. 2002.2 284

As we look at Beau McDonald's early jump, and as we saw young Warnock, I think the decision went against him in the first quarter, that same umpiring decision, and so little bit of confusion for the ruckman there in the middle.  
2007.6 389

What has changed over time with barely noticeable slowness is that the commentary, once so accommodating of the umpires and their work, has inched over the fence and joined the throngs in becoming more generally critical of the umpires rather than supportive. Professionalisation of the game has increased the number of umpires on the field, generating adaptations to the rules, causing confusion. With increasing regularity, the commentators dispute the validity of umpiring decisions, without allowing human error.

I thought he got one in the back, the umpire didn't. North Melbourne holding the ball, play on, oh holding the man was the decision, which was absolutely unbelievable. (*Booing*) (1973.10 67)

**Peter McKenna** Leon Higgins for his third, a long kick. Oh, good mark, was it, and it has been paid, it will go Sydney's way to Troy Gray or is it going to Jim West?

**Gerard Healy** the umpire's called play on. He's lost control there. (1992.1 172)

**Bernie Quinlan** Weidemann there, grabbed when he didn't have the ball. Oh no, holding the ball! Says the umpire!!

**Dick Mason** oh that's a tough decision. Because Weidemann was clearly held before that free kick was paid. Unless the umpire thought he was in possession or over the ball. It did appear to be a free kick to Weidemann. He can't believe it. (*laughing*) you wouldn't want to be stared too often by him would you, by Weidemann, you'd get a hole in your dial. (1992.2 178)

I think it's really according to rules of holding the ball it probably was holding it but again, I don't know about the morality of it I don't think I agree with that so much... (1997.5)

**Bruce McAvaney** Its extraordinary decision not to pay a holding the ball against Murphy in the first 10 seconds, I've gotta say.

**David Schultz** Mm ridiculous (2007.1 338)

**David Schultz** I just want you to have a look at this Brendan Fevola one once more. He's got the player cold, the player takes his eyes off the ball, and well,

**Dennis Cometti** what are we becoming?

**David Schultz** Well

**Bruce McAvaney** so, Ox, is it a free kick or not?

**David Schultz** Well, in the letter of the rule, yes, it is, but it's a shocking interpretation and Kevin Bartlett and the rules committee need to sort it out. (2007.1)

**Danny Frawley** Maybe Scarlett didn't quite see it coz we're watching Pettifer line up for goal. Obviously, it was between Jackson and Scarlett, here we have a look at it, and there's a bit of a scuffle there. If that was a 50?

**Gerard Healy** That was the 50

**Danny Frawley** Well was it a 50 Gerard?

**Gerard Healy** Well, course it wasn't a 50.

**Danny Frawley** I can't believe that. Hayden Kennedy said that Scarlett threw Daniel Jackson to the ground.

**Gerard Healy** Well, maybe there was more to it that we didn't see

**Danny Frawley** I don't think so

**Gerard Healy** Well no wonder Scarlett's miffed, coz I'm confused (2007.8 402)

Often interpretation of the rules is now seen to be too literal, too pedantic, and perhaps victimisation of a player, or unfair favouring of a team. Dennis Cometti's comment, "what are we becoming?" is a measure of impropriety. Rules are contestable when upheld inappropriately. The *morality* of rules can be questioned. While a rule stands, it is treated as though set in stone, but that same unbending rule can, with discussion and debate, be transformed into something completely different, should the need arise. Rules therefore are malleable, changeable with knowledge, able to be recast, subject to momentum.

Football then provides an arena for debate and discussion about laws and morality, laws and methods of application, laws and interpretability at a grassroots level. Australian Rules are rules determined and applied in Australia by Australians. These rules are *responded* to by players and fans, and as such are an expression of voice. Rules are intended to eliminate disputes, they reflect ethics. 'Civilisation, after all, is defined by what we forbid, more than what we permit' (Roberts 52). As the game has become faster, rules have tightened, forcing the emergence of composure as a valued skill – the ability to play a fast, physical game while adhering to the web of rules. It appears that as the rules become more and more restrictive, a continual cycle of need for players and coaches to reassess the situation and reinvent responses is fuelled. New transgressions arise as old ones are restricted. While rules limit or hamper by legislating what 'can't', the players, coaching staff and spectators redefine what 'can'. The jumper-punch, decreed unsavoury, will be superseded by a currently unimagined expression of physical aggression.

In early commentary when description was the driving force, discussion was present, but limited. In the late 1990s the commentary begins to include discussion, perhaps as an inclusionary tactic with the special comments providers. Searching for 'what do(es)' and 'how do(es)' in the transcripts returns only one result of each from 1973, both rhetorical, both from Dick Mason:

Well, how do you miss them from there? (1973.4 24)

What does Wells want to do that for? He has the free kick (1973.7 46)

In the 1997 transcripts questions begin to be asked that are directed and require responses. Discussion enters the commentary via questions such as:

Well, Shane, what do you think of Hawthorn's chances? (1997.5 225)  
How do they regroup now, how do they get back on track? (1997.6 240)

These are questions designed to elicit response, to generate discussion, and are often asked as play continues in the background, undescribed. These kinds of questions require considered responses, understanding of the game and strategy, of coaching knowledge and player reaction. Shane Crawford, a former Hawthorn player with over 300 games behind him, illustrates the standard of response from early special comments men:

Yeah, I think if Hawthorn are going to win this game, what they're going to have to do is minimise their uh, uh, oh phoof, I'm just watching the game as it's in progress, but yes, they're just making too many errors. And uh they're going to have to minimise that. (1997.5 225)

Playing football may have been Crawford's forte, speaking about it appears to be something of a struggle, especially when seated alongside those for whom it is a career. However, it is these types of interactions in the commentary box that represent the emergence point of commentary's transformation from description into conversation. Once such questions begin to be asked, and answers are given by those for whom speaking is not yet up to a commercially viable standard, the structure of commentary begins to crumble. If not crumble, then certainly to assume another less-defined shape. All the earlier rules of commentary, of enunciation, tone and content are abandoned and a new verbalisation shoulders its way into the commentary box, and quickly assimilates, becomes ordinary. Presumably the asking of these questions was to further the listener's comprehension, with demonstration of inside knowledge from a player's perspective, however, Crawford probably added little of value to the average Hawthorn supporter on the day.

The asking of questions in the commentary box, began in the late 1990s and has proliferated annually since. This development seems to have opened a portal for criticism that was not present earlier when discussion was not a feature of the commentary. Combining description with discussion permitted slippage into conversation, fostering a harsher environment, one of far greater expectation. This may be because those who once played are unable to see the game from a non-player perspective and are only able to articulate play from the fantasied view of

perfection striven for while playing, rather than one of honest human effort. While it may be true that those who commentate and who have not played professionally may lean toward the enjoyment of violence, they are generally less critical of the efforts of those on the field than those who have played.

It is indisputable that in tandem with this movement of commentary from impartial relaying of action to opinionated critiquing of play, the responses of the crowd have also changed. Changing crowd responses are also accompanied by altered environmental factors. Black and white footage of football shows supporters standing, often “crammed in all round” (1973.17 112), and policemen wearing white flat-topped caps, and often a rain cape, strolling the perimeter of the ground, singly and in pairs, thoughtful and convivial gendarmes of the peace<sup>27</sup>. Local constabulary, law and order made visible, always present often busy. Coaches were once escorted with pomp and ceremony from the box to the field for the half time address by police. Now the crowds sit in allocated personal spaces and largely police themselves, equipped with smart-phone cameras to record breeches of social protocol, while black-clad security staff with headsets, male and female, patrol the perimeters. These are some of the changes that have accompanied the redirection of vocal crowd responses.

Vocal expression is of paramount importance to the spectator, at the ground or at home. It is integral to the game, for the players and for those who watch and listen. As recording technology has improved and sound-proof commentary boxes have been designed, the sounds of the crowd have remained audible within the broadcasts. In the early broadcasts, without the technology to subdue it, crowd sounds often threatened to drown out the commentary. Now there is the technology to remove the crowd completely from the soundtrack, yet it remains a constant; where once the sounds of the crowd were inseparable from the commentary, they are now deliberately layered in, factored as *mise en scène*. On occasion when little is happening in the commentary box it appears the sounds of the crowds may be amplified to promote a sense of atmosphere, fading again when the commentary picks up pace. Commentary regularly incorporates the spectators into the call.

Listen to those North Melbourne fans! (1973.1 6)

Listen to those Footscray supporters (1973.3 16)

And listen to that crowd roar. A record crowd here at VFL Park, Waverley, over 60,000 people (1973.15 94)

listen to the booing crowd, the St Kilda supporters, (1973.16 99)

---

<sup>27</sup> A policewoman, in a skirt, was seen briefly in a highlights reel during a Melbourne Essendon game in 1982

yes, oh, listen to the crowd. (1982.2 127)  
And the crowd go absolutely ecstatic (1987.1 143)  
The crowd really coming to life now, Carlton with plenty of support here in this  
33 thousand strong crowd at the SCG (1987.1 143)  
They're delighted, the crowd are delighted (1987.4 162)  
Such momentum the crowd gives the home side here, they're roaring  
(1997.1 199)  
and the Hawthorn chant starts up. (1997.5 227)  
Sydney fans delirious (1997.6 256)  
That prompts the Sydney chant they know the siren is not too far away  
(1997.7 249)  
Listen to the Cats fans. (2007.8 381)  
Listen to the crowd. This is fantastic (2012.7 463)  
as the Eagles' chant rings around Patterson Stadium (2012.9 484)  
And there's a Saint's chant ringing around the oval here in Launceston.  
(2017.2 502)

Chanting at the football is a modern development, not heard prior to the nationalisation of the game. First mentioned in the transcripts in 1997, it is now commonplace, ordinary. Cheer squads have had chants in the past but they have not been present in the audio in the way they are now, picked up by the crowd and sung in a similar fashion to that heard at soccer matches or televised darts championships. Chanting is perhaps an effect of globalisation, a method of crowd participation that has bled from Europe to Australia. The aural environment has changed. The recordings from 1973 have different background noises, there is a dog barking in the Carlton Melbourne game, car engines are heard revving, trains toot as they clatter past, individual voices are heard from the crowd. Cheering and booing are done in unison, chanting is not present.

There has also been room for playfulness in the spectator response. Val Perovic, who played for St Kilda and Carlton between 1973-1985, 'became a cult figure as the crowd shouted "woof" every time he unleashed a booming punt' (Holmesby and Main *Encyclopedia* 626). In 2012 Carlton recruit Josh Bootsma made his debut in Round 6. He was instantly adopted by supporters who, playing on his name, called "boo" every time he kicked the ball.

**Anthony Hudson** Crowd calling for Bootsma. And here he is Josh Bootsma, wearing Craig Bradley's famous number 21. Kicks to half forward, Garlett, and its ends with a bit of rebound off half back for Power.



**David King** Do you think he'll get the boos like Kreuzer does when he gets it, lads?

**Jason Dunstall** Seems to be traditional with names like that, doesn't it?

**Anthony Hudson** Coniglio slides into the mark at half forward.

**Jason Dunstall** Paul Roos used to get it. Luke Breust gets it at Hawthorn. Matty Kreuz, and now they've got two at Carlton, and Val Perovich

**Anthony Hudson** Oh Woof!

**Jason Dunstall** Old Woofs. (*laughing*) He was one of the greats, big Val. (2012.7 478)

**Danny Frawley** The first game had a bigger impact that Josh Bootsma, for the crowd, I'm not talking about kicks marks handballs

**Jason Dunstall** He's a crowd favourite isn't he?

**Danny Frawley** Already I think we need to get in early Jase.

**Anthony Hudson** Here he is again.

**Danny Frawley** Listen to the crowd. This is fantastic

**Anthony Hudson** What a thrill for him Fantastic stuff.

**Danny Frawley** He's a good kick too, (2012.7 481)

**Anthony Hudson** what a debut for Josh Bootsma. The crowd loved him. (2012.7 483)

Brenton Speed, commentating AFL for the first time on Fox Footy in 2017, explains the tribute present in the playful boo, and Brad Johnson identifies the crowd response as a useful tool for the player himself.

**Paul Roos** ... what a great mark from the big man Kreuzer and God they love him down there

**Brenton Speed** You know when he's got his mitts on it, don't you, when the crowd, it just, it sounds like they're booing but they're paying homage to this man who got the three Brownlow votes last time the Blues beat the Swans. That was 2011. (2017.3 526)

Coooo (*laughing*)

**Sandy Roberts** You can guess who's got it, Kreuzer. Can put this game beyond doubt with a goal here.

**Brad Johnson** gotta love that, don't you, the fact that the crowd pick it up early

and identify that Matty Kreuzer is in best position to take the mark  
**Sandy Roberts** He's only got to be in the vicinity Johnno, they love him.  
**Brad Johnson** For him as well though, he'd know, I must be clear here  
(*laughing*) (2017.3 530)

Evidentially, the boo can be playful, it can be an expression of umpire-induced outrage, and more recently, the boo has been deliberately utilised as a weapon of personal destruction. Booing has experienced its own transitions, much the way understanding of body and mind has done. Boo has moved from the pantomime-like public expression of disapproval or of fun to something decidedly less absurd and theatrical.

The year of 1987 is significant in the history of Australian Rules football as it is the year in which a team from a state other than Victoria was admitted into the VFL, a precursor to the nationalisation of the game and the forming of the AFL. In 1987 the West Coast Eagles, a team from Western Australia joined the league and coincidentally, the tenor of booing in football altered irrevocably. It is 1987 in which the transcripts show a shift in the frequency and direction of the booing. In 1987 Victorians are still booing umpiring decisions. In the Sydney Carlton game for example:

Rhys Jones a chance now, second bite at the ball, and a third, and eventually looking for a ball up but getting a free kick for a push in the back. (*Booing*) The umpire ruling that Cardiff fell onto his back and the former Swan Rhys Jones takes it (1987.1 136)

Sydney fans might have booed Rhys Jones as a traitor, as he had left their team to join Carlton, but they did not. Sydney Swans football fans were largely ex-pat Victorians, starved for Australian Rules in a rugby league state. What was being booed was the decision by the umpire, which was then, in the commentary, dissected and acknowledged by Tim Lane: "Rhys Jones very lucky, in my opinion" (1987.1 136). The decision to award the free kick was viewed by the commentators as contentious, so implicitly in their view, the boo from the crowd was justified.

The following day West Coast played North Melbourne, at Subiaco Oval in Western Australia. The commentary was provided by Dennis Cometti, a West Australian and Peter McKenna, a Victorian. North Melbourne were being soundly thrashed and the West Coast fans were ungenerous with their compassion. A free kick to a North Melbourne player for a blatant push in the back generates a boo – technically a boo for an umpiring decision, however uncontroversial the decision may have been. Dennis comments: "The crowd won't concede anything, Pete"

(1987.2 158). Peter McKenna responds: "...They like to win by 25 against a Victorian side. I played a couple of state games here, they haven't changed over the years" (1987.2 159) The crowd boo raucously as the ball is kicked. A few minutes later, with West Coast 60 points in front, North Melbourne fighting hard but with no hope of closing the gap, kick a goal, and the crowd boo loudly. This booing is identifiably different to any booing previously recorded in the transcripts, and to any booing heard in any of the games listened to prior to this date.

Firstly, the umpire's decision was booed although it was not controversial. Usually, fans will boo a decision they disagree with, not one that is clearly appropriate. This was jokingly acknowledged by the commentators. Secondly, booing an opposition player for kicking a goal after winning the ball fairly, cannot be labelled anything other than unsportsmanlike, particularly with the winning team so far in front. Peter McKenna immediately praises the play, but admits:

a lot of the fire has gone out of the game and even so those Western Australian spectators we saw on camera a moment ago not too happy by the fact that North Melbourne kicked a goal (1987.2 160)

and, credit to his professionalism, he gives an incredulous snicker. Perhaps generated by interstate rivalry, spectator booing had developed an insidious undercurrent that did not bode well. Within a decade, as first Western Australia then South Australia were absorbed into the national league, unfamiliar cultural behaviours were being recognised.

Occasionally, Victorians would boo a player for action deemed unsportsmanlike. For example, in 1982 Hawthorn's Leigh Matthews flattens Ken Hunter of Carlton with an elbow to the back of the head, then in a text-book World Wrestling Federation manoeuvre, bounces his own substantial body on top of that of Hunter, to the howls and boos of the indignant Carlton fans. Nor were Victorians above booing a player for a perceived slight, something that happened off field. For example, Mark Fraser walked out of Collingwood over a pay dispute and went to Essendon for a substantial increase. Club loyalty was still deemed more important than income in the mid-1990s. This booing is implicitly tolerated, the commentary merely noting "Poor old Mark Fraser still getting the hoots of the crowd" (19950425). This is an issue of morality, of club loyalty and the concept of 'selling out'. Fraser himself was the son of a former Essendon champion, Ken Fraser, and therefore was perhaps cognisant of the price a football career had on a body. Collingwood fans have no tolerance for the insult of money over loyalty.

This Victorian propensity to boo at umpires, a rule proved by the exception of making clear

disapproval of players for *specific* actions, in no way exonerates them of bad manners or behaviours. As a child in Melbourne I learned the language of racism and the rules of parochialism at the football and both were fierce. Fundamentally, those who follow Australian Rules Football identify on a local or a regional level. Because the game is Australian, played professionally entirely within Australia, there is no possibility for national identification, beyond a generic pride in the uniqueness of the sport as representation of imagined, idealised Australian character.

In 1996 sports writer Martin Flanagan tells an amusing story in the *The Age Good Weekend Magazine* about a famously unco-ordinated Carlton ruckman, playing in a final with Adelaide. Justin 'Harry' Madden, lanky and unlikely, goes for a run with the ball, miraculously dodges an opponent, bounces and scores a long goal. The delighted Carlton fans 'laughed and cheered in equal measure, and the Adelaide supporters somehow forgot to boo'. It is already an established fact in 1996 that Adelaide supporters boo players from other teams, and this is identifiable as a non-Victorian behaviour.

However, it was football in Victoria that also exposed me to the reverse of racism and parochialism, primarily through the efforts of indigenous players, Michael Long and Nicky Winmar who stood up and threw a metaphorical spanner into the smoothly spinning wheel spokes of the status quo.

It was Nicky Winmar (deliberately) and photographer Wayne Ludbey (serendipitously) who challenged the inertia of the ordinary in 1993. Responding to racist verbal abuse Nicky Winmar stood defiant on the field, raised his St Kilda guernsey and pointed to his bare skin. Black and proud was his message to Collingwood supporters hurling hate-filled words at him. Ludbey's photograph has become an iconic Australian image; in sport, cultural history and the anti-racism movement.

Winmar's stance may ultimately prove to be more than a catalyst for change against racism in football. This visual image, generated by words, may foretell that words may be as weaponised as plain old sticks and stones, that words *can* hurt and that verbal abuse and mental health, as yet unrecognised in the early 1990s, may have a symbiotic relationship.

By 2013, booing with a malicious undercurrent directed at an individual provokes response from the commentary team. Essendon Football Club were at the centre of a performance-enhancing drug scandal in 2013. When Essendon went to Perth to play the West Coast Eagles, the locals booed Jobe Watson, the Essendon captain, whenever he touched the ball.

Commentator Matthew Richardson is at pains to point out the story about the suspected drug use broke 142 days earlier – during which time no other crowds had issued similar responses. In none of the three games immediately prior to the West Coast game were the players of Essendon booed or derided in any manner. Commentary did not refer to the pressures or stress any of the Essendon players may have been experiencing.

In calling the game in Perth, early in the second quarter, the commentators become aware that Watson is being systematically booed.

**Luke Darcy** had a few bronxies for Jobe Watson tonight

**Brian Taylor** Darce, that's very unfair

**Luke Darcy** gee, that's harsh isn't it, staggered to hear that

**Brian Taylor** yeah, bronxies because of the drug controversy

**Luke Darcy** because of the stories this week

...

**Luke Darcy** is this the most parochial crowd in Australia here, because the noise and the atmosphere is through the roof.

**Cameron Ling** absolutely

...

**Luke Darcy** hey, just seeing on your screen here, Angus Monfries, former teammate of Jobe Watson saying: Poor taste by the West Coast Eagles fans at Subiaco tonight. He's referring to every time Jobe Watson gets the ball he's booed by the West Coast supporters. I tend to agree with Angus Monfries. I don't think its great taste. Steve Morris, the Richmond player, he's tweeted as well: It makes me sick hearing the crowd boo such a champion in Jobe Watson. *(Watson gets the ball and is booed as Darcy speaks)*

**Luke Darcy** There it is again. What do you think Richo, I don't like it, I think its -

**Matthew Richardson** No, I think it's a disgrace to be honest

**Brian Taylor** Watson breaks the tackle, gets a really good look, and once again the boos there. We're not sure about that.

...

**Brian Taylor** I just reckon that people that p'raps know Jobe Watson and what sort of person he is, there's no way they'd be entering into that sort of behaviour. I know it's footy and it's a bit of fun –

**Matthew Richardson** There's no findings that have been released yet so let's wait for the appropriate investigations to run their course. 142 days ago, the

story broke.

The following week Essendon play Port Adelaide, in Melbourne. In the second quarter the Essendon fans, who had spent the previous week emphatically protesting the booing of Watson, boo Angus Monfries. (This is the same Angus Monfries who had tweeted in defence of Watson during the game the week prior.) Monfries, a South Australian boy who at 17 years of age had been drafted to Essendon in 2004 and within five years was a key player for the club. In 2012 Monfries signed a four-year deal with Port Adelaide and returned to his home state. Essendon fans (Victorians) boo Monfries as an imagined traitor to their team, and the time-honoured structure of football spectatorship is nobbled.

**Eddie McGuire** Short memories, the Bombers supporters, they were screaming last week about Jobe being booed. (20130707)

Players have always moved between clubs, whether voluntarily or against their preferences, being drafted, traded and transferred as the teams see fit. Here the players are not subjects but objects with a value in a bartering system and may be moved like chess pieces. Some supporters however, seem to ignore this and view movements between clubs as betrayals and use booing to voice their disapproval. A more recent case in point is that of Patrick Dangerfield, who in 2016 moved from Adelaide, the club to which he had been drafted in 2007, to Geelong, where he grew up and where his family still lived. He wanted to go home. When it came time for Geelong, complete with Dangerfield, to go to Adelaide for a game, it was now expected that Dangerfield would be booed by the Adelaide crowd. Disapproval is vocal and pointed.

Prior to the game, respected ex-player and successful coach David Parkin expressed some concern during a television program, *League Teams*, about the likely response Dangerfield would get when he played his first match at Adelaide wearing Geelong's colours. This was the first time I had heard concern from within the world of the AFL itself about the expectation of booing a transferred player, an action that has become commonplace.

**David Parkin:** I just want to make a plea here. When Gary Ablett came back to Geelong for the first time representing the Gold Coast the Geelong people were very respectful

**Dermott Brereton:** Weren't they?

**David Parkin:** clapped him and acknowledged him in the nicest possible way. I'm sure the Adelaide people will have that in them, don't you?

**Dermott Brereton:** No doubt

**David Parkin:** They'll be, from the airport, they'll be welcoming him home, they'll be clapping him every time he does something good, can't you believe that of the Adelaide people?

**Dermott Brereton:** Come on Parko, you *want* them to give him a spray

**David Parkin:** No, no, I don't. I'm absolutely certain the Adelaide people from the city of churches will do the right thing by Dangerfield, don't worry (*League Teams*, 12 May 2016, FOX Footy).

David Parkin's misgivings were well founded. Parochial Adelaide supporters certainly gave Dangerfield 'a spray', booing him soundly whenever he touched the ball. At the end of the match, commentator Dennis Cometti, almost as an aside, sadly muttered "the fans don't get it sometimes" (20160513). This change, this booing of an individual for autonomous action, supported by evidence in the archived recordings, requires an evaluation of the choice in redirection.

Tellingly, the incidents mentioned by David Parkin reflect the issue of booing from both aspects – that of Victorian traditional non-booing of players themselves and also Adelaide's propensity to boo players. It is no accident that the Geelong fans who did not boo Gary Ablett Junior were Victorian, and those in Adelaide who booed Dangerfield so soundly were not. Geelong supporters who lost a favoured son to an interstate team respected the move by the player and supported the benefit his transfer meant to the newly formed team, despite their own loss. They remained proud of Ablett, even when he played elsewhere, and expressed that when given a chance by applauding him. Dangerfield, whose status as an Adelaide player was always that of a Victorian interloper, was conversely vilified by those who had loved him by derogatory booing. This is a fundamental difference in attitude and character on a state level.

Booing is sanctioned rudeness – a form of violence in itself – permissible in a politically correct, controlled environment being 'responsibly led'. Within the writing of this thesis, booing has been subjected to authoritative gaze. Booing is an expression of discontent, no longer directed against authority, but against autonomy, individual action. That is the difference in modern day booing at the football, the result of a shifting focus. The boo of today is of a different tenor to the boo of the 1970s. In Victoria, spectators booed the rules and their representatives – the umpires, and thus it has been in all recorded time. Booing umpires was universal; all supporters of all clubs stood together against the umpires. There was unity, even if expressed oppositionally. This was an era in which control of the game belonged to the umpires rather than to the coaches, who were either very much behind the scenes, or on the ground alongside their troops. Umpires have names, titles even, it is never Della, but always Umpire

Della, Umpire Sutcliff, Umpire Robinson, like a Doctor or Professor or Lord. This unwavering respect has been diluted into bare tolerance through the introduction of multiple umpires whose decisions are often challenged, debated and increasingly outright disagreed with. As the commentary has exhibited increasing lack of respect for the umpires, the crowd and the players have followed their lead. Umpires have moved from a position of authority to that of contested enforcer of rules. It is perhaps this level of contestation that has required umpires to now be equipped with microphones, so that some of their decisions can be heard by the commentary team and by the viewing audience. The ability to tune in and fade out the umpires is an addition to the format, and engineered by using a mixing board, or its digital equivalent. This action requires a level of orchestration not previously present in the televising of games. This is ostensibly to provide insight into decision making, particularly in controversial situations, however, it flags creative input: the sliding of volume controls up and down, the checking of sound, the fading out of an umpire, the amplification of the commentary box, raising the crowd sounds a little. Technology is not only shaping what is available to see, but it is also creating the soundtrack that accompanies the vision. Aurally, the sounds are being manipulated, almost like music, like a movie score. One part of this is the booing in the crowd and how it is heard.

Technology has advanced to the point, thanks to the blogosphere, that articulation and analysis of boopers' intent are possible. Clear in the conversational threads about booing, particularly those from Western Australia, is the understanding that booing is positive hostile support for a team. Here using booing as a weapon of hostility is as natural and ordinary as Goldilocks falling asleep in someone else's bed. Promoting the benefits of a hostile environment alters the ideology of competitive sportsmanship and distorts ordinary. Now such booing is present at many games other than those played by West Coast or Adelaide, having bled into the broader community, perhaps mimicry, perhaps assimilation, perhaps retaliation. It would appear that the modern-day Victorian football fan has adopted the booing of their interstate counterparts. Bloggers from the West Coast fan base<sup>28</sup> seem not to understand it is the emergence of booing as a form of wordless sledging, designed to *mentally* distress, that is the point of contention. It is here that booing players enters the realms of verbal violence. Although initially considered an aggressive response, the descriptors of the fans themselves move changed booing into the parameters that define violence.

Booing players of an opposing team fractures the supporters into warring parties. Booing, like many things before it, has begun as one thing and morphed into another. Targeted booing of

---

<sup>28</sup> <https://www.bigfooty.com/forum/threads/wc-the-booing.1204377/>  
<https://www.bigfooty.com/forum/threads/boo-victims.1112357>



individuals is intended to disable autonomy and does so with brutal effectiveness and efficiency. Zygmunt Bauman encapsulates the paradox:

The contradiction between accounts faithfully reflects the genuine clash between equally powerful tendencies of modern society; a society which is 'modern' in as far as it constantly but vainly tries to 'embrace the unembraceable', to replace diversity with uniformity and ambivalence with coherent and transparent order – and while trying to do this turns out unstoppably more divisions, diversity and ambivalence than it has managed to get rid of (*Postmodern Ethics* 5).

There has been an apprenticeship in targeted booing, a gradual growth in the wielding of this wordless vocal weapon, an emerging confidence in the effectiveness of its use, its ability to weaken and destroy. Crowds have booed perceived traitors, like Patrick Dangerfield, who was booed by a specific crowd – supporters of his old team. Fans have likewise booed those suspected of leadership failings, like Jobe Watson of Essendon. Booed by a more unexpected demographic, Watson's distress was immediate and visible. It seemed that those who booed grew in confidence in their ability to inflict damage at will. By 2015 when Sydney Swans player, Adam Goodes was pursued by booing across the country by supporters of many different teams, the booing was a deliberate and racist act of destruction aimed at an individual human being.

Already the subject of a documentary<sup>29</sup>, the televised dismantling of Adam Goodes is deserving of a study of its own. (No doubt many are already underway.) He was booed ostensibly for a variety of reasons least of which, according to those who booed, was racism. If the booing began for reasons other than racism, it is apparent that racism was indeed what it became about. Adam Goodes is an indigenous football player. I have ambivalent feelings about this. I am glad it was recorded on film as part of our game, that it will remain always a chapter in the story of Australians and football. The revulsion and shame it generated for me, the conversations it engendered, the disbelief, the arguments and the utter inability to imagine what that kind of bullying does to a human being are as much a part of Australian cultural history as they are of my own personal experiences. I cannot imagine a future where a curious student will not be able to access these recordings, to sit and wonder in horror at the casual acceptance of such hurtful behaviours, to trace the agonisingly slow responses of those in authority to question and act against them. I trust our archives will protect the ugly as well as the beautiful, the mundane

---

<sup>29</sup> The Final Quarter – a 2019 documentary about the final stages of Goodes' career during which he was the target of repeated booing by opposition fans

along with the special. What happened with Adam Goodes, an exceptional football player who ended his career without a victory lap, a parade or accolades, was both ugly and special.

Booing as in the Adam Goodes situation is using language as a weapon, even if the words have been removed. By tracing the advent of booing at football matches it is possible to map the progression from what many believe is the right of the spectator to voice disapproval through to the vilification of a targeted individual. Goodes was not the first, only the most thoroughly destroyed. Even now after six years of listening, the booing of players at football games discomforts me. The most academic term I can find to describe booing is 'feral'. It suggests a lack of self-awareness, of awareness of self in relation to others. It is compassionless and rude. It is designed to convey, deliberately, distress.

The harder the AFL works to promote itself as an idealised cultural institution, the more incongruous booing at players becomes. It goes against all the theoretical values and principles of the game itself. AFL clubs each have leadership teams, strive to promote good citizenship, encourage role models and take stands against unethical behaviours. Good sportsmanship is integral to the game. Rules are respected, adherence to principles is rigorous. Commentary is littered with concepts such as courage and composure. The booing of players at games represents a mismatch between the 'entwinement of the domestic and local with the public (and) political' (Curthoys, 68). Booing is a moral statement, one which does not sit comfortably within the doctrine of the game. Yet with rare exception, there is little comment or response made by the commentators or the AFL themselves, although they have plenty to say on a variety of other issues that lie within the same ethical bandwidth.

The possibility that booing is being used as a form of resistance to policed behavioural mores continually surfaces. Perceived deterioration in the morality of public behaviour has led to an increase in enforced 'political correctness'. 'The more we encounter egregious exhibitions of coarseness and tastelessness, the more sensitive some become to real and imagined linguistic slights' (Lichter 90). Social codes have been promulgated to such an extent that legislation ensures smooth communal function. How will this be re-interpreted fifty years from now, when a student of Foucault applies knowledge from an altered vantage point to what will then be ideology of the past, as I sit now deciphering the 1970s? Ostensibly this improved crowd environment is for the enhanced pleasure of the masses. All benefit from law and order, from 'responsibly led' change. Justified as rational 'because of the rewards it brings' (Bauman 27), the AFL have developed within their football-based microcosm, an 'artificially constructed ethical zone' (34), designed to be extended beyond the sport and carried into everyday life, and perhaps forcing adverse spectator response.

Just as there are conventions for players and commentators, there are conventions for spectators, although the penalties for spectator transgressions are more arbitrarily applied. There are, however, unspoken rules and protocols by which the spectators abide, beginning with alcohol, ending with language and covering a gamut of social mores in between. Commentary will be shaped by changing social environment in the future, as it has been in the past. Booing may make another move, in an equally unexpected direction. Body repair may make the most serious of injuries nothing more than an inconvenience. A 'responsibly led' social environment may yet produce a category of people harmonious, resilient and respectful.

## Vision

With a clearer understanding of the way in which changes in language alter spectator comprehension, this chapter will pay attention not only to that which the commentary actively instructs viewers to look but also at what the spectator is provided with to look at. An absence of words also communicates, as seen in the 1970s transcripts where bodies were not represented in the language. It appears likely there will always remain a human aspect not recognised, unspoken, either because mundanity renders it ordinary beyond value of comment, or because it is not currently visible as a viable element. On-field behaviours are rendered ordinary when they incite no reaction or comment, however, as the relaying of action on the field has slowly transformed from animated description into a prescriptive critique, viewer's attention follows the commentary's verbal projection, and sees as directed. In this way, for example, attention is directed to the excellence of medical staff rather than the severity of an injury, the positive being the advances in care and treatment. Connell suggests

Practice never occurs in a vacuum. It always responds to a situation and situations are structured in ways that permit certain possibilities and not others. Practice does not proceed into a vacuum either. Practice makes a world. In acting, we convert initial situations into new situations. Practice constitutes and reconstitutes structures. ... It makes the reality we live in (*Masculinities* 65).

The combination of pictures and commentary accompanying serious injury on the AFL field creates a reality where the medical expertise is the focus, and the injury is an allowable by-product. The irony is lost when Anthony Hudson says, "it's something you don't want to see" (20020518) as the viewer is subjected to the third replay of an injury occurring during the Collingwood Brisbane game in 2002.

Attitudes are predicated on responses. Language structures reality by presenting evaluative criteria selectively chosen at the rejection of other possibilities. This is neither good nor bad, but as Foucault, Clifford and Bauman all differently assert: it is the choice made over the options discarded that is culturally significant, the reasonings, subliminal or deliberate that direct thinking, action and understanding. The acceptance of injury on the field is counterbalanced with a blanket ban on bad language in the stands. The throwing of telephone book confetti and sundry missiles transitions into the waving of pre-printed paper flags and the beating of inflatable clapping sticks. Provision of a medivac cart authorises the possibility of bodily harm.

Televised football is by definition, the watching of broadcast games. The images seen are determined by a multitude of directors, camera operators, editors, sponsors and administrative officials. The spectator is already watching, and in most cases, listening. Increasingly, the commentary tells the spectator not only how to respond to what is being seen, but also, what should be looked at. Again, increases in the use of simple concepts and words make these almost imperceptible changes. Words such as ‘see’ and ‘look’ have increased exponentially between 1973 and 2017, from 92 uses in 1973 (5.41 times per final quarter) to 266 uses in the 2010s (14.77 times per final quarter). No one is being asked to observe, but the commentators are directing viewers to ‘watch’ twice as often in the 2010s as they did in the 1970s transcripts. Replay, obviously, is instrumental in this increase in the language of vision. The change in what is deemed worthy of replaying is notable.

In 1973, Thorold Merrett urges viewers to take the time to “Watch this long kick” (1973.1 5) as Rantall of North Melbourne, steadying after taking a mark, prepares to kick successfully to a team mate, Kekovich. Replay was not available to the commentary teams in 1973. Replaying sections of film is specifically for the purposes of pointing out something worth seeing again. Naturally, commentators urge spectators to be attentive – this should be looked at again.

That’s a very good piece of play there as we watch on replay, by Buhagiar. We see that Buhagiar really has a look, makes no attempt to kick a goal, (1982.2 131)

We’ll watch again on replay as the ball was put up high, Beecroft almost taking the mark and a lovely piece of roving by Eustice (1982.2 131)

And there we see the mark in replay, also got a free kick too, (1982.2 132)

Law, let’s see this in replay, John Law a very, very, strong mark, kept his eyes on it and came down hard. (1987.4 158)

as we see in replay Wrensted a beautiful chip pass across, he saw MacNish. (1987.4 158)

Contrasting the first five mentions of replay in the 1980s transcripts (above) and then these following five from the end of the 2010s transcripts provides a clear illustration of the direction taken. The provision of the slow-motion replay allows not only a second (or a third or fifth) look, but a scrutiny - it invites a critical evaluation. Before long, replay provides a change of focus.

Let’s have a look at the replay here Dwayne, and Stewie Cramer tried to walk off on his own steam there and then couldn’t, so look at this, oh ankle as well,

went underneath (2012.2 420)

The kick ricocheted from Melksham, off the Lion's leg and we'll have a look at the replay in a moment. (2012.2 421)

Yes, but he's staying out there, trying to, trying to shake it off. Let's have a look, (*replay Goodes incident*) he goes on the lead and then he just geeze (2012.6 463)

There's one for the low lights reel. That's going to get replayed for ever. (2012.2 518)

...hit him on top of the head but cleaned up the fence in a big way. Just see here on the replay. That's a bit nasty (2017.7 566)

That which is considered worthy of repeating for closer inspection has shifted from the positivity of good play to the negativity of bodily harm. It would also seem, but is not conclusively clear, that the facility of replay has had permanent effect on the conceptualisation of time, and the habitation of the present. Refocused attitudes toward time influence how commentators ask spectators to 'see', moving from a present tense to a predictive future tense.

Coming to it now is Scott, look at this fellow, great courage, (1973.2 12)

Lawrence, oh look at him, he did it so beautifully and so easily and sends it out wide. (1973.3 23)

look at the determination on Matthews to try and run him down, but he's too slow. (1973.4 29)

Let's watch it. Drop punt by McKenna. The goal umpire doesn't move much, it's there! (*Crowd roar*). (1973.9 66)

Here comes Bartlett once again, watch him turn and baulk and weave. (1973.16 115)

we can see Davis leading out, (1982.1 119)

hello, Teasdale's cramped right up, you can see him in agony there, (1982.1 124)

you see how greasy that ball is too in this night time, (1987.1 136)

Have a look at this, brought him down beautifully. (1987.2 148)

Seeing develops a prophetic undercurrent, it is about anticipating the future, beyond what is happening now.

Leigh, can you see Wood and Jolly playing in the same team? (2012.1 419)

Weitering again can hardly walk. It's going to be interesting to see how he comes up, or if he comes up for next week's in battle against Collingwood (2017.3 533).

Not sure about you boys upstairs, I'm excited to see what the Crows can do in the last quarter (2017.9 584)

Roo, do you see Riley O'Brien getting a run just to uh give him some exposure at a top level? (2017.9 589)

Look, see and watch are verbs, physical instructions. Notice, a noun, opens a different realm, one in which seeing is linked to connective awareness. Etymologically, 'notice' is from the past participle of *norcere* (Latin), to come to know. To notice is to register an understanding not immediately obvious or perhaps not wholly visible. Of 14 recorded uses of notice in the transcripts, most of them are indicators of an awareness beyond what can merely be seen. When a commentator verbalises something he has noticed, he is asking those listening to acknowledge his observation.

You notice when Ablett marks 55 from goal (1992.3 175)

Notice no hands in the back there (2007.2 340)

I did notice something different (2017.4 518)

In 1987 the camera was panning the crowd, showing the viewers at home themselves at the game. Men, women and children, the old and the young, dressed in the fashion of the day and sporting haircuts that pin them to an era. These random glimpses of the crowd position the spectator among peers, reassures membership in the tribe and have become more prevalent over time. While transcribing I was compelled half a dozen times to record instances of vision of the crowd, even though the commentary made no reference to the images on the screen. These instances are by no means the only ones, merely those I felt compelled to record, moved perhaps by their focus on the ordinary, the everyman quality of the everyday representation. Here are images of relatability, of connection between myself the viewer and those with whom I can identify. A general, generic crowd shot places me as a spectator, the more intimate, personal connection with individuals in the stands places me beside them, with them. They are me, they are fans of the game. They are ordinary representation of the everyday in Australia, images that capture their epoch.

*(Cut to young bloke with boy band haircut standing in the crowd)* (1997.5 240)

*(vision of two young women clapping happily with St Kilda scarves)* (1997.6 246)

*(vision of teenage girls under a broly) (1997.6 251)*

*(Vision of two little boys grinning under umbrellas) (1997.6 252)*

*(Vision of two 50-60-year-old women under an umbrella) (1997.6 252)*

*(nice 70ish woman in crowd, looking anxious) (2007.7 395)*

On occasion, the camera shots of the crowd generate a response from the commentary box.

*(Vision of a sleeping weeks-old baby wrapped and snuggled in red and white)*

**Sandy Roberts** That's something Bruce that you may be able to relate to in the next few weeks, and let's hope whoever she is, is as quiet

**Bruce McAvaney** yes, I'm very clucky at the moment, Sandy

**Sandy Roberts** I've noticed (1997.7 261)

*(vision of man going ballistic in the crowd)*

**Dennis Cometti** that last gentleman, 200 over 180 I think (2007.7 400)

Cameras usually turn to the spectators in dead time, after a behind has been kicked, while the ball is out of play, in the space when a replay is being spooled. There is a second or two in which a crowd shot will fit. A chewed lip, a fist-pump, excited jumping up and down or unbearable suspense shared between the spectator and the viewer. This is also changing, with a focus increasingly edging towards the cheer squads rather than the spectators. Cameras have panned to the cheer squads less often than to the crowd in general, until recently. In 2017 the cheer squad was given noticeably increased screen time with cameras swinging to them almost instinctively. Cheer squads, while invaluable support for their respective teams, do not represent Everyman. Cheer squad members occupy a separate space, they are supporters in vaudeville. When the screen shot is of the cheer squad, the vital component of recognition, of mirrored self is diluted, if present at all.

And what of that seen but not mentioned? Football has entered the realm of science fiction, but the genre change is unacknowledged. A game played in torrential rain showed rain-slicked players running desperately down the field; the manufactured turf caused their boots to splash water clear enough to drink as they ran. It was, literally, the cleanest game of football I have ever seen. Not a speck of mud. Clean, bright colours and blinding white shorts all wringing wet, clinging to hard, fit bodies. Application of another lens might suggest something untoward. Trying to recall when last I saw a muddied player, instead I remember a predominantly white football jumper with streaks of blue and red paint smeared on it. The player had obviously made contact with an advertisement painted on the turf. Gone the honest mud of slog to be replaced



by the professionally applied paint of promotion. Levi-Strauss comes to mind because culture has been applied to sliding in the mud, a transition from the mud of battle to the grass-paint of competition. A long way indeed from a tree-studded Richmond paddock.

Between the ordinary experience of playing in mud and the ordinary experience of playing without mud, there has been a transitory non-ordinary experience. The two ordinaries are as different from one another as possible, yet both are unremarkable in the mundanity of the change in what is accepted as ordinary. Another visual change in the ordinary is the recent uniformity to the presence of women in football where women had not been before. Representationally, beginning in 2017, there is now a woman on every panel show and call team, even if she is only a boundary rider. This is the transitory step between one state of ordinary (no women at all) to another state of ordinary (women's presence moving from tokenism to unremarkable) yet to be realised.

The emergence of the mind and the acknowledgement of mental health has become a major contributing factor to overall restructuring of acceptable masculinity, particularly in the world of Australian Rules football. Masculinity is now partially defined bodily through touch. In the 1970s football players rarely voluntarily touched each other in celebration or encouragement. Touching was reserved for aggression and competition. This is no longer the case as may be seen in any ordinary televised match. The spectator watches as a player who has kicked a goal immediately turns to seek body contact with his teammates, they charge in to slap hands and wrap arms around shoulders, all grins, hands extended, arms outstretched. Very communal. Close ups of arms and hands, body is forefront, touching is positive and positioned as not just acceptable, but desirable. Chest bumps, group hugs, individual embraces, hair ruffles, all normal, all visible and endorsed as everyday by its invisibility in the language. Theoretically, ordinary positive touching is now considered contributory to good mental health. This touching is focused on, sought by the cameras and expected as an ordinary response by the spectator – because the commentary talks over the image being shown without mentioning it, or at most, 'his team mates congratulate him'. The absence of comment is what renders it ordinary. Aggressive bodily contact is the stuff of commentary, positive body contact is largely ignored verbally. This rule is proved by the exception of a first gamer kicking his first goal, then the commentary team enthuse over the positive vision of his teammates coming to congratulate him with hugs and thumps, often running the length of the ground to do so. This positive body contact becomes part of the ritual of achievement, a rite of passage. A game predicated on the mettle of manhood and the risk of injury has normalised, via what has been verbalised by the commentators, positive touching within the suspended-rationality of a physical contact sport. The commentary matters. What is said as commentary models acceptable behaviours.

Positive body touching has by extension allowed care of the body in a way not seen previously. Players are elevated by on-field attention during active game time, fussed over by teams of attendants. In 1973 players grabbed a drink between quarters, over the boundary line or in the rooms: in 2017 runners hand players water bottles on-field, performing a service without eye contact or acknowledgement. Anonymous hands give and receive, enabling hydration without the player breaking his focus. These attendants have their presence authorised by their uniforms, pink shirts and shorts, pink bibs, identifying them as service providers. Runners with water bottles or messages from the coach, medical staff, physios, all coloured as auxiliary and permitted. Pink at the football in the 1970s was as ridiculous a thought as a man pushing a child's pram, today neither sight rouses comment. This acceptance of pink flags changes in attitude that integrate femininity into the masculine world without causing apparent harm. The widespread acceptance of a significantly feminised colour signifier in the world of football is a visual marker of altered attitude, unseen by those for whom it is ordinary.

Technology now allows spectators to watch a fit young man jog back to position with a look of self-satisfaction, perhaps having kicked an important goal. There may be a bit of 'take that' in his gait. The colours on the screen are so bright and crisp, the blurring of the background so precise that the image on screen becomes a two-dimensional human against a flat backdrop. He is seen in bas relief. His body and his projected image are lifted to the front of the picture as he jogs, an athlete with a haircut, an attitude on legs – the viewer sees him not as an image, but as someone real. This is Rene Magritte's *Ceci 'nest pas une pipe*<sup>30</sup>. The player has been, however, packaged as hyper-real visually, seen through the lens of a camera and adjusted for looking at. 'Images are no longer the mirror of reality, they have invested the heart of reality and transformed it into hyper-reality where from screen to screen, the only aim of the image is the image' (Baudrillard 12). This image of a player is constructed, and it is the thought of the digital equivalent of a cutting room floor – the considered-ness of it, no less the speed at which this must happen for 'live' transmission that impresses – and may impress positively or negatively, depending on the viewer's stance. This mastery of focus is not art reproduced mechanically, but art produced mechanically.

The 'hyper-real', the more real than real is perhaps an inevitable extension to mechanically produced/reproduced art. From different points of departure, Baudrillard and Benjamin appear to have arrived at the same understanding. Images invested with hyperreality 'ironically

---

<sup>30</sup> This is not a pipe, rather it is a depiction of a pipe

absorb[s] the space of the real' (Smith, *The Baudrillard Dictionary* 96). Mechanically produced 'live' broadcasts containing hyperreal imagery have usurped reality.

Mechanically produced art is largely ignored, yet the visual 'packages' used prior to the commencement of the second half are unequivocally art. The image and music selections are spliced at speed, playing in real time at the end of the ad break. Images from the preceding play are recognisably vision of tackles, marks, the exertion of human effort. They are celebratory and intense. Fast moving bodies slowed and framed, edited snips of vision, all moving with manufactured deliberateness, the eye watching movement in slow-motion but the brain registering multiple images in succession as the images themselves change rapidly. They really are clever 60 second artworks, juxtapositions of speed and slowness, but ordinary, just fillers: or art, whichever you like. These tiny mechanical productions are disposable, single-use, ordinary. Nonetheless, it is someone's work, and it is adroit and quick and skilled. It may require no more than the pressing of a keyboard button, but still it is created, collated by someone specifically designated.

The manufactured-ness of the vision, the construction of the film, the rapid and relentless changing of camera angles in any given 20 second period of play - now close up on the player, sweeping the crowd, pulling back to show the positioning of the play, an overhead view, shifting to where the ball will land, a snap to the umpire – the technology is shaping what we see, what the commentators see, how the game is perceived. Two cameras have become twenty-three and the speed with which camera angles can change is perhaps increasing to accommodate more sophisticated visual capabilities of an audience raised in a technological revolution. Black and white footage from the 1970s often sweeps the length of the field, a nauseating sea-sick swoosh as the camera manually swings from one side to the other, imagery blurred and out of focus. Today the changing visual depth of field, the micro-second snaps from one view to another, the rapidity with which that being looked at changes and the accompanying clarity is all regarded as perfectly normal. The televisual format must keep pace with a viewing-audience au fait with digital technology. The watching of televised football becomes a separate experience to watching football.

## Time

Time, despite being immutable, may be experienced multi-dimensionally and indeed be conceptually distorted, fractured, and manipulated. A game of football, temporally finite, provides multiple examples of time being used in such a manner. The game of football, viewed as a cultural identifier, may also be employed as a measurable marker of time and its movement and, with close reading, it is possible to observe a changing relationship with time in the commentary itself. Technology has enabled the fragmentation of time, which no longer sweeps but rather shapeshifts with digital precision, into fractions of seconds. Reducing the measurements of time into smaller markers curiously expands perception despite making no adjustment to that which cannot be changed. A minute remains a minute consisting of sixty seconds. A second remains a second no matter by how many hundredths it is divided. An overwhelmed child of ten or eleven, reeling from the intensity of being in the moment, of now, tells his footballer hero: “I’ve been waiting 72 years for that [Sydney Swans Grand Final win]” – how then is time conceptualised, experienced, lived? It is the *use*, the *experience* of time that alters.

For most of its history football in Australia had a fixed place. It had a season. It belonged to winter. It belonged to Saturday afternoons, rain, hail or shine. Football had a place, a location, not only spatial but temporal. The very concept of time, viewed through the lens of football commentary, has redefined itself against evolving social trends and practices.

Professionalisation has produced a pre-season, beginning in late summer and commercialisation has expanded Saturday afternoons into what is loosely called ‘the weekend’, which may stretch from Thursday through to a holiday Monday. Changing understanding of time in football can be mapped by following the way which time is represented within the language itself. The English language is predicated on tense: past, present and future. The very act of televising ‘live’ sport alters attitudes toward time that existed pre-television and that had been deeply embedded culturally. The transcriptions of the commentary clearly show different viewpoints of time over the five decades.

Multifaceted, time is both micro and macro, it is now and it is then. It is the fraction of a second it took to read this sentence and it is 1973. Looking at the semiotics of language in the 1970s the past becomes instantly recognisable as that which has gone before. There is a patina of time that settles over the choice of words, the imagery, the very language itself, ironically discernible only with spatial and temporal distance. This is Benjamin’s aura made visible. Two opening

snatches of commentary, around 240 words each, played consecutively date themselves to even an untrained ear as past or present. In this way, the passage of time becomes audible.

The opening 241 words of the first game transcribed from 1973:

**Dick Mason** Fitzroy leading by 4 points at the start of the last quarter against North Melbourne at North Melbourne and Norm Brown sends Fitzroy forward with a long punch, taken by Briedis for North Melbourne though and turned out the grandstand wing. David Rhodes Fitzroy's interstate wingman gathers the ball. Slightly in the back to Wilson of Fitzroy, and he'll take the free kick. He wastes no time, spiral punt to the goal square, North Melbourne scouting, not a good handpass to Farrant but to Captain Barry Davis, one of North Melbourne's best. Kekovich at half forward, can't mark, recovers well, gets boot to ball. Smith, lines them up, oh a heavy clash, over goes Doolan, ball still in play. Kick by David Wall, Kekovich shepherds well, allows Feltham for North Melbourne to send to Smith, can't hold the mark. Greig. Can't find a handle on the football. Down he goes. Plays it beautifully, Keith Greig, still got the ball. Turf now, and Irwin gets Fitzroy out of danger. Barry Davis. One handed Barry Davis! Been a great, inspirational captain for North Melbourne today. 23 kicks. And it's another boomer. Doug Wade in the pack, almost got a hand to it the second time. Fitzroy defence led by Murray. Now Merrigan the full back, played a dashing game, has kept Wade down to two goals, (*Whistle, booing*) North Melbourne supporters don't think much of the display given today by Umpire Robinson (1973.1 1)

The opening 242 words of the first game transcribed from 2017:

**Wayne Carey** Clearly the umpires have thought that he's been treading a fine line and they're actually watching him. Tonight. So that's a, well he owes his team a goal now though

**Cameron Ling** He sure does. And he might not be playing next week

**Wayne Carey** Really unusual comments from an umpire saying that we've been watching you now for a couple of weeks

**Brian Taylor** Having said all of that I have absolutely no problem with that.

Ground level footy here to be won, Dogs by 5 points. So, dangerous tackle against Mumford. Libba's a little shaken by it too, here. Let's have a look at it

**Wayne Carey** He's been aggressive all night.

**Bruce McAvaney** Gee.

**Brian Taylor** Gee, I don't know whether that is dangerous. Is it? I mean, it. Sure, it's injured him and put him in an awkward position, but is it illegal?

**Wayne Carey** He hasn't - no, it's not illegal. He hasn't lifted him. He's nah,

**Cameron Ling** He hasn't lifted and twisted him,

**Wayne Carey** No, he's he's not in any trouble there. I think he's he's not in any trouble there. You can see Libba though, it can be dangerous though if your arms are pinned. And you can see there

**Brian Taylor** His head hit the ground first though boys, what about that

**Wayne Carey** Dep-

**Cameron Ling** Well

**Brian Taylor** Have a look at the head,

**Wayne Carey** Yeah, I know, it's a, that's a tough one

**Brian Taylor** That's probably the issue we've got here, (2017.1 506)

Even without audio, the language in this example is identifiably different, belonging to differing times. Mason's commentary is directed at a listener he cannot see, he is describing, giving a detailed account. Although he has already called three quarters of a game, making no assumptions, he identifies the two different teams playing (Fitzroy and North Melbourne), gives the score (Fitzroy by 4 points) and locates the play (at North Melbourne, along the grandstand wing). As the ball travels those who contribute to its passage are named, as are their actions: long punch, spiral punt, not a good handpass, recovers well, heavy clash, shepherds well, can't hold the mark. Actions both successful and unsuccessful are relayed in a similar manner, without undue emphasis. Mason takes advantage of opportunities to use positive language, to praise the actions of those on the field and to identify the captain of North Melbourne, commending his excellence of play. His commentary includes the players, the supporters, the umpires and the ball. He calls a complete passage of play before his counterpart steps in and takes his turn. This excerpt from 1973 has a fluid understanding of time, there is movement and momentum, a carrying forward of the game. There is a rich descriptive vocabulary weighted with positivity, a sense of location and identity; a clear positioning in space and time. There is also a crystal-clear sense that the words are directed to a listener.

The transcript from 2017 records a conversation between three knowledgeable men watching football, it is not commentary. There is no sense of an audience, of a listener, rather this is conversation that presumes all that Mason did not. There is no clear beginning to this audio, the conversation is in motion when the spectator tunes in, effectively rendering the listener eavesdropper. One team is identified and although the score is given, no play is located; the ball

seems to have little to do with the events that unfold. There is no movement forward with the commentary. The sequence of actions leading to the tackle that causes injury are absent - there is barely any mention of the game play at all. The commentators instead discuss the unusual remarks made by the umpire toward an unnamed player (Toby Greene), chastised about his behaviour at three quarter time. Despite there being “ground level footy to be won”, the commentary does not follow the ball as the events leading to the “dangerous tackle” unfold. There is entanglement in time as the focus is then narrowed to the few seconds in which the tackle occurs and the injury is sustained. There are overtones of responsibility, legality and onus. There is no sense of the spectator being addressed in what is fundamentally a closed conversation between the commentary staff. Within this snippet of commentary, the viewer is shown the same incident three more times in slow motion. The same few seconds are authenticated by repeat viewing from different vantage points. This is an example of time being manipulated when a replayed image can freeze, revisit, extend and repeat a specific handful of seconds. It is also an illustration of changes in the focus of the commentary within an identified time span.

This pinpointing of time, this freezing, rewinding and reviewing to establish a truth of happenstance permits space for uncommon analysis. When seconds of time are slowed down and repeatedly replayed, it becomes possible to see how the positioning of body parts may contribute to injury. The implication of the replayed footage is not to show the viewer what happened, but rather to allow the commentators improved perspective. The replay, through the commentary, is claimed by the commentators with the spectators as unauthorised onlookers. The subject of scrutiny is not the passage of the ball, rather it is the body that is important. If the tackle were technically legal, was Liberatore then responsible for the location of his arms – should he have held them differently? Had his arms not been pinned, his head may not have hit the ground with the same force. An elbow held at a slightly higher angle may have prevented the pinning of his arms, therefore does Liberatore’s decision to drop his elbow make him responsible for his potential concussion? How conscious of his arms and legs must a player be in the midst of a passage of play? Decisions that must be made within a fraction of a second may on occasion, as Liberatore can attest, be seen as erroneous. Here is another germination point for ‘if’. Potentially, also, a return to victim responsibility.

The fractured second has itself become an object of scrutiny with the introduction of the umpire’s call for review. Whenever an umpire is unsure if another player or object has touched the ball, an event which would alter the outcome of play, they may signal for play to be halted and for a review panel to examine the recorded footage of the incident in slow motion. The umpire is required to make a call, the confirmation of which is then left to the review panel. The

viewing audience is also shown the footage, and the focus is narrowed to a millisecond or a nanosecond, indiscernible to the naked eye. A weighted importance is attached to the possibility of a fingertip briefly grazing the leather, or the ball brushing the goal post, so imperceptibly that it can only be seen in extreme slow motion on frozen frames of film.

**Anthony Hudson** Sloane! What about this! What about this! It's not a point, it's a goal!

**Jason Dunstall** They're gonna review this I reckon  
They're going to review it. See, it, he's called - Now did he say it hit the post?

**Jason Dunstall** I don't think Johncock reacted like he kicked a goal, and they're setting up for a zone, I think it hit the post. Unless it clearly says otherwise, this will be a point.

This is a huge, a huge break for the Swans. They only way they're gonna win this game is if it's a point

**Jason Dunstall** Here we go. Does it touch the padding?

Yes, it does

That's a great decision by the umpire, he thought it hit the padding, and it does,

**Anthony Hudson** It skinned the pads, it skinned it, and so,

**Jason Dunstall** Gee that's a bad miss by Johncock, that would have sewn the game up

As understanding of time condenses, seconds and the parts thereof are allocated the importance previously accorded to minutes. Questions are being asked about the contents of a fraction of a second. There is room only for the individual in such narrow focus; the team does not fit. This creates a juxtaposition between the cohesion of team sport and individual player accountability, underscoring the importance of the individual, and the responsibility of action. That the evidence is often inconclusive is a mere irritant (technology usually blamed), the possibility must always be explored. There is a further suspension of time while all eyes (and cameras) turn to the screen at the stadium, where the deciding result will be published for all to see. Sometimes it takes several minutes for the spectator to learn that the fraction of a second holds no definitive answer and the umpire's original call stands.

This scrutiny applies more broadly than injury responsibility and does not always require the slowing down of time. Younger players without the game experience of older players are afforded small leeway in the modern game, and as the ratio of young to older increases, the margin continues to shrink. The commentary implies that decisions quickly made are decisions made without proper consideration. Hugh McCluggage, highly acclaimed Number One draft



pick, debuted in Round 3 2017 aged 19 years and 38 days. The following comments about his performance were made in Round 6 2017, just three weeks later.

**Jason Dunstall** Oh, made a hash of that. Dane Zorko was down in the goal square on his own. He could have chipped it as soon as he got it but he tried to get back inside. More comfortable on his right boot Hugh McCluggage and look in the end, he should have kicked a goal basically (2017.4 544)

The advantage of a birds' eye view and the luxury of time to contemplate and assess allows Jason Dunstall to draw on his own bank of experience to move from 'could have chipped it' to a more definitive 'should have kicked a goal, basically' in the space of two sentences. How different the response some forty-four years earlier when a kick was perhaps rushed:

**Thorold Merrett** ...and young Rene Kink, who's a school boy of 16 years old has kicked three, comes in to shoot for his fourth, and it's a beautiful looking kick. Oh! Just missed. Just missed. It deserved a goal that one. It was a great kick from the youngster. (1973.17 111)

Time is the harbinger of improvement. This is visible in physical maturity, match experience, development. Commentary is now focussed on the young and their 'potential' in a way not seen before and appears to have lost its organic positive spin. Youth and development are conceptually tied to time and also to a pre-determined window of opportunity. Time allows only a brief space for achievement of excellence – the primary goal – although a moveable feast. Career spans are now shortened. Number of games played by past 'greats' such as Brent 'Boomer' Harvey are not expected to be seen again<sup>31</sup>. Bodies cannot endure such lengthy exposure to the game and it is unrealistic to believe they might in this 'modern' version of football. It is too demanding, too brutal. Dane Swan of Collingwood, said to be one of the greatest midfielders of all time, suffered a broken foot in a manner usually only seen in high impact car accidents. He retired on doctor's advice to ensure mobility in middle age.

Youth has a second attraction, promoted by the commentary. Youth is an investment in the future, a promise of things to come. The fan is granted ringside seats to the development, the creation of a star. The obverse of this intense focus on youth is the demise and removal of the old. Those with bodies unable to continue, although mentally, they could fight to the death and very often want to. Gradual references to age and retirement gather momentum until almost

---

<sup>31</sup> Four players have played 400 or more games. The 300 club has approximately 73 members

every reference to a marked player contains seeds of his ending. Commentary allows no 'wriggle-room', the agenda is youth and physicality. The bitterness of Don Scott, his sense of rejection and betrayal by the game to which he had given 14 years of his life is palpable:

**Don Scott** You are never going to succeed in football unless you're emotionally involved. You cannot be a mercenary and just go out and play football. It takes something from inside to be able to commit your body, risk your body for the sake of getting team success. As soon as you're finished, the club just moves on and they sever that tie and a lot of fellows don't realise, or have problems equating or readjusting their life because they're finished. (Sheahan 316).

Football requires that masculinity be expressed bodily and 'gender is vulnerable when the performance cannot be sustained' (Connell 54). Formidable men felled by their own bodies fester with loss. Commentary has a role here. The lauding of ageing heroes as their careers shorten and end is preparation for viewer, and perhaps also for player. There is a blunt kindness now that is new; "He's in the waning moon of his career, he'd love another go at finals" (20140823) perhaps engendered by Don Scott and others whose career endings were emasculating and humiliating. The end may be inevitable, but no less damaging a fall for the mighty, for whom masculinity itself has been fractured.

Youth and age are time related. Beginning and promise, end and altered reality. Film will change the way those who retire are remembered. Never has the ability to record and preserve been as accessible or as universal. It is easy to assume archives of the future will have far greater content than those of the past, providing the technology can preserve itself. It is equally easy to assume that given the ordinariness of the ability to record and preserve, it will be overlooked or neglected. It is not possible for today's Carlton fan to view John Nicholls in action. A legendary player, he remains an intangible story only, largely beyond visual remembrance. There is little recorded footage of him, that which remains is largely difficult to access. Snippets of film show images but tell no story. Nick Reiwoldt, retired in 2017, will be remembered differently from the early days of his career when he 'sucked up' the pain (2002.1 270), to his peak career highlights – all available easily on film. Vision and game time commentary to reinforce his heroic status long past his retirement, even long past his death.

From a marketing perspective, intense focus on the younger players ensures an investment of interest over the potential career of the player. Many of these lauded youngsters fall victim to injury or stage-fright and quietly fade from view. Those who do not are subjected to intense scrutiny. Their gait is discussed, reflex responses are judged, kicking style, individual quirks

and talents (or lack thereof) are topics of conversation. Development of a young recruit into a star player can be followed from the couch, in the stands, at the water cooler. A recent illustrative example is Ben Brown of North Melbourne who has transitioned from being “like a baby giraffe” (20140712), “a big lump of a lad” (20140817), “a bit of a find, this kid” (20140830) into a man.

They needed to find a match winner inside forward 50 and Ben Brown’s been that man tonight. (2017.5 555)

No longer Benny Brown, the boy, but Ben Brown, “...a man, who stands 200 centimetres tall” (20170826).

No longer a promise, he has achieved manhood before the crowd. His transition monitored, discussed and archived in the public domain. His retirement in the 2020s (all being well), will be accompanied by a visual and audio archive that is at the vanguard of technology.

In football, time is a precious commodity. Its importance is such that no time may be lost, although it may be wasted. ‘Lost time’ is compensated for. Non-game time, dead time, is calculated and reinstated at the end of each quarter. In this way time is relocated, transferred to the future.

It doesn't matter how much time he takes because the time is added from the time the goal umpire waves the flag until the full back kicks the ball. Then it starts again, the clock. (1973.3 20)

This time taken from within the play and tacked onto the end of the quarter, added up to an unknown quantity. Time in this way was obfuscated, its manipulation was engineered to generate anxiety and urgency by remaining unknown. The commentators knew no more than the spectators how much time was remaining, and this not-knowing becomes as much a part of the commentary as the game itself.

31 minutes 10 seconds have elapsed in the final term, (1973.2 12)

Well about 5 minutes of play remaining at the Western Oval, five minutes at least. The third quarter went for 31 minutes. (1973.3 19)

29 and a half minutes gone. (1973.3 20)

I would say probably about one minute of play remaining. At the most, two.

Both sides are desperate. (1973.3 21)

At the 25 and three-quarter minute mark. (1973.12 75)

The siren due to go any tick of the clock. ... Nearly 32 minutes gone, the siren has to go surely any tick of the clock (1982.2 132)

The commentators try to calculate how much time might be left by counting stoppages, the number of goals kicked, estimating the number of times the ball has gone out 'on the full'. Chance looms large when knowledge is absent. In the transcripts of the 1970s, this relocated time, minutes and seconds cut from the game and added to the end of the quarter was referred to as 'time off', 'extra time' or 'time on'.

and they lead by four points in the time off period (1973.1 6)

We're about to enter the time on period. Melbourne leading by one goal. Can they hang on? (1973.6 43)

25 minutes gone, we're playing extra time and not one quarter in this game has gone beyond 30 minutes (1973.12 78)

The introduction of digital on-screen clocks that count down the minutes second by second, that allow 'freezing' of time, has negated the use of such terms as 'time on' or 'extra time'. They are no longer necessary descriptors because the commentator, and indeed the spectator, is always aware of the exact number of minutes and seconds remaining to be played. Time no longer needs to be added, because it is instead made inert and reanimated at will. This mastery of time has been instrumental in rendering play a matter of deliberate action rather than the grasping of opportune chance. Strategy requires systematic planning and time dictates achievability. Knowledge of time is directly relatable to possibility of action and plausibility of application.

**Ian Robertson** ... The difference one point in favour of the Eagles.

**Don Scott** how much time left? Thirty-nine seconds!

**Ian Robertson** Are you excited Donny?

**Don Scott** Ah, it's a great game

**Ian Robertson** the 17 and a half thousand fans here at the MCG are on the edge of their seats. (1992.4 198)

39 seconds is hypothetically time enough for the score to change twice in a frantic game. Stopping the clock allows the possibility of three goals to be kicked in just two minutes. Leigh Matthews has a theory that one goal may be kicked for each remaining minute, which has never moved beyond theory into practice, but is much discussed among the commentators.

**Matthew Richardson** What's Leigh Matthews' rule?

**Basil Zempilas** Well

**Matthew Richardson** A goal a minute is it (2017.5 555)

**Hamish McLaughlin** Well on your theory Leigh, the Cats are a chance by 35 seconds

**Leigh Matthews** (*Laughing*) that was my coaching box theory when I sorta relaxed when I thought we were probably going to win. (2017.8 583)

Hyper-awareness of time allows the execution of strategic outcomes and can permit an entire story, with a beginning, a middle and an end to be enacted in the space of four seconds. A game can be won in four seconds. A kick in from the boundary. Mark, swivel, goal. The roar of the crowd around the ground creates its own vortex that lifts sound into the stratosphere. Time itself remains outside human manipulation yet may be experienced by a collective group as elastic, even interminable. Knowing how much time is left in a game has enabled an intensification of being in the moment.

It has also allowed the maddening ‘running down of the clock’ in which players deliberately waste time and prevent the game continuing, by safely passing the ball back and forth between themselves until the siren sounds.

**Tim Gossage** Well I guess in the context of the game, it’s not pretty what they’ve done, but they’ve taken 30 seconds off the clock which is what they’re attempting to do

**Wayne Britton** You’re not allowed to go back over half court in basketball and I just think it cuts out this

**Tim Gossage** Yeah, but it’s not basketball and this [what has just unfolded on the field] is basketball (2002.2 285)

Sydney will run the clock down at every possible chance. (2002.6 320)

And Port now will run down the clock (2007.7 400)

seconds off the clock almost as important as a score right now. (2012.9 501)

Dead time, the minutes it takes to return to the centre of the ground for a ball up after a goal has been kicked, the moments when the ball is out of bounds and therefore not in play, or if the game has been halted due to injury and the medivac cart is required, is only metaphorically dead. Technically, it is still time which must be filled. The surviving footage from 1973 jumps erratically from a goal to the centre square, the transition either not filmed or edited out.

Commercial television swings immediately to advertisements, carefully calculated to fill the space. Archived games available through the AFL website for general consumption include dead time with image and commentary, but not end of quarter breaks or half time entertainment or commentary. DVDs are game time only. For television viewers of today, this space must be filled with both an image and commentary of some kind particularly for the viewing public that pays for advertisement-free telecasts.

If there is no suitable replay available to fill dead time, players are followed individually by the cameras. They are seen up close as though only meters away, hawking and spitting, scratching at their shorts, swinging their arms. Commentary in these moments then becomes analytical, a barrage of statistics, health reports, or a geographical reference. In an uneven game in which there is no element of contest, dead time commentary leaks into real time. Rather than relaying the play, however woeful it may be, the commentary turns its attention elsewhere, barely acknowledging what is happening on the field, talking instead about the shortcomings in general of the losing team, interspersed with references to the future (when things can only be better), and praise of the superior team. There can be long periods of ignoring the game completely. This never happened in the early days of televised football when the commentary remained knitted to the game. This slippage into chat show format is not commentary.

Close listening of the commentary in the 1970s and 1980s reveals a reverence for the past and an appreciation of the present. The future is largely unanticipated and unacknowledged. In the 1970s the present was appreciated as a culmination of prior efforts. In the 2010s the future is eagerly anticipated as an improvement on the present; there is a promise in the commentary that was not there before. While experience is lauded as always, today's commentary has a focus on youth that was not present earlier. This is often expressed in predictions of improvement with maturity, further game time, personal development or extra effort.

Not talking about his social standing, but as a forward line player, he's immature in the way he goes about his football, but he is talented. I like watching him. I reckon he's something to work with. (2012.2 428)

that's what Melbourne are trying to get right for the next stage of their development. (2012.3 436)

yeah, I like the look of him. He'll develop into a good player. He just needs time but he's shown a lot tonight. (2012.5 460)

Views such as these were not expressed in the early commentary. Tracking the slow change to focus on improved futures rather than appreciation of the present is possible (and slightly

disheartening). There has been a subtle shift from now to next, an undercurrent of impatience and restlessness.

Again, it is the smallest of words that signify this gradual transition from a focus on the present. Present tense words such as 'is', 'has' and 'does' appear collectively in the 1973 transcripts 62.35 times per final quarter, in the 2010 transcripts 46.33 times. The past tense versions 'was', 'had' and 'did' appear with reversed positioning, fewer times in the 1973 transcripts: 33.29 times per quarter and more often in the 2010s: 51.88 times per quarter. Commentary in the 1970s did not utilise a 'futureless' language, but it was more firmly couched in the present than modern commentary, which tends to use the past as a launching pad to leap through the present to the future.

The words 'get' and 'got' produce interesting reading. There has been a substantial increase in their combined use over the time span being examined, from 18.11 times per final quarter in the 1973 transcripts to 64.33 times in the 2010s. Within football commentary, to 'get' is largely used to achieve or contract possession or experience. Informally, 'get' can mean to understand, or to overcome or apprehend. 'Get' is usually prescriptive, 'got' is intent realised:

just need to get their hands on the footy (2012.1 413)

Richmond have got their foot on the throat of the Crows, there's a long way to go, but they got their foot on the throat of the Crows (20170930)

The 'need to get' is a concept that really took hold in the 2010s, having been present only marginally prior to that.

they really need to get as much percentage out of games like these as they possibly can (2012.2 424)

They need to get maturity in their fitness, (2012.7 477)

you just need to get some fluency in your style, like they did in the second quarter. (2012.7 477)

They need to get a couple clear and get direct inside forward 50. (2012.9 498)

Labelled 'analysis', commentary now has a heavier focus on predicting and prescribing rather than relaying. While there were 26 instances of 'need' in the 1970s, not once was there the suggestion of improvement through a 'need to get'. Need was primarily applicable in the now, not in the indeterminate future.

for those of you who can lip read you don't need to know what Doug Wade said about that decision (1973.8 53)

Essendon need to win to consolidate their place in the 4. (1973.8 58)

they'll need to hurry. (1973.13 85)

Stewart goes for front position, he doesn't need to worry, it's beautifully taken, or he does need to worry, because it's beautifully taken by St Kilda's Elliott. (1973.16 106)

Time, made visible and manageable by technology is still important in commentary, and still important for the spectator and the player. Modern commentary is more focussed on the future, referring to games in coming weeks as the match draws to a close an average of 6.77 times per quarter, a substantial increase from 1.41 times per quarter in the 1973 transcripts. Minutes are mentioned half as often, but the number of references to seconds and moments have increased by twice as much, shifting baseline references to time in ever decreasing increments. The juxtaposed obsession with minutiae of time and action and the focus on what comes next contributes to a somewhat fussy tenor in the commentary that was not evident earlier. Time in its capacity to be revisited has less importance than when it was without. Now is obsolete, it can be returned to. It is the future, what might happen next that is of interest.

Benjamin gives us the conceptual tools to understand that now is transformed into then when it is projected into the future. The language that incidentally accompanies this translocation appears to be theoretically oppositional – it is future focussed at the expense of the present. Although the language is located in the past, it focusses on the future and the present seems as incidental as the recorded voices. There is little difference between the way technology and personal performances are viewed – the message is always the same. Everything will be better tomorrow. Excellence is just around the corner, tantalizing and achievable, because the only option is improvement. This tends to make that which is current dismissible as nothing more than a stepping stone to something greater. This renders the present disposable, a transitory phase barely worth acknowledging. It is nothing more than that which precedes next. Even the television advertisements on the football channel echo the theme:

Holden Colorado: Want a simple rule to live by? Never stop. Just keep pushing. Because what seems impossible today can be turned into reality tomorrow. Play hard. (FOX503)

Johnny Walker Whisky: Because the most important step isn't your last, it's your next. (FOX503)



Paradoxically, while the future dominates commentary, the introduction of 'expansion' teams to the AFL has highlighted the importance of history, of having a past, of lineage. Tradition. An ethos. Football positions itself as both every-day and representationally Australian. Expansion into 'rugby' states requires an adjustment in the commentary to include those unaware not so much of the logistics of the game, but more so, of the historical indigeneity of the sport. Football's self-proclaimed ethos is proud of its unique qualities found in no other sport. Transporting South Melbourne interstate to Sydney was the relocating of a club that already had a history. The move became merely part of their continuum. Similarly, Port Adelaide was originally the Port Adelaide Magpies, so their transition becomes merely another chapter in their history. Fremantle are a composite of South Fremantle and East Fremantle, a merging that includes a backstory. Adelaide and West Coast Eagles were drawn from state clubs, players bringing with them to their clubs pre-existing allegiances from communities already invested in the sport.

Establishing these credentials with the new clubs such as Greater Western Sydney and Gold Coast Suns was more difficult than with other interstate teams. Not only were teams introducing an unfamiliar game, there was no sense of history, a fundamental component for connection and pride. For an unaccustomed audience, it is necessary also to provide a framework of the history of the game, of rivalries, of past heroes, of depth. The Gold Coast Suns imported Gary Ablett Junior from Victoria to lend the fledgling team some credibility, to provide a link to the past. Descended from a player literally known as 'God' among the footballing public, Gary Ablett Junior – the Little Master as he is known – had a football pedigree known to anyone with a basic grasp of the professional game. He is a walking representation of what the game has been, what it is, and what it can be. His presence lent the formation of the club credibility.

The men and women who are being coaxed into relationships with the game bear few similarities to those men and women of the 1970s or 1980s. Social change has been so rapid it is difficult to comprehend until Maggie Hamilton, popular author, media commentator and social researcher, in *What's Happening to Our Girls?* offers some perspective. She proclaims the world today's 12-year-old experienced when she was 7 is nothing like the world a 7-year-old experiences today (1). Yet, her insistence that rapid change is unprecedented and more detrimental than ever before has been echoed through the ages. The unnatural speed of travelling by steam train was once thought to have caused mental and emotional strain on a population designed to travel no faster than a horse could run. The point of difference is the speed with which change happens. Football has changed along with those who watch it. The modern spectator has a generic understanding of pop psychology not present before, pressed

upon them via changing social structures and protocols, the delivery of much of which was via televised education campaigns<sup>32</sup>. From its inception, television was viewed as an educational tool. It provides imagery and example for social mores, demonstrating acceptable and unacceptable behaviours and providing accompanying discourse – all carefully vetted and approved by broadcasting guidelines. Much social behaviour and etiquette is learned from television, usually through its very mundanity, which renders it ordinary. Today a 12-year-old anticipating a game barely registers booing from the crowd, it is as ordinary a response as cheering. Modern viewers also have a rudimentary knowledge of medical terminology related to anatomy and physical injury – gifted to them by football.

Understanding the commentary's educational role puts a twist on the language of the everyday – there are undercurrents of history in the discourse of the present. A history, a connection to the past is validating, and commentary is now directed not only to those who understand and know the game, but also to those being encouraged to form a relationship with the game. These changes have seeped into the everyday and taken up residence as ordinary. Another tool for establishing histories is the fabrication of rivalries. In an era when the players do not share the loyalty of the spectator, rivalries between teams must be manufactured, as they cannot germinate naturally. Teams that play together over time develop a camaraderie through shared experience which creates a different mentality among team members. When teammates are transient, when presence on the field so precarious and uncertain, 'team' is a constantly changing concept. Traditional rivalries, such as that between Collingwood and Carlton, remain in name only. In 2018 a fresh-faced recruit for Collingwood stares into the camera, a bunny in the headlights, and grinning self-consciously recites his lines: "yeah, Carlton, they're the team to hate". As a promotional tool for an historic feud, this is woeful. Fans hold close to outdated rivalries that mean little to today's players, as other, modern enmities are being constructed.

For example, the Anzac Day Clash between Collingwood and Essendon. This was first played as an 'event' in 1995 and has been promoted ruthlessly since as an on-going battle for supremacy between the two sides on this date only. In promotion of the Anzac Day Clash, players and commentators are careful to separate football from war, denying parallels and endorsing only respect and gratitude for Australia's armed forces, past and present. Games played between the two clubs in other rounds of the season are merely games. The game on Anzac Day is a fabricated rivalry that has generated a specific history between the two clubs. This is an extension of the two-club rivalries being promoted in Western Australia, South Australia, Queensland and New South Wales, perhaps an attempt to include Victoria in these

---

<sup>32</sup> Such as those promoting depression, disability, race and bullying

annual headline clashes. These perceived rivalries stimulate a thread of history spectators can experience. Matthew Pavlich commentating on Derby 45 compares his playing experiences with the novelty of watching, and the spectator can identify as having knowledge of most or all or some of those games. A sense of history is being constructed for 'newer' teams to the AFL, a history that relies not so much on longevity as it does on activity. This is evidenced in other promoted annual events, such as Indigenous Round and the gradual creep of other 'themed' rounds such as 'Maddie's Match', 'Pink Lady Match' and 'The Big Freeze'.

What does remain constant is the ability of time to slow and accommodate passages of play for spectators, allowing an ability to inhabit time in the company of others in a heightened state of temporal and emotional awareness. Football membership fees should be on the Medicare rebate list.

## Section 3: Discussion

In this concluding chapter I would like to explore what these changes in the language of commentary over the last 50 years might mean now and to guess at what that may say when ‘[t]he future is there ... looking back at us, trying to make sense of the fiction we will have become’ (Gibson *Pattern Recognition* 57). What defines this game of football as uniquely Australian is signalled in its name. What began life as Victorian Rules has transitioned into Australian Rules. The constant is the trope of rules. If we were to go back to the Richmond paddock, to Wills and Harrison and a couple of beers in a pub, it is possible to imagine the first item on the agenda of inventing a game would have been what is, or is not, allowed on the field during play. Beginning with the familiarity of games already known and enjoyed, such as rugby union, by making adaptations and alterations, weighing up inclusions and rejections, through language emerged a set of principles that satisfied a specific set of desires and wants. A game unlike any other, with its potentials and its possibilities debated as a composite was established. Nothing has changed but the names of the conversationalists – Wills and Harrison are now Gillon McLachlan, AFL CEO, and Michael Christian, Match Review Officer – and that long-ago discussion has continued to this day. Football, Australian Rules, continues to be a measure of what is deemed ordinary in its acceptability or absence thereof.

Rules in AFL will always be mobile, transitory, current. Valid for their time rules are contemporary, called into being, discussed, refined, upheld and discarded to make way for the new. This game shapeshifts to stay relevant in each succeeding era and does this by constructing an ethos pertinent to each generation. The ethos generates the game, the social consciousness of endlessly developing cultural understandings. Rules that make clear what will and will not be tolerated, predicated upon the ordinary, delivered in a language that flags deeper cultural meanings, allow Maffesoli’s diverse populations with lifestyles foreign to each other to ‘sketch the outline of a way of living together’ while they remain ‘curiously faithful to the specificity of each’. In July 2018 the AFL celebrated on social and mainstream media the milestone of having reached one million paying members. That is one in every 24 Australians and represents only those who make a voluntary financial commitment. For every paid member there may be as many as five or six unpaid supporters, perhaps more. Now we are one, but we are many and from all the states and territories we come. Our home-grown game has spread, absorbing the growing and varied population of Australia, enabling a commonality. Australian Rules football creates a space in which to play, to compete, to stitch multiple cultures to a single, shared practice while concurrently remaining true to varied cultural backgrounds. Australian Rules is a connector.

The preserved televised football commentary is historically relevant. It flags an environment where questioning is encouraged, failure is constructive, courage is necessary and only your best will do. While these qualities are demonstrated on the field and articulated by the commentators, through these very processes, they define a creed to which perhaps more Australians ascribe than any other. The commentary of this game does more than tell the story of football, it reflects supposedly difficult to pin down Australian attitudes. These attitudes may describe an Australian character, no less imaginary or generic than a bronzed surf-lifesaver, or a laidback suburb-dweller on a quarter acre block. Surely our language defines us as much, or perhaps more than our actions, particularly when, as has been seen, words can override images. Football provides an arena for test-driving understandings as changing insights of the workings together of body and mind are poked and scrutinised. A recent example of language driving change was the renaming of the 'king hit' to the 'coward's punch'. The action remains unchanged but with the connotations polar-opposites, the meaning is categorically altered.

The commentary, as a vehicle of changing cultural expression, is ingenuous because it has never been conscious of its own readability. Awareness of self will necessarily alter commentary, potentially adding value by relocating its naivety. On reflection, perhaps that is what Benjamin's aura of the past shows: naivety which can be seen in a 1980s haircut, a 1950s smart pair of shoes, a 1920s cigarette case, all methods of presentation. Naivety is in the unassailability of the image or object's generation, in its ability to represent 'a formulation of the cultic value of the work of art in categories of spatial and temporal perception' (Benjamin 39). This is what the past looks like, even the past of only a few moments ago. The way we see and comprehend the world has changed, and will always continue to change, altering the processes by which we think, speak and react. Knowledge shifts naivety but cannot eliminate it. Before the first televising of the final quarters of football in the 1960s, sociologist Peter Berger wrote:

Unlike puppets, we have the possibility of stopping in our movements, looking up and perceiving the machinery by which we have been moved. In this act lies the first step towards freedom (*Invitation to Sociology*, back cover blurb).

The machinery of modernity is located in language. As we approach the 2020s it is possible to view of the language of the 1970s televised football commentary as the swansong of a (white) national obsession with elocution. However, it is not the altered *shape* of the words but their *direction* that communicates greatest change. The absence of chance, hope and opportunity combine to create a much altered ordinary. 'Speech and story-telling are at the centre of human

experience. The voices in which we speak are statements of our *selves* and of our individuality' (Booth xi). For me, the real question is what story will be told when the aura of now becomes legible? If football is viewed as an experimental arena for establishing what is possible; such an interesting microcosm it becomes. The complexity and flexibility of the rules, the varying degrees of interpretation and the space this creates for discussion is paramount. The words we use in our everyday language matter. Through the transcripts the decline of some ordinary words and the appearance of others has been mapped, a shift that slowly alters what is being said, what is being heard and understood. Some words are generated through the adjustment of rules and protocols: words such as clearance, entry, rotation, set-shot, stoppage and third-man<sup>33</sup> were not present in the 1970s or the 1980s because they were not part of the play. While some actions were discussed in their capacity of being allowed or not allowed, the concept of actions being 'legal' or 'illegal' did not surface until the 1990s. The ideologies behind 'allowed' and 'legal' have different connotations.

Superficially, 'allowed' and 'legal' mean the same thing; in football they each represent something permitted. The difference is the increasing degree of formality that has been applied. This intensifying measure of formality about behaviours and attitudes that are 'allowed' is not generated in football, but rather it reflects broader social understandings as they have changed. From a simple acceptance of pink, a colour that signifies softness and femininity in an aggressive, masculine environment, to the understanding that discriminatory attitudes can cause harm to mental well-being: as social understandings alter and the parameters of acceptability stretch, so too do the definitions of the unacceptable. Concurrently, broadened expectations are policed by individuals and by institutions. Scoffing at the presence of pink-shirted men is socially unacceptable in the same arena in which men previously would not only not have worn pink but would not have even had access to shirts of that colour. Pink shirts were not manufactured for men to wear. Now unworthy of comment, they are ordinary.

Absent from the transcripts of the 1970s and the 1980s are a host of words that are now ordinary. These are not words that have newly entered the language, but words which have assumed ordinary status and become visible in the lexicon. Each of these words would have been understood in the time they were not used, but they were not part of everyday language of football as they are today: attention, attitude, aware, choice, composure, concern, fatigue, focus, mental, mindset, tension, vision and work-ethic. That these words are now so ordinary that they are banal represents a change in the manner of interpretation of the world, not just of football. That 'doctor' appeared in the language at the same time as 'hamstring' and 'groin' is no

---

<sup>33</sup> Appendix II – Word Frequency per Decade

surprise. That it took until the turn of this century for them to do so, however, is.

The way football is talked about is a cache of information about Australian social culture. Although deliberate focus is present in the articulation of football, it is the subtext that is pristine in its content because it is present only incidentally. Its value lies in its point of generation, because rather than spreading outward from a central tenet, the ordinary is decided by the public, by outcry and response. Rather than dilution in dissemination, there is distillation in condensation. Football commentary shows us that the way we think about the ways in which we can use our bodies has created a shift in the way we use our language. It is now more assertive, more non-negotiable even when at its most pliable. It has shifted naivety to another paradigm. Through our language bodies have come forth, gender has been recognised: linguistic recognition of minds has allowed by extension identification of minority groups - of the mental and emotional effects of racism, misogyny, violence, poverty and worst of all, hardest to label and treat: ignorance. Within the football commentary, this emergence of body, along with developing technology, has altered what is looked at, and the emergence of the mind has shaped how this is spoken of, verbalised, made ordinary. In the language is reflected an aggressive use of assertion that is hopefully almost over the fanfare of its own arrival. Perhaps the next ordinary will merely accommodate all that is currently loudly proclaimed as nothing more than a stepping stone. Language, just like Australian Rules, will continually evolve along with the ever-changing environment from which it generates.

The commentary has shown that body became visible through violence. To discuss physical injury in commentary body parts must be named, so named, they become familiar. Naming or drawing attention to body parts when they are damaged brings them into existence. Nowhere in the commentary are unharmed body parts mentioned, unless in their capacity of excellence and strength which guards against injury. Bodies are objectified. They can be broken and mended, they can be strengthened and weakened. The mind also enters commentary through concern. Before it is understood or conceptualised that minds might also be strengthened or weakened, it seems that the mind is bubble-thin fragile porcelain, every touch a threat. A slow dawning that language as much as actions can cause mental damage is read in the transcripts from this century. This leads to an understanding that a positive, supported mental component makes a vital difference to individuals and the community, strangely juxtaposed with an increased use of critique and analysis. Demonstrable interactive participation in themed rounds and charity events is positioned as ordinary, particularly when agenda-ed, construing it as measurable and open to judgement. In mid-2018 when a concerned journalist asks a player about a colleague's bravery in admitting mental distress, there is almost an incredulousness in the response. Already the use of 'bravery' is outdated, no longer valid when describing ordinary behaviour. Being able

to claim mental space is no longer the action of the brave, merely the enacting of the ordinary, language lagging behind. The track to ordinary has been fast forwarded, the transition time is far briefer.

The take home message from this reading of language is that violence to the mind is perceptually far more damaging than violence to the body. Both are acknowledged, and each is attributed a value through the language. Mental harm is considered untenable in the way physical harm is accepted. We have here looked at understandings of violence on the body, and accept a certain grasp, have seen the benefits of improved medical care, the results of training and the changing limits of acceptability. Sanctioned physical violence exists and is acceptable within defined parameters. We have also looked at how perceptually, violence to the mind is currently considered a relatively recent and largely uncharted linguistic territory, to be approached with vigorous caution but no less thoroughly for all that. The possibility that such focussed awareness may negate any naïve organic response or may deliberately misuse or suppress natural response systems causing a weakening rather than a strengthening, should be noted.

The undercurrent of player-focussed booing has been malicious and deliberate, but difficult to discern. Booing has become a form of sledging minus vocabulary, designed to intentionally distress and discombobulate its target. No longer a pantomime expression of disgruntlement with authority, it has become a ruthless weapon with which to dismantle individual mental composure. These kinds of spectator response give rise to questions about behavioural trait changes that may have preceded the normalisation of European soccer violence, currently not present in Australian Rules football. Verbal, not physical violence; mental not bodily. Rule endorsed physical violence is acceptable if not anger induced. However, damage to the mind is untenable in the way damage to the body is accepted, therefore focussed booing of individual players is disconcerting. It is deliberate mental cruelty being publicly endorsed. Not many people have experienced being booed by upwards of 20 thousand angry spectators, far fewer have deserved it. Such displays of public violence, filmed, recorded and positioned as ordinary may show in a future reading of Australian social culture as shameful. Or perhaps, but less likely, as a positive springboard into broader understanding of community and competition. Hostility is wrongly identified as a marker of pride evidenced particularly in multiple blog threads of West Coast Eagles supporters.

Understanding the spatial generation points of ordinary allows acknowledgement of differences in generational thinking. In a short space of time those commentators who were raised on state league football, the VFL, WAFL and SANFL will be gone, and it will be ordinary for the



commentators to only have known AFL. As children, they may be listening to the commentary now, hearing the booing of disrespect, the soccer-like chanting of crowds, watching a totally professionalised and utterly constructed game and know it as ordinary. These commentators will only know professional football players as athletes who risk mind and body to play a game, playing not only win, but for their very existence in a constantly-changing team line-up, whose value is defined in dollars, trained and psyched and ready to hit the big time. Knowing already he will be applauded as he leaves the ground in a Medivac cart, should he be that unlucky; a nod to an earlier time when the footballing culture fostered a belief ‘that it is a privilege for a young man to play league football and that any injuries sustained, well it’s almost an honour to be injured playing Australian Rules Football at its highest level’ (Madden 82).

It appears that while younger commentators are more aware of potential harm, the older commentary team, thinning in the ranks, are more aware of absent courage. This does not mean the older men want the younger ones to deliberately and recklessly hurt their own and others’ bodies, but they seem trying to articulate that letting go of fear will result in fewer injuries. The world has shifted and players of today are constrained in their actions by words such as concussion and ligament. These young players must find their own way around rules that block ability to adjust and survive, to thrive on the field. Each time ordinary changes, another avenue must be found. Ordinary is currently undergoing another transition. Football promotion advertisements on Fox Footy are now (2018) proclaiming the game to be 90 percent mental, 10 percent physical, which, on consideration, rings true. This is not, however, true of games played in earlier decades, yet does nothing to detract from their worth.

There is already a discrepancy in understanding between those who understand BT’s genial ‘sheesh’ of mock horror when a bleeding player is removed from the ground, and those who think him a duffer. He speaks to those who watched when man and boy played footy covered in mud and blood, with punctured lungs and broken ribs, for the honour of the club. His jibe is missed by a generation raised on blood-rule, the long-term effects of concussion and contract payments. Taylor is no dinosaur, his commentary merely verbalises his personal, generational habitus. Language in modern commentary has gradually acquired undercurrents critical, defensive, demanding. Was the only conceivable outcome to the inevitable emergence of the mind a transition from luck and chance to action and intent which then morphed into entitlement and demand? Is this a collective mis-use of volition? What might happen next?

As the AFL seeks to instruct its players and followers about mental vulnerability via the burgeoning verbal ethics of racism, sexism, unregulated violence and bullying – abstracts all –

perhaps some attention should be paid to the direction of language, a verbal ‘broken windows<sup>34</sup>’ policy. The ability of televised football to reach out and connect isolated individuals into an interactive social environment is astounding. It does this by enabling connection to a vigorous social arena where not just questioning, but debate and opinion has become a mainstay. It is this that propels the game forward: what is allowed or forbidden on the football field illustrates active ferment.

Bernard East, in his research on the viability of Australian Rules Football as a game turned business, separates the viewing public into two distinct groups: – tribals and theatre-goers. Here is cult and exhibition personified. Theatre-goers are those looking to be entertained, and who can just as easily choose the cinema, the theatre or an evening at a restaurant or pub as going to the football. The business side of football, that which is pushing nationalisation, must cater to the ‘theatre-goer’ to bring in that expendable revenue, and at the same time maintain the connections valuable to the tribals, to the supporter of the clubs, the emotional connection to their team colours. Recent attempts to reinstate the value of history within the game suggest an attempt at retraction to a midway point, where the cult and the exhibition may be more balanced. The cult value is the supporter base, the connective tissue that bonds the game to the people and provides a pastoral link via congregational membership; the spectacle value is that which propels the structural changes to the game and extends the requirements of the players. The processes of professionalisation and nationalisation of the game have caused what appears to be a temporary transition from the game being primarily a cult value within its supporter base to having the focus directed onto its exhibition value – the spectacle rather than the creed. To maintain the sustainability of the spectacle, the creed must regain its footing, and this will be done through the focus on history, and the creation of emotive rivalries, such as that currently flourishing in South Australia. The creation of history is ostensibly for the purposes of *sharing* among a subgroup who are then able to exchange and compare their experiences. The benefits common to both tribals and theatregoers is that they have equal access to the creation of a metaphorical synapse within the pulsating brain tissue of the Australian social environment.

What has remained static is that masculinity appears to be measured by pain tolerance.

Televised football, although it has not stood alone, has been instrumental in changing the way the spectator views and understands physical violence and injury. The understanding that rule-governed rather than anger-induced violence (Messner 69) is permissible allows football to create a sanctioned space for violence and the formation of rules governing acceptability. The AFL as an institution recognises this and, capitalising, is deliberately orchestrating public

---

<sup>34</sup> A theory promoted by New York Mayor, Rudolph Giuliani, that suggests attending to small problems prevents larger ones occurring (initially very successful, later proved controversial)

education programs to reduce/prevent violence in unregulated environments, such as domestic and social situations. Through the processes of identifying and defining violence, football has constructed a network of evolving rules within which it is constrained. Commentary both reflects changes in the broader social understanding of violence and supports efforts made by the AFL in attempting to direct change.

What has changed is that violence may also be inflicted verbally, and that this is a kind of violence that can be acknowledged as hurtful. Courage is a mental quality. Physical hurt is preferable to mental violence. Hurt, after all, is encouraged to be experienced as perceptual, rather than physical. This is what football is telling us, through actions, reactions, commentary and rules. Behaviours and *attitudes* are scrutinized as never before, assisted by the technology that allows the contents of individual moments to be recorded, rewound and reviewed. This happens on the field, and in the stands. Spectators are individually equipped with smart phones, security cameras freckle public landscapes. In both our language and our actions, there has developed an unspoken expectation, an almost obligatory judging of effort, behaviour, even inherent personal qualities, that is more universal, more pronounced and more articulate than ever. It seems ironic that at a time when there was so much wrong with the world, the language of football was more optimistic and grounded in the present. Now, a time when so many social advances and improvements have been wrought, the language is instead critical, statistical, impatient and dismissive of the present. Is this what happens when time is contextually mastered? Time becomes revalued which suggests commodification. When time becomes a consumable, there is no need for the present. Now is merely a transitional point from which the past may be accessed and the future, all promise and expectation, may be anticipated.

In football commentary story-tellers are being replaced by conversationalists and the imagery created is vastly different. While acknowledging that the constants of human endeavour are the very mechanics that drive the story forward (for that is all any kind of history is – something self-propelling to be read), there is however, a consumption of self that has altered the ambience and it seems different; as if focussed through a narrower, not a broader view. When telling a story, there is an awareness of audience, an accompanying consciousness of word choice. Stories have been used throughout human history as a way of instilling moral values, of educating while entertaining. Stories are ultimately an unfolding. Good stories adhere to the format of beginning, middle and end, but the best are unpredictable, unexpected and un-guessable, making the stories told in live football commentary enthralling to those who listen.

Conversations, however, even when public as those now being televised, are directed at the participants not at an absent listener. Conversation in the commentary box, despite existing

specifically for the audience, largely ignores the audience in favour of the other conversationalists. The audience is repositioned from being the recipient of the call, to, at best, an outsider permitted to listen. When commentary tells a story, the language is generated for the listener. The transcriptions of football commentary show clearly that the ways in which we speak about and to each other has changed. It cannot be denied that modern-day commentary contains encouragement and praise, but it is additionally heavy on criticism and expectancy, absent from earlier commentary. As social understandings move further into the regulations of 'legal' and away from the casualness of 'allowed', unmet inherent expectations are responded to with increased impatience and harshness. There is an uneasy juxtaposition between the increasingly demanding context and the de-formalised conversational language structures. This perceived misalignment is present in the commentary because the commentary reflects not only the world of football, but also the world in which football exists. This, it would seem, is the status quo.

It seems impossible to view the harnessing of opportunity in any other way than an increase of individual responsibility, and an elimination of chance. As time is being understood in ever shrinking fragments, simultaneously stretching to accommodate ever more detail, responsibility expands to fill spaces previously unknown. The more finely honed the minutia of responsibility, the less opportunity there seems for chance, for creativity, for unfettered human experience. The loss of chance eliminates uncertainty, simultaneously demolishing possibility. Loss is not a word used lightly; if chance is in the language, chance is in the outlook. What is chance if not hope? Composure, essentially, is control. Control is subject to formality, to rules, to limits and breaking points. The purpose of play is to push the boundaries, to test the limits of physical ability and now also, mental capacity. Expectation weights any potential, subjects it to formalities and protocols prior to conception. Or perhaps it is the application of formalities and protocols that generates such expectation – which is the chicken and which the egg?

Recognition of unfamiliar language in televised football commentary has led, through analysis, to the unexpected discovery that perception of visual images can be routinely reconstructed via language and this is largely unquestioned because it seems not to be noticed. Quite separate to the conversational exchange commentary has become, the erosion of elocution, so important when television first aired, coupled with the change in focus expressed through everyday language flags a repositioning of ordinary. Language is a powerful tool, the words we choose to use in everyday situations carry weight that is often overlooked. It may well be that the pen is mightier than the sword, but the timbre of our language, the words we chose to use especially when we are not thinking about them, when we are relaxing, socialising, watching the footy, colour our world and our understandings. The words we use and the words we hear shape our

thoughts and our perceptions; our world. “We live in an echo chamber: the way stories are told affects the way stories end” (Button *Speechless* 18). Being able to track and map word usages has allowed a discourse on commentary that exposes shifts in perception across what may be a unique and diverse bandwidth of gender, age, class and social structure.

Clifford says collection, a method of making the world our own, begins with an awareness. Awareness begets interest. Interest provokes recognition, recognition engenders familiarity. If stories are as collectible as football cards or butterflies, then the control of our language, the meanings we convey through the words we chose to use should be as manageable as any collection. Clifford locates his theories of collection in the tangible world of art – artefacts – a rotary telephone, a heavy blue glass Vicks Vapour Rub bottle, or a carved jade Maori tiki. ‘The value of exotic objects was their ability to testify to the concrete reality of an earlier stage of human culture’ (228). Likewise, the value in exploring the changing of everyday language testifies to the reality of an earlier stage of human perceptions. The differential is time-driven, it is an earlier understanding contrasted against current considerations, identifying them merely acknowledges a variance and enables a measuring.

The harder modern Australian culture seeks to demonstrate self-possession, the clearer become ‘the artifices we employ to gather a world around us’ (Clifford 229). This renders modern-day Australian Rules football neither better nor worse, merely different. It is quite possible another perspective would draw different narratives from this same data. I hope to have acknowledged in part where it has come from and the story it has told me, a brief interlude in what I hope will be a long and energetic chapter in the future history of this country.

## Works Consulted

- 'A Football Row – Cowardly Attack on an Umpire' *The Argus*, 27 July 1896:5. Trove.
- 'Winter Sports by an Outsider' *The Australasian Sketcher* 3 July 1880:157. Trove.
- ABC Radio. *The Sound of Melbourne – 75 Years of 3LO*. Sydney: ABC Books. 1999. Print.
- Adler, Patricia and Peter Alder. The Gloried Self: The Aggrandizement and the Construction of Self. *Social Psychology Quarterly*. 1989; 52:4, 299-310.
- AFL 360. Season 2016/Season 2017. Fox Footy. Gerard Whatley, Mark Robinson. Television.
- Aitchison, Jean. *The Articulate Mammal – An Introduction to Psycholinguistics*. USA: McGraw-Hill, 1976. Print.
- Akermanis, Jason with Gary Smart. *AKA: The Battle Within*. Docklands: Geoff Slattery. 2004. Print.
- Alomes, Stephen. *Australian Football - The People's Game 1958 – 2058*. Petersham: Walla Walla Press. 2012. Print.
- Anderson, Benedict. *Imagined Communities*. London: Verso. 2003. Print.
- Anderson, Eric. The Rise and Fall of Western Homophobia. *Journal of Feminist Scholarship*. 2011; 80-94.
- Anderson, Eric and Mark McCormack. Cuddling and Spooning: Heteromascularity and Homosocial Tactility among Student-athletes. *Men and Masculinities*. 2015: 18:2. 214-230.
- Andrews, David. Desperately seeking Michel: Foucault's genealogy, the body, and critical sport sociology. *Sociology of Sport Journal*. 1993; 10, 148-167.
- Angelini, James R. How Did the Sport Make You Feel? Looking at the Three Dimensions of Emotion Through a Gendered Lens. *Sex Roles*, 2008, 58:127-135.
- Arden, Clare L, Joanna Kvist and Kate E Webster. Psychological Aspects of Anterior Cruciate Ligament Injuries, *Operative Techniques in Sports Medicine*, 2015, 24:77-83.
- Atyeo, Don. *Blood & Guts. Violence in Sports*. Stanmore: Cassell. 1979. Print.
- Australian Bureau of Statistics <http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/4326.0>
- Bairner, Alan. Emotional Grounds: Stories of Football, Memories and Emotions. *Emotion, Space and Society*, 2014, 12, 18-23.
- Baker, Sidney J. *The Australian Language*. South Melbourne: Sun Books. 1986. Print.
- Bakhtin, M. M. *Speech Genres & Other Late Essays*. Austin: UTP. 1986. Print.
- *The Dialogic Imagination*. Austin: UTP. 1990. Print.
- Barassi, Ron and Peter McFarlane. *Barassi – The Life behind the Legend*. East Roseville: Simon & Schuster. 1995. Print.
- Barassi, Ron. *Australian Football Stories*. Sydney: Methuen. 1981. Print.
- Barber, Red. *The Broadcasters*. New York: Da Capo Press. 1985. Print.
- Barthes, Roland. *Elements of Semiology*. London: Jonathan Cape. 1967. Print.
- *Image-Music-Text*. Great Britain: Fontana. 1982. Print.
- *What is Sport?* New Haven: Yale. 2001. Print.
- Baudrillard, J. *Art and Artefact*. (Edited and translated N Zurbrugg) London: Sage. 1997. Print.
- Bauman, Zygmunt. *Postmodern Ethics*. Maldon: Blackwell, 2004. Print.

- Beale, Bob. *Men – From Stone Age to Clone Age – The Science of Being Male*. Ringwood: Viking. 2001. Print.
- Benjamin, Walter. *The Work of Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction*. London: Penguin. 2008. Print.
- *The Work of Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction Illuminations*. London: Pimlico, 1999. Print.
- Berger, John. *Ways of Seeing*. London: Penguin. 1972. Print.
- Berger, Peter. *Invitation to Sociology – A Humanistic Perspective*. Middlesex: Penguin. 1978. Print.
- Berger, Peter and Thomas Luckmann. *The Social Construction of Reality*. Middlesex: Penguin. 1981. Print.
- Bianca, Carlo and Christian Dogbe. A mathematical model for crowd dynamics: Multiscale analysis, fluctuations and random noise. *Nonlinear Studies*. 2013. 20:3. 349-373.
- Bianculli, David. *Teletiteracy – Taking Television Seriously*. New York: Continuum 1992. Print.
- Biltreyst, Daniel. Media audiences and the game of controversy – on reality TV, moral panic and controversial media stories. *Journal of Media Practice*. 2004, 5:1. 7-24.
- Bird, S. Elizabeth. *The Audience in Everyday Life – Living in a Media World*. New York: Routledge. 2003. Print.
- Bird, Sharon. Welcome to the men's club: Homosociality and the maintenance of hegemonic masculinity. *Gender and Society*. 10, 120-132.
- Birley, Derek. *Land of Sport and Glory – Sport and British Society 1887 – 1910*. Manchester: MUP. 1995. Print.
- Blain, Ellis. *Life with Aunty – 40 Years with the ABC*. Sydney: Methuen. 1977. Print.
- Blainey, Geoffrey. *A Game of Our Own – The Origins of Australian Football*. Melbourne: National Australian Football Council. 1990. Print.
- Blazer, Seth M. Rear Window Ethics: Domestic Privacy versus Public Responsibility in the Evolution of Voyeurism. *The Midwest Quarterly*. Summer 2006. 47:4. 379-391.
- Bly, Robert. *Iron John – A Book About Men*. Massachusetts: Addison-Wesley. 1990. Print.
- Boltanski, Luc and Laurent Thevenot. *On Justification – Economies of Worth*. Translated by Catherine Porter. Princeton: Princeton University Press. 2006. Print.
- Bonner, Francis. *Ordinary Television*. London: Sage Publications. 2003.
- Booth, Dick. *Talking of Sport – The Story of Radio Commentary*. Cheltenham: SportsBooks. 2008. Print.
- Booth, Douglas and Colin Tatz. *One-Eyed – A View of Australian Sport*. St Leonards: Allen & Unwin. 2000. Print.
- Born, Georgina. Making Time: Temporality, History, and the Cultural Object. *New Literary History*. Summer 2015. 46:2, 361-386.
- Bouchard, D F (editor) Michel Foucault. Nietzsche, Genealogy, History in *Language, Counter-Memory Practice: Selected Essays and Interviews*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press. 1977; 139-164.
- Bounce*. Season 2016. Fox Footy. Jason Dunstall, Cameron Mooney, Danny Frawley. Television.
- Bounce*. Season 2017. Fox Footy. Jason Dunstall, Cameron Mooney, Danny Frawley.

Television.

- Bourdieu, Pierre. *Language and Symbolic Power*. Cambridge: Polity. 1992. Print.
- Boyle, Raymond and Richard Haynes. *Power Play – Sport, the Media & Popular Culture*. Essex: Pearson Educational, 2000. Print.
- Boyle, Timothy. *A common prayer for the little things that made football great*.  
[www.theage.com.au/AFL/AFL-news/a-common-prayer-for-the-little-things-that-made-football-great-20150829-gjang5.html](http://www.theage.com.au/AFL/AFL-news/a-common-prayer-for-the-little-things-that-made-football-great-20150829-gjang5.html)
- Braudy, Leo. *From Chivalry to Terrorism – War and the Changing Nature of Masculinity*. New York: Alfred Knopf. 2003. Print.
- Bredemeier, Brenda Jo and David L. Shields. Athletic Aggression: An issue of Contextual Morality. *Sociology of Sport Journal*. 1986; 3, 15-28.
- Brereton, Dermott with Ken Piesse. *Dermott Brereton's 101 Favourite Football Stories*. Chippendale: Pan Macmillan. 1993. Print.
- Briki, Walid. Rethinking the relationship between momentum and sport performance: Toward an integrative perspective. *Psychology of Sport and Exercise*. 2017. Vol 30, 38-44.
- Brooker, Will and Deborah Jermyn (editors). *The Audience Studies Reader*. London: Routledge. 2003. Print.
- Brookes, Rod. *Representing Sport*. London: Arnold. 2002. Print.
- Broshek, Donna K., Anthony P. De Marco and Jason R. Freeman. A review of post-concussion syndrome and psychological factors associated with concussion. *Brain Injury*. 2015; 29:2. 228-237.
- Bryant, Jennings, Paul Comisky, and Dolf Zillman. Drama in Sports Commentary. *Journal of Communication*. 1977; 27:3, 140 -149.
- The appeal of rough-and-tumble play in televised professional football. *Communication Quarterly*. 1981; 29, 256-262.
- Bryant, Jennings, Dolf Zillmann and Arthur A. Raney. Violence and the Enjoyment of Media Sports. *MediaSport* 1998 252-265 Database SocINDEX with Full Text.
- Bryson, Bill. *Mother Tongue*. Melbourne: Penguin. 2008. Print.
- Buchbinder, David. *Performance Anxieties – Re-Producing Masculinity*. St Leonards: Allen & Unwin. 1998. Print.
- Butler, Judith. *Gender Trouble*. New York: Routledge Classics. 2006. Print.
- Button, James. *Comeback – The Fall and Rise of Geelong*. Carlton; MUP. 2016. Print.
- *Speechless - A Year in my Father's Business*. Carlton: MUP. 2013. Print.
- Caldwell, David. 'Working Your Words – Appraisal in the AFL Post-Match Interview' *Australian Review of Applied Linguistics*, 32.2 (2009) Monash University Press: 13.1-13.17
- Camarillo, David. Why helmets don't prevent concussions – and what might. Ted Talk.
- Cameron, Lynne and Graham Low. *Researching and Applying Metaphor*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. 1999. Print.
- Carlson, M., A Marcus-Newhall, and N Miller. The effects of situational aggressive cues: A quantitative review. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*. 1990; 58, 622-633.
- Carlton & United (editors). *Best Australian Sports Writing & Photography 1996*. Milsons Point: Random House. 1996. Print



- *1997 Best Australian Sports Writing & Photography*. Milsons Point: Random House. 1997. Print.
  - *1998 Best Australian Sports Writing & Photography*. Milsons Point: Random House. 1998. Print.
- Carter, Rita. *Multiplicity - The New Science of Personality*. London: Little, Brown. 2008. Print.
- Cartledge, Elliot. *Footy's Glory Days – The Greatest Era of the Greatest Game*. Richmond: Hardie Grant. 2013. Print.
- Cash, John and Joy Damousi. *Footy Passions*. Sydney: UNSW. 2009. Print.
- Cashman, Richard and Michael McKernan. *Sport in History*. St Lucia: UQP, 1979. Print.
- Cashman, Richard and. *Sport, History and Australian Culture*. Petersham: Walla Walla Press. 2011. Print.
- Cashman, Richard, David Headon and Graeme Kinross-Smith (editors). *The Oxford Book of Australian Sporting Anecdotes*. Melbourne: Oxford. 1995. Print.
- Cashmore, Ellis and Jamie Cleland. Fans, Homophobia and masculinities in association football: evidence of a more inclusive environment. *The British Journal of Sociology*. 2012; 63:2, 370-386.
- Cave, Peter. *Philosophy A Beginner's Guide*. Oxford: Oneworld Publications. 2012. Print.
- Christiansen, J. Convergence Theory. *Research Starters: Sociology (online edition)*. Viewed 16 August 2016.
- Clayman, Steve E. Booring: The anatomy of a disaffiliative response. *American Sociological Review*. 1993. 58. 110-130.
- Clifford, James. *The Predicament of Culture – Twentieth-Century Ethnography, Literature, and Art*. Cambridge: Harvard UP. 1988. Print.
- Cockerham, William C. *Social Causes of Health and Disease*. Cambridge: Polity Press. 2007.
- Collins, Ben. *The Champions – Conversations with Great Players & Coaches of Australian Football*. Docklands: Geoff Slattery Publishing. 2006. Print.
- Cometti, Dennis. *Centimetre Perfect – The Classic Commentary*. Crows Nest: Allen & Unwin. 2004. Print.
- Dennis Cometti's Sporting Life. *This is Your Sporting Life* Podcast, accessed 180318.
  - How Dennis Cometti Became a Legend of Australian Sports Broadcasting. *Off-Field – Sports Starts and Experts*. Podcast, accessed 180318.
- Cometti, Dennis with Jon Pierik (editors) *The Game – A Collection of the Best AFL Stories*. Crows Nest: Allen & Unwin. 2012. Print.
- Comisky, Paul, Jennings Bryant, and Dolf Zillman. Commentary as a Substitute for Action. *Journal of Communication*. 1977; 27:3, 150-153.
- Connell, R. W. The big picture: Masculinities in recent world history. *Theory and Society*. Vol 22: 597-625.
- *The Men and the Boys*. St Leonards: Allen & Unwin. 2000. Print.
  - *Masculinities*. Berkeley: UCP. 1995. Print.
- Conrad, Peter. The Shifting Engines of Medicalization. *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*, 2005; 46:1, 3-14.
- Corris. Peter and John Dale (editors). *Best on Ground – Great Writers on the Greatest Game*. Camberwell: Penguin. 2010. Print.

- Cousins, Ben. *My Life Story*. Sydney: Pan Macmillan. 2010. Print.
- Cover, Rob. *Vulnerability and Exposure – Footballer Scandals, Masculine Identity and Ethics*. Crawley: UWA. 2015. Print.
- Coverdale, John, Raymond Nairn, and Donna Claasen. Depictions of Mental Illness in Print Media: A Prospective National Sample. *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Psychiatry*, 2002; 36:5, 697-700.
- Cranny-Francis, Anne. *Popular Culture*. Victoria: Deakin University Press. 1994. Print.
- Critchley, Cheryl. *Our Footy – Real Fans vs Big Bucks*. Melbourne: Wilkinson. 2010. Print.
- Crotty, Martin. *Making the Australian Male – Middle Class Masculinity 1870-1920*. 2001. Carlton South: MUP. Print.
- Crystal, David. *How Language Works: How Babies Babble, Words Change Meaning and Languages Live or Die*. New York: Penguin. 2007. Print
- Csikszentmihalyi, Mihaly. *Flow: The Psychology of Optimal Experience*. New York: Harper Perennial. 1990. Print.
- Cunningham, Stuart and Toby Miller. *Contemporary Australian Television*. Sydney: UNSW. 1994. Print.
- Curthoys, Ann and John Docker. *Is History Fiction?* Sydney: UNSW. 2010. Print.
- Daffey, Paul (compiler). *The Search for Perfection – The Winning Ways of Football Icons*. Richmond: Slattery. 2012. Print.
- *Beyond the Sticks – Country Football Around Australia*. South Melbourne: Lothian. 2003. Print.
  - *Local Rites – A Year in Grass Roots Football*. Flemington: Black Duck. 2011. Print.
- Daffey, Paul and John Harms (editors). *Footy Town – Stories of Australia’s Game*. Fitzroy North: Malarkey. 2013. Print.
- Dalziell, Tanya and Paul Genoni (editors). *Telling Stories – Australian Life and Literature 1935 – 2012*. Clayton: Monash University. 2013. Print.
- Damousi, Joy. *Colonial Voices – A Cultural History of English in Australia 1840-1940*. Cambridge: CUP. 2010. Print.
- Damousi, Joy and Desley Deacon (editors). *Talking and Listening in the Age of Modernity – Essays on the history of Sound*. Canberra: ANU. 2007. Print.
- Dawe, Bruce. *Sometimes Gladness – Collected Poems 1954-1997*. Fifth edition. South Melbourne: Longman. 2001. Print.
- Dawes, Simon. Introduction to Michel Maffesoli’s ‘From society to tribal communities’. *The Sociological Review*. 2016. 64, 734-738.
- De Bois, Sam and Jeff Hearn. Are men getting more emotional? Critical sociological perspectives on men, masculinities and emotions. *The Sociological Review* 2017. 65(4), fth 779-796.
- De Botton, Alain. Atheism 2.0. Ted Talk.
- De Certeau, Michel. (Translated by Steven F Rendall) *The Practice of Everyday Life*. Berkeley: UCP. 1988. Print.
- De Costa, Peter I. and Yu-Shiang Jou. Unpacking the Ideology of Cosmopolitanism in Language Education: Insights from Bakhtin and Systemic Functional Linguistics. *Critical Inquiry in Language Studies*. 13:2, 73-97, DOI: 10.1080/15427587.2015.1132628

- De Moore, Greg. *Tom Wills – First Wild Man of Australian Sport*. Crows Nest: Allen & Unwin. 2011. Print.
- Delbridge, Arthur. Standard Australian English *World Englishes*, 1999; 18:2, 259-270.
- Derrida, Jacques. *Archive Fever*. Chicago: UCP. 1995. Print.
- Desssaix, Robert (editor). *Speaking Their Minds – Intellectuals and the Public Culture in Australia*. Sydney: ABC. 1998. Print.
- Dib, Lina. 'The Forgetting Dis-ease: Making Time Matter' *A Journal of Feminist Cultural Studies*, 25.5 (2012) 42-73
- Dimitriadis, Phillip. *Fandemic – Travels in Footy Mythology*. Melbourne: Book Pal. 2013. Print.
- Doig, Jack. New Nationalism in Australia and New Zealand: The Construction of National Identities by Two Labour Governments in the Early 1970s. *Australian Journal of Politics & History*. 2013; 59:4, 559-575.
- Donohue, James P. Using systemic functional linguistics in academic writing development: An example from film studies. *Journal of English for Academic Purposes*. 2012; 11, 4-16.
- Dreher, Tanja. Listen across difference: Media and multiculturalism beyond the politics of voice. *Continuum: Journal of Media & Cultural Studies*. 2009. Vol 23:4 445-458.
- Duncan, Margaret Carlisle and Barry Brummett. Types and Sources of Spectating Pleasure in Televised Sports. *Sociology of Sport Journal*. 1989. Vol 6 195-211.
- Duncan Oliver, Joan. *Good Karma - How to Find It and Keep It*. London: Duncan Baird Publishers. 2006. Print.
- Dunning, Eric. Sociological Reflections of Sport, Violence and Civilization. *International Review for the Sociology of Sport*. 25: 65-81.
- Dunning, Eric. *The Sociology of Sport*. London: Cass. 1976. Print.
- Dunstan, Keith. *No Brains at All*. Ringwood: Penguin. 1991. Print.
- *Supporting a Column*. Melbourne: Cassell. 1966. Print.
  - *The Paddock That Grew – The Story of the Melbourne Cricket Club*. London: Cassell. 1962. Print.
- Dyer, Jack and Brian Hansen. *Captain Blood's Wild Men II*. Mt Waverley: Brian Hansen. 1994. Print.
- *If Ya Don't Mind, Umpire - The Wildmen of Football Volume III*. Mt Waverley: Brian Hansen. 1995. Print.
- East, Bernard. *Australian Football in a Commercial Era*. Petersham: Walla Walla Press. 2012. Print.
- Easthope, A and Kate McGowan (editors). *A Critical and Cultural Theory Reader*. North Sydney: Allen & Unwin. 1992. Print.
- Edgar, Andrew. Three ways of watching a sports video. *Sport, Ethics and Philosophy*, 2016; 10:4, 403-415.
- Ehrlich, Howard J. The Ecology of Anti-Gay Violence. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*. 1990; 5:3, 359-365.
- Eiser, J Richard. *Attitudes, Chaos and the Connectionist Mind*. Oxford: Blackwell. 1994. Print.
- Eldridge, Patrick. Regret and the Consciousness of the Past. *International Journal of Philosophical Studies*, 2017,25:5, 646-663.

- Electrifying Eighties. AFL. Visual Entertainment Group. 2012. DVD.
- Elias, Norbert. *The History of Manners – The Civilizing Process, Volume One*. New York: Urizen Books. 1978. Print.
- Elliott, John. *Big Jack: My Sporting Life*. Melbourne: Schwartz. 2003. Print.
- Ellis, Mick. AFL's first three rounds showcase the compelling force of momentum. *The Guardian*. <https://www.theguardian.com/sport/blog/2016/apr/11/afls-first-three-rounds-showcase-the-compelling-force-of-momentum>
- Epstein, David. Are Athletes Really Getting Faster, Better, Stronger? Ted Talk
- Ericksen, Hilary (editor). *The Media's Australia*. Parkville: University of Melbourne. 1996. Print.
- Ericsson, K Anders. Deliberate Practice and the Development of Elite Performance. *The Counsilman Memorial Lecture* accessed online 300118.
- Fagundes, Francisco Cota and Irene Maria F Blayer (Editors). *Oral and Written Narratives and Cultural Identity – Interdisciplinary Approaches*. New York: Peter Lang, 2007. Print.
- Feldman Barrett, Lisa. *You aren't at the mercy of your emotions – your brain creates them*. Ted Talk Accessed 28 01 2018
- Feneley, Rick. Sydney's Shame. *The Sydney Morning Herald*.  
Images.smh.com.au/file/2013/07/30/4614664/sydneyshame-v2 – accessed 060617
- Fiske, John, Bob Hodge and Graeme Turner. *Myths of Oz – Reading Australian Popular Culture*. North Sydney: Allen & Unwin. 1987. Print.
- Fitzgerald, Ross and Ken Spillman (Editors) *The Greatest Game*. Richmond: William Heinemann. 1988. Print.
- *Australia's Game – Stories, Essays, Verse & Drama Inspired by the Australian Game of Football*. Richmond: Slattery Media. 2013. Print.
- Fitzgerald, Ross. (Editor) *Heartfelt Moments in Australian Rules Football*. Redland Bay: Connor Court. 2016. Print.
- Flanagan, Martin. *The Call*. St Leonards: Allen & Unwin. 1998. Print.
- *The Game in Time of War*. Sydney: Pan McMillan. 2003. Print.
- Fletcher, Jonathan. *Violence and Civilization – An Introduction to the works of Norbert Elias*. Cambridge: Polity Press. 1997. Print.
- Flood, Michael. Bent Straights: Diversity and Flux Among Heterosexual Men. Chapter in *Intimate Citizenships: Gender, Sexualities, Politics* edited by Elzbieta H Oleksy, New York: Routledge. 2009. Print.
- Flynn, James. *What is Intelligence?* New York: CUP. 2007. Print.
- Why our IQ levels are higher than our grandparents? (Ted Talk) Accessed 04 03 2018
- Foley, Michael. *Embracing the Ordinary – Lessons from the Champions of Everyday Life*. London: Simon & Schuster. 2012. Print.
- Foucault, Michel. *The Archaeology of Knowledge*. London: Routledge, 2002. Print.
- *History of Madness*. Oxon: Routledge. 2009. Print.
- *Madness and Civilization*. Oxon: Routledge Classics. 2001. Print.
- Frances, Allen MD. *Saving Normal*. New York, USA: William Morrow. 2013. Print.
- Frost, Lionel. *Immortals – Football People and the Evolution of Australian Rules*. Milton:

- Wiley. 2005. Print.
- Frow, John and Meaghan Morris (Editors). *Australian Cultural Studies, A Reader*. St Leonards: Allen & Unwin. 1993. Print.
- Gale, Maggie. Contemporary. *Contemporary Theatre Review*. 2013.  
[Http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/10486801.2013.765103](http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/10486801.2013.765103).
- Gallmeier, Charles, P. Putting on the Game Face: The Staging of Emotions in Professional Hockey. *Sociology of Sport Journal*. 1984; 4, 347-362
- Gibson, James William. *Warrior Dreams – Violence and Manhood in Post-Vietnam America*. USA: Hill and Wang, 1994. Print.
- Gibson, William. *Pattern Recognition*. Cemberwell: Penguin, 2003. Print.
- Gieseler, Carly M. Pranking Peter Pans: Performing Playground Masculinities in Extreme Sports. *Text and Performance Quarterly*, 2014; 34:4, 334-353
- Gillmeister, Heiner. On the Origin and Diffusion of European Ball Games. A Linguistic Analysis. *Studies in Physical Culture and Tourism*, 2009; 16:9, 37-46.
- Goldstein, Jeffrey H and Brenda J Bredemeier. Socialization: Some Basic Issues. *Journal of Communication*, 1977; 27, 154-159.
- Gordon, Kierman O. Emotion and memory in nostalgia sport tourism: examining the attraction to postmodern ballparks through an interdisciplinary lens. *Journal of Sport & Tourism*, 2013, 18:3, 217-239.
- Gorman, Sean, Dean Lusher and Keir Reeves. Introduction: The AFL's Rule 35. *Sport in Society*. 2016; 19:4 472-482.
- Graf von Pahlen, Kai. Painful TV.  
[go.warwick.ac.uk/eslj/issues/volume9/number1/grafvonpahlen](http://go.warwick.ac.uk/eslj/issues/volume9/number1/grafvonpahlen)
- Grange, Pippa and John H. Kerr. Physical aggression in Australian football: A qualitative study of elite athletes. *Psychology of Sport and Exercise*. 2010; 11 36-43.
- Graves, Mrs Gwen D., J. Krupinski, Alan Stoller, and A. Harcourt. A Survey of Community Attitudes towards Mental Illness: Part 1 the Questionnaire. *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Psychiatry*, 1971; 5:1, 18-28.
- Greer, Germaine. *The Female Eunuch*. USA. 1971. Print.
- Gregor, Neil. Music, Memory, Emotion: Richard Strauss and the Legacies of War. *Music & Letters*, 2015, 96:1, 55-77.
- Griffiths, Tom. *Hunters and Collectors: The Antiquarian Imagination in Australia*. Melbourne: Cambridge. 1996. Print.
- Griffiths, Tony. *Beautiful Lies – Australia from Kokoda to Keating*. Kent Town: Wakefield Press. 1993. Print.
- Griggs Gerald, Kathryn Leflay, Mark Groves. “Just Watching It Again Now Still Gives Me Goose Bumps!”: Examining the Mental Postcards of Sport Spectators. *Sociology of Sport*, 2012, 29, 89-101.
- Grimshaw, Patricia, Marilyn Lake, Ann McGrath, Marian Quarterly. *Creating a Nation 1788 – 1990*. Ringwood: McPhee Gribble. 1994. Print.
- Grosz, Elizabeth. *Time Travels, Feminism, Nature, Power*. Crows Nest: Allen & Unwin. 2005. Print.
- *Volatile Bodies – Toward a Corporeal Feminism*. St Leonards: Allen & Unwin. 1994. Print.

- Gucciardi, Daniel F., Sandy Gordon, James A. Dimmock. Development and preliminary validation of a mental toughness inventory for Australian football. *Psychology of Sport and Exercise*. 2009; 10 201-209.
- Gullen, Scott. *Greatness – Inside Geelong’s Path to Premiership History*. Melbourne: Weston Media. 2012. Print.
- Halliday, M. A. K. *Spoken and Written Language*. Victoria: Deakin University. 1988. Print.
- Hallinan, Chris and Barry Judd. Changes in Assumptions about Australian Indigenous Footballers: From Exclusion to Enlightenment, *The International Journal of the History of Sport*, 2009; 26:16, 2358-2375
- Duelling Paradigms: Australian Aborigines, Marn-grook and Football Histories, *Sport in Society: Cultures, Commerce, Media, Politics*, 2012; 15:7, 975-986
  - Race relations, Indigenous Australia and the social impact of professional Australian football, *Sport in Society*, 12:9, 1220-1235
- Hamilton, Maggie. *What’s Happening to Our Girls? Too Much Too Soon. How Our Kids Are Overstimulated, Oversold and Oversexed*. Camberwell: Penguin. 2008. Print.
- Hamman, Jaco J. The Memory of Feeling: Envy and Happiness. *Pastoral Psychology*, 2015, 64, 437-452.
- Hanson, Brian. *The Jack Dyer Story – The Legend of Captain Blood*. Melbourne: Brian Hanson. 1996. Print.
- Harms, John and Paul Daffey (editors) *The Footy Almanac 2007*. Essendon: Malarkey Publications. 2007. Print.
- *The Footy Almanac 2012*. Fitzroy North: Malarkey Publications. 2012. Print.
- Harold, J. *The Art of Sledging*. St Leonards: Allen & Unwin. 2008. Print.
- Harry, Joseph. Conceptualising Anti-Gay Violence. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*. 1990; 5:3, 350-358.
- Hartman, Ernest. Thymophor in Dreams, Poetry, Art and Memory: Emotion Translated into Imagery as a Basic Element of Human Creativity. *Imagination, Cognition and Personality*, 2013-2014, 33:1-2, 165-191.
- Harvey, Andy and Agnieszka Piotrowska. Intolerance and joy, violence and love among male football fans: towards a psychosocial explanation of ‘excessive’ behaviours. *Sport in Society*. 2013; 16:10, 1404-1413.
- Hasan, Ruqaiya. *Linguistics, Language, and Verbal Art*: Deakin University. 1985. Print.
- Hay, Roy. A Tale of Two Footballs: The Origins of Australian Football and Association Football Revisited, *Sport in Society: Cultures, Commerce, Media, Politics*, 2010; 13:6, 952-969
- Hazlitt, William. *On the Pleasure of Hating*. London: Penguin. 2004. Print.
- Herd, Nick. *Networking: Commercial Television in Australia – A History*. Strawberry Hills: Currency House. 2012. Print.
- Herek, Gregory M. ‘The Context of Anti-Gay Violence – Notes on Cultural and Psychological Heterosexism’. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, Sep 1990; 5:3, 316-333.
- Hess, Rob, Matthew Nicholson, Bob Stewart and Gregory de Moore. *A National Game – The History of Australian Rules Football*. Camberwell: Viking. 2008. Print.
- Hirst, John. *Looking for Australia – Historical Essays*. Melbourne: Black Inc. 2010. Print.

- *The Australians – Insiders and Outsiders on the National Character Since 1770*. Collingwood: Black Inc. 2007. Print.
- Hocking, Jenny and Nell Reidy. Marngrook, Tom Wills and the continuing Denial of Indigenous History – on the origins of Australian Football. *Meanjin*. Winter 2016, 75:2, 83-93.
- Holdforth, Lucinda. *Why Manners Matter – The Case for Civilised Behaviour in a Barbarous World*. North Sydney: Random House. 2007. Print.
- Holloway, Richard. *Between the Monster and the Saint*. Melbourne: Text Publishing. 2008. Print.
- Holmesby Russell and Jim Main. *The Encyclopedia of AFL Footballers – Every AFL/VFL Player since 1897 – Seventh Edition*. Melbourne: Bass Publishing, 2007. Print.
- *This Football Century*. Melbourne: Wilkinson Books. 1997. Print.
- Horne, Donald. *The Australian People*. Sydney: Angus & Robertson. 1972. Print.
- Horney, Karen. *Self-Analysis*. London: Routledge & Kegan Paul Ltd. 1965. Print.
- Horwitz, Allan V. Transforming Normality into Pathology: The DSM and the Outcomes of Stressful Social Arrangements. *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*, 2007; 48:3, 211-222.
- Horwitz, Allan V. Creating an Age of Depression: The Social Construction and Consequences of the Major Depression Diagnosis. *Society and Mental Health*, March 2011; 1:1, 41-54.
- Howe, Adrian. *Sex, Violence and Crime – Foucault and the ‘Man’ Question*. Oxon: Routledge-Cavendish. 2008. Print.
- [http://afltables.com/afl/afl\\_index.html](http://afltables.com/afl/afl_index.html)
- [http://aic.gov.au/media\\_library/archive/vpt/vpt2.pdf](http://aic.gov.au/media_library/archive/vpt/vpt2.pdf)
- [http://blogs.theaustralian.news.com.au/jacktheinsider/index.php/theaustralian/comments/joe\\_the\\_goose\\_and\\_the\\_legless\\_men](http://blogs.theaustralian.news.com.au/jacktheinsider/index.php/theaustralian/comments/joe_the_goose_and_the_legless_men)
- <http://gregchampion.com.au/dermott-brereton-is-a-hood/>
- <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2015-08-24/timeline:-australian-states-decriminalise-male-homosexuality/6719702>
- <http://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/d3310114.nsf/Home/Animated+Historical+Population+Chart>
- <http://www.afl.com.au/news/2014-05-06/afl-statement-on-2013-injury-report>
- <http://www.afl.com.au/news/event-news/hall-of-fame/umpires>
- <http://www.afl.com.au/respectandresponsibility>
- [http://www.afl.com.au/staticfile/AFL%20Tenant/AFL/Files/Practical\\_Education.pdf](http://www.afl.com.au/staticfile/AFL%20Tenant/AFL/Files/Practical_Education.pdf)
- <http://www.afl.com.au/video/2016-04-30/joe-the-goose-goes-awry>
- <http://www.aso.gov.au/titles/ads/football-meat-pies-holden-cars>
- <http://www.ausstats.abs.gov.au>
- [http://www.footywire.com/afl/footy/ft\\_match\\_list](http://www.footywire.com/afl/footy/ft_match_list)
- <http://www.heraldsun.com.au/news/victoria/no-really-bushranger-ned-kelly-played-footy-for-williamstown/news-story/c378d14ed04e8d1b80ad494827ee11e8>
- <http://www.heraldsun.com.au/sport/afl/the-vflafl-players-who-pushed-through-the-pain->

[barrier/news-story/e6cfd383c679327937b0aa729e669e4](http://barrier/news-story/e6cfd383c679327937b0aa729e669e4)

<https://www.insidesport.com.au/league/news/a-history-of-footy-violence-422114>

<http://www.macquariedictionary.com.au/resources/aus/word/map/search/word/checkside%20ki ck/Eyre%20and%20Yorke%20Pensinsulas/>

<http://www.news.com.au/technology/tech-savvy-kids-cant-push-a-pencil/story-e6frfro0-1226634952869>

<http://www.smh.com.au/afl/sydney-swans/mother-of-teen-who-sledged-adam-goodes-says-fans-should-not-boo-but-still-wants-an-apology-20150729-gimqms.html>

<http://www.smh.com.au/comment/booing-adam-goodes-australians-must-unite-against-racism-20150731-giosk2.html>

<http://www.smh.com.au/national/in-a-dark-place-adam-goodes-the-nation-and-the-race-question-20150731-giolfa.html>

<http://www.smh.com.au/nsw/sydney-shame>

<http://www.theage.com.au/afl/afl-news/afl-2016-it-took-a-scandal-in-the-boys-club-for-the-footy-show-to-install-a-woman-20160330-gnu28w.html>

<http://www.theage.com.au/afl/afl-news/afl-2016-rohan-connollys-last-word-from-round-two-20160403-gnxe6u.html>

<http://www.theage.com.au/afl/afl-news/afl-2016-sometimes-its-good-to-hear-from-different-voices-20160407-go0s34.html#ixzz45IdvICvo>

<http://www.watoday.com.au/wa-news/fremantle-dockers-fan-who-punched-woman-now-jailed-20151130-glbi3b.html>

<http://www.westcoasteagles.com.au/history/timeline>

<https://www.bigfooty.com/forum/threads/biggest-joe-the-geese-poachers-to-play-the-game.1102346/page-4>

<https://www.google.com.au/search?q=mitch+wallis+injury&oq=mitch+wallis+injury&aqs=chrome..69i57j0.5334j0j8&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8>

<https://www.marxists.org/reference/archive/althusser/1970/ideology.htm>

<https://www.phrases.org.uk/meanings/sticks-and-stones-may-break-my-bones.html>

<https://www.sherrin.com.au/history>

<https://www.bigfooty.com/forum/threads/boo-victims.1112357/>

<https://www.bigfooty.com/forum/threads/wc-the-booing.1204377/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VGW-WX77zjY>

Hughes, Merv. *Merv Hughes Best Sporting Insults*. Sydney: Allen & Unwin. 2010. Print.

Hundley, Heather and Andrew C Billings (editors). *Examining Identity in Sports Media*. California: SAGE. 2010. Print.

Hunt, Paula and Glenn Manton. *Mongrel Punts and Hard Ball Gets – An A-Z of Footy Speak*. Fitzroy: Red Dog. 2006. Print.

Hunt, Paula. *Shirt Front – A Short and Amazing History of Aussie Rules*. Fitzroy: Black Dog. 2005. Print.

Hutchins, Brett. *Don Bradman – Challenging the Myth*. Cambridge: CUP. 2002. Print.

Hutchins, Brett and David Rowe. From Broadcasting Scarcity to Digital Plenitude. The Changing Dynamic of a Media Sport Content Economy. *Television and New Media*.



- 2009; 10:4, 354-370.
- *Sport Beyond Television – The Internet, Digital Media and The Rise of Networked Media Sport*. 2012. New York: Routledge. Print.
- Hutchins, Brett and Janine Mikosza. Australian rugby league and violence 1970 to 1995: a case study in the maintenance of masculine hegemony. *Journal of Sociology*. 1998; 34:3, 246-263.
- Hutchinson, Garrie (compiler). *Great Australian Football Stories*. Ringwood: Penguin. 1989. Print.
- *The Best Australian Sports Writing 2002*. Melbourne: Black Inc. 2002. Print.
  - *The Best Australian Sports Writing 2003*. Melbourne: Black Inc. 2003. Print.
- Hyde, Don with Jim Main. *Beyond the Call – Great Commentators of Australian Football*. Prahran: Hardie Grant, 2005. Print.
- Ions, Edmund. *Against Behaviouralism - A Critique of Behavioural Science*. Oxford: Basil Blackwell. 1977. Print. *Configurations*. 2007. 15. 55-76.
- Jackson, Kimberley. Editing as Plastic Surgery: *The Swan* and the Violence of Image-Creation.
- James, Allison and Jenny Hockey. *Embodying Health Identities*. Hampshire: Palgrave Macmillan. 2007. Print.
- James, Clive. *The Meaning of Recognition - New Essays 2001-2005*. Oxford: Picador. 2005. Print.
- Jones, Percy and Brian Hansen. *Percy, A Blues Legend*. Carlton: Hansen Publications. 1995. Print.
- Jordens, Ann-Mari. *Redefining Australians – Immigration, Citizenship and National Identity*. Sydney: Hale & Ironmonger. Print. 1995.
- Kalay-Shahin, Lior, Allon Cohen, Rachel Lemberg, Gil Harary and Thalma EW Lobel. Seeing the World Through “Pink-Colored Glasses”: The Link Between Optimism and Pink. *Journal of Personality*. December 2016. 84:6, 722-731.
- Kell, Peter. *Good Sports – Australian Sport and the Myth of the Fair Go*. Annandale: Pluto Press. 2000. Print.
- Kennedy, Dennis. Sports and Shows: Spectators in Contemporary Culture. *Theatre Research International*. 26:3, 277-284.
- Kernahan, Stephen with Tony De Bolfo. *Sticks – The Stephen Kernahan Story*. Milsons Point: Random House. 1997. Print.
- Kern Paster, Gail. Eschewing politeness: Norbert Elias and the History of Modern Affect. *PMLA*. 2015. 130:5. 1443-1449.
- Kidd, Bruce. Sport and Masculinity. *Sport in Society: Cultures, Commerce, Media, Politics*. 2013; 16:4, 553-564
- Kidd, Dustin. *Pop Culture Freaks*. Colorado: Westview Press. 2014. Print.
- Kiesling, Scott Fabius. Homosocial desire in men’s talk: Balancing and re-creating cultural discourses of masculinity. *Language in Society*. 2005. 34. 695-726.
- King, Tyler, Michael Rosenberg, Rebecca Braham, Renee Ferguson, Brian Dawson. Life after the game – Injury profile of past elite Australian Football players. *Sports Medicine Australia*. 2013; 16 302-306.
- Klement, Alice and Carolyn Matalene. *Telling Stories Taking Risks – Journalism -Writing at the Century’s Edge*. Belmont: Wadsworth. 1998. Print.

- Knightly, Phillip. *Australia – A Biography of a Nation*. London: Vintage. 2001. Print.
- Kok, Ven Jyn, Mein Kuan Lim and Chee Seng Chan. Crowd behavior analysis: A review where physics meets biology. *Neurocomputing*, 2016; 177, 342-362.
- Koller, Veronika. Not Just a Colour: Pink as a Gender and Sexuality Marker in Visual Communication *Visual Communication* 2008; 7:4, 395-423.
- Kress, Gunther. *Linguistic Processes in Sociocultural Practice*. Victoria: Deakin University. 1988. Print.
- Krien, Anna. *Night Games – Sex, Power and Sport*. Collingwood: Black Inc. 2013. Print.
- Kroska, Amy and Sarah K. Harkness. Stigma Sentiments and Self-Meanings: Exploring the Modified Labeling Theory of Mental Illness. *Social Psychology Quarterly*, 2006; 69:4, 325-348.
- Laing, R D. *Self and Others*. London: Penguin Books. 1982. Print.
- *The Politics of Experience and the Bird of Paradise*. Middlesex: Penguin Books. 1974. Print.
- Laurendeau, Jason. “Just tape it up for me, ok?” – Masculinities, Injury and Embodied Emotion. *Emotion, Space and Society*, 2014; 12, 11-17
- Lawler, Ray. *Summer of the Seventeenth Doll*. Sydney: Currency Press. 1991. Print.
- Lawson, Henry. (Compiled and Edited by Leonard Cronin.) *A Camp-Fire Yarn – Henry Lawson 1885 – 1900*. Sydney: Lansdowne. 1984. Print.
- Leach, Edmund. *Levi-Strauss*. London: Fontana. 1985. Print.
- Leach, William. *Land of Desire – Merchants, Power and the Rise of a New American Culture*. New York: Vintage. 1994. Print.
- Le Bon, Gustave. *The Crowd: A Study of the Popular Mind*. New York: Dover. 2002. Print.
- Lee-Shoy, Tiffany and Tanja Dreher. Creating listening spaces for intergenerational communication – Tiffany Lee-Shoy in conversation with Tanja Dreher. *Continuum: Journal of Media & Cultural Studies*. 2009. Vol 23:4 573-577.
- Leunig, Michael. *Poems 1972 – 2012*. Audio CD. ABC.
- Levi-Strauss, Claude. *The Raw and the Cooked – Introduction to a Science of Mythology Volume I*. New York: Harper Colophon, 1975. Print. Weidenfeld & Nicolson. 1974. Print.
- Lewis, Michael. *The Blind Side*. New York: WW Norton. 2009. Print.
- Lewis, Tania. *Smart Living: Lifestyle Media and Popular Expertise*. New York: Peter Lang. 2008. Print.
- Lindley, Margaret. Taking a Joke Too Far and Footballers Shorts in *Gender, Sexuality & Sport: A Dangerous Mix*. 2002. Ebook; 61-67.
- Linnell, Garry. *Football Ltd – The Inside Story of the AFL*. Sydney: Ironbark. 1995. Print.
- Lockett, Tony. *My Life*. Sydney: Ironbark. 1999. Print.
- Longest Kyle C. and Peggy A. Thoits. Gender, the Stress Process, and Health: A Configurational Approach. *Society and Mental Health*, 2012; 2:3, 187-206.
- Looker, Peter. Doing it with your mates: connecting aspects of modern Australian masculinity; in *The Abundant Culture*, (editors) Headon, David, Joy Hooton & Donald Horne. 1994. St Leonards: Allen & Unwin. Print.
- Love, Shawn and Gary S. Solomon. Talking with parents of high school football players about

- chronic traumatic encephalopathy. *American Journal of Sports Medicine*. 2014; 43:5 1260-1264.
- Lull, James. *Media, Communication, Culture: A Global Approach*. Oxford: Polity Press. 1995. Print.
- Mackay, Hugh. *Advance Australia... Where?* Sydney: Hachette. 2008. Print.
- *Generations – Baby Boomers, Their Parents & Their Children*. Sydney: Pan Macmillan. 1997. Print.
  - *What Makes Us Tick? – The Ten Desires That Drive Us*. Sydney: Hachette. 2010. Print.
- Madden, Justin. *Harry – The Words and Wisdom of Justin Madden*. Sydney: Ironbark, 1996. Print.
- Maffesoli, Michel. *The Time of the Tribes – The Decline of Individualism in Mass Society*. London: Sage. 1996. Print.
- Main, Jim. *Aussie Rules for Dummies*. Milton: Wiley. 2003. Print.
- *In the Blood*. 2009. Print.
  - *Our Game – Classic Aussie Rules Stories*. Camberwell: Penguin Viking. 2007. Print.
  - *Plugger and the Mighty Swans*. Melbourne: Wilkinson. 1996. Print.
  - *Shake Down the Thunder, From Ugly Ducklings to AFL Premiers: The Story of the Sydney Swans*. Docklands: Geoff Slattery Publishing. 2006. Print.
- Malthouse, Mick and David Buttifant. *The Ox is Slow but the Earth is Patient*. Crows Nest: Allen & Unwin, 2011. Print.
- Markula, Pirkko and Richarch Pringle. *Foucault, Sport and Exercise*. Oxon: Routledge, 2006. Print.
- Martin, J. R. *Factual Writing: Exploring and Challenging Social Reality*. Victoria: Deakin University. 1987. Print.
- Mason, Gail. Violence Against Lesbians and Gay Men. *Violence Prevention Today*. 1993, 2.
- Matthews, Brian. *The Temple Down the Road*. Camberwell: Penguin. 2003. Print.
- *Oval Dreams, Larrikin Essays on Sport and Low Culture*. Ringwood: Penguin. 1991. Print.
- McAvaney, Bruce (interviewer) *Learning from Legends – AFL*. Pyrmont: Fairfax Books. 2009. Print.
- McCann, Andrew (editor). *Writing the Everyday – Australian Literature and the Limits of Suburbia*. St Lucia: University of Queensland. 1998. Print.
- McClelland, J S. *The Crowd and the Mob – from Plato to Canetti*. London: Unwin Hyman. 1989. Print.
- McConnell, Robin. *The Successful Coach*. Auckland: HarperSports. 2000. Print.
- McCormack, Mark. The intersection of youth masculinities, decreasing homophobia and class: an ethnography. *The British Journal of Sociology*. 2014. 65:1 130-149
- McCormack, Mark and Eric Anderson. ‘It’s Just Not Acceptable Any More’: The Erosion of Homophobia and the Softening of Masculinity at an English Sixth Form. *Sociology*. 2010. 44:5 843-859.
- The influence of declining homophobia on men’s gender in the United States: An argument for the study of homohysteria. *Sex Roles*. 2014. 71:109-120.
- McCullough, Christopher J. *Nobody’s Victim - Freedom from Therapy and Recovery*. New York: Clarkson Potter Publishers. 1995. Print.

- McGregor, Craig. *Profile of Australia* London: Hodder and Staughton. 1966. Print.
- McGuire, Eddie and Jim Main. *Pants – The Darren Millane Story*. Australia: Celebrity Publishing. 1994. Print.
- McKay, Jim, Michael A. Messner and Don Sabo. *Masculinities, Gender Relations and Sport*. Thousand Oaks: Sage Publications. 2000. Print.
- McMahon Barrie and Robyn Quin. *Real Images – Film and Television – Second Edition*. South Yarra: Macmillan. 1995. Print.
- McNicholl, Adam. *Great Australian Sporting Rivalries*. South Melbourne: Echo. 2013. Print.
- Melbourne v Albert Park, *The Australasian*, 30 July 1870:13
- Messner, Michael A. Men Studying Masculinity: Some epistemological Questions in sport sociology. *Sociology of Sport Journal*. 1990; 7, 136-153.
- *Power at Play – Sports and the Problem of Masculinity*. Boston: Beacon Press. 1992. Print.
  - When bodies are weapons: Masculinity and violence in sport. *International Review for the Sociology of Sport*. 25: 203-218.
- Montenigro, Philip H., Michael L. Alosco, Brett M. Martin, Daniel H. Daneshvar, Jesse Mez, Christine E. Chaisson, Christopher J. Nowinski, Rhoda Au, Ann C. McKee, Robert C. Cantu, Michael D. McClean, Robert A. Stern and Yorghos Tripodis. Cumulative head impact exposure predicts later-life depression, apathy, executive dysfunction and cognitive impairment in former high school and college football players. *Journal of Neurotrauma*. 2017; 34: 328-340.
- Moody, SHERELE. *Young men aren't being told what rape actually is*.  
[www.dailyexaminer.com.au/news/young-men-aren't-being-told-what-rape-actually/2632971/](http://www.dailyexaminer.com.au/news/young-men-aren't-being-told-what-rape-actually/2632971/)
- Moran, Albert and Chris Keating. *Historical Dictionary of Australian Radio and Television*. 2007. Maryland: Scarecrow Press. Print.
- Morris, Meaghan. In and Out of Love: Moments in Criticism, Theory and Management. *Journal of Language, Literature and Culture*. DOI: [10.1080/20512856.2018.1499331](https://doi.org/10.1080/20512856.2018.1499331)
- Morton, Tom. *Altered Mates – The Man Question*. St Leonards: Allen & Unwin. 1997. Print.
- Mulvey, Laura. Visual Pleasure and Narrative Pleasure. *Screen*. 1975. 16:3. 6-8.
- Nash, Ulrik W. The curious anomaly of skewed judgment distributions and systematic error in the wisdom of crowds. *PLOS One*, 2014; 9:11, 1 -17.
- Neale, Larry and Daniel Funk. Investigating motivation, attitudinal loyalty and attendance behaviour with fans of Australian Football. *International Journal of Sports Marketing & Sponsorship*. 2006. July 12-23.
- Neuber, Simone. Morally Corrupt Aesthetic Pleasure? *The Journal of Aesthetic Education*, 2014; 48:1, 90-107.
- Nicholls, John with Ian McDonald. *Big Nick*. Toorak: Garry Sparke & Associates. 1977. Print.
- Nixon, H. L. Coaches' views of risk, pain and injury in sport with special reference to gender differences. *Sociology of Sport Journal*. 11: 79-87.
- Explaining pain and injury attitudes and experiences in sport in terms of gender, race and sports status factors. *Journal of Sport and Social Issues*. 20: 33-41.
- Norenbergs, Craig. (Compiler) *ABC Grandstand – Unsung Sporting Heroes – Stories of Courage, Sportsmanship and Having a Go*. Sydney: Harper Collins. 2013. Print.
- O'Donnell, Penny, Justine Lloyd and Tanja Dreher. Listening, pathbuilding and continuations:

- A research agenda for the analysis of listening. *Continuum: Journal of Media & Cultural Studies*. 2009. Vol 23:4 423-439.
- O'Hallaron, Catherine L, Annemarie S Palincsar and Mary J Shleppegrell. Reading Science: Using systemic functional linguistics to support critical language awareness. *Linguistics and Education*. 2015; 32, 55-67.
- Oleksy, Elzbieta H (editor). *Intimate Citizenships – Gender, Sexualities, Politics*. New York: Routledge. 2009. Print.
- Oliver, Neil. *Amazing Tales for Making Men Out of Boys*. London: Penguin, 2008. Print.
- Orwell, George. *Animal Farm*. Mitcham: Penguin. 1960. Print.
- *Why I Write*. London: Penguin. 2004. Print.
  - *Shooting an Elephant*. London: Penguin. 2009. Print.
- Palasinski, Marek, Damien Riggs and Anna Zebialowicz. 'You don't do it in public': racism, respectability and responsibility in Celebrity Big Brother. *Celebrity Studies*. 2011; 2:2, 164-177.
- Partington, Angela. The best bits: Non-narrative pleasures and creative practice. *Journal of Media Practice*. 9:1, 9-18.
- Pascoe, Robert and Gerado Papalia. Australian Football as a Construct of the Frontier Contact Zone, *Sporting Traditions*. 2015; 32:1, 1-17
- Pavlich, Matthew. *Purple Heart*. Sydney: Pan Macmillan. 2015. Print.
- Pease, Bob. The politics of gendered emotions: disrupting men's emotional investment in privilege. *Australian Journal of Social Issues*. 2012. 47:1. 125-142.
- Petkovski, Suzi. *Drop Punts and Torpedoes – The Best Ever Footy Quotes*. North Sydney: Random House. 2007. Print.
- Piesse, Ken. *Great Australian Football Stories*. Scoresby: Five Mile Press. 2013. Print.
- *Favourite Footy Yarns*. Richmond: Echo. 2016. Print.
- Pinker, Steven. *The Language Instinct*. London: Penguin. 1995. Print.
- *What Our Language Habits Reveal*. Ted Talk. Accessed 08 10 2017.
- Platten, John with Ken Piesse. *The Rat – A Football Braveheart*. Sydney: HarperSports. 1997. Print.
- Plotz, John. *The Crowd: British Literature and Public Politics*. Los Angeles: UOC. 2000. Print.
- Porges, Eric C. and Jean Decety. Violence as a source of pleasure or displeasure is associated with functional connectivity with the nucleus accumbens. *Frontiers in Human Neuroscience*. 2013; 7,447
- Porter, Ashely. *Something to Crow About – A Celebration of the first 100 Games*. Sydney: HarperCollins. 1995. Print.
- Portnoi, Gershon. *Why Are You So Fat? Cricket's Best Ever Sledges*. London: Simon & Schuster. 2010. Print.
- Price Jennifer. New News Old News: A sociophonetic Study of Spoken Australian English in News Broadcast Speech. *AAA – Arbeiten aus Angistik und Merikanistik*. Accessed online (Google Scholar) 11 November 2016.
- Pringle, Richard. Masculinities, Sport and Power – A Critical Comparison of Gramscian and Foucauldian Inspired Theoretical Tools. *Journal and Sport & Social Issues*, 2005; 29:3, 256-278
- Quayle, Emma. *The Draft – Inside the AFL's Search for Talent*. Crows Nest: Allen & Unwin.

2008. Print.
- Quinn, Naomi (editor). *Finding Culture in Talk – A Collection of Methods*. New York: Palgrave MacMillan, 2005. Print.
- Rail, Genevieve, and Jean Harvey. Body at work: Michel Foucault and the sociology of sport. *Sociology of Sport Journal*. Vol 12: 164-179
- Recup-Stiegelbauer, Laura-Rebecca, Tirban, Narcisa and Onofrei Paula-Andreea. Oral History and Oral Communication in Today's Culture. *International Journal of Information and Education Technology*, 2012; 2:4, 316-318.
- Redhead, Steve. *Football and Accelerated Culture*. E-book. Trove.nla.gov.au 2015. Accessed 11/18
- Reiss, Steven. *The Normal Personality*. New York: Cambridge University Press. 2009. Print.
- Rhys Jones, Griff (foreword by) *The Nation's Favourite Poems*. London: BBC. 1998. Print.
- Ricciuto, Mark and Shane Mensforth. *Roo*. Sydney: Pan Macmillan. 2007. Print.
- Richards, Kel. *The Story of Australian English*. Sydney: NewSouth. 2015. Print.
- Richards, Lou with Stephen Phillips. *Shooting from the Lip*. Scoresby: Magenta Press. 1990. Print.
- *The Kiss of Death – Memoirs of a Sporting Legend!* Milsons Point: Century Hutchinson. 1989. Print.
- Richards, Matthew and Martin Flanagan. *Richo*. North Sydney: Ebury, 2011. Print.
- Richardson, Nick. *The Game of Their Lives*. Sydney: McMillan. 2016. Print.
- Robb, Frank Maldon (editor). *Poems of Adam Lindsay Gordon, edited, with Introduction, Notes and Appendixes*. London: Oxford University Press. 1913. Print.
- Roberts, Michael (editor) *Heart of the Game – 45 Years of Football on Television*. South Yarra: Hardie Grant. 2001. Print.
- Roos, Paul. *Beyond 300 – An Autobiography*. Milsons Point: Random House. 1997. Print.
- Rosevear, Jim. *Knuckles – the Neil Kerley Story*. Glen Osmond: Rosevear. 2003. Print.
- Ruddell, Trevor. The Marn-Grook Story: A Documentary History of Aboriginal Ballgames in South-Eastern Australia, *Sporting Traditions*, 2015; 32:1, 19-37
- Ruddock-Hudson, Mandy, Paul O'Halloran and Greg Murphy. The Psychological Impact of Long-Term Injury on Australian Football League Players, *Journal of Applied Sport Psychology*, 2014; 26, 377-394
- .Russell, Dwayne. *How to play Australian Football*. Docklands: GSP Books. 2005. Print.
- Said, W Edward. *Beginnings: Intention & Method*. London: Granta. 1988. Print.
- Salter, David. *The Media We Deserve – Underachievement of the Fourth Estate*. Carlton: MUP. 2007. Print.
- Saunders, Kay and Raymond Evans (editors). *Gender Relations in Australia – Domination and Negotiation*. London: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1992. Print.
- Seale, Clive (editor). *Health and the Media*. Oxford: Blackwell Publishing Ltd. 2004. Print.
- Seddon, Keith. *Time*. Kent: Croom Helm. 1987. Print.
- Sedgwick, Eve Kosofsky. *Between Men – English Literature and Male Homosocial Desire*. 1985. New York: Columbia UP. Print.
- Seidler, Victor Jeleniewski. Masculinities, Bodies, and Emotional Life. *Men and Masculinities*. 2007. 10:1. 9-21.

- Sensational Seventies. AFL. Visual Entertainment Group. 2012. DVD.
- Sexton, Michael (Editor). *Fos Williams on Football 1959-1965*. Adelaide: Griffin Press. 2007. Print.
- Shaw, Robert. *Heart & Soul. A Tribute to the Game and its People*. Melbourne: Bas. 2004. Print.
- Sheahan, Mike. *Open Mike – Conversations from the Ground-breaking FOXFOOTY Program*. Richmond: Slattery. 2013. Print.
- Sherzer, Joel. *Speech Play and Verbal Art*. Austin: University of Texas Press, 2002. Print.
- Shiying, Pan. Simulation analysis of a statistical model for herd mentality trend. *Advanced Materials Research*. 2014. 989-994. 1993-1996.
- Showalter, Elaine. *Hystories: Hysterical Epidemics and Modern Media*. New York: Columbia University Press. 1997. Print.
- Sissons, Ric and Brian Stoddart. *Cricket and Empire – The 1932-33 Bodyline Tour of Australia*. North Sydney: George Allen & Unwin. 1984. Print.
- Smith, Ed. *Luck – What it Means and Why it Matters*. London: Bloomsbury. 2012. Print.
- Smith, James. <https://www.insidesport.com.au/league/news/a-history-of-footy-violence-422114>
- Smith, Richard G. *The Baudrillard Dictionary*. EUP: Edinburgh. 2010. Ebook.
- Smith, Tony. Cricket Captains, Celebrity Cults and the Bullying Problem. *AQ*. 2010. January-March. 22-26.
- Sometimes, Alicia and Nicole Hayes (editors). *From the Outer – Footy Like You've Never Heard It*. Carlton: Black Inc. 2016. Print.
- Stafford, Ian. *Playgrounds of the Gods*. Milsons Point: Random House. 1999. Print.
- Stewart, Bob. *The Australian Football Business – A Spectator's Guide to VFL*. Kenthurst: Kangaroo Press, 1983. Print.
- Stocks, Gary. *Flying High – Every Player, Every Game West Coast Eagles 1987 – 2011*. Australia: Cambridge Sports Media. 2011. Print.
- Storey, John. *An Introductory Guide to Cultural Theory and Popular Culture*. Hertfordshire: Harvester Wheatsheaf. 1993. Print.
- Stott, Clifford and Stephen Reicher. Crowd action as intergroup process: introducing the police perspective. *European Journal of Social Psychology*, 1998; 28, 509-529.
- Stout, Martha PH.D. *The Myth of Sanity - Divided Consciousness and the Promise of Awareness*. New York: Penguin Group. 2002. Print.
- Stratford, Elaine (editor). *Australian Cultural Geographies*. South Melbourne: Oxford. 1991. Print.
- Sydney Swans – 2005 Premiers. AFL. Visual Entertainment Group. 2005. DVD.
- Sydney Swans – 2012 Premiers. AFL. Visual Entertainment Group. 2012. DVD.
- Tatz, Colin (compiler). *AFL's Black Stars*. Port Melbourne: Lothian. 1998. Print.
- Thaler, Richard H and Cass R Sunstein. *Nudge – Improving Decisions About Health, Wealth and Happiness*. London: Penguin. 2009. Print.
- The Club. Directors Bruce Beresford and Simon Wincer, Screenplay David Williamson. SA Film Corporation & NSW Film Corporation, Roadshow. 1988. DVD
- Thompson, Ben. *Ways of Hearing – A users guide to the pop psyche from, Elvis to Eminem*. London: Orion. 2001. Print.

- Thompson, Hunter S. *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas*. London: Flamingo. 1993. Print
- Thompson, J Phillip. Broken Policing: The Origins of the “Broken Windows” Policy. *New Labor Forum*, 2015; 24:2, 42-47
- Tiger, Lionel. *The Pursuit of Pleasure*. USA: Little, Brown & Company. 1992. Print.
- Tynan, Michael and Paul Briggs. How culturally competent is the Australian Football League (AFL)? *International Journal of Sport and Society*. 2012, 3, 191-205.
- Ullman-Margalit, Edna. *The Emergence of Norms*. Oxford: Clarendon Press. 1977. Print.
- Van Damme, Ilse, Robin L. Kaplan, Linda J. Levine & Elizabeth F. Loftus. Emotion and False Memory: How goal-irrelevance can be relevant for what people remember. *Memory*. 2017, 25:2, 201-213.
- Van Toorn, Penny. *Writing Never Arrives Naked*. Canberra: Aboriginal Studies Press, 2006. Print.
- WAFL. Swan Districts v Claremont. ABC. 2010. DVD.
- Walby, Sylvia. *Theorizing Patriarchy*. Oxford: Blackwell. 1994. Print.
- Ward, Tony. *Sport in Australian National Identity – Kicking Goals*. Oxon: Routledge. 2010.
- Warhaft, Sally (editor). *Well May We Say... The Speeches That Made Australia*. Melbourne: Black Inc. 2004. Print.
- Warner, Dave. *Footy’s Hall of Shame*. South Fremantle: Fremantle Arts. 1996. Print.
- Warren, Ian. Violence in Sport: The Australian Context, *Criminology Australia*, Vol 6:1, 1994, 20-25
- Watters, Ethan and Richard Ofshe. *Therapy’s Delusions - The Myth of the Unconscious and the Exploitation of Today’s Walking Worried*. New York: Scribner. 1999. Print.
- Weiner, David L. *Battling the Inner Dummy - The Crazyness of Apparently Normal People*. New York: Prometheus Books. 1999. Print.
- Wells, Herbert George. *The Wealth Health and Happiness of Mankind*. London: William Heinemann. 1934. Print.
- West Coast Eagles – 2006 Premiers. AFL. Visual Entertainment Group. 2006. DVD.
- White, Garland F., Janet Katz and Kathryn E Scarborough. The Impact of Professional Football Games Upon Violent Assaults on Women. *Violence and Victims*. 1992; 7:2, 157-171.
- White, Richard. *Inventing Australia – Images and Identity 1788 – 1980*. St Leonards: Allen & Unwin. 1981. Print.
- Whitten, Ted with Jim Main & Friends. *EJ*. Melbourne: Wilkinson. 1995. Print.
- Windschuttle, Keith. *The Media*. Ringwood: Penguin. 1985. Print.
- Winkler, Michael. *Kick it to the S#!t House – Great Australian Sporting Quotes*. Camberwell: Penguin. 2012. Print.
- Wolff, Sula. The Concept of Resilience. *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Psychiatry*, December 1995; 29: 4, 565-574.
- Wrangham, Richard and Deale Peterson. *Demonic Males – Apes and the Origins of Human Violence*. London: Bloomsbury, 1997. Print.
- Young, Kevin, Phillip White and William McTeer. Body Talk: Male athletes reflect on sport, injury and pain. *Sociology of Sport Journal*. 1994; 11, 175-194.
- Zurbo, Matt. *Champions All – A History of AFL/VFL Football in the Players’ Own Words*. 2016. Richmond: Echo. Print.



## Appendices

### Appendix 1

1. Transcripts

## Contents

1973.1 Fitzroy v North Melbourne .....	4
1973.2 Hawthorn v Essendon .....	10
1973.3 Footscray v St Kilda.....	16
1973.4 Hawthorn v Richmond.....	24
1973.5 Hawthorn v Collingwood.....	31
1973.6 Melbourne and North Melbourne .....	37
1973.7 Carlton vs Melbourne .....	45
1973.8 North Melbourne v Essendon .....	51
1973.9 Collingwood v Hawthorn.....	58
1973.10 St Kilda v North Melbourne.....	65
1973.11 St Kilda v Carlton .....	72
1973.12 Footscray v Richmond .....	76
1973.13 Essendon v Collingwood .....	79
1973.14 Richmond v Carlton.....	86
1973.15 Collingwood v Carlton.....	93
1973.16 Richmond v St Kilda.....	101
1973.17 Richmond v Collingwood.....	109
1982.1 Collingwood v Fitzroy .....	117
1982.2 Essendon v Sydney .....	126
1987.1 Swans v Carlton .....	132
1987.2 Collingwood v Brisbane Bears .....	141
1987.3 Essendon v Geelong.....	147
1987.4 West Coast North Melbourne .....	154
1992.1 Sydney v North Melbourne.....	162
1992.2 Adelaide v Brisbane.....	169
1992.3 Geelong v Fitzroy .....	175
1992.4 Richmond v West Coast Eagles .....	183
1997.1 West Coast v Bulldogs.....	193
1997.2 Collingwood v Adelaide .....	201
1997.3 Essendon v Brisbane .....	209
1997.4 Geelong v Fremantle.....	216
1997.5 Hawthorn v North Melbourne.....	224
1997.6 St Kilda v Melbourne.....	232
1997.7 Sydney v Carlton.....	245
1997.8 Port Adelaide v Richmond.....	253

2002.1 St Kilda v Collingwood .....	259
2002.2 Fremantle v Essendon .....	268
2002.3 Kangaroos v Hawthorn .....	277
2002.4 Carlton v Western Bulldogs .....	285
2002.5 Brisbane Lions v Geelong .....	293
2002.6 Sydney v Melbourne .....	301
2002.7 Port Power v West Coast .....	312
2002.8 Richmond v Adelaide .....	319
2007.1 St Kilda v Carlton .....	327
2007.2 Essendon v Hawthorn .....	336
2007.3 West Coast v Western Bulldogs .....	343
2007.4 North Melbourne v Sydney .....	350
2007.5 Adelaide v Collingwood .....	361
2007.6 Brisbane Lions v Fremantle .....	370
2007.7 Melbourne v Port Adelaide .....	378
2007.8 Richmond v Geelong .....	386
2012.1 Western Bulldogs v Collingwood .....	396
2012.2 Essendon v Brisbane Lions .....	405
2012.3 Geelong v Melbourne .....	415
2012.4 Gold Coast Fremantle .....	422
2012.5 St Kilda v Hawthorn .....	436
2012.6 Sydney v Adelaide .....	445
2012.7 Carlton v Greater Western Sydney .....	458
2012.8 Port Adelaide v Richmond .....	467
2012.9 West Coast v North Melbourne .....	478
2017.1 GWS v Western Bulldogs .....	487
2017.2 Hawthorn v St Kilda .....	498
2017.3 Carlton v Sydney .....	507
2017.4 Brisbane v Port Adelaide .....	517
2017.5 North Melbourne v Gold Coast .....	528
2017.6 West Coast v Fremantle .....	536
2017.7 Essendon v Melbourne .....	546
2017.8 Geelong v Collingwood .....	554
2017.9 Adelaide v Richmond .....	562

## 1973.1 Fitzroy v North Melbourne

21 April 1973 primary version

Series: B522 Control No: 1522073 ABC

Dick Mason and Thorold Merrett

*(I can hear the film whirring. The crowd sound gargled, as though they are under water. This was a laborious transcription, the watery sound and the thick vision caused a headache. It was not easy to concentrate on this one. The oval blacked out frame at the start. Along the gasometer wing - what is the gasometer? Children and women represented in the crowd. Maybe a third or two fifths? Fitzroy wearing the white trunks)*

**DM** Fitzroy leading by 4 points at the start of the last quarter against North Melbourne at North Melbourne and Norm Brown sends Fitzroy forward with a long punch, taken by Briedis for North Melbourne though and turned out the grandstand wing. David Rhodes Fitzroy's interstate wingman gathers the ball. Slightly in the back to Wilson of Fitzroy, and he'll take the free kick. He wastes no time, spiral punt to the goal square, North Melbourne scouting, not a good handpass to Farrant but to Captain Barry Davis, one of North Melbourne's best. Kekovich at half forward, can't mark, recovers well, gets boot to ball. Smith, lines them up, oh a heavy clash, over goes Doolan, ball still in play. Kick by David Wall, Kekovich shepherds well, allows Feltham for North Melbourne to send to Smith, can't hold the mark. Greig. Can't find a handle on the football. Down he goes. Plays it beautifully, Keith Greig, still got the ball. Turf now, and Irwin gets Fitzroy out of danger. Barry Davis. One handed Barry Davis! Been a great, inspirational captain for North Melbourne today. 23 kicks. And it's another boomer. Doug Wade in the pack, almost got a hand to it the second time. Fitzroy defence led by Murray. Now Merrigan the full back, played a dashing game, has kept Wade down to two goals, (*Whistle, booing*) North Melbourne supporters don't think much of the display given today by Umpire Robinson

**TM** Goodingham, who has rucked all day opposed to Brown, Goodingham takes it, dispossessed of it and Peterson will get the free kick for North Melbourne. He sends it across to Cowton, Cowton in turn to Feltham. Feltham's met southerly but gets kick in again. Up towards Doolan, Doolan and Molloy, Molloy punches it away. Kekovich, but its Murray wins out. Umpire Robinson is giving Murray a free kick for holding the man. Three minutes gone in the final term. Fitzroy four points in front as they were at the third interval.

**DM** A veteran of over 350 senior games of football, in Western Australian and Victoria. Kevin Murray. A Brownlow medallist and a great credit to the game of Australian football.

**TM** Up towards Goodingham who can't take it, Irwin coming through the pack, along the Gasometer wing, looking for Padley, the bounce not good one but Padley does it well, breaks the tackle, boots off the ground cleverly up towards McMahon puts it in nicely. Controls it well but takes it over the line eventually, was forced over the line and he'll get the free kick.

**DM** oh, you couldn't see that Thorald, it looked like a perfect hip and shoulder from David Dench, to the hip and shoulder,

**TM** Umpire Robinson slightly unsighted by that. And McMahon has it just a few yards in from the boundary line and puts it out. No, it's through. But from our position here and your position it clearly looked out on the full.

**DM** Well that's another reason why there ought to be two goal umpires in Australian Rules football, one for either post. It happens too many times that the goal umpire is unsighted and that's about the third time today that it's happened.

**TM** Dench, kicking off without confidence today, out towards Rhodes, Murphy gets in his way, but gets the handpass to Richards, Richards to centre half forward. North Melbourne Dench. Play on, but not effective. Norm Brown for Fitzroy, in the centre. Looking for Serafini who's on, and he takes the mark, left or right half forward. Gets the pass towards Wilson, but it's a wide one. In fact too much short passing, indirect football by Fitzroy, their greatest downfall.

**DM** They still hold a five point lead at the four and a half minute mark in this last quarter. There was Ryan doing some ruck work. Back to Ryan, taps to no man's land. Best man on the ground, John Rantall, gets one on the head, and goes down. In the back. Against Peterson who holds his head in mock horror. And Murphy, John Murphy the Fitzroy captain, who rarely gets less than 30 kicks takes another one. Towards Wilson who can't hold the ball, North Melbourne through Greig, right up there, the wingman in the back pocket defending the centre of the ground where it's all Fitzroy, Laurie Richards takes the mark. Richards, former Western Australian and Fitzroy vice-captain, indulging in the luxury of short passing. Warwick Irwin, another short pass specialist. This time goes long, but goes out of bounds. Be better Thorald, don't you think, to come straight up the centre?

**TM** they do it far too frequently, you think. It's bad football. Particularly in their position.

**DM** Muir, sends it forward but Fitzroy send it back again. Rhodes collected heavily by Feltham. Accidentally but heavily. David Rhodes, who's a great and courageous footballer, centre half forward. He's got the right idea, straight up the centre, Dench to fly. North Melbourne's Phil Ryan takes the mark and handballs quickly to Cowton. Cowton's not a great kick. Down it comes. Greig and Dare doing battle, Greig with strength and skill. Brilliantly played Keith Greig. A long handpass sets up uh Smith, His high kick looks for Wade and Kekovich. Wall. Pushed to the ground says the umpire. David Wall will take the kick.

**TM** it was a tackling push, wasn't it?

**DM** yes, Wall played at centre half forward when Fitzroy had the breeze and has kicked five goals, and now he's defending. Spare man in defence. Nobody in particular, mind, he's just roving around that half back line. Meantime Irwin has another kick for Fitzroy, out to the gasometer flank, Brown's in front of the pack, who's behind? Cowton, the fair headed North Melbourne player leads in the race to the ball. Padley goes in to tackle a North Melbourne opponent and the umpire says throw it in. Seven minutes gone last term and Fitzroy still clinging to a five point lead, 76 to 71

**TM** and with the breeze favouring North Melbourne one would expect them to have a great chance of notching their second win for the season. Norm Brown wins the tap down, Davis ruck roving well gets the handpass to Cowton. He's an improved player, Cowton. High in the air to centre wing, Greig, off his hands to Irwin. Smothered by Greig, not by Greig, it was Davis, and Greig gets the kick in towards uh Smith who hand passes it back to uh Doolan, up towards Wade. But too many Fitzroy defenders there, Murray cleverly punches it out towards Molloy, Molloy is tackled, Murray backs him up and Fitzroy get out of trouble, but to find, ooh, Goodingham missed a sitter, it comes to Doolan, he threads a handpass to Davis who close to best on the ground, and Peterson it is who takes the mark. He looks for Rantall, Rantall has it, he's caught, we'll play on says umpire, Kekovich gets it over towards Henshaw

**DM** Henshaw!

**TM** Lines it up and its one behind! Well, we were anticipating the free kick against Rantall, uh Rendell but it wasn't to be and uh North Melbourne get to within 4 points of Fitzroy.

**DM** it looks as if John Rantall's been shifted from the centre to half forward flank, in the centre for the first three quarters, he was by far best man on ground. Kicked in by Merrigan who's been a good full back. Richards! There's his kick to centre wing, Padley has the ball punched away by Briedis, Cowton for North Melbourne. Bounce is bad for all players, finally its Molloy the Fitzroy back pocket

player who's caught up with and dumped, Keith Greig. Greig a long kick of the ball. Beautiful drop punt. Behind Fitzroy. Henshaw tries to keep it in play. Four points the difference. Fitzroy still in front. Fitzroy wearing the white trunks. Slight push in the back, Kekovich tries to do it with strength but has the ball held to him. It'll be a ball up. Nine and a half minutes gone, four points the difference. Norm Brown's tap down, Fitzroy clear, to Barry Davis. Davis the North Melbourne captain, what's this Jack, kick number twenty... twenty five. And the short pass to uh Doolan who's straight in front and 45 meters out, and the sun bursting through for the first time, and a fifteen meter penalty. Well that's made almost a certainty for this goal. Ben Doolan, one goal in the first half. He's missed, he's missed. Oooh and they're still on the edges of their chairs. 3 points the difference. Fitzroy 76 North Melbourne 73. There's the board and they've been playing ten and a half minutes in the last term. And this'll make the job for the Fitzroy defenders a lot harder because they'll be looking into the sun.

*The underwater swoosh across the field, blurring the crowd.*

**TM** Careless attempt then by Doolan on that occasion. Not a lot of concentration in in that effort for goal. Merrigan who's played a delightful game on Wade. Kept him to two goals. Chance for Wilson along the gasometer wing, Cowton a chance now for uh for North Melbourne, oooh, tackled strongly, goes into the hands of uh Irwin now, on the Fitzroy half forward line. Up towards the full forward zone it goes, Sinclair is there, so too is Dench. Dench a great attempt to smother, and he'll get the free kick uh Dench for in the back. Good defensive play by the North Melbourne full back. A chance for Rhodes and uh Smith but neither of them can control it. Boundary throw in centre wing, grandstand side. Twelve minutes gone. Fitzroy hanging to a five point, a three point lead. Richards from behind. Goodingham

**DM** well done Goodingham

**TM** well done indeed, Smith, handpass to Feltham. Feltham in turn to Schimmelbusch, Schimmelbusch to Wade! Punched away by Merrigan. Chance now for Rantall. Rantall lines up but its offline for one behind. (*This was kicked over the shoulder while running into the pocket - would have been a miracle to goal. No mention of this. Just oh well, offline.*) Well co-operative team work by North Melbourne. (Long pause) so it's two points the difference 76 plays 74. Merrigan again.

**DM** and he kicks long, looking for Brown, had his ears cuffed a moment ago. There's the kick up in the air, oooh dangerous situation. Fitzroy emerging. Strong play Briedis. To Rantall. Long handpass Barry Davis. Wall. In and out of trouble David Wall. Fitzroy into attack and this is the new man on the ground, Thompson. Thompson a long and strong kick against the breeze. North Melbourne's Farrant in front, Dench, under the pack. Ball up says the umpire. Fitzroy leading by two points, time ticking away all the time. Irwin. Nobody at home for Fitzroy. Taken by North Melbourne, whoops, Feltham!! Magnificent off the back. Looks for Kekovich. Can't mark, where's Wade? Up solidly Murray. Up and down in the one spot, Fitzroy defending desperately in trouble. Molloy gets underneath it, spills the easy chest mark, puts himself under pressure, he's lost it. Merrigan caught! O'Keefe. North Melbourne handpassing to Wade, a goal, no a behind. One point the difference, North doing it centimetre by centimetre...

**TM** 14 minutes of the quarter gone and one point the difference.

**DM** the smallest possible margin between the teams.

**TM** Fitzroy putting up a gallant performance, kicking against this very strong breeze, although it's not as strong as it was in the third term. Murray to mark. Kick in. And the veteran of this game threads it out towards Murphy. Murphy is spoiled, Greig, a chance, oh could have been holding the ball, Greig back to it again, dispossessed of the ball. Fitzroy thread the handpass to Molloy, Molloy up to the half forward flank towards uh Richards, Richards hooks it in with a very intelligent kick but its North Melbourne's defensive player in uh Muir who was held and gets the free kick.

**DM** free kick. Been a very good defensive player in the back pocket, Muir, very safe, and is this a penalty being applied? Yes. A three meter penalty. Irwin for Fitzroy. All the time in the world to place that pass accurately, right over Padley's head, but it comes off to Richards, Richards around the flank, keeps it in well. Fitzroy at home there, nobody can mark the ball. North Melbourne's defence under pressure, found a push in the back. And here's Rantall. Holds the strong mark, and a steadier, short pass to Smith, not so good. Smith and Wall going for the ball in comes Feltham, courageous little player. Tries to beat the paddock full, gets his kick to the centre, Goodingham lurking behind. Thumps the ball cleverly forward. Kekovich and Murray, Murray appealing, goes unnoticed. They collide. Kekovich uses strength and the free kick North Melbourne's way. To be taken by Schimmelbusch, who now runs clear and passes. Henshaw or Davis. Davis keeps it in play, a chance for North Melbourne. Wade! He put it through for a behind and the scores are level.

**TM** Clever play by Davis no doubt about this fellow, he's set the example for the North Melbourne players today and there we have the scores level at the 17 minute mark of the final term.

**DM** Well, not one person in this large crowd has gone home. Goodingham! Is not paid that mark. Well, that one was straight (*laughing*) no 15 meter penalty for that. Norm Brown, kicks it out wide. North Melbourne mark,

**TM** Henshaw.

**DM** A handpass to Cowton, in trouble the handpass. Penalised, caught with the ball, bad handpass,

**TM** Padley it is

**DM** North Melbourne have two reserves warming up on the boundary line.

**TM** and the mark is allowed to Thompson, one of the reserves for Fitzroy who came on at three quarter time,

**DM** 15 meter penalty

**TM** And a 15 meter penalty too,

**DM** coming up to the 18 minute mark and the scores level. 10 16 76 both teams.

**TM** Thompson towards full forward. Serafini up high, a chance for Murphy. Goes for the free kick and he's awarded it. And it was one that was won on experience only. Lucky to get that free kick John Murphy, threw himself forward and uh he's only 45 meters out, a strong kick of the ball Murphy, with the breeze not blowing as strongly as it was in the third term. A goal here would be invaluable to Fitzroy. 18 minutes gone, the scores are level. With Murphy 45 meters out.

**DM** He's missed.

**TM** One behind. So Fitzroy take that slender lead of one behind. Dench, attacks out to the gasometer wing of the ground. Fitzroy's Wilson, grabbed too high is he? No, Umpire Robinson will ball it up. Half forward right for Fitzroy. Nineteen minutes of the quarter gone. Richards high into the air, for Wilson, Wilson grubs the ball, in there is Cowton, but Umpire Robinson will ball it up again.

**DM** North Melbourne have brought uh on one of their reserves. Number 25 Cowton there struggling. The umpire says he pushed his opponent to the ground, and Fitzroy will have the free kick. That's Warwick Irwin, number 7. Thompson's giving him the lead in short, and he passes to that lead. Thompson unguarded, kicks long and straight. Fitzroy in front. Dench, Peterson, back to Dench! North Melbourne are under steam again, oh a ball burster by Dench to half forward. Behind the pack, North Melbourne a chance to Smith. Left foot shot at goal coming up, he's put it through!



**TM** Schimmelbusch, it was Schimmelbusch,

**DM** Schimmelbusch, on the left foot, not Smith, Schimmelbusch. And the boy from Brunswick has put North Melbourne in front.

**TM** it was a red hot handpass that came his way. He was hotly pressed but showed all the poise of a veteran. And North Melbourne are in front at the 20 minute mark of this final term. Goodingham, he's rucked all day. He's still there. Wins the tap down, cleverly to Rantall and North Melbourne go forward again with a long kick to half forward. Robertson, one of Fitzroy's best players is held, and will take the free kick. Held while not in possession, Leigh Robertson. And on the left half back flank he'll take it for Fitzroy. 82 play 77 in North Melbourne's favour. Robertson should kick it across towards the centre, going to elect to kick it up the grandstand flank. Goodingham! His 7th mark. The big fellow has done it well for North Melbourne today. Towards Kekovich. He can't mark. Knocked away by Murray to Richards or is it Sinclair, Sinclair in turn to Molloy and its marked by Rantall.

**DM** experience showing here in North Melbourne side

**TM** Watch this long kick

**DM** Rantall, looks for Kekovich and finds him! Murray, not allowed, plays on for Fitzroy. Irwin O'Keefe, going past, Wilson the staggers, but still got the handpass forward. Cleverly done, Thompson it is, is it? Left foot kick. To Rhodes. He's in trouble. Back to Thompson. Back to Rhodes. To centre half forward. Cowton on this chest. Long kick by Cowton. North deep into attack. Kekovich! Can't mark. Wall, loses it, Molloy, play on again. Kevin Murray, defends grimly to the gasometer flank. Wilson. Briedis bearing down on him, grabs him and turfs him heavily. Stops that Fitzroy advance. Good thinking Arnold Briedis.

**TM** Couldn't agree more.

**DM** giving North Melbourne's defence time to get set once again. Wilson kicks forward, Crow (?) misses, bounces off his chest, out of bounds and North Melbourne breathe again. They are five points in front, 82 to 77. They've been playing 20 nearly 23 minutes. A shot at goal by Fitzroy, a behind

**TM** Padley it was

**DM** kicked by Barry Padley. So the difference four points and North Melbourne in front with David Dench to kick in.

**TM** straight down the centre would be the best bet for Dench and it's a beauty. A centre of the ground kick. From behind, Smith goes but can't take it, a chance for Wall, playing that spare man in defence. Feltham brilliantly done, Feltham. Gets the handpass in, no one in particular. Kicked off the ground by O'Keefe for Fitzroy. A chance for Feltham again, gets the favourable bounce, swings onto the left foot, down towards centre half forward, up flies Kekovich, bundled out of the pack, coming to it is Richards but its uh Peterson who does it well for North Melbourne, across to Davis, just out of his reach, clever Davis! Across towards Greig, Greig winning in the race. Bundled out of the way. A chance now for Molloy of Fitzroy. The handpass to Thompson, and Fitzroy go forward with another handpass to Irwin and they're up on their half forward line now and Serafini has marked. Handpass to Padley, Padley is grabbed, gets the handpass back to Serafini. Overdoing it Fitzroy at centre half forward. A chance now for Doolan to get it to Cowton, Cowton a long kick of the football to centre half back. Wall's marked for Fitzroy.

**DM** Wall goes straight back towards centre half forward. Fitzroy in front. Farrant taps it over the back to Doolan once again North Melbourne defending towards Smith. And the ball... goes out of bounds off the players hands. (*Booing*) North Melbourne fans still not very enamoured with Umpire



Robinson. North leading by 4 points. Goodingham in ruck. Still. Whoops. Richards for Fitzroy. He's kicked it out on the full, has he? Wilson flies high hits the fence hard but it's out on the full. And uh Doolan to take that free kick. Ben Doolan, the North Melbourne rover. Time ticking away, 25 minutes gone, they'll be playing extra time in 10 seconds. North Melbourne in front, awarded the mark.

**TM** Henshaw. No, it's not. It's Doug Farrant who's on the ground for North Melbourne

**DM** Doug Farrant, awkward looking left foot spiral punt but it covers a lot of distance. North waiting behind, but here's Molloy, defending for Fitzroy. Low kick to the flank. Back to Doug Farrant, he's in trouble, strong defence, Robertson for Fitzroy. Short kick to nowhere. Back to Goodingham. His kick, back to North Melbourne, oh, the mark claimed by Schimmelbusch. Play on calling the umpire. He's calling play on. And now he'll ball it up.

**TM** Listen to those North Melbourne fans! (*booing*)

**DM** Schimmelbusch again in trouble and the hand pass goes across the line. North Melbourne leading by 4 points, 82 to 78. With time ticking away, 26 minutes since the opening siren. Kekovich from behind, thumps it forward, but nobody there to receive those crumbs for North Melbourne. Taken by David Wall and kicked into the air. North Melbourne's mark.

**TM** Nunn is on for North Melbourne. Number 25 is Nunn, who has the ball within scoring distance. Kicks it towards the ten meter square. Fitzroy's Merrigan takes the mark. Grand player in defence, for Fitzroy, Merrigan. Two minutes into time on. Towards the gasometer and Greig flies high for North Melbourne and pulls it down. Keith Greig, a quiet first quarter but been brilliant since uh quarter time, with some very intelligent football, and here he is, with the mark, left half forward for North Melbourne and they lead by four points in the time off period. A swag of players down in the North Melbourne goal square. A long kick by Greig, it's going to make the distance, is it? No it's not, off the hands of the pack and picked up by Schimmelbusch and held to him by Fitzroy's Robertson and it will be a ball up right on the North Melbourne goal line. 4 points the difference in North's favour. It's in their forward line. A bit of pushing and shoving by Kekovich, and the free kick will go against him and be taken by Norm Brown.

**DM** Brown quickly to the gasometer side, wastes no time. Oh, Goodingham bumped out. But North Melbourne lead in the race for the ball. Rantall. Back into Barry Davis, and it's a saver for North Melbourne because Davis will steady down. He's near the point of the diamond which he'll be straight in front and very close to centre half forward. North Melbourne leading by four points. Davis will kick it long and high. Oh, it's a magnificent kick. It's to the goal line. It's gone through for a behind off the hands of the players before Doug Wade grabbed it and put it through. So North Melbourne, a five point lead, so Fitzroy can still win the game. At the 28 and a half minute mark.

**TM** Merrigan to the defensive side, the gasometer side a nice well controlled kick

**TM & DM** GOODINGHAM!!

**DM** A real saver, Thorald,

**TM** Great experience by Goodingham, who's been tireless all day

**DM** and taking plenty of time too. It's his best kick for a long time. A behind, now that makes it

SIREN

**DM** The siren! And North Melbourne have won by six points. North Melbourne winning by six points.

## 1973.2 Hawthorn v Essendon

23 April 1973 Series: B 522 Control #: 1522085

Dick Mason and Thorold Merrett

Our first big match tonight is between two teams yet to win a match 5 minutes into the last quarter

*Seating, some jumpers and scarves in the crowd. VFL Park long quarters every one more than 32 minutes. Not a big crowd though, lots of space on the benches 32 045 the official attendance first game at VFL Park for the season Digital scoreboard? The numbers look electric*

**DM** Noonan to Roberts, can he set up a goal? Moncrieff in front, now Roberts in front, no free kick. Moncrieff clears the lines but it's all Essendon. And Essendon going towards goals through Wellington I think, no, it was Delahunty. And a behind only to the Dons. Hawthorn 120 playing Essendon 87. Kelvin Moore to kick the ball back into play. The quarters have been unusually long here at VFL Park. Every one in excess of 32 minutes. Kicked in by Moore. Oh Kevin Heath, that's about the 7<sup>th</sup> spectacular mark he's pulled down today, and quickly he plays on with his left foot. Lead given by Hendry. Clash coming up. No its Des Meagher. Back to Hendry. Hendry further afield to Bevan, the Hawthorn full forward. A lead by Grummisch, which is ignored. Bevan a magnificently long kick of the football, but long it is indeed, but accurate it is not. 32 045 people the official attendance here, the first game at VFL Park for the season. It's Don Scott whos dispossessed he comes back to it again, plenty of help there from Meagher and teammates, Tuddenham, Delahunty, just inside the line, but its uh Douge in front. Back towards the Hawthorn half forward line, Scott in front, quickly by Delahunty into the centre, they struggle for it but it's all Hawthorn as usual backing up Kevin Heath, well shepherded, not an accurate kick, Talbot in front, favoured by the bounce. Back to half back, punched ahead, Crimmins off the ground. Push in the back to Hawthorn. Free kick to the Hawks. Charlie Grummisch, started at full forward, 3 goals and in the third term shifted to centre half forward. Grummisch, within kicking range. Taking a lot of time about kicking the ball. He's very deliberate, shows great concentration (*forerunner for composure?*) Long, straight kick by Grummisch for number four,

**TM** fine example of concentration and purpose, when kicking for goal, Grummisch. And four goals one proves the point. 20 goals 6 126 Hawthorn. 13 9 87 Essendon. In the third quarter Hawthorn added 7 goals 3 to Essendon's 3 2 to virtually sew up this game. But its Scott who wins the tap down again, it goes to Fletcher of Essendon, Fletcher towards Fields, favoured by the bounce, taps it cleverly to Bart uh to Wellington, Wellington up towards Roberts, Roberts marks on the kick off line. Roberts has 3 goals 2 of the Dons 13 9. Lets see if he can make it 4. He has. And it narrows the margin to 33 points. 93 Essendon, 126 Hawthorn in a fabulous kicking spree of 20 goals 6 the Hawks. It's been unusual kicking for Hawthorn, but it's been mainly through the boot and best player afield Leigh Matthews 7 goals 1 for that player in a superb exhibition of roving and forward play.

**DM** Its Perry who wins the tap down for Essendon but here's Matthews, that man again, scooping the ball forward towards Zemski, gets the push in the back, Umpire Smith pays the penalty, which might have held up Hawthorn's advance. Leigh Matthews, centre half forward the kick. Ooh, Hendry couldn't quite hold it, then grabbed Williams along the back of the haircut and John Williams will get the free kick. One of the very few players to drop kick the ball today but does it in fine style, and here's Stevenson for Hawthorn, Bruce Stevenson. Towards Grummisch, held it long enough. Now he plays on. Goes with the right boot this time and it's a good kick. But, what's going on? Is he being asked to come back and kick over the mark?

**TM** Yes,

**DM** and for what purpose

**TM** well, the rule of course, the interpretation would be that it was outside the 5 meter radius but to me it looked within that distance and Grummisch has been brought back to kick from the left half forward flank position.

**DM** well he couldn't possibly make the distance from there. It would have to be almost a record for a punt kick. And there's no breeze. Oh, it's a great attempt, it's a great attempt. Martello!!

**TM** unopposed, what's more (*marked right on the boundary line between the goal posts*)

**DM** did a little bit of good body work before the ball arrived. He's being asked to come round on the severe angle. Couldn't possibly miss from here. Has one, now he has two. And the ball is up on the top deck.

**TM** goal number 2 to Alan Martello and 21 on the board for Hawthorn. 21 goals 6. What a magnificent piece of kicking. 14 9 Essendon. 93 plays 132. 39 points the difference. And Essendon have been failing to take that ball away from the centre. Their players Tuddenham usually in the centre circle, not enough pace, Ross, not enough pace, Crimmins and Matthews have been taking it away with monotonous regularity. Taken by Essendon on that occasion but its smothered, good style by Hawthorn. This has been their pattern. If they haven't got the knock down clearly, they smother it up to get the second chance at it. A bit of opposition against Hawthorn there, the tap down to uh Moss, tap across to Gross at centre half forward, looking for the lead from Delahunty and uh Roberts, was it, Roberts to take the mark. Looked a little bit like Fields for a moment. Roberts has four goals 2 on the board. He's within kicking distance, he kicked two delightful goals early from difficult angles. He's almost at centre half forward. Drop punt kick, it's a good looking one too, won't quite make the distance, over the hands of the pack, just touched, and through for one behind. (*Kids wearing jumpers in the crowd, not adults*) It wasn't far out, it was an extremely good attempt. But not enough height in the Essendon forward line, in my opinion, too much tall timber, in the Hawthorn defence.

**DM** Kelvin Moore kicks it back into play. Hawthorn in front, Scott has the ball punched away, but here's Wilson, now Moloney for Essendon. Roberts behind, Roberts comes in to play, snap shot for... out of bounds for a throw in. No, out of bounds on the full. Nobody guarding the mark but Brian Douge is about to uh put the ball back into play. With a penalty kick. Scott in front again. Neither player goes for the mark. Down to Matthews. He scoops it forward but it's out.

**TM** Clever attempt by Matthews, that's been typical of his play all day, if he hasn't got a clear run or break away with the ball himself, he's tapped it cleverly across to his teammates. And Meagher has had a field day on the wing. In fact, in my opinion Hawthorn have won clearly across the centre. Zemski limiting opportunities to Fields, and Meagher Hawthorn going through Meagher and Meagher having much the better of his opponent.

**DM** It's hard to find good Essendon players as a matter of fact Thorold when you look through the side. Kevin Heath tapping it down but Noonan taps it down. Not a good kick. Stevenson has it.

**TM** Noonan's been disappointing today, for Essendon, they need this player firing.

**DM** Obviously he lacks match practice. Stevenson kicks it the old Norwegian punt, 30 yards up and 30 yards along. The umpire has paid the push in the back to Fletcher. And this is why we've been having long quarters because nobody's interested in getting the football back in time. Now Fletcher with a long kick. Looks for Noonan but can't find him. Bremner. Leigh Matthews again. Number 39 for Matthews. Punched away by Williams of Essendon. There's Fletcher, miss-handled the ball, twice. Moss, handpass to Talbot, Talbot is grabbed and pushed, thrown in. Hawthorn 21 goals 6 132. Essendon 14 10 94 and the fans are starting to leave. (*11 minutes into last quarter*) Wilson goes forward but his kick is inaccurate, taken by Douge of Hawthorn. Centre wing, outer side. Ooops, Moss saw that one coming and ducked in time, got it to Moloney, Moloney to Fields, Fields further afield, pushed after he kicks, a penalty downfield for Essendon and in any case, Wellington had marked. Got two goals, young Wellington, and is within kicking distance for a third.

**TM** he's been one of Essendon's few good players.

**DM** Half forward flanker. Spiral punt, looks good, behind only. And that won't help Essendon's cause. It makes them a clear uh margin behind Hawthorn 37 points in fact. Here's Moncrieff leading the race for the ball, tapped forward by Smith in clever fashion. And the mark taken by Fields who's had probably his quietest day in a long uh long time for Essendon, Neville fields. Kick drops short of the kick off lines to Delahunty, snap shot by Wellington for a behind. Well Essendon having plenty of attack but not putting the big ones on the board. 132 to 96 after 17 and a half minutes in the last quarter. Kelvin Moore to kick in again. Zemski, the bespectacled Hawthorn centre man. Leigh Matthews, Scott, Halley, Matthews missed with that one, well shepherded Halley, allowed Smith in for the short pass to Wilson. Wilson towards Fields. Caught with the ball and will be penalised for holding it. (*Zemski goes down, collected by Fields. When Zemski gets back to his feet, he pats his opponent on the shoulder in a friendly manner before kicking the ball. Chummy*) Zemski, the Hawthorn centre man. Good tap on by Hendry. Leigh Matthews. Scott. Hendry. The goal is open if you can get it there. Matthews again, number 8. A brilliant display by the Hawthorn rover, followed the play, read it brilliantly, and kicked his 8<sup>th</sup>. Four of them have been with the left boot,

**TM** he last 4 in fact. 8 goals one for Leigh Matthews. Well, we said it that it would have to come on more than one occasion if not more than that, but recently he's been off target, today he's been right on and it's been Hawthorn's day. 22 6 128 Hawthorn Essendon 14 12 96.

**DM** Barclay on and uh Pryor off, for Essendon. As Kelvin Matthews, the brother of Leigh leads in the race for the ball. Back to Crimmins, Crimmins goes for goal. A behind. 22 goals 7 139 to Essendon's 14 12 96, near enough to 20 minutes gone in this last quarter.

**TM** Daniel straight down the centre, played fairly well for Essendon but Martello bursts through the pack and with a haphazard kick out of play. Had a little more time, he had plenty of time in fact to steady. Could have gone for a bounce out into the open because there was no one between he and the goal. There was an Essendon player coming in at the side but uh he elected to kick wildly and no result. Daniel, one of the few good Essendon defenders. Chance now for Wellington. Handpass it out in front, grabs it again, but an Essendon player waiting, straight into the man on the mark, in uh Williams, uh Stevenson it was, but Zemski who picks it up now drives it up towards, Grummisch! Grummisch it is at centre half forward. And another fine mark, his ninth...

**DM** ninth mark

**TM** and he has four goals one on the board.

**DM** Kelvin Moore coming off at the other end of the ground and Michael Tuck is replacing Moore. Here's Grummisch lining up number 5 with again, great deliberation. Ooh, straight as a die. And Hawthorn are really back to their best. Another replacement Chiron replaces Norm Bussell for Hawthorn, so both teams have their full complement of reserves on the field.

**TM** Bussell and Tuddenham were involved in a physical clash early in the game and Bussell has been in some bother ever since. Blood was streaming from his right eye and it has been a courageous effort I would imagine for Bussell to remain on the field.

**DM** Fans leaving in their droves. Scott a tower of strength in the ruck Moncrieff loses possession but regains it, Delahunty downs him like a tack and Moncrieff will get the free kick

**TM** It is a significant factor, uh, Dick, when the ball goes away from where the free kick or mark was awarded, it usually goes a fair way and it takes a while to get it back, and consequently, as you mentioned, the quarters have been quite long. On that occasion it was kicked some 50 meters away from where the free kick was awarded. Half forward for Hawthorn, knocked to the ground, a chance for Meagher who's played a grand game on the wing, he's too slow though, and he'll be penalised for holding it. Smith was the tackling Essendon defender. Smith's kick to half forward, Barclay flies high,

Meagher has it, held again, he holds the ball again rather, and Fletcher's the player to take it on this occasion.

**DM** Better not follow it down to the Essendon forward line, he could be stiff!

**TM** (*laughing*) Up to half forward it goes, off the hands of the pack. Talbot in there, not Talbot, its Barclay, Barclay up towards half forward, over half forward but it's a grand mark in defence by Tuck, a new player on for Hawthorn.

**DM** the Friar as he's known, kicks the ball out to Moncrieff. Tuck who was thought to be the replacement full forward for Peter Hudson after he was injured in the first game last year. But as now finds himself at full back, albeit in a replacement role. Claimed by Moloney but not allowed. Crimmins, showing great dash. Where's Matthews? Scouting around out there on the forward line, but Daniel, does it well but oh, beautifully smothered by Martello. Virtually smothered it off the boot. Handpass to Crimmins. Good push by Gross, made sure that the kick by Crimmins would go across the line. John Williams. Odds here on a drop kick. Smith. Somebody running past but elected to go for the kick himself, to half forward, Hawthorn in front and a splendid mark taken by Gene Chiron. Punched down but the scouting Meagher has it, caught with the ball again, third time unlucky. Fletcher, free kick goes out wide and Noonan who's late to the ball and it doesn't matter because Wellington's got one over the shoulder is it Wellington, yes it is. And Wellington, about to have his 19<sup>th</sup> boot, kicks the ball to full forward, where it's all Hawthorn again. Don Scott, the rugged Scott, beats all and sundry. Martello who is equally rugged. And again, the push, or the bump, at the psychological moment, caused the ball to go out on the full. Essendon free kick. John Williams to take it. And off he goes with another drop kick. Noonan. Missed. Tuddenham in there. Got run over by the troops. Stevenson, gets the ball aloft, kicks it badly but there's Bevan, anticipating the bad kick, leading out... Bevan a long bomb - out on the full.

**TM** He can really hoof that ball, he and Martello, some of the longest punt kicks we've seen in football here today, some 70 - 80 meters that travelled and that would be no exaggeration

**DM** well we're playing added time at the moment, as Barclay takes that kick, not Barclay, um yes, Sandy Barclay, Sandy Talbot rather. Up towards Smith who gets Essendon forward again. Fletcher in front, taps on, handpass ending up with Zemski or not eventually because it came to Bremner. Bremner towards full forward again. There's Martello with strength but can't win the ball. Kelvin Matthews. Where's brother Leigh? In short, oops hit him in the head. Not Leigh Matthews. Here's Matthews, chance for 9! Behind only. Well you can't kick em all.

**TM** well he's had 8 on the board and that's his second behind, so 8 2 I think he can be excused for missing that one. 23 goals 8 146 Hawthorn, 14 12 96 Essendon.

**DM** That was his 3<sup>rd</sup> kick, by the way, Matthews. And the mark taken by Essendon's Moss, who's been a quiet ruckman, but probably Essendon's best. Bit of touch ball out there, here's Crimmins. Moss intercepts, allows Moloney in, Bremner half back flanker shoots for goal, Martello in front, good defence by Halley. 146 to 96. Hawthorn by 50 points. 27 nearly 28 minutes gone. Last quarter. In front of the new extensions here at VFL Park. Tapped down, Gross gets his kick to the ball, Delahunty now for Essendon 25 meter handpass over Fletcher's head. Catch me if you can, says Fletcher. Centre wing and the mark taken by Wellington, he in turn the hand pass, to Wilson who is sporting a beautiful black eye after a clash with Matthews. Moncrieff for Hawthorn. As Thorald said before, too many tall players in that Hawthorn defence. Essendon undersized. Zemski here with the run of the ball. Holding the man was the decision

**TM** It's been a creditable performance from Zemski in the centre. He handpasses it to Heath coming by, up towards Martello off the hands of the pack for Moloney to deliver towards the centre, and Scott flies high, or was it Bevan? No, it's Stevenson. Coming to it now is Scott, look at this fellow, great courage, pushing it on, taps it on again, and uh in the way was Smith



**DM** trip

**TM** could have been a trip there a handpass, out towards Martello, Martello fires it towards goal and

**DM & TM** MATTHEWS!!

**TM** goal number 9 coming up for Leigh Matthews.

**DM** well, you would never have given him a chance to mark that, not when the ball left the player's boot, not when the ball left Martello's boot, he was nowhere near it and he wasn't even a great chance to mark it after he got first hand to it. But he's an incredible player and this will deservedly be his 9th goal. That's a great performance by a rover and a second rover at that.

**TM** If it was possible to award him 6 votes he would certainly be the player to get it today, because he's been he's been the outstanding player, head and shoulders above everyone else.

**DM** There's even time for him to get a tenth, because the quarters have been very long, and this is no exception. 32 5 the second quarter, 33 the third quarter and this could easily go to 34 35 minutes. Hundreds of small boys have jumped the fence in anticipation, but I feel they'll have a long time to wait as the ball goes out towards Essendon. Fletcher. Roberts goes up and down without the ball. Push in the back there to Essendon and the free kick going there to Sandy Barclay. He's within scoring range, centre half forward, straight in front. Distance about 55 to 60 meters. To the kick off lines, Noonan in front. No this is not Noonan

**TM** Perry

**DM** This is Perry. Perry 15 meters out. Straight in front. He might have missed. No, he hasn't, he's put it through. It's his second goal. And Essendon have got to the triple figure stage. They are 50 points behind Hawthorn who are 24 goals 8 152.

**TM** 31minutes 10 seconds have elapsed in the final term, a belated effort to goal by Essendon, they've been flagging since half way through the third term. In that third term Hawthorn added 7 goals 3 to Essendon 3 2 and that set the way to victory. And they've gone on the business in no uncertain fashion in this final term with Matthews the star of the game.

**DM** In the second half Hawthorn have added 13 goals 2 while Essendon have put on 6 goals 6. That's the difference. There's Meagher going forward again. Where's Matthews? In the pack he was he's lurking on the outskirts of the pack, number ten coming up - yes!

**TM** its rained gold for Matthews today and when it's your day it's certainly your day because that ball was nowhere near Matthews when it came to ground it rebounded out of the pack and the lurking arms of Leigh Matthews popped through his tenth goal. Ten goals two to Matthews 25 8 158 Hawthorn.

**DM** it must have been a long time in VFL history Thorold since a rover has kicked 10 goals

**TM** well it certainly hasn't happened in my 23 years of playing and watching league football so, it would be pre-war, I think, if its ever happened before. Tapped down by Essendon on that occasion but Crimmins sharking on the defensive side of the pack. Tapped down to Welsh, the new player for Hawthorn, this year. Up towards Matthews again, Matthews gets the ball away goal number 11, it's through for 11! That would have to be a record for a! What an incredible performance Leigh Matthews, there he is in the screen, pulling up the socks, for a fine display of roving and forward play. 11 goals 2 for the burly rover for Hawthorn. (*Who doesn't crack a grin, but walks away with a smug look on his face*)

**DM** He's kicked nearly half the Hawthorn score, they're 26 8 11 goals 2 is a 68 point performance.

**TM** that is fabulous

**DM** 68 out of 164. Essendon going forward, and here's Hawthorn, led by Gene Chiron. And now Smith for Essendon. It's rebounded, Matthews is in the play again, he collides it could be another one, oh unselfish and brilliant play by Matthews to Bevan. Well he could have had number 12 but instead he's given Hugh Bevan, number 3 or W Bevan number 3

**TM** well he takes the cake for my book Dick because any player, and there's no doubt that Matthews would have been conscious that he's kicked 11 goals, to have the opportunity to kick his 12th and unopposed he was, running into that open goal, but he handpassed it to a man waiting in the square and 27 goals on the board for Hawthorn. 27 8 in fact 170, to 15 12 113

**DM** You can see in the background the hundreds of small children, and not so small who have gathered to give him a hero's send off the ground. Essendon going forward again. Delahunty, passing to uh Wilson or is it Smith? Tuck can't mark and the ball goes over the line. Free kick to Michael Tuck. And the Friar kicks towards centre half back. Big crush of players. Ball comes down in the Tuddenham direction

SIREN

**DM** and there's the siren! And the final score Hawthorn 27 goals 8 170 Essendon 15 12 102 and Leigh Matthews of Hawthorn kicked 11 goals for the Hawks.

*The Hawthorn theme song.*

## 1973.3 Footscray v St Kilda

Series: B533 Control #: [1522077](#) 32 mins

Dick Mason and Peter Ewin

**INTRO:** The Big Matches takes you to the Western Oval for the most exciting match of the day between Footscray and St Kilda. Let's hear the complete last quarter, commentators Dick Mason and Peter Ewin.

St Kilda are leading by 8 points

**PE** ...at Footscray where St Kilda have the lead by 9 points at the start of the last quarter. Adrian Gallagher sends them forward, Lawrence misjudges the mark, it comes down towards Stoneham for Footscray, his tenth kick since coming on at half time but Cowboy Neale is there to save the day for St Kilda. Neale sends the kick out looking for Elliott, he's challenged by Thorpe, Number 16, who comes off to Collins who will shoot for goal. Collins with the breeze behind him scores a behind for Footscray and the difference is 8 points. The score Footscray 9 7 61 St Kilda 10 goals 9 69. For Footscray Gingell at number 37 has three goals, Merrington the full forward has two, for St Kilda main goal kicker is full forward Russell Reynolds with three, Barry Breen centre half forward with two. And it's not a good kick in.

**DM** Cowboy Neale handball by Footscray side to Adrian Gallagher down towards to Welsh! Can't mark the ball. Back towards Cowboy Neale. Close to the boundary line, taken by Mynott. Mynott's going to be pretty close to out of play. Well, I don't think he was out of play in fact but eventually the boundary umpire blew the whistle, so it's a boundary thrown in. Footscray into attack with the breeze in this final quarter. Big pack of players. Taken by Gallagher. High kick is going to be marked. That's not 10 meters, surely, it's been paid though. To Collins. Footscray trail 69 to 61. And Collins on a very acute angle, favours his right boot, spiral kick is off line it's out of bounds on the full. No score at all. The breeze changing midway through the third quarter here at the Western Oval. And the end to which Footscray are kicking in this final quarter, prior to half way through the uh third quarter, was the non-attacking end. But it's most certainly the attacking end in this final quarter. Free kick taken for the Saints

**PE** O'Dea

**DM** O'Dea out towards the half back line, Dempsey, not paid

**PE** Misses the mark

**DM** Simmonds a chance, big fair haired fellow who came on the ground in the third quarter, and I think it just bounced before going over the boundary line. Footscray have both reserves on the ground. Now its Salmon contesting, taken by Simmonds. He's felled to the ground, Umpire Lyons calling for a bounce. Players off for Footscray are Bartlett and Baker. Footscray into attack. Salmon tapped down over the back, taken by Thorpe who's been a very good trier for Footscray all day. Here's O'Dea, veering out towards the half back line. Dempsey should take this, well, it was pretty close to out of bounds on the full too, but another throw in. The lead still 8 points the Saints way in a vital game which both sides need desperately to win. Dempsey over the back. He didn't ruck until half way through the third quarter. Gallagher, but there's nobody home for Footscray. Salmon, wheeling through the pack, Gingell, handball goes to Collins. Snap shot for goal right across the face again, that's three shots for Collins in this quarter. One for a behind, the other two out of bounds.

**PE** There's the score on the board, 69 to 61. The visitors are St Kilda, wearing the white shorts. 31 Sarau, tapped down by number 18 Salmon, close to the line. And it'll be thrown in again. They've been in progress nearly five, nearly four minutes in this last term. Footscray attacking that end, that's the far end of the ground from our commentary position. Sarau the tap down, Gallagher, about four



kicks in the quarter so far but this one's out on the full. Four minutes gone and Mynott takes the penalty kick and sends it right deep to that half back flank, St Kilda breaking clear, unable to clear the ball, number 12 is Colling, gets it to Malthouse. Malthouse sends forward but right into the hands of Stoneham. Came on as a reserve, replacing Bartlett at half time and since then has had ten kicks. It's not a good one, but it's a Footscray mark, by Simmonds. He came on half way through the third quarter, replacing ruckman Baker. Too far out for Simmonds. He kicks it low and long, it's in the kick off lines, Mynott defends. A battle for the ball, 26 was Manzie and 21 for Footscray is Power. And it'll be thrown in. Won by O'Dea that kick from the tap down, taken by Colling. Colling gets it to Malthouse, Malthouse sends to Breen, upset by Quinlan, St Kilda in front and now its Bartlett, Bartlett in defence sends forward. Boyd it was who went off. Through goes Salmon, down goes a St Kilda player from that tackle by Salmon and Simmonds finds himself coming up off the deck. There's the kick taken by Corner. Bartlett taps on, Dempsey taps away. Race to the ball. Judson for St Kilda driving them deep into attack. Sandilands with hands high, into an open goal, Colling a shot for goal, offline and a behind only for the Saints, restores them to their three quarter time margin of 9 points. St Kilda are 10 10 70 and Footscray 9 7 61 after six minutes of play in the final term, Sandilands to put the ball into play.

**DM** The Saints a 9 point lead. Straight down the centre towards Dempsey, over the back, Mynott. Chance for Elliott number 89 for the Saints. Handpass across towards the half forward line to Malthouse. Malthouse steadies down, and goes the long kick in towards the goal square, touched! Marked! Right on the line for Footscray, a great saving mark by Laurie Sandilands who's played a great game for Footscray. Both full backs have played well Sandilands and Cowboy Neale. Sandilands to half back flank. Knocked down to ground, taken by Trott who's been very quiet, onto his left boot, back towards the goal square. Staines (?) are here for Footscray, over the ball, enormous leap! But taken away from Footscray and cleared by Gallagher, half back line, Simmonds the leaper for Footscray, Mynott pumping it away and a boundary throw in. Seven minutes of play in the final quarter, anybody's game at the Western Oval, St Kilda by 9 points, Footscray with the attacking end. Dempsey gets the thump down there's nobody there for Footscray though. Elliott weaves his way through onto his left boot to full forward, in fact it may screw back, in fact it has gone through for a goal! Well that was the impossible goal by Elliott and possibly a match winning goal. St Kilda 76 a 15 point lead over Footscray who are 61.

**PE** Previously I told you that Boyd had been replaced. That was incorrect. Boyd, number 44 is still on the ground for Footscray. Dempsey right down to Gallagher who weaves his way out of trouble. Not a good long effective kick, stretching over the back Simmonds, reading it beautifully, Lawrence. Trott. Can't mark. He's out marked by Casey, probably the best player on the ground, Casey's kick is a gem. Straight to Gallagher. Gallagher sends it forward again. Thorpe underneath the football and takes the mark. Thorpe breaks clear. Left foot kick. Not a good one, but straight to his team mate Collins, Collins goes for goal. It's swinging but its straight through foe a behind. Didn't swing enough. A behind. Four behinds kicked by Collins. Or four shots at goal by Collins, and two behinds in this quarter. He's added Footscray total. They're 62 as Neale kicks in, St Kilda 76. Back towards the half back line for the Saints. Scrubby kick by Fry. Kicked off the ground by St Kilda's Judson or was it Malthouse?

**DM** Malthouse

**PE** Short kick by Malthouse towards St Kilda's half forward line, chance for Sandilands, he's well out from full back. Gets the handball away just in time. Quinlan, number two. He'll break clear, long pumping kick by Quinlan, right down to full forward, oh Welsh falls over, over the back it goes. Right in Footscray's attacking zone it goes, chance for Power, straight in towards Collins and he's eventually kicked a goal, well that is his fifth shot for goal in this quarter, and I suppose it's five times lucky, or fifth time lucky

**DM** Probably its perseverance pays

**PE** Well that's brought the game right back to life. St Kilda 76 Footscray 68 the difference 8 points.

**DM** Wholesale changes by Footscray. In this game. Merrington who started off at full forward is on a half back flank. Dempsey who didn't ruck until 8 minutes into the third quarter has rucked almost non-stop since that time.

**PE** and he'd have to too Dick, they haven't got any other ruck man to put on the ball really, have they?

**DM** Bartlett who started at centre half forward is now in the back pocket guarding the resting ruckmen for St Kilda. So many changes in the game, Quinlan now at centre half back, Reynolds for St Kilda now at centre half forward. Mynott with a chance in the middle there for St Kilda, and uh somebody's got a knee right in his expansive back and Umpire Harvey Lyon will bounce the ball, ten minutes gone in this last term. Dempsey's first hand to the ball. What's the use of commentary there? Gallagher got underneath it but you could see that nobody could get hand to ball. Mynott's tap. Malthouse sending forward. Open the gate. Here's Reynolds, the St Kilda player, he goes to Trott, Trott to screw around, nowhere to go. Onto his left boot, takes a bounce, snaps for goal, and he's put it through! Stewie Trott's second goal for St Kilda and the Saints have a little breathing space. Footscray 10 8 68 St Kilda 12 10 82. Eleven minutes gone in what has turned out to be an exciting last quarter after a first half of football that was even but not of a very high standard

Saints with a 14 point lead, Footscray's turn to reply. Dempsey against Mynott. 24 Dempsey. Goes to ground, taken away Thorpe. Footscray into attack. And a beautiful kick by Thorpe finds Welsh, and Welsh can almost put this through from here.

**PE** Welsh started at centre half back, now at full forward.

**DM** He would be a good sixty meters out but a long kick of the ball, Peter Welsh lines up, torpedo punt, he's made the distance, but I don't know, but yes, the accuracy is there, and as I mentioned a reply, well, the reply came within ten seconds. So it's back to 8 points the difference.

**PE** Second goal to Peter Welsh.

**DM** St Kilda 12 10 Footscray 11 8 82 to 74. Coming up to the 12 minute mark in the last term as the ball comes back to Umpire Lyons who has certainly let the play flow today. Violation of the uh centre diamond, now what's going on? Thorpe's getting the free kick. Well he kicks it long, and he kicks it straight.

**BOTH** Welsh!! Ho oh

**DM** a goal here will put Footscray within two points. He's 45 meters out, straight in front, it's there!

**PE** Listen to those Footscray supporters

**DM** In the ruck goes Grambeau for St Kilda. Thorpe in the middle really urging his charges on. Thorpe, the Footscray captain, urging the Bulldogs forward. Two points the difference, St Kilda 12 10 82 Footscray 12 8 80 and surely now it must be St Kilda's turn to reply.

**PE** Well, Footscray have the breeze in this final quarter, as I mentioned the game vital for both sides, St Kilda three wins for the season, the Bulldogs two, pumped away by Grambeau who's got plenty of spring in those heels. Chance for Colling, oh Bartlett intercepts him well. Grambeau can't pick it up. Footscray will go into attack, Gallagher's kick was a short one, Bartlett will thump it forward, which he does, towards the half forward line, Lawrence, he's a rock of Gibraltar this fellow. Short pass by Lawrence is a gem, to Collings who spilt it, who kicks it off the ground to no avail, it's all Footscray. And it's going to be cleared by Quinlan. Quinlan's got a paddock to play in. Beautiful drop kick to position. Two Footscray players. Over the back it's Salmon, intercepting Davis, down to ground

Thorpe, tremendous game by Thorpe. Handball towards the half forward line its spilt by Collings, play on calls Umpire Lyons, Footscray's forward pocket taken by Lawrence. He clears, towards the centre wing. It's all St Kilda now, Davis! Davis centre wing outer side, the Saints lead is a slender one 82 Footscray are 80. Davis to boot the Saints into attack. Goes for the drop kick to half forward, (illegible) play on, Quinlan. Quinlan's coming to life the big fellow, can he pick it up, he can't

**DM** Round the neck

**PE** He's charged, pushed, shoved, and its Bernie Quinlan's free kick.

**DM** Short pass by Quinlan, to Stoneham in the centre. Stoneham about to take his twelfth kick and it's a long one to centre half forward. St Kilda, off the ground by Grambeau, back towards Davis. He shepherds Stoneham out of the way, this give Corner the opportunity, he sends it down to Trott who's got too much pace for Casey, Casey's right on his hammer though, the ball comes out towards Colling on the line. A short one from Colling is marked by Breen in the forward pocket, and he is within kicking distance. Ninth mark by Barry Breen.

**PE** 15 minutes of play.

**DM** He's about uh, 55 meters out, a spiral dropping short, in front is Bartlett, misses the easy one, taken by Casey, dropped by him, Mynott goes after the ball, scoops it out, snap shot for St Kilda, a behind.

**PE** He's a masterpiece of suspension, this goal umpire

**DM** oh he does it well I like goal umpires, oh any umpire for that matter who gives his decision when all eyes are upon him they leave no doubt in anybody's mind as to what's going on. That's good umpiring. Sandilands, straight up the middle.

**PE** Three point lead to the Saints. Oh, free kick there to Dempsey. Was marked for Footscray but the free kick was there for Dempsey. Dempsey will go for the thumper which he does, not a long one though, towards half forward, pushing going on there, taken there by Footscray's Salmon, it could even roll through. Down towards full forward. Welsh and Neale, Neale pushes Welsh out of the way and the strength of Cowboy Neale clears for the Saints for Besanko. Cowboy Neale has played a tremendous game for St Kilda, now Besanko, must be one of the fastest, if not the fastest man in football boots towards centre wing, a lot of jostling going on, trying to tap it down was Power. Chance again for Stoneham, he's been a star since he came on at half time. His kick will go out of bounds, half forward line for Footscray. It's still in play, it's out of bounds now. And the boundary throw in. Scoreboard, 83 St Kilda, Footscray 80.

**DM** Sixteen and a half minutes gone.

**PE** and the bulldogs in attack. Salmon against Grambeau. Down to ground it goes. Chance for Sarau. Short kick could be dangerous for St Kilda.

**DM** Lawrence to mark. Lawrence from centre half back for St Kilda feeds it out beautifully to the outer side, Davis interrupted the pass that was not meant for him, taken by Theodore, back to Davis, Davis sends the Saints forward again. Punched away by Gallagher, down towards uh Corner, Corner's kick goes off the side of the boot right across the ground. Punched away. Finlan (?) cleverly to Thorpe. Thorpe sending the Dogs forward again, oh almost a one hander by Judson. O'Dea breaking away cleverly for St Kilda. Across the ground once again. It's all St Kilda out there, how did that man get a hand to it, that's Fry for Footscray. He's dragged after he kicks the ball. It eludes Power, taken by Malthouse, half back he goes towards half forward. Nobody there. Breen! Waits for the bounce. It beats him. It beats Sandilands. Sandilands goes down but handpasses to Casey. Casey a short one. Stoneham takes the mark. Baulks one way, goes the other, who's there? Nobody. It bounces badly.

Taken by St Kilda and brought down, brought forward for the Saints. Mynott, almost, he waits, handpass to Manzie, Manzie the short pass, and the mark is taken for St Kilda by full forward Reynolds, who came out into the pocket. Reynolds might be just a little bit short of kicking distance. Its three points the difference. 18 and a half minutes gone. Reynolds has three, he won't get his fourth from that. He's centred it. Footscray's Dempsey, backed up now by Casey, the back pocket man. Casey, probably best on ground, clears it out where it bounces across the line and out of bounds for a throw in. St Kilda up by three points, and in attack at the 18 and a half minute mark, last quarter

**PE** Number 34 Grambeau for St Kilda. Tapped down towards the half forward line chance for the Saints through Davis who's been a great battler for the day, down towards full forward but it's all Footscray, and you don't need to know who's there, number 10, Gordon Casey. I would say without doubt three votes Gordon Casey. Tremendous game. His socks are down, there's no doubts why. He's so tired. He's had so many kicks. Over the back to Stoneham. Stoneham towards the half forward line for Footscray. Here's a chance. Salmon. Can he break clear? Handball meant for Gallagher. Picked up again by Salmon, down towards full forward, but there is Cowboy Neale who would be a rival for Casey as best on the ground, Cowboy Neale out towards the back pocket, taken by Judson. Judson's going to be in trouble, taken by Salmon bundled across the line. A mark for Merrigan. Footscray to move into attack again. They trail by three points. Merrigan will go for the long kick, which he does. Now who's going to mark it? It's Welsh! Welsh who has kicked two in the last five minutes has his chance to put his third through in this quarter

**DM** He's got three already

**PE** A chance for his fourth, his third in this quarter. Distance no worries, accuracy is there, it's a goal, Footscray have hit the front. Oh the Bulldogs have gone wild. But there's still ten minutes to go at least. Footscray 13 8 86 St Kilda 12 11 83, 20 minutes of play, final quarter Western Oval, and what a tremendous match this has turned out to be and surprisingly enough too, quite a large crowd here at the Western Oval. Supporters of both teams probably realising that while today was the day to decide if their team was to be a final five prospect. It's been a great game. St Kilda 83 Footscray lead they're 86

**DM** St Kilda sixth on the ladder with three wins, Footscray tenth with two wins, Footscray a chance to go into attack, but there'll be a ball up. 21 minutes gone. Thorpe, again, sending Footscray forward. St Kilda have just made a change, as Merrington taps on. Judson dispossessed. Simmonds kicks it off the ground but he whistle's gone, Judson is going to get the free kick for St Kilda. Number 42 Wayne Judson, as Travis Payze comes on the ground for St Kilda. I regret to say I didn't see whom he replaced. There's the kick. Stoneham tries to mark, too many Footscray players up, not enough down, and St Kilda go forward once again. Davis works his way to the front, recovers brilliantly. Goes for a run, well shepherded by Reynolds, now he straightens up and kicks for goal. It's into the kick off line, Sandilands backing up, holds the mark in the goal square! Now the short kick to his rover Collins. Collins, whoops!

**PE** Oooh!

**DM** goes for a run towards half forward. Ohhh, Salmon went through strongly. Fry lost the run of the ball

**PE** His free kick

**DM** What is umpire Lyons giving that free kick for? The ball, in my opinion, was within 5 yards when he was met. Salmon went straight through and Colling accepted the challenge. Still umpire Lyons out there is a lot closer. He blew the whistle as soon as the alleged infringement took place and he is going to give Colling the free kick. If he can't take the free kick umpire will bounce the ball. Collings is in bad shape, as you can see. *(A crowd gathers round the player who rolls from his hands and knees onto his back. there are players, the umpire, men in white huddled around him. The player,*

*groggy and swaying is helped to his feet, supported by two trainers, and then kicks the ball!*) He's propped up by Barry Lawrence there and a couple of trainers, it's a short kick. But it's effective. Cleared all with the ball and well grabbed, in goes Boyd, loses the run of the ball. Over goes Wilkins, he can't get it. Taken by Corner, Corner plays on for St Kilda, up towards Trott, the St Kilda captain who's taken the mark. Up to the kick off lines again, Dempsey!

**PE** That's got to be mark number ten or eleven

**DM** Mark number 9 according to our infallible statistician Kevin Fitchley (?), who if nothing else, is a Footscray supporter. Up they go again. Down comes the ball. Footscray the chance through Merrington. A second chance, but Grambeau is there, weaving his way through is Manzie. Does he take a shot at goal? Yes, he does. It's up to the kick off lines again, off the hands, it's claimed by Breen, play on, and Breen has taken it out of bounds. 24 minutes gone, Footscray leading by 3 points. Dempsey in ruck against Grambeau. Dempsey down towards Gallagher. Across the face of goal goes Bartlett. Bartlett and Reynolds colliding. Casey almost, is it good enough for a mark? No, here's Trott, the St Kilda Captain, loses the run of the ball its down towards Casey, he's upended. (*Literally climbs over a man and comes down head first, looked as though he ran up the man, like a flight of stairs, bonk, onto his head*) St Kilda, shot for goal by Davis, in trouble, screw shot. A goal! First goal for Alan Davis and thirteenth for St Kilda. And St Kilda have a 3 point lead after 24 and a half minutes. (*Hoarse with yelling*)

**PE** Well about 5 minutes of play remaining at the Western Oval, five minutes at least. The third quarter went for 31 minutes. Now St Kilda lead by 3 points, 89 to 86

**DM** And the St Kilda captain, Stewart Trott is gunna be taken off the ground, I fancy

**PE** Well, Footscray have both reserves on the ground. Tap down goes Grambeau's way. Breaking through is Wilkins, handball can't be picked up, now it is by Fry, was in turn to Gallagher, he can't kick the ball but he'll get the free kick, Adrian Gallagher

**DM** Oh he does it so cleverly, you've seen him in a Carlton Guernsey before do that many times. Back into a pack.

**PE** Gallagher going for the long kick, that's the only way to goal, Welsh, can't mark the ball. It's all St Kilda, who's down? Lawrence, only about 20 meters out from Footscray's goal and Umpire Harvey Lyon who's had a pretty hard job this afternoon, a hard game to control, has done a pretty good job.

**DM** Bounce, Trott still in the hands of the trainers at the other end of the ground.

**PE** Tap down goes to Thorpe. Screw shot by Thorpe is going to be way off line, Cowboy Neale contesting, and it's a boundary throw in, forward pocket for Footscray. We're into time off now, the Bulldogs trail by 3 points, they have the ball right next to their behind post. There's the ruck contest

**DM** GINGELL!!

**PE** Chance to the ground by Gingell. He's screwed it in for a point. So the difference is 2 points. 89 to 87. St Kilda 13 11 89 Footscray 13 9 87

**DM** 26 minutes gone.

**PE** Cowboy Neale who with Gordon Casey would vie for best on the ground honours about to boot St Kilda out of that really dangerous spot.



**DM** It doesn't matter how much time he takes because the time is added from the time the goal umpire waves the flag until the full back kicks the ball. Then it starts again the clock.

**PE** Out towards the back pocket. Simmonds pushed out of the way and he'll get the free kick. Number 29 for Footscray, Simmonds. And Simmonds will boot them into attack. Simmonds came onto the ground in the place of Baker who had done a tremendous job midway through the third quarter. Simmonds, a floating old wobbly punt kick. And they mark it. Down to ground it goes. On the ground a handball by St Kilda, a good one, it goes out towards Judson, out towards the back pocket it goes. Merrigan against Lawrence, and a boundary throw in, Footscray into attack 26 and a half minutes of play have elapsed.

**DM** 27

**PE** St Kilda clinging to a two point lead.

**DM** There's the action. Up is Salmon. The football down towards Thorpe. Can't get a kick. A chance there for Gingell, he gets the ball going forward. A shot by Gallagher - wait on it - it's there!!! (*Crowd goes berserk - winning goal?*)

**PE** Well Adrian Gallagher hasn't done very much Dick, but he could have kicked the winning goal.

**DM** He's had eleven kicks this quarter, Gallagher,

**PE** A lot have been smothered, and short.

**DM** A lot of kicks, he's a heads up footballer. And Footscray leading by 4 points, as the ball's bounced, down to Collins, he's caught, gets the handpass forward. Footscray a chance. Gingell knocked off balance, Lawrence, oh look at him, he did it so beautifully and so easily and sends it out wide. St Kilda still with a chance, charging across the half forward line, Theodore, down towards Graham Scott who's just come on. Scott sends St Kilda forward, Dempsey!!

**PE** Well I'll be right this time, that WAS mark number ten at least.

**DM** Handpass to Casey, Casey with the left boot clears it out. Quinlan, gets to the ball first, gets it lose to the line, he's caught, penalised, Graham Scott, the St Kilda reserve, puts the Saints forwards once again. 28 and a half minutes. St Kilda four points down. Scott sends up towards the kick off line. Where's Dempsey? There he is! Mark number 11 for Gary Dempsey and he's taking plenty of time. Footscray under pressure at the moment as Dempsey boots them out of trouble temporarily. Quinlan is in the pack but can't mark. Fortune favours the brave, underneath the pack is Gallagher number 17 for Footscray. Umpire Harvey Lyons, the man with the football.

**PE** 29 minutes of play in this final quarter, only a couple of minutes remaining. Elliott can't get boot to ball. Umpire Lyons will have to call another bounce I would think. Yes, he will. Footscray lead by four points. Approaching the 30 minute mark this final quarter. St Kilda into attack their half forward line, chance for them taken by uh Gallagher, out towards Reynolds. Reynolds snap shot for goal in towards the full forward line it goes, and it's forced through for a minor score. So it's 93 to 90. Footscray by 3 points.

**DM** 29 and a half minutes gone.

**PE** I would say probably about one minute of play remaining. At the most, two. Both sides are desperate.

**DM** Only two players on Footscray's attacking side of the centre.

**PE** And Sandilands boots Footscray's

**DM** Oh. It's an enormous kick

**PE** Towards the half back line, no (illegible) to mark the ball. Down to ground. Chance for Malthouse, he can't pick the ball up. Umpire Lyons right on the scene allowing play to go on, out it goes towards Malthouse again, high in the air towards Scott, Scott's marked and played on, and was caught.

**DM** What's Umpire Lyons doing?

**PE** Oh that's a controversial decision

**DM** He's allowing Scott to take the kick and he had definitely played on and had been caught.

**PE** Controversial decision by Umpire Harvey Lyons with three points the difference, 30 and a half minutes gone. Scott can't make the distance to the kick off lines. Footscray in front. Ball up, oh look at that milling pack of players

**DM** 30 minutes gone

**PE** St Kilda with a chance. Another ball up. Bartlett came out with that one, 31 minutes gone now

SIREN

**PE** Footscray by 3 points.

And the final score as the Footscray fans go wild with excitement

## 1973.4 Hawthorn v Richmond

26 May 1973

Series: B522 Control #: 1522089

Dick Mason and Peter Ewin

MCG

Hawthorn leading by 25 points

*(I can hear birds in the background. Not a large crowd, some scarves and jumpers and beanies, Kevin Bartlett had no hair then either and huge sideburns dirty, they are grubby vast empty spaces in the crowd)*

**PE** MCG Hawthorn leading by 25 points.

**DM** Moncrief taps it over the back, snap shot by Matthews, out it was Kelvin Matthews who snapped, and it's out for a boundary throw in. Richmond's half back line has been a little loose... Hawthorn generally have been first to the ball. (Birds) that's Rice to Kelvin Matthews, rather. Leigh Matthews. Hawthorn mark to Grummisch! This could be a goal coming up. It's his 7<sup>th</sup> mark, Charlie Grummisch and he has one goal on the board. He's a left footer, he's on a reasonably severe angle, but the man on his mark is standing only 10 meters out from uh goal. Should certainly get a score. It's a goal, it's a good one for the Hawks, so early in the final term at the 2 and a half minute mark. Grummisch kicks his second. And Hawthorn now have a lead of 31 points. Hawthorn 13 19 97 well you can see the score on the board there for the Tigers. 97 to 66.

**PE** Hawthorn who led by 19 points at quarter time and at half time increase that lead to 24 points at three quarter time and now lead by over thirty points, and from the centre, the Tigers to go into attack from McKellar. McKellar now, long kick towards the half forward line for Richmond, they've been breaking down right across the half forward line hopelessly, apart from Ian Stewart. Almost in the centre now, knocking it back was Hewitt, towards Bartlett, Bartlett towards the full forward line, it's all Hawthorn, Douge takes the easiest of marks. Well there's been nobody home for the Tiger forwards all day. Douge out towards the half back line, Francis Burke against Leon Rice, Rice a juggling attempt, not paid. Burke dives on the ball and umpire Sutcliff calls for a bounce.

**DM** Could it be that Francis Burke is now on the wing? We'll have to wait and see.

**PE** Half forward line for the Tigers McKellar gets the tap down, here's a chance for Sheedy! He can pluck the ball, about 30 meters out towards Bartlett but it's going to beat him out, no

**DM** yes

**PE** no that was pretty close

**DM** No everybody realises what the rule is. The ball has to be entirely out of bounds for it to be out. Now the player was certainly out, but the position of the player doesn't matter. It's the ball that has to be out completely. Well, through the binoculars, as Kevin Bartlett emphasized, he was the man on the spot. Crimmins limping

**PE** That wasn't out of bounds, Don Scott to take the kick now for Hawthorn from half back line. Boots towards the centre wing. McKellar getting underneath it to thump it down. And out of bounds. Centre wing members' side, Hawthorn a very handy lead of 25 points. A vital game for the Hawks. Three wins to date for the season, one game out of the five before this week's encounter with the Tigers.

**DM** Leigh Matthews pinpoints it to Michael Moncrief. Moncrief, to Rice going past in front of the member's flank, now in towards the uh forward area. Bevan hands to the ball, Hunt is there for Richmond. Slightly manhandled, Hendry, can't get rid of it. And it'll be a ball up. 15 meters 20



meters out from the goals. Big thump by McKellar. Comes off. It's taken by Cumming across to Bartlett, Bartlett towards half forward. Stewart pinches the ball but uh Duworski is there and the umpire will have to ball that one up. Scott, Rice, well shepherded by Tuck, and the mark by Wayne Bevan. He has four goals for Hawthorn. As you can see, he's a long way out from goals this time. It's a long and penetrating kick and Wayne Walsh has the mark and plays on quickly in between full back and centre half back and finds Wood out on the centre wing, outer side, he's pushed over after he disposes of the ball, so it will be a relayed free kick. And Ian Stewart is the nearest man for Richmond. Ian Stewart. Passing. To Green. Splendid piece of football.

**PE** he's been a great player, Stewart.

**DM** well, he's only had 11 or 12 kicks but uh 10 of those 11 have uh found their target. Very effective. Green for goal. Wait on it, behind I think. Tigers need goals. They're 8 goals 19 67 they're 30 points behind. And we've been playing or they've been playing for seven minutes in the last term, with Kelvin Moore to put it into play once again.

**PE** 97 to 67 Hawthorn with a very handy lead of five goals. Out towards half back line and Dick Clay, he's been very quiet. Swings onto his left boot, screwing it back towards half forward. This should be a Tiger mark. Michael green.

**DM** Strange that you should say this player's been quiet, Peter, he's had more kicks than Stewart. 14 kicks now.

**PE** Well Stewart's on the half forward flank and Clay is playing at Centre half forward, so one has more opportunities, obviously. But now it's Michael Green. This is a valuable shot for the Tigers. They need a goal and Michael Green's put the goal. That's the one they needed. That's the one that could (illegible) the Tigers. They're deficit is now only 24 points. The scoreboard shows Hawthorn 13 19 Richmond 9 19. Third goal to Michael Green.

**DM** Plenty of time left for the Tigers if they're going to get up in this one, Bourke and Parkin having a bit of a nudging contest but McKellar, who's rucked non-stop since half time, Kevin Bartlett. Tigers coming forward and kicked that one from the centre wing, Brian Douge, Bartlett to spoil, got into his man a little bit, Parkin loses it. Bartlett, pushed in the back. He's exhausted is Kevin Bartlett. Dean, quick kick. McLean in front. Well played Don Scott, beautiful blind turn towards, whoops, behind the play, what's going on? Umpire Sutcliff's stopped the play and is going back. What's he doing? He's speaking to McLean and now I think he'll have to bounce the ball down field. Matthews has claimed the mark, but I think he's going to have to bounce the ball, not having seen what went on as he went back to speak to McLean, he's now had to bounce the ball. 9 minutes gone,

**PE** just across the centre wing, taken by Bevan, the handball goes to Leigh Matthews. Matthews in turn towards the full forward line to Kelvin Matthews. Well spoiled by Wayne Walsh, out towards the half back line can he keep it in play? He's trying desperately to and does it very well up the ground, towards the centre wing, but there's nobody home for Richmond and it's taken by Stevenson. Stevenson for the Hawks. Back towards the half forward line, over the back it goes, chance for Allford he's been a pretty quiet player, Allford tried to smother the ball, he's not even effective at doing that and a free kick will go Hawthorn's way. To be taken by Moncrief. Moncrieff about 55 meters out from goal is not bad a chance at scoring, has two, lines them up, Moncrief, punt kick on its way, floating right across the face of goals and a minor score. So, it's 98 to Hawthorn 73 to Richmond, the Hawks lead by 25 points. There's plenty of time left, the final quarter has been in progress for exactly 10 minutes. Tigers making moves in all directions, as Allford puts the ball into motion again.

**DM** Moncrief. Hendry. Try and tap it forward. Morris to clear the lines. Tuck couldn't mark, goes to Martello. In short. Crimmins bounce, is not favoured by the bounce. Hendry's in there. Scooped forwards by the Tigers. Here's Stevenson, for Hawthorn to put it deep into attack. Nobody at home for Hawthorn as it bounces through for yet another behind. Richmond 9 19 73 Hawthorn 13 21 99.

Tapped on my Richmond's McKellar but it's all Hawthorn. That's Michael Tuck, gets a second chance, grabbed by the leg, allowed to go on. Martello to Duworski is good football. Hendry. Hunt has the mark, Rex Hunt, strong kick to half forward. Interference, is allowed to go on. Douge has the ball, knocked away. Clay for Richmond, tuck. And the mark taken by Cumming, Richmond's second rover. He sends it back but it's Duworski, from number one to number one then. Duworski wearing the number one Guernsey for Hawthorn and the number one for Richmond worn by Cumming the man who kicked it to him. Now Duworski kicks it back, on the round. Tapped away. Des Mahr in front, Rogers, Roberts, whoops, dispossessed by Matthews. Here's Stevenson, to have a shot for goal. No, he's given it cleverly to Kelvin Matthews in the kick off lines and Matthews marks on his chest quite easily and will put through another goal for Hawthorn which will make them 14 and probably make them beyond reaching distance for the Tigers. Kelvin Matthews has one, well how do you miss them from that close?

**PE** Ask Kelvin Matthews, he knows. Well 13 goals 22 they're a hundred points on the board.

**DM** Richmond 73. As Allford kicks in again

**PE** Hawthorns lead is 27 points. Allford out towards the half back line and Rex Hunt. Hunt now will have to get on with play Time is against the Tigers. Out towards the centre wing, bouncing in open territory, knocked forward by Heath, goes to Moncrief, well smothered, Roger Dean the chance. The Tiger former skipper who's been a great trier all day and he's got a – no he hasn't got a free kick, he tried – he's got it! Ha! Roger Dean who loves free kicks has free kick number 7. Roger Dean from the centre wing towards the half forward line for the Tigers. Ian Stewart battling there. Dick Clay out it goes towards Hewitt, he can't break clear, Douge for Hawthorn, now its back with Hewitt again, Hewitt a short kick, is it to advantage? It is, to Bartlett! Bartlett looking for the short pass decides to go for a long kick. Down towards the full forward line it goes, there's nobody home for Richmond, it's all Hawthorn, and that's been the situation all day. Ricky McLean has been thrashed by Kelvin more

**DM** Full marks to Moore then because he knew that Bartlett was tired and he played in front, he knew that the kick wasn't going to go a long way.

**PE** well he's played in front all day and Ricky McLean hasn't even seen the football, he's kicked one goal I think. Now it's with Martello, Martello towards the centre wing, bouncing in open territory, opportunity for Hunt again, hand ball goes to Walsh, he fumbles it, that's pretty rare, he recovers. Quickly from the Tigers, back into motion towards the half forward line, over the back it goes. McLean and Moore the boundary line will beat them all, a boundary throw in, forward pocket for Richmond and they need a goal out of this attacking move.

**DM** They've been playing 14 minutes, there's the ball

**PE** and there's 27 points. Forward pocket to the Tigers, Green against Scott. Tap down is Scott's way but the infringement is there, you could see it against Don Scott and Michael Green has the free kick, has three goals. Distance here will be no problems, and a chance for Michael Green to boot his fourth and to bring the Tigers back within some sort of chance. He'd been within 45 50 meters out. Drop punt. It's off line. A minor score. 26 points the lead now in Hawthorn's favour. A very big crowd at the MCG. Hawthorn have been in control all day. 19 points their lead at quarter time, half time, 24 at three quarter time, and at the moment at the 15 minute mark of the final quarter, their lead is 26 points.

**DM** Kelvin Moore a wobbly kick but it will fall into the chest of Michael tuck, commonly known as the friar. His kick to centre wing, Hawthorn scouting but it comes down to Hewitt, came on in the second term replacing Lamb, his long kick chance for Martello, Sproule scouting but uh the boundary line is too close. Hawthorn look pretty safe at the moment. Martello and Green in Ruck. Martello's big fist. Hewitt again, number 19. Dick Clay lost the ball. Tuck. Duworski. It's all Hawthorn. David

Parkin. Crimmins. Delightful kick, Kelvin Matthews or Rex Hunt, Matthews, pushed, in the back, his free. Just as uh Snowy Walsh got him was just about to earn himself another kick. Matthews. Up towards the kick off line, so the full forward area. Allford behind. A Sheedy possession. He's bumped strongly by Matthews Off the ground by Morris of Richmond, look at him, race after the ball. Now Cumming, delightful pass right onto the chest of Dick clay in the middle of the ground. Tigers looking good in this passage of football as Clay sends them forward, Bartlett tired, could get another kick, screws it back, Richmond, no! Magnificent mark! Big Al Martello!

**PE** Martello to clear again, a bad kick towards the back pocket. Leon Rice in trouble, two Richmond opponents, can Bartlett collect it he can, he'll hand ball it which he does, across towards Ricky McLean, in turn it goes out towards Hewitt, Hewitt in under a lot of pressure kicks straight across the face of goals. Hawthorn's chance to clear now. Sproule, tackled, tackled Dick Clay. Clay lines up the left footer, from 40 meters out and he's offline. And the Tigers want goals and are getting points. Well they look good down the field but as they have all day, don't look good when they move into attack because there's no focal point for attack. The scoreboard shows Richmond 9 21 Hawthorn 13 22.

**DM** Both teams about to make changes. Onto the ground for Richmond comes number 40 Keen and uh Bremner is about to come on for Hawthorn.

**PE** Hawthorn's lead is 25 points.

**DM** Allford is gone off. Rex Hunt going to uh full back.

**PE** out towards the half back line, kicked off the ground or mid air by Crimmins, out it goes towards Wood. Centre wing Wood towards the half forward line but straight to Duworski, Duworski clears for the Hawks towards their half forward line, to Leigh Matthews, Matthews won't waste much time, he doesn't normally. He's setting down now, goes for the long kick. Not a particularly long kick and a bad one in fact, in the cricket pitch area, taken by Grummisch, Grummisch in trouble, tackled by Matth, uh by Morris, Grummisch trying to break clear of Morris, can he do it? He can, well done. Gets dumped in the cricket pitch area by the same token. (*laughs*) Still back where it came from, Hendry, back towards Kelvin Matthews, now it's with Rice. A goal! Well that could be the sealer. And that stemmed from perseverance in the main part from Leon Rice who refused to let Kevin Morris beat him. And a goal there for Hawthorn and their lead looks a pretty unassailable one at this stage. 14 22 106 Richmond are 9 21 75.

**DM** Goals for Hawthorn. Bevan has 4, Bevan 4 for Hawthorn, 2 each to Moncrief, Grummisch and Mahr, one each to Hendry, Rice, Matthews, K and Leigh Matthews. Goals to Richmond. Green three one each to Cummins, Stewart, Dean, Sheedy, McLean and Morris.

**PE** been playing in the final quarter for 19 minutes and the Hawks through Bremner move into attack again towards the half forward line, and Leigh Matthews, well Mathews who was reported to be quite ill earlier this week has shown no sign of that today he has received some heavy buffeting earlier in the match but has bounced back and it's a long kick by Matthews, behind a chance for Robert, couldn't mark it, and Kelvin Matthews, well that's the sealer!

**DM** It's a behind

**PE** looked close but offline. Still Hawthorn's lead is a very big one at this stage, approaching the 20 minute mark of the final quarter.

**DM** well, Dick Clay has been taken right back now to full back, and he's kicking in. he's been taken from centre half back to uh centre half forward to full back and here's Sheedy. Bremner missed a chance to mark. Francis Burke now at centre half forward and that'll be a ball up. Umpire Sutcliff has done a good job today, Richmond fans won't tell you so but he's pleased uh most commentators I fancy, and other experts. Here's Walsh leading in the race to the ball, look at the determination on

Matthews to try and run him down, but he's too slow. And the mark taken by Roger Dean. Hewitt, under pressure, tackled by fellow former South Australian, Duworski. Scott in danger. And Paul Sproule the free kick. Quiet player today, Sproule. Almost marked by Moore. Good enough says the umpire. At the 21 minute mark and the score is Hawthorn 14 23 107 Richmond 9 21 75. Martello to take the kick. Must have been a free kick, not the mark.

**PE** Martello toward the centre wing. Roberts tries to knock it away but Don Scott has front position and enough strength to hold the mark. Scott from the centre wing.

**DM** the Hawks fourth win coming up unless Richmond can produce a miracle. Towards the half forward line for Hawthorn, Kevin Sheedy kicks it well. Richmond will have to do everything in a hurry because they haven't got much time. Towards the half forward line, Duworski misses it, can Stewart recover for the Tigers no Duworski recovers quickest. He's been a pretty good player too. Roberts! The big whale. Looks for the hand ball, there's nobody to hand ball it to. Then he tries to hand ball it to Sproule umpire Sutcliff allowing play to go on and Bremner boots it back towards the half forward line and Matthews again, for Hawthorn Leigh Matthews. Half forward line. Hand ball goes across to Dashing Desmond Mahr. He's had his usual 30 odd kicks towards full forward. And the mark is taken by Grummisch - (*gosh, he's a good little player, why don't I know his name?*) Oh, look at Dick Clay pull up sharply, he's definitely hurt his leg. He hurt his leg when he was playing at centre half forward and it's generally thought not to be wise to play an injured man at full back. Grummisch within scoring distance peter.

**PE** only 40 meters out directly in front, and this will end the game if he can put it through.

**DM** ooh

**PE** Punt kick on its way, and oh, does he make it through? Oh luckily for Hawthorn it goes straight into the arms of Bevan, he's been a very good player for Hawthorn this fellow number 37 Wayne Bevan, has four, a chance to make it five. Time running out for Richmond. We've been playing in the final quarter for 23 minutes.

**DM** Bevan. 15 meters out, oh right through the middle. Number 5 to Wayne Bevan. And Hawthorn are racing away and this is an upset. The Hawks were not tipped by any of the experts to win this game at the MCG today, the Melbourne Cricket Ground, not been a happy Hunting ground for them against Richmond in recent years, and Hawthorn are 15 23 113, well there's the board that tells you the whole story. Well most of the story because the other part of it is that they've played 23 minutes in the last quarter.

**PE** Umpire Sutcliff back in control again, and he has been in control throughout the game. Very good umpiring exhibition. The game looked very firey in the first half, Sutcliff asserted his authority and since half time its been a pretty quiet affair. Now Richmond into attack. Duworski though. This player has been a find for Hawthorn, interstate recruit, across to Kelvin Moore, his kick towards centre wing taken by Rex Hunt. Hunt for the Tigers. Back towards half forward line. Francis Bourke setting himself. Can't mark it. Half forward line for the Tigers. Roger Dean. Handball. To Bartlett. Bartlett for the Tigers. Down towards full forward. Martello, couldn't mark it, chance for Morris, oh and he lost it, Douge, clears for Hawthorn, half back line, mark taken, and play on if you want to because he can. Hewitt, snap shot by Hewitt is in towards full forward and two Hawthorn players collide but it's through for a minor score. And this game is all over. Hawthorn's lead 113 points the Hawks and Richmond are 76.

**DM** Who's that down in the goal square, Peter?

**PE** Kevin Heath, I think it will be

**DM** No, its big Al Martello

**PE** Al Martello

**DM** He's a state player, back goes his mouthguard. Well this is going to be an upset Hawthorn have only beaten Richmond 4 times in the last 10 years the last time they won here at the MCG was in 1969. And uh they've only won 2 of their last 15 against Richmond.

**PE** Kelvin Moore again, out towards half back line, Roger Dean wrestling with Douge, and Roger the Dodger has got it.

**DM** He pinched it

**PE** (*laughs*) he's been a great trier, Roger Dean. One of the veterans of league football, to boot the Tigers into attack again. Michael Green jostling with Martello but it's been all Martello, that last line. Chance here for uh Richmond Stewart Burrell (?) Can't get it/ Stevenson number 12 for Hawthorn, here's Matthews, down on the back line now, players streaming in all directions.

**DM** Keen, Number 40, free kick for around the neck.

**PE** Well its all (illegible) at this stage. We've been playing for uh 25 and a half minutes. We're into time off for the final quarter and the deficit that Richmond are facing at the moment is 37 points.

**DM** Good kick by the young fellow. It's a goal.

**PE** 31 points

**DM** That will give him some heart it's uh it's probably his first kick, or first goal at least in league football, if not his first kick. And there's the board to tell the story. Hawthorn 15 23 and Richmond 10 22. Well it hasn't been very good kicking as you can see 25 goals and 45 behinds. 26 minutes gone. Roberts back in ruck and wins the tap. And Hawthorn have all the defenders. Led by Tuck there who's played a rattling good game for the Hawks in the centre. Dean's had more kicks. Matthews. That's Leigh Matthew's. Behind its Walsh. Good defender today for the Tiger's Walsh. Tapped on by Bartlett, he must get a free kick. Bartlett on the half back flank on the outer side of the ground, how many kicks, Jack? 26 kicks for Bartlett. Probably the chief kick getter on the ground this Crimmins, short pass. Whoops, a clash of the first rovers there, but it didn't eventuate because the ball finished up about of bounds. 15 is Roberts, 23 is Scott. The value of being in front. Don Scott. There's Keen, ooh he battles on courageously, threw the ball, that one handed tap forward is classed as a throw by the umpire and he's penalised for so doing. Here's Des Mahr. How many for him, Jack? Kicks? 17<sup>th</sup> kick for Des Mahr, Hendry's 25 got high a lot of pushing and shoving in that pack but put it across the line before Grummisch number 17 could get there. Free kick to Kevin Shed, he and Matthews clashed very heavily in the first term. Don Scott and Ian Stewart having a bit of a tug of war with the footy, and umpire Sutcliff uh is going to ball it up. Roberts gets the front position, Scott gets to it before him however as the the bounce is vagarious (*What does that mean?*) Taken by Rice. Walsh, kicked it quickly and badly in the wrong direction has opened the goals, for Hawthorn as Moncrief converges. He's 35 meters out as he straightens up and puts it right through the middle. Number 3 to Michael Moncrief. A defensive mistake there by Wayne Walsh. And Hawthorn really have sewn this one right up. 119 points they are the medium of 6 goals 23. And Richmond have 82 on the board. 28 nearly 29 minutes gone now. The quarters have all exceeded 30 minutes. In fact, they've all exceeded 31.

**PE** Very close to final siren time as the Tigers move into attack towards their half forward line. McLean can't take it, taken by Bremner, honours (?) reserves, towards the centre wing. Here's Dashing Desmond. Towards the half forward line for the Hawks, to Bevan, and bevan marks.

**DM** Oh it looks like they're doing it so easily

**PE** Well they are

**DM** quite a few Richmond players it would seem have lost interest.

**PE** Hawks have been in control all day. Half forward line, taken by McKellar. Back towards half back. Roberts couldn't mark it, chance off the ground for Hawthorn again, through Stevenson, down towards full forward, only about 20 meters out from Hawthorn's goal and here comes Matthews. High in the air but there's nobody home except Kevin Sheedy. Well Sheedy's been one of Richmond's lion-hearted triers all day, they've had very few in fact. Bevan marks again, very impressed with this fellow, number 37.

**DM** 8 marks to Wayne Bevan. And he's a long kick of the ball too.

**PE** Has five goals,

**DM** He'd have to go close, a long way out

**PE** Torpedo punt kick floating in towards the goal square, Walsh will carry it, no he, awkward bounce for Walsh, back pocket for Richmond, Parkin trying to in fact, Umpire Sutcliff now calling for a bounce. Well we're almost at the 30 minute mark of this final quarter. McKellar will thump it away but it goes straight to Kelvin Matthews, Number4. Matthews will snap for goal right across the face, in fact, right in towards the goal square and Clay takes the mark. Clay started at centre half forward is now playing at full back. The Tigers forward line, today, non-existent

**DM** He doesn't look too proppy on that knee now

**PE** Stewart! Grand mark. He wears the number 2 guernsey which was worn by duel Brownlow medallist, Roy Wright. Stewart one free. Oh, look at that mark by Douge!

**SIREN**

And there's the siren. And Hawthorn run out easy winners at the MCG. Hawthorn 16 23 119  
Richmond 10 22 82



## 1973.5 Hawthorn v Collingwood

9 June 1973 Series: B22 Control #: 1522081

Thorold Merrett, Dick Mason and Jack the stats man

94 Hawthorn 93 Collingwood 2 minutes gone in the last quarter

*Muddy, ground edges are littered with paper, police in capes standing inside the boundary. Peter Knights - aw*

**DM** Scores level at Hawthorn at the start of the last term, and Umpire Sutcliff has control of the game. Collingwood attempting to go forward through Bisset finally get it to Thompson who sends them forward and here's Barry Price, chief kick getter on the ground, dispossessed there by Moncrieff, who uh puts Mahr in possession, 13<sup>th</sup> kick for Mahr, but uh George Bisset, chips in for Collingwood. Bisset kicks long to centre half forward, find Douge chief kick getter for Hawthorn, playing from the back pocket, comes out towards Parkin, 12<sup>th</sup> kick from the centre, and he finds Bevan, finds Bevan who has 4 goals, started at full forward now playing r half forward for Hawthorn. And the fine saving mark by Dennis O'Callaghan, the Collingwood back pocket player at the true centre half back position.

**TM** O'Callaghan, up towards Price and Jaworskyj, Price almost holds it, coming through the pack is uh Reichman, Reichman a long kick up towards McKenna and uh Moore, Moore tries one hand, taps it nicely, and the relieving kick out of danger for Hawthorn, but right into the arms of Reichman who should have taken it, rebounds to Tuck, Tuck a long kick to half forward for Hawthorn, it's taken by Twiggy Dunne, threads his way through the pack, a long kick over centre half forward, Heard flies can't take it, Martello comes through, so does uh Max Richardson, but its picked up by Douge, who's played a great game in the back pocket for Hawthorn. Coming to it is big Scotty look at him chasing it, in pursuit is Salmon, he hand pass across to Parkin, Parkin has it now, waits and dummies, sends the long kick along the Linda Crescent side, a chance here for Hawthorn's uh big Bevan coming through but its picked up by Grummisch. Grummisch fires it at goal – and it's just off line, one behind. Swinging away at the last moment, when it looked like it was going to go through the big opening, but the scores now 94 Hawthorn, 93 oh, so that gives Hawthorn a one point break, 14 10 94 Collingwood 14 15 93.

**DM** two minutes gone in the last quarter. Peter Knights of Hawthorn playing now in the forward pocket as O'Callaghan clears for the Magpies. Send them uh to Osborne, Osborne sends towards Price, through goes Jaworskyj, upends Price, and gets the ball to Parkin. Parkin's kick is not a good one, in the Hendrie direction. Well shepherded by Knights is Hendrie, kicks in towards the kick off lines. Who's there? Grummisch! Bisset the save, across the face of goal on this narrow flanked ground. Doug got caught! But didn't have the ball when he was caught.

**TM** Gott in the back pocket. Short pass in finds Salmon. Salmon half back flank, Linda Crescent side. Long kick by Salmon towards Dean now at centre half forward, had it thumped away by Moncrieff, it comes to Thompson, he's dispossessed by Price, best player on the ground, finds Dunstan all alone, Dunstan half forward flank looking for McKenna, goes for the long shot, right up towards Coles and Douges, Coles, over the back. Chance from point blank range. Handpass it across to Heard and Heard puts it through. And the Magpies hit the front by 5 points. Unselfish play by Coles, getting it to Heard for his third goal and the Magpie's 14<sup>th</sup>. 14 15 99 Collingwood, Hawthorn 14 10 94

**DM** I think the biggest break between the teams has been about 11 points. Oh, maybe more than that because Hawthorn did lead by quite a considerable margin 26 points in the second term, but Collingwood pegged them back just before half time. Richardson loses possession, taken by Tuck for Hawthorn. He fights clear. Hendrie. Sends the Hawks forward by Leon Rice now. Bisset.

**TM** desperation by Bisset

**DM** Just wide of centre half back, Bisset. Goes for the railway side wing to Robert Dean. Push in the back. Heard, taps on, but Moore gathers well, been a good full back. Price, and Parkin, Price the free kick, manhandled by Parkin. Very constructive. *(Parkin is shown kicking the ball, the crowd gasp then the vision swings to where the ball was marked, man (Osborne) down on the field)* Very destructive. That's one of the accidents of football. One of the axioms is, when you've got a head of steam up you don't stop and Matthews had only one intent and that was to spoil that mark. He did. Osborne got the free kick for the push in the back. That's one of the accidents of football

**TM** No malicious intent there, whatsoever.

**DM** None whatsoever. And a beautiful kick too by Osborne. Almost gathered in by Moncrieff who's been a great defender for Hawthorn. Kelvin Matthews. *(Punching. Long pause)* There's his kick, this is Bevan, centre half forward handpassing to back pocket. Grummisch almost, O'Callaghan for Collingwood, into the vacant centre, now populated by Mocka Dunstan. T price. Collingwood playing great football as Price goes to Heard, and it's through for a behind, the Woods. Six point lead to Collingwood, 100 plays 94 and Moore slips just has he kicks in but the mark to Leon Rice of Hawthorn whos number is obliterated by a muddy soil. A long kick by Rice to centre wing. Collingwood in front through O'Callaghan, and he takes a good saving mark. Nobody went for the punch there although there were three players in line. *(A mark was allowed without being contested. that would be punished these days)* That's the punch from uh Bruce Stevenson down to Wayne Richardson, who's pushed off the ball. Martello keeps it in play, gets his kick and Bevan marks. Bevan's on the half back flank. It's a penetrating kick but there's O'Callaghan again. *(Long pause)* Thompson can't win it from behind. Martello recovers the quickest. And O'Callaghan again!

**TM** Four marks this quarter to O'Callaghan, and someone said he couldn't play! O'Callaghan, fine kick, right towards the centre. Knocked away by Hawthorn, chance for Parkin to come through, he was manhandled, Rice gets the handpass across to Knights, Knights a high kick up towards centre half forward, O'Callaghan knocks it away. A chance for uh Mahr, and a quick kick in by Mahr, towards Tuck, but its Georgie Bisset playing that spare man in defence who gets the Magpies out of trouble, only to find Leon Rice take the mark centre wing for Hawthorn. Six points the difference. 100 plays 94 in Collingwood's favour. As Hawthorn go into attack through Rice a chance now for uh Bevan, Bevan slams it at goal and it's out of play in the forward pocket to be thrown in. *(I can hear a car revving)* Collingwood led by one point at quarter time, Hawthorn by 11 at three quarter time and the scores were level at uh three quarter time. Thompson wins the tap down, Kelvin Matthews hooks it out to brother Leigh, Leigh holding the man it is, and it could have gone either way. That's the decision by Umpire Sutcliff who's done a remarkably good job, in this very tough, tense game, and Leigh Matthews 40 meters out, a chance to put Hawthorn level once again. *(Car sounds)* Leigh Matthews already got three goals, but the ball is marked on the line by Clifton. Great tussle going on between Clifton and Bevan, Bevan of course has spent some time out of centre half forward. Clifton now, elects to kick it to the railway side, almost a mark there to Richmond. Comes back to a scrimmage of players, and Umpire Sutcliff will ball it up, forward pocket for Hawthorn. Nine minutes gone, the score's six points the difference in Collingwood's favour.

*More jumpers and scarves in the crowd. The sideburns are spectacular - they look like ape men. Police pacing the boundary on foot. Numbers on jumpers obliterated by mud. Long socks, all pulled up, paper streamers being thrown through the goal posts as Leigh Matthews kicks a goal.*

**DM** Thompson and ruckman Martello number 14 taps forward. Max Richardson gets the kick forward. Moncreif gets hit in the face by the ball *(as he flies for a mark, lands on his back, holding his face)*. Dean on his hands and knees. Bisset to Price as Magpies stream forward. He looks for McKenna, on the bounce, McKenna. Price again. Wayne Richardson within scoring distance. The value of Price like other great players, including Jesaulenko, as soon as he picks up the ball he's looking for a teammate to dispose to. Richardson 45 meters distant. Behind. Well that's a bit of breathing space for the Magpies, a 7 point lead. Plenty of time left, 10 and a half minutes gone since



the opening siren of the last term. Wayne Richardson again, Douge bearing down on him. In danger, not seen. Crimmins around the neck, free kick. Parkin. (*Parkin took a lovely mark in Sam's opinion*) Parkin. From half back flank to half forward. Collingwood's Ross Dunne gets the ball. Long kick by Dunne, 60 meters, whistle on the play, push in the back, Collingwood's way. Dunstan. No, it's Dean who's getting the football. Dunstan thought he was pushed, Dean was positive. Kick off line. This one. Heard can't mark. Behind the pack McKenna and Jaworskyj clash. Jaworskyj out on the full. Dean to take the free kick. Right to the kick off lines again. Behind, forced through. Collingwood a little extra breathing space, that's an 8 point lead they have, 102 to 94, 14 18 to 14 10. 12 minutes gone, last term. Kelvin Moore, the Hawthorn custodian kicking in.

**TM** And a great mark to Cranage from behind. Playing his first game of league football and his first mark for the day, but he's had something like 17 uh sorry he's had 12 or 13 kicks, 13 kicks up towards uh big Heard its off the hands of the pack to Martello, he gets himself through the pack,

**DM** OH! Thumping kick – 70 meters!

**TM** towards the centre of the ground, and Doug Gott, for Collingwood takes the mark. A little bit of helping hand by Tuck there as Gott took that kick up towards full forward. Thumped down, a chance now for Collingwood's Wayne Richardson puts it over his head, it's going to be a goal! For Collingwood. The second goal to Captain Wayne Richardson and a vital one to Collingwood, because now they move to 14 points in front and we're at the 13 minute mark of the final quarter. 15 18 108 Collingwood 14 10 94 Hawthorn.

**DM** Umpire Sutcliff, and its Hawthorn's chance to go forward. Here's Cranage, for Collingwood. Heard and Martello. Bisset over his head to McKenna. Good side bump – (*player ran at full tilt into another, using his hip to whack him*) Must be a ball up. Heard's tap. Moncrieff keeps tapping it up in the air and follows up on the ground, Moncrieff, Richmond, Max Richardson. Jaworskyj, just far enough to be allowed. About 10 meters. Jaworskyj, who replaced Bussell in the third term, now playing half back flank. Ross Dunne. Man in front. 7<sup>th</sup> mark to uh Ross Dunne. McKenna and Heard in the kick off rectangle. Dunne to kick it long. He mistimed it, Bisset's in front, but has it well punched away. Down Tuck for Hawthorn, goes for the short it's come undone I think, Knights has marked it, and it's out on the full. Boundary umpire Des Fitzgerald who's umpired over 300 league games says it was out on the full and he was right on the spot. The lines are very straight there as Doug Gott kicks it back and it strangely bounces without having been touched. Bisset and Stevenson have a tug of war, the object being the uh football which is between them.

**TM** I know who had the greater hold on it. Wee Georgie.

**DM** Scott's tap and a good one too. Max Richardson, over his shoulder. Heard, Crimmins in there burrowing as usual, great courage for a little fellow. Des Mahr, good mark! There'll be a 15 meter penalty for that. Mahr kicks long, Hawthorn, the ball goes to Knights. Holding the ball! Held it too long. Doug Gott again, to relieve the pressure on the Collingwood defence. He started on centre half forward then uh had that roving commission on half back uh when Richardson went to ruck rove. Don Scott, good ruckman for Hawthorn, tireless worker. 16 minutes gone as Scott kicks Hawthorn into attack, the man on the mark has gone over the mark, he'll be penalised, Scott will get another kick, 15 meters closer. That's the first time we've seen that particular penalty paid today, as Scott goes to the other flank this time. Grummisch. Half forward flank. Natural long left foot kick is Charlie Grummisch, and that's no exception, right to the kick off lines. Oh, Big Len Thompson, a grand mark. Osborne. Ohh! Dunstan. Osborne is down. (*Player down, not moving. Can see staff running toward him, the camera takes no notice*) Dean. Dean kicks it to the forward area, Heard taps to McKenna. Douge, held without the ball, must get the free kick. Umpire Sutcliff has missed very little today and it's his second very good performance within a week. His handling of the Carlton Essendon game last Monday was exemplary and today he's done a fine job, as Kelvin Matthew's taps it off the ground, Collingwood's Salmon is in front. Good side bump by Dean, the free kick is going to uh Michael

Tuck of Hawthorn. Into the forward lines, Dean can't mark, Geoff Clifton pulled round the neck. He'll get the kick.

**TM** Hawthorn's tackling a little indiscriminate in this term.

**DM** 18 minutes gone. Collingwood by 14 points.

**TM** Clifton, up towards centre half forward, Dean from the side, interfered with was Heard and Heard will take the free kick.

**DM** Well he hasn't missed a beat, the umpire, has not missed a trick

**TM** Heard a long torpedo punt kick right up towards McKenna and Big Moore, but its big Martello from behind who pulls in the saving mark for Hawthorn. He's going to kick to the railway side and a thumping 70 meter one it is too, towards uh centre wing position a chance for Grummisch who taps it cleverly to Knights, Knights has to kick quickly up towards Leigh Matthews. Matthews gets a favourable bounce, was held when not in possession. Matthews to take the free kick. (*Car revving again*)

**DM** He's down... but moving.

**TM** Waiting to see whether he might get a 15 metre penalty, no he's not. So he's on his feet, quite bright, quite cheerful but he's within scoring distance and he already has 3 goals straight Leigh Matthews, so he hasn't missed any today - a thumping torpedo punt kick and it's going to be punched through, no it's not. Salmon has it for Collingwood, boots it now to the railway side. Is it out on the full? We'll wait on it. No, it's to be thrown in. Half forward flank for Hawthorn.

**DM** Manassa is on the ground, for Collingwood, number 31 playing there for Des Mahr. Scott's tap. O'Callaghan gets an airball. Holding the ball. Cranage is penalised. That was Manassa with the ball then, number 31. Obviously Osborne has gone off, Thorald, has he?

**TM** no Osborne is

**DM** still there,

**TM** I think its Richmond that's gone off

**DM** Richmond has gone off well, I didn't see Osborne get up from that heavy tackle. That heavy bump. Anyway, there's Grummisch. Lining up. Long way out but he's a long kick of the ball. As you can see. But no joy for the Hawthorn supporters there, only a behind.

**TM** Charlie Grummisch has kicked one goal four today, well off target

**DM** There's the difference between the teams, 13 points. And Ross Dunne is going to kick out now. That's a change in tactics. Oh, it's a beautiful kick too, it's gone 65 meters before it was touched. Collingwood's twice has it, through Manassa, smothered well by Douge, who's probably, I don't know Thorald, if you'd agree with me, he's probably been Hawthorn's best player today.

**TM** Couldn't agree more, Dick.

**DM** Oh, a little bit of shoving, allowed. Mahr, didn't have the ball. Must get the kick. Manassa being pulled back on the mark. Mahr on the half back flank, kicks and follows. Ross Dunne, how easily does he do it?

**TM** An immaculate game of football by Dunne

**DM** and another ball bursting kick by Dunne, right to full forward. Kelvin Moore a good recovery, safe pair of hands. Manassa leading Mahr. Chunky player is Manassa. Oh, he plays on too keeps it going. Must get a free kick there for a push. Well played Manassa, well played, persistence and perseverance paid off. Jaworskyj. Not quite. Moore, Stevenson out of trouble. Grummisch. Good football to Douge, even better football to uh Michael Tuck. Hawks going forward. Where's Bevan? Dropping back, held his opponent by the arm did Bevan. Collingwood's free kick, Geoff Clifton's going to take it. Thompson. Collingwood playing a little bit of keepings off at the moment, wasting a little bit of time, at 23 minutes gone. Thompsons kick to half forward, goes over the back. Scouting is Martello, lost the run of it. Good side bump. Moncrieff side steps, gets his kick, Rice handball, Leigh Matthews, Peter Knights, just an ordinary game from Knights today, first one back after a long break from injury. Grummisch well screened by the umpire, to the kick off lines, Cranage taps it down. Oh, that must be close to a free kick. Salmon had the ball as he was grabbed but Umpire Sutcliff decided on the bounce. Collingwood leading.

**TM** the Hawthorn forward, the tap down by Thompson goes to where Crimmins has the chance now, can't pick it up, he's hotly pressed by uh Wayne Richardson, (*Streamers litter the goal square, squares of paper float through the air*) he's dispossessed of the ball in the forward pocket. Desperate effort by uh Richardson to get his boot to ball, across ground dangerous football, Manassa is there, he rides the bump beautifully, comes away from defence, a long threading kick towards Dean, Dean has it now, centre wing, drives it up towards half forward for Collingwood. Flying high there was Coles. McKenna has it, McKenna dummies the handpass, comes around, sends the handpass across to Max Richardson he in turn up to the Collingwood forward line, Moncrieff is the only player, or is it Stevenson?

**DM** Stevenson

**TM** Stevenson, it is. He taps it nicely. Sends it across ground to Leon Rice. Favourable bounce, to Rice, a long handpass has gone astray, oh and it's missed Bisset too, as Rice comes around to it again to rectify the mistake. A long kick by Rice up towards half forward, and Thompson in the way for Collingwood, stems the tide for the Magpies at the 25 minute mark of the last quarter.

**DM** Thompson says he's going to kick it long. Good tactics by Thompson. He kicks to half forward flank, Scott punches it away from behind. Rice gathers. Hawthorn back into attack. O'Callaghan,

**TM** Played a fine last quarter, O'Callaghan, 4 marks I think in the last quarter. 5 in fact

**DM** back to half forward flank, this time it's Jaworskyj who fists the ball out of bounds. 25 minutes exactly. Scores 108 to 95 Collingwood by 13 points after scores were level at three quarter time. Richardson, and Bisset, exchanging handball or tap ball. Price to the passing Cranage. Cranage to Max Richardson. A dodge and a weave and a spring-back kick, interference against the Collingwood player,

**TM** it's McKenna

**DM** who approached the same way as uh as the ball and uh Douge had his eye on it, and he gets the free kick, how many kicks is that, Jack? Nineteen kicks by the back pocket player, Grummisch to mark for Hawthorn. Handball to Stevenson. Stevenson to the centre wing. Who's there? O'Callaghan to fist the ball away, Kelvin Matthews to swoop on it, not a good kick. Thompson brings it to hand. Grummisch, out-marked Osborne. Long one by Grummisch. Still time for Hawthorn, Hendrie. Out-marked Cranage. He was in front. Hendrie I think too far out to score. Long way out, 55 – 60 meters maybe. Bad kick. Dunne in front now, tap down. Caught well by Tuck. Holding the ball. Good tackle. And uh Michael Tuck, last year's Hawthorn Reserves full forward to kick a goal. Hawthorn need one. Thompson, oh look at that dive by Martello. What's the decision? Ball up. Hawthorn deep in attack.

27 minutes gone. 13 points the difference. Cranage saving for Collingwood. To the wide open spaces.  
Manassa, strong player

SIREN

**DM** Siren! Final score. Collingwood 15 18 108 defeating Hawthorn 14 11 95.

## 1973.6 Melbourne and North Melbourne

16 June 1973

Series B522 Control #: [1522093](#) AUDIO ONLY ABC2

Last quarter

INTRO: North led at half and three quarter time in a close game. In an exciting last quarter, we join our commentators Ken Daiken and Doug Heywood

**DH** Melbourne get the ball through Wells and away they go, into attack. Coming out to meet it North, oh and they missed it badly, gives Stanley Alves a chance, I thought he'd been held, kicked the ball off the ground. North defence coming in hard, there's uh Parke knocking the ball clear Tilbrook comes to it Tilbrook tackled ooh too high, I thought, then caught with the ball, around the neck. Will he get the free kick? He may I'll wait and see I thought the was tackle too high, just a shade, he was lucky he ducked his head into it and made it. And now big Diamond Jim Tilbrook who's kicked two goals for Melbourne, has a chance to kick their third and this could be a pretty vital one. Straight kick here and the difference will only be 5 points. He's a former South Australian, lining it up. He'll get the distance there won't be any question at all about it, it's on its way and it's good, straight through the middle. There's Tilbrook, goal number three to John Tilbrook and Melbourne get to within five points of North Melbourne, just at the start of the final quarter. Melbourne moving on to 10 8 68 points to North Melbourne 112 7 73. Melbourne led by 3 points at quarter time, North Melbourne were 12 points up at half time and led at three quarter time and by 11 points now there's only 5 points. And this is a very vital game, a win here for North will consolidate them in the five. Melbourne must win it otherwise I think the final five will be pretty well settled. There's the nap going North Melbourne's way in comes Wells, he's been a very creative player. Gets the ball out wide, its very indirect football, coming in to get it is Fitzsimmons he's uh got a lead out here from Brewer, I though Brewer took the mark, no said the umpire. In comes Greig to pick it up and away goes North Melbourne through Greig who has been brilliant. His kick is out to Davis, Davis coming in for kick number uh twenty five, here's a milling pack, Umpire Deller right on the scene no free kicks. Wells comes out with the ball to Bourke that was wonderfully done. Up towards Greg Parke, behind it's Osborne, with the free kick going North Melbourne's way. Free kick to be taken by Gary Farrant, the Melbourne crowd not very happy about it.

**KD** Well I don't blame them either as it's kicked by Farrant downfield, and here's Clennett. Clennett goes up and misses what he should have taken. Here comes Doolan, Doolan gets a left footer and Feltham will mark it. Well in this last quarter they've had a couple of bad ones, uh Brewer should have taken a mark and a free kick on the half forward flank down here on the grand stand side and that's the reason for the vocal dis-support for the umpire. The umpire is Deller as Feltham kicks for goal, he hooks it, it's going to be very close, and it's touched through for one behind. Clennett, nineteenth man for the Demons is on the ground.

**DH** Carl Ditterich resting in the back pocket and Ditterich has had all the heavy work to do and he's found it a big task as Burke kicks out to Biffin. Biffin takes the mark and Biffin's on one leg, he goes for the run and tries the left footer, kicks it downfield, and it's a bad kick, and Henshaw misses one he should have taken. Still has tons of time to get his left foot to it, across it goes, and there's big Nolan Nolan nicely done. In comes Callery, Callery can't pick it up, he battles, for it does it well, goes for the run and boots Melbourne into attack looking for Parke and Parke takes mark number 9. Parke in the centre of the ground, boots out to the grand stand side where it's Graeme Osborne doing battle, behind the pack it's Osborne!

**KD** Great mark!

**DH** Its Osborne took the mark on second bite and that was under a lot of pressure.

**KD** One goal the difference at the 3 minute mark of the final quarter, and what a thriller this is going to be. Good crowd around about 25, 30 thousand mark as we watch Osborne.

**DH** Osborne about 45 - 50 meters out it's a long one but I think he can make it. It's a beautiful kick, it's a perfect kick, and that's the reason that number 7 Graham Osborne, 7 years at Melbourne, 7 years at Melbourne and he's played only about 85 games. There's the score. They're dead level and Osborne's wonderful goal brings the Demons back into it. He's been a player given them some brilliant games and then has lapsed into complete mediocrity but that brings back the crowd now. Back in the centre of the ground.

**KD** Three minutes in the final quarter and these two teams level. I think the biggest margin during the day has been round about oh, three goals. I think that's been the biggest margin at any point in time. Clennett is in the ruck now for Melbourne, and Clennett knocks the ball down, can't get clear with it though, oh they tumble on top of it. Free kick to Callery, is it? It is. What a great little trier this fellow is. He's had about 18 kicks for the day. He'll be looking for Parke perhaps, he's looking for Osborne. Osborne again! Takes it. Takes it beautifully, Osborne's going to lead from Parke, he ignored it decides to kick it right down to the teeth of goal, can Melbourne mark it? Very nearly taken by Alves. But coming through was uh Gumbleton, Gumbleton's brushed aside, the ball close to the boundary line, Alves still in the thick of it can't break through. It's really rugged out there, a tough, bruising sort of a game this one, Umpire Deller comes in and he's going to bounce it deep in the left forward pocket. Melbourne in the attack. The scores are level, 11 8 apiece 5 minutes into the final quarter.

**DH** and what a thriller it is, in this last quarter between two teams battling for the fifth position as up goes Goodingham, Goodingham best on the ground and here's second best, Captain Davis, Davis then boast away from the pack, he kicks his 2<sup>third</sup> to Rantall and Rantall takes the mark. Rantall almost on the half back line, boots it looking for Baker, Kerley up with him, Baker almost took a good one, Barry Bourke Melbourne's best player boots them into attack with a good 55 meter kick. Ross Brewer. Brewer!

**KD** Oh what a mark, Doug, oh what a mark!

**DH** What a soaring leap by Ross Brewer. Here's this young fellow who's cousin, incidentally, was Ian Brewer, the Collingwood full forward who topped the league goal kicking list many years ago, Brewer has got the chance to put Melbourne in front from 30 meters out, kicks for goal, and it's through!

**KD** Melbourne hit the front. There's Brewer. Third goal. And Melbourne hit the front at the six minute mark of the final quarter. When play started as I mentioned a little earlier on, they were 11 points down but quickly they've got to a one clear goal lead. They are 12 8 to North Melbourne 11 8. And this crowd has really come alive. Can Melbourne down North, North in the five, desperately wanting to win this game to consolidate, Melbourne just as desperate to have some sort of a chance of making the final five. And if North win today, I think it's a pretty clear cut situation for the rest of the competition. Let's see what happens. In the ruck is Gooding (?), gets the ball down to Davis, Davis coming in for kick about 28, gets the ball forward. Here's the ball knocked away by Kerley, racing to it out wide is Douglas Wade. You're going to be under pressure Wade from Kerley and also from Bourke. And Kerley appeals for the free kick, whether he'll get it or not I don't know. He doesn't. And the boundary umpire will do the rest.

**DH** Yes, (*laughing*) it wasn't on, that free kick, that's for certain. In comes Clennett, Clennett goes for the big one, doesn't do it very well, Callery gets bumped out by Wade, over the line takes Biffin, Biffin labouring under a leg injury is still on the ground for Melbourne, you can see as he wearily gets to his feet. He's not been kicking out, it's been kicked out by Bourke, in come the big fellows once again, Nolan and Clennett, Clennett beautifully done, it's dangerous, it's dangerous, and the chance is there for Bourke he's been Melbourne's best easily, off he goes for the run, along the boundary line for the half back flank, a short one downfield, looking for Brewer, behind the pack they're all on the ground and Wells comes in to Greig, and brilliantly done Wells, this tenacious, battling fearless player



takes it over the line out of bounds. In comes Goodingham, punched down brilliantly by Sullivan to Callery, Callery boots it down to centre wing position on the grandstand side. It's out of bounds on the full and the free kick will be taken by North Melbourne. It'll be Ryan.

**KD** Played a good game, Ryan, been very serviceable in the back pocket and this is a nice kick to centre half forward. Plenty of Melbourne players there. The ball knocked down to Callery overruns it, backed up though by Clennett, Clennett a hurried kick gets the ball towards Parke, Parke knocks it away from uh Farrant, Farrant kicks the ball to the centre. Oh the mark should have been taken by Melbourne's Flower, he missed it, Henshaw capitalises sends the ball forward. Up go Melbourne and a magnificent mark taken by uh Melbourne's uh Kerley. He loves to fly, loves the big ride on the back and uh that was a tremendous mark. And broke up a promising looking North Melbourne attack. Kerley's kick is a gem too, down to centre half forward, just look at the big pack, mark I thought taken by North, wasn't allowed. Free kick to Melbourne. Oh dear, and Osborne's got it again, has he not? And he's going to drive it right in towards the goal. Brewer you're too late on the scene, he punches the ball away, Parke goes for it desperately, Pagan in the thick of it too, the whistle goes, Umpire Deller says I'll bounce it. Melbourne deep in attack, leading by one goal at the 8 minute mark of the final quarter.

**DH** Come the rucks and it's the big Swan who goes up. Barry Davis gets yet another kick and boots North Melbourne to the centre of the ground, Carl Ditterich your chance, up goes big Carl, pushed in the - couldn't take it Kerley, cleverly out wide to Sullivan, Sullivan under pressure to Callery. It's too high for Callery, Callery won't give up, neither will Barry Davis, well played Ditterich, here comes Goodingham a great handpass it goes out wide to Montgomery, Montgomery kicks straight to Hardeman and Hardeman's off. Off goes Hardeman onto his left foot and kicks it to Diamond Jim, Tilbrook has got it, Tilbrook screws it back to the ten yard square it'll be close! It's a goal! Goal number four to Diamond Jim Tilbrook.

**KD** And my word, didn't he read, he knew where the goals were, he was running right away and he knew exactly where they were and with one of those typical raking kicks put it through. Earlier in the day we saw uh Tilbrook kick what I believe to be about a 60 meter goal, it was a magnificent one and he's kicked four now for Melbourne to give the Demons a two goal lead now at the ten minute mark of the final quarter. And Barry Davis now come in ruck roving he tries to get the ball, he comes to it here, overruns it. In comes Tony Sullivan, pulled, I think he should have got a free. No free kick. Wells comes in, chips in nicely, gets the ball to Bourke. He's been a great player. Uh, up it comes towards Tony Sullivan he's tackled, Sullivan tries to break the tackle, gets a handpass, to Alves, Alves held, not in possession will take the free kick and Melbourne looking good in this final quarter, are putting a lot of pressure on North in the early stages.

**DH** Melbourne have kicked four goals in the ten minutes of this quarter. Alves is off around Rantall, and boots a long one out to Parke and Parke intercepted by Farrant. Great football Farrant, and Farrant boots it down and here's Bourke. Bourke doesn't get the run of it, Sullivan's there to help him. Sullivan under pressure, and under a lot of pressure. Bourke takes on his opponent, Briedis, and it's over the line out of bounds. Well what a magnificent ten minutes it's been for the Melbourne side. They looked a beaten one. They were two goals down at three quarter time they've now taken a two goal lead. There's been some wonderful football all day as Ditterich comes in to dispute with Nolan, Nolan's been a good player, so's Carl. Ditterich goes on with it very strongly, Greig over the line with it, and Greig also been a dominant winger.

**KD** Full marks to Ditterich, Doug, he's had to take on the two big North Melbourne ruck men practically all day single handed and he's played a great game. He's taken some good marks too. There he is knocking the ball forward again, it comes clear, grabbed here by Rantall. Rantall gets the ball to Doolan, Doolan shoots it forward. Melbourne defence come out, Oh, I thought a North Melbourne player was pushed out. He was. And the free kick will go to Baker, I believe, that was a bad mistake by Melbourne because they had it well covered, and Baker, who has kicked three goals for uh North Melbourne has a chance to line up his fourth. There goes the kick at goal its off line.

Way off line. And through for a behind only to North, much to the delight of the Melbourne supporters, but to the dismay of the North Melbourne ones.

**DH** Ken, I'm staggered they don't take Biffin off the ground because Frank Davis is a backman, they could easily put Hardeman at uh full back, Hardeman at the moment is half back flank and Frank Davis could take that. Here's Bourke kicking out because Biffin's injured, as Bourke kicks a long one out looking for Ditterich. Ditterich got tons of opposition. And it was taken in front I thought by Nolan, a fine mark by this man who's nearly as big as the North Melbourne Gasometer 17 stone of him, kicks a long one down looking for Wade, Wells in front. Wade well played, fights it with him, down to the ground and Wadey won't give up and here's Rantall. Rantall's going to beat North Melbourne into attack and down field it goes where Clennett's got the leap, can't take it, nicely taken there by Sullivan, gets his kick to it, doesn't go far – North Melbourne! Taken out there by Feltham,

**KD** been a good player, Feltham, all day long. He's never been out of the game he's given a good even four quarters and has played a big part in North Melbourne's play today. Feltham lining it up. He's kicked 2 goals, he could make this three and this will bring North right back in business. There's the kick on its way, its close, it's a there in fact, it's a goal. Well what a thriller this is. There's Feltham. Three goals to him. He's very strong rover and North move on to 12 9 81 5 points the difference now. Melbourne 13 8 86 and we're 13 minutes into the final quarter. Well can North come back now and pull it out of the fire? Melbourne looked as though they had the run of the ball, it looked as though they were on top early in this quarter. There goes big Carl, high, and knocks the ball down, grabbed here by North, forward they go with it, mark taken by uh Sullivan, gets it out wide to uh Barry Bourke. He's been Melbourne's best player easily, sends the ball forward, not well directed, Wells comes in, caught, gets a handpass, a chance here for Briedis, got one in the back and Briedis will get the free kick. North will go into attack again playing the long kicking game, right down to centre half forward, the ball punched away. Bourke will come to it, will he get to it first? Crashes into Davis, well done Bourke, that was courage, gets the ball away for Melbourne. Up it comes to Parke. Parke takes the mark that was magnificent football by Bourke, my word it was. And away goes Parke now with his kick. In short it goes, giving North a chance through Gumbleton. He misses it. Melbourne have the show, the ball picked up here by Brewer, slams towards goal, Henshaw's coming to it but the boundary line was too close and the ball will be thrown in about 5 yards away from (*tape goes blank for several seconds*) in the attack.

**DH** Nolan front position, Swan goes up in front of him. A chance out there for Tilbrook, he held it too long. Picked up by Nolan. Nolan's on the boundary line, dropped it from Osborne and it's over the line out of bounds and will be thrown in once again. It'll be Nolan once again and Swan will do battle with him. Here's Callery, Callery runs into a bundle of trouble, but takes it all on. He's still got plenty in front of him as he falls, slips there, and look at him, he's got no sweater left and there's his burly torso - that's little Paul Callery, the smallest man in league football and the umpire will bounce it again. Melbourne in attack and leading by 5 points. Nolan and Swan once again, Nolan won this but straight to Tilbrook, Tilbrook shoots it downfield, it's off direction, out of bounds, over the line and it will be taken by Gumbleton. Gumbleton. No, it's not Gumbleton, its going out to Henshaw, the wingster, he's in the back pocket. Henshaw been a good player. Down it goes towards centre wing where Ditterich has got the chance for an early leap, a very early one he almost took it, Wells has got it, Wells then left foots it down Osborne and Henshaw, it's over the line on the full and Melbourne kick it out of bounds once again.

**KD** Now there's a free kick behind the play against North Melbourne, Doug and I think it will go further afield for Melbourne, because Wells was downed, downed badly, after the ball had been delivered and I think you'll find Melbourne will get the free kick. They do.

**DH** Yes, it's in the hands of Osborne. Osborne comes in and shoots for goal it's a fine looking kick but just off direction, and through for one behind and that is six points the difference. And I think the man who crashed Greg Wells was probably the lumbering giant Mr Nolan.



**KD** It was. It was that. Gum

**DH** Frank Gumble - oh, sorry,

**KD** Gumbleton, putting the ball into play. He's kicked in well all day, here's a battle going on and Greig who's been a great player for North Melbourne, the springboard of a lot of attacks, this is where North have won, on the wing, all day long. This kick is a penetrating one towards centre half forward. Bourke goes high but he's outreached there by uh Briedis and Briedis gets the ball swinging across towards the full forward position. There's Biffin setting himself for the mark, couldn't take it, comes to the ball again, was tackled, pushed in the back I thought, play goes on, he's backed up by Hardeman, Hardeman unfortunately for Melbourne boots it out on the full and the free kick will go North Melbourne's way and will be taken by Rantall. And this is where North have won, I think, across the centre, in this game, clearly

**DH** yes, it's been two teenage wingers who have had their hands full today. A lovely lead by Schimmelbusch, Hardeman is now a half back flanker looking after Schimmelbusch and Schimmelbusch marks. He's a long way out, won't make the distance, a very bad kick. Should have been marked by Bourke that time, well played Callery, free kick Callery.

**KD** Should have got it, though

**DH** Oh, I thought he had two of them there, but the umpire doesn't agree. Its Umpire Deller. Well, there's one goal the difference. And North Melbourne are in attack as Ditterich comes in to do battle with Goodingham, Goodingham well done. Bourke brilliantly done. Out to Callery, Callery tries the short one out wide, towards Fitzsimmons. Fitzsimmons back towards Brewer, Brewer centre wing position can get the handpass. He should have given it to Clark, he takes a free kick

**KD** free kick

**DH** he held that one for far too long, but he could have given that one to Dennis Clark so comfortably. Brewer is almost half back flank as he takes his free kick, downfield looking for Tilbrook. Well done Tilbrook, nice roving Callery, Callery down and here comes Stan Alves to take on Ryan. Ryan won it. Ryan being very safe and dependable, kicks it across here's a chance again for Tilbrook, he can't take it, Rantall clever football out it goes wide and the short pass to Wade and

**KD** oh

**DH** Wade didn't hold it Oh! Into Callery he went. I doubt it whether he held it quite long enough but the umpire says yes, and here's that colourful personality. Doug Wade is too far out to score.

**KD** I wonder, Doug

**DH** the league's leading goal kicker in 1962 and '69. It won't make the distance or the accuracy. Clennett. A great mark nineteenth man Clennett, and it was Ray Biffin clapping him. Clennett should kick it out wide, he kicks to Wells, oh that's a bad kick, Ditterich takes it, a shocking kick. Ditterich will get them out of trouble, good football Ditterich, down it goes and Fitzsimmons has got the chance against Greig. And takes the mark.

**KD** He's improved, Fitzsimmons, in the second half, Greig completely outpointed him in the first half of the game but um Fitzsimmons has shown considerable improvement. Greig, right over his mark. (Illegible), here comes the kick, out wide, looking for Parke and Parke will take the mark for Melbourne. Midfield on the member's stand side. We're 20 minutes into the final quarter, Melbourne clinging to a one goal advantage. Parke will put them deep into attack. There's the kick on its way, be falling that little bit short. North had a chance to mark there, but Osborne defensively and sensibly, I think, realising he couldn't do much about it, knocked it out so it will be thrown in. And Melbourne

still with a chance to uh capitalise on this attacking move. Clennett in the ruck now. Goes very high, gets the tap. It goes straight to North Melbourne and is gathered in there by North's Ryan. Ryan back to the centre of the ground. The ball knocked to Parke, Parke tackled, gets a handpass to Osborne. Osborne caught. Backed up here nicely by Clark, Clark, shepherded, bit undecided. Caught with the ball. Free kick, lucky to get away with it.

**DH** Yes, he tried to go too far that time and he was lucky he got out of it. The free kick was justified, think. Down, Swan goes up. Behind the pack was Tilbrook again, should have handpassed out to Wells, Wells fights for it – the umpire, what? Tilbrook held it too long and I think that's a good decision (*booing*). This is a great habit of John Tilbrook's, he's very keen to hold it a long time. Schimmelbusch marks on the half back flank for North Melbourne and goes off quickly, good football Wayne Schimmelbusch. Down it goes towards Wade, Kerley's his opponent, Wade his big bulk is doing it nicely. Punched away by Hardeman out wide it goes and Stan Alves, you'll have to come and help against Briedis. Briedis has got it as Alves pushes him and pushed him out wide and Briedis is pushed again! (*Crowd roars*) And the free kick will go to North Melbourne and Stan Alves is smiling there and I don't know what you're smiling about Captain because that wasn't good football. Nineteenth man, Briedis. Downfield it goes and Kerley, Wade and company will fly. In front it was almost North Melbourne taken away, a chance now for (illegible), Biffin under pressure, Tilbrook!

**KD** Tilbrook, played well, has Diamond Jim. My word he has. And he'll, he'll put Melbourne well into attack. He's a magnificent kick. This covers a lot of ground. Up it goes Swan flies for it, no one waiting down behind for Melbourne, the ball picked up here by uh North Melbourne's Farrant, kicked out on the full, or pretty close to it, it wasn't, and it'll be thrown in, uh half forward left Melbourne in the attack. And this crowd right on its toes. This has the all the atmosphere of a final. North Melbourne trailing Melbourne. 12 9 to 13 9 and North with a chance here as Schimmelbusch comes to the ball. Gets a handpass out to Henshaw, Henshaw been tackled by Alves, what the tackle? Was it legitimate? Nope, Henshaw will take the free kick and he'll put North Melbourne into attack

**DH** long high one down towards the half forward flank. The leap from behind was a good one that time by Clennett, here its picked up – what's the umpire done? Free kick Melbourne's way

**KD** Clennett to take it

**DH** no, it's not Clennett

**KD** isn't it

**DH** no, Tony Sullivan, I think

**KD** we're both wrong are we? No

**DH** Sullivan it is. Sullivan down looking for Osborne, Osborne goes up high, and it's a great mark. He's been a brilliant player in this last quarter, has Graham Osborne. Osborne, centre wing position (*laughs*) boots it downfield, Parke comes out to battle for it behind the pack, it looks like Muir, Muir hits it over the line when he could have gone on with the business and that wasn't good football. Half forward flank. Melbourne in attack and Melbourne leading by one goal. Its' going to be Goodingham to do battle and there's nobody except Tilbrook against him. Tilbrook gets it out wide. Free kick I thought could have been Alves's way. He's got it. Handpass is dangerous, it's no good, it's out to Davis, Davis fumbles for the first time, it wasn't Davis, it was Montgomery fumbles, and there's a weary fifteen stone three of Tilbrook falling to ground, number 18. Half forward flank. Still with Melbourne in attack at the outer side of the ground as they attack to the scoreboard goal. The umpire in the sticky conditions on that side, Ryan goes up and gets it down. Tilbrook again, gets foot to ball, boots it out wide, there's a chance now for Brewer, Brewer's under pressure, his own teammate he runs into! And Parke goes down, and the umpire lets play go on, and on it goes, Greig is fighting for it and Umpire Deller has let it go and that's good umpiring, we'll bounce it.

**KD** Well, what a tough hard hitting, bruising game it is. A real cliff hanger, can Melbourne hold on, that's the big question as Clennett taps the ball down. Uh then Clennett gets it again shoots it forward, in the meantime the whistle's gone and a free kick to Barry Davis who is coming in for about kick number 28. 27 in fact. And there it is towards the centre of the ground and the free kick goes Melbourne's way and will be taken by Clark. Clark to take it right in the diamond. We're about to enter the time on period. Melbourne leading by one goal. Can they hang on? There's the kick by Clark. It's a good one. Up it goes to the big fellows, they can't hold it. In comes Goodingham, who's been a great player. Gets a handpass it comes here where it's grabbed by uh North Melbourne's Gumbleton. In come Melbourne through Cowrie, Cowrie held, held again, keeps going, boring in, Clark comes in to help him, lines up the goal, and it's a good shot, its off line, it's an important score though to Melbourne, a very important one because it gives them a seven point break at the 25 minute mark of the final quarter.

**DH** Frank Gumbleton, full back, boots it out wide, underneath it Rantall, he won't make a mistake, he hasn't made one all day, Rantall's hardly made a mistake for the season. The ex-South Melbourne captain kicks it fairly badly. Tony Sullivan's got the chance, hits it down in front of himself, goes on with it, well played Sullivan, Sullivan on the half forward line, boots it downfield, Greg Parke no – beautifully taken in front of him. Parke had the leap but Ryan did it superbly. Ryan a long one out wide where Clennett will go with Barry Davis. Bad judgement Clennett, a good one out wide to Doolan, a great smother by Osborne, picked up there by Fitzsimmons. Fitzsimmons puts Melbourne into act, Swan!

**KD** well done wasn't it, he's improved tremendously in the second half, Fitzsimmons, Doug, but he was completely outplayed and Greig dominated that wing in the first half of the game. But uh full marks to Fitzsimmons. Let's see if Swan can put it through. There's his kick on its way and its pretty close. A behind only. And a goal there I think would have sewn it up for Melbourne. I think Greig's coming off the ground. He is. And uh coming on for North Melbourne is uh

**DH** Doug Farren

**KD** Doug Farren. That gives Melbourne an 8 point advantage, 26 minutes into the final quarter. Melbourne are leading 13 11 to North Melbourne 12 9.

**DH** and again, Gumbleton choosing to kick straight down the ground which is good football, looking for Goodingham. Goodingham been a wonderful ruckman, out wide it goes and here they come again. It's Flower of Melbourne, Flower steadies, he's got tons of time, kicks for goal and it's a good looking kick, but just off direction. And Melbourne have squandered opportunities to take a 2 goal lead, now 9 points in front.

**KD** they could have sewn it up Doug

**DH** yep

**KD** with more accuracy up forward.

**DH** they had so much time that time

**KD** 26 and a half minutes now into this final quarter. Can North Melbourne pull it out of the fire? Melbourne leading by 9 points. Here's the kick in by Gumbleton, a good one to the centre of the ground. Parke flies high, there's a chance for Greg Wells, he comes to the ball, he's going to be under pressure, breaks the tackle then he's tackled again, gets the free kick, the tackle was too high, good decision. My word what a great player this Wells is, he's never beaten, he's tireless and uh never gives up. He's a great tactician as well. And uh he'll put this well into the scoring zone. He'll probably look for the big fellow Swan, the full forward, Swan getting right back into the goal square. And there's the

kick. In he comes, a little bit late on the scene, North Melbourne knock it clear. Parke comes to it so do North Melbourne in defence, they're going to be under pressure as Wells comes to the ball or is it Brewer? It's a free kick against Brewer and it will go to Montgomery of North Melbourne. Pushed in the back, said Umpire Deller.

**DH** and Montgomery's off across the ground to boot it straight down the centre. Clennett's in front position and takes a fine mark. Just held it long enough and a very disappointed Barry Davis. It was just held long enough and Captain Davis was so bitterly disappointed but Clennett who came on as nineteenth man has added a lot of life to Melbourne. Kicks one of those awkward looking kicks down the Parke direction. Parke can't take it. Here's a chance now out wide for Melbourne through Fitzsimmons, he gets the ball and kicks a right footer to the ten yard square, well played Gumbleton, hugged it to his chest. A handpass goes out wide then to Goodingham. Goodingham then kicks it out where it's going to be Flower who takes the mark.

**KD** the Melbourne wingers have come good at the right time, in this last quarter. Completely outplayed up to that point.

SIREN

**KD** And it's all over. Melbourne have beaten North Melbourne and so the final five shapes up in a different way. North still hold their place but it still keeps the competition very much alive.

## 1973.7 Carlton vs Melbourne

Series: B5154 Control #: 1088801 AUDIO ONLY 14 July 1973  
ABC2 Dick Mason and Thorold Merrett

**INTRO:** Our first big match is the clash at Princess Park between Carlton and Melbourne, this was a very important game for Melbourne but they trailed by 50 points at three quarter time. For the final quarter we join commentators Dick Mason and Thorold Merrett.

**DM** Ditterich sends the Demons forward with a big punch. Brewer. Favoured by the bounce, kicks for goal and puts it through.

**TM** The value of the big thump from the centre bounce (*dog barking, children calling, crowd noise*) and that's Brewer's second goal. Whenever Ditterich has got the knock out from the centre, Melbourne, I think have scored a goal, from memory

**DM** Yes, he's done it twice (*laughing*)

**TM** Well,

**DM** Well, knocked the ball clearly away I mean,

**TM** Yes. There he is again, the big fellow, throwing himself into this last quarter. Desperate effort by Melbourne to catch this 50 point lead that Carlton have built up. Carlton come out of defence nicely through Gary Crane to Armstrong. Armstrong looking for Walls, who's been a dominant player at centre half forward, he fumbles that one, picked up by Callery driven up to half forward. Pinnell didn't really know where the ball was on that occasion, young Fitzsimmons does it well for Melbourne, threads it across to centre half forward and big Jones misses a set-up, Osborne who's on for Melbourne taps it back to Jones and Jones puts it out, centre wing on the grand stand side.

**DM** Carl Ditterich looking for Jones instead of keeping eye on ball. Good tackle by Crane. Chandler on as nineteenth man for Carlton. Carl Hardeman to long handball but will come unstuck. Osborne, on as twentieth man for Melbourne. Dennis Clark under pressure Carlton out of trouble to Jesaulenko, quiet today - they've opened the gates. The ball comes to Peter Hall. Hall sends the Blues forward, but bad kick by Hall, no penetration in the kick, Peter Keenan has the easy mark for the Demons (*I can hear a dog barking*) First mark by Keenan, up is Flower, down without the ball, Kerley breaking away for the Demons again, to centre half forward, big Jones is there for Carlton, holds the big one. 8 marks by Jones, not a great pass but Walls feeds it out wide where Gary Crane gives him the lead. Ball bounces kindly for Crane, Anderson tackles him, Crane's kick marked by Fitzsimmons, back towards Anderson, one hand. Not a very good kick having taken such a splendid mark. Jones kicks it long,

**TM** Very careless, up towards centre half forward, Nicholls over the back, hand pass to Jesaulenko, Jesaulenko with the left foot, is just off line. One behind. Look at Tony Sullivan back here thumping the ground in disgust at that careless and relaxed, very relaxed attempt. One hand mark and a one hand onto the boot attempt.

**DM** And it could have let Carlton in for a goal. (*Dog*)

**TM** Biffin, booting it to the grandstand side. Ditterich. Can't mark. Coming through is Callery who had 9 kicks in the third quarter. And 19 for the match. And he gets the free kick here, so its twentieth kick coming up for Paul Callery. Up to the half forward line, Osborne, tapped cleverly by Doull to Armstrong, Armstrong up to half forward ooh, and almost a clash there by two Melbourne players and its Kerley to mark. Kerley at centre half back on the grandstand flank up the ground to Armstrong who's been a dominant player since half time. He boots it to centre half forward. Peter Keenan chips

in for Melbourne. To stem the attack. 101 Carlton 56 Melbourne. Keenan's kick to centre half forward. In there is Flower who has been a good player for Melbourne, he's beaten Dixon. No one can get clear, it's back to Fowler again, tackled by Dixon, handpass by Fowler to Webb. Kevin Hall picks it up

**DM** Flower

**TM** Flower, rather, not Fowler. Kevin Hall towards half forward Wall - look at him do it well, round onto the left foot and a long kick it is too. To Keogh who has it thumped away by Bourke. Keogh could have got it in the back, quick to recover, up towards the full forward line but Ray Biffin's in the way to take the mark.

**DM** Comes to the member's flank, the lead from Fitzsimmons, Crane from behind. Brewer, pushed in the back that will be a ball up. Umpire Sutcliffe has done a pretty good job. (*Dog again - barking*) Everybody up for that one. Fitzsimmons, Doull for Carlton, Jones - one hand pass specialist to another. Oh, neatly done Peter Jones and a long kick straight into the hands of Kerley. Jones has been taking lessons from Jesaulenko, in uh that sort of thing. He must have, he's done it two or three times today. Four Melbourne players against one Carlton there in the air and Carlton naturally got the crumbs on the ground but couldn't convert. Chandler is on for Carlton. Jones hand on shoulder, Keenan's free kick. (*dog*) Waite dropping down to pick up Wells as Keenan kicks long down towards half forward, big Peter Jones can't grab that one, (*crowd, dog*) O'Connell taps on, Alves intercepts, fires for goal, no he puts it over to Parke. It's a goal to Melbourne. That goal is Greg Parke's third, Carlton have added one behind since the last term started, Melbourne have added two straight goals in six and a half minutes.

**TM** Well they've got a long way to go yet Melbourne, they've been out-roved by uh Carlton this afternoon, it's been the Carlton small fleet that has won handsomely around the pack. Ditterich gets the tap down. It goes to Alves, Alves got a nasty one, he's on the ground in some pain, and the free kick is going to go Chandler's way here.

**DM** Peter Hall I think

**TM** Peter Hall, Yes. Hall threads it out to half forward flank for Tony Sullivan of Melbourne, to lead in the race for the ball to mark. He boots up towards Clennett and Doull. Doull in front, Clennett knocks it away, at the last moment. It's Fitzsimmons across towards uh who is it, Parke, but in comes Hardeman, he's been a great player for Melbourne. He tries to hand pass it, Waitman's in the way, and up goes the elbow, picked up by O'Connell, he's slung, picked up by Doull, (*crowd roars*) Doull's in all sorts of trouble, there's a little bit of punch throwing going on here.

**DM** And the man who got one was Vin Waite, the man who got his ears boxed has got the ball, and that's Kevin Hall. Umpire Sutcliff uh saw Hall who was shepherding uh rather rudely roughed up. Graham Osborne, on as twentieth man for Melbourne. He'll play a blinder of a quarter and he'll be in the team next week. Up and down in the one spot, push in the back to the man in front. Peter Jones, who is playing very well for Carlton at this stage of the season. His 17th kick, he's marked and hand balled quite a few too. So he's had 8 marks. Jesaulenko - a quiet day for him. Peter Hall sending Carlton uh forward, Fitzsimmons can't kick right foot and that's Bruce Doull playing hide and seek Alves runs into trouble. Chandler. Harry Bourke grand defender for Melbourne, been pretty quiet today, only 7 kicks, but he's been pretty effective with what he's done with them and that's no exception. Hit Alves right on the chest as Alves has led to the centre of the ground. Alves long kick to Wells dropped the easy mark. Ben Waite quilted low in the stomach in that little exchange, but meantime here's Parke with the free kick for the push in the back. And it might just be beyond him this distance, the big flyers are up there and Carlton have all the scouts. That's Walsh, Chandler, almost again but this is Flower, Robert Flower, young fellow 17 only. And was that Southby, yes it was, that was in the back, and Carlton will have that kick. And it looks again like uh Walsh.



**TM** Ryan Walsh from the back pocket. Nicholls' hand pass toward Peter Hall. Bit of shepherding going on there, picked up by Flower, out towards Alves, in the pocket. Alves quickly onto the left boot. Southby racing to it and deflects it off shins and it could be out on the full, it came off his shin.

**DM** I thought it came off his hand, as he

**TM** and Southby indicating that it came off his left thigh, Dick, I was just watching Southby. Fair enough, taken by O'Connell was it?

**DM** Yep

**TM** Out to where Fitzsimmons and Crane, Crane wins out. Up to Quirk, Quirk get the hand pass in to the Doull packing up, Doull gets out towards half forward. Favourable bounce to Chandler. Chandler looking for Nicholls across the ground. Big John can't find the ball, his eyes are up in the air coming through is Barry Bourke for Melbourne

**DM** and now the big fellow gets a head of steam up but Bourke beats him and Parke has the mark. Handball quickly and Clark to shoot for goal - he bangs it through. (*Crowd claps, dog still barking*) Second goal to Dennis Clark. Melbourne staging a last ditch revival. They've kicked three goals straight since the final term started eleven and a half minutes ago and Carlton have had only one behind. So, its eighteen points to one so far in this term. Melbourne looking the better team at the moment Osborne, and that's a bit of a scramble, isn't it? Huh, nobody even flew for it, McKay emerged. Walls in possession, quickly onto the boot into the pocket, there's Keenan and Jones fighting for uh pace and possession and that's how far behind the boundary umpire was. Armstrong, Biffin to out mark Nicholls, well done Ray Biffin, running the same way as the flight of the ball, and now he plays on. Got a lead from Kerley and Keenan, it was Keenan who fed Callery, and Callery a delightful pass to Brewer, Brewer smothered. Crane getting that kick straight into the crowd. That won't bother Gary Crane. I think he has a heart as big as his own body.

**TM** Brewer puts it up toward the half forward flank and McKay! for mark number seven McKay high drop punt kick looking for Walls, Ditterich flies too, the ground for Davis to break through the pack for Melbourne, he boots it over half forward Alves one hand, Clennett is injured and limping in the half forward zone Southby comes in for Carlton, coming to it also was uh Osborne and uh Clarke, but it's out of bounds. Forward pocket for Melbourne who are 5 goals 33 points behind Carlton at this stage. It was McKay who got it down to Jesaulenko, long kick by Jezza out towards the half forward, half back flank and its Flower to mark.

**DM** Splendid mark 15 meter penalty Dixon encroaching over the mark.

**TM** young Flower has given David Dixon a football lesson on that wing today, Dick, and he's done it with cleverness, with courage, determination, the lot. Boots it up to the kick off line, two Carlton players fly, Callery had his kick was smothered, tapped away by Doull, back to Hardeman it goes, he's getting into trouble, he was held by the arm play is allowed to go on Callery has it, no he doesn't - in the back for Callery. Paul Callery is a good 45 meters out. A goal here to uh Melbourne at the 15 minute mark would make it extremely interesting because they trail by 33 points at this stage.

**DM** There you see the smallest pair of socks in league football. (*Dog*)

**TM** Paul Callery has gone very close but it's swinging away, is it, no it's a goal. Paul Callery's second goal and the Demons come to within 27 points of Carlton and the quarter is only half over. 15 11 101 Carlton Melbourne I think are 10, no 11 goals 8 74. So a tap down to Carlton goes to Armstrong, he boots it towards Walsh who cleverly does it. Cleverly. See him ease Bourke away to take that mark so cleverly. Walsh, he's a good 50 meters out but he's a lovely kick of the ball, we'll wait on it. It's not a good one on this occasion, and it's marked right on the line by Peter Keenan. He goes to the outer side looking for Alves it's a bad kick. Alves with Dixon. (*Dog constantly barking*)

**DM** free kick to Dixon - held when not in possession

**TM** and it could have been a 15 meter penalty there because the ball was thrown very carelessly back to Dixon and well away from him. David Dixon, had a quiet day today, but he's almost within kicking distance, and he's only had 8 kicks

**DM** How many did he have in the first quarter, because he started very well. Three.

**TM** Dixon a lovely kick on this occasion its right to the kick off line. (*Dog*) Oh, could have been a free kick there to Armstrong. And it is.

**DM** The other way

**TM** the other way? Ditterich to take it

**DM** Holding the ball

**TM** boots it wide, for Kerley to mark. Handpass quickly on to Alves, Alves looking for Fitzsimmons, and he's found that player.

**DM** John. No, 15 meters. 15 meters. Well there's no question that the man was encroaching over the mark but I thought in that case he had every right to. Short pass to Alves, Alves going round the flank looking for Hardeman that was a decent should to shoulder crunch and Hardeman won't get up from that one quite very easily. Now Dennis Clark shooting for goal, Pinnell, but he was over the line and Hardeman is definitely hurt, from that very rugged uh bump, shoulder to shoulder, point of the shoulder with Vin Waite, and uh that was a nasty one for Gary Hardeman, by far Melbourne's best player. Melbourne have both their reserves on. So if Hardeman has to go off they'll have to finish with seventeen. He's in pain as you can see. Southby kicks in straight down the middle. Walsh from behind! Mark number 7 to Brian Walsh. Short pass to Jesaulenko quiet day for Jezza today he's just contributed and that's about all. Not one of his blinding days, he's flashed in and out. Walls knocking the ball forward but no Carlton scouts there. Fitzsimmons in the direction of Ditterich, he's caught, his handball goes to Callery, as per usual, Callery is run over. Ditterich following on. Southby, Osborne, Southby a side bump. Ball up there. In the meantime there's Gary Hardeman resting up in the forward pocket, and obviously hurt. Jones to Crane or towards Crane, Callery.

**TM** (*laughing*) He did that so very cleverly, looking for the free kick all the time. Crane had no option but to go into his back.

**DM** Jones was being held down. Hardeman gave away that free kick. Peter Jones, one of Carlton's best players today looks for Jesaulenko. And that was Stanley Alves. Brewer from the pocket, straightens up, there's Pinnell,

**TM** Styles

**DM** no that's Lance Styles, who's come on as twentieth man fore Carlton. Dixon, not quite. Flower cleverly to Clarke, to Wells. What does Wells want to do that for? He has the mark, he has the free kick. (Long pause) And the goal. Melbourne getting closer. (*I can hear children and men shouting*) they are now 12 goals 9 81, 20 points the difference.

**TM** Well they've certainly come up out of the ground Melbourne, in this final quarter

**DM** they were 50 points behind at three quarter time.

**TM** they've added five goals in this term, five goals, one in fact



**DM** Carlton have added only one behind

**TM** Keenan, ball tapped down to Callery, who was caught, but the ball was held to him, Umpire Sutcliffe's decision. Jones and Wells, back to Jones. Handpass out of the pack to Chandler. Chandler's kick towards full forward. Tap away by Ditterich, Keogh, quickly to it. Walsh, Walsh lines up and just puts it behind. Just behind by a whisker. Walsh being well shepherded by McKay on that occasion too. Biffin,

**DM** takes the short kick. Chandler on as 19<sup>th</sup> man. There's Kerley, oh missed the easy one. Chance for Walls.

**TM** Decision!

**DM** held the ball

**TM** Great decision!

**DM** good tackle by Callery and he feeds Davis, rather uh, Sullivan on the half back flank. Brewer. Callery. Sullivan. Touch of the fumbles. Chandler. Well shepherded. Walsh whips it over the back for Nicholls. Change of role. McKay, slips, up left foot snap, behind. Carlton three behinds this quarter. Melbourne have kicked 5 goals one. Short kick again by Biffin. Biffin to Callery. Callery to Wells. Wells to Brewer. Brewer to Fitzsimmons, claimed by Styles. Play on, Doull now. Southby, hibbert (?) turn out of trouble, Chandler and Davis, Chandler with the speed and the handball to Jesaulenko. McKay or Nicholls? McKay. Jesaulenko just dropping down into the pocket just uh 20 meters away from McKay, but McKay is within scoring distance and he has four goals. 50 meters out - won't make the distance. Keenan to mark. Fifth mark this quarter by Peter Keenan. Nicholls encroaches over the mark and smotherers. Walls off the ground. I have no fear in saying that Nicholls encroached two meters over the mark to smother that kick by Keenan and was not penalised and should have been.

**TM** Yes, he, John Nicholls is very quick to realise the situation of course, he's a past master of tactics. Umpire Sutcliffe was directly behind him couldn't see that he'd gone over the mark and Nicholls took the opportunity to do just that. Ditterich another big tap down to Callery, he's been consistent this quarter, only for Doull to intercept and mark at centre half back. Threads it towards Peter Hall. Hall was interfered with by Callery before he marked, so he had it both ways. Looking for Quirk and Chandler, Quirk cleverly marked, wasn't oh not Quirk, it was Dixon. Wasn't allowed it, got the free kick now will go to Melbourne and it will be Flower. Flower to take it. He's been a very good player for Melbourne today on the wing. His fifteenth? His fifteenth kick. He's got it half back left at the moment.

**DM** that kick will have to be taken again

**TM** time off was being signalled, I take it? Was that the reason for it, Dick?

**DM** yes, the umpire was still sorting them out.

**TM** long kick by Flower. Ditterich to mark. And Jonesy got one on the hip. Ditterich a thumping kick, right up over the half forward position. Carlton. Southby, and it wasn't marked

**DM** didn't hold it long enough.

**TM** was not marked. He finds Doull. Doull half back flank to Crane was a lovely pass (*yelling men*) He didn't have much area to get through there, and a 15 meter penalty. 15 meter penalty against Brewer and this will bring Crane right down to the centre wing now. He boots it up over half forward. McKay magnificent! Mark number 9. And he's within kicking distance he's kicked 4 thumping goals

with torpedo punts and he's 45 to 50 meters out and there's another thumping kick. Is it going to come in? We'll wait on it. It is, goal number 5 to David McKay. And they've been all identical kicks. Identical kicks - raking torpedo punts, and that one was the vital one that Carlton needed. They've got back to that almost 5 goal lead that they held, they've held for most of the game. 115 plays 81 17 13 115 Carlton, Melbourne 12 9 81

**DM** 27 minutes gone in the last quarter and the umpire is Sutcliff and done a pretty good job today. Wells with plenty of protection from Ditterich ran into a lot of trouble! Chandler, to Walls, Walls to Walsh. Walsh to snap for goal, behind only. (*Dog barking*) (long pause) 27 and a half minutes gone last term, crowd leaving at the Princes Oval as Carlton are 116 to Melbourne's 81. Short kick by Biffin. Keenan now, Melbourne have the run of it but uh lost it. Doull in and out of trouble. Now it's three Carlton and no Melbourne. Pinnell that time, to Chandler, Chandler draws towards Nicholls. Dixon to Armstrong. Armstrong to Jones. Jones gets the free kick for over the shoulder. Look at Ditterich again. Yes, you could read the umpire's lip there, over the shoulder. Peter Jones to uh kick for goal now. That's his own second goal, 29 minutes gone and the game is Carlton's. Melbourne 12 9 81 and Carlton are 18 14 122.

**TM** It was spirited revival by Melbourne early in this last quarter but they had Cardamon (?) and Clennett injured on the forward line. Carlton's Jesaulenko, Fowlers, uh Flower rather loses it and goes back to Armstrong of Carlton. Leading in the race there was Biffin, he leads it to the outer side. Flower, again, been a consistent kick getter for Melbourne, up to where Southby takes a grand mark in defence for Carlton

**DM** how many kicks has he had in general field play today? Southby?

SIREN

**DM** 17 is the answer. And that's the game to Carlton 18 14 122 to Melbourne's 12 9 81 at Prince's Oval.

## 1973.8 North Melbourne v Essendon

4 Aug 1973

C475 Control # 1013083

Dick Mason Thorold Merrett

Well North Melbourne was the stage for one of the most controversial games of all time for the exciting last quarter

**DM** North Melbourne into attack it's a long flying shot towards Wade, its knocked away by uh Moss Peterson tries to come through, he does, effectively, hooks the left foot shot back but it's out on the full free kick will be taken by Geoffrey Prior ... who's had a great individual tussle with Doug Wade. Wade has kicked four goals for North Melbourne but it's generally been even Stevens in that uh area Prior kicks to the gasometer wing, almost a one hander by Goodingham, he took a beauty in the third quarter

**TM** Andrews the free kick

**DM** Andrews playing his first full game for the Dons, he came on as a reserve last week but in the selected side this week Mark to Tuddenham there's Tuddenham he hasn't had a good day here today - receives the ironical cheers from the North Melbourne fans, a good kick into the breeze by Tuddenham, knocked away by Gumbleton hooked on by Headlam. Pagan picks it up and around the neck to North Melbourne not allowed Randal threads the handpass out to Dench, Dench breaks the tackle he's at centre half back, just has time to get his kick in, it's met by Andrews of the half back for Essendon again and its up towards half forward its kick for kick here up and down the half forward positions

**TM** in the back!

**DM** and Tuddenham stamps his fist on the ground in disgust and disappointment as he gives away that free kick to David Dench

**TM** followed by a 15 meter penalty for an inaccurate throwback to Dench (whistle clearly) penetrating kick by Dench to half forward, Smith into trouble Cuthbert the halfback man turned winger Hopgood whips it over, good football Peterson bounced, Prior, good tackle there by Hopgood, forced the ball from Prior's handball straight across the line and out of bounds Peterson and Maloney struggling while Feltham gets it up recovering is Moss of Essendon on the Gasometer side North Melbourne handpassing finishing with Cathon, short pass Cathon. Oh good mark  
That's Burns

**DM** been very close to best player for North Melbourne

**TM** very good performance by Burns and an almighty kick to the kick off lines and uh Kekovich has pinched it but its play on and that was fair enough too

**DM** Andrews for Essendon, into the centre Montgomery for North, sending them back again into attack Feltham waited for it to bounce, now he has control, Wilson bearing down on him, but couldn't smother, Feltham into the kick off lines again Kekovich, not quite Geoff Prior relieves once more Greg, he and Fletcher tremendous battle they've had, between them all day, first one and then the other and finally it was Greg who won that one, and it's in there that time to Barry Davis

**TM** and you can put this one down as a goal to North Melbourne rarely misses on especially does Davis, particularly from 40 meters out.

**DM** well I think he's less than that Thorold, I think it wouldn't be much more than about 25 short kick - post!

**TM** it does not pay to nominate in this game of football, the game of chance they call it

**DM** I'll tell Barry Davis you said that, before he kicked,

**TM** Kick in by Prior, Perry almost marks it, he's been paid it,

**DM** over the shoulder

**TM** over the shoulder, yes halfback flank members side, 15 meter penalty and Baker is going off the field for North Melbourne, Phil Baker off the ground for the Kangaroos as the kick goes to half forward for Essendon, in there is Montgomery, gets it to Farrant, Farrant a long hand pass to the race horse Carton, who breaks the tackle, boots it to centre half forward, Wade in front, can't judge it, Moss is there for Essendon, gets the hand pass into Williams, Williams is met solidly by Burns

**DM** well tackled

**TM** Picked up by Hopgood up towards uh centre half forward reserve on there for North Melbourne it was Schimmelbusch who was held but uh Maloney gets his kick in its intercepted by brilliant Burns, Burns blazes away with a kick but its off line and its out on the first bounce for a boundary throw in forward pocket for North Melbourne they're kicking with the breeze and hang on to a four point lead

**DM** Phil Ryan that's whose come onto the ground for North Melbourne shot by Kekovich, bounced for a behind. Kekovich has been virtually unable to kick today, he's marked and hand balled, on most occasions I don't know how many kicks he's actually had jack? Four. That was his fourth. Ryan almost takes afield, very quiet, to Wilson, bad hand pass, Greg intercepts, ahead of Fletcher, he's starting to get on top of Fletcher. Almost Kekovich one hand Andrews now, to Delahunty but uh they lose the run of it between them down goes Davis, what is it? Umpire Della's hurt his shoulder or something like that, he's got a crack on the elbow, hurt his arm. Having trouble bouncing it, he's hurt his arm. He has. When he stuck his arm up I think he might have jolted his elbow. For the time on. But that wasn't very strong, a very good bounce. Burns again for North Melbourne shepherded by Cowton to half forward all Essendon and that's Maloney.

**TM** Maloney, been one of the effective defenders for Essendon this afternoon as always, very reliable player - to half back flank his kick goes, Williams the hand pass across to Moss. Moss gets his kick in towards half forward Schultz up high, Pagan's there, gets his kick in, finds Cowton on the wing. Hand Pass over to Peterson who has been a very effective rover for North Melbourne. Up towards the full forward zone. Wade!

**DM** pushed him in the back.

**TM** well...

**DM** for those of you who can lip read you don't need to know what Doug Wade said about that decision

*(laughing)*

**TM** Prior, boots it towards Perry and a good mark by Perry of Essendon. He's had a great duelling ruck with Goodingham. Boots it to Schultz (*illegible? needs the lace of the ball?*) He plays it on quickly, looking for fields who's been quiet since half time. Fields drops a sitter. Dummies. Hooks the kick back towards the forward pocket looking for Wilson. Wilson drops the mark. Bad uh

mishandling there by Farrant, allows Tuddenham in for the hand pass but Peterson, very active and courageous rover, is forced out of play with the ball, boundary throw in.

**DM** he didn't want to kick across the face of goals and was forced to turn back into the traffic. I think the best thing there is to kick across the face of goals, Thorold, don't know what your thoughts on that are, Davis, breaking away now. Here's Carton.

**TM** there was plenty of open space he could have quite easily got away with it

**DM** I don't know why people think it's such a great sin that uh it is determined to be. That's Amos who failed to kick that one, coming back towards it again Amoss, replaced Parks, looks (*illegible*) in the league football. You're caught.

(*Booing*)

**DM** He's paid the free kick for the man being swung, that's Amoss. It's a free kick nevertheless and it's rarely paid. They all stood back and let each other get it, this is Fields, who hooks it back in towards Noonan. Noonan gets the free kick for over the shoulder

**TM** ooh,

*Boos, dissent*

**DM** Thorold disagrees.

**TM** oh yes, I do because

**DM** technical free kick

**TM** definitely a technical one. It couldn't have been around the neck, it must have been for knocking his arm, surely,

**DM** well it's Fields who's got the free or the mark. But he's further in the pocket and he's a natural left footer which doesn't help him much. But you can see the angle from here, the distance is not much more than 40 metres it's across the goals, and that's Rantall, Essendon in attack. (*Crowd calling (kids especially)*) Free kick to Barry Davis former Essendon captain playing against his old club, captain of North Melbourne now this year and doing a pretty good job in this particular game, he's also benefitted now with a 15 metre penalty.

**TM** He's at centre half back and boots it over the centre line. Ryan is there. It's tapped down to Hickmont, he in turn up towards half forward, close in front but couldn't control it. Dench is there. He's possessed of the ball. This allows Fields in, he takes a pot shot at goal - and it's across the face for one behind. A favourable bounce would have seen a goal come on the board for Essendon there, but you saw the result. He did the right thing, he kept it low, kicking into the breeze, so the difference now is four points in favour of North Melbourne. As John Rantall boots it out to the grand stand side. Fletcher! just fails to mark. in there was Delahunty, but the handpass intercepted by Peterson, he boots it to centre wing, Ryan, oh, Schimmelbusch rather, gets the hand pass to Greg, Greg breaks the tackle nicely, and the tackle was too high and Greg, whose had a wonderful duel with Ken Fletcher, takes the kick. He boots it to centre half forward. Big Goodingham was in there, Tuddenham was also on there for the dons, he's throwing himself into it in this final quarter. Up towards half forward, great mark Montgomery! Ken Montgomery plays it to the grand stand side with a handpass to Dench. Dench, not a good kick towards half forward. Schimmelbusch! in front, a beautiful mark.

**DM** sixth mark, Schimmelbusch

**TM** and has been a constant avenue to goal for North Melbourne. Lovely kick towards the kick off line, Wade not in position but Prior is, he's pushed, comes back to Hopgood. Hopgood dispossessed of the ball. What's the umpire doing? He's giving the free kick to Laurie Maloney of Essendon.

**DM** Maloney defends to the gasometer side. Perry mark. Perry towards half forward. Closest behind on this occasion. Montgomery. Solid defender for North. Off the ground. Andrews, Delahunty the chance, can't pick it up. Amoss. What's that?

**TM** There's skin!

**DM** I was going to say, a near naked body, which belongs to Amoss. Anyway, it's a ball up between centre and half forward. North Melbourne's attacking area. And it looks like a rugby scrum folks, but, it's going to be a ball up. Farrant. Amoss, nicely out of trouble, brilliantly out. Giving it to Fletcher. Smother. Close! Free kick.

*(Cheers, boos)*

**DM** Without the ball, Norman close a chance to put Essendon in front. Four points the difference as he kicks the goal at the 13 minute mark. A goal here would put the dons in front with the scent of victory in their nostrils. And he does, just that.

*(Some booing)*

**TM** a very valuable goal to the Dons. Their first in this quarter. In fact, the first goal scored in this quarter. And the Dons kicking into the breeze and a light rain falling here at the Arden street oval. 13 and a half minutes gone. And North Melbourne finding the Essendon defence very hard to crack with the use of this breeze.

**DM** Essendon leading by 2 points.

**TM** Goodingham didn't get the effective knock down. Back to Davis of North Melbourne. Tuddenham was held but Davis the free kick earlier and the North Melbourne captain will put them well into attack with a long punt kick, a penetrating one at that. Up goes, or in comes Peterson, gets the hand pass across to Kekovich but the Essendon defence is firm and it's forced through for one behind. It was Wade the player who was knocked over there I think. The North Melbourne player I couldn't pick up however, it's another behind to North Melbourne.

**DM** one point the difference, Essendon lead. Greg will get the free kick, he was held without possession.

**TM** He's taken the honours in this final quarter, Dick,

**DM** Yes, he's uh, they've had a tremendous battle as we've said, and Greg starting to get his way on top of Fletcher, and that one's dropped in to Doug Wade whose in front of Prior on that occasion. He's within kicking distance 45 meter out and straight in front of goal. That's how far out he is. A kick from near the point of the diamond. Allow for the breeze... maybe a little too much. And the scores are level at North Melbourne. Although North Melbourne have kicked less goals than Essendon.

**TM** yes, its 84 apiece. Prior to boot it to the grand stand side.

**DM** and it couldn't have happened at a more opportune moment, 15 minutes into the last quarter.

**TM** A bit of aerial work going on here, tapped back by Andrews but interference to Fields. He was grabbed from behind when not in possession. Boots it to half forward. Rantall in front of Noonan, and it's out of play.



*(Booing)*

**DM** scores level 84 point a piece

**TM** rain falling, light rain falling in this important last quarter. A game that North Melbourne have to win to keep alive their chances of the final five. It was Hickmont that got it back up towards Noonan

**DM** in the back

**TM** but it's a free kick to Gary Farrant for in the back.

**DM** My word, he's been a, a good player for North Melbourne today he kicked a goal in the third term, following down his 16th kick.

**TM** some brilliant dashes has Gary Farrant given from half back towards half forward almost a mark there to Ryan, out to Burns and uh, its Andrews, Amoss rather, Fletcher coming through the pack in fine style, boots it towards half forward, out comes Dench, well shepherded by Close, out to Rantall, he can't control it. Boundary throw in. The elusive leather, the elusive piece of pigskin in the forward pocket for Essendon. Scores are level, 84 points apiece. Tap down by Goodingham and a good one it was too out towards Feltham. But it's knocked by fields out of play again.

**DM** 17 minutes gone last term. Scores level. Essendon in attack. Goodingham in ruck. Fields, Tuddenham now. Goodingham, and Close. Shoots for goal and puts it - post! Essendon by a point. 17 and a half minutes. Very dark because of the overcast. Dench, straight down the middle. Lovely kick. *(Whistle)* Over the shoulder Amoss the kick. Much darker in fact than it looks on our picture, the image of it on camera is very sensitive to light - pushed in the back. Tuddenham, good side bump. His own man struggling with him for the ball, Smith, number 35. Whistle blows. Umpire Della will ball it up. Essendon leading by just one point, 85 to 84. Amoss to Tuddenham, Tuddenham to half forward, Noonan. Essendon deep into attack, a towering kick by Noonan with the goal square, off hands! Essendon by two points. The Dons relentless in their attack in this last term. And it appeared that North Melbourne's 3 point lead at the final change would be enough to give them with the aid of the breeze the advantage in the last term. Back into Wilson, to Fields, pot shot from here, behind. Essendon by 3 points. Neville Fields can't believe it. Another big boomer by Dench, almost to the centre. Moss! Played on. Davis, smothered. Noonan to Delahunty, smothered. Fields again. What's it this time! Nothing. Close. Play on. Gumbleton. Still in play. Schultz. Collared literally, Pagan. Burns, great player, John Burns for North Melbourne today. Centres it Schimmelbusch, quickly on and Doug Wade would have the sealer in his hands. 20 minutes gone, well it's too early to be a sealer but he could put North back in front. They trail by 3 points. Doug Wade's distance from goal is about 35 meters. Well that is number 5 for Doug Wade, his second since half time. North Melbourne by 3 points as Sam Kekovich who's played virtually on one leg ruffles Doug Wade's hair. You can see the rain in that shot which tells the story.

**TM** well if Doug Wade does nothing else, if North Melbourne are to win this, he's paid his way with 5 goals today. Tapped down by Goodingham to Davis. And North Melbourne go forward again. A chance now for Feltham, he's still in there trying to get the ball away, but its John Williams to take the free kick, despite the protests of Feltham, that player returning the ball now to Williams.

**DM** Incidentally, we haven't mentioned Thorold that there was a bit of a set to between non playing coach Ron Barassi and playing coach Des Tuddenham at quarter time here at North Melbourne. Uh, which will probably make the football headlines over the weekend. But that had to be mentioned. Good piece of handball finishing with Fletcher. Fletcher to half forward. It's holding up in the breeze. Noonan.... back to Hickmont. Hickmont back into the ten yard square, or the whatever it is, and it's through for a behind. It's not actually a 10 yard square, it's a six metre x 9 metre rectangle, known as the kick off lines, technically. John Rantall, North Melbourne's very capable defender, towards

Goodingham! And he knowing that 22 minutes have passed, steadies down. To North Melbourne's half forward line, almost a one hander by Phil Ryan, Andrews to Smith is good football. Smith to half forward for Essendon, it's all North Melbourne's defence, Goodingham, it bounced off to Montgomery, now he still comes out with it,

**TM** well done!

**DM** Andrews for Essendon. Number 4. Peterson sends North forward again. here's Schimmelbusch, that danger man. he drops the mark. Tackles Prior well and throws him to the ground. Fletcher and Greg, out of bounds for a throw in. What a battle those two state wingmen have had. The two state wingmen opposed, Ken Fletcher of Essendon and Keith Greg of North Melbourne and it's been a magnificent battle. Williams, kick virtually smothered. Schimmelbusch, not the ball, but he was smothered. And ball up. North Melbourne by 2 points. 90 to 88. Coming up to the time on period, or the extra time period. Davis. Smothered again. Fletcher, nowhere to go. Caught.

**TM** and he threw it up one hand too - and it's no penalty. (*Boos*)

**DM** it's a push in the back and Essendon's Delahunty will get the free kick. Delahunty to the centre of the ground. Looks for Noonan there, Dench gets in the way. Carton a run at the ball, pulls it in well for a big fellow. Kicks one up wide almost Feltham, Williams, with the ball of hand, and Maloney, Essendon back pocket player, low left foot kick, intercepted there in fine style by David Dench North Melbourne vice-captain, captain last year.

**TM** David Dench midway between half back and centre boots it over the half forward line Wade up high, comes to ground for Feltham, hand pass in the direction of Davis or is it Montgomery? Up towards full forward now

**DM** Henshaw!

**TM** Henshaw on the ground, Ryan is there. Loses possession of it, Peterson coming through, he was held, Robby Peterson. Robby Peterson has the chance to seal this game for North Melbourne. 25 metres out

**TM** Dick, I don't know whether he's actually qualified as a medical practitioner but if he's not he's certainly in his final year. He's had 20 kicks so far. This will be his 20th.

**DM** North Melbourne leading by 2 points and we're just about to enter the extra time period. North Melbourne lead by 3 points as we come up to the extra time. 25 minutes have been played since the start of the last term. Rain quite steady and heavy now at North Melbourne, 3 points the difference. Fields drops one, Goodingham handles easily, kicks it long, kicks it back. North Melbourne in front. Now Essendon in front. Keith Greg. He's been allowed to go back and take that kick. I thought he had intentions of playing on.

**TM** I'm sure he did Dick.

**DM** Centre half forward goes the ball. North Melbourne going in for it. Peterson tumbled over. Smith bursting into half forward. Noonan got the run of the ball. Fletcher alongside him well shepherded. Fletcher kicks long. The kick off line, Close is there. He and Moss collide but one of them's got the ball, it's Moss! Oh and it's hurt him too. Essendon a chance to smash this one out of the fire. Could be a short quarter this.

**TM** Very few free kicks and very little time on.

**DM** Moss.  
(*Cheering*)



**DM** Essendon lead by 3 points, 26 and a half minutes gone. If our statistician Jack Cameron is correct in his assumption that this will be a short quarter then there could be less than 2 minutes to play. Essendon by 3 pts. 94 to 91. My stopwatch is coming up now 26 minutes and 50 secs. All this time is being added as the boundary umpires bring the ball back. 3 points to Essendon. North Melbourne must win to keep any chance they have of playing in the final 5, they must keep that chance alive. They must win to keep that chance alive. Essendon need to win to consolidate their place in the 4. Schimmelbusch is there. North Melbourne go forward. Fields. Fighting for possession. Does it brilliantly. Not a good kick, he's put it out. No time being added.

**TM** Dick, the wind in the final quarter has dropped since the light rain has been falling

**DM** Greg plays on, going into centre half forward. Kicks it long. North Melbourne need the ball. Wade is claiming it. There will be a ball up. Its 20 metres out from uh North Melbourne's goal. Peterson. Ball on the ground. Desperate defence. Amoss. Free kick to break that up. That could be the deciding one. Amoss who replaced Parks in the third quarter, from centre half back. He kicks it out to the grand stand flank. Dench is out there. Essendon going into attack. Fletcher dumped. Schultz, can't hold it. Plays it brilliantly. Essendon into attack again. Close and Rantall. John Rantall. Kicks it down, a hand in time saves 9, Schimmelbusch knocks it out of bounds. There's the siren. Umpire Della hasn't heard the siren. Yes, he has now. The siren is there. And Essendon are victorious at North Melbourne. Final score in in a tough, hard, bruising game. Essendon 14 10 94 North 13 13 91. And so I think ends, North Melbourne's chance of playing in the finals in the VFL.

## 1973.9 Collingwood v Hawthorn

B522 Control # 1472437

Peter Ewin and Thorold Merrett

50 000 VFL Park (*An exciting game. Machine gun commentary.*)

**TM** the scores as they were at three quarter time. A long kick by Adamson towards centre wing. Clifton is up there, knocks it to ground but Hawthorn have players everywhere. It's Bremner who gets it across towards uh Crimmins. Crimmins was interfered with, allows uh McCarthy in (illegible) to Zemski, Zemski in turn to Hendrie, Hendrie's at centre half forward, takes a pot shot at goal, and he's put it through, for a goal to the Hawks. A goal to the Hawks.

**PE** Difference now only one goal at the six minute mark of the final quarter. Collingwood 13 8 Hawthorn 12 8 Peter Hudson in a magnificent return to league football has kicked 7 goals. 6 in the first half, one in the third quarter, a total of 7 to date of Hawthorn's 12, and this game is anybody's game, at the six minute mark of the final quarter. Collingwood 13 8 Hawthorn 12 8. Umpire Robinson about to get play under way again. Capacity crowd here at Waverley. Max Richardson trying to break clear, goes to Thompson, Thompson boot Collingwood towards their half forward line, big Heard against Bussell, Bussell front position, down to ground it goes, Doug Gott 34 falls on top of the ball, so does Bussell, Umpire Robinson says I'll have it. A ball up. About 35 to 40 meters out from Collingwood's goal. They lead by one straight kick. Martello the tap down, it goes to Wayne Richardson, he can't break clear, in turn it's taken away by Jaworskyj. Jaworskyj's been a star. Towards the centre wing, awkward bounce, Leon Rice the chance for Hawthorn side, well done Osborne, Bremner, Salmon, Bremner breaks free with a handball but a whistle in play in the meantime and the free kick will go to Ian Bremner. Centre wing on the outer side. Handball in a flash goes across to Douge. Douge to drive the Hawthorn side from the centre wing towards the half forward line. Lurking there is big Len Thompson who's been a star, Thompson on the half back line does it with uh ease but his kick's a shocker, taken by Douge. Douge a hurried kick towards full forward, here comes Hudson! Two Collingwood players on Hudson, but a whistle in play and Hudson has the kick. Hudson has the kick and that was an extremely good decision by Umpire Robinson. Hudson had first bite, it rebounded back to him, hit him on the hands and then it was knocked away by the Collingwood defence. A clear mark. Theoretically to Peter Hudson. Well he's kicked seven, but he's a long way out from goal now as we approach the 8 minute mark of the final quarter. Hudson lining up for goal number 8. Hasn't been kicking long distances today, he's been pulling his kicks somewhat. In towards the goal square, it's a Hawthorn mark! No, it's not paid, Don Scott took the mark but a free kick will go Collingwood's way. And Don Scott was about to throw the football out of the grandstand.

**TM** In doing so Peter, he's incurred a 15 meter penalty, and that was a clear case of pushing Thompson out of the way to take that mark. Umpire Robinson has done a magnificent job this afternoon in controlling what could have been a very spiteful game, but it's been a very good exhibition of football because of his umpiring.

**PE** 13 8 to 12 8 Thompson out towards the half back line, and play's under way once more. Osborne, in the van, tries to get his boot to ball, Umpire Robinson has picked out that he held it too long and that again was a good decision. Osborne had the opportunity to get rid of it, tried to elude another player and was grabbed, and he paid the penalty for it. Its big Al Martello, they thump the ball down towards Peter Hudson, a wall of Collingwood defenders there, up goes uh the back, Thompson out of the pack, thumps it out toward Cranage. Cranage, off the boot, dribbles it over the line and it will be thrown in forward pocket for Hawthorn and the difference is six points. 8 minutes 40 seconds into the

final quarter and it's anybody's game. Thompson in front but it's Hawthorn's tap down. Salmon takes it, boots it out to the open spaces, no one within 50 meters and it's over the line again, on the opposite side of the ground for a boundary throw in. The crowd here today Thorold, almost 49 000 which would be a record for a home and away match here at Waverley, the enormous crowd as uh the Collingwood machine moves in the motion the handball goes across to Wearmouth, Wearmouth in the centre wing, transferring play towards the half forward line, the two number ones contest and a great mark to Wayne Richardson.

**TM** Collingwood player on the ground at half back flank. Has. Not. Moved.

**PE** We'll pick up that player in a moment, but uh the Collingwood side move in to, towards their forward pocket and Bussell takes it across the boundary line for a throw in. The boundary throw in, Collingwood into attack, deep in their forward pocket. They lead by one goal 13 8 and Hawthorn are 12 8. The play is under way. Heard number 15, taken by Martello, out towards the half back line it goes and the two number ones contest again! No, it's Barry Price on this occasion, play on calls Umpire Robinson, Dean can't break clear, here comes Wayne Richardson, he's in trouble, can he break clear? Umpire Robinson on the spot, allows play to go on, and cleared away by Jaworskyj, who's played a tremendous game for the Hawthorn side. Here comes Salmon, for Collingwood, centre wing, to drive the Magpies back towards their half forward line, in front is Zemski, behind is Atkinson, what a great mark to Zemski!

**PE** Zemski plays on, gets the ball to heath, in turn to Knights, Knights' kick up towards centre wing now and the big pack fly. Thompson there, can't take it, it comes to ground, for Meagher to get boot to ball, up towards half forward flank. In the van there was uh for Hawthorn was big Don SCOTT. He was interfered with by Clifton and big Don Scott will take the free kick for Hawthorn.

**TM** Scott looking for the 15 meter penalty the ball wasn't returned to him on the full. Could have easily got it, he's out on half forward flank now, Hudson leading to the pocket, hand pass coming to Meagher, Meagher quickly onto the boot, up towards Hudson, and McCarthy, ooh, McCarthy could have got the free kick there, he will get it! Because the Collingwood player in Dunne charged straight at McCarthy without any intention of taking the ball. And McCarthy looks for the short lead, to Hudson and has found that player and Hudson already has 7 goals of Hawthorns 12. Let's see what he can do with his 11<sup>th</sup> kick. He's kicked 7 goals 2 and one out of bounds on the full. Let's see what he can do it. The difference is only 6 points. Will it be level after this attempt? It looks pretty accurate. Goal number 8 to Peter Hudson

**PE** Well he is unbelievable, Thorold, what a fantastic comeback. 8 goals.

**TM** I couldn't agree more, Peter. That Peter Hudson in kicking 8 goals has simply confounded the critics who believed, and I was one of them, that it would be just an ordinary performance from Peter Hudson this afternoon. But the lack of opposition from the Collingwood defence has really amazed me in allowing Peter Hudson on one leg, to score 8 goals.

**PE** well, scores are level. They were level at half time, plays under way again. Martello the thump, here comes Wayne Richardson, in trouble, boots towards the half forward line, for the Collingwood side, out comes Douge over the back, it goes. Here comes a chance for Collingwood, Barry Price, beautiful pass to McKenna! A gem! Barry Price has played a magnificent game this afternoon, it's been the Barry Price of old Thorold, hasn't it?

**TM** it certainly has

**PE** it's those dashes, and the tremendous pace and the disposal has been absolute perfection

**TM** He has not made a mistake - clearly best player on the ground

**PE** McKenna lines up, bangs for goal and he's put it though! Third goal to Peter McKenna, and the Magpies are back in front 14 8 to Hawthorn 13 8 as we mentioned scores were locked at half time, 10 5 apiece. Collingwood had a lead of two goals at uh three quarter time. Their lead now one straight kick at the 13 minute mark of this final quarter.

**TM** and at risk of repeating ourselves, Peter Hudson, has made a magnificent comeback to league football. At this point he's kicked 8 goals 2. Thompson. Superb game in the ruck, taps it down, it's taken by his opponent, Scott. Great tackle by Price, allows Salmon in for Collingwood, he gets it up towards Atkinson, Atkinson waits for the bounce when he should have gone to meet it, and it's taken away by Peter Knights in dashing style, two bounces down, he's almost at centre half forward, thumps it right down in the direction of uh Hudson, up flies the Collingwood defence, thumped it away there was uh was uh Gott. It's Martello who's got it now in the forward pocket, he drives it across towards the kick off line, Dunne flies and the mark is almost taken by McCarthy but Dunne is equal to the task. He boots it down towards centre half back, taken by Dean, Dean a hand pass across towards uh the reserve on for Collingwood, it's uh Beck, Beck boots it now, up towards centre wing and he's stumped after he'd kicked the ball. McKenna races to it, could have marked it, it goes off his boot out of bounds on the full when most Collingwood supporters and most of the crowd thought that it was a free kick to Beck on the centre wing.

**PE** 14 minutes of play in the final quarter. Hawthorn through Kevin Heath towards the centre wing, the leapers are there, down to ground it goes, a boundary throw in coming up. Centre wing on this magnificent piece of turf here at VFL Park at Waverley. (*Booing*) It looks like a putting green, the surface, an absolute picture. A record crowd for a home and away match of almost 50 000 people, and what a game they've seen. Angus boots towards the half forward line for Hawthorn side, great mark over the back to Twiggy Dunne, Dunne for the Collingwood side, Collingwood lead by one goal. 14 8 Hawthorn 13 8. Dunne boots towards the half forward line for Collingwood. Behind is Jaworskyj, can't mark the ball. Angus, ridden into the ground may get a free kick, Umpire Robinson calls play on. What's happening now? Now Hawthorn get the free kick - to be taken by uh Jaworskyj who has been an absolute star. Handball goes to Crimmins, Crimmins in turn towards the half forward line but he's pulled out on the full. It's a fatal mistake at this time of the game. At the 15 minute mark of the final quarter. Hawthorn have to win this game to keep their final five hopes alive and they trail by one goal. Collingwood lead 14 8 to Hawthorn 13 8 and O'Callaghan puts the ball back towards the centre wing

**TM** thumped forward by uh, by uh, Heard, it's uh Heath in the van for Hawthorn. He kicks it out wide to Douge, Douge now has the opportunity to move it forward for Hawthorn. A nice baulk turn there up towards half forward it goes. Clifton, taps it down its well backed up but the free kick goes to Martello. Well, Umpire Robinson has uh given a very fine display here, he was right on the scene there as Martello's kick goes up towards Hudson, ball dropped short, its picked up by uh Bremner, driven towards goal but its offline and one behind only is the score. And that takes Hawthorn to 13 9 87 Collingwood 14 8 92. So its 5 points the difference

**PE** 16 minutes of play in the final quarter.

**TM** Gott! At full back

**PE** Collingwood out towards the forward pocket and Gott who started off at centre half forward deliverds the ball to centre wing, members side of the ground and a boundary throw in coming up. Slightly towards the half forward line for the Hawthorn side. Collingwood lead by 5 points. A fantastic game of football here at VFL Park which has been magnificently controlled by Umpire Robinson. Here comes Douge, in trouble, towards the half forward line and Atkinson a great mark. He's been a good player, he's got tremendous pace, this fellow. Atkinson boots towards the half forward line, Collingwood look dangerous. Chance for Brary Price, awkward bounce, here comes big

Normie Bussell. Bussell charging through the half back line, veers it out towards the centre wing. Ian Bremer Number 20 Daryl Salmon for Collingwood, number 24, centre wing on the outer side and Ian Bremner wins out through the aid of Leon Rice who shepherded well for him. Out towards the forward line it goes, Collingwood players galore. Georgie Bissett, the hero of Collingwood fans, streams downfield, kick out towards full forward. Over the back McKenna! McKenna's mark. Peter McKenna! From 35 meters out directly in front. Collingwood's lead is five points at the 17 and a half minute mark of this final quarter. McKenna has three and a goal here would be invaluable.

**TM** it would be vital, Peter. Vital is the word.

**PE** Let's watch it. Drop punt by McKenna. The goal umpire doesn't move much, it's there! (*Crowd roar*). Fourth goal to Peter McKenna. And Collingwood again assert an air of supremacy. 15 8 to 13 9. 20 minutes of play approaching. We've been playing now for 18 in fact, Collingwood 15 8 Hawthorn 13 9, so Collingwood lead by 11 points. And what a fantastic game this has been, Thorald.

**TM** It has been, in the first two minutes of play, in the first five minutes of play, Peter Hudson had two goals on the board, in fact, he had two one on the board before Collingwood had scored. And what a great comeback it's been. Don Scott is grabbed by Thompson. Bissett's in there for Collingwood, gets his boot to ball, Martello's in pursuit out on the outer wing position, hooks it in nicely for a big fellow. Thumps it onto the left foot. Up towards uh half back flank and Clifton, in the van for Collingwood, takes the mark. A bit of uh rough stuff going on there. Geoff Clifton has the ball. Hendry's being pointed to by Clifton, and Umpire Robinson calms the tempers down. And Clifton boots it towards the centre of the field. Thompson, pushed out. It comes, and he'll get the kick for it, he was waiting for it. Umpire Robinson was a little delayed in his decision there. Thompson thumps it right down to the full forward zone. Heard is underneath it. It goes off his hands into the hands of Douge. Douge is uh knocked out of the way. A handpass to Beck goes across to Atkinson. He lines up and he's missed. From point blank range. A behind to the Magpies. So once again, it's two clear goals the difference.

**PE** 15 9 to 13 9. And 19 and a half minutes of play have elapsed here at Waverley and Kelvin Moore boots the desperate Hawthorn back towards the half back line. Peter Knights can't mark the ball, recovers well. Towards the centre wing, bounces awkwardly, centre wing, oh a great dash by Leigh Adamson. Adamson, number 33 for the Collingwood side bangs it down towards big Bob Heard, Wayne Richardson almost marked it. Peter Crimmins, out to Kelvin More. In the back pocket Moore back towards Kevin Heath, number 8 he can't take it. Goes to dashing Desmond Meagher, across in turn to another reserve on the side of the Hawthorn side towards the centre wing, the mark taken by uh

**TM** Stevenson

**PE** Stevenson Hawthorn now have both reserves on the ground. They're desperate. Stevenson towards the centre wing, handballed to himself in fact. Now he's off for a run. Where's Hudson in the goal square? That's where the kick's travelling but it's dropped short of the mark. Is taken by Bremner. Hudson's calling for it, but Bremner uh oops Bremner doesn't know what to do. He was about to pass to Hudson, and then decided to go back and take a kick which is the obvious thing to do because he's only about 30 meters out. Hawthorn trail by two straight goals. Bremner bangs for goal and he's missed and it's out of whoops, still in play. Taken by Len Thompson who's played a tremendous game for the Collingwood side. Out towards the refuge of the boundary line, half back flank for the Collingwood side on the outer side. Leon Rice being caught by the leg will take the free kick no he won't. Play on. No what's Umpire Robinson doing now? Yes, he's signalling that Leon Rice was being held by the leg and Rice will take the free kick for the Hawthorn side on the half forward line twenty one minutes of play in the final quarter. Hawthorn trail by two goals and Rice to thump it down towards Hudson territory. Right towards full forward it goes, plenty of Collingwood

defenders there, and they have the run of the ball out towards half back flank it goes. Handball. Towards Cranage. Cranage in turn to the half back flank, almost towards centre wing, towards the boundary line in fact and it'll be a boundary throw in. 21 minutes of play. Collingwood 15 9 Hawthorn 15 9.

**TM** well, each quarter has been well over thirty minutes so there's still plenty of time for Hawthorn. Tap down. Taken by Collingwood. Its O'Callaghan who's got it, kicks it up towards Beck. Jaworskyj coming through overruns the ball. In there is Wayne Richardson. He gets the handpass across to Dean, Dean left foots it, out towards the half forward flank. Coming to it is Heard and Bussell. Bussell can't take it but he's quick to recover. Could be holding the ball but play goes on as Jaworskyj comes in for Hawthorn. He boots it now, up towards the half forward line, Adamson and uh big McCarthy fly, but Adamson got it in the back, wasn't McCarthy. It was Stevenson who got into the back of Adamson, and its Adamson to take the kick.

**PE** 14 kicks, too, Thorald, he's played a very good game.

**TM** a very serviceable game at centre half back, for a period he was onto Peter Hudson but only stayed momentarily there. Now he boots it to centre half forward. Heard flies but the man in front is Dunne and will be paid the mark. Dunne was playing at full back for the third quarter and the early part of the final quarter. He thumps it a good 65 meters. Right down towards McKenna. It's going to bounce towards goal. McKenna has it. In the forward pocket. Loses it at the psychological moment and out of play it goes.

**PE** 22 and a half minutes of play in the final quarter. Collingwood are clinging to a two goal lead. 15 9 Hawthorn 13 9. The Hawks final five hopes are slipping as time races away from them. Jaworskyj out towards half back flank, here comes Twiggy Dunne, Dunne about 40 meters out from goal. He may get a free kick, no he won't – play on. Back it comes to Dunne. Des Meagher, number 30 for the Hawthorn side, and to smother and Umpire Robinson calls for a bounce. 23 minutes of play approaching. Collingwood, a two goal lead after scores were level at half time. A bounce to Douge, a chance no it's Peter Crimmins, there's so many blondes in this Hawthorn side. Crimmins towards the half back line. Great mark by O'Callaghan!

**TM** Got his body into position beautifully then

**PE** Collingwood looking stronger now, Hawthorn, their burst, I think, is finished. O'Callaghan a long thumping kick down towards full forward, big Bob Heard is lurking behind, knocked away by Martello towards Douge, Douge in the back pocket to break clear out towards half back flank, members' side of the ground. Stevenson! Whoops, 15 meter penalty for sure. Max Richardson, what are you doing? Could be a 30 meter penalty if he carries on like that (*laughing*). Well, Umpire Robinson, Thorald, I'm sure you will agree, has done a tremendous job this afternoon

**TM** he has Peter and I've seen him in three very tough games that he's had in the last four or five weeks, and he's the umpire of the season in the exhibitions I've seen. A high kick in the air by Stevenson, a wasted opportunity, thumped away by Cranage, it's in the hands now of Cranage, back to Max Richardson. A short kick by Richardson has found Beck. Beck looking for uh drawing the man to him, a handpass to Price, Price at centre half forward, lines it up and he's put it through.

**PE** Oh!

(*Crowd roar*)

**TM** The game is sealed for the Magpies! What a fantastic game by Barry Price.



**PE** Allan Forster our statistician, Allan, how many kicks? 20 kicks and three marks and every kick um well he's like Ian Stewart, if you can compare Barry Price and Ian Stewart. (*laughing*) Every kick is to some purpose, it's got some uh decision about it hasn't it?

**TM** Well Barry Price is easily the best exponent of the short pass in league football today. It's usually a drop punt, but he kicks it so accurately and he's done it to perfection this afternoon.

**PE** Play is under way again, and in fact St Kilda have beaten North Melbourne, so Hawthorn's final five hopes have gone now as they trail, as Peter Hudson takes the mark. 25 minutes of play in this final quarter. Collingwood 16 9 Hawthorn 13 9 and the giant scoreboard indicating here at Waverley that St Kilda have beaten North Melbourne. So Hawthorn to have any chance of making the final five have to win this game, and they have about 5 minutes to kick uh, four goals, or three goals and a point. Otherwise the final five will be decided. Here's Hudson, he's kicked 8. A long bomb for goal, it's a big kick by Hudson, marked right on the line, or is it through for a point? No, it's through for a minor score. So Hawthorn are 13 10 Collingwood are 16 9. The Hawks need three goals in about four or five minutes. 16 9 to 13 10. Collingwood doing it uh with ease at the moment. Out to Wayne Richardson. In turn, short pass by the Collingwood skipper goes towards Wearmouth, Wearmouth. This VFL Park surface is like a putting green. It's magnificent. Wearmouth for a run, centre wing, towards the half forward line, oh push in the back against John McKenna, Kelvin Moore wins out nevertheless and plays on, will he be allowed to play on? He will, good umpiring again, Umpire Robinson. Here comes Wayne Richardson once more but Leon Rice beats him. Rice to boot Hawthorn deep into attack once more. Down towards the full forward line it goes, and front, the uh chance is there for Doug Gott of Collingwood

**TM** Beautifully done

**PE** In turn its Thompson who has done everything. He's been a back pocket player, a ruck man, a forward pocket player, he's played everywhere and every position he's played, he's played well. Half forward line for Hawthorn side, Martello but a boundary throw in coming up, I think, still in play, in fact Stevenson, handballed by Stevenson, that's out of play. And a boundary throw in. Hawthorn into attack. 26 and a half minutes of play. Final quarter. Collingwood 16 9 Hawthorn 13 10.

**TM** It's out of bounds in the back pocket for Hawthorn. Time running out for the Hawks. 26 almost 27 minutes of play gone. They trail by 17 points. And the left forward pocket for Hawthorn. Thompson, in ruck, he's buffeted out of position, but still gets the knock out, what a great player Thompson is. And it's out of play. Good defensive football by the big Collingwood champion. Out of play, half forward flank for Hawthorn, half back flank for Collingwood. Outer side of the ground.

**PE** Thorald, I'd hate to be awarding three two and one for this game.

**TM** it's going to be a difficult uh task, uh Peter. Its Hendry who has possession of the ball now, it's taken by Wearmouth, around the neck to Wearmouth, free kick to the Magpie rover, half back flank, outer side.

**PE** 27 minutes 20 seconds of play, final quarter.

**TM** short pass finds Beck I think it is, that player,

**PE** yes

**TM** or is it Salmon? Daryl Salmon that player, the half back flanker for Collingwood on the outer side. Collingwood playing keepings off at this stage and rightly so, because the time is running out for the Hawks. Wayne Richardson to take the mark outer side. Peter Hudson on his return to lead football has kicked 8 goals 2 for the Hawks in one of the most remarkable comebacks in league history. Wayne Richardson boots it to half forward flank. Pushing and shoving going on, it could have been a

Hawthorn free kick there. In the van for Hawthorn is Bremner. He boots it wide and wild, will it go out on the full? And the mark taken by Atkinson of Collingwood, just inside the line.

**PE** Atkinson from the centre wing to boot Collingwood into attack again. 28 minutes and 20 seconds of play have elapsed in this final quarter. And uh to give you some idea of players, Len Thompson's had 19 kicks, Barry Price 20, play on the half forward line for the Collingwood side. And the scoreboard shows Collingwood 16 9 Hawthorn 13 10. The ball with looks like uh Wearmouth in turn. Across to Wayne Richardson and he takes the mark, and this will be kick number 23. For Wayne Richardson who's played a magnificent skipper's game for the Collingwood side. He's about uh 60 meters out from goal. It will take a long kick to even make the goal square. My god, it's a long kick indeed. But off line, a minor score. The game's all over for Hawthorn. 16 10 Collingwood 106 Hawthorn 13 10 88, 29 minutes of play in this final quarter. Kelvin Moore to boot the Hawks out towards the half back flank, looking for dashing Desmond Meagher, who's been pretty quiet today. Robert Dean robs it from Meagher (*laughs*) but it's going to be Meagher's kick. Des Meagher. Half back flank. Members side of the ground. 29 minutes 10 seconds of play final quarter and the Hawks final five hopes have died here at Waverley.

**TM** Meagher, out to centre wing. Knights in there for Hawthorn. Played a dashing game, Peter Knights.

SIREN

**TM** Adamson comes through, and the siren has sounded, the game is over. Collingwood have defeated Hawthorn. Collingwood 16 10 106 points have defeated Hawthorn 13 10 88. Peter Hudson in his return to league football had 14 kicks, 10 marks and kicked 8 goals 2. Repeating the score, Collingwood 16 10 106 have defeated Hawthorn 13 10 88.



## 1973.10 St Kilda v North Melbourne

25 August B522 Control # 1472471 Moorabbin

Ken Daiken Doug Heywood

**DH** The lead is not unobtainable because St Kilda had the benefit of a pretty fresh breeze. It will be Goodingham and Galt, contesting favours Goodingham he goes on with it, gets his left foot to it well done, down it goes towards Peterson, Lawrence comes in and grabs it, tackled by Peterson, out wide it goes, Cowboy Neale and Wade, Wade wins this one, screws it back for goal, it'll be close but just misses and that's a behind to Douglas Wade. That makes the difference 3 goals. Wade has kicked 5 2 and he's certainly made the best of his opportunities. That brings his tally for the season to 71. Consistently, one of the great full forwards in league football, of course he's third on the all-time tally, behind Coventry and Titus, and there's a chance he'll catch Jack Titus next year because there's no doubt Wade will be around again for another season or two. Neale comes in kicks it straight down the centre, which good attacking football Goodingham, fine mark, out marks Galt.

**KD** he's done a lot of damage

**DH** He certainly has

**KD** (Max?), he's had a big influence on this game, there's his kick, the centre half forward, Neale comes out, tries to knock the ball away, Wade's got it, Wade on his, oh, nicely caught with it, holding the ball says the umpire. And it goes against Douglas Wade.

**DH** Not exactly blistering speed, is he? (*laughs*)

**KD** Free kick, free kick will go to Reynolds, St Kilda badly needing a goal at this point of time and defeat today would put paid I think to their chances of – Galt plays and takes the mark. Took it in front of Goodingham Goodingham goes on with play, he's got more pace than Goodingham. Downfield he goes, look at him streaking. He'll dummy around, gets one around the neck, puts his boot to ball, has a long shot at goal, oh my word it was a great attempt. The mark very nearly taken by North Melbourne's Gumbleton, but that was a great effort. Individual effort by uh Galt to uh try and bring St Kilda back into this game. They are down 3 goals at the 8 minute mark of the final quarter.

**DH** Yes, that was almost the most brilliant effort of the match by Rodney Galt. In they come again, Sarau goes up there with Gumbleton and the ball is pushed over the line out of bounds. With 8 minutes gone, scoreboard is 94 o 76 with North Melbourne in front. Sarau and Gumbleton fight for it again, Barry Davis hits it out towards Feltham. Out of bounds again.

**KD** no doubt North are going to pack it right up here in defence, Doug, this is the caper, isn't it, to play it close and not give St Kilda any room.

**DH** I was going to say, precious minutes all the time, here's a chance for Allan Davis, been quiet Allan Davis today. Screws it back for goal, this will be close. This will be more than close it is dead centre. Oh a brilliant goal by a brilliant player. Number 19 Allan Davis, St Kilda's leading goal kicker for the season. Kicks his own second and his 41<sup>st</sup> for the season and a very important one for the Saints in the most important match of the season for St Kilda or North Melbourne 82 points 94 2 goals the difference.

**KD** And uh we're 9 minutes into the final quarter. Can St Kilda pull it out of the fire? North will no doubt hang on grimly. No two ways about it. There's Goodingham doing battle with Galt, Goodingham wins out again, Lawrence comes in, brushed aside was Lawrence. I thought he got one in the back, the umpire didn't. North Melbourne holding the ball, play on, oh holding the man was the

decision, which was absolutely unbelievable. (*Booing*) And the free kick goes to Schimmelbusch, Schimmelbusch's kick, right into the scoring zone for North Melbourne, it comes clear, Judson is spilled on the turf, will he get a free kick? We'll wait and see, you'd have to wait for this umpire because you just wouldn't know. And Judson's got it. Got it out to Trott. Trott, all on his own will take the mark. Trott has the ball on North Melbourne's right half forward line. Following right over the mark too was Peterson. No doubt Trott will send a long kick forward, he does, looking here for Perovic, Perovic couldn't mark it, it hits the deck, and uh Cowton comes to it but uh it will be a throw in (*booing*) midfield on the member's side. Umpire Sutcliffe not very popular with the St Kilda followers. Galt doing battle here in the ruck, gets the ball down nicely, in comes Elliott, it's taken away beautifully by Greig, Greig shoots, but puts it out on the full and it will be a free kick to St Kilda. Someone coming off.

**DH** Looks like Davies.

**KD** yeah, I would think. Davies coming off. And the free kick here to be taken by Stewie Trott. 2 goals the difference. This could be a cliff hanger if St Kilda can capitalise on this forward move, as Trott sends it into the scoring zone and it's gone behind the pack. St Kilda spoil one another there, no shepherding, no teamwork, and uh umpire Sutcliffe will come in and bounce the ball just over St Kilda's left half forward line. Galt in the ruck, Galt gets the ball down, North could win it, it's coming close to the boundary line and beats uh Peterson, and will be thrown in again. St Kilda still in attack have the ball on their left half forward line. Goodingham who's been a great ruckman gets hold of the ball. Boots it straight out of play on the full, and that was badly done. Ooh foolishly done, and Stewie Trott will again come in to take the free kick with Cowton right over the mark. And Trott will no doubt put this right into the goal square if he can, he's got the breeze behind him and there's the kick, Cowton right over the mark, Breen goes for it but a beautiful mark taken in defence by North Melbourne's Farrant. Beautifully done. Oh, he's gone on with play, he could be in trouble. Gets his boot to the ball, in comes Trott from behind, punches the ball away, Allan Davis comes to it. Davis will try and get round, he can't Rantall spoils him beautifully. Its picked up here by St Kilda they get the ball to Stewie Trott he lines up for goal, he's off line with it though, this could go out on the full, it did, and this will be a free kick to North Melbourne. And St Kilda with a wonderful opportunity to score again have given North the chance to get out of trouble. This will be Gumbleton to clear the ball away.

**DH** 2 goals the difference, North Melbourne in front, looking for Kekovich, Kekovich the big leap but doesn't, not successful, Reynolds behind him. Reynolds kicks it down into the crowd, well into the crowd, deep into the them, and it will be kicked in. The free kick of course will go to North Melbourne. Pagan looking for it, number 17. It used to be his, that's David Dench who trundles the ball across to him. Pagan downfield, Keith Greig, brilliantly in front and a fine mark. He's in the centre of the ground now against Theodore, and he's made a difference too because Theodore had been a dominant player there. Redenbach opened there at the start of the game, he's off the field now. Out it goes to Ryan and Lawrence, Ryan's had the leap on Lawrence in the last half. Here's a chance now for a kick off the ground by Reynolds, straight out to big Goodingham, he gets his left foot to it and cleverly out to Peterson. Peterson an awkward one, Judson travelled to it, and then, here's that ugly pack on top of it, and young Rob Peterson, a fifth year medical student, looking very bedraggled, but been a very good player and kicked two wonderful goals. Goodingham beaten for that one, taken by Manzie. Manzie across where Kekovich doesn't look like it, picked up by Theodore. Theodore tries a short punt to Breen it's not well directed. A chance for Elliott. Elliott will be met and takes it beautifully. Won't give up.

**KD** oh round the neck

**DH** free kick, free kick to him! Elliott also a very capable player. He's kicked two fine goals, one was a magnificent goal. Cowton on the mark. Elliott's long kick downfield, looking for Galt, oh good

mark in front by Davis. They all misjudged it and it was the skill and anticipation of Allan Davis that took it well in front of the pack and has a chance now to bring St Kilda to within one goal. He's kicked two. Allan Davis would be St Kilda's most brilliant player for the season. Comes in and shoots for goal and kicks it very well. Goal number three to Davis and the match really comes alive again as St Kilda have the breeze and they trail by one goal only.

**KD** happened at the half way mark of the last quarter. Well what a thriller this is. It's a do or die struggle for both sides. The loser will miss out on the finals. The winners will have a big chance of going in. The crowd right on its toes and a very big crowd it is too to see this game between North and uh St Kilda. Can North hold on and get into the finals for the first time for some uh, what it is Doug, 16, 18 years? Back in the centre chance here or St Kilda as the ball is grabbed by uh Stevens, he sends it forward, the mark taken brilliantly by Young. What a creative player he is. And Young could put it through from there. There he is, trying to get round. Oh, the man was over the mark who came across him and umpire uh Sutcliff missed it all together and North Melbourne get the ball away to Greig, Greig you can be in trouble here from Perovic, he's getting right away from it, it's coming out close to the boundary line, it could be out on the full. It is. And that was well done by North Melbourne and gives the free to St Kilda. That'll be taken here by Moran. St Kilda with a chance to go into attack again. There's a long penetrating kick towards Breen. He flies! And look at the mark. What a screamer! He's the best one grab mark I've seen for a long, long time, is Barry Breen. The 25 year old Breen, married, and I think he married a Miss Moomba Queen of one time, if Breen can put it through, the scores will be level. It's on its way, he's missed, it's off line and its through for a behind for the Saints. A goal there would have made the scores level. There's now only 5 points the difference. And this has developed into a real screamer.

**DH** yes that was a beautiful mark. Breen's kicked 2 goals 3 is his own personal tally. He's been a spectacular centre half forward. At times he's faded out of the game. Uh Rantall's not kicked in well, picked up by Barry Davis. Gary Farrant had been a very good player despite his opponent, Young. Down it goes over Ryan's head, and Lawrence recovers better, Lawrence goes screaming out in front of him will turn, and baulk out of trouble, which he does perfectly then kicks it beautifully to Mynott, Mynott takes the mark. Mark number 6 to Brian Mynott. Mynott downfield. Theodore! He's up, he's on his wrong foot, gets onto this left foot, shoots for goal, and kicks it badly, one behind. Four points the difference 17 minutes have gone in this final term and there's a St Kilda player on the ground and its Barry Breen and really feeling it.

**KD** My word, what a terrific finish this is developing into. North Melbourne appeared to have it sewn up about the uh ten minute mark of the uh final quarter when they were four goals in front. Now they only have a 4 point advantage as Rantall puts the ball into play, looking for Goodingham, he's spoilt there, but uh emerging there with the ball is Briedis, Briedis gets it forward, coming to it is Reynolds. Reynolds, can he get under it no he can't it bounces awkwardly there for it he comes to it again nicely but takes it out of play to be thrown in mid field on the outer side. Four points the difference and waiting to come onto the ground for North Melbourne is uh Pretty.

**DH** From the throw in its Mynott in front, Mynott taps it down again taken nicely by Barry Davis, the greatest kick getter on the ground, and out goes Lawrence, Lawrence to the ground, Lawrence recovers like a cat and it's over the line out of bounds. Amazing agility has this quite amazing import from Tasmania, Barry Lawrence. He plays any position with great skill. Mynott taps it down, Kekovich running behind the pack, down they're going again. Free kick goes North Melbourne's way. Feltham, Feltham tries a short one downfield to Davis. It's not a good one. It's out of bounds. Out of bounds. I was waiting for the umpire. I though he was going to make him play it again, there's David Pretty running around the side, number 9. He's got to go right round to where the play is before he comes on the ground, of course. The big fellows go up again, here's a chance now for Moran, uh Stevens, he runs into a lot of trouble, falling after it is Cowton, here comes Sammy Kekovich but it's

taken away briefly by Manzie, Manzie out wide to Perovic. Perovic goes up, he's a wonderful mark is this youngster, and takes a fine one. Perovic, recruited from the Ballarat area, he's a long kick. Breen looks for the big one. Punched away brilliantly by Gumbleton, out wide goes Greig, awkward bouncer, he's tackled by Breen, tackled too long I thought, Davis comes in Rantall beats him for it. Rantall the stronger, and gets onto it with his left foot, tries a short one up, a bad one, John Rantall. Barry Colling's got the chance. Looks to get a long one to Elliott. Elliott quickly onto this left foot, it's over the head of his teammates. Punched away brilliantly that time by Pagan but it's all St Kilda through Manzie. Manzie kicks it high in the air, underneath it the chance is there for Briedis, he didn't go for it well,

**KD** Young's got it

**DH** he's got it and must have been given a free kick. Free kick to Young. And what a thriller it is. Four points the difference and the West Australian import, he's an interstate footballer, an interstate cricketer, has got the chance to write his name down in St Kilda's history, at this stage.

**KD** what a lot of pressure on him, Doug. A straight kick here the Saints will be in front. They looked a beaten side ten minutes into the final there's the kick on its way, and he's offline with it, and St Kilda are frittering away opportunities. They've had three chances to hit the front and they move on now to 13 13 to North Melbourne 14 10. 3 points the difference as we wait on Rantall to put the ball in to play. Breen had a chance, then Young had a chance and St Kilda and Theodore and St Kilda have missed each time. Now this kick out by Rantall was caught up by the wind and out of play on the full and the free kick will go St Kilda's way. We're 20 minutes in the final quarter.

**DH** that's the fourth time this term that North have kicked out of bounds on the full and kicked out of bounds badly. Here's Elliott. He's a wonderful kick is Glen Elliott. He kicked a goal from a similar position. It's going to be the 10 yard square, a big hungry pack fly for it, Young! He kicked it through eventually, I think he got it I think the second kick was the one that did it.

**KD** It was Doug

**DH** the first one smothered and Young redeems it and St Kilda hits the front and the St Kilda stand really comes alive.

**KD** well, what an unbelievable game. Really, it's been nip and tuck all day long. In the first quarter North led by 14 points, St Kilda 5 points at half time, North 12 points in the last quarter, they got four goals ahead and now the Saints are in front. Can they uh keep it going? Here's the chance for them as Colling comes to ball. He's smothered though, look at the ugly pack. And umpire uh Sutcliff who hasn't pleased too many people today, uh will bounce the ball, almost centre half forward with St Kilda in the attack and leading by 4 points. At the 3 points at the 22 minute mark of the final quarter. Chance here for Cowton, holding the ball. I didn't think he was, but umpire Sutcliff did and the free will go St Kilda way.

**DH** Looks like John Stevens to take it, there a an interstate cricketer too, talking of cricket with Young who just kicked his 2<sup>nd</sup> goal. A long kick of Stevens, ooh, a big leap by Galt, Young again, shoots for goal and makes it! That's his third. Well how ironical it is, Gary Farrant has done a magnificent job on Young all day but you can't curb the brilliance of this fellow, he's a classical old fashioned brilliant half forward flanker.

**KD** well its sentiment comes into it Doug I suppose you've got to be a bit sorry for North if they get beaten in this game, getting so close to the finals for so many years, you know. About 18 years and 331 games of league football and they haven't made the finals in all that time. And Mynott knocks the ball out, its grabbed here though, picked up by North Melbourne's Dench, into the centre of the ground it goes, a disputed mark, grabbed here by the big fellow uh Goodingham who's been a great

player for North Melbourne. St Kilda in the van (?) and Moran, is it Moran, it is, taking a lovely mark to stem that forward attack by North Melbourne. Moran, no doubt will try a long kick, he tries it towards Breen, Breen punches the ball away, all too late and the mark is taken by North Melbourne's Briedis. Briedis kicks the ball out wide, this gives a chance to the big fellow Goodingham, can North come back now, oh, this is a great game, the crowd right on its toes.

**DH** Down it goes to Ryan, Ryan's the big leaper but it comes to the ground, picked up by Nolan out to Schimmelbusch, Schimmelbusch kicking under pressure is well tackled and they're fighting for it out again to Nolan. Nolan kicks it down to the ten yard square and just misses. Nolan, who's kicked a couple, has been dangerous in that forward pocket, and that was a good snap under pressure, and once again there's a St Kilda player in the hands of the trainers, Breen a few moments ago.

**KD** A kick in the face, Doug, and that was a bad one. Nasty one. I think its Reynolds, is it? I'm not too sure.

**DH** I can't pick him on the ground there, but its Cowboy Neale the full back with the ball anyhow as it comes in. He and Wade have had a wonderful battle with Wade kicking 5 goals. Out wide it goes, David Dench from behind claims it, the umpire gives it. 8 points the difference and Dench comes in from centre wing grandstand side and kicks a long one downfield, it bounces awkwardly. Up goes Wade and thumps it to Nolan, Nolan out to Peterson, Peterson under pressure and he's pushed to the ground. Picked up there by Schimmelbusch, a left foot snap there won't make the difference, its marked by Nolan, play on says the umpire and it's through for one behind. And that was bad luck North Melbourne.

**KD** (*droll – gorgeously droll*) what a thriller it is. North Melbourne fighting back now, against the breeze, it's moved on to 14 12 – 14 12 St Kilda are 15 13 and uh we're 24 and a half minutes into the final quarter. Which way will this game go? The loser will miss out. And Neale's got a lead out wide there beautiful one from Breen who's come up from centre half forward Breen a long raking kick sending the ball out from the Manzie direction, Manzie can't mark it, in comes Trott, Trott's under pressure, hugs the ball close to the boundary line and will get a free kick for a push in the back. A free kick for a push in the back and Lawrence is in the hands of the trainers.

**DH** it means that St Kilda of course are playing with 17 men at this moment, there's Barry Lawrence who'll be back in the trade, here's the captain, Stuart Trott, Captain Courageous. Tries a short one and it's a good one too to Manzie and Manzie takes a very very important mark. 25 minutes gone as Manzie kicks a very long one down towards the ten yard square, it's off direction, out of bounds on the full and there's 7 points the difference and St Kilda are in attack.

**KD** and we're just entering the time on period. Which way will this game go? First one team on top and then the other.

**DH** Gumbleton kicks out. Davis is the man nearest to it, Goodingham been a great battle all day goes to the ground, shadowed by Mynott.

**KD** Lawrence on his feet apparently, what a wonderful player he is.

**DH** How quick did Breen pick up that centre half back position - that's intelligent football. Here's a chance now once again, and Manzie boots a long high one down field, underneath it Gumbleton and Galt, neither can take it. Behind the pack is once again Garry Farrant. Farrant tries a short one to Cowton, it's a good looking pass and Cowton's got it, he goes and dodges around Theodore, held, he was. Free kick to Cowton, play on, out it goes to David Dench. Dench will give the free one as down they're going, as Theodore goes down, and a foolish free kick because Dench's hand pass was beautifully delivered and Theodore in trouble and the mark was taken by Ryan so Cowton will receive a blast after the match.



**KD** (*laughs*) and look at uh Lawrence, coming down to talk to Theodore, and Lawrence, blood pouring from his mouth as the kick comes in here short to Mynott, who is all on his own. And Mynott can steady, and Lawrence, the experienced player has come up to tell him to steady, oh he wasn't over the mark, uh Mynott, he'll go back he'll drive this well down towards goal. No doubt he'll look for Galt. Galt is in there. He's the high flyer. And look at the magnificent kick by Mynott, up they go and the mark nearly taken by North Melbourne, look at the North Melbourne defence under pressure, coming out now caught with the ball was Dench. Coming up here by Stevens and he's put it through I think! Oh, wait on it, a behind. Oh, a goal there and perhaps the Saints would have had it sewn up but it wasn't to be. North Melbourne supporters breathe a sigh of relief. 27 minutes into the final quarter. St Kilda hang on 15 14 104 8 points ahead of North Melbourne 14 12 96.

**DH** Rantall straight down the centre, which is good football, up goes Cowton, behind the pack is Colling, Colling is going to break away and kicks it out wide to the flank. Underneath it an awful one for Gary Farrant, Galt above him, doesn't hold it long enough and he did!

**KD** second bite

**DH** Second bite, just at the turf. What a beauty. And I think that is curtains for season 1973 for North Melbourne. Rodney Galt. He's been sporadic today, but what he's done, he's done some brilliant things. He's kicked one goal, there's 8 points the difference, 27 minutes gone, Galt 15 meters out shoots for goal, it's a bad looking kick, one behind. But still, there's got to be 2 goals kicked by North Melbourne in the dying moments of the game with the breeze against them, it's a man sized assignment.

**KD** we've had about 28 minutes of play, Doug, and the quarters have been 29 21, 29 45, 29 53 so there's not very long to go. Well, it's been a thriller. At one point in this quarter North were four goals in front and that was about the 9 minute mark, Jack, wasn't it? Roughly the 9 minute mark. And they appeared to have a wonderful chance of making the finals for the first time in 18 years, but they let the game slip away. And uh St Kilda, St Kilda appear to have it sewn up at this point in time. Not long to do, another ball brought onto the ground, as that ball was souvenired by somebody. Rantall to put the ball into play, St. Kilda have taken the game right up to North now, they've got a lot of players up forward here. Here's a good kick out by Rantall, big chance for North to mark it it was held, beautifully held out there, and it goes to Briedis, oh, he tries to play on, here's Davis coming to the ball, caught with it, gets it clear, its picked up by Pagan, Pagan gets a short one, a chance for Manzie, Manzie dummies, gets a handpass to Stewie Trott, Trott boots it in short, it wasn't well directed, it wasn't well done, out comes David Dench, Dench gets a handpass forward, out it goes, oh North are getting into trouble as Manzie picks up the ball, drives it forward, an awkward bounce, goes luckily towards Pagan, Pagan in turn boots the ball forward, its grabbed here by Pretty of North Melbourne, Pretty sends the ball up towards uh the big fellow in uh Goodingham, but uh Trott is in there, Trott, a magnificent pass to uh, to Stevens, not to Stevens, yes, and Stevens has wisely decided to steady at about the 30 minute mark of the final quarter, with St Kilda holding a nine point advantage.

**DH** Stevens a long kick, look at it too, it's a tremendous kick by Stevens down towards Galt, Gumbleton leapt high about Galt but couldn't touch it and through for one behind, and there's a general round of applause around the St Kilda stand for what was really a good 70 meter kick by young Johnny Stevens.

**KD** a wonderful comeback by St Kilda, Doug when you remember they were four goals down at one stage in this quarter, they've had a remarkable year you know, they've lost players and they've overcome very difficult situations and full marks to them.

**DH** yeah, well, Jeans is on record in the last ten years as the best winning average of any coach. Mynott, that's the big leaper, picked up by Colling. Colling tries a hand pass out wide, to the 20<sup>th</sup> man Scott, Scott then has a shot for goal, this has finished it, no it's just off direction, and that's another

behind. But certainly the match is over. St Kilda, as Ken says, were four goals behind at the 5 minute mark of the last term and they've made a wonderful comeback, they've had the breeze in their favour but it's not been a strong one, and here's John Rantall. Rantall, not up to his brilliant seasons form today, he's played a serviceable one, but not the usual one, looking for Dench, Dench in front, almost took a good one, battling for it is Scott again, he's tackled but gets his foot to it, out wide and here it goes to Stevens. Stevens will shoot for goal and kicks it beautifully.

**KD** And that sews it up Doug, for sure.

**DH** Yes, that's the end of it, and that might put Johnny Stevens into the finals himself. Because he's come on, replacing Davies and he's looked very promising when he came on, and it's been a wonderful win. Williams, has been a giant hearted ruckman, but Mynott with his persistence has gradually taken over.

**KD** Well, full marks to St Kilda, the many problems they've overcome during the season. They haven't yet made the finals it all depends on that Hawthorn Collingwood game of course and a lot could depend on the final round, but bad luck for North, one can only feel sympathetic for them. They've had a great year, but they've been the improvers. And here's Scott getting the ball out cleverly for (*Merribick, Merribick*) lining up for goal, shoots it forward its coming up towards Galt, Galt knocks the ball down, in front of him, coming out are North Melbourne to grab it through uh young uh Briedis, but the St Kilda in the van again and once again it's Barry Breen. Barry Breen who's really come back to form with a vengeance today. No two ways about it. He was recruited from Mentone in uh 1966. Shoots for goal, right on the siren as St Kilda win it. And what was the result, a behind. And that puts paid to North's chances of making the finals. They had a great chance but they, St Kilda too strong for them in the final quarter, and there's the scoreboard, the final scores St Kilda 16 18 114 points to North Melbourne 14 12 96. A great effort by North, Doug, a great effort indeed.

**DH** I was just listening to the siren, Ken, that's the longest siren I've ever heard, I think Petey Farrell jammed his finger on it.

## 1973.11 St Kilda v Carlton

01 Sept 1973

A surprise bonus of the last ten minutes of a St Kilda Carlton game, commentated by Ken Daiken and Doug Haywood. Princes Park.

**DH** And here comes Percy Jones to shoot for goal

**KD** What a fantastic season this six foot six and a half long lean fellow's had. Carries a deceptive amount of weight too does Jones, he, but he always looks mean and lanky. Been a great player in finals series for Carlton has been Peter Jones, only about 15 meters out. Normally a very straight kick and this is no exception. And Carlton get goal number 20. 20 goals 15 to St Kilda 10 6. A good percentage booster if they needed it.

**DH** 16 minutes into the final quarter and it's amazing how comparatively easily Carlton have uh eclipsed St Kilda since quarter time. Uh they don't seem to have put a great deal of pressure on but they've done it so well. Beautiful positional play and backing up and teamwork and understanding, they look really professional. Sarau in the ruck, but uh, Carlton win it. In comes Davis. Davis always a great trier for the Saints, gets the ball out wide to Manzie. Manzie's had a comparatively quiet day, sends the ball to centre half forward, this is where St Kilda have broken down badly. Chance for them here, as Elliot gets it across to Davies, Davies, you'll be caught, breaks the tackle well. And gets a hand pass it's guided Stevens, he lines up for goal and puts it through for the Saints. Goal number 11. And uh the second one I think to uh to Stevens. It is. Goal number 2 to Stevens. Well known cricketer too. Very uh versatile sportsman but uh the Saints since quarter time haven't looked at all impressive. I don't know, one wonders whether this is a good thing that they're not going in as hard as they should when they've got a hard semi final coming up next week, I always believe that you you've got to play it hard all the time. Anyhow, away go Carlton again. They've won that ball from the ruck time and time again. Play on said the umpire as that ball didn't carry the required distance, and following the smother, Umpire Robinson's going to bounce it, pretty well in the centre again. Sarau in the ruck, with McKay. There's Doull, knocking the ball forward. It comes to Theodore of St Kilda, he breaks away, kicks it out wide, racing to the ball is Southby. Southby who has not made a mistake all day, finds the boundary line too close. A throw in about half forward. St Kilda in attack, they're trailing badly. 11 6 to Carlton 20 15.

**KD** The ruck's contesting again. Chance for Young. Breaks away beautifully onto his left foot, screws it across and just misses and through for one behind. Carlton resting Jesaulenko now, he's out on half forward flank, hands on hips. In traditional Jezza fashion, but been moved away from full forward. Jesaulenko opened the game at full forward and kicked three goals in the first quarter against Neil and it looked like the Jesaulenko of old today, he was very elusive, very fast, creative. He and Keogh combined, teamwork wise, superbly. He kicked, he's kicked 4 goals 4 Alex Jesaulenko, and he's done it the easy way (*wind on microphone*). Southby, looking for ones, Sarau's his opponent, Jones is there easily, in front of him. Chandler, tries to, ooh pushed in the back was Chandler too, he's still player battling for it, and Umpire Robinson whose had an easy match to look after, particularly since quarter time, will bounce it at centre half forward with St Kilda in attack and Peter Hall's the man who hits it straight to Manzie. Manzie downfield, Southby will spoil, which he does, out wide it goes. All St Kilda. They're a bit slow however, picked up by Doull. Doull always a good player gets his kick and Elliott butts him down. Chance now for Crosswell, in the back. And Crosswell's been one of the quietest players in the (?) line up. The bearded Brent. Great pass Brent. Nicely out to Davis who's been a promising player for Carlton today, Brent's cousin, that was good family love. Behind the pack the chance is there for Sarau. Well tackled by McKay. In front of the Carlton social stand its



Walsh, tries a short one to Keogh, Keogh the kick was over his head and it's taken over the line in very casual fashion by Geoff Sarau.

**DH** This has been a most disappointing day in which it's been pretty dull flat and uninteresting since quarter time when Carlton really burnt in the second quarter, adding 6 7. Here's a chance for the Saints, they get the ball clear it comes out of Glenn Elliott. Can he trap it? He can. He's looking for someone further afield. Stevens flying high with Jones, Davis has got it for St Kilda dummied around, looking for someone to pass the ball to but it's badly directed and it goes straight into the hands of Byrne, with a ball for Carlton. Carlton 20 15 to St Kilda 11 7 Byrnes kick a good penetrating one towards centre half forward. Barry or rather Sarau there flying for the ball, couldn't hold it, Carlton breaking away again with good handballs, it comes to Hall but intercepting was Reynolds, Reynolds gets the ball back in the centre, look, they're all Carlton players there, about a half a dozen of them. The ball's picked up by young Davis, Davis hooks it around wide and the mark was taken by Dickson. Dickson who has played a pretty effective game on the wing, he's been the springboard of a number of attacks, a 15 meter penalty being paid here against St Kilda and Dickson will swing Carlton well forward. Carlton with the breeze in this quarter. (*Wind on microphone*) And there's the kick, a good one, right up to centre half forward, McKay went high, kicked off the ground by uh Carlton, down goes a St Kilda player Judson I think it was, and yes it is. And he'll get the free kick. Judson to take the free in the last line of defence. St Kilda not at their best today, not by a long shot. Just breaking down up forward time and time again as Jones gets it this time, flanks it out wide to Walls, Walls hooks it around nicely, comes up towards Keogh, the boundary line too close and the ball will be thrown in. it's about half forward left, with Carlton in the attack and bu (sic) today, by far the more accomplished side.

**KD** It's a wonder to me that half the crowd hasn't left, but they're hanging on, which is surprising. Some leaving now, but after all it's the 22 minute mark of the last term as Sarau is taking a free kick. But it's been a very very poor performance by St. Kilda since quarter time. Out towards Kevin Hall he gets up, Young a superb leap above him. Young being by far St Kilda's best forward as a matter, he's been their only forward. Wells them (?) up at Hall, maybe he's over the mark, I can hear the yell but down goes Hall and back it goes to Young. Young gets a left footer, kicks it straight to Manzie. Manzie's opponent is Quirk, Crane took a heavy blow in the first quarter and was off after half time. Stevens is with it, with his left foot he shoots for goal - taken Mynott the big fellow once again, Brian Mynott. He's kicked 2 I think, no 1 has Brian Mynott. This certainly will be his second. Because man on mark, Vincent Waite, who's had a very quiet day on purpose for him, is standing on the ten meter line. Mynott comes in, there goes the football, right over the back. 20 goals 15 are Carlton 135 points. And even the scoreboard attendants are getting tired or disinterested. They're slow in putting it up but its 12 7 which will be 91 points 12 6s are 72, it will be 79.

**DH** Well don't go assessing St Kilda's performance today, they'd certainly need to improve 50 % at least to have any chance of beating Essendon next week.

**KD** I don't know whether they're taking it easy or not I don't believe that they should, but uh, importantly, they're not showing very good form.

**DH** I think they are certainly, Ken, because

**KD** They've had a couple of hard games mind you, and this could have taken the steam out of them a bit because it's been a hard battle for them to make the 5 and full marks to Alan Jeans their coach whose done a tremendous job with them over the years. With 13 years of coaching he's got them into the finals on 9 occasions and he's had them up about 6<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> place at the other four occasions. There's the ball won by Jones, down it goes, chance there for Perovic. He kicks it high in the air. Coming from behind, Stevens tries to mark the ball, couldn't do so. St Kilda come in pretty hard, the ball comes clear, Dickson having a ball on the wing, gets hold of it, boots it forward, St Kilda with a

chance to clear it away but they're not handling the ball surely, they're undecided there's not much teamwork or backing up and I don't think Barry Breen, whose got the ball now is relishing his new position at centre half back. He's basically a forward. There's the ball in short, and it's marked out there by Sarau. Sarau's kick is smothered. Goes out to Dickson of Carlton, Dickson, playing well in this last quarter in fact he's played well pretty well all day. Boots the ball forward, but in the way of Scott of St Kilda. Carlton well on top 20 15 to 12 7 as Scott's kick comes to centre half forward. Chance here for St Kilda they break away with it, they get a hand pass, it goes out to Manzie, he's tackled, its kicked off the ground by Moran, comes up to Mynott, Mynott couldn't quite trap it, comes to it now as its shepherded off, he's caught gets to the ball again, stacks on the mill, tries a handpass, the Umpire comes in and says that he was holding the ball and the free kick will go to Byrne of Carlton Carlton 20 15 to St Kilda 12 7. About 4 minutes to go in this final quarter.

**DH** Sarau was the high leaper above Quirk, picked up by Alan Davis out to Theodore Theodore always looking for the hand pass, flumps it this time. Peter Jones casually kicks off the ground. Chance for Peter Hall. He turns now onto his left foot, kicks with his right, however, David McKay is the target, punched away easily away from him, handpass goes out to Breen. Breen in the centre of the ground, kicks it down towards Southby. Southby and Ellis go for it, Waite punches it down, the formidable combination, Southby and Waite. Picked up by Stevens across it goes over Young's head Young takes another fine mark. Been a great player, has Young. A great find for St Kilda and I haven't got any doubt he'll appreciate the big ovals, that's Waverley and the MCC if they make it, because he's full of class, loves the open spaces, spaces and is very much the classical half forward flank. Swooping in from the flank yes, he's been a very good player. Kicks with his left foot and it's a good looking left footer but just off direction and that's one behind. Young has kicked one goal, his opponent has been Kevin Hall and I think Hall should be an automatic inclusion for Carlton in the finals because he's so good at the play on football but Hall has had his colours lowered today so it won't help his selection, but I still think he'll be there because he's up against a lot of class in Young. Here's more class in Southby, Sarau, almost marked it. Hits off the ground, and Young once again, taken away by his teammate Theodore out to Manzie, Manzie hotly pursued by Quirk, a great tackle, back it goes to Moran, Moran screws it over his shoulder, off direction it is and through for one behind. Moran has spent most of the day roving and has only been a negative rover because Keogh and Walsh have both roved particularly well, Keogh in particular.

**KD** This is where the Saints are really down on roving, Doug,

**DH** yes,

**KD** Todd off early,

**DH** Todd off early, that didn't help matters any. Another beautiful kick in by Southby almost to the centre of the ground, punched away by the Saints. In a lot of trouble there. They get the ball out clear, a chance for them to go forward again, towards centre half forward, but a lovely mark, and a beautifully timed mark taken by uh

**KD** Davis

**DH** Davis, a very promising young player. Out come the Saints, big chance, for them through Scott to break away. Scott drives the ball forward, Stevens has got it. Can Stevens put it through? He boots it in short, with a beautiful pass to Glen Elliott. And Elliott shouldn't have much trouble putting it through. He's only about 35 meters out straight in front. St Kilda have made so many positional changes it would take you about five minutes to uh to tally them all up as Elliott lines up for goal and puts it through for a very belated one for St. Kilda. That's Elliott's third goal, by the way. And uh St. Kilda's 13 goes on the board at the 30 minute mark of the final quarter. Carlton 20 15 135 have really shown their class today. They were defeated, surprisingly last week by Footscray, but John Nicholls, no doubt has uh given them a pretty good roasting during the week and this has been reflected in their

play today, because they've lifted, and uh since quarter time they've outplayed St Kilda practically everywhere. Backwards Umpire Robinson. Sarau in the ruck with uh, wins the tap there against McKay, carver Carlton typically smother, and this is where St Kilda have fallen down, they just haven't been able to get that ball away from centre and get it moving and get into attack again Sarau gets in front, but once again, Carlton breaking away, getting the ball up towards centre half forward in comes Crosswell, dummies around nicely, gets a hand pass it went back to Hall, he wasn't ready for it, but he's recovered quickly enough. He's been held, I think he may get a free kick or he could be penalised for holding the ball. Nope, the Umpire says he was in control and it goes against him. And the free kick will go Theodore's way. Theodore sends a long hand pass and out it goes to Breen who's come down from centre half back. His kick is caught by the wind, it goes out wide, much too wide and uh, will be thrown in about half forward right. St Kilda in attack, well down 87 points to 135.

**KD** They certainly are well down as McKay who doesn't go well with ruck bounces or throw ins despite his magnificent leap and the umpire says on the leg and the free will go to Carlton on half back flank. On the University side, that's the outer side of course, and it's kicked by

SIREN

**KD** Southby, and there's the siren.

**DH** and Carlton convincing winners. There's the scoreboard, Carlton 20 15 135 points to St Kilda 13 9 87 and that brings to an end the first round matches from the Princess Oval this season

## 1973.12 Footscray v Richmond

01 Sept 1973

B522 Control # 1472428

Dick Mason (alone)

Collins out of bounds, couldn't keep it in, couldn't control it with his left hand, had too much momentum going forward towards the line on the slippery ground, to be able to stop. Roberts. Bit of nothing football there. Bartlett. That'll be a ball up. Stewart. Quincy. McGhie too high! (*Crowd roars*)

Play on. Sheedy, clever, skilful, to McGhie of Richmond, Carter, got the call and did it well to Jackson. Bounces bad. Rex Hunt. Must have been for kicking in danger.

Oh, he's not uh so far out that he couldn't score with a good kick, Rex Hunt, about 50 meters right to the kick off lines, Welsh and Dempsey colliding, Merrington getting them out of trouble for the moment, Bartlett has his eye on it (*wind on microphone*) gets it on the ground quickly, puts it up in the air out on the full.

Bartlett hurt after that tumble he took after kicking the ball, holding his arm rather ruefully, massaging his forearm everybody up and nobody down. Hart to Bartlett, Bartlett high in the air, Wood caught, off the ground by Power, and the spinning top, Ian Stewart, holding the ball. (*Crowd roar*)

That's what the crowd said and Umpire Sutcliff said it was holding the man. Ian Stewart, not beyond him, the distance. (*booing, wind*)

Dempsey, Royce Hart free kick. (*crowd roar again, booing*)

*Big silence from commentator*

Its Royce Harts 2<sup>nd</sup> goal. And we're coming up to the 14 minute mark. Richmond are 9 16 70 points, a 7 point lead over Footscray who are 9 9 63. 7 points the difference, 14 minutes gone, Richmond leading. Salmon now in ruck for Footscray, giving them a little bit of a drive. Stoneham can't find a handle on it but he does, gives it back to Salmon. Salmon high in the air. Footscray a chance here by Rasmussen. There's McGhie, one of the best men on the ground today, playing against his old club and playing his 50<sup>th</sup> game too Robert McGhie. Sheedy sends out Wood takes the mark. Hart. Not that time. Collins. To Steel. Steel forward t uh Robert Rose, opens up the goals, left foot to the square. Footscray's mark. Big Gary Dempsey. One point the difference as Dempsey notches his first. (*wind on microphone.*) Footscray 10 9 69 Richmond 9 16 70. One point the difference. It's quite a battle. Wilkins did not have the ball. (*crowd*) short pass by Wilkins finds Gingell Gingell in turn finds McGhie, McGhie finds Salmon, Salmon squares it up and Steel is there! Collins giving him plenty of advice and too is Stoneham. Loses his footing on the ground, Fowler clears to Clay, Clay decides to have a bounce, luckily Bartlett's there to gather. Big Salmon, not the best hand pass you ever saw. Ooh, in danger! Steven Rae it was who put his hoot to the ball and Royce Hart for about the 4<sup>th</sup> time today kicked it further afield without a penalty being applied. Bob Rose to centre half forward for Footscray. It's a Richmond mark. Keen, he'll have to go back and play over the mark. He doesn't, he decides to handball, so he'll have to go back and play over the mark, which is what I said previously. So, he goes for the handpass again. Why Fowler wasn't covered, only Footscray will know. QUINLAN. Out short, McGhie, Stoneham, clever, Gingell to Salmon, Collins,

Rasmussen taking that kick, a long one it is too, Dempsey over the back! Yes! It's good enough! Dempsey could put Footscray in front, coming up to the 9 minute mark. He has. That's his 2<sup>nd</sup> goal within 3 and a half minutes, Footscray are 1 goals 9 75 and Richmond 9 16 0. Footscray leading by 5

points. Salmon. Loses the run of it. Play on. Wood. Up to Balme and Welsh, they all miss it. Balme's head taken off, free kick to Neil Balme. Neil Balme has mended his ways because in the three quarters he was definitely a bad lad and getting on the wrong side of Umpire Sutcliffe. And he kicks for goal and its out on the full. Casey to take the free kick. Footscray by 5 points at the moment. Rex Hunt. He doesn't waste any time. He gets it back into that scoring zone. Oh, great mark. Royce Hart's hurt on the ground, Bernie Quinlan's got the ball - he's hurt too. Umpire Sutcliff's speaking to Casey, I don't know why. Quinlan hobbling, goes for the short one, it comes off to Adrian Gallagher, and he's going to have, it must be close, to 30<sup>th</sup> kick.

Nobody can grasp that one. Rex Hunt has it stolen by Rasmussen, gets it back again, McGhie for Footscray. Nelder for Richmond. Gallagher's had 26 kicks, incidentally. Nelder's kick, Salmon can't mark, hold it McGhie, to Gallagher for number 27. Gallagher sends it long to charging Richard Clay, puts Richmond back into attack, temporarily. Wilkins clever, and they mess it up. There's Fowler, sees Sheedy out on his own, nobody within a bull's roar of Kevin Sheedy. That wasn't the greatest pass, it was meant for Bartlett, now Stoneham, had nowhere to go and no one to kick it to. Looks for Dempsey! And that's not Dempsey's mark that's Bill Nelder that's got the ball for Richmond. Salmon is behind Roberts, and Roberts holds the mark. To Bartlett, Bartlett to uhg Stewart, it hasn't been one of Stewie's great days today, he and Alan Stoneham have had a great duel in the centre and although Stewart's done many useful things, so has Stoneham, so you'd have to say it was pretty even. Which is a great uh tick of credit to young Stoneham. That's a good kick, right to the kick off lines, Richmond holding the mark! There he is. The Richmond captain he is going to put the Tigers back in front. Royce Hart. Has two. About to kick number three.

Richmond by one point. 23 minutes now gone. 10 16 76 Richmond Footscray 11 9 75. At quarter time Richmond led by 10 points, at half time Footscray led by 1 point at three quarter time it was level pegging. Free kick in the middle. Centre violation. Too many men in the centre. Diamond area. And Salmon is taking the free kick. Footscray into attack again. Who are they looking for? Dempsey, he's not in that marking exchange. Robert McGhie. Been a great defender today. Playing his 50<sup>th</sup> game of football, playing against his old team. Rex Hunt, strength, and off the ground. Richmond in attack. Balme leading in the race to the ball.

Breaks the tackle. Royce Hart. Peter Welsh. Gets his kick. Gallagher and Hunt. Ian Salmon for Footscray. The Dogs going forward again, but here's McGhie once more. He had so many kicks in the first quarter that you'd have thought he'd paid the Footscray players to stay away from him. But that's not a good kick. Bob Rose junior to Stewie McGhie, his last game for Footscray today, been a great player for them. Dempsey, over the back, Footscray, a chance!

Desperate, but it just beat him across the line.

There's the board. Richmond by 1 point. 25 minutes gone, we're playing extra time and not one quarter in this game has gone beyond 30 minutes, so it's pretty close. Nelder, for Richmond, Wood a fine mark for Fowler, Quinlan

Not his usual long one but it's to Steel

Steel has the mark, I think the range might be a bit too much for Steel, but Roberts is going back, the big tall man for Richmond, going right back to the goal line

Could be Footscray's last chance here. Steel, he's got air, it's a behind and the scores are level. Level again. At the 25 and three-quarter minute mark. Play must go straight up the centre. It's not a good kick. Jackson's in front. Richmond have the run of the ball, Footscray through Dell with Salmon, through everybody's legs.

And that will be a ball up, at centre half forward for Footscray. Salmon coming down to ruck. Richmond going forward. Dell for Footscray. The half back flanker, just wide of centre half forward. Kicks the Bulldogs forward again, looks for Dempsey. Play on. Play. Clears it away once more (*wind on microphone*). Stewie McGhie leads in the race to the ball, but it's across the line and out of bounds and the scores are level, 76 points apiece. The fans are booing, I don't know what for Umpire John Sutcliffe has hardly made a mistake. A very good exhibition of umpiring today, Rose gives it to Gallagher, Gallagher, and there's Gingell, within scoring distance, and this one could just about seal it, 27 minutes gone. Gingell lining it up 40 meters away, kicks and kicks inaccurately. Footscray lead by 1 point. 11 11 77 plays straight up the centre again, that's a better kick. Salmon is up there! He's hurt himself as he came down.

Ian Salmon who started at centre half forward where he was soundly thrashed. By McGhie his former team mate at centre half back for Richmond, has since been given a run on the ball in the last quarter he's definitely improved. Up they go. Dempsey! Out on the full. Well a goal to Footscray would have sealed it then. Clay. There's uh, to that lead once again. Salmon again. Bursts the pack open. Stoneham! Gallagher. Up in the air, looks for Dempsey again. But it's out for a throw in. Richmond uh defending desperately, Footscray clinging to a one point lead, only seconds left. Dempsey, in ruck. Bounce. And it's Clay guarding the goals again brilliantly. Another Footscray chance! Bob Rose Junior! Footscray have packed the forward line and Rose is going back taking plenty of time. Coming up to 29 minutes. Can Footscray pull off the big scoop? They beat Carlton last week, Carlton are third, Richmond lying second, if they beat them it'll be two big scalps. Rose kicks into the kick off lines

SIREN

There it is!! Footscray have won! Two big scalps in a row to the Bulldogs. Carlton one week, Richmond the next, both premierships contenders. And Footscray finish the season in a blaze of glory. 11 11 77 and Richmond 10 16 76.

Its mothballs for the Bulldogs and next Saturday Richmond play Carlton here at the Melbourne Cricket Ground in the qualifying semi-final.



## 1973.13 Essendon v Collingwood

01 Sept 1973 Windy Hill (14 72424)

B522 Control # 1472428

Thorold Merrett & Peter Ewin

*(Cacophony of crowd noise in background throughout)*

**TM** Peter, one of the great features of this game, surely must be the accurate kicking uh in these blustery conditions. Its 14 6 Essendon 15 7 Collingwood (*Crowd very noisy*) Thompson, another tackle, straight to Beck. Beck breaks the tackle, very intelligently for a young fellow, up towards McKenna, McKenna fails to mark. In there is Bissett so too is Moloney, comes back to Bissett smothered, umpire Smith will ball it up at centre half forward or just forward of centre half forward in the Collingwood forward zone. Heard, in ruck, with McKenzie, Heard wins the tap down it goes towards Smith he hooks it off the ground up towards uh the half back flank in Hickmott but he can't handle it, out of play again. 97 Collingwood 90 Essendon, 7 points the difference 9 minutes of the final quarter have elapsed.

**PE** boundary throw in on the Collingwood side and the breeze is starting to get even stronger in this final quarter favouring the end which Essendon are kicking. Don McKenzie can't get boot to ball, eventually it's done by Heard, here comes no 34 that's Moloney for the Essendon side, short dangerous kick is marked! For Collingwood ... by Beck and he is only about 20 meters out

**TM** That was foolish play by Essendon's Moloney, he should have gone to the boundary line he elected to kick it across goal, and he knows he's made the mistake. He's rubbing his head... in disappointment and Beck, of course, has the big opportunity. (*Strong wind on microphones*)

**PE** Kick number 16 coming up for this young fellow. Bangs for goal I don't know its touch and go. Well you can see a minor score. Well, he's played a great game young Beck, 16 kicks, he's kicked uh 2 goals, Thorold, is it? Two goals and the difference is 8 points. Anybody's game at Windy Hill as we approach the 10 minute mark of this final quarter. Geoff Pryor who's done a great job on Peter McKenna boots out towards the half back line on the outer side of the ground, chance for Dons through Smith to move out of defence, but he can't quite break clear, he might get a free kick, Umpire Smith right on the scene, yes he will. Well, Umpire Smith hasn't missed a thing. (*half-hearted booing in background*) He's done a great job. In turn the kick goes towards the centre, it's all Collingwood. Osborne, good mark. Plays on the flash. Runs a good – oh he's going to be penalised, he's run too far I think, no, he's not penalised, he boots in towards full forward but he's way off line it's out of bounds on the full and Don McKenzie to take the free kick. Well, what's happening here? ... I think (*Crowd noise is clear and loud*)

**TM** Umpire Smith had the whistle up to the mouth to uh to blow that free kick

**PE** what's Don McKenzie doing?

**TM** against, (*laughs*) I don't know what Don's doing (*laughing*) he's trying to tell Umpire Smith what to do

**PE** Well, Don McKenzie has the free kick as a result of Osborne kicking out on the full that's the decision and play's under way.

**TM** McKenzie back towards centre half back, it's punched away from Beck, Dunne has it now, fires it towards goal it's gone across the face and out of play in the opposite forward pocket. 98 Collingwood, 90 Essendon 8 points the difference in the Collingwood forward zone. Dunne, taps it

down, towards Wayne Richardson, he tries to hook it back with the right foot but not far enough, another behind to the Magpies. 99 plays 90. Collingwood 9 points in front, 12 minutes into the final term. Geoff Pryor to put it into play, a lovely kick, a good 75 meter one, Thompson flies, doesn't take the mark, but comes to it quickly, gets the handpass out to Max Richardson, Thompson's been magnificent this afternoon. Wayne, Max Richardson now half forward flank lines it up from a long way out, McKenna getting under it with Pryor, Heard has it, tries to right foot it through, can't get to it, McKenna's there, knocked out of the way. Umpire uh Smith is allowing play to go on, but now he'll ball it up, only 2 meters out from the Collingwood goal line. Well a bit of pushing and shoving going on there, a lot of indecisive football, Heard, taps it cleverly down, gets the Dons out of trouble Mark taken by Fletcher. Whoops, Tim Fletcher. Been one of Essendon's star players all the season, easily their most consistent and had been a good player today. Up towards centre half forward, knocked away by Cranage. Taken by Amos, Amos shrugs off an opponent.

**PE** hoof!

**TM** up towards full forward Gott getting under it, takes the mark. Gott has played extremely well at full back since moved there, half way through the second quarter. He's

**PE** Doug Gott finds Salmon on the half back flank the difference is 9 points in Collingwood's favour. Salmon in turn towards the centre wing on the outer side and Wayne Richardson will be off for a bash, he's had about 25 kicks, handballs to Wearmouth, Wearmouth about 16 meters 15 meters out from goal, bangs in towards the goals. And Heard just touches it and it's through for a minor score. Difference, 10 points. Collingwood lead. The scoreboard shows Collingwood a total of 15 10 99 15 10 100 that should be and Essendon are 14 6 a total of 90. Play out towards the centre of the, or almost the centre, the mark is taken for the Dons, in that position by Amos who came on in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter. Kicks towards the centre wing in fact, bounces free over the back, the chance is there for Emin, bit slow, eventually gets it out towards Parkes, plenty of pace Parkes, handball towards the half forward line by Parkes finds his mark in Wilson, Wilson downfield! The free kick I think may go, it will, the free kick will go downfield Umpire Smith has indicated and yes, and it will and this will be a certain goal for Essendon. Oh, it may have even gone through for a goal.

**TM** no, it was a behind Peter

**PE** Now Umpire Smith's moving back. Well, the free kick, one would think, would have to go downfield Thorold, surely.

**TM** well he must've been interfered with as he was kicking it

**PE** yep

**TM** Peter, we were looking, or I was looking downfield to see where the kick and uh who was going to mark it, between Jenkin and Perry, and he must have been, must have been infringed with when he was kicking it.

**PE** Well, Wilson, within scoring distance, hooks it in, it's going to be touch and go – it's there! It's a goal! It's a goal to the Dons kicked by Andy Wilson who's had a great game too. Kevin (*illegible*) How many kicks for young Wilson? 18 kicks and the Don's now trail by only 4 points. Anybody's game the final quarter has been in progress for 14, 14 minutes. There's the score. 100 Collingwood, 96 Essendon. And the final quarter almost half way through as Umpire Smith bounces the ball and plays under way.

**TM** Thompson taps it down yet again to Wearmouth, Wearmouth up towards centre half forward. It's taken by Andrews, he's been a great defender for Essendon, their best. Up towards the half forward line it goes, and a mark taken by Delahunty. Delahunty, came on to replace John Williams, just before three quarter time. Boots it to centre half forward, O'Callaghan misses the mark, in there is Gott, so



too is O'Callaghan again, but the umpire, Umpire Smith will bounce it at centre half forward for the Dons. They trail by 4 points. We're half way through the final term. Thompson again, cleverly over the back to uh Wearmouth, Wearmouth, breaks the tackle, comes across to uh the centre of the ground, to centre half forward with his kick. It eludes uh Osborne, it comes to Parkes, Parkes coming back into the Essendon side for the first time for three or four weeks. It's towards Andy Wilson, he was grabbed when not in possession and Wilson will take the free kick.

**PE** And in almost the identical position as his previous goal, so the Dons could hit the front. Well, they lost a lead, um in the second quarter they led by three points at quarter time, they haven't led since early in the second quarter, Wilson could put them back in front. Oh, this kick won't though, it's right across the face of goals. Thompson pushed out. Boundary throw in will come up I think, in the forward pocket for Essendon on the outer side. Collingwood lead by 4 points, at one stage in the third quarter their advantage was 30 points, but Essendon refused to give in, and have whittled down that lead to four points. Number 25 over the back was Moss, but Collingwood to break clear through Wearmouth, back towards the centre wing on the outside, and the mark is taken by Perry for Essendon. Perry, now to boot the Dons back into attack. Perry, awkward looking kick towards the half forward line, Number 29's Emin, over the back it goes, Thompson couldn't collect it, chance for Essendon, tapped forward by Schultz, number 12 who'll spin onto his right boot, now he eludes the tackle, bangs for goal, in towards the full forward line and not a good kick, and there are two Essendon players in the goal square.

**TM** That's right Peter, there were two of them, Moss and Cassin were waiting for that kick to arrive, and had it gone accurately it would have fallen into one of their arms. Jenkin, taps it down, Close is there, can't pick it up. Hooks it in again. Wait for Umpire Smith. It's picked up by Atkinson, he breaks the tackle, boots it down towards the half back flank, uh, Manassa on the field for Collingwood. Can't hook it in, Smith does for uh Essendon, back towards Delahunty, Delahunty a hand pass to Fletcher, Fletcher has the chance now.

He's tackled, loses possession of it and the ball goes close to the boundary line but its picked up by Atkinson, booted now down towards centre wing but Umpire Smith has received the signal from the boundary umpire, its' to be thrown in half back flank for Collingwood, half forward for Essendon, outer side of the ground. 17 minutes gone, 4 points the difference in Collingwood's favour.

**PE** The Dons in attack. Oh (*Paul?*) Jenkins on the ball for the first time virtually in the match, and Umpire Smith moves in to call for another bounce. Almost a capacity crowd here at Windy Hill under very cold, windy conditions. In fact, it rained for almost entirely the first half. Manassa trying to barge his way through the pack, to Amos, free kick, too high. He's done very well since he came on, uh Thorold, extremely well. In fact, he's had 8 kicks and he only came on 20 minutes into the third quarter.

**TM** That's right

**PE** There's the kick now, Doug, deep in towards the full forward line look at that big pack of players, down the ground, a chance for Schultz, he's in trouble! Handball. Ineffective. Collingwood appear through Salmon. Back towards the half back line here comes big uh Perry, handball in turn goes to Delahunty, Delahunty bangs for goal, and the Dons are wasting opportunities. Out of bounds on the full.

**TM** Peter, the wind has swung right around now, towards the school end of the ground and it's uh blowing diagonally across the ground from one back pocket to the opposite forward pocket. And it's Thompson's kick in, an enormous kick to the outer side of the ground. A chance now for Fletcher, but he can't gather it in, it's out of play, centre wing, outer side.

**PE** 18 and a half minutes of play, too

**TM** 4 points, in Collingwood's favour a hundred plays 96. Jenkin in ruck. First time during the match. Picked by Amos, he's met solidly. Kicked across ground to Parkes. Parkes has to break the uh, oh, rather Osborne breaks the tackle, gets the ball away from Parkes, drives it up towards half forward flank and the mark is taken by Pryor of Essendon. And the Don's go forward again. With a long kick by Pryor towards half back line, Bissett has it, pushed in the back! Pry-uh now Close has it breaks the tackle, can he straighten up, he breaks another tackle, and another one and is caught, will be holding the ball. He had three chances to get his kick in uh Close, each time he tried to go that extra yard and overdid it somewhat and its Cranage to take the free kick.

**PE** 19 minutes of play now in this final quarter. Collingwood clinging to a four point lead as Cranage boots out towards the half back flank but Umpire Smith is going to call a 15 meter penalty on Essendon. Scoreboard is 15 10 100 to Collingwood, the Dons 15 6 96. It's been a fantastic game all day under pretty poor conditions for football, but we've seen some great play. Now, Cranage, takes his second kick towards the centre wing (*illegible*) great mark to Parkes. Well, players have been handling this ball like it was a dry ball. To Wilson! Wilson to mark it, Cassin the opportunity, to break clear, to make it a free kick? No, boundary throw in. Cassin trying for the free kick, that was his only chance of breaking clear really, two Collingwood players were setting him, but a boundary throw in, half forward line for the Essendon side. Jenkin tap down goes Essendon's way. Cassin can't pick it up. They're all over running it, now Cassin kicks it off the ground, and it's a beautiful stab pass (*laughs*) straight to O'Callaghan. O'Callaghan half back line to boot Collingwood out of danger and they're in danger because their lead is only 4 points.

**TM** he boots it to centre half forward, Dunne getting under it, just fails to mark, it comes to Moloney but Bissett is there, he sends the hand pass out to Max Richardson, Dunne tries to force his way through the pack, so too is uh uh Atkinson. It goes up towards the forward pocket, in comes big Don McKenzie

**PE** laughs

**TM** he carts it over the line in racehorse fashion

**PE** Laughing – How was the pace?! He's only about 32, he's a youngster!

**TM** And he came from a good 20 meters away. In ruck, Perry, kicked off the ground by Wilson, straight into the arms of Wayne Richardson, and this would be Wayne Richardson's 25<sup>th</sup> kick. 27<sup>th</sup> kick, Wayne Richardson, been at his brilliant best today and would be close behind Len Thompson as best player on the ground. Wayne Richardson, at left, uh right half forward flank, we've had 21 nearly 22 minutes of play in this final term. The Magpies only lead by 4 points. A score here or a goal by Collingwood would be invaluable, it's a long kick by Richardson, right up towards the kick off line. It's over the back and it's out of play in the forward pocket, before Beck can get to it for a boundary throw in. One hundred points Collingwood 96 Essendon. 21 22 minutes of play gone in this final term.

**PE** Tap down was Heard's way, taken by Twiggy Dunne! And he's banged it through! Well, Twiggy Dunne, the opportunist has kicked four goals, he started off at full back and switched, uh mid-way through the second quarter, to centre half forward, and when he was switched for a period of about four minutes, Thorold, the Dons came right back into the game with three quick goals, by by golly, he's done well since being moved into that forward position.

**TM** yes, well at that time, Peter, it looked to be the wrong move, but looking back in retrospect, it's been a better move because Dunne has given Collingwood a winning centre half forward position and Gott has done well at full back.

**PE** well the lead is ten points again, can the Dons come back, they will, Schultz to bang them towards their half forward line, well smothered there by Essendon, Thompson can't quite break clear, Cassin off the ground, Doug Gott in turn off the ground, out towards the half backline and in pursuit the chances for the Collingwood side through Cranage from half back line, short pass towards the centre wing, should be marked, it is, by Manassa. Manassa will play on, from the centre wing to drive Collingwood towards the half forward line. That spiral torpedo kick, it's a beauty. Don McKenzie can't mark it, McKenna's there, close to the boundary line, McKenna trying for a free kick,

**TM** oh, down they go. (*laugh*) Free kick to McKenna

**PE** McKenna! And Don McKenzie and Peter McKenna have a bit of a do

**TM** McKenna! A free kick to McKenna!

**PE** and here comes some other players. It's only the, well, the first virtual flare up in this game, because Umpire Smith has done a great job. Tempers have settled, I think. Any comments, Thorold?

**TM** Well Peter before the actual uh rough stuff started, McKenna was bundled out of the way when the ball was over the boundary line. Now that is a free kick. But Umpire Smith on that occasion was just a little too far away to actually see it but it was certainly clear on our screen.

**PE** (?) Boundary throw in, Heard, taps it over the back, straight into the hands of Delahunty, it rebounds to Perry, Perry in turn to Andrews, Andrews takes a flying swipe at Max Richardson, and the free kick will go Collingwood's way.

**TM** Well, Andrews has been a fine player for Essendon this afternoon, but there was no need for that. And uh Max Richardson is deep in the forward pocket. The Magpies lead by 10 points, we've had some 24 minutes of play in this final term. Richardson's kick is a towering one. Up to the kick off line almost a mark to Dunne, coming through is McKenzie, it's on to the boot of uh - McKenna has run into trouble there. Should be a free kick for holding the ball and I think he will be.

**PE** Well, players don't want to get too excited at this stage, uh Thorold, with the finals coming up and both sides in the finals, it'd be uh well suicide to get too excited, and uh ruin the chances of playing in the finals. (*Illegible*) The half forward line but Umpire Smith is going to hold it and the free kick will go Essendon's way I would think. Big Jerker (*laughs*) certainly, oh - no it's going Collingwood's way. Players certainly firing up in the latter stages of this final quarter. Collingwood side lead by 10 points. We've been playing for 24 minutes, almost into time off, this is Leigh Adamson, not within scoring distance, he's at centre half forward, kicks a long one towards the full forward line. They're falling in all directions, behind the pack a chance for Don McKenzie to clear for Essendon, which he does. Out towards the centre wing and the outer side, it's going to bounce free Adamson can't quite pick it up and he doesn't, no, he misses the ball. Centre wing, Cassin streams into the play, here comes Manassa, Manassa swings onto his right boot, what's the pass like? Towards his captain, Wayne Richardson, but he couldn't mark it, and in fact it'll be an Essendon mark or a free kick it was there all the way. And it will be taken by uh...

**TM** Delahunty.

**PE** Delahunty towards the half forward line, big Len can't mark the ball, he's been moved into defence in this final quarter after rucking untirely (sic) right throughout the game. Half forward line for the Essendon side. Pack developing. Nothing happening. Umpire Smith calls for a bounce. Time is starting to run out for Essendon, 25 and a half minutes of play have elapsed in the final quarter and the Collingwood side lead by 10 points. The ball about 25 meters out from Essendon's goal, they need a goal here, tap down for the first time goes Essendon's way. Geared (?) away by Callaghan, out towards half back flank, Manassa and Amos in pursuit, but a boundary throw in will come up on the centre wing on the outer side.

**TM** Manassa, who came on to replace Price, early in the final quarter, playing in the centre. Tap down to Jenkin. Amos is there with Max Richardson. The ball's gone out of play again for a boundary throw in, half forward, oh not half forward flank, it's almost uh centre wing, nearer to the centre wing position. 10 points lead to Magpies, as Jenkin wins the tap down, it goes out towards the boundary line for another throw in (*jeers from the crowd*) and that's good defensive play by the big Magpie ruckman. 106 to 96. 10 points in Collingwood's favour, 26 minutes into the final term.

**PE** Jenkin, having his first turn of the ball, infringes, and the free kick will go Essendon's way, and they'll need to hurry. Taken by (?) fellow in Perry, that awkward looking style, it only covers about 30 meters but the mark is Essendon's way, taken on the half back line by Moloney, in turn it goes across towards Andrews, Andrews' kick's not covering any great deal of distance towards the half forward line, Wayne Richardson trying to break clear with the ball. Umpire Smith on the spot will have to call for a bounce pretty shortly, but the Dons may break clear – they do! Towards the half forward line, Close tries to intercept, Cranage can't get an effective boot to ball, he may get a free kick. Umpire Smith moving in and Cranage will take the free kick. Well Umpire Smith's decisions are pretty easy to predict Thorold, aren't they? They're always fair.

**TM** they certainly are. He breaks up the packs quickly. He's a very quick umpire with his decisions.

**PE** Well Cranage breaks clear, a beautiful pass too, just wide of O'Callaghan though, here come the Dons, a chance here on the half forward line for Parkes, he'll have to kick it quickly, a short pass, a beauty to Robin Close! Close should kick it from here. He's normally a delightful kick. He's only about 35 meters out, he has the breeze right over his shoulder, favouring the major opening. He's kicked, uh what, two or three Thorold?

**TM** Robin Close has kicked three

**PE** Three, a chance for number four. A chance the Dons to win the game because they trail by ten points, this needs to be a goal. Robin Close lines up. Ooh, it's not a good kick, it way off line, it's out of bounds on the full. Well, with that kick I would say Essendon's chances have gone. 28 minutes of play have elapsed and Collingwood lead 106 to Essendon 96.

**TM** Thompson has rested most of this last quarter in the back pocket. Boots it a long way, out to the outer side of the ground. Flying high was Jenkin but Bissett in there, been a quiet player in this final quarter, George Bissett, picks it up now, boots it to the centre wing, racing to it is uh Richardson, but uh its gone out of bounds on the full. Free kick taken by Moloney. Found Fletcher, centre wing, towards the half forward flank in fact, Fletcher now up towards the half forward flank, its off the side of the boot, will it go out of play? No, it bounces back for Cassin to grab it, swings around onto the right foot, boots it towards centre half forward, Noonan flies, tapped away by Cranage into the arms of Moss of Essendon. Moss looking for Parkes! Has found Parkes at centre half forward. Barry Parkes. Who suffered a fractured jaw some three or four weeks ago against North Melbourne. First game back today, he's had a relatively quiet day but he has a chance to bring Essendon back into the game. Puts it through! For a major! To Essendon. Parkes second goal Peter

**PE** time is still uh dangerous for the Dons, because 29 minutes of play exactly have elapsed. Collingwood lead by 4 points, I'd say gauging on the first three quarters, which went for about 30 –31 minutes, didn't they Kevin, (*Mumble off side*)

**PE** 31 minutes the first quarter, 31 the second 30 the third one, and this final quarter has been in progress for 29 minutes and 20 seconds, so the Dons need a goal, in about one minute they trail by 4 point, here at Windy Hill, an enormous crowd and play's under way and a chance in the centre for Essendon to move forward. Delahunty, a bit lethargic there, but handballs out to Parkes. Parkes can't get an effective kick to ball, chance here for Hickmott, Whoops! Ooh, Moloney it was, free kick to Moloney. Moloney, in the half forward line of the centre for the Dons. Well, can Essendon get up in

the dying stages? They've never looked likely to win this game, since early in the second quarter. There's the kick by Moloney, it's over Noonan's head and it's marked, for Collingwood, by Leigh Adamson, and that could be a 15 meter penalty...

**TM** no, it's not

**PE** I think Leigh was hoping it would be *(laughs)* Well time is getting dangerously short for Dons.

**TM** 30 minutes have elapsed in the final quarter. Long kick by Adamson, right over the centre. Dunne Flies high, a chance for Collingwood to come forward, for O'Callaghan, he boots it to the open spaces, McKenna is too slow by the bounce favours him, he has it now, runs into trouble! Oh, fortunate for him he hand passes it out to Atkinson, Atkinson on centre wing, looks for Osborne on centre half forward, has found that player and a 15 meter penalty to boot will come from this infringement. Osborne was flattened after he had taken that mark and it should be a 15 meter penalty, and there goes Umpire Smith. And this brings Osborne within 30 meters of goal. Well there's been very little animosity between these sides today, it's been a skilful game of football in the main only one or two infringements. Osborne lines up and he's put it through and that seals the game! Osborne, first goal for the game Collingwood's 17<sup>th</sup>. The Magpies move to 17 10, 17 10 112 Essendon 16 6 102 so that ten point lead the Magpies hang to and I think that could be Osborne's second goal. I said his first, it's his second.

**PE** well a very long final quarter. Siren will sound any moment. Chances gone for the Dons. As Collingwood move into attack again, handballed out towards the half forward line, whoops, Osborne, make it another free kick, no he won't, he's pushed out of the way and Parkes to break clear for Dons, on half back line, there was a wrestle behind the play

**TM** Siren's gone Peter

**PE** Siren's gone

*(He didn't hear it, neither did I and I went back to listen again. Crowd boo at end.)*



## 1973.14 Richmond v Carlton

Series: B522 Control No: 1472449 ABC

8 September 1973 MCG (86 386) 71 91

Peter Ewin and Thorold Merrett

*(There appears to be some confusion over the pronunciation of the name Keane in this commentary, Keane and Caine are the same Richmond player.)*

**TM** ...coming to it is Hart look at him show great courage, so too is Pinnell there, he got tripped but the ball beats them all over the line and it will be thrown in. Next to the right behind post at the Punt Road end. Richmond's goal. In ruck. Jones and Green. Jones tap down. Kicked off the ground there, eventually its picked up by Pinnell not a good kick, into the arms of Stewart, Stewart fires at goal – it's going to go through I think it's a goal to the Tigers, no, it's not. *(laughing)* Well the goal umpire looked to be in a perfect position there to award a goal but it was only one behind what a costly miss for Richmond.

**PE** fifteenth kick for Ian Stewart, he's been a great battler for the Tigers.

**TM** Difference 17 points, Peter.

**PE** Anybody's game. A game that's lacked atmosphere, really, for a final. Kick off out towards half back, plenty of Carlton players there. Michael Green thumping it down towards Sproule. Over the back's Gary Crane, the 2 number 6s. Kevin Hall in turn back to Crane. Carlton break clear. Crane toward the centre wing, half forward line almost. Jesaulenko tries to knock it forward, McKay the big fellow, Sheedy free kick. Kevin Sheedy's free kick half back line. He has really come to life since half time. Boots towards the centre wing. Wood contesting out there with Rex Hunt. Centre wing on the outer side Keogh for Carlton, out it goes to Walsh in turn, whoops, they fumble, and spoil each other but Walsh recovers well. Back towards the half forward line for Carlton. Over the back it's Michael Green with McGhie. Play on calls Umpire Robinson. Carlton to break clear through uh McKay, to Jesaulenko, Jesaulenko down towards full forward to Nicholls and McKellar. Nicholls and McKellar thumped down, oh, by McKellar straight into the arms of Davis and Davis bangs it through. Davis's third goal, kicked second in the third quarter that's his third for the match, this young fellow from Tasmania, Craig Davis, number 23 and Carlton again get on top of Richmond. The scoreboard Carlton 79 Richmond 56. The difference is back to 23 points. Well Davis read that ball like a veteran, read the play beautifully. McKellar did the right thing, he punched it away from Nicholls when Nicholls looked set to mark it, but Davis read it perfectly and had uh a shot from point blank range.

**TM** 23 points in Carlton's favour. Jones, but it was Richmond's tap down to Bartlett up towards half forward it goes, and a great mark to the big whale.

**PE** that's his first

**TM** he went with that with every bit of purpose you can imagine. He's 25 meters out directly in front. A goal here at the 7 minute mark to Richmond will certainly keep the game full of life

**PE** only his fourth kick too, Thorald, he's had a shocking day.

**TM** Peter Jones has won hands down in the ruck and around the ground. Roberts. It's going to be a major, to the Tigers. Roberts' first. In fact, the goal kickers for Richmond are Hart 5, and one each apiece to Cumming, Roberts, Balme and Bartlett. For Carlton, Nicholls three, Davis 3, Walls 2 and one apiece to Armstrong, Wells and McKay.

**PE** 79 to 62 the final quarter has been in progress for a total of 8 and a half minutes. And the enormous crowd here at the MCG have been strangely silent throughout the duration of this game to

date. Because there's been very little to cheer about really. But play's underway and they'll come to life shortly. Sproule, to boot the Tigers to half forward line again. Pinnell trying to collect it, whoops, Royce Hart in trouble, out it goes towards half back line, and Carlton clear towards the centre wing, bouncing free, members' side of the ground. Dickson against Walsh, Dickson wins out. Handball goes towards centre wing towards Walsh, Walsh for the Carlton side, towards their half forward line. It's all Richmond here, Michael Green down towards Sproule. Sproule will break clear. Drop kick down towards the half forward line, Richmond Royce Hart, and also flying there for Richmond is Rex Hunt, Hunt can't break clear, very scambly play, Doull a handball goes out towards Pinnell. Pinnell's in trouble, missing his boot to ball towards the centre wing. Walsh

**TM** Hurt himself too, knee injury

**PE** Goes to Bartlett, we'll pick that up in a moment. Bartlett short pass, a beauty towards the half forward line, the Tigers looking dangerous, it goes towards uh Stephen Rae on the ground for Richmond, boots towards full forward to Roberts, can't mark the ball, who's roving the back? Cumming a chance. Kicked through in fact by Geoff Southby, so a minor score

**TM** and Philip Pinnell is in trouble. He jarred his right knee when he uh was bumped heavily as he kicked that ball a few moments ago but he appears to be all right now

**PE** Geoff Southby to put the ball back into play. The difference is... only... 16 points. Southby, out to the outer side. McKay flies high. In there is Sproule who's been a very active player for Richmond, a handpass to Wood and Richmond go into attack up towards full forward. Balme, but Roberts has it, slams it at goal, has he put it through, one point only. Difference 15 points. There's the score 79 Richmond are 64. Can the Tigers come home? Carlton a fantastic third quarter. It was all Carlton the third quarter. Will it be all Richmond in this final quarter?

**TM** Richmond have got Whale Roberts at full forward.

**PE** they've broken down hopelessly at full forward. Play's underway again, out towards half back. David McKay. He's been reasonably quiet, how many kicks, Jack? 11 kicks. Towards the half back line for Richmond, half forward line for Carlton. Chance out there for Davis, number 23, number 11 for Richmond is Fowler. Almost towards the centre wing now, Gary Crane to move Carlton into attack towards the forward line, McGhie in front, Walls from behind, and it's going to be McGhie's mark. Well, McGhie had front position. Robert Walls virtually stole it off McGhie.

**TM** He had front position and purchase,

**PE** That's about all

**TM** had Robert McGhie. Greater purchase. Up towards half forward his kick goes. McKay, beautifully, done McKay. McKay on half back flank now for Carlton. Short kick, not a good one, kicked the ground in fact, it comes to Sproule who gets it to Rae, Rae hooks it towards half forward, all Carlton here. Byrne it is, Byrne to come out, sends a drop kick towards Dickson it's over Dickson's head. Sheedy misjudges it too, it comes to Hall and Walsh of Richmond. Walsh, doing it like a race horse, boots it towards half forward. Hunt flies. Comes to Hart, Hart gets boot to ball, up towards full forward it goes. Bartlett. Brilliantly done Bartlett. Hooks it back towards the kick off line. There's no one at home there for Carlton but Southby arrives at the psychological moment, and he races away with it, for the Blues. A long handpass, a good 30 meter one, finds Crane, Crane in turn can dummy, sends it out towards Davis, and Davis has marked, centre wing, outer side.

**PE** Davis centre wing can drive Carlton back into attack. Davis towards the half forward line, and big David McKay, little Paul Sproule didn't have much chance there, it's McKay's mark. The scoreboard shows that Carlton are 79 Richmond 64. Difference 15 points Carlton's way. Final quarter in progress for 11 and a half minutes. Plenty of time left for either side. McKay, not a good kick, towards the half

forward line over the back it goes. Caine the chance out towards McGhie, McGhie's who's been a pretty good defender from half back line transfers play over towards centre wing, over the back is wood, can he keep it in? He can't and a boundary throw in. Centre wing, slightly favouring the attacking zone for Carlton on the outer side of the MCG. Michael Green against McKay. A lot of pushing and shoving going on there, Sproule's got the chance now for Richmond to break them clear they move into attack towards the half forward line two Carlton here against one Richmond, and Royce Hart who's on one leg, and it's pretty easy to see that. He can't fly. It's taken by Doull

**TM** Doull, out to the outer half forward flank. Keogh's there, wrapped up by Crane. Crane hooks it towards centre half forward a diving attempt by Sheedy,

**PE** Caine

**TM** Caine rather, Caine comes out with the ball, drives it up towards half forward for Richmond. Doull, quick to recover. Fumbles. Gets the handpass to Jesaulenko who's a little slow, good tackle by uh Cumming, goes out towards Sproule again who gets it towards Hart, Hart towards Wood of Richmond. Wood is half forward. Drives it right up to the forward pocket. Big Robert's there with Southby but Southby's too quick, and look at him go away. Keeps it in play but eventually it's over the line and out of bounds on the half forward flank, with the scores, Carlton 79 Richmond 64.

**PE** 14 minutes of play in this final quarter. Carlton appear again, through Southby towards the centre wing, in front it's Michael Green. Behind, a great mark to David McKay. Carlton again asserting supremacy. McKay towards the half forward line, it's all Richmond, and Caine who's possibly been one of their best players, or without doubt, one of their best players, takes the mark. Caine back towards the centre of the ground. And Wayne Walsh uh expecting that kick to go a bit further and drops to Dickson of Carlton. Dickson towards the half forward line, finds Craig Davis. Davis to boot Carlton deep into attack. Thumping kick towards the full forward line, big Nick sets himself over the back a chance for McKellar. McKellar, who's had a pretty quiet day will take it across the boundary line for a throw in. 15 minutes of play. No, something going on behind the play in fact, Umpire Robinson moving in talking to Kevin Sheedy, but uh, nevertheless, it's still going to be a boundary throw in and Carlton's lead is 15 points at the 15 minute mark of this final quarter and here come the Tigers through McGhie.

**TM** McGhie, up towards half forward, to no man's land, Jones is there, he thumps it down for Doull to pursue. Doull has it, was held when not in possession and Bruce Doull will take the free kick for Carlton.

**PE** one has to feel sorry for Royce Hart, Thorald, he can't run

**TM** he certainly in a lot of trouble for Richmond. Doull's kick to half forward. McGhie, not McGhie, its Green, Green short pass out towards uh Wood is not good football. And Wood was grabbed too high, fortunately for him and will take the free kick.

**PE** play on

**TM** breaks clear. Up towards half forward it goes. Crosswell from behind

**PE** oh, manhandling

**TM** it comes to Jesaulenko, Jesaulenko looks for Keogh on the half forward flank. Keogh just misses a flying tackle by Fowler, but Keogh can run in, sends the short pass to Davis and Davis, 55 meters out, a very elusive half forward since half time, has the chance to goal for Carlton.

**PE** Richmond have both reserves on the ground. Stephen Rae and Allford. Now Davis has three about 45 meters out, a good kick, its floating in, it's going to drop just a little bit short, its thumped down to ground, no score, here's a chance for Walsh to screw it back, and he's screwed it off line, in fact I



think he hit the behind post, out of bounds on the full, free kick Richmond. Richmond have both reserves on the ground. Allford and Rae. They trail by 15 points. Well they haven't really looked likely since midway through the second quarter, the Tigers, but they're still in the race. As Kevin Sheedy will take the free kick. Nicholls, hasn't had a turn on the ball throughout the game, but has three goals on the mark. Sheedy out towards the half back flank on the member's side. Michael Green sets himself, who's waiting behind? It's all Carlton. A chance for Walls screws it back towards the full forward line, a chance for Keogh, well done Richmond, down it goes to Stewart, Stewart from the half back line, kick number 17, towards the centre wing on the members side, oh, pushed out was Royce Hart but the mark goes Carlton's way to Crosswell, in turn to Jesaulenko, Jesaulenko playing across the half back line ion this final quarter, boots deep towards full forward, Nicholls sets himself, over the back it goes, Michael Green takes it and he's in trouble, in turn it goes to Dick Clay and Clay clears the lines for Richmond.

**TM** out wide to the half back flank, outer side, Gary Crane, well ahead of Wood, takes a good chest mark. He'll be looking for Jesaulenko out at centre half forward, and Jesaulenko unattended takes the mark and steadies the Blues down. Its 17 minutes into the final term, sees Carlton leading by 15 points. Jesaulenko, been a quiet player today, boots it up towards half forward, Nicholls, tries to push it on, great strength there, no one can get clear with it, and it will be a ball up at centre half forward for Carlton. In ruck. Nicholls. Green of Richmond. Nicholls wins the tap down, Walls has it, dummies, runs into trouble his kick is smothered nicely by uh McGhie. (*Illegible*) Walsh in for Richmond? He drives it up towards the centre wing, grandstand side, getting under it is Kevin Sheedy and the mark is taken by the Richmond defender. Picked to play half forward but has played most of the game in defence. A good mark by Hart. Brilliant mark indeed. Great strength, and great purchase on the ball. He's centre wing, on the northern stand side.

**PE** Royce Hart, taking the Tigers deep into attack down towards full forward, it's all Carlton, over the back a chance for Stephen Rae, can't break clear, Umpire Robinson says holding the ball, against Stephen Rae and its Carlton's free kick to be taken by Peter Jones. Handball. Down it goes towards Vincent Waite, Waite in turn towards the centre wing outer side, Wood, number 16 for the Richmond side, pushed in the back (*ho! Laughs*) play goes on. Davis over the back for Carlton on the centre wing. Screws the ball back towards half forward. Cumming number one for the Richmond side against Walsh for Carlton, Walsh looks like winning out, he's tackled not in possession. Free kick to Walsh. Time's running out for Richmond. We've been playing in this final quarter for a total of 19 minutes and the Tigers still trail by 15 points.

**TM** Walsh with the ball, getting the 15 meter penalty on that occasion. It's a long, raking torpedo by Walsh, right up to McKay! Who really flew there. Clay comes in, gets the handpass to Stewart of Richmond, and Stewart, out to the member's side, coming to it there is Doull. He's hacked up by Keogh. Keogh, or is it Dickson? Anyway, it goes astray there for Carlton, allowing Walsh in for Richmond, he boots it to half forward, Byrne tries to trap it, Bartlett is there, he's been a Tiger. He was a tremendous player in the first quarter but he doesn't know where to go. He's run more than 10 meters and the free kick will go to Jesaulenko, who pushed him away from goal all the way. Nicholls lead, and a beautiful pass, which Nicholls drops. Play goes on. McKellar clears for Richmond, boots it back towards half forward, up goes Allford, he can't take it, it's picked up by Rae of Richmond. He's running across the half forward line now, he's hotly pressed by Crosswell, he gets it up towards Balme, and its Balme's first mark for the day.

**PE** this could make the difference only 9 points, Thorold.

**TM** I'm sorry, it's only Balme's second mark for the day

**PE** Carlton lead by 15 points and a vital shot here by Neil Balme. The difference could only be 9 points at the 20 minute mark of this final quarter. Balme lines up. And its touch and go, it's there, it's

a goal. Richmond trail now by only 9 points, and that really is unbelievable Thorold, because Carlton have been so much in control throughout this game.

**TM** I couldn't agree more, Peter. As we said earlier they've led at each change by 8, 11 and 24 as the game has progressed, and it's not until right at this very moment have they looked in danger of losing the game. Even in this final quarter, they've had much more of the play but there they haven't capitalised on their efforts.

**PE** well, Carlton lead by 9 points, 21 minutes of play in this final quarter. Michael Green the tap down play in the centre, can Richmond break clear, they will, Walsh, he's nearly best on ground this fellow. Thumping kick towards full forward. Thumped away by the Carlton defence. Where's the ground players? Taken away by Allford he's in trouble, can't get an effective kick of ball, now it'll be cleared by Doull. Back towards the centre wing on the member's side and the mark is taken again by Walsh and off he goes. Kick number 20 for Wayne Walsh towards the half forward line, Carlton in defence, strong and firm and it's going to be the mark paid to Bruce Doull. (*Booing*) Doull short passes out wide towards half back to Walsh.

**TM** and he finds Brian Walsh at half back flank. Walsh steadying down for the Blues now. We've moved on to the 21 minute mark of this final term now and the ball is on Carlton's half back line.

**PE** Walsh, towards the centre over the back it goes to Hall. Hall breaks the tackle, swings in with the foot, up towards the half forward line it goes, McKellar, stretching for it, has it tapped back to him again, kicked off the ground by McKay. It goes to Fowler, and Fowler's kick goes out on the full, Robert Walls to take it, within scoring distance. Robert Walls, on the boundary line in the forward pocket, deep in the forward pocket in fact. And his side lead by 9 points. A score here to Carlton is vital. Robert walls driving it to the kick off line, oh big fly there by McKay, just failed to take it. Keane is there, taps it out to Bartlett. Bartlett in turn back towards the centre, there's a wall of Carlton players here, Crosswell tries to come through the pack, he does, does it well, he's at half forward, fires at goal, it's going right up to the full forward line and the mark to Nicholls! Well, it's amazing. All those Richmond defenders. Not one of them put up their hand at the right time and Nicholls slips in at the last moment and marks right on the point post.

**TM** 23 minutes of play in this final quarter. Carlton lead by 9 points. At one stage they led by just over 30 points. Nicholls moves in. he's kicked three. And he has put it through. Great captain coach's effort. Big Nick. And that could be the sealer. 15 point lead now to Carlton and John Nicholls who hasn't moved from that forward pocket now has four goals. There's the score 12 13 to 10 10.

**PE** and Richmond, rather Carlton have got their high flier at full forward.

**TM** well, play is under way again. Tap down going Carlton's way; Armstrong, in fact the half back line for Richmond, they seem to have a wall of players across that half back line. Kick now to Keane or Caine rather for the Richmond side. He's had a bundle of kicks too. Caine towards the half forward line. Allford setting himself knocks it over the back, who's roving the pack. Awkward bounce for Cumming, Wood can't break clear. In turn Royce Hart who can't even move, he's on one leg, out it goes, towards Bartlett, Bartlett lines up from about 40 meters out, he kicks way off line, out of bounds on the full. Time is running out for Richmond as we approach this time off period in this final quarter. Geoff Southby to take this kick. Carlton's lead 15 points.

**PE** yes, 15 point lead at the 23 minute mark of this final quarter. Taken off the hands of the pack by Stewart. He's been a good player for uh Richmond. Looking for Roberts, and Roberts just fails to take the mark, he boots it off the ground back to uh Sproule, Sproule is grabbed and slung, after he got rid of it, I thought. It's back to Roberts who tries to hook it on but Carlton are there, it's back to uh Rae now he hooks it back with the right foot, right to the kick off line, up goes uh Balme, can't take it but uh in there is Byrne for Carlton. He drives it wide, and too wide in fact, it's a free kick to Richmond's

Wood on the half forward flank position. Outer side. Carlton lead by 15 points. 25 minutes of the quarter gone.

**TM** Wood from the half forward line, not a long kick towards the full forward line though, Bartlett one handed, Peter Jones on the ground, plenty of Richmond players there who can break clear, nobody, a ball up. 25 and a half minutes of play in this final quarter of the qualifying semi-final and it looks like Carlton. Jones against Roberts, tap down towards Hart, he's tackled pretty high. That's Umpire Robinson's interpretation. You can see it. And Royce Hart who has played, well, one can only say a tremendously courageous game. He's kicked five goals on one leg and he's lining up for number 6. Distance will be no problems. 40 meters out, directly in front. Can he reduce the deficit back to 9 points? Royce Hart. Drop punt. It's there I think. The goal umpire hasn't moved very much. But it's just off line. 14 point deficit Richmond face and time is just about run off – as Southby runs off himself.

**PE** handpass across to Waite back to Southby. Southby's in trouble, breaks the tackle, kicks it now over centre line, up towards big Nick, big Nick has it bounce over him into the hands of McKellar. McKellar Richmond's back pocket player now has time to steady. Boots it back to the half forward line for the Tigers. Jesaulenko up. Can't take it. Off the hands to Hart. Hart breaks the tackle. Has to kick quickly. Right into the arms of Doull and Doull has the chance to put Carlton back into attack now. He looks for Robert Wall who slipped his opponent. Wall is miles away from his man and boots it up towards Kevin Hall and there's the loose man going for Carlton. Hall has it now for Carlton, he kicks it right into the kick off line. Big fly by Davis. It comes to ground for Keane or Caine to get to it and he boots it as it bounces over the line and it will be thrown in, forward pocket for Carlton at this scoreboard end of the ground. 26 and a half minutes of play gone and the Blues lead by 14 points.

**TM** and Carlton also into attack. Nicholls against Michael Green. Over the back a chance for Sheedy, in turn it's taken for Carlton by Walsh, and another boundary throw in. Well, time is definitely gone for Richmond. 28 minutes now in this final quarter. Carlton's lead 14 points. Green's tap down. Chance for Richmond free kick. It will be a ball up. At 25 to 30 meters out from Carlton's goal. Umpire Robinson who's done a very good job this afternoon. Goes to David McKay, short kick by McKay towards the boundary line again, that suits Carlton, taken by Davis, Davis a snap shot for goal right across the face, is it a mark? It's not. It's out of bounds on the full. And Dick Clay to take the free kick.

**PE** And I would say a 15 meter penalty against Robert walls

**TM** it doesn't pay to argue with central umpires or boundary umpires and that's what Robert Wall was doing. Dick Clay boots it straight downfield towards the centre, knocked away by Doull, in turn by Allford. Oh, it eludes Armstrong, oh, Crosswell it was, allows Rae in for Richmond, he boots it across to centre half forward, the big fellow from behind. But in front was Southby, a great mark in front of big Roberts. I thought Roberts would use his strength there to ease Southby out but Southby was able to hold his ground and take the relieving mark for Carlton. Boots it to the northern stand side, there's only 14 points the difference it's on Richmond's half forward line. Doull has it, a long hand pass to Dickson, Dickson in turn to Armstrong, and Armstrong looks for Nicholls, short low pass which Davis intercepts and the Blues go forward again. Walls alone. Short pass coming to him. And a goal from Walls, a beautiful goal. Slamming kick. And that seals the game for Carlton. Robert Walls, third goal, and there he is in your picture. A match winning footballer is Robert Walls on his day. He's had a very tough opponent in Robbie McGhie today but walls third goal goes up and Carlton's 13<sup>th</sup>. The Blues 13 13 91 Richmond 10 11 71. 20 points the difference, 29 minutes of play gone.

**PE** in fact Thorold, approaching the 30 minute mark of this quarter, so Carlton have won this qualifying final. Taken by Armstrong, kick high in the air out towards the centre wing. In turn is

almost marked by Dickson, Dickson in the centre wing members side, short pass to the centre wing to Kevin Hall who's done very well since he came on the ground replacing injured Chandler. Play still on the centre wing in fact. Handball goes out towards uh Wayne Walsh, Walsh with a left footer, back towards the Richmond side, whoops, tumble turn there by uh Crosswell – there's the siren!!

## 1973.15 Collingwood v Carlton

15 Sept 1973 VFL Park, Waverley

B522 Control # 1472418

Thorold Merrett and Peter Ewin

**PE** can't break clear, Carlton, Collingwood's defence through Salmon, handball goes to Cranage, in turn towards the half forward line for Collingwood's side big uh oh, it's all Carlton there, Brian Quirk can't take the ball its price, handball goes out towards the half forward line, chance for Collingwood to break clear, Osborne can't quite uh get enough acceleration up but it goes to Wearmouth. Wearmouth's in trouble, he's caught! Handball goes in the direction of Jenkin, handball intercepts, in towards an open goal, can't get boot to it, Wayne Richardson, 120 meters out, back it goes to Wearmouth, he can't break clear, and the side bump there by Austin but it comes back to Wearmouth, short pass to Bissett, and little Georgie whose had 17 kicks to date, is within point blank range. Collingwood are 9 14, Carlton 9 12. The lead has changed 6 times in this game, scores have been level on three occasions, and this could be a very vital shot by the former Footscray rover, Georgie Bissett. One of the fans - oh, a shocking kick, Collingwood's lead, 3 points, 9 15, Carlton 9 12.

**TM** Well Peter, as you said it, it was a vital kick from Bissett and uh Collingwood's chances not so bright as they lead by 3 points. A goal there would have been invaluable.

**PE** Southby boots it in, over the back to Thompson it goes, he gets the handpass in to Dean, Dean a long one to Bissett. Bissett's at half forward, has a shot he doesn't miss this time! And he's put it through! Bissett's third, Thorold! Bissett's third, and the Magpies have a lead of 9 points. 10 15 to 9 12. And listen to that crowd roar. A record crowd here at VFL park Waverley, over 60 000 people. Collingwood 10 15 75 Carlton 9 12 66. 2 minutes of play in the final quarter. And Umpire Robinson the man in control and there is the official attendance, 60 thousand people and 72 and that is a VFL Park record.

**TM** and Thompson wins the tap down, but it's taken by Armstrong. Armstrong now boots it up towards the half forward line, Adamson, brilliantly marked!

**PE** He's played a great game, sends the hand pass to Cranage, Cranage looking for his centre wing player in Dean. Dean flies and takes it. Probably his 8th or 9th mark.

**TM** tenth

**PE** Tenth mark to Robert Dean, who's been a star on the wing for Collingwood, he's marked kick outs he's marked balls in general play. He looks for Max Richardson. Richardson now, opposed by Hall and it will be a boundary throw in if it goes off Richardson's hands... and the Collingwood crowd thought that was in the back to Richardson. However, it wasn't. Big Jenkin and Jones. Jones wins the tap down. Price is there, so too is uh, oh, Quirk it was, he came on to replace Jesaulenko in the 2nd quarter. It's Armstrong who has it now, Armstrong's kick! And he's disgusted with his effort. He doesn't do that very often young Barry Armstrong, he's a beautiful deliverer of the ball but on that time he put it out on the full. Captain Wayne Richardson now drives it up towards half forward, Jenkin has the jump! And the spring on Jones. It comes to Max Richardson, he's been quiet since quarter time, he boots it up towards centre half forward, McKenna flies, it uh a chance for Wearmouth, Wearmouth has it, it goes back to McKenna. McKenna dummies, has the ball now, fires at goal, and he's put it through! For a major to the Magpies! (*Greatly excited!*)

**PE** That's his second kick, only his second kick, Thorold, and his second goal! And that could be a valuable one! Collingwood 11 15 85 Carlton 9 12 66 and Collingwood now with a lead of 15 points. That could be a very valuable lead Thorold.

**TM** Peter, I sense that Carlton have stopped to a walk. I know it's early in the final quarter, but the Carlton players are lethargic, they're uh not as precise with their delivery of the ball as they were in the first three quarters, there's only 4 minutes gone but the Magpies have had the play at their will in the final term so far.

*(There seems to be a radio calling a game in the background)*

**PE** Indeed they have. Their lead is 15 points. Play in the centre, Walsh, will break clear, he's caught! Play on. High in the air by Armstrong, kick number 22. The big leap will come from Max Richardson, tapped down to ground towards Dickson, he can't break clear, Kevin Hall the chance for the Carlton side, to boot them deep into attack, they trail by 15 points. Nicholls has only had 2 kicks, he's been unsighted. Out it goes to Robert Walls, he'll bang for goal, oh, well collected by O'Callaghan and a boundary throw in. The Magpies at quarter time led by 19 points, trailed by 8 points at half time, and their lead at three quarter time was 2 points, their lead is now 15 points 81 to 66 and we've had 5 minutes of play in this final quarter. Collingwood in defence taken by McKay, screw shot! And I think he's put it through! Huh! Miraculous goal to David McKay and that's his 2nd and Collingwood's lead is now 9 points. 81 to 72.

**TM** Well the Collingwood ruck, Thompson it was on that occasion should have tried to force that ball out of bounds, from that forward pocket but the ball was hooked back into play allowing McKay to get his hands on the ball and of course, McKay never misses many, and he's kicked two goals today, McKay. Well its only 11 points the difference, 9 points the difference, taken by Walsh, up towards half forward. Walls tries to mark it, doesn't but he gets the free kick! Walls got the free kick there and he'll take it at centre half forward. Robert Walls, who's been well uh, contained, I would say is the right word, by Adamson this afternoon. Walls has had no great influence on the game, but he sends the hand pass to Armstrong, Armstrong's in trouble, but he hooks it up towards goal, its offline and another behind to the Blues. Well the difference is 8 points now, we've played six minutes ten seconds, into the, twenty seconds, into the uh, final term and the difference is 8 points. It could be a grand finish here at VFL Park.

**PE** 81 to 73. Clifton. Short kick in fact out towards half back, looking for Dean. And all Dean could do was thump it away, which he did do. And the boundary throw in. Half back flank for Collingwood, half forward for Carlton. Approaching the seven minute mark of the final quarter, anybody's game. Second semi-final. Thompson, tap down, Dean trying to break clear. Might get a free kick? And will. He's been a fantastic player. The Collingwood supporters haven't been very happy with Umpire Ian Robinson, as you could tell by those ironical jeers when Dean received the free kick. Robert Dean. He's had about 10 marks and about 15 kicks. One of Collingwood's best. Towards the centre wing, looking for Big Jerker! Whoops, down it goes to Barry Price. Price a long handball, a beauty to Osborne, Osborne towards the half forward line, it's bouncing free, Kevin Hall, number 3 for the Carlton side, Max Richardson in pursuit, Hall's got plenty of pace, boots Carlton out of danger but he's put it pretty close to boundary line, it's marked in turn by Walsh. Walsh, centre wing but slightly on the defensive side of the centre for Carlton, the Blues trail 81 Collingwood 73 to Carlton towards half forward for the Carlton side, off hands to Brian Quirk, Quirk in turn, a chance for Davis! Couldn't mark it, Cranage in turn, Collingwood's half back line has been pretty firm. Cranage boots towards the centre wing. Dean against uh Quirk, down the ground, Doull to break clear, short kick by Doull's a beauty, down towards Armstrong. Can Armstrong collect it? He's in trouble, gets out of it beautifully, Armstrong in towards full forward, plenty of Collingwood players there, over the back it goes. Can Clifton recover? Davis has 3 goals but he can't break clear. And it's out of bounds for a boundary throw in. 8 minutes of play in the final quarter. Collingwood clinging to an 8 point lead.

**TM** That was well done, Geoff Clifton, as the boundary throw in comes now. Jenkin uh Thompson over the back of Nicholls, comes to Austin, Austin runs into trouble, it's out of bounds. Forward pocket for Carlton, they trail by 8 points. 73 plays 81. We've had 8 minutes 20 seconds in the final term. Thompson gets tap down, but it goes to Quirk. Quirk kicks across ground, Crane is there, can't mark it, it comes to Walsh, Walsh, has time to steady, dummies around, hooks it back towards the



goal line, the big pack flies, and it's through for one behind. Through for another behind for the Blues, the difference now is 7 points. *(I think the radio in the background is themselves, with a delay.)* 10 14 74 Carlton to 11 15 81 Collingwood. Geoff Clifton to put the ball into play.

**PE** approaching the 9 minute mark of this final quarter. As we have mentioned, a record crowd here at Waverley, over over 60 000 people, a fantastic day for football and what a match they're seeing. Thompson free kick surely, Jones takes the mark, and he's been paid it. Well

**TM** well, they've pushed and shoved Thompson everywhere today and he's got nothing

**PE** Couldn't agree more. Jones boots towards full forward and it's Carlton's mark. I think it's Davis again, is it? No, it's David McKay. Well, this should make the difference only one point. Difference is seven points, McKay has kicked 3 goals and this should be his 4th point blank range lines up, bangs for goal and he tries to steer it and he's missed! He has. Well, that's the penalty for trying to steer a goal, Thorold, instead of trying to kick it.

**TM** Yes Peter, David McKay incidentally has only got 2 goals, as I see it, but I could be wrong. Walls has got two, um and the golden opportunity gone missing, gone begging for Carlton,

**PE** so Collingwood's lead 6 points, 81 to 75. This could be a draw. Out to Thompson again! Jones again, he's interfered again with Thompson. Well, Len Thompson doesn't know what to do. And Jones takes the mark. Jones in towards full forward once more, thumped away by the Collingwood defence for a boundary throw in

**TM** while we've got a moment Peter, you were right, McKay has got three goals, Walls has only got one.

**PE** Boundary throw in Carlton's attacking zone, Cranage, short kick, it's dangerous, out towards centre half forward, whoops, Crane can't collect it, here come Collingwood! Osborne, plenty of pace this fellow he's off at a run towards the centre wing breaks free of Gary Crane, Osborne has got about 150 yards to play with, short pass towards Jerker. Jerker marks, plays on, long thumping kick by Jenkin, down toward full forward, it's all Carlton, Vincent Waite,

**TM** Collingwood lead by 6 points. Waite, in turn, finds his mark in Jones. Jones on half back position now. Salmon on the mark or was it Dean? Dean I think, Jones, who's played a fantastic game for Carlton today. Two Carlton players here, Quirk's the one to take the mark, Doull was beside him. Quirk plays on. Thumping kick right down to their full forward zone. Mc oh and a great mark by Clifton, a great mark by Clifton. Clifton plays on looking for Gott out wide has found that player in the back pocket, Gott eludes Nicholls, he's had a great day on Nicholls, he's beaten him pointless, up towards full forward it goes, centre half forward it goes, but over Osborne's head to be marked by Crosswell. Crosswell plays on. Up goes Adamson, knocks it away, Walls is there for Carlton, coming in was Atkinson, he thumps it out of bounds. Boundary throw in half forward for Carlton, the difference is only 6 points in Collingwood's favour, we've played 12 minutes in the final term.

**PE** boundary throw in half forward line for the Carlton side tapped down Collingwood's way taken by Salmon, hand balled to Cranage, from the half back line, oh it's Wearmouth, in fact, now it goes to Cranage, Cranage from the centre can Collingwood score out of this forward thrust? Towards the half forward line, a bad kick, goes straight to Philip Pinnell. He misses an easy mark. What's happening here? Byrne. Whistle on play? In fact, Beck's on the ground for Collingwood, both reserves on the ground for both sides.

**TM** and Big Jerker was on his own at centre half forward and Cranage couldn't see him, couldn't find him.

**PE** well here comes Jerker now, Jenkin. Thumped down Collingwood's way. Byrne taps it out towards Armstrong. Comes back to Byrne. In turn now towards the centre of the ground the race is on now Atkinson's got plenty of pace, he'll beat Crane for pace, can he get around Crane? I think he can. Onto his right boot, towards the half forward line, for Collingwood, Osborne against Crosswell who's roving the pack? Max Richardson! For the Collingwood side, he's got a paddock to play in, he'll bang for goal, and he's off line! Disastrous to be offline for Collingwood, it's out of bounds. And even points are valuable at this stage with Collingwood leading by one straight goal, 11 15 Carlton 10 15

**TM** Peter, Carlton are desperate, they're out on their feet. Can Collingwood get up? A short distance kick from uh Waite, finds Jones. Jones back to Waite. Waite fumbles uh momentarily, gets it towards Crosswell, Crosswell is dispossessed. Umpire Robinson allows it to go on, Jerker gets the hand pass in to, to uh, Beck who is on the ground for Collingwood. Beck has it in the forward pocket, hooks it back towards full forward, Bissett is there but it's almost a great mark to uh Byrne. Byrne gets his boot to ball and drives it out of play on the forward pocket, back pocket for Carlton, forward pocket for Collingwood, and uh it's to be thrown in. In ruck is Heard, with Jones. Heard in front, Heard gets the tap down but it goes straight to Quirk. Quirk high into the air now, towards Thompson all alone up flies big Austin, Austin with him Thompson, Thompson stands his ground, and takes the mark for Collingwood. I repeat, Carlton are out on their feet. They're playing with courage alone. 14 minutes of play in this final quarter. Thompson down towards Big Jerker, over the back was Vincent Waite, down to ground it goes, Osborne trying to barge his way through, well done. Out it goes to Georgie Bissett, handballed out to Wearmouth, chance for a score here for Collingwood, short pass McKenna! McKenna's marked!

**PE** Well, he's off an absolutely impossible angle. Peter McKenna has had two kicks for the day, he's kicked two goals.

**TM** he's had three kicks, Peter

**PE** sorry. Two goals one?

**TM** two goals, and one was smothered off his boot

**PE** well, a goal here invaluable, it's an impossible angle. Even a point's valuable. What's this, oh, he's missed. Well, I think, as I mentioned Thorold, even a point at this stage would have been invaluable. But Peter McKenna has put it out of bounds. So, the scoreboard remains unchanged. 81 Collingwood 75 Carlton, approaching the 15 minute mark of this final quarter.

**TM** Vin Waite, looking for Dickson, oh not Dickson, it was Collingwood's uh Wearmouth had the chance there but it was uh Walsh who came back to it, got his boot to it and it's out of play. Walsh was the player I couldn't pick up before who had that chance. And on the second attempt he got it. Out of bounds forward flank for uh Collingwood on the member's side. Thompson over the back, but Jones gets the tap down, in there was Dean, Dean was held, it comes back to Collingwood's uh Adamson, he was held also, and uh, (*booing or mooing in the background?*) a bit of nondescript football there, and Umpire Robinson will ball it up again. Jones taps it down, but it goes straight to Osborne. Osborne thumps it up towards half forward, a chance now for Southby to come through. Big Jenkin is there. So too is McKenna. McKenna should of got the free kick there, will he get it? No, he won't. He plays it on, has the chance, he was bundled over and misses, Wearmouth in, Wearmouth up a handpass to Heard, Goal! A goal to Collingwood and that was gold to Peter McKenna because he fought hard for the ball and got it to Wearmouth who then in turn got it to Heard and it was good football by McKenna. Look at wee Georgie Bissett patting McKenna on the back, it was all McKenna's goal.

**PE** Couldn't agree more Thorold, fantastic endeavour by McKenna, he would not give up He's had a bad day, he's had a very bad day, but he's tried his heart out and that was a perfect example. He wouldn't give up then, the kept on burrowing in and the result a goal to Collingwood and the Magpies



lead by 2 goals. 12 15 Carlton 10 15. Almost 17 minutes of play in this final quarter. Thompson the ruck, tapped down out towards the half forward line, still on the centre diamond, Walsh to boot Carlton towards their half forward line towards Robert Walls, can't mark the ball, chance on the ground for Austin on the ground, both reserves on for both sides. A smother developing and Umpire Robinson calling for a bounce.

**TM** I repeat Carlton, I repeat Peter, Carlton are playing on courage alone. They're desperate, they're not taking time with their kicks and let's see what they can do here. Can they come back?

**PE** Walls is dispossessed. Can't break clear, goes to Austin. Short kick to Carlton and John Nicholls. Well Nicholls has had how many kicks, statistician Kevin Christie, about 3 or 4 kicks at the most.

(third kick)

**PE** Third kick coming up so he's only had 2 to date. So his third kick coming up, he's kicked one goal, this will be a very valuable shot. Can the Carlton captain coach put it through? He lines up he steers it and he's put it through. So Collingwood's lead again is only one goal. 18 minutes of play almost in this final quarter. Collingwood 2 15 Carlton 11 15. Well which way will this game go? Anybody's guess at the moment and this record crowd is seeing a magnificent exhibition of football and they couldn't hope for a better day.

**TM** It's been a great tussle and it just proves what a valuable player Nicholls is. You can't leave him alone for one second and that is the only time that he has got away from Gott and it was fatal. Max Richardson thumps it towards half forward and a chance here for Bissett, look at him come through the pack! He has the chance now, he's held, he kicks it on. Great play Bissett. And Carlton, through Pinnell, get the ball out to Doull. Doull now threads it wide out towards Armstrong. Armstrong is on his own. He can go for a big run. He sends a short pass in towards Davis and Davis has accepted the mark. Davis half forward, he's tackled, boots it up to where Nicholls has taken yet another mark. Nicholls has taken the mark and desperate effort by Gott to punch it away. He got his fist to it, but it wasn't enough for Nicholls to grab it on the second attempt. And Nicholls, fifteen meters out, directly in front. Can he make it level pegging again? Its six points the difference in Collingwood's favour, John Nicholls shouldn't miss from point blank range.

**PE** That's his third! Scores are level again, 12 15 Collingwood 12 15 Carlton. 19 minutes 10 seconds of play final quarter, and what a game. Scores are level and that's, in fact, the fourth time the scores have been level in the match and the scores have changed on six occasions. It's back to the centre.

**TM** well Peter I said Carlton had stopped to a walk, they've found something in typical Carlton fashion.

**PE** that's right, 87 points apiece. Thompson infringed in the ruck. Taps it forward. Can Collingwood rebound? Chance in the centre for Atkinson, he's got plenty of pace, this fellow, he's off for a run, short kick, towards half forward, chance for Wayne Richardson, screws in towards full forward, the big Heard, but it's all Carlton. Vincent Waite no its Southby Southby will go for the hand ball this could be dangerous out towards back pocket in turn it goes to Byrne. Byrne oh a good bounce two Collingwood players about to pounce well done Wearmouth, Wearmouth will line up, go for the handball, oh it's a dangerous one to Big Jerker. Jerker's in trouble can't break clear, back to Wearmouth, Wearmouth in trouble, oh whistle in play.

**TM** it's a throw. Yes, Big Jerker threw the ball to Wearmouth (*booing in the background*) That was a good decision by Umpire Robinson. He picked that - all the way.

**PE** Southby's free kick. Why Wearmouth didn't have a shot for goal I'll never know. Southby now. Drives it out wide on the outer side. Thompson from behind. Can't mark it, it goes over to Austin, Carlton, up towards Walls. Walls almost takes the mark it goes to Cranage or Adamson, he was

dumped, it comes back to uh to Doull. Doull in turn to Austin again or Armstrong, it was, up towards Walsh and Walsh has marked. Walsh, 25 meters out has taken the mark that could put Carlton in front. It should put them in front. Whether it be one point or one goal, we'll wait on his kick. His seventh mark.

**TM** Brian Walsh for Carlton. Lines it up. And it's going to go through, for a major for the Blues! That's Walsh's third goal and the Blues hit the front by one clear goal. 93 plays 87 13 15 93 Carlton 12 15 87 Collingwood.

**PE** 21 and a half minutes of play in this final quarter. Carlton now lead by 6 points. 93 to 87 can Collingwood come back?

**TM** well the lead has now changed 7 times, and Umpire Robinson moves in.

**PE** 21 minutes 40 seconds have elapsed in this final term.

**TM** about ten minutes remaining. Tapped down. McKay caught with the ball, Jones in turn. Carlton now racing home, towards their half forward line. Chance for Carlton through O'Callaghan, he can't break clear, it comes out to Quirk, Quirk for Carlton, bangs towards full forward, Nicholls against Gott, over the back, it'll be a point, yes, it's a point and that could be invaluable. 13 16 now Carlton 12 15 Collingwood 94 to 87. Carlton now lead by 7 points. 22 and a half minutes of play in the final quarter.

*(Background radio/audio commentary very distracting. annoying the billyo out of me.)*

**TM** and it's at centre half back, centre half forward for Carlton, Davis has it, tries to hook the kick in its O'Callaghan in the way for Collingwood, oh brilliantly done O'Callaghan, boots it up towards the centre. Jerker Jenkins there but Jones knocks it away. It's a chance now for Carlton to come in through Austin. He's bumped out of the way, Doull has it, and left foots it up towards full forward. Gott in the way. It's to ground. A chance for Hall to burst through, he snaps at goal and he's put it through, for a major to Carlton and they lead by 13 points. And the Blues have come from desperation. They were desperate only five or ten minutes ago and they've found something and from being 13 points down they're now 13 points in front.

**PE** 14 16 to 12 15 100 plays 87 and this record crowd are going absolutely wild. Well 23 and a half minutes of play now in this final quarter and Collingwood in trouble. in the centre Max Richardson just gave the tap down to Austin, it's all Carlton now, Austin out towards the half forward line, bouncing in open territory, centre wing now, outer side, Barry Crane to boot Carlton into attack. Number 24 for Collingwood, Salmon, centre wing outer side Collingwood's free kick, Darryl Salmon, centre wing, outer side, the Magpies had a lead of 15 points at one stage in this final quarter, and now they trail by 13. Salmon, toward the half forward line towards Osborne, couldn't quite hold it. It's all Carlton, Austin, booting them back towards the half forward line, close to the boundary line, thumped away by Gary Crane, was it out on the full? It was. Collingwood's free kick.

**TM** Time is running out for the Magpies, 24 minutes 20 seconds have elapsed and the Blues lead by 13 points.

**PE** Salmon, handballs to Thompson, Thompson in turn thumps it down towards the half forward line, Jenkins sets himself, and has marked. Collingwood you'll have to hurry up. Jerker realises that, short pass towards half forward and is marked for Collingwood by Osborne. Osborne within scoring distance and about 50 meters out. Almost directly in front. Osborne, he's going to try and get round the man on the mark, and he does, into an open goal, he tries to steer it through but he's kicked it out of bounds on the full. Carlton supporters elated. Collingwood supporters die again. Its 14 16 to 12 15 Carlton lead by 13 points. We're into time off in this final quarter.

**TM** Geoff Southby boots it to the half back flank Jenkin flies, but can't take it, Quirk roves beautifully, gets the ball down towards the centre of the ground, coming into it is O'Callaghan who's played a grand game for Collingwood. He gets it up to Atkinson, Atkinson hooks it in, has plenty of time to steady, boots it up towards the tall timber, from behind, it's in front though, its Southby or is it, it is Southby

**PE** you don't need to know Thorold, do you

**TM** it is Southby, the man in front all day, and he's given Peter McKenna a football lesson. Southby boots it wide to the halfback flank, Richardson flies, there with him is Atkinson but it comes to Doull. Doull threads it out, Big Jerker Jenkin is there for Collingwood should have gone to meet the ball, didn't. Tries to break clear, taps it across, could have been penalised for throwing the ball, its back to Big Jerker, who's penalised for holding the ball. And the free kick will go to David McKay. Carlton, lead by 13 points 26 minutes 10 seconds into the final term. It's been a great comeback by the Blues. The Magpies led by 15 points only 10 minutes ago.

**PE** Kick towards the half forward line for Carlton's side, knocked forward, a chance for Wearmouth, Wearmouth in troubles, trying to get back onto his right boot, he'll go for a run which he normally does, and Collingwood time is running out, Wearmouth's still going, almost lost it, now towards the half forward line for the Collingwood side, swoop, the big leap from behind by Doug Gott, goes to Byrne, hand balled out to Jones, in turn to Crosswell, Crosswell from the half back line, Carlton playing now towards the centre wing and a great mark is taken for the Carlton side by Austin, whose done pretty well since he came on in the third quarter. Well the game I think is over. 27 minutes of play. Collingwood trail by 13 points, Austin boots Carlton towards their half forward line, players taking themselves, thumped to ground, taken by Jenkin, handball goes to Wearmouth, Wearmouth in turn a long handball towards the centre, taken by Cranage, Cranage a long kick down towards the full forward line. McKenna! Couldn't quite mark it. Down to ground, Doug Gott got the chance, can't (?) it - Southby! Oh, what a fantastic player, this fellow. Southby, towards the half forward line, Davis trying to break clear, can't do so, no, he can. This young fellow from Tasmania is a real star of the future, Craig Davis has 3 goals. Bangs to full forward, this will seal it. Walsh, it's a goal! Miraculous goal by Craig Davis. That was an absolutely unbelievable one by Davis, and the games over, Davis's 4th. And Collingwood are 12 15 87 Carlton are 15 16 106 28 minutes of play in this final quarter. And its Carlton's second semi-final, and Carlton to the grand final in two weeks' time.

**TM** that's right, Peter, the time, the full time hasn't elapsed, but that's the result. The result's there, Carlton couldn't be beaten now. And early in the final quarter it looked like Carlton had stopped to a walk and now Carlton have come back and Collingwood have stopped to a walk. Jones again, stops Jenkin from getting it. It goes to Doull who's been quiet all day but has really come into it in the last part of this quarter. Gets it to Dickson. Dickson onto the left foot up towards the full forward zone now and almost a mark to Clifton. He's backed up by O'Callaghan, who's been one of Collingwood's best players, who in turn gets it up towards young Beck, who came onto the ground only a few minutes ago. He looks for his half forward in Osborne but its Pinnell who's equal to the task and he gets boot to ball and it's out of play for a boundary throw in.

**TM** and that was good defensive football by Philip Pinnell. Carlton lead by some 19 points now.

**PE** Boundary throw in centre wing on the outer side, siren only about 2 minutes away at the most. And Carlton doing all the attacking work now. Back towards their half forward line, behind, the leap by Cullen, Robert Walls the opportunity, towards the half forward line, here comes big Nick, oh, he missed it. Thompson and Nicholls the two big fellows contesting and a boundary throw in, coming up. Well as we mentioned, a record crowd here at Waverley, in excess of 60 000 people, it's going to be a long drive home, but what a game of football it's been. Carlton 106 points, Collingwood 87 a chance for another score for Carlton. Minor score kicked by Walsh

**TM** Walsh. That's the biggest score of the game. Peter, the biggest lead of the game so far, a 20 point lead now. And its Quirk who has the chance to hook it in up towards full forward but Salmon coming in for Collingwood takes the mark in the last line of defence. A great come back by the Blues. They've done it like professionals. It goes to Max Richardson, he slips at the psychological moment and it could be a free kick against Max Richardson for holding the ball, and it will be taken by Gary Crane. He's been one of Carlton's star players today, Gary Crane. Always elusive, a ton of courage and he never lets the Blues down. he's at half forward flank, he's had 18 kicks, his 19th coming up, deep on the half forward flank, boots it to the kick off line. The big pack fly and from behind its Cranage for Collingwood, to take the telling mark. But the Magpies have had chances to win it but they've flittered them away and been beaten by a better side.

**PE** Carlton lead by 20 points and the siren will sound very shortly, 30 and a half minutes of play in this final quarter. Jenkin to boot toward the centre wing on the side, Doug Gott contesting, can't mark the ball, down to ground, Carlton the opportunity, a boundary throw in pretty close, Crosswell's running backwards, handballs out to Peter Jones, Jones is caught! Can't break clear. Centre wing, members' side. Now it's with Armstrong who's had about 20 kicks, short pass to Jones

SIREN

And there it is, Carlton have won their way into the grand final.

## 1973.16 Richmond v St Kilda

Series: B522 Control No: 1472457

15 September 1973 (86 483) 108 – 68 MCG

Ken Daiken Doug Heywood

*(This recording was different to all the others – it consisted of the last 15 minutes of both the third and the final quarters, so I have transcribed it as it was.)*

**KD** ...the Saints, but this is typical of them, they have the ability to lift themselves, they are an unpredictable side, they move on to 7 12 54 to Richmond 8 13 61. And here's the Big Wow getting a long handball, St Kilda can win through Reynolds, and they do. Reynolds, a sweeping St Kilda forward again and all on their own. Out goes a handpass and that wasn't good football, more direct football there and uh Stewart caught with the ball, throws it and another player tackled, Stewart comes to the ball again, going to be under pressure, gets a long handpass and uh St Kilda have let Richmond in now as Sproule goes forward with a penetrating kick. This is going deep into the scoring zone. The ball punched away. Richmond come to it here, St Kilda's defence under a lot of pressure. Look at that pack of players milling around the ball and Umpire Coates has no option but to come in and bounce it. Well St Kilda had a big opportunity, but they frittered it away a moment or two ago.

**DH** Stupid handpass by Theodore. He so often spoils his game. Nice hand (illegible) kicked up the ground by Sarau, out wide to Perovic, over Wood's head it goes, Perovic is tackled, out to the boundary line it goes, and it's out of bounds.

**KD** Didn't they have a wonderful opportunity, Doug?

**DH** Oh. Theodore takes a mark alone and unmolested and flips it across to the wild one. In comes Mynott to do battle. Here comes Bartlett, Bartlett will screw it back to that ten yard square, this is danger, Balme and Neale alone. Well played Neale. He spoiled superbly and Balme is to the manor born for Neale. Neale 16 stone 4, Balme 15 and a half stone. So, Neale can't be beaten for pace too often. Green nicely done to Balme, Balme screws it over his head. This is going to be awkward for Reynolds. Reynolds punches it down and there's Bartlett, Bartlett pursued by Trott. Bartlett's got the speed, turns and twists out of danger, with his left foot he screws it back the ten yard square, it's going to be Neale once again with Balme and Green, off Green's fingers it went, for one behind. The game has really come back to life with 4 very quick goals by St Kilda. Davis, Moran, here comes the Cowboy. 28 years of age, from Warrnambool. Long kick it is too, over Colling's head, past Stewart it goes, here comes a chance for Sheedy and McGhie. McGhie comes in and kicks under pressure, Russell Reynolds will come in but Cumming's there first, Cumming with a long handpass, this is good football, and this is dangerous, Rae's got it he's a good handpasser, out to Bartlett, Bartlett shoots for goal and look at gallant (illegible) vice captain does it so well and consolidates Richmond's position. Steven Rae and Kevin Bartlett tap each other there because Rae's handpass was good and Bartlett of course, as usual, converted it beautifully. Kevin Bartlett is a great player for Richmond. He's played 179 games including today's game.

**KD** yep, Alan Jeans wouldn't be very happy about that. There's the board, 9 14 68 to 7 12 54 and when St Kilda appeared as though they had the run of the ball and were burning, Steven uh Theodore made a big mistake, and that let Richmond in. The Whale in the ruck at the moment, with uh Galt, Galt goes high, goes too early though and the ball comes clear, chance here for uh Perovic, Perovic caught with the ball. Steven Rae a handpass comes out, chance here for Galt, Galt shoots the ball forward, who will mark it? St Kilda will, Drew Green, it was beautifully judged for that. Took it nicely over McGhie and don't be surprised if Breen puts it through, he's right on the apex of the diamond. He's a magnificent kick when he gets onto them, and don't be surprised if it goes through for a goal. Oh, he's shockingly off line with the kick, it very nearly went out on the full. Tried to put a

little bit too much into it and as a result was a bit off balance when he kicked it. But St Kilda are coming back, they're making the game more interesting. It's been pretty flat, pretty dull and pretty uninteresting up to this point of time, there's a chance as Davis grabs a ball comes around onto his left boot, flicks around, oh, kicks it back in the wrong direction, comes to Theodore he can't hold it, grabs it again then lines up for goal but it's all Richmond there, there's no one at all at home for St Kilda, and the mark is taken easily by Hunt. And Hunt brings the ball out to Walsh, Walsh you can mark it, all on your own, he fails to do so. Gives St Kilda the chance, through Manzie, Manzie hasn't played well. Walsh comes to it again, shoots the ball forward, an awkward bounce there for St Kilda as they come in, spoil one another. Lawrence has got it, hooks the ball out nicely, is grabbed here by the Saint's Besanko, driven towards the boundary line and out on the full and the free kick will go to the Tigers.

**DH** bad luck Besanko because he had lots of opposition. Walsh not kicking as long as normal. Balme can take this one, he does. He's been forced to come a long way up to get a kick has Neil Balme, I think this is his second for the match. Kicks a long one downfield, Michael Green is the target, behind is Sarau. Well played Reynolds, very well played. Look at Stewart in front of Theodore with pace, Stewart kicks it downfield, it's all Lamb, but it's taken away from him. Picked up there by Hart and kicked it through for one behind.

**KD** and I would have given the mark to Sarau of St Kilda

**DH** yes, I

**KD** he looks absolutely disgusted.

**DH** yes it was a lovely interception from the side, could easily have paid the same decision

**KD** listen to the booing crowd, the St Kilda supporters, because in my book it was a beautifully judged mark. Neale's going to put it in short here and it's a nicely directed kick it comes to Elliot who's not having a good day, fumbling a bit, gets the ball out where its grabbed by Reynolds, I think it was, driven onto the half forward flank, plenty of St Kilda players there, Green had a chance, he uh he couldn't trap the ball. Players milling around it, it comes clear, Mc Gee was held, I thought, Breen goes down with the ball someone on top of him, what's the decision? A free to Breen. And ooh, he got one too. And ooh, look at this, look at this over there. And there'll be penalty paid downfield against Richmond for very injudicious play. And Breen will come in, Breen driving the ball forward looking here for Davis as Davis goes late, couldn't mark it, its grabbed here by Moran, he lines up for goal, it's not a bad looking shot, whoever it was

**DH** Colling

**KD** Colling puts it through for a behind only for the Saints when they badly need goals. They move on to 7 13 now 55 points to Richmond 9 15 69

**DH** fourteen points the difference and at half time the difference was 21 in favour of Richmond. Richmond looked like getting away early in the third term. Play kicks out, in front Theodore, Stewart above him beautifully, Stewart of course, an ex St Kilda champion, twice their best and fairest, kicks it out wide. Bounces awkwardly for everyone except Lawrence. He's tackled oh, ridden into the ground I thought. The free kick should be Lawrence's. Bad tackle that time. Be very rare that a player has played for two clubs won their best and fairest, as has Ian Stewart. Here comes Lawrence, the ex-Taswegian. Not a good pass by Lawrence, a very bad one straight to Wood. Wayne Walsh, it was, he boots downfield and Balme almost took a very good one, strong play. Neale pushes him, it will be close from Balme, Judson safe, reliable, fine mark. Judson has been a very good back pocket. He's had consistent, persistent pressure from Bartlett and at times, Cumming, but has stood up to it manfully. Rodney Galt your chance, you're nicely shepherded by Manzie. (*laughs*) Michael Green



appeals for the free kick against Manzie, but the umpire doesn't agree. Galt very close to the man on the mark, the umpire says he was so close that Balme was over the man on the mark, so he gains 15 meters, that brings him down to half back flank on the grand stand side and we're just coming into the time on period of the third term.

**KD** That in fact penalised St Kilda, Doug, because uh all on his own was Theodore when Galt kicked the ball to him, so in effect St Kilda haven't gained a great deal.

**DH** Galt down, Michael Green's in front but never looked like it. Behind the chance is there for Keen. Chance for Colling, Colling lost it, free kick said the umpire for a push and the free kick will go to the Tigers. I think it was Keen who was pushed, but Robbie McGhie is claiming it. Oh well what are we doing it, the umpire says we're holding up play which I think is most unjust in that particular case because I'm sure that Gary Colling wasn't sure which player was supposed to take the free. Keen a long one downfield, Royce Hart, punched away cleverly by Neale who has spoiled brilliantly all day, out of bounds once again. It's half forward flank with Richmond in attack on the grandstand side as they kick to the score board goal.

**KD** Manzie form's been very disappointing on the wing,

**DH** yes

**KD** I think Walsh has beaten him badly. There's a bit of uh aerial ping pong if you like as the ball comes out here to the brilliant Stewart, he was held, tackled by trot, trot appealing for holding the ball but Umpire Coates says uh it's not on and he's going to bounce it, midfield on the member's stand side. We're just entering the time on period in the third quarter. As Roberts gets the tap grabbed here by Cumming, he breaks the pack beautifully, penetrating kick swings uh Richmond well into attack. The ball knocked away by the Saints, comes clear, there's a handpass, out it comes to Trott, can he trap it? He does, does it very well indeed. Gets around Balme, sends the ball towards the centre of the ground. Up. And a beautiful mark taken there by Colling, and that was a lovely ride. Colling goes on with it, has got a lead out here. A big chance here for uh Breen. Breen dummies around, gets around McGhie, hooks the ball toward the full forward line, no one at home for St Kilda, Richmond spoil one another, the ball picked up by Perovic, he lines up for goal and puts it through for a behind only when it should have been a six pointer. 7 14 now St Kilda, wasting opportunities move onto to 56 points to Richmond 9 15 69.

**DH** yes, the Richmond teammates certainly spoiled each other that time as Sheedy and Hunt collided, it could have been Hunt's, it was Hunt's, Sheedy was the one at fault. Dick Clay. Came down from Kyabram in 1966 doesn't kick with the usual player skill Breen punches it down, follows on very nicely, taken away by Sheedy, out wide to Bartlett, here goes the racehorse, kicks it down towards centre half forward, to Lamb, it's perfect pass, a most perfect pass from Bartlett and Lamb marks on his chest. He's at centre half forward. He'll give it back to Bartlett in grateful appreciation I don't know who Bartlett's opponent is but I'm sure Alan Jeans will be gnashing his teeth and Bartlett steadies now. He's kicked one goal in this term. He's kicked two for the match. He's a long way out, but a good one from Kevin Bartlett can make the distance. It's not a good one from Bartlett, its right to the ten yard square, punched down in front, Rae again, very dangerous. Oh, look out, there's 16 stone 8 of Cowboy Neale the result is Rae across the line, the ball follows him. Roberts, easily front position, nobody with him, looks for a handpass, can't do it. Held it a long time, umpire penalises him. Well, he did hold it a long time and there's Barry Lyons pushing him over. Lawrence. Down the centre of the ground. Elliott, your chance. Behind the pack its Manzie in a lot of trouble hits it off wildly. George Young, cleverly done. Trouble. Cleverly done. Out to Breen. Breen across to Manzie, Manzie's normally a great kick, shoots for goal – doesn't make any mistake. And there's players down everywhere at the centre of the ground

**KD** including Young I think

**DH** Richmond player Wood is down, right in the centre. There's yellow jacketed trainers all around him, but the result, the most important result was a great goal from Manzie. John Manzie. And now there's only 7 points the difference and for a team that's looked like being in top all day, that is Richmond, here's St Kilda back only 7 points away from them, that's something like last week when Richmond didn't play well and yet got very close to Carlton. There's St Kilda's Young, here's a ruckman. Green wins it again. Fighting for it is Bartlett. Out comes Stewart. Stewart boots them into attack. Nicely taken there by Lawrence.

**KD** I think he's had the better of it, Lawrence. He's played a magnificent game, gets the ball out wide to Perovic and Perovic takes the mark and tackled and will get a 15 yard penalty I should say as he has a go at Sheedy and Sheedy pushing back. Sheedy, you know, um he can rough it up when he wants to, and uh and no beg pardons about him I assure you. That's Perovic has a big opportunity now to put St Kilda deep into attack. He'll probably look for Galt, the big tall player. It's in too short for him though, the ball punched away, got away by Richmond nicely and their rovers doing more damage as Bartlett gets hold of it, sends it forward, Besanko and Lamb will do battle, neither can take it, Lawrence a brilliant judgement from him. Grabs the ball, shoots a skimming pass, a beauty too, out it goes where it's grabbed by Colling. Colling you can shoot it well into attack. He looks for Davis, it's too high, coming in behind, the mark taken by Richmond and uh taken by Dick Clay. And uh, that wasn't well done St Kilda.

**DH** Lawrence is playing without an opponent at the moment. I can't find Royce Hart on the ground. There, he comes across, but he's been so far away from him I wouldn't be surprised to see Hart go off later. Here's a chance now out wide for Sheedy. Sheedy's got Fowler to help him. A great handpass across it goes. Picked up by Wood, Wood downfield, and its two to one against you Hart as Judson's got the chance. Down goes Lawrence. Judson gets his kick. Elliott's underneath it, takes the mark and St Kilda looking good. They're only trailing by 7 points as Glen Elliott centre wing boots down to centre half forward, Theodore and Stewart, Stewart was the high leaper. Nicely tapped by Green, out to Stewart again, Stewart runs into a lot of trouble. Held it a long time. And the free kick will go to St Kilda. Well that was a very good tackle, Stewart walked out with his light foot, Geoff Moran grabbed him, and the free goes to Moran.

**KD** Well they'll have to hurry St Kilda because the siren's pretty close if they're going to capitalise on this forward move.

**DH** Moran, a long one to the ten yard square. Fowler loses it, kicked downfield by green, here's a chance for Elliott. Elliott runs into trouble, a wild handpass, Sheedy's grabbed it. Sheedy left foots it out to centre wing position where Reynolds will mark it. He must go on with it, which Reynolds does. Boots it down towards that ten yard square, Rodney Galt, too early, and beautifully taken by green, who's been a very dependable, serviceable ruck.

SIREN three quarter time.

*Final quarter for the closing stages.*

**DH** ...Neale down to the centre of the ground, Stewart goes for front position, he doesn't need to worry, it's beautifully taken, or he does need to worry, because it's beautifully taken by St Kilda's Elliott. No it was Colling. Colling out wide to the half forward flank. Breen. Almost took it. Davis is there, still fighting gallantly, boots it back towards that full forward zone, Dick Clay is a mile in front of his opponent, Young, and takes it over the line and out of bounds, and George Young, who's had a very quiet day after last week's brilliant effort is in the full forward One at this stage. In come the rucks. In front Michael Green who's been a great ruckman, out to Michael hunt. Hunt across towards Walsh and Walsh will take the mark. Easily done. Been a very strong wingster has Wayne Walsh. Walsh a long one downfield, Judson should take this one, grabs it certainly on his chest. Wayne Judson, been one of the very safe St Kilda defenders. Actually, the defence has been good because



Besanko's been a good player, Lawrence a good player, Neale and Judson. Here's Stewart. Nicely picked up by Wood, across it goes to Fowler, Fowler pushed in the back. Against you Colling. Royce Hart was with it but Fowler in the back pocket, is between centre and uh centre half forward. A big pack down there, Roberts in the central position, Neale goes up above him, so does Sarau, Geoffrey Moran hits it out wide when he might have taken it. Here comes Bartlett once again, watch him turn and baulk and weave. With his left foot, is trapped by Lawrence, its lost by Lawrence. Stephens overruns it, can't pick it up. He's ridden into the ground too, and the free kick goes his way. John Stephens. Ex-interstate cricketer and a very outstanding footballer for St Kilda last year but has had a bad season this year. He topped St Kilda's goal kicking last season.

**KD** well, it would be true to say that uh Richmond have uh out-rucked and out-roved St Kilda today

**DH** mmm

**KD** I think that's been the big difference between the two sides. St Kilda haven't been able to get the ball away from the uh from the ruck bounces at all. There's Breen flying high but apparently got into the back of uh Breen of Richmond, and Breen will take the free kick to put the Tigers into attack again. They seem to have the game well sewn up. As St Kilda knock it forward. They're not handling the ball cleanly and surely. A little bit uh indecisive and uh their passing of the ball not good. And there's Davis battling again. Can he win out? He does, gets a handpass across, or he did try to but towards Moran. Traps the ball again, is tackled. Now is the tackle too high says Umpire Coates and the St Kilda supporters say well it's about time, perhaps. And Davis to take the free. Richmond right on top, 12 17 to St Kilda 8 14 for a moment in the third quarter it seemed that St Kilda, when they rattled off four goals in about 5 minutes were going to fight back and uh perhaps pull the game out of the fire but Richmond have got on top again, and it's mainly through their superior ruck work and uh and uh roving and Stewart in the centre and look at that kick by Stewart. But Cowboy Neale comes down, and he's completely beaten Balme today, he's given him no quarter at all. And out it goes indirectly, out onto the far side of the ground, where Sarau has got it for St Kilda, but a shocking pass goes straight to Roberts and this has been St Kilda's downfall as the handpass goes out to Walsh, Walsh down towards Balme, Balme won't get to it and it will be a throw in, just near the right hand goal post with Richmond in the attack. We're about 18 minutes into the final quarter and it seems that Richmond have won their way through to the preliminary final.

**DH** Certainly Neil Balme has not appreciated his new role of full forward today and it'll be interesting to see what they do next week. Here's Roberts, been a very good player late in the game. Shoots for goal. Umpire comes in the whistle must have blown, has it? No, it, it's a free kick to

**KD** it's a free kick to St Kilda

**DH** it's got to be a free, because no goal umpire signal's been given, but Balme has looked like um a ship without a rudder at full forward zone. There's the scoreboard. 89 to 62. Uh Graham Teasdale's been a magnificent full forward in the seconds for Richmond but he's been brought up to the firsts he had one great day but after that he hasn't played well. It'll be interesting whether Ricky McLean or Teasdale might come back in that full forward zone, but certainly Richmond, the other one is that whether Royce Hart might be able to front up again, he looks a most injured captain.

**KD** well apparently Mynott kicked, uh didn't kick over the mark Doug and the ball's been taken back to him. But uh, St Kilda's form today, disappointing but when you consider the adversity under which they've played this year, you've got to hand give them full marks, because uh they've lost a number of players. But let's watch Hart now as he swings Richmond forward again, onto their centre half forward position, Besanko a great player, a great battler, is tackle, couldn't get rid of the ball, kicked it off the ground, and the whistle goes and it will be a free to uh to Sarau, Sarau of uh St Kilda, I think will take the free kick. But full marks to the Saints, for bouncing back the way they have this year. They lost a lot of players. They lost Dietrich, they lost Ross Smith, just to name a couple of their top

players. And full marks too to Alan Jeans their coach, who's perhaps got the longest reigning coach in the league today, he's coaching St Kilda for the 13th year and he's had them up in the finals 9 times which is uh remarkable performance.

**DH** yes, Hafey's another man who's been around for a while now, but not as long as JeEans. But Hafey second only to Jack Dyer in length of service as a coach. Another angry scuffle going on in the middle and the free kick's going to go to Colling. Colling decides he'll run off with it. Tries a left footer left field. In comes Young but overruns it. This is where St Kilda have fallen down atrociously. They have not had a winning forward. There's Kevin Sheedy. Not often he smiles, but he's very very satisfied with his own personal performance and also with the team performance for the day. Sheedy, blanketed Young right out of the game. Roberts gets the punch down once again, Sproule gets it, Davis, the only great battler, Perovic. Perovic a left footer across, in front, it was almost Richmond's, it is Richmond's free kick and it will be taken by Keane. Keane out wide, looking for Wayne Walsh who's been a great wingster, Stuart Trott's out there on him now, uh but Walsh beats him comfortably. He'll give a short one. No, he won't. He goes past Trott, steadies, and then kicks a good sixty yarder down field. Besanko and Lamb go for it, Balme comes in. Balme's taken it with great strength. He's been very quiet has Neil Balme, out to captain Hart, Hart downfield where Judson's in front once again, misses his few, one of his only mistake. He still recovers it well, out to half back flank and here's the brilliant Besanko. Besanko, professional sprinter of note, boots it down to the centre of the ground, Elliott goes very early, punched by Sproule, brilliantly across to Stewart. Stewart tries a short one. Look at it go! Thank you, says Michael Green as one of the perfect Ian Stewart left foot drop passes.

**KD** beautiful play, beautiful balance, wonderful anticipation, ball handling, and his disposal faultless. Pretty deep into the third quarter now but Richmond well on top. 12 17 to 8 14. As Michael Green lines up for goal. Not a bad looking kick either, I think it could be there, it's a beauty, straight through the middle. Goal number one to Michael Green. But the top kick getters today for uh, for Richmond have undoubtedly been uh Bartlett, who has had 29 and Sproule who has had uh 24, 29 and 24, so they've had 53 quick kicks between them, and they are a lot of kicks. And this is where all the damage has been done, plus the fact that St Kilda haven't functioned well up forward, they haven't had a winning forward all day long, they haven't had a focal point to kick to as Bartlett gets yet another kick, sends it forward, out comes Judson, a good defender. Backs his judgement well, gets the ball out wide but McGhie's going to come in, couldn't trap it, gets the ball forward, a chance here for Perovic, held not in possession. Didn't get the free kick. It comes to Sheedy. Sheedy's handpass comes to Sproule, Sproule coming in for yet another kick, a damaging player. Another import for the Richmond side, they've got plenty I tell you. As the ball is punched away, comes out towards Keane its knocked away from him, lamb comes in, he's met solidly. Around the neck said the umpire, and the free kick will go to Lamb. Lamb uh a promising young player, uh showed good early season form then was dropped and was brought back into this side today to give it a little bit more bite. It was too top heavy last week, and uh to give it a little bit more pace. And he's done exactly that as he lines up for goal, very deliberately, very well and records Richmond's 14<sup>th</sup> goal. 14 goals to the Tiger, to the Tigers. And uh they've got it well and truly sewn up. 14 17 to St Kilda 8 14 and so far, twenty, what is it, Doug, about 23 minutes, 24 minutes into the final quarter and St Kilda haven't added to their three quarter time score of 8 14 will give you some idea just how much Richmond have dominated this final quarter.

**DH** there they go again. Tom Roberts. Down it goes. Lamb's great strength of course is his incredible accuracy for goal. A chance for Elliott. Out to Trott. Trott to Davis. Davis cleverly across to Stephens, Stephens fumbles, still got the chance, will shoot for goal and puts it through. And they've scored. Johnny Stephens kicks a goal. This has been his great strength in his football career has been his accuracy at kicking for goal and uh twentieth man is coming on for St Kilda. That's Corner. And this is uh Alan Jeans obviously just giving him a run because the match is over. That last goal kicked by

Lamb certainly sealed their fate. 68 points to 101 and Richmond have ground them into the dirt in the last quarter. They have uh rucked brilliantly, and Sproule and Bartlett they're just still running tirelessly throughout the packs and Trott and Moran, Trott now out on the wing, but certainly St Kilda's highlight, or their lowlight for the season, in lack of rovers and it's been their great weakness here today. They've been beaten on the ball as well.

**KD** yep. This is where Richmond have dominated today with uh (illegible) Sproule and Bartlett ripping holes in their defence. Here's the ball comes forward for the Saints, comes out to that gallant player Davis. Davis a great player is tackled. I didn't think he was in possession and will get the free kick. Will go against McGhie.

**DH** McGhie's done well against Breen, Ken

**KD** he has, he's uh kept, he's shut Breen out of the game. There's the kick in short, comes up towards Breen, but is easily taken in defence by uh Richmond's

**DH** Keane, I think

**KD** Keane, yes, it is Keane. Almost over. We're deep into the uh final quarter as the ball's kicked out wide. Coming out to meet it is Reynolds. Reynolds couldn't quite trap it. A chance for Stephens again of St Kilda. His kick is swung out wide, in comes Young. Young is tackled. Has a pretty quiet day, he hasn't shown the brilliance of last week, and here's the brilliant Bartlett, everywhere, this fellow. Getting the ball again, shooting it forward, but out on the full. Bartlett the Brilliant. Uh 29, 30 kicks for the day. Not a bad performance in anyone's book. It's Richmond 14 17 to St Kilda 9 14 and we're just in the time on period as Judson puts the ball to the centre of the ground. Reynolds, you can mark it, he's fumbled it badly, he's backed up by Stephens, can he trap it, Sproule comes in to tackle him and Stephens gets a free kick. Somewhat technical one, but he got it. 26 minutes into the final quarter, and Richmond have won their way through to the preliminary final. They meet the losers of the game between Collingwood and Carlton which is being played today and the preliminary final next Saturday. And here's Bartlett again, having a ball. In comes Stephens again. Can he trap the ball? He does. Onto his left boot it goes, gets it to the centre, of the ground where an awkward bounce comes to Elliott. In comes Walsh, he's held not in possession and will get the free kick. And St Kilda's tackling has not been good. And uh Walsh will take the free kick pretty well in the centre and will put the Tigers into attack again. He's been directed by Ian Stewart where to put it, gets it out to Bartlett, and that's mark number what to Bartlett, Jack? Mark number four, kick number 33. Well what a day he's had, he's had a ball. And there's a beautiful penetrating kick into the scoring zone, easily marked by uh the Tigers, taken by Hart and uh Hart the uh brilliant captain of uh Richmond who has been on one leg most of the day, uh could put it through for the Tigers' 15<sup>th</sup> goal at about the 28 minute mark of the final quarter. Hart has kicked two so far? Yep, two, this could be goal number three. He doesn't miss many. This one on it way. It's got the distance, the direction is not quite there, through for a behind to Richmond. 14 18 102 points to St Kilda 9 16 69 and the game is pretty well over.

**DH** It's been cripple on cripple there at centre half back and centre half forward for these two brilliant ex-Tasmanians, Hart and Lawrence. I thought Hart won the first half, Lawrence played a brilliant third term, and the last quarter they've both just uh been limping around and not doing a great deal. Here's a chance now for Sarau, Sarau's in a lot of trouble. Past Dean he goes, in the back pocket, he screws it back and underneath it is Wood. Wood can't quite make it as it's swirled away by the wind, and it's out of bounds. His opponent is Val Perovic, he's one of the very outstanding recruits of the season. Six foot three and an half, he was normally a ruckman at Ballarat. He's been playing on the wing. Here's Craig McKellar on the ball. And McKellar gets a free kick.

**KD** another damaging player for uh Richmond today, Doug, I think, has been Stewart. He's been creative, constructive and has uh given Richmond a lot of bite from the centre. As McKellar with a good penetrating kick puts the ball right up in front of goal. Waiting down, it's grabbed here by

Michael Green who has a shot at goal, it's pretty close, I'll wait on it, and it's through. A goal to Richmond, I think it's Green who put it through, I'm not too sure,

**DH** it could be Steven Rae

**KD** it could be Rae. We'll wait and see. It is, that's Steven Rae. That's goal number two TO Rae so far and uh Richmond go yet further ahead. 13 18 now to St Kilda 9 14. St Kilda adding only one goal in the last quarter and Richmond have taken their score from 9 15 to 15 18 in this last term. And not long to go.

**DH** I'm sure that Rae and Stewart, ex- St Kilda stars, Stewart, a champion of course always at St Kilda, and Rae for them will get great delight in playing against their old team.

SIREN

**DH** and there's the siren!

**KD** it's all over, and Richmond convincingly beat St Kilda to win their way through into the preliminary final.

## 1973.17 Richmond v Collingwood

Series: B522 Control No: 1472445

22 September 1973 MCG (96 652) 105 98

Peter Ewin, Doug Heywood and Thorold Merrett

**PE** Final quarter from the MCG. Collingwood have made a move, Barry Price is on the ground. Collingwood's lead 8 points. Jenkins tapped down on the centre, towards the half centre for the Collingwood side, knocked forward towards the half forward line, Sheedy trying to break clear is tackled, oops, in goes uh Atkinson, Collingwood move deep into attack towards full forward. Knocked away from behind is Rex Hunt who appeals for a mark and it's been paid to Rex Hunt for the Richmond side. The deficit 8 points. Hunt out towards the centre wing on the outer side, Jenkin lurking there, contested mark, no mark paid. Trying to barge his way through a Collingwood player in Price, not successful he's been held, free kick to Barry Price, he's on the ground and who replaced uh we'll pick up every shortly, Richmond have, as we mentioned in the third quarter, Royce Hart on the ground. Now Collingwood making a move and bringing Barry Price on. Collingwood's lead 8 points.

**TM** Price, down to Thompson direction, Fowler goes out there with Max Richardson. Max Richardson takes it over the line out of bounds. Thompson back at centre half forward, Jenkin on the ball. Thompson comes in to do battle with Roberts, nicely taken by Wayne Richardson, he left foot it high in the air, it doesn't gain a great deal of distance. The pack fly for it, claiming it was Heard, out it goes to Keane, Keane then boots downfield, oh, great mark once again by Holmes. That was a very fine mark that time by Holmes. Now he's shielding eyes from the sun as he kicks down towards the scoreboard goal.

**PE** Holmes, half forward, left for the Magpies. Big pack of players in the goal square. It's a long penetrating kick up towards Heard, he can't take it, Collingwood player in Osborne overruns it, picked up by Clay driven out towards centre wing, Holmes drops a sitter, it comes Big Jerker. Jerker handpassed it back to Price, Price who came on at three quarter time, looking for Wayne Richardson, just over his head. Wayne Richardson in pursuit, tries to keep it in play, in fact, does, but the free kick will go to Wayne Richardson for the tackle being too high.

**DH** Well I was waiting to see whether that ball went out of bounds, and uh, the tackle was uh. Richardson threw the ball out in front of him, hoping to get the tackle, and uh the Richmond player obliged. He's right on the boundary line, a good 55 meters out with the breeze behind him. Let's see what the Collingwood skipper can do. They lead by 8 points. That was their lead at three quarter time.

**TM** Wayne Richardson, a towering kick, but it will only score one behind. Well that makes the difference 9 points now and the breeze changed direction, at half time, favouring the scoreboard end, whereas in the first half, it favoured the Richmond or Punt Road end of the ground. Dick Clay. Dick Clay, the Richmond full back to put it into play to the outer side. Long punt kick. Jenkin from behind, misjudged it, Price tries to come through, it goes to Jenkin, Jenkin falls over, goes uh eventually to Holmes who sends it out to Bissett, Bissett will uh hook it in, Rex to throw it out in front of him, was grabbed, comes back to it again, wee Georgie and Umpire Deller will uh come on the scene, no, he won't. Picked up by Wayne Richardson, he hooks it back but it's out of bounds, on the full, and the free kick will be taken by Rex Hunt of Richmond.

**DH** Hunt, in the back pocket. Collingwood's lead 9 points. At one stage their lead it was seven goals. Out towards the half back flank on the outer side. It's all Collingwood. Atkinson, he's got enormous (illegible) he's like a kangaroo. He's taken some spectacular marks right throughout the day. Short pass by Atkinson, is it off, yes, it's oh, Wayne Richardson's dropped a sitter, can he recover, he's in



trouble, back to Atkinson, short kick in towards full forward, Keane went up one handed, Keane in trouble only about 15 meters out from Collingwood's goal, now its 20 meters out, Bartlett trying to break clear, out it goes, but a whistle in play. And the free kick will go to the Richmond, well, he was the skipper, Kevin Bartlett, but Royce Hart's on the ground now, but Bartlett who's uh, had a reasonably quiet day but still effective boots out towards half back. Jenkin can't mark it, here comes Price who's been right in the thick of things since he came on. Down to full forward, Thompson lurking, over the back it's all Richmond. Heard, can he break clear, smothered through for a minor score. Collingwood's lead now ten points. 83 to 73.

**TM** Waiting now is uh Dick Clay. He's been such a wonderful, versatile player for Richmond over the years, a champion wingster he's also played in nearly every key position. Out wide it goes, Dean goes up but Stewart was the high late leaper. Barry Price once again, turns out of trouble, screws it back towards the half forward line, Bissett says thank you thank you and takes a wonderful juggling mark. Well he's the darling of the Collingwood crowd in one scene is Bissett, a life member of Footscray, across to Collingwood and been an absolute star. 22 kicks to wee Georgie, a short one, a great one, perfect pass and nicely taken streaming downfield by Kink. But Bissett has certainly been a magnificent player for Collingwood throughout the season. This is game one hundred and eighty nine to him today and young Rene Kink, who's a school boy of 16 years old has kicked three, comes in to shoot for his fourth, and it's a beautiful looking kick. Oh! Just missed. Just missed. It deserved a goal that one. It was a great kick from the youngster. And that's three goals 2 off his own boot and Collingwood advance by one more behind, its 84 to 73

**PE** 11 points the difference. The uh see 84 plays 73 on the scoreboard. Dick Clay, the Richmond full back to put it into play electing to go straight down the centre. Jenkin from behind, and a mark to the big fellow, one hander. (*I can hear perhaps radio music in the background, tinny and annoying*)

**TM** Well he looked to be in a hopeless position to take that, he got hands to it first and then juggled it twice. His uh 6<sup>th</sup> mark, Big Jerker, and uh was been a tower of strength in the first half, but tired in the third quarter when Thompson was bought onto the ball. Jenkin a toe-er (?) drop kick up towards uh half and Wayne Richardson at half forward has taken the mark.

**PE** This is a very vital shot, Thorold, their lead is 11 points, a goal here, Collingwood's lead is 17 which is over the two goals.

**TM** We've played 5 minutes in the final term, and as happened in the third quarter, it was all Richmond's attack kicking to the scoreboard end, and Collingwood are kicking to that end in this quarter. Wayne Richardson, 40 meters out. He's hooked it. It's coming back, but not far enough. Another behind to the Magpies. Well, as you said, Peter, a vital attempt by the Collingwood skipper, but only a minor the result, and that could be a vital miss by Collingwood.

**DH** 12 13 to 10 13. Dick Clay back towards the half back line there's Jenkin again setting himself, couldn't grab this one. Sheedy throws it out, in turn it goes out to Bartlett, half back line, Richmond side, look at the toe of Bartlett, plenty of pace, towards the centre line, he's in trouble, caught, and but a free kick uh I think behind play in fact, before that, goes to Bartlett. At the centre wing. And Bartlett boots towards the half centre line for Richmond, oh, great mark by Royce Hart. Came on at half time, kicked two goals in the third quarter and Hart now to boot the Tigers into attack for the first time in this final quarter. It's all Collingwood. And Doug Gott got some, a free kick and it's going Richmond's way.

**TM** it wasn't against Roberts (?) Peter, it Clifton for keeping Balme out and that was a very bad mistake because Gott would have had to fallen over not to take it anyhow.

**PE** Well Neil Balme who was virtually unsighted in the first half, kicked a goal right on the half time siren, and to date has three, and the chance to make it four from twenty meters out, directly in front

and make the difference only six points, and that is what he's done! He doesn't miss many, Neil Balme. Well, Collingwood's lead 6 points, approaching the 9 minute mark of this final quarter. Collingwood lead by one straight goal.

**TM** A capacity crowd, wonderful crowd. There was 92 thousand here last year and the four years prior that over a hundred, and this one could be a hundred thousand crowd. They're crammed in all around. There's that giant scoreboard. Only one goal the difference. Richmond fans come to life and so does Jerker Jenkins, up he goes and punches it down, picked up nicely and bolting away is Atkinson, loves the run does this fellow. Kicks it down towards the centre half forward, Fowler's in front and takes a safe mark. It's very very rarely does Laurie Fowler miss a mark. He's about centre half back. Looking for Sheedy, it's all Kevin Sheedy's. And takes it shielding from the sun. Sheedy. Settling back and looking. He should go straight down, which is what he does, and down comes the big Whale to try and go the Jerker, its punched away from the ball, picked up by Max Richardson. Across it goes back to Sheedy, and Sheedy marks again.

**PE** Sheedy, across to half back flank, he sends across to Bourke who's proppy on that leg. Has been all day. Boots it up over half forward. Big Balme flies and a great mark to Balme. Well the big fellow since half time has pulled in three or four freaky marks and he's kicked three goals since half time, four for the match, and will this be his fifth and level the scores? Neil Balme. As Doug Haywood said trained every night last week, or this week, he lines it up, it's on its way, and he's put it through for another major. His fifth. And the scores are level. (*Crowd berserk*) Balme, with a magnificent mark has notched Richmond's fifth, well, his fifth goal and Richmond's twelfth, the scores are level at the ten minute mark of the final term.

**TM** and Stewart's been brought back into the centre.

**PE** 12 13 apiece. Fantastic final quarter. Can Collingwood come back? Barry Price can't break clear, Clay in the centre, Sproule can't either, and it goes towards Holmes, half forward line, it's all Richmond here, Thompson, and it goes to McGhie but

**TM** the umpire's down, the umpire's down, flattened by Sproule. In the centre. Bill Deller rubbing his head, looking for a free kick (*laughing*) Oh, that hurt, said Bill.

**PE** well, another ball up right in the centre. Scores level, 12 13 Collingwood 12 13 Richmond. At half time was 10 7 to 4 7. Now play is underway again. Scores locked. Jenkin to Michael Green. Tap down goes to Bartlett, drops the ball, and has been penalised. Good decision. Goes to Barry Price. Price in the centre, to drive Collingwood into attack. Thompson lurking on the centre line for Collingwood. Price a long kick down towards Thompson, he's been pushed out second grab at it goes towards Dean, he tries to break clear, handball out towards uh no its back with uh Holmes, Holmes bangs for goal and he's put it through! (*Crowd*) Great goal. And the Magpies back in front, Collingwood by 6 points. And young Holmes has played a great game, Thorald.

**TM** yes, he's uh a player that's full of endeavour, he's got a great turn of speed, and he only knows one way home and that's straight down the centre. Yes, he was so surprised and so elated when he laid on the ground and watched that one go through and I shouldn't say surprised. He aimed it well but he was thrilled, it's only been about his ninth league game. Back in the centre the umpire holds it high, Michael Green thumps it down towards captain Hart, Hart cleverly across over the back, here's a chance for Rae, across to Carter, Carter's in trouble, across it goes and it's taken by Roberts and he kicked it atrociously, it was touched by Balme, it may have gone through which Brian Roberts is indicating but anyhow it was a chapter of errors for the Richmond side because the big whale if he thought of one of his lightning handpasses could have brought it to great use that time here's Jeff Clifton, once again short handpass easily taken by Salmon. Salmon playing game number 50. Down it goes to centre wing position, fine mark by Francis Bourke.

**PE** Francis Bourke been moved around the field today, definitely handicapped by that injured right knee. This is a good kick deep into the attack it's over the back, it's taken by Bissett and its uh a mark paid to Bissett who slipped over the pack they flew far too early (*booing*) and Umpire Deller has paid the mark amidst the protests of the Richmond crowd to George Bissett. He's played a great game for the Magpies. Up towards the centre. Price through the pack and gets it out towards Thompson. Thompson in all sorts of trouble. It's taken away from him by McGhie. McGhie up towards centre half forward. It's off the hands of Bissett. It comes back to Bissett, he tries to hook it over to Cranage, which he does effectively, Cranage a high kick in the air towards the outer side, Big Jerker flies and he's taken the mark. Play on says Umpire Deller. Picked up by Richardson, that is Wayne. Out wide to the half uh forward flank, all Richmond here, its picked up by McGhie, McGhie steadies, boots it back towards the centre and its marked by Wayne Walsh, but he's allowed, he's asked to play on. Slipping in is Holmes. Holmes sends a long pass to Wayne Richardson. Richardson now running onto the left foot or forced onto the left foot. Up to Atkinson and their half forward player for the Magpies has taken the mark. Atkinson, centre wing on the outer side, Collingwood's lead, 5 points. Towards the half forward line for the Collingwood team. Thompson in front, he's pushed out, must get the free kick, no, play on. Out towards the centre wing. Here comes Bartlett for the Richmond side. Bartlett to drive the Tigers into attack towards their half forward. It's all Collingwood. Over the back breaking free again uh Collingwood but there's the big Whale, takes the stemming mark. Roberts. Defensive side of the centre, from the outer side, the Richmond side, handballs to McGhie, McGhie in turn in trouble, can he break clear, he does, handball to Stewart, you're caught! Penalised. Sheedy push in the back to the Collingwood player. And the free kick goes Collingwood's way. Just wide of the centre, to be taken by Osborne, who's been pretty quiet since half-time. Approaching the 15 minute mark of this final quarter. Collingwood clinging desperately to a 5 point lead.

**TM** Osborne down to the half forward line, Len Thompson up high, behind the pack its Rex Hunt. Rex Hunt to the centre of the ground, underneath it Ray and Cranage punched down to Dean, Dean screws it back to the half forward line for Collingwood, a big leap there, a chance now for a handpass by Heard across to Bissett, brilliant play by Keane, magnificent play by Keane, first he spoiled it then he recovered like a cat, (*illegible*) out to the centre wing position, up they go and the fine mark is taken there by Kevin Bartlett. What a gallant, magnificent player is Bartlett. He doesn't look as if he could stand up, he looks so frail, yet he's full of courage and one of the best players in football. Downfielder looking for Stewart, Stewart out wide where Sproule's chasing it. Sproule's got plenty of time, back it goes towards that full forward zone Balme and Clifton. Great effort, Clifton. Behind the pack is Doug Gott to help him. Gott runs into a bundle of trouble which is all Richmond, but will take a free kick. (*Booing*) Oh its fierce football now as Gott gets his left foot to it and drives a short one across to Price, Price takes the mark on the half back line, steadies across, a clever one it is too, here's Bissett. Bissett traps it nicely, in comes Walsh to meet him Bissett then leaves an open half forward flank out to Dean and Dean takes the mark centre wing position.

**PE** Dean! Looking for Osborne. Shocking kick by Dean. McKellar's on for Richmond. Wood slips in, takes the kick now from half back up towards half forward, and its knocked away by Adamson. Bissett has a chance. A long ick towards Bissett is the shot for Collingwood. A long kick up towards half forward but its Francis Bourke in the way for Richmond. He plays on in grand fashion. He's in the centre now, Bourke's come to life. Up over half forward, Balme flies, oh! Strength! Against Gott and Clifton. Too strong was Neil Balme, and he's 45 meters out. Collingwood's favour. Neil Balme has the chance to level the scores again.

**TM** Oh what a match winning performance it's been by number 21. In he comes.

**PE** He has five goals, let's see if he can make it six. Oh! A shocking kick right off the side of the boot. It's out of bounds to be thrown in, the forward pocket. The final quarter has been in progress for 17 minutes.



**TM** Manassa's on too, Peter, and Osborne's off.

**PE** So both reserves on, for both sides. Thompson who's been unsighted in this final quarter out towards the half back line, Jeffery Clifton, towards the centre wing, it's all Richmond here. A shocking kick goes straight to Francis Bourke. Bourke will play on, drive the Tigers back into attack. Towards their half forward line. Thompson's on the ball now, tapped down to ground, Bartlett can't elude the pack, Collingwood the chance to clear, Adamson too slow to get boot to ball half forward line for Richmond they're going in all directions, Umpire Deller moves in and we will go for a bounce. Scoreboard shows that Collingwood lead, 91 to 86, a five point lead approaching the 18 minute mark of the final quarter. Thumped away by Collingwood out towards half back. Sproule, over the head to Bartlett, Bartlett from 50 meters out bangs in to goal but he's way off line, it's out of bounds on the full, I think, no, it's a minor score. So, the difference is 4 points. Collingwood desperately clinging to a 4 point lead. Look at that crowd. Enormous crowd here at the MCG. Can Collingwood hold on?

**TM** There's Jeff Clifton short pass once again, he's done it brilliantly all day, out to Gott. Another left footer in Gott, likes to run, off he goes and sends a good skimming drop kick down to Manassa. Manassa goes after it, Keane is with him all the way. Manassa's got the strength but he's well tackled. In comes Wayne Walsh, he's tackled by Dean, Dean could have taken a free, over goes Dean but won't give up will Dean, a great smother, luckily back to Dean it goes and downfield it goes and in comes big Jenkin, taken away by McGhie and McGhie goes for the run. Centre half back he is now, Robbie McGhie, sends a long one downfield, up they go and in front, its Richmond's mark.

**PE** Wait for the umpire, there's a push there, it looked like the mark and Royce Hart was underneath it all and takes one of those match, no, it's not

**TM** called play on

**PE** called play on was it Thorald.

**TM** Yes

**PE** well it's at centre half forward now. It's punched on by Stewart, a good tackle too, picked up by Thompson a fine hand pass to Clifton, Clifton drops it, Balme comes in. good tackle Clifton. Play on says the umpire and indicates he'll bounce it once again, with the score board still 4 points the difference. Richmond in attack and Collingwood leading. Umpire is Bill Deller. In comes Roberts to do battle with Thompson, Balme wins it, umpire finds a free kick, its Len Thompson.

**TM** yes, well as Peter mentioned, Thompson no uh sighted very often in this final quarter

**PE** first kick

**DH** first kick in this final term. Thompson a long punt kick to the outer side. It's all Richmond here. Tap down, it's taken by Sproule. He gets the handpass out to Bartlett, Bartlett has at half forward he's been called to play on. Oh, a Collingwood player went to tackle him. Bartlett lines up, and he's put it through! That's his second. Kevin Bartlett. Peter Ewin said earlier he was captain when he went onto the field, I guess now that Royce Hart is on he started (*illegible*) but he acting, he's vice-captain, but once again, he's been one of the ones who's brought the team back into it, and has taken the lead for the Tigers.

**TM** For the first time in the match, Doug, have Richmond taken the lead. They've finished much uh more than Collingwood, with much more energy and since half time the Tigers have really taken this game away from the Magpies.

**PE** 93 to 91. Richmond lead by 2 points. Can Collingwood come back? Wayne Richardson towards the half forward line. The centre, it's all Richmond. Bartlett breaking clear. Look at the run, the pace,

Bartlett the handball to centre half forward. Sheedy's caught. Will he be penalised? Will he get the free kick, he'll get the free kick. Sheedy in the centre at the twenty one minute mark of this final quarter. And again, Collingwood have stopped to a walk. Sheedy short pass nobody's minding half forward Richmond and Sproule takes the mark, only about 35 meters out, 45 degree angle. Collingwood led by over 7 goals at one stage, as Sproule bangs for goal, I think he's put it through! Sproule's first and now Richmond lead by 8 points. 8 point lead to the Tigers, 21 and a half minutes of play have elapsed in the final quarter.

**TM** Well there's Collingwood's dismal final record's going to continue. They led by 36 points at half time and one stage were 41 points in front and now they're trailing as in comes McKellar, battles with Thompson, Thompson wins it brilliantly, Price has got it, bolts away, forced to a handpass, Manassa's got the chance, Manassa picks it up and will shoot for goal, and kicks a high one, and it's just off direction, bad luck and through for one behind.

**DH** And there's the burly frame of Manassa, just gone out now as McGhie is a pull back. Dick Clay started there, Dick Clay moving out to centre half back and McGhie who's been probably Richmond's best defender tries a short pass well done out to Fowler. Nobody anywhere near Fowler, Fowler takes plenty of time, boots it down to centre wing position looking for Stewart, Stewart is well shepherded out and the mark is nicely taken by Atkinson, once again. Atkinson steadies and tries the short one to Richardson, it's beautifully taken too by Max Richardson and he's too far out to score but there's only 7 points the difference and Collingwood will be deep in attack. Max Richardson tries a short one to brother Wayne, or is it Atkinson, and the mark is taken.

**PE** 22 minutes of play, Doug. This could level the scores.

**DH** it's Atkinson, the half forward flank. Who's kicked two, taken some magnificent marks all day, is only about 25 meters out. Seven points the difference. Atkinson to shoot for goal. Can he make it one point? He can. It's a goal. Well done Alan Atkinson. If ever there was a goal to be kicked under pressure and that was it. That's his third, I think. Atkinson, going back there, with Paul Sproule beside him, which indicates that he's probably been playing centre wing in these last few moments. That was a wonderful effort. Sproule got one, then Atkinson, and the match is really alive.

**TM** Richmond's lead, still one point. And we've played almost 23 minutes in the final quarter. What a ding dong struggle this has been since half time. It's Richmond who win the tap down but it's taken by Wayne Richardson he boots it up towards centre, coming through is Clay now at centre half back, it's booted towards half forward for Richmond, tapped over by at uh Adamson, it comes to Wayne Walsh, who's been a good player for Richmond since half time. He does it the hard way but gets the left, uh, the right boot to it, up towards forward pocket it bounces awkwardly Hart tries to hook it back and does effectively but Collingwood's defence gets it to uh Clifton who in turn gets it to Salmon. Salmon's long kick towards centre wing, a high fly there by Richmond. It comes out to Sheedy, who was dispossessed of the ball, and it will be a free kick to Kevin Sheedy for holding the man. Kevin Sheedy, mid-way between centre wing and half forward flank outer side. The Tigers lead by one point, nearing the 24 minute mark of the final term. They trailed, Collingwood led by 39 points at quarter time, 36 at half time, and Richmond had whittled it down to 8 at three quarter time. Sheedy's kick up towards the big tall timber, a chance here for Bissett to take the ball away, he's been Collingwood's best player Bissett now looking for Manassa, he finds that player. Manassa hooks it on, has the break on his opponent, Wood. (*Crowd very noisy*) Should kick it off the ground Manassa. Wood comes good, backed up by uh, by uh, by Clay. But it comes to Max Richardson of Collingwood. He swings around with his foot towards Bissett

**DH** Free kick!

**TM** Bissett has it, was dispossessed of the ball. And Bissett, Bissett, throwing the ball, says Umpire Deller.

**DH** oh, that was a toughie Thorald, and George Bissett looked at the umpire imploringly and said not me. He couldn't see it, and it looked a very rough decision. There's Francis Bourke to take it.

**TM** Francis Bourke on the half back line. Collingwood trail by a point out towards the centre wing. Keane or Royce Hart rather, can't take the mark. Final quarter, 25 minutes of play have elapsed. We're into time off. Richmond's lead is one point. Keane, uh rather Royce Hart towards the half forward line, Salmon in front, Royce Hart behind, Umpire Deller allowing play to go on. On the outer side, no he's blown the whistle, Collingwood's free kick. Going to Salmon. Centre wing on the outer side. Collingwood desperately want a point at least. This enormous crowd, and not one has left the ground. Salmon towards the half forward line, Jenkin from behind, tapped down, Roberts there for the Tigers, out it goes to McGhie, McGhie's in trouble, tackled, down to ground he goes, Umpire Deller moves in and will call for a bounce. 25 minutes of play have elapsed in this final quarter. Play on the attacking side for Collingwood. Roberts against Jenkins, tapped down to ground. Wayne Richardson, free kick. Free kick for the Collingwood skipper. Richardson will drive Collingwood deep into attack. Richardson towards the half forward line for the Collingwood side, Heard sets himself, over the back it goes. Race on! Bissett left foot snap by Bissett, in towards goal it goes and takes the mark, its Keane and he's been a fantastic player for Richmond all day. Number 40. And a real star of the future if not a star right now.

**DH** he's been Mr Dependable, played perfectly, not made a mistake, out wide, all Tigers as they fly for it, and Mr Francis Bourke. Out to Bartlett. Bartlett on the boundary line in a lot of trouble. Over the boundary line. He's picked up by Sproule. The umpire's found a free kick and it's going against Kevin Bartlett. Well, Bourke after taking that wonderful mark played the handpass out and Bartlett has been penalised two or three times today for that habit of his playing the ball out in front of him, and the umpire's penalised him for holding. Well, Collingwood tried the short pass to Atkinson, Bourke's in front of it, Atkinson big leap. Here's a chance for Fowler, Fowler goes down, umpires' whistle goes. Free kick was looking there for Richmond. Fowler was looking for it, and the umpire's going to pay it. Fowlers got the cramp. There's that familiar sign when they try to pull their big toe back to stop it. Laurie Fowler in trouble nineteenth and twentieth are on. And we're in time on period. One point the difference, Richmond get it down the centre of the ground, Richmond leading by a point. Royce Hart there. Here comes Sproule, Sproule boots it down that centre half forward zone underneath it the chance is there for O'Callaghan, O'Callaghan fights on well, tackled by Balme. Cranage goes down. Picked up by Balme again. Gets his left foot to it, kicks it down to that full forward zone. There's a chance here for the Tigers through Hunt, through McKellar, McKellar and Gott go for it. Gott pushed in the back. On the boundary line, the umpire lets it go and it's out of bounds.

**TM** No, pushed in the back

**DH** He gave it, the push in the back.

**TM** Collingwood are not playing on quickly enough it's a shocking kick by Gott. A chance for Collingwood there and uh salmon came through to get it to Dean, Dean can't pick it up. Eventually tries to get through the pack. Its Wood who's got the chance now for Richmond, gets it across to Sheedy, Sheedy picks it up, and he's popped it. Across. Out of bounds for a boundary throw in. One point the difference. 99 plays 98. 27 minutes of play gone in the final term.

**DH** boundary throw in. the Tigers into attack. McKellar tapped down. Collingwood out of danger, in towards the centre, it's all Richmond here, Stewart, tapped to ground. Stewart's a great recovery, Price overruns it, play right in the centre, can price come back to it? Stewart a handpass to Walsh, he's dispossessed and it goes to Barry Price. Price in trouble, trying to break clear and screws his kick towards Atkinson and who oh, should have taken the mark. Francis Bourke, held by the arm and will take the free kick. Francis Bourke's free kick 29 minutes of play now in this final quarter. Richmond

clinging to that one point lead and Collingwood just can't even get the point to level the scores and Francis Bourke now from the centre deep into attack. A goal here would be the sealer for the Tigers.

**DH** What a vital miss that was by Atkinson. Down to Balme it goes. Out in front the chance is there for Bartlett. Bartlett screws it back for goal, there's nobody home, it's a magnificent snap, and look at it! (*Crowd noise*) I have a feeling that Kevin Bartlett is absolutely overjoyed with that snap. The Tigers are in to the finals. Richmond are in front by 7 points and it's in the centre of the ground once again.

**TM** And what a great comeback it's been by the Tigers, they trailed by 43 points at one stage of this game, and now they're in front and the siren has gone! And Richmond are in the grand final. Richmond have fought their way from 36 points down at half time to win the gran – to win the preliminary final. Richmond 15 goals 15 105 Have defeated the unlucky Collingwood who go down in a final again, 14 14 98

## 1982.1 Collingwood v Fitzroy

1 May 1982 Victoria Park (27 874) 88-91 HSV7

Bob Skilton and Jack Edwards

**JE** At Victoria Park Umpire Glen James holding the ball aloft to indicate the start of the final quarter, Collingwood leading Fitzroy by only 13 points, Fitzroy will need to get a first uh two quick goals to make a real game of this. Now have they a chance? Wilson has the ball, he's well tackled, the umpire has called play on, but now indicates a free kick, uh he's trying to decide who's going to get it, McMahon I think is going to get it, aha! (*laughs*) Williams a 15 meter penalty against Williams for deliberately tripping him and now Hansen with the ball, he's caught, he's gone, they'll take it away now. Collingwood, through Williams can get the ball moving, looks for handpass, finds a teammate in Miles coming past. The pass is a good one and hits Craig, Craig Davis right on the chest.

**BS** Davis from the half forward flank, 5 metres in from the boundary, a floating kick. Edward in the front position, has done well on uh Daicos, Jack, since half time

**JE** not a bad type of player. I don't like that handpass much, he found Carlson eventually, the ball driven right down towards centre wing. A difficult mark and well taken down there on centre wing uh by O'Neill.

**BS** That's Terry O'Neill, well up on centre wing. Torpedo not ha (*laughs*) drop punt kick, up high is Rendell, a nice mark, I think Teasdale lost that in the sun, Jack.

**JE** well that he could have done, Bob, the sun is coming right in their face. Rendell there oh he's short a charge for Quinlan, Quinlan unattended down there, and only 25 to 30 meters out from goal has the opportunity to do, or as I predicted earlier, or said that Fitzroy need the first couple of goals before Collingwood score to get back into this game. And Quinlan only 25 meters out from goal.

**BS** I think he's missed it.

**JE** Yes, the wrong side of the post, so golden opportunity lost.

**BS** Yes, in the third term we saw Fitzroy kick 3 goals 7 Collingwood 3 goals 1 so Fitzroy have had enough opportunities to be up there with Collingwood. A lovely mark by Teasdale, eyes on the ball at all times and uh has a word to Quinlan. Hmm, good mark by Graham Teasdale.

**JE** He has the eyes, the eyes, uh, the sun in his eyes I should have said. Lovell trying to get a handpass out to Kevin Worthington was successful. He puts the ball up quickly in the half forward flank the players set themselves, Taylor the opportunist, picks up for Collingwood, just about threw that one out its called play on as Taylor of Fitzroy tapped it down, Miles was in that, could be Daicos's free kick, no holding the ball

**BS** Good decision Jack, Daicos put the ball to ground

**JE** he did that earlier and wasn't penalised and thought he could get away with it again could have been a free kick there too, and it will be paid to Carlson

**BS** Handpass from Carlson onto Foster, but he has to go back behind the mark. He was pushing from this side of the mark and once he goes back behind the mark then he's able to go on.

**JE** we'll see if he'll look for Quinlan.

**BS** Quinlan it is that he's looking for, no mark as Worthington put the ball down. Thornton takes it away there's a quick handpass across to Conlan oh Conlan put a poor handpass but it was taken by

Foster, Foster's kick going towards the goal square a chance for the - Roos, Roos was high and Paul Roos, the opportunity, he was, he should have been looking for the handpass across to Bradley Gotch but uh Roos quite confident of bringing up this third goal. So Paul Roos, 5 meters out, a kick

**JE** yes

**BS** and the goal umpire said full points. Roos kicks his third goal so it's nine goals 12 65 Collingwood 11 6 72, 9 12 66 it is, uh 11 6 72, so exactly six points between the sides.

**JE** well wait for the ball to come back into the centre now, Fitzroy coming back. Well we told you only six points separate these two teams now. Fitzroy, I thought in the third quarter may have kicked themselves out of the game and Bob told you they kicked 3 goals 7 to Collingwood's 3 goals 1 and trailed by 13 points as we started the final quarter but, there's only a kick between them now. Six points separate the teams and its Teasdale in the ruck against Quinlan, Teasdale got the tap, got it down towards half forward, the ball hits the turf, no one can get it out clean, the umpire said a bounce will take place, not quite centre half forward for Collingwood, it's still in the uh centre square as you see. The ball will be put down by Umpire Ian Robinson who is umpiring today with Glen James. Teasdale once again. This time Quinlan got the tap down, it was kicked downfield there by Thornton, down toward uh Everett, uh, sorry it was Foster he couldn't do a great deal with it, and Umpire James has said a bounce will take place. Anyone's game now, Bob, Fitzroy can get themselves on target and get the ball down to Roos, who hasn't done a bad job down there

**BS** no, three goals, only a youngster, probably in about game number three or four. Teasdale putting the ball the wrong way, a bad piece of ruck work, Gary Wilson straightens up, goes goal-ward and he's just missed, one point only, so it's five points, the margin between the sides.

**JE** well, Gary Wilson missing that one, he missed a couple, what's Wilson kicked now, he's been off target a bit

**BS** two behinds, Jack,

**JE** two behinds, I thought he'd been off target. There's the ball being delivered out. Williams at the back, good mark. Didn't take his eye off it, went straight at it. He's looking up toward the half forward flank area, we can see Davis leading out, no he changed his mind, he's going towards Stewart, at the back, could have been a free kick there Fitzroy's way there, the umpire didn't pay it, Carlson's kick may drift over the boundary line, which it has, and it's going to be a Collingwood free kick to be taken by Graham Teasdale. Teasdale will take this kick from down around the half, oh, umpire's bringing him back now nearly up to centre wing position. Teasdale saying to get across towards centre half forward but the kick isn't a good one

**BS** Teasdale looking as though he hurt his knee a little when he kicked that ball. Off the hands of the pack Thornton gets it and drives it up towards the half forward line. Bad bounce there for Ian Cooper, that's just bad luck, he led by about 15 metres. McMahon got the ball across to Parish and Parish puts a lovely pass down to Matt Rendell. So that's the luck of the game, Jack

**JE** yeah well, Cooper did everything right, except the ball did the wrong thing by him, wasn't Cooper's fault of course, but Rendell with a chance to score from 50 metres out. He's going to take the shot at goal. Fitzroy trailing Collingwood by 5 points. The time clock now showing 7 minutes into the final term. The kick by Rendell may be just a shade off target, so Fitzroy got the wrong boots on again.

**BS** That they have, Jack. So, it's 9 14 23 scoring shots to 11 6 17 scoring shots.

**JE** McCormack in two minds, I think he might be looking for Teasdale or is he going to Worthington? Worthington will be the target.



**BS** Foster up high, couldn't take the mark, ball smothered off the boot there, Williams, Thornton, will uh Foster got a handpass across to Quinlan, Quinlan drives the ball down in front was Roos, outmanoeuvred by his more experienced opponent in McCormack, the handpass out to Burn, back to McCormack in the back pocket, McCormack puts it up towards centre wing but a well judged mark by Leigh Carlson who'll go across the ground, the lead coming from Quinlan, Quinlan thought about going on, in fact a little bit fortunate

**JE** laughing

**BS** but, uh, I suppose you really couldn't say that he did play on Jack,

**JE** well he would have for sure but Allan was in the way. Quinlan from the point of the centre square which will make him 60 meters out from goal, the way he is kicking today won't make the distance. A torpedo punt kick is going to land on the end of the goal square, will come to ground, a chance now for Miles of Collingwood to pick up. Did well, he's going to try for the boundary line, he did that well too, and he just kicked it along the ground because he didn't have a team mate to give the ball to.

**BS** yes, it was a well placed kick

**JE** it was, he did that very well. Full marks for that one to Geoff Miles, he seems to be or appears to me Bob that he's a player with a future.

**BS** yes, Jack. Right now it's Graham Teasdale. Teasdale, Rendell, Rendell actually got the tap Annear forces it forward, Carlson, keeps the ball in play, but the handpass up to Thornton, good play by Carlson, Thornton screws the ball back, a chance if Conlan can get to it, can't quite take the mark, Roos tapping the ball back to Gotch, a handpass should come across to now to Conlan, Conlan will give it over the top, no he doesn't, he elects to have the kick!

**JE** he should have given it over the top you were dead right because Roos made perfect position to take the handpass was all by himself in the goal square and Micky Conlan didn't see him or didn't want to see him, I'm not sure. Collingwood 11 6 72 Fitzroy 9 15 69 Teasdale in trouble, getting the shin pads off down there, you can't see it on screen we're back with uh Peter McCormack. Peter McCormack going out wide, Worthington again is the target, this time he took the mark. We call uh Worthington looking for the handpass, move the ball quickly

**BS** he gives it across now to Lovell, Lovell a handpass over the top to Annear. Annear trying to run around, does run around his opponent put the ball forward, a bad piece of play there a poor piece of football by Fitzroy as we saw a player go to ground after he'd put the ball down the ground, and Scott Clayton making a fatal mistake, it's just giving away a kick Jack

**JE** it is Bob, at this stage of the match you're not supposed to give the easy kicks away because there's a chance of a score, every chance of a score here.

**BS** I did say Scott Clayton I think it was Ross Thornton

**JE** yes, it was Thornton, Bob. Look at that. That's a goal – to Collingwood. From Stewart. Bad football, Fitzroy. Collingwood 12 6 Fitzroy 9 15. (*Glitch in film*) The crowd have come to life a bit now. But of course you're watching the final quarter on 7s big league. Annear, about to drive Collingwood into attack, going up into the forward pocket, looking for Tony Shaw, the boundary umpire might beat him here, the ball was out I thought, but it's now being kept in play by Allan back to Shaw, he's going to get it back I think to Allan that was on, Allan's left foot shot at goal is very close indeed. That's a nice goal. Good combination (*laughs*) down there number 22 Tony Shaw, number 33 Graham Allan, and a fine shot at goal.

**BS** well the big question of course, Jack, was it out of bounds?

**JE** Well I thought it was before they gave possession of it, but the umpire wasn't in position so

**BS** Either way, you never stop playing, and uh what counts is the fact that the boundary umpire didn't call it out and it was a great piece of handball between those two players, and the two players in question were Allan who finished it off and Tony Shaw who kicked a goal.

**JE** I notice

**BS** and vice versa

**JE** I notice Bernie Quinlan is in the hands of the trainers down there, he must have hurt himself, and here's a chance for Fitzroy moving forward, a big pack forming up in the centre an Umpire James said a bounce will take place in the centre of Victoria Park. We've been playing now 11 minutes into the final term.

**BS** a very high bounce, Rendell got the tap, Teasdale and Williams, Williams, couldn't handle it cleanly. Rendell trying to take the ball away, a big, another pack forming, as we find Taylor breaking away gets the handpass across to Ray Byrne, Byrne kicks to centre half forward and a nice well done mark actually, O'Neill brought the ball down, and back now, bumped backwards by Everett, Gotch, little Gotch came in trying to force the ball out, picked up by Taylor once again, Taylor screws the ball down, no mark missed by Everett, swooping onto it Daicos, Daicos kick smothered off the boot, and goes over the boundary line, throw in to take place still in the forward pocket for Collingwood.

**JE** looked dangerous there for a while Bobby for Fitzroy when Daicos had hold of that ball, swinging on the left foot toward goal, but he couldn't uh, get it going. Ball tapped to the front of the pack, here's another chance for Allan, the ball kicked very high, it's only about 25 meters out from the Collingwood goal, he's not paid the mark, it's called play on and, Daicos pushed in the back and the umpire calls play on once again. A chain of handpasses eventuating and uh we'll see a point rushed through. Could have been a free kick out there to Daicos, the question was asked of the umpire but it was too late. Hansen. The score in front of you, 85 playing 69 Collingwood in front and the time clock about 12 minutes into the final term, so Fitzroy still have plenty of time if they're good enough.

**BS** nice kick from Hansen, finds Serafini, nowhere really to go, gets the lead from David McMahon, McMahon will be free kicked, when I say free kicked, will kick to him, he had the front position and Cooper coming over the top.

**JE** Quinlan is hurt, Bob, down in the forward pocket, he hasn't taken much part in the game, his only hope is if he can pick up the kick, the kick from Parish going down toward the scoring zone, its run through for one behind. We might see Quinlan on picture in a minute, because he's limping badly, it appears as though he's hurt an ankle. We go back to Peter McCormack, looking for someone to take the ball further afield. McCormack can see Williams, is going towards Williams now, he's opposed to Clayton, the ball was over the back to Carlson, long handpass is chopped off, good play there, looked like Miles got that ball out.

**BS** eventually it comes back now to McMahon McMahon's handpass, a chance of a score, Conlan steadies, goes towards goal he's hooked it! One point only

**JE** once again they're off target, so Fitzroy, I said before, can't get them through. 9 goals 17 to 13 goals 7 that's a hell of a difference when you see it on the scoreboard like that. With a chance now for Barley (?), handpass comes out, Worthington long handpass up toward the half forward zone, Stewart has the ball taken away from him by Lawrie, Lawrie gathering pace now getting the ball deep into attack, right down toward the goal square, no mark, it's a chance for Pert, who was tackled when not in possession, the umpire said holding the man.



**BS** Well put too by Gary Wilson there's no doubt that it was a free kick to Neil Pert who's played a pretty solid game in the backline, too, Jack.

**JE** he's done quite well, Bob.

**BS** So Pert, puts it out toward half back, Parish from behind,

**JE** a good mark!

**BS** a lovely mark. Oh, Barn will give away 15 meters if he keeps tripping over the mark but on screen now, it's Les Parish gets the lead. Conlan takes the mark well within kicking distance

**JE** I think the pass was meant for Poynton but Conlan chopped it off. So he's about 40 meters out. The way Fitzroy are kicking for goal you wouldn't have any money on them, 9 goals 17 they've kicked, to 13 7. That might be a shade better, it looks good from where I sit, and the umpire said yes, a Fitzroy goal, kicked by Mickey Conlan. Collingwood 13 7 85 to Fitzroy's, Fitzroy's score 10 17 77.

**BS** Michael Conlan kicking his first goal for Fitzroy so once again it's 8 points the deficit that faces the Fitzroy side, 19 points at quarter time, 19 points at half time, 13 points at three quarter time and 8 points at the present time. No clear knock. Another pack forming. And the bounce will take place virtually in the centre circle once again. 14 minutes just about to come around in this final term.

**JE** now Teasdale, Rendell, Rendell got it out toward Lawrie, can't do much about it though, the pack in Rendell still tries to get it out, another pack forming up, I think the umpire will have to bounce to try and clear this pack.

**BS** certainly not the classiest game, Jack (*laughing*)

**JE** no, not the classiest game, it's become interesting now, not much in it at all, only 8 points. If Fitzroy get another goal it's going to be very interesting indeed. It's been hurriedly booted by Miles. Up toward the half forward flank of Collingwood, Omaura (?) was being held there, called play on, could have been a free kick there, the Collingwood fans thought it may have been. McMahon got a handpass in, not a good one, towards Lawrie, he gets a handpass away, he gets another handpass by Colin, he's going to pick it up, a goal, I think, Conlan goes toward goal, and he's kicked his second goal. So it's very tight here at Victoria Park. Collingwood on 13 goals 7 85 Fitzroy 11 17 83.

*(Glitch in film, straight back to centre square for ball up)*

**BS** High bounce once again, neither player got a clean tap, Rendell actually did, was taken away by Lovell, Lovell's kick out wide, first to the ball will be Terry O'Neill, he gets the handpass over the top, dangerous football, Everett's there, dives first, threw it out actually and then we find the loose ball coming back. Conlan's there, tackles Stewart, Stewart's handball comes up towards Serafini, he gets it out again, Tony Shaw taps it down, it's knocked out of Tony Shaw's hand, kicked off the ground towards Lovell, Lovell forces the ball forward, he was held when not in possession. He wants to play on but must come back behind the mark. So, Noel Lovell will come back and take his free kick on the half forward line. Possibly a little too far out to score but he most certainly will put it right up towards the goal square.

**JE** Oh he wouldn't score from there, I wouldn't think, Bob, he'd be a shade too far out, but Edwards would be the fellow he's looking for, Stewart, he's taken up a position, the kick wobbles a bit off the uh boot, Stewart is spoiled on that occasion, Allan has to uh sees the ball go over his head, but recovered well, threw it out, kicked along the ground now a chance for Parish to take the mark looking for the chance to play on, he got himself in a spot of bother, eventually got the ball out to Gotch, Gotch gets it down toward the half forward zone and the mark oh! Yes! Will be paid down there to - (*crowd roars!*) he did, it could have, Foster could have got the ball out, the umpire is saying

it will be against him. Well, he's messed that up. Oh, there's a free kick. It'll go back to Foster, I feel, no the umpire hasn't changed his decision.

**BS** so the long handpass from Worthington, finds Tony Shaw who screws the ball back across the ground, Lovell takes the mark. Lovell should look to the handpass over the top, it's a poor handpass, it was intercepted by Clayton, who doesn't look where he kicks the ball, it comes back towards Teasdale, a bad bounce for Teasdale, just trickles over the line, so a throw in to take place and I don't think Teasdale's too fit.

**JE** no, he's, he's limping back there after the boundary throw in, Bob, he's not too fit at all. Ball comes down to the front of the pack, picked up by Lovell who's done quite well, got hit a bit high by Conlan, the kick went over the boundary line on the full, the free kick should have gone the other way I thought, but it will go to Fitzroy's Parish.

**BS** Conlan having a look back to see (*laughing*) who the decision was going to go to Jack.

**JE** Yeah, there'd be reason to look back. Parish now, looking down toward the centre wing position. Rendell, can't take it, it's come out to the front of the pack. Tony Shaw trying to get, looking for the free kick and the umpire said holding the man will be paid to Shaw.

**BS** Clever football by Tony Shaw, hand balled it forward and then looked for the free kick. But he did handball it, and there he is now with a kick. Spiralling torpedo punt kick up high Williams, no chance of a mark, but a lovely mark there at the back of the pack by O'Neill. O'Neill could have easily been paid a 15 meter penalty, but will now find him with a kick from half back flank.

**JE** Fitzroy are two points down to Collingwood. Time clock 19 minutes into the final term, the mark has been taken down there by Foster, who plays on with a handpass to Conlan, Conlan's going to take a bit of a run, a bit tricky there to try and bounce it, he hooks it back, in the general direction of goal, it's a chance for Fitzroy! The mark has been taken by Roos, who has kicked three goals. So Paul Roos from point blank range, even though the angle might be a shade tight, there's the angle as you see, the distance is only about 12 to 15 meters. Des- desperate kick! He's missed it! What an opportunity. Disappointed player there, Bob.

**BS** Oh if I were Robert Walls I think uh I would show Paul Roos exactly how Peter Hudson on film would go about kicking a goal like that, because Roos ran exactly to where he kicked the ball. (??) One point the margin between the sides. Foster up high, a great effort to mark, brought the ball to ground, Gotch comes over the top of his opponent, handpass up from Tony Shaw, across now to Barham, he's caught but gets a handpass across to Cooper. Ian Cooper's kick up towards Picken, Picken, who's back on the ground now in place of Kevin Worthington, so we find the ball about to be thrown in the uh right in front of the Collingwood player's race,

**JE** and it's a desperate game of football here. Teasdale up high into the back of the opposition. Rendell may have got the free kick, umpire called play on. Picked up by Conlan Picken on the scene could take a chest mark here, but took the ball, oh, the umpire played the free kick not the mark, he was pushed in the back. So Picken, straight away, uh putting a little bit of life in the defence of Collingwood. He's looking up towards Stewart, opposed to Serafini, man over the back was O'Neill couldn't take the mark, has been forced out of the pack. Wilson tried to tap it out, but here's danger, another chance for Collingwood, the shot by Miles, off target and only one behind coming up. So Collingwood with the ball at the right end of the ground as far as they're concerned, they hold sway here by two points over Fitzroy. 13 8 to 11 18. Hansen kicking in from full back. A long kick it is.

**BS** Parish at the back. A nice mark by Craig Stewart.

**JE** He surrendered the front position, a bit, uh a lot of difference in height there, wasn't there, between Parish and Stewart, Stewart's a good kick.

**BS** I was going to say Jack if there's a player in the Collingwood side capable of making the distance, it would be Craig Stewart.

**JE** He'll have to find about 65 meters to kick his third goal, that he hasn't done.

**BS** wobbles off the side, actually hooked that ball, it comes off the hands of the pack, over the boundary line and a throw in to take place in the forward pocket, only 5 meters around from the behind post. A chance for a Collingwood score if they can get possession. There's a big pack of players over around that ball area.

**JE** and 21 minutes have gone in this final quarter on 7s Big League. Fitzroy two points down to Collingwood. Collingwood in attack in their forward pocket area and the two number 9s Rendell and Stewart do battle, the ball on the turf, Parish comes in to meet it, and Edwards at the same time. It's been hurriedly shot out of the pack.

**BS** Edwards kick comes up to centre half back, taken by Miles, a handpass across to Annear, Annear has kicked across towards the goal square, punched back towards Hansen, Hansen puts a little kick out wide towards Parish, Parish will also go for the short pass, well he's been given the lead by Lawrie, the ball bouncing towards the boundary line but Lawrie quick enough to get there, he steadies, and a left foot kick back towards centre half forward. David McMahon up high to mark, but Ian Cooper over the top of McMahon, well uh good judged piece of defence.

**JE** Cooper's kick up towards the centre wing position, where the players jostle each other trying to gain possession. Big fella Rendell spins out of the pack and not a good kick, it's gone over the boundary line. That wasn't a good kick at all. So, the uh, the Collingwood free kick will be taken here. The umpire marking the position where the kick can be taken from. It's Lovell. Towards centre half forward, the ball will still be on the wing, Teasdale the man in front, Rendell tried to spoil, but uh, hello, Teasdale's cramped right up, you can see him in agony there, the runner quickly out to try and ease the pain. We said before that Teasdale did appear to be injured Bob, maybe it is only cramp, but it won't help his cause of course, he'll be looking for a handpass I think to get this one away, but all uh avenues of handpass have been chopped off. So, Teasdale from centre wing as the time clock ticks around, past the 23 minute mark. Teasdale will be looking for Edwards.

**BS** High kick from Teasdale, Edwards has the ball, punched away by Hansen, knocked on again by Allan, comes back to Hansen, short kick comes out of the pack, we find Conlan almost colliding with Wilson, kicks it off the ground, it comes to Williams, Williams tackles, gets a loose ball out to Terry O'Neill, O'Neill now puts Fitzroy forward, over the head of Cooper, almost taken by Poynton who just for brief second took his eyes off the ball, comes out with it though, a good piece of play by Poynton a handpass to Lawrie, he gives it on to Roos, Roos straightens up goes towards goal! And Fitzroy... One point only, I was looking there, I think Grant Lawrie's been knocked right out behind play.

**JE** He's over on the half forward flank getting treatment from the training staff of Fitzroy, well, we've got a game of football here, one point the difference in Collingwood's favour. Grant Lawrie out cold, it appears that he's out cold,

**BS** he's moving now Jack

**JE** he's moving, they've revived him, but McCormack bringing the ball back into play. The big pack fly high, the mark has been taken. It's been well taken by O'Neill, he's calling, he's looking for a lead. Look at the pack of players down there on the Fitzroy forward line. You can't see them all – you're watching O'Neill kick the ball, of course. He's kicking up high, Quinlan's the target, can't take the mark. McMahon, has a shot towards goal, what's it going to be... It's out of bounds on the full, so it's still Collingwood in front by one point here at Victoria Park. The time clock getting around, it's past

the 24 minute mark. Won't be a lot of time on I wouldn't think, but Fitzroy do have the ball at their end of the ground but they have to get a point to level the score, or get a goal to take the lead.

**BS** Fitzroy having had 9 more scoring shots – oh a great mark by Foster, Foster who came on at half time and since then, Jack, has been a good player at centre half forward.

**JE** Yes, he has. He's looking for Quinlan who isn't fit. Foster's kick wobbles off the boot into toward the forward pocket, Quinlan can't take it, I think the sun's in the eyes of the players in that direction. Quinlan was being held on that occasion, you may have seen that on screen, but now Umpire Glen James will clear the pack, I won't say he will clear the pack but he's going to bounce. So, he may create a bigger pack, putting the ball down only 2 meters out from Fitzroy's goal. The time clock 25 minutes have gone now, the final term you're watching on the Big League of course, and it's going to be out of bounds. A boundary throw in, this may favour Fitzroy more, Bob, than the bounce.

**BS** So we'll find the throw in to be 15 meters around from the behind post. Collingwood behind by one point. Teasdale got it down, Wilson tried to burst through the pack, McMahon straightens up, puts it towards goal, Fitzroy are at least level, but no! They're in front by 5 points! David McMahon, putting his ball through for his second goal, and there's the board. 13 8 86 Fitzroy on 12 19 91.

**JE** And the longest quarter so far was the third which went for 30.15, we've been playing 26 minutes plus. And here it is, Mickey Conlan, picking up for Fitzroy, coming out wide, looking for Wilson, the ball should bounce kindly for him, he has it now, he's on centre wing, hooks the ball back in towards Lawrie. He's going to set himself and fly for the mark. He couldn't get in position to take it, it's on the turf. Wrestling in there was Taylor, of Collingwood, in possession of the ball but the umpire said a bounce will take place. 27 minutes have gone now. Victoria Park is where the game is being played. It's Collingwood and Fitzroy. Rendell couldn't tap it down, and a free kick will go his way. So, big Matt Rendell has the chance to put Fitzroy right down into the goal square. 50 meters out he's going for the short pass to little Gotch and he can't take it. Picked up by Picken, his kick not a good one, it comes up toward Allan, he can't take the mark, he handpasses out to Barham, he'll show a bit of pace here, Nicky Barham puts it down once, he puts it down a second time, he comes up to the half forward flank, drives Collingwood into attack, it's right up near the forward pocket area and the umpire said there will be a free kick, where? Upfield? Or?

**BS** No, downfield, Jack. It's back with Conlan I think will get the free kick. The kick going against Tony Shaw. As Conlan was coming across to try and tackle Barham, Umpire Glen James has decided that Conlan was hit too high in the tackle, and so, and rather than the kick being downfield, it's Michael Conlan to take the free kick and really relieve the pressure for the Fitzroy side.

**JE** well, he took a heavy knock evidently, Tony Shaw arguing with the umpire out there, but that won't get him anywhere of course because the decision has been made by Umpire Glen James. Collingwood fans aren't too happy about it, but uh, it's Conlan putting the ball down toward the wing position. Big Rendell up, no mark taken. It's been picked out by Wally Lovett, he gives it over to Barham once again. Barham putting Collingwood into attack once again. Up toward their half forward zone it travels, Wilson on the scene for Fitzroy, the boundary line's close, Wilson might try and run it out and he does, and it will be a throw in.

**BS** Collingwood fans screaming for a free kick for Wilson going over the boundary line, uh, but uh, there was nothing else that Wilson could possibly do under those circumstances. Five points the margin that Fitzroy hold at this stage. Tapped down by Stewart, a chance for Collingwood getting the ball forward. It comes out now to Allan, Allan's high kick, right up towards the air, coming across the front of pack, a beautiful mark by Collingwood's Miles, it looked like! But it's uh called play on, and one point it is, (*laughs*) it goes to

**JE** well 29 minutes have gone at Victoria Park we're witnessing a great finish to this game of football, for the first half we said it was dreary football, the third quarter it brightened up a lot, and now we have a game of football. 13 9 87 – 12 19 91, Fitzroy in front. Only 4 points, Collingwood need a goal to take the game out. We've been playing in excess of 29 minutes.

**BS** Grabbed out there wide on the uh centre wing, a long hand pass comes in towards Miles, it's taken away from Miles by Serafini and Serafini then grabbed by Miles, so he'll take the free kick. Wasn't Miles, it was Tape?

**JE** Serafini's free kick, it is, he's going down towards Grant Lawrie but the kick won't quite travel that far. It's Roos giving chase but the boundary line uh comes up, I think that might have been Serafini's intention.

**BS** 30 minutes, the clock just about to, it's 29 and a half minutes actually of the final term with a four point lead held by Fitzroy. The throw in from centre wing, taken by Rendell. No smother on the ball, it comes off towards Picken, it's Picken in the race for the ball gets an unfavourable bounce he's well backed up by Lovell, the handpass by Lovell finds Byrne, Byrne's kick goes straight up the centre of the ground. A long kick, Stewart's in front, pumped away, taken again by Collingwood's Miles, an awkward bounce though for Williams, back there we see there, we find there, two immediate (*Guess, illegible*) both diving underneath the pack along with Clayton of Fitzroy, no free kick will be paid, and a bounce to take place at centre half forward.

**JE** 30 and a half minutes all but gone in the final quarter between Collingwood and Fitzroy.

**BS** A handpass comes out, a kick from Miles off line and through for only one point. So, it's 3 points now the margin held by the Fitzroy side.

**JE** longest quarter so far I told you before was the third, which went 30 minutes and 15 seconds. We've gone in excess of that now, we're approaching the 31 minute mark of the final quarter which you're watching on 7s Big League. And it's Fitzroy holding sway by 3 points, Parish in front, the ball tapped out by Barham, a chance for Allan, he's offloaded, that was good football, pushed in the side and now we see the ball forced over the boundary line. Good crowd in attendance, the voice you hear, the voices you hear are those of the Collingwood fans in the Collingwood social club stand. Tapped out in front of the pack, Wally Lovett, can he get out of trouble and have a shot toward to goal? He got the ball moving

SIREN

**JE** it's the siren it's the siren here at Victoria Park Collingwood 13 10 88 have been defeated by Fitzroy 12 19 91

## 1982.2 Essendon v Sydney

2 May 1982 SCG (15 461) 111-117 HSV7

Lou Richards, Peter Landy, Bob Skilton

**PL** Send the Swans into attack and well caught by Walsh,

**LR** Grabbed too high, Peter

**PL** Well, he was a little lucky there, Wright plays on straight away, gets it up to full forward and it bounces through for one behind to make the difference 4 points in favour of the Swans.

**BS** Well Steven Wright getting the benefit of that decision

**PL** A little lucky I felt

**BS** Yes,

**PL** I felt too

**BS** So did I

**PL** Four points the difference as the ball driven back into play towards the outer side. Walsh again and Winbanks who goes for the punch, Foulds on the boundary line looking for a free kick, he was grabbed and he didn't have possession

**BS** He bounced it,

**PL** The umpire said he did and that's the rule of course, held bouncing the ball. That rule of course was changed uh I think largely because of Kevin Bartlett. It's nice to have the rules changed after you. He's right on the boundary line. Carroll in the goal square with Round!! That is a mark!

**LR** Well, if he misses this one, Peter, they'll blast him out of the ground.

**BS** I think they'll pull the Bradman stand down if he does.

*(laughing)*

**PL** Let's watch the mark. He's kicked two already, I think about two three actually, Barry Round. That was a great mark. A finger-tip grab over Simon Madden and that's not easy to do. Barry Round will be pretty much on the edge of the square.

**BS** A 15 meter penalty puts him right in the middle of the square *(laughing)*

**PL** Oh he couldn't possibly miss

**LR** We've said that before. We'll he's missed three from point blank range, hitting the post twice, but he's kicked 2 4 for the match so far.

**PL** Round. Puts it through. No mistake about that. Barry Round has brought up his third goal and the scores, the Swans, 14 19 103 points leading Essendon 14 9 93

**BS** I'm sure Ricky Quade would be a happy man to see the way his actual uh ruck and John has gone today, I think that uh Allender can be proud of game that he's played and uh Barry Round has responded since going into that ruck.

**PL** It's 10 points the difference going into the final quarter, at the 17 minute mark.



**LR** And the chance for Buhagiar couldn't get clear and the ball thrown out there to Foulds, in a bit of trouble, a fresh air shot virtually, kicked off the ground by Round. Coming into his own, picked up by Foschini, he's okay, a handpass, and a good one to Rhys Jones, he's clear, another one coming out of Tony Morwood a goal coming up – no a point, so it's 11 points the difference now. The Swans are now 14 goals 20 104 to Essendon 14 9 93, they've had 34 shots, direct shots at goal to Essendon 23. Ball back into play again Daniher in a bit of trouble. He could lose this one, he's grabbed and the umpire's going to ball it up. Foolish play on the part of Terry Daniher. It'll be a ball up about uh 20 meters out from the Swans goal. A goal here will certainly put uh the Bombers nearly out of business. Simon Madden and Allender, comes down again, the ball cleared by uh Heard I think it was. Back there now and the kick out by Walsh out towards the wing position and a good mark, he's played a darn good game, this fellow, too.

**BS** Yes

**LR** Been a very good player. They've all lifted their game since half time. Waiting on a lead, there's one coming now towards Allender, you see Winbanks at the bank, Walsh goes in to meet it, he could go over the line. He's grabbed a bit high, he may get a free kick. Yes, the umpire has spotted that and the free kick will go to Walsh down there, a little short of half back. So it's still the difference uh 11 points in favour of the Swans and we're approaching the uh 18 minute mark of this last quarter. The ball off the top of the pack, coming in to meet it now is Browning he clears, beautifully, oh bad kick, chance now for Van Der Haar, it's a wild handpass back to Barry Round, he shows them how to get rid of the ball quickly, up it goes to Foschini oh he lost that one Morwood, couldn't get clear, in goes uh Clarke, got one in the back, and Clarke will take the free kick not wasting time. Out to Austin, Eustice fumbles the ball, back it goes there to Wright but Eustice got one, no it's not, it's going to be uh Wright to take the free kick, a little one off the side of the boot, a bad pass to Browning, put under pressure, skidding along the ground is Simon Madden, in goes Barry Round, he goes down, Madden's there taps it out again to Watson, been very quiet, over to Eustice, now it's the Bombers turn to go into attack, up there towards the full forward zone, it's going for the goals, can Hawker get there, no, it's over the line and out of bounds and the score's still 11 points the difference. The Swans a hundred and four points to Essendon 93.

**PL** It's a boundary throw in. Madden. Madden and Beecroft. Eustice. Well grabbed. And Umpire John Morgan will ball it up. Bare patch of grass there. And a very crowded bounce it is too, it doesn't bounce too kindly for anyone, Ackerly finally gets it over to Rhys Jones, he's a the half back flank, and gets off loaded as he kicks the ball down field. It's on the centre wing position. Round. Swans' Skipper, they love him. Allender, oof, that hurt. Evans takes the mark. It did go off the side of the boot.

**LR** I tell you what, Peter Allender's played a great team game today,

**PL** Yes, as you said during our half time comments, Lou, he's a greatly improved player and seems to improve every time we see him. That's a fine torpedo punt kick, plenty of distance in that and they all missed it. I think Hounsell actually got his hands to that and it went through for one behind. So that makes the difference now here an even 12 points. 14 21 to 14 9, 105 plays 93 in favour of the Swans. Ball back into play, underneath it is Duckworth, Wright again, oh, got one too high, surely?! Umpire Basilew (?) right on the spot. That's a couple Wright's copped in this quarter. Might have even been a clash of heads with Duckworth there, he doesn't look too good either.

**LR** Well the Bombers are slowing up a bit now because they've gotta get a couple of quick goals to be in this Peter.

**PL** Well we said it could be the survival of the fitter. There's a mark to Housell at the back!

**LR** (*laughing*) he's called play on I think. No, he's going to pay it there

**PL** Yes, he paid it

**LR** Well I think Colin Hounsell's the most surprised person of the whole lot

**BS** (*laughing*) No doubt in the world

**PL** He was turning at the back of the pack, there's Duckworth, obviously hurt his arm. Well, Wright must have a pretty solid head. 21 and a half minutes have gone in the quarter, our as Colin Hansell comes in to fire at goal, that looks okay, I think he's done it, it's a goal!

**LR** 21 minutes gone I should say and the Swans are 18 points in front. Been a great second half by the Swans. The Bombers have gone out of business and things don't look too bright at the moment, we see Justin Madden doing battle there with Round, another stack up and the umpire will ball it up. Madden not too happy about that one, I don't know why. Very sticky out there in the centre. 22 uh oh 22 just over 22 and a half minutes as it comes out now the ball driven up there by Otway for Essendon, out wide, towards uh their half forward line, there's a good mark taken down there by Paul Morwood. They've had a quite a few good players since half time South Melbourne, they've all put in. The ball coming back there towards the wing position. Umpire said uh it'll be a 15 meter penalty, the Bomber going over the mark, so Morwood's up there right on the half back line.

**BS** He's obviously got a crook leg Lou, because he's kicking with the left instead of the normal right

**LR** 15 21 the Swans to uh Essendon 14 9. Just on the 23 minute mark as the ball goes back out there towards the wing position, punched away by Welsh back to Bernie Evans, Evans uh can't pick it up, it's on the boundary line, finally given around there by Eustice and the ball out of bounds but it's up towards the, well, it's on the Essendon half forward line, about 55 meters around from their goal. Come in for the tap this time will be Justin Madden and Barry Round. Barry Round certainly given a bit of life to this ruck now as Kruse tries to go it, it's finally picked up now by Buhagiar his handpass wasn't a good one, the umpire's found a free kick and it will go to Tony Morwood. Been a very consistent player all day. So, waiting on Morwood, holding up play a little bit. The Swans knowing that they may have this game in their uh keeping as it goes over the top of the pack. Backed up there by Carey. Carey goes for a quick handpass, back it goes there to Hawker, too slow. Rhys Jones there with a handpass, out there to Allender, Allender's going for a long kick, looking out there for one of the big fellas, it could be Carroll, coming in to mark it – fumbled it! He goes after it again, he's got the front possie picked up by Foschini a snap for goal, it won't make the distance, as a matter of fact, it goes out of bounds on the full and a penalty free kick down there to Essendon. So, the Swans are 15 21 111 to uh Essendon 14 9 93 and we're at the 24 minute mark of this the last quarter and things are looking pretty rosy for the Swans at the moment Peter.

**PL** Not much doubt about that. Copping is the man on screen, decides to go for a handpass. Yes, into time on, so Essendon really have to get a couple of goals on the board and get them quickly if they're to uh hope to take this match out. Ball skids over the boundary line in front of Smith and it will be thrown back into the play just in front of the player's interchange area. Well a very good crowd despite the wet conditions here at the SCG. Knocked down to Heard. Heard goes for a run, he certainly ran his full 10 meters in towards the greasy centre of the ground, it's knocked away by Merrett, to Ackerly, well caught, here's danger for the Swans as Buhagiar takes it to half forward, puts it up towards the square, Clarke is in the goal square, and must goal for Essendon and puts it through, the Bombers still live in hope. Clarke bringing up his first goal to take the Bombers to 15 goals 9 99 still trailing the Swans 15 12 111

**BS** That's a very good piece of play there as we watch on replay, by Buhagiar. We see that Buhagiar really has a look, makes no attempt to kick a goal, was just putting it down there to enable Clarke to take the ball completely clear of any player.



**PL** Clarke's first goal has made the difference now 12 points. We're into the time on period as I said, just over 25 minutes have gone, so Essendon still have a chance to take this match out. It's Madden getting it down, here they go forward again through Glen Hawker, towards the half forward line, plenty of thrills here, Madden overruns the ball, it gives the chance to Ackerly, right on the boundary line and uh an educated back pocket players kick, it's along the line, not out on the full and there will be a throw in between the half forward flank and the forward pocket, right in front of the crowd on the hill and as I said, the crowd here this afternoon 15 461, pretty good under the wet conditions. Justin Madden and Round. Down to Buhagiar offloaded, going through soddenly is Carroll, Madden had a fresh air shot. Ackerly, bad handball, intercepting is Merrett, Kruse got him too high says the umpire. And it will be a free kick, if not a 15 meter penalty, which it is.

**BS** That was silly

**PL** It was silly. Essendon take the free kick down towards full forward and at the back is Beecroft, Eustice, it's going to be 6 points the difference! It is! Eustice bringing up his first goal and what a finish we've got here at the Sydney Cricket Ground.

**LR** oh foolish play on the part of uh South Melbourne, that penalty. There's the score, the Swans 15 21 111 to Essendon 16 9 105. One straight kick in it.

**BS** We'll watch again on replay as the ball was put up high, Beecroft almost taking the mark and a lovely piece of roving by Eustice to bring it up to 6 points the difference. One kick is all it is.

**PL** six points the difference at the SCG and listen to the crowd.

**LR** crowd are going wild. 27 minutes gone, can the Swans hang on? Punched away by Wright, there's a go for Buhagiar to get clear, he can't get it out he's grabbed too high and it'll go back into attack, a quick handpass and they send the ball through Duckworth, a good run and a long kick, up there towards full forward, it's going for a goal, and scores are level! What a goal! And scores are dead level! Oh! Listen to this crowd going mad! So, the score 15 21 111 the Swans to Essendon 17 9 111 also and we've got a real game on our hands! And we've played 28 minutes! Duckworth getting clear and that's a long kick, they all misjudged it, Bob, actually

**BS** Yes I think uh South a little, relaxed a little and expected the players not to take a handball at that stage quick play by Essendon

**LR** Back to the centre, scores dead level. Who is gunna win it now?! A great recovery by the Bombers. Up it goes, Madden gets the tap down. Hawker tries to get clear and the umpire's gunna ball it up. Well, you would have written them off five minutes ago and it looked as though the Swans were gunna win this, but scores have dead level.

**PL** I predicted a draw.

**LR** Peter Landy did tip a draw. He's a marvel. Pushed out by uh Round, Walsh gets a handpass out, Madden's got it, and the Bombers back into attack. Can they score another goal, or a point? A point will do as Ackley picks it up, he's grabbed by Madden (*a balance?*) A handpass back to Paul Morwood, a pass out wide to Beecroft, he baulks, he's grabbed, but he's clear, and the ball around the wing position, now it's South Melbourne's turn to score a goal, no one can take the mark off the top of the pack, and there's. Coming out, a handpass to Hawker and the ball will be driven up there, it's short there to uh is it Merrett? Yes! Merrett's got it, turns, hooks it back towards the forward pocket. Going high is Carter, it's a mark!

**BS** Buhagiar

**LR** to Buhagiar, the little guy, going for a short pass, this is dangerous, and a mark again. A mark to Eustice who kicked the last goal. Now he's got a chance to win the game for the Bombers, he's only

about 35 meters out directly in front. And there we see the mark in replay, also got a free kick too, from Rhys Jones.

**PL** Well South will be remembering their clash at Geelong which they lost virtually in the last kick of the day when Calder Matthews also marked a similar distance out.

**LR** Well he's only about 30 meters out if that, directly in front, and of course we're right on the 29 and a half minute mark just about of this last quarter. (Booing) this could seal the game for the Bombers. He fires. It's one point but that's enough I think at this time of uh the match the uh of this stage of the match I think, Robert. No score.

**BS** He might get another kick.

**LR** I think he's gonna get a 15 meter penalty to bring him right up to make certain of this, so you can just about put down your glasses. He only comes up to about 15 meters out and this gives him a real chance. Look at the South Melbourne players having a chat there with the umpire, what's it all about, but Eustice laughing all the way to the bank because he's got the ball. 30 and a half minutes just about of this last quarter, and this goal will just about seal the game. Timmy Watson wiping the ball for him, he's right on the edge of the kick off mark, just about. Eustice coming in with the crowd hooting, they're all South Melbourne no doubt about that, fires, a goal. So the score at the moment. Essendon 18 goals 9 117 to the Swans 15 21 111.

**PL** well the Swans have really stopped to a walk haven't they? They've gotta get a goal, I would reckon only about a minute's play left, has been a very long quarter as you can see, 31 minutes have elapsed so far, and most of those goals to Essendon I think have come in the time on period. They really have hammered home the advantage in the last few minutes here at the SCG well, as I said, the Swans disappointing in the last few minutes at Geelong and the same thing happening here this afternoon.

**BS** It's evidence you just cannot relax at any stage of a football match

**LR** No you certainly can't Bob.

**PL** Essendon leading by a goal as umpire Bassett comes to put the ball down again. The siren due to go any tick of the clock. Madden and Round. Swans haven't been into attack for quite some time. Walsh. Picked up by Rhys Jones, he gets bowled over, Umpire Morgan says no free kick, it'll be a ball up to take place on the point of the square. Nearly 32 minutes gone, the siren has to go surely any tick of the clock. Winbanks, gets beaten for it, Eustice, back toward centre wing, marked taken down there by Smith and he's playing on, he knows that time is the essence of the contract, up towards full forward, the Swans must get a goal! That could be the chance, Carroll the mark!

**LR** no, he's not paying it

**PL** Oh he's not paying it, oh goodness me I thought he had that

**LR** it's pretty close to a mark that one, I tell you now. (Booing)

**PL** yes, oh, listen to the crowd. Oh, I thought he had that too, the grab's good enough for mine. Look at the players around the ball. It goes to Buhagiar, almost caught, Watson gets offloaded, into the centre field area Merrett, it's a free kick, players hold it. It will be Watson's free kick

**BS** Upfield, Pete

**PL** yes, Watson was felled, as I mentioned in the call.

**BS** Uhum

**PL** who's going to take it? That's Watson

SIREN

**PL** There's the siren, it won't matter! Essendon have got it. A remarkable comeback at the Sydney Cricket Ground and the final scores 18 9 117 the Swans 15 21 111

**LR** well you wouldn't have given two bob for their chances about ten minutes ago.

## 1987.1 Swans v Carlton

1 May 1987 SCG (33 659) 94-87 ABC2

Tim Lane, Doug Heywood, Kevin Bartlett

**TL** start of the last quarter at the Sydney Cricket Ground, the opening match in round 6 of the 1987 VFL season, the Sydney Swans second on the ladder, leading top team Carlton by 22 points, but the Blues with possession of the ball, not making anything of it, and another ball up, the result out of that, on that hallowed SCG cricket turf in midfield. 20 seconds down in the final term and Carlton needing to make every post a winner. Madden wins this time and uh if he can get on top he could make a difference but Wright sharks, now Smith, the big fellow who did well late last year for the Swans. Hard tackling by Carlton and Bradley wins the free kick (*light booing*) against Potter for holding the ball and that's a good sign for the Blues.

**DH** Alvin at centre half back, Evans the target, Browning above should have held that one, Browning is pushed by Evans I thought, umpire says play on.

**KB** I thought he played for the free kick then

**DH** Browning

**KB** I think he should have knocked the ball out rather than hover over the top of the ball. Umpires very rarely pay that as a free kick today.

**DH** they've been very difficult to earn, free kicks, for this particular season, I think that's probably a good thing too. There goes Kernahan above them, picked up by Bolton, Bolton then kicks it very high down field, Dorotich in great position, actually he's hurt himself that time, maybe he was pulled out there by Smith and the free kick (*illegible*)

**KB** Hard knock here tonight

**DH** straight through him

**TL** That's about the third time he's copped one in the head

**DH** He remembers them too, look out

**TL** got the ball on the bridge of the nose I think, which might be a bit tender. Johnstone nicely to Kernahan good handpass, running onto it is Evans but Evans never able to work his way clear.

Free kick

**TL** But a free kick for the Blues, Cordy doesn't like it and uh I don't blame him, I thought that looked a bit ...

Iffy

**TL** Fortunate for Carlton, very iffy, and the big crowd perhaps doesn't like it too much. They're learning their footy up here in Sydney. Evans using the torpedo, to full forward, and the defenders surrounding Kernahan then making sure he couldn't get hands onto it, it's a behind, first score of the last quarter.

**KB** interesting to see Ironmonger right back in the square there, I think Tom Hafey, you know, in that last quarter thought Carroll is too short and Kernahan must ah, Ironmonger must get back into that goal square to get some height.

**DH** Wayne Henwood was there too, Kevin. He kicked that ball out so there's a lot of tall timber, Healy gunna be caught but he breaks the (??) tackle, sends it down towards looking for Potter. Over the back it goes and well played. Lost by Robertson, and now the umpire again

**TL** They've actually moved Henwood onto Kernahan now

**DH** yes. I thought the same (*illegible*). Sometimes I feel Dennis Carroll right for the position to be a half back flanker (*illegible*)

**TL** that's his field

**DH** Madden, very very cleverly down to Bradley. In front Steve Kernahan an awkward bounce, two to one against him, you'd better hurry Henwood, you won't get away with it, he does get it out wide, Toohey's in business on half back flank has a lot of time to steady, kicks it long, Dorotich is in good position, up he goes and takes it far too easily. And Dorotich now on half back flank, but there was no opposition. Dorotich has been a splendid half back flank all night, nobody's taken over from him. And he gets a 15 meter penalty steadies is big Jon, tend to drive it downfield, always looking for Steve Kernahan and he nearly held it.

Down goes Rhys Jones tumbled to the ground, the little men are there again through David Murphy. David Murphy's going – look out he's caught by Kernahan and his handpass, it's against him, it's against him, and well played Captain, that was a magnificent tackle.

**KB** it was great play by Kernahan because he chased by some 25, 30 meters, and that, he was well rewarded for that hard work.

**TL** Meldrum's just beside where Kernahan is about to kick from in the hands of trainers. He apparently received a chop on the throat but now he runs away from the trainers. Plenty of leapers. Henwood weighted down, good smother Gleeson, but dropped the ball when he had a great scoring chance. Carter raced it in and holds on for dear life and forces a ball up and that was a great opportunity wasted by Gleeson, number 12, who had it at his disposal and was running goal-ward.

**DH** Ironmonger and Kernahan, Ironmonger to Wright was very clever. Wright's been a splendid player. Out past Glascott, running with the flight of the ball, takes a good one. He's 65 to 70 meters from goal. Wayne Johnstone gives a short lead but it's ignored by David Glascott. Kicks it high, always the target Steve Kernahan, three against him, and Ironmonger thumps it out to Wayne Johnstone, left foot this time it's a very good one. That's his second. Well, Ironmonger got up high and thumped it away (*some booing*) but there was a Carlton player waiting for that one.

**TL** Doesn't it show the value of a good high marking forward because four of them went against him, three as you can see and it must leave loose men at ground level.

**KB** Well, all night Carlton has lacked that player at the bottom of the pack. Johnstone in the first half on the half forward flank couldn't get in the game, they've moved him into the centre and that's really given him a lift, and uh, he likes playing on the ball and in the centre, and he pushed himself right down to the forward line, loves to kick a goal and he's very good at it.

**TL** the Blues within 15 points, five minutes into the last quarter. Johnstone overrunning it, had a great chance, now Gleeson, nothing back there for Carlton, and Carter again hangs onto that ball as though it's gold bullion. It is the golden coloured ball that they use at night, not worth as much as the other uh commodity, but uh for Carter, it's more important at the moment. Out to half back. Blues really lifting now, and looking better than they have done all night. Robertson caught on his wrong boot. Didn't know how to use the other one, or that one, the right one, and took it over the line for a throw in.

**DH** what a good smother it was by young Potter who's played very well. He's about 21 or 22 years old but very inexperienced player, Motley tackled, and tackled by Murphy very well. Held it too long.

David Murphy one of the big improvers in this side, out to Williams, Williams lightning stuff to Wright, Wright's about centre wing position, can go for a long run, sends it very high downfield, underneath it the chance is there for McKenzie, uh, Kennedy, but missed it, and there it is again, the ball underneath that tackle mess

KB? They're lacking a bit of marking power on the forward line, the Swans, You've mentioned it a couple of times tonight, Doug, that uh Warwick Capper hasn't flown for enough marks, and then he probably should have sensed earlier that that kick was going to drop short and he should have pushed himself out so he can contest it.

TL Just over six minutes gone and Carlton getting closer than they've been for a long time but the Swans with a chance. Mitchell frustrated at not being able to pick it up at one grab. And a bit of agitation now. Ron Thomas sitting next to Tommy (*Hafey*) and the face just starting to look slightly alarmed. Bayes climbing high but straight to Dorotich who bursts out of defence, took a bit too long but gets it to Meldrum, running onto the ball, which bounces nicely for him, lovely floating handpass to Alvin, who runs onto it and kicks long but there's nothing at full forward. Carroll misses an easy one, Rhys Jones a chance now, second bite at the ball, and a third, and eventually looking for a ball up but getting a free kick for a push in the back! (*Light booing*) The umpire ruling that Cardiff fell onto his back and the former Swan Rhys Jones takes it, let's have a look, oh geez

DH Maybe when not in possession

TL Maybe, but he was over the ball and normally that's ruled as constituting possession and Rhys Jones very lucky, in my opinion

KB Well, at least he was over the top of the ball playing in front. The the bad part was the fact that Carroll dropped the sitter

TL What an important kick. The margin 15 points. A lovely drop punt and the Blues are back in the ball game at the seven and a half minute mark. The margin back to nine points after they trailed by almost 6 goals half way through the third quarter and the Navy Blues are coming home.

KB Those moves at half time have revitalised a lot of players. Uh Rhys Jones back on the wing. We see this incident now where Rhys Jones went to pick the ball up one hand with a scoop, coming in there pretty lucky to get that as a free kick. He was over the ball, obviously, looking at that close up there, it wasn't a free, but if you're in front, well the luck runs with you.

DH you see how greasy that ball is too in this night time, well played Ironmonger, out to David Murphy, onto Healy, and Healy's well tackled, picked up there by big Smith, he's very slow, back it goes to Healy, only to be intercepted by Motley. Motley gets it out and it's driven down towards centre wing but the free kick is gone, and it's to be taken by Motley, but what a miserable half um half of the first quarter has Dennis Carroll had. That was a bad mistake and a goal resulted, a couple of 15 meter penalties have gone against him,

KB well his confidence is probably shattered by Kernahan in that third quarter

DH Might be, now as Motley now kicks it high down forward looking for Rhys Jones this time, Carroll's with him, neither look like taking it, Alvin goes Alvin racing out there, Mitchell's with him too. Mitchell's got two to one against him, is bundled over the line, ball in front of him goes over too, it'll be thrown in at centre wing position. Robert Walls, dour as ever, on the phone.

TL a few sleepless nights planning this one, producing the bags under the eyes. Johnstone to half forward for Carlton, Kernahan with plenty to beat as usual and not much at ground level. First there is Browning, running onto his wrong foot, soccers well, makes a lot of ground, now a real race, Glascott leads in the race for it, the old one hand pick up, has to kick in a hurry but does it very effectively.

Gains 35 meters for the Blues and the throw in to take place up towards the forward pocket. The crowd really coming to life now, Carlton with plenty of support here in this 33 thousand strong crowd at the SCG.

**DH** Big leap from behind there by Henwood, over the back it goes, here's a chance for Neil Cordy, jumps over his Carlton opponent but the ball is out of play. And that really was getting foot to ball very quickly with Glascott there back a few moments ago. It's on the 50 meter mark as big John Ironmonger does such a wonderful job, Henwood above him very strongly, Toohey fights for it, Kernahan in the thick of things, out to Alvin, Alvin downfield, Meldrum in front, a very good punch this time, and a chance for a snap shot for goal, it's missed, missed there by Motley, ooh he threw his head in disgust! Such an easy one he wasn't far out.

**KB** But I s'pose uh, well, the good news is that Carlton players are now at the front of the pack. And Motley was there again. The Swans are falling down in that area now after being dominating. Bolton who's been out of the game, Morwood has gone out of the game on their forward line, and uh, they need a little bit of a lift on their running players who have been so dominating. At this particular stage the Carlton players are at the foot of the pack.

**TL** yes, and they're there again. Johnstone coming to life. To half forward. Rhys Jones comes from the back, flies high to scout Motley, a second chance Peter Motley, he won't miss this one, he doesn't and the margin is two points! Approaching the eleven minute mark of the last term and the Blues are storming home at the SCG.

**KB** One again Tim, uh when that ball fell, let's have a look at the numbers of Carlton players here, good contesting by Rhys Jones, Motley was there, Fraser Murphy was there, Hawking, there's Gleeson, so they've got the numbers there now and Carlton I think we said at three quarter time they were capable of coming back, and their smaller players have lifted, it's a great credit to them, and Rhys Jones contesting very very strongly,

**DH** Yes and Fraser Murphy come down the ground (*illegible*) Kevin, patted Rhys Jones on the back and said well done mate, because he had three against him

**KB** A good player for Carlton since half time has been Glascott

**DH** yes, yes, and right into the game

**KB** with that running style of his

**DH** typical long running style that he's got, he loves to be running fast and he's done it well

**TL** what a test now between one and two on the ladder

**DH** Ironmonger on the ball, well done Madden, intercepted brilliantly that time by Mitchell, Mitchell's kick doesn't cover much distance. Leading in the race is Potter, overrunning it that time was Morwood, a handpass goes from Fraser Murphy to Alvin, Alvin downfield, underneath it Cordy, never looked like it, out comes Rod Carter, handles it very well, then lost it, Henwood strong play, can't find anybody to give it to, down he goes. Claiming (*laughing*) the free kick was Motley but the umpire doesn't agree, but the Blues are back in attack.

**TL** and the Blues endeavour from about the 20 minute mark of the third term has lifted one hundred percent. And 12 minutes into the last quarter they're just 2 points behind. Rhys Jones fumbles as he had the chance to shark cleanly, hasn't played this too well. Murphy there in support, has had a bad night. Murphy's Law for Fraser tonight. Anything that can go wrong will, and he wasn't able to change it then, just taking the ball over the line.



**DH** Ironmonger, oh, a tremendous leap from the back by Henwood. He has done that several times. Picked up by Wayne Johnston cleverly dodges, sends it down to the danger zone again, here comes Rodney Carter in trouble, a very good tackle to Motley against Motley, picked up and driven out of danger very nicely by Toohey, but straight to Murphy. And Murphy is about 65 meters out. Won't make the distance. Centres it right down into teeth of goal, big leap by Kernahan, picked up there by Gleeson, lost it, Browning dives at it, Kernahan's the fighter for it, and there comes the umpire to bounce it once again, right in the teeth of Carlton's goal and they trail by just two points

**TL** Two points. 13 minutes gone, heaps of time for these two teams to show which is best, and which deserves to be on top of the ladder after 6 rounds, a quarter of the way through the season. Williams handpass taken by Bernie Evans, kick smothered, Blues deep in attack, well played Meldrum, the freak, so elusive and now the chance on for Bradley with the left boot, he – hits the post. Well, fair enough because the Swans had a couple of those earlier in the match, and perhaps it was Carlton's turn and the margin is just one point.

**DH** yes, they've had three actually, the Swans, and that was fair enough. And now Neil Cordy, not sure where to go, a good leap by uh by Healy in front, was very intelligent. He looked at Healy, looked at Williams, they're the best two players, chose Healy, he's the taller player, Smith is the target of Healy, punched away from him, Williams and Alvin, this will be interesting. Alvin gets the ball. Out wide to Dorotich, three against him, still gets boot to ball very cleverly, punched out, here's Meldrum with a chance, was retarded by his own teammate Murphy actually. Murphy with the ball now but the umpire's whistle has blown, another ball up, Carlton in attack. One point the difference. Swans in front. Paul Hawke waiting ready to go on the ground.

**TL** and the Blues, making all the running at the start of this last quarter closing the gap to a point. Swans under great pressure now after looking like winners all night. Now they're into attack through David Murphy. To half forward, Dorotich, big run at the ball, couldn't take the mark, danger for Carlton, well played big Tony Smith, but still the Blues in charge. Dennis, sloppy sort of a kick. Fortunately for him bounces over the line. That was a good result for him and uh he was a little bit lucky to get it.

**KB** Tom Hafey obviously wants more movement on the forward line, he's taken Bayes off, who's had a poor game and Hawker's been put onto half forward flank.

**DH** in front was Madden, doing it well, here's the danger-man Bradley playing well, a driving kick, underneath it Carroll, Carroll plays on, Rhys Jones very clever, Henwood gets his big strong body in, Carroll again, fumbles badly having a bad time, the Captain, and once again it'll be bounced. Once again it's in Carlton's attacking zone.

**KB** and uh he should have taken that mark again, I felt then.

**DH** he's really having a bad time.

**TL** suddenly Carlton's pressure starting to tell and the Swans making rare mistakes. Madden, unlucky not to get a free. Glascott gives it to Rhys Jones, who plays for the free kick and gets it! A little luckily (booing) sixty meters from goal, he's got Kernahan in great position but didn't see him for the short pass. He's too far out to score, kicks to full forward, plenty of spoilers, and Carter rose the pack nicely. But Carlton have the numbers three to one out there, two of them fall over, (*laughing*) and Bolton brilliantly over the top of Tony Morwood, what great thinking that was. Now Hawke, just off the interchange bench has nothing to kick to and has to go for the boundary line, and Hafey's starting to look as though he's seeing something that he doesn't like.

**DH** that was brilliant by Paul Hawke, there was not a Swans player in sight, Carlton players everywhere and he just grubbed it along the ground and bounced it over the line. Of the fifties a John



Beckwith kick to perfection (?? *That's what it sounded like*) In goes Smith and Madden, Madden won it, goes back to it again was Motley, playing a good term, Bolton in trouble but gets a lightning handpass to Williams. Williams steadies and drives it down towards the half forward flank, could have been a free that time, not allowed, and it's eventually bucketed over the line again and this time it's on the half forward line for the Swans.

**KB** They're having a lot of trouble penetrating Jon Dorotich at centre half back, uh there's not a player on the Swan's forward line who's capable of taking a mark at the moment.

**TL** Madden's taken over in the ruck and Bradley doing well at ground level. Ironmonger lumbering after that one, Fraser Murphy with pace, which could be very helpful in this quarter, everyone's being sucked up the ground, who's got the pace here, Henwood beats Meldrum to the ball saves the day for the Swans, Meldrum kept it in, I think it might have crossed the line but the boundary umpire a long way from the action. (*Also boundary line obliterated by paper streamers*)

**DH** no, it was in

**TL** now Henwood clears to half back, nothing there for Carlton, awkward bounce for the Swans, Hawke, which way to go, does it brilliantly, good handpass too, fumble from Murphy, still a chance for Murphy, up to full forward, Silvagni getting under it, only Capper to beat takes it through for a behind, and the Swans lead by two points. A long period without a score as the Swans 12 15 Carlton 12 13.

**KB** Had the glasses on that one right down on the boundary line there Tim, and uh it was kept in play, it was very clever play

**DH** there's consultation going on between the umpires, Kevin, I'm not sure what's happening

**KB** free kick because, because the ball I think is going to come out to the uh point of the square.

**DH** yes, that's right, Motley's in possession right at the point of the square

**KB** One of the Swans players might have tampered with the ball after it was through for a point. Rather than letting Silvagni get the ball and kick it back.

**DH** well it's a costly one. It's costs them 65 meters and Motley kicks it long downfield looking for the winning Kernahan, Henwood's done well against him in the air, jumps and spoils it. And there again, another pack develops, but Henwood, with his endeavour and his great strength and courage has really been a bit of a problem for Kernahan and Kernahan up to date in the Carlton forward has easily been the dominant man, kicking 5 goals 5. Waiting now for the umpire bounce, the Blues in attack, great leap by Henwood once again, out wide it goes, its two Carlton to one and good shepherding gives a chance to Dean, Dean then hooks it back, in front a great effort by Kernahan almost got it and again, pack develops and we'll see the umpire, no he's signalled a free kick and it's going to the Blues

**TL** No, the Swans

**DH** yes, it is, back to Rod Carter who's played a sterling game.

**TL** At half back, Bayes getting ready to come back. The Swans lead by two points and time ticking away. Nineteen minutes gone. Well done Dean just paddling it to Robertson who let him down with a fumble. And Hawke, really lifting the Swans in the last few minutes, plays it well again and delivers nicely, but just too far in front of Mitchell, for a throw in on Sydney's half forward flank. The home team leading by two points as Smith leaves the field.

**KB** and Bayes is back on the ground and Hawke has been a good move when he came onto the ground to replace Bayes about 5 minutes ago, he's been in some good passages.

**TL** in fact it seems the score's been amended on the board a one point margin. Potter works it forward for the Swans. Dorotich versus Bayes, just back on, was he held? Yes, he was, and Bayes gets a free kick.

**KB** controversial one that.

**TL** I thought it was there

**DH** I think it was there, yep,

**TL** touch and go, but it could be crucial, because Bayes, who is one of the best kicks of the ball in the game, in fact, perhaps without peer, is only 15, maybe 20 meters from goal as he kicks, although the angle doesn't favour his left boot, but he could give this a great shake. Oh he's kicked across the face, missed everything. Amazingly. Perhaps the pressure just starting to take its toll. At the 20 minute mark Swans 86 Carlton 85.

**KB** And Smith has to come back on the ground because Potter's in the hands of the trainers, and uh they've got him over the boundary line, and big Tony Smith back on.

**DH** Silvagni kicks out wide and kicks it very well. Onto the half back flank and here comes uh Kennedy. Kennedy out very wide, Robertson onto his left foot, Rhys Jones leads Carroll and does it very well. Well, you can't keep him down all day. Today he's kept out for three quarters played a lovely last quarter. Underneath it Carter misses a sitter and it's picked up there by Gleeson, out towards Alvin, Alvin shepherds with the left foot comes right across the face of goal – hit the post again.

Oh!

**TL** what an amazing kick! That would have been the goal of the decade if he'd kicked it. The score's level. Now there was an adjustment made a moment ago, our scores there agrees with the scoreboard which says its level, and yet the Swans led by 2 points, let's hope we've got the score's right on the board. Rhys Jones can put Carlton into attack, the Blues haven't been in front all night, now they're level. Bad fumble by Alvin. Williams, oh brilliantly done, then the handpass put his team under pressure, Johnstone long to full forward, Blues a great chance, where are the scouts? Ball up and a chance for Carlton to even work it through for a behind to gain the lead in the match. 21 and a half minutes gone in the final term.

**DH** there's Potter limping off the ground, but all the concentration on Kernahan has made such a difference to the Carlton forward line. What a captain he's been tonight, kicked 5 goals and now it's three to one against him has given the smaller players something really to rove to. Here comes Ironmonger, Kernahan with him, Fraser Murphy in trouble, over the top they go for the boundary line and slither over out of bounds. That will be thrown in once again, but Carlton are in attack and the scoreboard is level, back it comes very quickly into play, Henwood the big strong player, Bayes hits it out wide, the umpire's in his road, gets in his road, Hawkes got the ball again, Motley shoots, Motley kicks it to the goal square and it's through for one behind.

**TL** The blues are in front and what a stroke of good fortune because the Swans looked set to come out of defence, in fact, they could have really set something up and twice, unfortunately for them the

umpire just happened to be parked in the way. Toohey kicks long down the middle, Madden a great mark. Well done by the giant. He doesn't take too many of them but he did that really well.

**KB** it was a poor kick because he kicked it towards Browning who must be about 10 inches shorter.

**TL** 60 meters from goal. He's a giant kick of the ball is Madden, although this one drops a little short. There's nothing there for Carlton. The Swans defenders spoil each other giving Carlton a chance. Rhys Jones and Gleeson and the Swans starting to make errors in defence. They really had an opportunity there to get out of trouble. Chance for the Blues now, Dean, if he can pick it up. Pressure telling on both sides. And eventually the Swans do come away with it. They were going to get a free kick anyway, Wright kicks to the wing but kicks poorly. Dorotich backing up nicely, pushed in the back, no free kick. Well played Glascott to Kennedy, to Dennis and Carlton mount the attack again. Well placed pass by Dean (??) saw Dean drops a sitter, support from Gleeson, long to full forward, major chance again but a great mark by Cordy.

**DH** Dennis Carroll's been moved to centre half forward. He has to give it out short towards Toohey, Toohey plays on and they bet to get on with the business there's no Swans player to kick to, the only one is Bradley, Bradley's wide out there in centre wing position, baulks out of danger, still in danger, kicks it poorly, Hawke has been a very good player for the Swans in the last quarter, tries to find Williams, Williams can't get to it quickly enough, into it comes again and Bolton goes down, so does Mitchell and Tom Hafey looking most despondent, the lead has been whittled away, we're at the 24 minute mark and there's one point the difference and Carlton are in front.

**TL** Well, bad kick from Bradley then centring the ball. I thought it might have been a repeat of last Sunday's match when Grinter did that and gave away the winning goal. Still the Swans with a chance. Twenty four and a half minutes gone. Wright puts them into attack at half forward, at the back Mitchell for his fourth goal, gives it away, Morwood, the Swans are back in front! And the SCG is delirious at the 24 and a half minute mark, Tony Morwood gets his third and the Swans by 5 points.

**KB** well they badly needed that goal, and little Mitchell, there's Stevie Wright, he took the ball on the half volley, he kicked it as far as he could, there was the punch by the Carlton defenders, but waiting there was Mitchell and Mitchell there with that beautiful baulk, he feigned the handpass, he gave it out, he gave it out to Morwood and Morwood who after dominating that quarter with two goals, has been a disappointing player on and off the ground but he's kicked that goal and that's the one the Swans wanted.

**DH** what a great day Stephen Wright has had. He started that parade down forward Oh well played Bradley, goes racing downfield. Hooks it back and Steve Kernahan comes in from the side, a big punch by Carter gives the opportunity for him to pick up and Richard, uh Johnstone it is, onto his wrong foot, out wide towards the flank it goes and a good leap by carter again, right on the boundary line Fraser Murphy (*laughing*) and into Rod Carter it went. He smothered it. Maybe accidentally. And it came into him to be kept close to the boot. Well done Rod Carter. It's out of bounds but the Blues are in attack.

**TL** doubly well done because he initially made the spoil when Carlton looked the chance to grab the mark. Kernahan the palm down but triply well done Carter, three times he saved there, gets it to Mitchell, out to the wing, Dean a good attempt, it wasn't Dean it was Kennedy, trying to mark. Smith and Wright over the ball, and finally a ball up just Carlton's side of the attacking line. 26 minutes gone, only 4 goals kicked in the last quarter, so the term probably won't go more than 29 minutes, and the Swans lead by 5 points.

**DH** A real flogger now, Ironmonger and Madden, Madden does it well, underneath it was Hawke, could have taken a free, he does. Hawke has made a big difference since he came off the interchange bench, a very skilful player downfield towards centre half forward. Capper goes, never looked like it, punched when it should have been marked that time, picked up by Madden, he's caught by Smith, gets it across and the mark is taken by Robertson, and Robertson will be wise just to steady for a moment. He's about centre half back, he wants to kick it long in the Kernahan direction, which he does. Henwood's his opponent, Cordy punches it long, gives an opportunity to Tommy Alvin, Alvin goes past, Bolton good tackle and across it comes. The chance is Mitchell, Mitchell out to Hawke, Hawke a beautiful handpass and once again racing downfield is Carroll, Carroll spears it goal wards, underneath it was almost taken by Morwood, through his outstretched fingers it went through for one behind.

**KB** well I thought that Carroll would sink

**DH** one goal the difference, incidentally,

**KB** thought he would sink that. He's a lovely kick. He had plenty of time.

**TL** Carlton in trouble but out of it. Silvagni to Dean. Dean a long floater. Be hard for the Blues to win from here they need two scores. Robertson to the wing, a beautiful kick, finds Evans who's had a terrible night, centring kick towards Rhys Jones, caps off a terrible night for Evans, Smith takes it, to Browning, who can kick the ball immense distances but chooses not to gives it to Bolton and well played this by the Swans. They looks as though they've weathered the storm and done it with class. Bolton up towards half forward. Ball comes loose. A score will win it for Sydney but they won't get it in this exchange. A ball up almost 28 minutes gone. I think time will beat Carlton now, the Blues trail by a goal

**KB** been a great come back by the Blues at half time they looked a beaten side. A lot of changes in that third quarter and they've made this into a great contest.

**DH** Smith did well a kick off the ground. Opportunity there for a hit (?) out wide by Carroll again, Carroll gives it to Mitchell, Mitchell puts it down the Capper direction, off the hands of the pack and that seals it

SIREN

**KB** siren

**DH** and there's the siren as well, so that's really sealed it Kev. And the crowd go absolutely ecstatic. The Sydney Swans a well deserved win. 13 goals 16 94 defeated Carlton 12 15 87.

## 1987.2 Collingwood v Brisbane Bears

2 May 1987 Victoria Park (16 712) 105-88 ABC2

Geoff Leak, Dick Mason

**DM** About to set them into motion to start the last quarter with a 41 point lead to the Magpies, Geoff

**GL** And uh, Richardson takes the football oh he's run down rather strongly, on the half forward line. The ball is dead on the 50 meter line, the umpire will ball it up. Collingwood have outplayed them all day, they had a maximum um margin of 54 points at that third quarter, they lead by 41 at the moment, the Bears half forward line. Wall of players there, here's Denis Banks. He's held, he's held without the football, he'll take that. Collingwood kicking uh with an easy breeze in this final term towards the Gareth Walls end and he's bringing it round uh bit of jiggery pokery there, go for number three, clever attempt there by O'Brien bounces up like a rubber ball and looks for (?? Lee? Liam?) on the half forward line, kicks it towards Williams. Someone said leave it, for Williams, he turns his back, good roving by Shaw, Brown's been a good player for Collingwood, O'Keefe out positioned him, free kick, Brown's way, for Collingwood.

**DM** Coming up to the 1 and a half minute mark of the last term. Brown's kick to half forward looking for Cloke, high in the pack, McCarthy, gets the ball away towards Hardy, Hardy had Richardson inside him but elected to take the kick himself. Out there is Banks the ball bounces kindly for him, pursued by O'Keefe, feeds the ball inside to Croall, Croall sends Collingwood forward with a neat pass to Turner, Turner has nobody guarding him. Kicks to the unguarded Manson at centre half forward and it looked just so easy for Collingwood as they came forward with neat disposal of hand and foot. Sixth mark by James Manson, a former champion from North Hobart and almost a cult figure here at Victoria Park in this, only his second season. He's within kicking range, about 40 meters out, almost straight in front. Goal number four. And he's kicked a goal in each of the four quarters thus far. Three from marks and his first goal from a snap shot. Here's that uh pass again from Croall, a delightful pass of the football further afield to Turner, Turner, just a pop shot over the top, again good pass, good disposal and the easiest of marks followed by a good goal.

**GL** Eight goal lead to the Pies, all but a point, Geoffrey Raines who's played well this third quarter this final term although Raines was taken off in second term. Bernie Harris puts the Bears into attack, here's Lockwood for Collingwood miles in front of Richardson. He has a gallop around the outer wing, a lovely kick down the wing, to Millane, that was a gem of a pass, travelling at a hundred miles an hour, and he was running flat out, he played it well. Millane down to Cloke, the big fellow who's marked, Cloke and Manson and Taylor have been match winners for Collingwood.

**DM** Good play

**GL** Keays. Rizonico pulled off the ball, grabbed there by Ben Harris and he is in turn wrapped up by Brown and they're going to call for a bounce. Nearly four minutes gone. And a bounce. Collingwood's goal. McCarthy. Oh Bradbury, Bradbury just happened to be there, a short kick came off the boot slid of it virtually and Bradbury got under it, just tucked it into his chest. That line in front of him is in fact the 50 meter line and he kicks about 10 meters on the inner side of that, about 40 meters of course, from goal. Got a nice kicking style and it won't make the distance! He couldn't kick it 40 meters. The Bears have marked it through the big fellow, Ben Harris and pings it across to Brenton Phillips. He got off the hook here. Banfield. Up to uh (*booing*) up to boo. Williams, Mark Vincent's (*laughing*) around the boundary line and it goes across for throw in.

**DM** Up to boo?! (*laughing*) it could only be one of three players, Williams, Richardson or Raines who they boo all the time

**GL** Boo hoo or boo. (*laughing*) in front of that little scoreboard which shows Collingwood in the darkness 14 7 to Brisbane 6 8. We've been playing 5 minutes. Tap down. Harris hustled off the ball, hustled off by Raines, boo, and uh the umpire says holding the man, Geoffrey Raines favoured by the free kick. Too far out to score 60 meters out, Raines puts it up towards the kick off lines, big mark Mickan! Now he's had two shots for goal, hit the post with his first, and kicked a behind with his second. His fifth mark. Big fellow. Left foot for goal. Right through the middle. That's the seventh for the Bears (*booing*)

**DM** A very belated one though. Just a matter really how much Collingwood will win by, Collingwood enthusiastic all day, their disposal certainly has been much superior to the Bears, at least they've got someone they try and reach their members with hand passing and foot passing whereas the Bears have been wasting the ball all day.

**GL** And they trail 6 goals 5 and it's a bit like Scandinavia here at the moment with the clouds, very dark ones over Victoria Park, can hardly see. Clever mark to Turner.

**DM** Morwood

**GL** Morwood, heavily disguised as Turner and Morwood in the 45 by 45 square. Gets a call from Bradbury who left boots it down to the half forward line. McCarthy, good one, free around the neck. McCarthy puts in the half kick here up towards Smith, not much up forward line for the Bears to kick to but he goes for Williams because two Magpies there,

**DM** One of them marks it and it's Lockman

**GL** Lockman number 17, Michael Lockman, 15 meters and he'll get another one because he isn't hurrying back. The umpire kindly disposed towards him. Lockman kicks to half forward. Croall! No it's big Jim Manson, long hand pass into trouble. High tackle, no holding the ball. Looked high to me. Brad Hardy to take the free kick. Seven and a half minutes. Hardy, long disposal towards half forward Cloke is there to thump the ball to ground, picked up by Richardson, boo, holding the ball say the Collingwood fans. The umpire agrees, Cloke picks up crumbs and goes forward. Chance for Turner, palms off Hardy, gives uh the ball inside once again, Collingwood running once more, Fielke, towards Taylor almost marked by Harris, he's grabbed by Taylor, the ball's on the ground, play on calls the umpire and finally, decides on a bounce.

**DM** Yes Brian Taylor a little unlucky the last two or three times he's been caught behind but the kicks into his area have been very poor.

**GL** Taylor's kicked three goals. Manson kicked four. Brown's been a strong player for Collingwood on the forward line, and Raines after being taken off really responded and played well. Lovely kick out there towards Bernie Harris. Coming forward is Philip Walsh up to O'Brien played it well, Gayfer the consummate Backman, played it well, just thumped it away from the eager hands of O'Brien, and a throw in on the Bears half forward line. And the pies lead by 41 points.

**DM** Eight and a half minutes gone, last quarter. 33 is Cloke again an uneven struggle against the wingman O'Keefe. Tony Shaw leading in the race to the ball, he gets possession eventually, by the handpass gives it to Ryan, Ryan, Magpies running to forward, Manson the man behind. But the man in front has the mark and that's McCarthy. He in turn to Fidge. Fidge uh disposal towards Smith and Smith takes the mark. 15 meters later... Play on now as he gives it to Campbell. He's well shepherded but Campbell's kick is toward Reynoldson, and Reynoldson marks, possession to Raines, Raines through the centre, boo towards uh full forward area and Mickan. Knocked to ground, all Magpies. Picked up by Turner, he's grabbed, but gives it to Morwood, Morwood in turn to another Magpie going past him is Croall, Croall towards Manson, he misses, takes an air shot when the ball was not 15 meters away, play on to Fidge, Fidge is tripped takes the free kick.



*(laughs)*

**GL** Nah, hands it over. What's going on here? Banfield with the free kick, back to Reynoldson. The Bears are starting to put a spurt on but they've left their run too late. They're 41 points behind and Reynoldson's being uh brought forward by 15 meters and pings a short one to Phillips. Oh, they're lairising across to Richardson, straight to tackle this time, then lines up with a long kick, and there's a goal. *(Booing)* Second goal for Richardson in a fine piece of play.

**DM** Bears starting to give a little bit of cheek. Mark Richardson knows where the goals are at Victoria Park and how to kick them and that is a prime example of his art. Ten and a half minutes gone in the gathering gloom, John.

**J** Geoff Raines and uh Brendan Phillips uh ruck roving changing that back pocket, uh, following their men as they go.

**GL** Bounce down, Cloke in command, palms down but the Bears go forward again, Raines once more, Swings possession towards Smith, he catches Morwood, Morwood in turn to Turner, off the half back line towards Bradbury, Bradbury kicks towards Manson, has it stolen from him, tries to tap on, does so to Taylor, Taylor shepherded by Shaw tries to play on, swings ball over shoulder to Atkins, who marks at the point of the square.

**DM** He may have played 64 VFL games but this is his third only I think for Collingwood. No doubt about that one, Graham Atkins first goal. Collingwood have um 15 on the board.

**GL** Yes, a quick answering goal we're at this stage, so far ahead, Collingwood can't afford to relax, there's there's no no doubt going to win the game but they have to teach all their young fellows how to go on with the game and win by big convincing margins.

**DM** Although the Bears are pegging back, Collingwood Magpies still lead by 35 points. Why do the Bears save their best til last? They lost it in the first quarter virtually, the first half certainly. Brown to attack again. McCarthy's having a top last quarter, and a long kick right out to the wing position, marked out there by Walsh, hovers around the mark and waits for someone to run into position its Bernie Harris deep on the half forward flank. Into Raines. Maybe they think he can win the match for them, he's played an enormous second half. Mark bicker, no, can't mark it this time, there's three Pies right on top of him. Umpire standing there to ball it up.

**GL** Starcevich back on for Collingwood

**DM** And Manson off. Bears in attack. Beacon taps forward, taken by Lockman for Collingwood. Morwood a stuttery run. Better learn to speak and kick but uh his disposal not as accurate as he would have liked, Bears coming forward through Reynoldson, inboard to Fidge, Fidge fiddling a little gives it to Campbell. Campbell well shepherded bangs away towards the kick off lines, big pack of players. Picked up by Hardie. He's pushed!

*Booing Laughing Roaring*

**GL** No, he had the ball, says Cloke, he had the ball, he was holding the ball says David Cloke

**DM** The umpire said 'Stiff'

**GL** Whoah

**DM** Yeah

**GL** Yeah. Push in the back. See ya later. Mickan had it right.

*(Booing) (Cheering) (behind is kicked)*

**DM** All it deserved, Collingwood fans, all it deserved

**GL** 14 minutes gone, 15 8 to 8 8.

**DM** More of less, Number 5 Brad Hardy is running into somewhere near his best form. Kick out is good. Reynoldson there, Cloke as well. (??) Handball down to Starcevich McCarthy had him. McCarthy plays it well. Good pick up. Whoops, Brenton Phillips. Banfield. Phillips again. Hooks it out. Bernie Harris this time, Bears are getting in a flurry this final term. Welsh waits out the pack for the handball. Hardy from the pack perhaps, no, too slow. O'Brien free kick to Turner. Turner from half back back towards the centre of the ground. His target is Cloke in front of the pack. Ball hits the ground. Millane tackles well, here's Morwood, he's grabbed, ball held to him for a bounce. Bounce down. 15 minutes gone. Collingwood easily 15 8 to 8 8.

**GL** 15 8 .8 9.

**DM** Free kick. And the Bears Phillips Walsh takes it and it falls neatly into the hands of Gayfer, well shepherded by Morwood, Gayfer kicks the ball forward but his disposal is poor, marked by Fidge.

**GL** John Fidge. It's a good kick as well for almost a one hander. O'Keefe. Here go the Magpies again. They know what to do with it, uh and the Bears are letting them do it today by the way. It's a bit of practice run for handball and running to position, too high. Good attempt though on Williams, and the Magpies have really pounced on him. Hardy!

**DM** 15 meters

**GL** No, but Hardy had a shot before and missed. Surely he can size it up this time and kick the goal. 40 points behind, the Bears. 16 minutes. Last quarter. Good kick. Okay this time, for a behind! (*laughing*) Turner, on the 50 meter line, Collingwood coming forward across the centre line, towards Cloke, ball knocked down, by Campbell, possession to Phillips, Phillips good one to O'Keefe. O'Keefe decides he'll wait, he waits for somebody to run into space and that somebody is Richardson, he runs into the space, can't take the mark and uh the Bears come unglued. Collingwood coming out of attack once again, down towards Tony Shaw, and he lets it go across the line with a bit of an unintentional fumble. 17 and a half minutes. Starcevich in ruck, wins the tap down, Croall first to the ball, in the back was it? Holding the ball. No, in the back. Play on. His kick is good, and taken by Lockman. Lockman forward again, Cloke the target the target misses the uh the prize, fights on hard for the ball, Ryan is there for Collingwood, picks up, his handpass smothered. Walsh number 18, Campbell shepherds and gets one for his corner. That's a fingertip mark by Reynoldson, which is allowed. 18 minutes gone. Collingwood running out easy winners.

**DM** And Reynoldson's kick to half forward. O'Keefe. Oh! Clever mark floated of the ground and took it beautifully. Gayfer.

**GL** Gayer it is as the back man to the centre and here goes Brown again, umpteenth possession today, a little chip, can Taylor get there?! Yes. He's played in front of Ben Harris all day. Harris has been scratching his head.

**DM** Is that a free kick?

**GL** I don't think it's a free kick for scratching the head, particularly your own, but uh, Taylor's kicked three goals. All his marks have been taken on the chest today. And that kick's gone slap bang through the centre. Registering Collingwood's 16<sup>th</sup>. Almost at the 29 minute mark in this final term. So, he joins Manson now as you see this pass coming to Taylor who's already moving very quickly. The rest you know, he did kick the goal, his fourth. Reynoldson wins the tap and it goes towards Collingwood. And the Magpies going forward once again. Keays loses possession. Picked up by Walsh, on the ground Banfield, taps towards Hardy, he in turn catches a Collingwood opponent coming through in



Lockman, off the ground Tony Shaw, beaten for pace by Campbell, Shaw dives, good save by Shaw to knock the ball out of bounds, and out of Campbell's possession.

**DM** Reynoldson bumped out by Cloke, who then fends him off, Fly hack by McCarthy, picked up by Turner. He in turn for Fidge and Fidge for Brisbane takes the mark. 20 minutes gone. Fidge goes out given the lead to Walsh and butterfingers misses it.

**GL** Butterfingers, hey? A former Collingwood player as well. Atkins, into an open area, Fidge, Turner, two Collingwood men here, well done Turner, not so well done, McCathy's about four marks in this final quarter. Ohh, Campbell calls for it, Lockman, nice piece of balancing judgement there by young Lockman then the kick to the pocket, but they're all the Bears there! Fidge. Nope. Not this time. Out of range. Lovely kick to the centre. Slight in the back

**DM** A free kick (*laughing*)

**GL** Mark Williams, used to be a darling here, now he's a villain. Kicks towards half forward. Flyer was O'Keefe. Whistle on the play. Banks has it, plays on doesn't kick it, saves 15 meters. That's Jim Edmond.

**DM** Yes, he's been off, off the ground for a fair while, and that shows. He's obviously cold and out of touch but uh he's been quite a while off the ground.

**GL** Very cold feet. That was Morwood, Walsh puts it back. And the mark is not allowed to Mickan, he fights on the ground, well played can't get clear punch the ball, ball held to him, for a bounce. Coming up to the 22 mark. 22 mark. 22 minute mark. Collingwood easily. Mickan in ruck good strong first away but straight to the opposition rover in Law, uh Shaw, Shaw to Atkins, Atkins to Keays, Keays cleverly keeps it in play, possession further afield to brown who plays tiggly-touch with himself, then gets a kick, well played. (*Booing*) but there's Richardson, boo, to take the mark. Richardson decides to play on. Shrugs through a tackle, kicks long towards the teeth of goal, Mickan shepherded out by Christian and uh play's allowed to go on. I never!

**DM** Well Lockman gets the long handball now, Starcevich.

**GL** The Bears should take control. There seems to be more of them there, there are more of them there but they're not going to win out. Darren Millane! To Taylor! Scouting well is Brown, can he shrug the tackle, no, he can't. Ball uh become a prisoner under those arms and legs just a few meters out. Have a look at this, brought him down beautifully.

**DM** Yes, Bradbury tried to stop the tackle but uh,

**GL** Play on quickly, the Bears in a lot of froth and bubble right now. Walsh, feints a handball, on the third attempt gets it off. Maybe Hardy's attempt. It's Hardy and Raines. Or Raines and Hardy. Now it's Hardy and Raines.

**DM** The barley!

**GL** Centre, spill mark. Lovely side step by Atkins - that's a lovely piece of play. Down to Turner. Collingwood are really fiddling now. Millane about 45 meters out. 24 minutes into this final quarter. Collingwood leading 103 to the Bears 58 and Manson and Taylor have kicked half of Collingwood's score of 16 goals. Here's Millane, kick off to the right, it's out on the full.

**DM** That's unusual for a State half forward. The good players generally get them. 24 and a half minutes. That's running into trouble, Brenton Phillips gets clear, tucks the ball under wing, runs a fair measure, gets a clip over the ear play on now. Gives it to Hardy, Hardy through the centre, kicks long. Christian. Mr Christian. Disposes. Keays. To Millane, and Millane marks on the opposite side of the ground, centre wing, Millane kicks it up in the air, Cloke is his target, but there's Reynoldson to

defend. Starcevich holding onto him gives it to Campbell, so Campbell reverses field and comes back inside again. Starcevich knows how to beat a shepherd. Morwood. Gives it to Shaw. Shaw to Taylor! And Big Brian holds one up in the air. His fifth grab, I think the four previously have been on his chest. So Taylor within scoring range. Close to the man on the mark, distance is okay, accuracy, not what he would have wanted. And what's that he's kicked, John?

**J** Four goals two.

**DM** 16 8 to 8 10, 104 to 58. Fidge to put it back into play. Good kick in by John Fidge and there's a bit of a punch up uh

**GL** I'll watch the punch up, you watch the footy

**DM** Okay

**GL** Oh, nice pick up here by uh Phillips

**DM** Phillips

**GL** Oh it might have been O'Keefe there, is it Phillips with the fair hair? Anyway, mark here to Jim Edmond who's been cold for most of the match. Hardy on, the Magpies taking control again.

**DM** Here's Paul Morwood down to Brown, now from the back line gets a call down here from Atkinson, runs onto the wing position, full of confidence, chock full at the moment Collingwood, a low pass to Taylor again, and mark number six. Five of them low down like that. A couple of beauties in the early part when he really used his body to out-position players and converted what's more. And Taylor has kicked four goals.

**GL** 27 minute mark in this final term. Collingwood 104 to 58. And that kick's short. Pushed through.

**DM** Yes, Collingwood certainly won't know themselves today. In the last three or four games they've either been winning or losing by a few points and leading by 7 or 8 goals in the last half, Geoff, I'm sure that it's a big change for them.

**GL** Out of defence they come. And up towards Mark Williams who can't hold a mark. Down to ground Smith, Sets the Bears going, chance here for Raines. To O'Keefe, tackled high, play on, ball loose, back towards Mark Williams always looking for a team mate, finds Smith, Smith in fact towards Mickan! Can't mark the ball but follows on, captured is Edmond, holding the ball. 15 meter penalty, Gayfer. Hands it over. And there's Ryan.

SIREN

Siren time. The Magpies win.

## 1987.3 Essendon v Geelong

2 May 1987 Windy Hill (16 042) 96-96 ABC2

Ian Robertson, Peter Landy BB-unidentified commentator

**IR** One quarter to go at Windy Hill. Geelong have the lead by 8 points going from left to right. Merrett wins the tap, straight to Christenson though for the Cats. Williams gets Essendon into attack, Vander Haar's on, Exell for Geelong.

**BB** Leading and finding Hocking. Running back down the middle. Geelong obviously instructed to play down this side of the ground. Andrew Bews one of the best, as has been Neville Bruns.

**IR** Now there's a kick by Bews. They were allowed out of that, the Cats. Bews kick has been marked at half back by Duckworth. Turner on the mark. He's been reported. Well I don't believe it and I don't think Michael Turner can either. But he's been reported by Umpire Mitchell for striking Duckworth.

**PL** Here it is now Robbo, Good mark by Duckworth, oooh, look he's just given him a little shove, really.

**IR** It must have been unduly rough play. There was nothing much in it. Duckworth takes the ball at half back for the bombers. A high ball towards the wing. No mark taken punched away. Williams caught with the ball and held to him by Scott, according to Umpire Daw.

**PL** And lucky to get away with it Robbo, because he took him on.

**IR** bounce on centre wing

Vander Haar against Bourke, away goes Clark, pace, oh Hawker, thought about feeding it to Watson, passes instead

**PL** and John Barnes back at full forward, his fourth mark. He's kicked two goals in his first VFL match, just from three kicks, his fourth coming up. Three goals though, be all that his team ask for him. Umpire has to work. Not enough for the Cats fans, Essendon back within two points and we've played two and a half minutes in this last quarter.

**IR** And there's Clark with a ton of pace breaking away from the Geelong player, gets a handball over to Hawker. He's been a good player, made a difference to the Essendon side. Didn't blaze away, saw Barnes out in front and he's been a handy player up on that forward line.

Two points in favour of the Cats. Merrett in the ruck, Barnes at full forward a few desperate changes made by Sheedy. A chance for Bridey. He has to handball backwards, now on the end of it, Hocking. In towards centre half forward. Mark taken by Turner. Casual as you like. Where was his opponent? One might ask. Eleven kicks for Michael Turner. He's kicked one goal five. The other key forward Lindner has kicked 5 behinds. And Turner punch for goal he's hooked it and it's gone through for one behind when Geelong badly needed a goal. They lead by 3 points. And we've played three and a half minutes of the last quarter

**PL** Brian Winton plays on from full back as he so often does, he's being pressured by Lindner, despairing lunge at the ankles doesn't pay off, and Winton has gained 50 meters, runs halfway between half back and wing, he keeps running too, knock on from Walsh wasn't successful, Clarke's was. Hawker couldn't gather. Christenson for the Cats. Back inboard to Hocking, Hocking towards half forward, looking for Turner, front position again on Duckworth. And another mark for Michael Turner.

Duckworth has been up in the forward line and kicked two goals, back on the back line and Turner starting off well on him in this last quarter.

**PL** Squaring kick. Ablett back down on the forward line. The fist from Merrett goes loose. Picked up by Clarke and he's copped one high. And if Turner was reported then that one looks a hellova lot worse.

**IR** I agree Peter, I agree, and if he doesn't get that book out I'll be very surprised.

**PL** it was Russell who came in and we saw two men reported for similar things a week ago. No book out as yet and there won't be one coming out.

**IR** Ah well, how do you work it out?

**PL** free kick with Clark

**BB** Clark handball wide to Merrett. Merrett goes straight through. Centre half back. Kick in towards the centre, Bailey can't mark. Christenson. Hawker at the back, does it well, slips over at a crucial stage. Handball over to Watson. Watson's kick towards the goal, offline, through for a behind to the Bombers.

**PL** The difference is 2 points. Geelong 10 16 76, the Bombers 11 8 74 and we've played just over five minutes of the last quarter. Bright to bring the ball back in for the Cats. Goes towards centre half back. Bourke on the bottom punched away by Merrett. Chance for Hawker. Handball finds Clarke, he's tackled, breaks the tackle, back onto his left foot now his right foot, kicks over the top. Barnes can't mark and it'll go over the boundary line for a throw in 15 meters around from the Essendon goal. Geelong are two points in front and we're six minutes into the last quarter.

**BB** Vander Haar back position on Bourke. Williams, kick ricochets off a Geelong player over the boundary line, so the ruckman to do it again. Essendon throwing two men in on Bourke but he still wins the tap. Exell onto the left boot. Half back, oh Russell, fine mark! In the gathering gloom here at Windy Hill. Dwayne Russell pulls down a big one. Gets the Geelong side over the centre. Bill Brownless the target, bounces just inside. Throw in with Geelong just into attack, and Paul Salmon would rather be out there I'm sure, hope it's not that knee that's giving him problems.

**IR** Boundary throw in, centre wing, Merrett with strength, Williams can't break clear, chance for Essendon, slips over Terry Daniher, but he's been infringed against, a trip according to the umpire and Terry Daniher will take the free kick, no he doesn't. He handballs and finds Francis, Russell doing the chasing but Francis's kick towards half forward and a good mark taken by the big Geelong Captain on this occasion in Bourke. Bourke's kick, oh no one home! Thompson, for Essendon takes the mark in the centre of the ground. Plays on quickly towards centre half forward. The mark taken by Boss, Boss comes through half back. Kicks with the left foot to the half forward for the Cats, its over the back. Here's a chance for Lindner he runs into his own man, Bairstow over the top and for Essendon Winton kicks it towards centre half back and the mark has been taken by Folds for the Bombers.

**PL** seven and a half minutes gone. Geelong up by two points. Folds finds Thompson beautifully. Left foot kick to half forward. Down goes Bright and he's left Clarke loose, he's caught by Stoneham off the ground from Bourke. Troy. Over the top to Bright. Down through the middle go the Cats. Long kick for Lindner, who's out on the half forward flank, straight through his hands. He's back in there to put pressure on Francis, he does it very well Bruce Lindner, could just about kick this one. He goes for home - it's there! Bruce Lindner brings up his first goal of the afternoon and what a time to do it for the Cats. He puts them 8 points up at the 8 minute mark

Yeah, great stuff by Lindner but I thought Peter Francis could have um got it over that boundary line. Here it is, his first goal for the afternoon Linder and that's one goal five for the day. And he and Turner could have won the game between them.

Good shepherd by Turner up in the goal square.

**IR** 8 points Geelong lead by. Merrett and Bourke. Troy. Kick towards centre half forward and it's marked by Turner. It's all Geelong. Turner perhaps a little bit too far out, he's 65 meters out, goes for the big torpedo. Drops in short, no mark taken. Chance for Lindner. He's pressured by Hird. Mark Thompson, out to Bailey at Centre half back, on centre wing Baker takes the mark, in towards centre half forward its through Geelong players, Clark at the back will go straight for goal and he bangs it through for the bombers and its 2 points the difference again. 80 plays 82 ten minutes into the last quarter and Steven Clark kicks his first goal for Essendon.

**PL** and probably a bit lucky to get that one, because uh well behind his Geelong opponents and two Geelong players, it just managed to weave its way through the ball there, so uh maybe a little bit fortunate, but only two points the difference.

Bews I think should have called Exell leave it, uh they both stopped and went through the gap but Clark has given them a little lift in pace around the pack since he came on from the bench as Merrett does it pout of the air. Bruns drives Geelong forward onto the half forward flank. Number 16 is Brownless, number 5 Terry Daniher two New South Welsh born players. Throw in on the half forward flank for Geelong. Two Geelong against one Essendon this time. Brownless out of the air but its Williams on the ground well caught by Brownless he gets his kick off on the ground to Folds, he gives it to Daniher. Daniher to the wing, Baker beaten by Hocking, the tap goes to Bruns, squaring kick only as far as Francis caught well by Scott, knock on by Folds, to the wing, its all Essendon Daisy Williams handballs through there to Baker, Baker's handball to the running Hird, not a good handball, puts Watson under pressure but he's up to it, handball, just on slipping, finds Thompson, his handball across to Baker, kicks towards Bews a bad bounce for him, knock for the boundary line from Voss, lost by Winton, Christenson cleans up for the Cats and the ball up towards the boundary line, Kept in well by Thompson, good shepherd from Baker, Thompson drives up to the square, it falls short, they all fly, Hawker! Superb mark Glen Hawker. His ninth kick coming up and a vital one for the Bombers.

And after that mark, he deserves to put them in front. 20 odd thousand hearts in mouths,

No mistake from Hawker, he kicks his first of the afternoon and the Dons for the first time this quarter, back in the lead

Yeah, great stuff, Hawker and uh Essendon haven't had players up on the forward line who have been able to take the big mark today and it's been left up to Hawker who gets played from the half back flank across the centre line and take the big mark

Essendon by 4 points, 12 and a half minutes into the last quarter. Bourke, Merrett. Chance for Hird. Baker. Bailey. Now, Stoneham, Troy gets past, backs himself, he's gotta get past Thompson and Bomber Thompson does it well, left foot kick towards the wing, is marked by Watson and the Essendon fans come to life. Exell on the mark. Smothered. Chance for Scott. Kicked towards half forward, marked by Lindner for the Cats

15 meters

15 meters according to umpire Mitchell and Lindner's now a chance from 50 meters. Kicks a long one, into the square Merrett at the back, it goes across the face of goals and out of bounds 10 meters around from the behind post Geelong in attack just over the 13 minute mark Essendon lead by 4 points. 86 plays 82

Winton full back taking position for the throw in, down goes Brownless but it's away through Merrett, off to Francis. Christenson with a sparing hand, Williams gathers nicely but Francis kept running, good work Peter Francis. Drives them into attack. Vander Haar! No! Again spill it, Cleaves handball, puts Voss under pressure, he's up to it, over the middle the go, but it's all Essendon now. Roger Merrett come into it well in this last quarter. Chance for Francis, Kick it say the crowd. Vander Haar another chance, Cleaves over the top of him, Barnes on for Essendon. Voss, nowhere to go gives it to Bourke, napped away well by uh the uh tackler in Bailey, and a bounce half forward for Essendon. They lead by four points fourteen minutes into the last quarter.

Umpire Daw in control. Punch away by Walsh, Troy's on the end of it, Bews, tries to tap it to Russell, Bruns, long kick towards centre half forward by Bruns. Its' all Essendon. Through comes Hocking. Folds tap on Daniher over the boundary line for a throw in. Half forward flank, outer side of the ground, 65 meters around from the Geelong goal and we wonder who they support. Brownless and Merrett. Chance for Hocking, Hird intercepts, feeds the handball wide. Clark fumbles at the crucial stage, goes after it again. Right foot kick by Clark towards right half forward, no mark taken. Walsh, tackled as he kicks the ball but he gets the kick away to the front of the square Barnes! No mark. Bews tidies up for the Cats, one bounce, two bounces, he's got 50 meters in front of him, four bounces, again, chased by Hawker, pushed as he kicks, and the free kick will go down field to Turner. And he did it well Bews. He waited until just the last second. And Hawker, a little upset. Turner's kick to centre half forward and the mark taken by Ablett! 30 meters out directly in front. Fourth mark to Ablett. He's already kicked two goals and with his, with his eighth kick could put the Cats in front. Gary Ablett. (*Booing*) he's hooked it, and he's missed! A behind to Geelong and Essendon lead by 3 points and we are 16 minutes into the last quarter.

And of course, poor shot for goal by Ablett. Because he took it easy, he didn't kick through it,

Terry is the call from the Essendon fans and their skipper does it well. Daniher to Hawker. Keeps it in play for Walsh, knocks Stoneham off it but can't keep it in. the Essendon fans I think saying poetic justice, that shot at goal. They didn't agree with the free kick down ground. Throw in between wing and half forward for them. Bourke's tap. Scott wrestling with Williams. The two blondes at the bottom of the pack exchange pleasantries. The Essendon fans looking to exhort their team onto victory they lead by 3 points. 17 minutes gone last term. Bourke gets the tap goes to Clark and the pressure gets the kick away. Bews first back on it, well pressured by Barnes, Vander Haar arrives to put extra pressure on, but Bews has got the toe, the kick's not a good one, Bailey for the Dons. Told to go long. Torpedo punt off the side of the boot into the pocket, favours Watson. Good mark! It's been paid. Tim Watson, into the pocket, good place to be when the long shot's coming in, they can wobble off the side of the boot and he had that break, Tim Watson, to take his fourth mark of the afternoon.

Judged it well but Voss, Mark Voss really should have been able to punch it away

Well a vital shot at goal for the Essendon veteran. Across the goal, brings up a behind. Time for some deep breathing from all concerned. Four points the lead for Essendon as Brownless prepares to come on for the Cats.

Brownless came off actually, uh Peter and Schultz is on. And it's a bit of a desperate move by the Cats, Brownless hadn't done much for a few minutes. The kick in towards half back oh its overrun by all Essendon players and Geelong scramble. At half back as Billy Brownless looking very, very weary. takes a breather on the bench. Umpire Daw. Bourke tapped towards Bruns. Williams sees the ball safely over the boundary line for a throw in. It's slightly into Essendon's scoring area, a long way away from their goal. Bourke and Merrett. Bourke gets the tap out. Here's a chance now for Russell. Kick up towards the forward pocket area. No mark taken. Lindner tackled as the ball went to the ground, Francis intercepts. Right up against the boundary line, as a matter of fact, the boundary



umpire right on the spot And Francis obviously just gone over the boundary line for a throw in. 65 meters around from the Geelong goal

Merrett gets it down, Schultz number 23 new player for Geelong. It's trundled out only as far as Bruns. Turner has two to beat. Oh, picked up by Scott, this little fellow's kicked two on the run. Has he hooked it enough? He has!

Great play

Well, three goals and you really couldn't pick which one was the best and I guess in the situation that one was because he's put Geelong in front!

But look at the Essendon players here, There's two of them just waited and Scott was the only one who really attacked the ball and uh onto that trusty boot of his, he's kicked three goals on the run, and that couldn't have come at a better time for the Geelong side

The Cats lead by 2 points. Bourke. Francis fumbles, Schultz taps it on. Bairstow on Hird. Bruns tries to crash his way through. Here's Scott again. Handballs out. Christenson. A long one, into the square. Has it gone through? It's a goal! Yes! The Geelong big man in the goal square gave the indication that Christenson had kicked a great goal for the Cats, their 13<sup>th</sup> and they lead by 8 points.

I don't know, Christenson kicked that from a long way out, and there's that man again, handballs it out to Christenson. He's kicked that from 55 meters out at least, and well done again by Ablett to shepherd it through

Well 8 points is a big lead at the 21 minute mark. It's picked up by Walsh in his hundredth game, can he revitalise the Dons? Behind the pack, arriving Clark and met heavily. Throw in in the pocket.

There's Baker off the ground

Leon Baker

That's after he left that one for Scott to run through and kick the goal.

Mistakes not tolerated. As Bourke, Stoneham now for the Geelong, fends off Williams, kicks to the wing, ricochets off Russell's chest momentarily but he keeps going, Williams steals it away from him, kicks high, Barnes is the flyer they want, Voss for Geelong, keeps it in front of him on the hands and knees. He gets it to Cleve, chance for Clark. Bruns pulls it back under his body. Out it goes. Geelong clears. Bews. Handballs. Boundary line or a teammate will suit him but it's gone the way of the Dons. Now it's Exell for Geelong kicks to the wing, up high Lindner. Down on the ground Francis, off to Merrett. This looks promising. Folds for Essendon outside 50, up to the edge of the square. He's looking for big Barnes, but it's Voss who knocks it away. In the pocket, snap at goal from Clark. One behind. The difference 7 points, they've played 22 and a half minutes. Either team can win this one. Terry Bright taking plenty of time at full back

Bright goes for the long one out towards half back, he doesn't quite get onto it. Bourke in front. It's punched away towards Essendon's goals. Folds. A long handpass into the pocket. Kicked by Watson to the front of the square it's a chance for Hawker. Barnes, oh running through, Essendon interfered with, no Hawker on the bottom of it can't break clear and Umpire Daws decides on a bounce, only 12, 13, 14 meters out directly in front. And Geelong, desperate to protect their lead. They lead by 7 points and we've played 23 and a half minutes of the last quarter.

Bourke against Walsh, the two 30s. Bourke down to Watson! He's missed it. Oh well rode by Tim Watson after Geelong won it in the air. Bourke just tending to fist it at the moment, they can go anywhere. As Terry Bright gets away just after the flags have finished waving. No one to kick to, he gets a good shepherd in, draws the man and gives it to the skipper, Damien Bourke, a wobbly old kick

up towards the wing the bounce an awkward one but he does it well, Duckworth, handball will go to his opponent in Turner, tries to tap it to Scott, down goes Bailey with one in the back. Dean Bailey, centre wing for Essendon. Handballs to Duckworth, fumbles, caught by Lindner, but gets it to folds. Up towards half forward. Hawker leads it forward. Barnes! Good talking from the youngster, he said leave it Glen, and Barnes, in trepidation wants to pass it if he can, sees Hawker there, and the mark was held long enough. He'll kick from just inside 50. He's kicked 3, make that 4! Essendon to within, well, no, it's tied up! All tied up here at Windy Hill!

Well what a game, coming up to time on now and there's Barnes, he's a real spring-heeled jack, he's got a fantastic leap and a sticky pair of fingers.

Scores are level, 25 minute mark of the last quarter. Time on. Merrett, Bourke, what a finish, both sides desperate. Umpire Mitchell. Christenson kick to half forward, out in the open, close to the boundary line and it goes over for a throw in. it's a push in the back, and a free kick will go to Thompson against Turner. 15 meter penalty. Play on. Ellshaw. Long one to centre half forward the high flyers wanted. No one there. Geelong tidy up. It goes out towards the centre of the ground. Moore. Kicks into the pocket, leading into the race for the ball. The mark taken by Terry Daniher. And Essendon must hit the front. Surely Daniher can score. He's 45 meters out, a very experienced campaigner. A beautiful kick from Merrett finds Daniher out in front of Bright. And here's the Essendon Skipper, shoots for goal, it's a high one, into the square, but it puts the bombers in front. They lead by a point at the 26 and a half minute mark of the last quarter and now Geelong have to fight hard to get back.

Exell from full back. He's got a lovely left boot. Gets plenty of distance looking for Stoneham. Knocked away by Walsh. Behind the pack its Merrett, he's played a top last quarter. Ellshaw. Bombs the Bombers to the edge of the square. Barnes! Couldn't quite get it on the rebound. Exell cool. Out to the running Bruns. The Cats to half back. Not a good kick, spilt by Folds. Tapped by Hocking across to Scott to the wing. Arriving too late Vander Haar but behind the pack he's got Thompson. Caught by Troy play on, Francis for Essendon. Kicks towards half forward. All Geelong here. Voss in front a good mark. 27 minutes gone. They can't waste time. Christenson for the Cats. Over the centre and he finds Troy.

Troy plays on quickly. Baker looking anxious on the bench. Troy comes in towards centre half forward. Geelong need to mark this, it's up in the goal square. Turner at the back. Merrett desperate, Ablett desperate. All players desperate. The ball on the ground, Merrett in there for Essendon and a bounce will take place only 40 meters out from the Geelong goal. We've played 27 and a half minutes Essendon lead by a point. 96 plays 95 what a finish

Taken out of the air by Russell but only as far as Bailey, taken by Ablett, snap! Through for a behind? No, kept in play! Brilliant work by was it Vander Haar down there?

Oh no he's kicked it

Out of bounds on the full it's a free kick to Geelong only 35 meters out,

**PL** Well Vander Haar he did miracles down there, the flying Dutchman to sprawl and keep it in play and its superman for the Cats hoping he will live up to his nickname. He's snap, stopped from going over by Vander Haar and then he's put it out on the full. The clock says 28 13. Get them away, 10 meters back says Gary Ablett, he wants to score, he might have done more than that, no he hasn't scored! Duckworth,

It's a point, Peter



Right! No, the goal umpire has signalled a behind. Well, it looked as if it hadn't crossed. The scores are level. The boundary umpire prepares to throw in, has to hand it back to Duckworth to get it to the full back instead. And we've gone 28 and three quarter minutes.

Well, Ellshaw, with football. Deciding that he may want to run with it. Now he decides to loop the handball out to the back pocket, Francis. Essendon. Desperately trying to get the ball forward. Barnes again! Plays on Hawker. Into the centre of the ground. 29 over 29 minutes gone. Hawker into the forward pocket, no mark taken. A chance for Bright he punches the ball towards the boundary line and it goes over for a throw in. 25 meters around from the Essendon goal. And we're 29 minutes and 22 seconds into the last quarter. Scores level at Windy Hill. Boundary throw in.

We've had 7 goals kicked in the quarter so there might be a bit of time on. Bourke wins the tap. Williams can't keep it in play. 29 and a half minutes gone. Scores all tied up at Windy Hill.

The bombers have the chance. A score I'd say would win it for them. The two 30s towards the boundary line,

SIREN

There it is, it's a draw, a tie at Windy Hill. The umpire has now blown time on and in fact he hadn't blown it til well after the siren so the defence from Bews was good football to keep running with the ball because it wasn't all over until it was signalled by the goal umpire. A draw at Windy Hill

## 1987.4 West Coast North Melbourne

2 May 1987 Subiaco (28 543) 162-88 ABC2

Dennis Cometti and Peter McKenna

We're going to take you straight back to Subiaco Oval, the game is underway there, that's more important than marks, we'll get to the marks a little later in the afternoon.

**PM** Trying to play on, and that is in that last line of defence by John Law. Law, let's see this in replay, John Law a very, very, strong mark, kept his eyes on it and came down hard. Now Steele gets it across to Larkin who has drifted out of the game

**DC** yes

**PM** After a brilliant first quarter. Wrenstead has been a terrific player today, brings it wide to Holmes, should have taken that mark, couldn't do so, Steele's at the base of the pack and uh Holmes appealing to the umpire for holding the ball but the umpire having none of that and the bounce will take place at centre half forward for the West Coast Eagles.

**DC** wait for the bounce there. 18 12 to 11 9. A couple of minutes played in this final term. Wrensted. Eagles doing much as they like as Wrensted goes down towards the pocket. And what a courageous mark that was by MacNish, going back into the unknown with the flight of the ball, that was a great grab.

**PM** I thought he could have been cleaned up then, Andrew MacNish, not that I'd want to see him cleaned up, but I thought David Dwyer could have gone a bit harder and put him under a lot more pressure

**DC** compassion. Here's MacNish, from 25 meters out, he puts through another one so 19 goals now to West Coast Eagles, Ishchenko getting the early goal after about a minute and MacNish following up. 19 12 to 11 9.

**PM** Well let's hope for the game's sake that North Melbourne as we see in replay Wrensted a beautiful chip pass across, he saw MacNish. Now you can see in replay I thought David Dwyer was very very slow to move then, I thought he could have spoiled that. But, let's hope for the sake of the spectators that they see a good contest from now on in because everything's set up for a hiding for North Melbourne if the Eagles can continue on the way they're playing. I hope that they keep going North This is Annear on the left foot to Wiley, Wiley up I front, oh here's danger again because Holmes is waiting at the back, hooks it back, and there's another one on the board. And all the fears that I had are starting to come true because they're doing it on the bit at the moment. 20 goals 12 122 the Eagles to north Melbourne 11 goals 9 75.

**DC** well we were talking at half time, off air, Peter and I, about the fact that the Eagles were looking ominous and really the longer this game has gone, the more that's come to pass. And there's Holmes, reading it brilliantly off hands. They're just arriving first because they seem a shade fitter, they're certainly quicker and I suppose that's confidence as well. Back in the centre it's won out by Scott, taken by Jimmy Krakouer North Melbourne send the ball into their forward one, on a lead, surely a push in the back to McDonald and he'll get this free kick. (*Booing*) The crowd won't concede anything, Pete

**PM** (*laughing*) I think I said, for, I hope for the crowd's sake that it's a good even contest. I think

**DC** oh they like it the way it is

**PM** they love it the way it is. They like to win by 25 against a Victorian side. I played a couple of state games here, they haven't changed over the years. There's Mc (*booing*) well McDonald goes for a wobbly old punt. It could have been a mark, no, says the umpire. And away they come out of defence. Doing it well. As we see Mainwaring actually kept that ball in play close to the boundary line. And they dive on Mainwaring, Lewis comes in to lend a hand, that was brilliant play by Lewis who gives the dummy handpass then decides eventually to give it to Gastev, Gastev trying to do a little bit too much but he gets in the kick. Jimmy Kack-Krakouer uh comes in to spoil but in the meantime there's a free kick back further afield to John Gastev he was uh dumped, after he kicked the ball.

**DC** one they really pay I think is for a push in the back as he kicked it. The West Coast Eagles send the ball towards their half forward line. Wiley to Holmes, across to MacNish, Annear's in the square, it could have gone to him, probably it should have, it bounces through for a behind. Well it's something of a clinic the Eagles are putting on at the present time. The pressure has gone right out of this game and North have tried most of the things I think they could come up with in this game because Changes were rung early by Kennedy and I think a lot of those were responsible for keeping them in it for as long as they were. But now they've got real problems. To the outer side, it's fisted away by Scott, the pace of the Eagles telling again. It's picked up by Wrensted, Annear, back to Wrensted who's 25 meters out. It's a question of accuracy and he misses to the near side. So the West Coast Eagles 20 14 North Melbourne 11 9.

**PM** he's a very highly skilled player, uh, Murray Wrensted, Dennis

**DC** yes, I think that when the pressure goes out of the game in these sort of situations, he's seen at his best, Peter

**PM** Fairley, towards half back. Oh gee, that was a good mark to Darren Crocker. A chip pass further afield to Larkin, who really has drifted right out of the game. Peter German, he started off brilliantly too and he's had a couple of disappointing quarters. That's in the back to McDonald, no said the umpire. Arceri picks it up brilliantly, off he goes, oh, he's put under a lot of pressure though as he handpasses it to McCann close to the boundary line, and Steve McCann in fact takes it over the line but gee they look tired North Melbourne.

**DC** well, they've been given the run around haven't they, this afternoon? It has been a test for them. I suppose it would be pretty warm out there the temperature in the mid twenties today and the longer this game has gone the more the local boys have seemed to relish it. As Zanotti takes the handpass from Lamb, goes to the outer side now Wrensted is finding a lot of space and Jimmy is not too happy about all that a sign of frustration as Wrensted kicks across the ground to Malaxos. He'll go over the top to Scott and the big fellow, the ruckman will run on for a handpass now. The ultimate indignation as Scott with the handpass kicks down towards centre half forward, in front Law knocks it away, Holmes roving the pack, then on again for the handpass over the top but he couldn't control it, it's soccered off the ground by Dwyer, it comes to Schimmelbusch who boots it back grandstand side, Allison still in the race, will the ball sit for him? He manages to keep it just inside the field of play, chips down towards half forward and Miles knocks it away from McCann

**PM** Yes, good play by Geoff Miles, and McCann looked like marking that one but with a little bit of tiredness in the legs you're just not as sharp and as slick in getting towards the ball and Miles spoiled that beautifully much to the delight of the West Aussies. Mainwaring. Actually kicks it backwards but that was good play. Brennan dropped a sitter. It was good play by Mainwaring because it got the loose man going. There's Malaxos contesting. Good play brilliant pace oh that was terrific play to Lamb.

**DC** oh yeah

**PM** Lamb over the top to Holmes what a great build up this is as Holmes brings it towards Ishchenko up he goes the big fellow, and that was absolutely brilliant play by the West Coast Eagles, starting originally from Mainwaring got the loose man going and eventually results in a strong mark, had his name written all over it, Ishchenko, and he should kick another goal here from right in front.

**DC** well the build up, you could see it eventuating all the way down Subiaco Oval, Pete, loose men everywhere just getting free and the ball just being popped over the top. And Ishchenko a chance to finish it off from 25 meters out hasn't done the right thing, he's slides it across the face and it's a behind, the West Coast Eagles. But we've played just about 9 minutes in this final term 135 to 75 it's going to be a long last 25 minutes or so for North Melbourne. Here's Fairley, comes to the grandstand side with a high kick, Mossup coming back but Mainwaring, the smallest man there takes the mark. He's had a very good game again today. I must say I was surprised with his inclusion in the squad. He's proving me wrong. Chips it across the ground and finds Malaxos. The more Mainwaring plays the better he gets. Malaxos, too far out to score drives down towards the 25meter line, Lewis is up, it's fisted away by Mossup, roving the pack is Law, he gets a handpass to German, German goes over the top. This is Crocker, he storms towards the outer side and boots towards centre half forward Peos shows good judgement, couldn't hang onto the mark, picked out of that pack there by Lockyear nicely, the handpass intercepted though by McDonald, he gives it back to German, German's on the 50 meter line, goes goalward from about 50 meters, just inside that line and puts it through for a goal. (*Booing*). Well they need plenty of those, but Peter German, good solid running finishing up with that goal for North Melbourne, their 12<sup>th</sup>.

**PM** A very belated goal to North Melbourne, a very good piece of play by McDonald, a lovely handpass across to Peter German but a lot of the fire has gone out of the game and uh even so those Western Australian spectators that we saw on camera a moment ago not too happy by the fact that North Melbourne kicked a goal (*hah kind of laugh*) 20 15 135 the West Coast Eagles to North Melbourne on 12 9 81. 10 and a half minutes gone in this final quarter. Let's hope North can come back even further as we see Wiley on the left foot getting it out wide to Gastev, Gastev and Ross Smith, it's a good contest with those two. Beautiful handpass under pressure by Gastev, over to Scott, Scott terrific play to Lamb. Lamb's going to kick a goal, he lines up, a funny looking awkward kick, doesn't quite make the distance and uh Appin still there with MacNish though oh the bounce oh Schim Schimmer overrun it, oh trying to kick it off the ground was Lewis but it was eventually forced through for a behind. And Wayne Schimmelbusch not having the greatest of days, Dennis.

**DC** no, game 302 and he's showing a bit of wear and tear out there this afternoon. He should have picked that one up, certainly. This is Ross Smith marking the kick in 136 to 81. Smith goes over the top. Fairley. He's been a quiet player too, taken out of the forward line in the first quarter, McCann has the ball on centre wing, looks back towards Half forward, it's a long kick, Jimmy Krakouer from behind, up he went against two team mates, three of them flew, Zanotti finishes up with the ball, all the Eagles stayed down and Zanotti squares it to Wiley inside the centre square, Wiley indecisive, kicks towards centre half forward, not a good kick, and Arceri drifting back has taken the mark for North.

**PM** Mark Arceri has been a much better player since half time. Schimmelbusch, running Schimmel backs up and that's a lovely looking kick towards the forward line. A real lot of pushing and shoving going on there, mainwaring looks a, even looks a better player on the backline I feel as he kicks it wide with a beautiful kick to Miles, Jimmy Krakeour will have to come at him, no he doesn't, he keeps going, beautiful pass to Lewis, Lewis centre of the ground it's a dangerous one, to find Wiley, Wiley back to Laws who's done a brilliant job on Phil Krakeour up to full forward, over the pack, oh the mark had been dropped, but they're still there as we see MacNish, a handpass straight to John Law for North Melbourne, a lovely kick out wide and that Matthew Larkin, he's been beaten today by

Wrensted you know over, when you consider the whole four quarters, he had a brilliant first quarter. German,

**DC** (*laughing*)

**PM** under pressure, luck's a fortune, as he finds Andy Demetriou on the left foot, oh the big fellow's there, Ishchenko to take an easy mark at centre half back.

**DC** Well I suppose North needed a bit of luck there they certainly got that on the centre wing, but it took them nowhere. Ishchenko gives it to Miles, he breaks away from half back, kicks a low one in toward centre field, it skims along the ground to be taken by Peos who picked it up brilliantly, drives towards the outer side. It's fisted away out there by Schimmelbusch roving its picked up by Demetriou who gives it across to Fairley, Fairley drives toward half forward where the mark is taken by McDonald. Worsfold arriving late, McDonald's not happy about that he goes short looking for Phil Krakeour, I think he was looking Phil Krakeour, it doesn't matter much because it was a shocking effort. Wiley came through, Worsfold gets the ball across to Dwayne Lamb he runs up through the centre, kicks towards half forward, well weighted kick into open space, running onto from the ball Annear, three on two situation for the Eagles, they need to keep this ball alive, Johnny Annear does brilliantly. Didn't need any support. Chips the pass into MacNish. Oh, brilliant football by Annear, and that could well count as being a best on ground performance by Annear. A short one is on to Lamb, chance of a goal this time, Dwayne Lamb, it's his burning desire to kick a goal, (*laughing*) and he just can't

**PM** (*laughing*)

**DC** get one, it stuck at Windy Hill about a month back.

**PM** he didn't look like kicking it, did he, really?

**DC** nup

**PM** he looks like a back man sneaking up to have a shot at goal and uh well, a bad miss but I don't think it's gonna matter much at this stage. We see Crocker, oh, it's taken away from him. Wiley's there. He's had a very good game Robert Wiley, a beautiful pass to Annear who's been a star, as usual. Always a goer. Chips it out wide I don't know whether that was good play, in fact it wasn't. Back to Larkin for North. Handpass finds Ross Smith, the ball back to centre wing and the mark has been taken by Chris Mainwaring. Off he goes. And they're really fit, the West Coast Eagles, as he gives it a short chip across. It was taken away by Fairley, that's the way to play it, long to Malaxos and Jimmy Krakeour over the back of the pack was McCann against Miles, kicked off the ground by Jimmy Krakeour, but it was in the back just before. Off he goes as it comes across to the half back line and they're doing it on the bit at the moment as you would say in pacing terms.

**DC** Wiley takes the handpass, a sweeping one from Miles, into Wrensted, Wrensted finessing, now he kicks down towards the half forward line, MacNish drifting across, almost a spectacular mark, it's not paid, the North Melbourne players stop, picked by Lewis who misses a goal, I'm sure he would like to have a shot at again.

**PM** he actually did drop it

**DC** no it wasn't a mark

**PM** they thought he was going to take it. Everyone stopped.

**DC** well

**PM** 138 to 81. John Law and really, the fire has gone out of the game. Fairley, really putting in in this last quarter back it comes to Law

**DC** oh,

**PM** that's holding the ball. Yes

**DC** great tackle wasn't it, by MacNish

**PM** it was a tough tackle by the young fella, Andrew MacNish, started off on uh the interchange bench and has been on and off the ground today but uh a player blessed with a lot of talent, will kick from 50 meters, the distance would be a slight doubt, in fact he centres it to the square, there's the big fellow Phil Scott has marked it. Well that was a good mark, the big hands came right over the top of the pack for an excellent mark.

**DC** and this'll do his confidence the world of good, Phil's been plagued by injury coming into this season, hasn't played much football, his marking hasn't been there, but that time – it was juggled certainly, but he brought it in and now can he finish with a goal. 20 18 to 12 9. Phil Scott will fire from about 10 meters out. A chance to make the margin an even bigger one. Scott. A goal to the Eagles. So, 144 plays 81. They're delighted, the crowd are delighted, the Eagles en route to their third victory of the season. Here it is again. In from the side, over the top of Holmes, juggles the mark, McDonald is in there for North Melbourne, all to no avail.

**PM** I think that's pretty indicative of the lack of marking strength from the North Melbourne side. He got that mark far too easily, Phil Scott, 144 to 81. Centre of the ground. Larkin, even he, he's normally a great ball handler, he was fumbling there but he gets it before being caught when he didn't have the ball. Larkin towards Mossop over the back of the pack is Lockyer, oh beaut pass to Wiley. Wiley always seems to be the elusive Pimpernel, he gets on his own and feeds it out wide to Lamb, Lamb field this is down there to Mainwaring, gee does he cover some territory. He can chip it across to Gastev he elects to kick it further afield, oh the bounce favours Scott

**DC** oh!

**PM** who fists it on, straight to, is it MacNish?

**DC** yes

**PM** Andrew MacNish and through for a very easy goal. Well played Phil Scott

**DC** well wasn't that quick thinking by Phil Scott. There were some options for Mainwaring coming down the ground, about this time, he could have gone over the top to Gastev, this ball bounce, it favours Scott, and Scott, take my word for it, a clever deflection across to MacNish who from point blank range pumped it through. And that's what we're talking about, that was brilliant fitness by the big fellow Scott. We talked about his confidence. That's the sign of a confident player. He took that mark and I think it's going to be a roll for Phil Scott from there. 22 18 to 12 9 so it's a, it's an embarrassment for North, their pride the only thing they're playing for. As Crocker drives into the forward line, Mossop going back down there with Lockyer, the two of them, neither of them very fast, battle it out, Peos eventually swoops to pick up the crumbs, goes towards the outer side, Worsfold is out there, he can't control it, it's out of bounds, but he's played a great game on Phil Kraakeour this afternoon.

**PM** is he normally a uh a real sticker, uh Worsfold or has he just been given that job today, Dennis?

**DC** just today, Peter. He's probably made his name as a ruck rover over here, hasn't played a lot of football, he's only played one full season last year and this is his second, so



**PM** he's put Phil Krakeour right out of business

**DC** yeah

**PM** and without Phil firing uh that's a big minus to the uh North Melbourne. There's the kick coming across the ground. The Eagles are playing so confidently they're taking chances across the ground and here's Miles who puts a lot of pressure on his opponents normally. A beautiful chip pass across to Lewis, Lewis has got another man, there he is again on his own Wiley. Oh boy, there's Wiley, half forward flank, he wanted to play on (*laughing*) Jimmy Krakeour was there to make sure he he couldn't. Wiley has kicked three goals for the game, gives it to Malaxos, now can Steve kick a goal, he centres the ball, Phil Scott was there, hooks it high, still in play says the umpire as John Law was brought down from behind, in fact he was legged said the field umpire it'll be a 15 meter penalty, and John will be very tired. About to come on the ground for the West Coast Eagles is David Hart and Hart has been in excellent form this year. Robert Wiley coming off, not through lack of form but because he's probably tired. Allison, oh the bounce favours Mossop, now here's his chance, a handpass to German an open goal awaits Peter German now which way will it bounce? In fact, it bounces back into play and eventually trickles over the line to the delight of the West Coast Eagles supporters. Uh Robert Wiley getting a tremendous ovation from the crowd, they've very very, a standing ovation in fact, and -

**DC** yep

**PM** and there's a sign of a popular player and rightly so as he's been a popular player in the west for many many years, as we see the ball on forward pocket for North. Look at Annear, and he's not happy with that decision, he sort of thinks, he thinks it should have been paid the advantage rule there. Here they come, look they've got loose men everywhere. Brennan, ducks back to take this pass. Now Brennan, there's another loose man. Seen there's a fight going on on the outer wing two player, real dust up on the ground but we'll watch the action

**DC** Annear and Smith it is,

**PM** yeah, well we'll see Hart heading for home, right down to the forward pocket, a handpass back to Malaxos, Malaxos back to Hart. Hart on the left foot a funny looking kick, I don't think it travelled the required distance but the umpire's paying it. Here's his chance. He's been sneaking down there, Dwayne Lamb, having shots at goal throughout this quarter he's got his big chance now from 40 meters to kick a goal. And there's that hook foot, the left foot hook foot, but he might, he still hasn't made the distance, I think he'd better get back to the back pocket, Dwayne Lamb.

**DC** I think there was a, if there was a goal for that I'd say he had the yips

**PM** if he could with a wedge, I think, though with that high chip shot, Dennis

**DC** (*laughing*) McCann kicking it back, grandstand side, from behind Mainwaring fisting away from Crocker. Here he is again, not to be denied this time! Hooray! Dwayne Lamb gets it there. 23 18 to 12 9. And good luck to him.

**PM** well the girls are very very happy about that, they've done a lot of dancing in this quarter when they celebrate a goal. Dwayne Lamb has been trying his heart out to score a goal on that occasion on the run he slams it through and he's a very happy man. You can see the grin all written all over his face. Well the West Coast Eagles just steam rolling North Melbourne at the moment, 22 and a half minutes gone in this final quarter, oh gee, they're even trying soccer tactics now Mainwaring, as he kicks it hurriedly and the mark has been taken by Darren Crocker. Crocker a driving drop punt kick, there's Miles going for the fist away, over them, now Lamb's down there in defence now Lockyer was there to lend a hand but they're doing it as, not as, Zanotti, I've hardly seen him today but he hasn't been needed, he's guys on him haven't done a lot, so he's done his job. There's uh Wrensted

being grabbed, he's been a brilliant player today, driving drop punt kick to McCann and Peos, McCann fisted away but waiting at the base of the pack was Hart. A clever handpass to Peos, Peos slow to get rid of it, now he chips it across, Johnny Annear ducks back and he's marked it Annear he's had the ball, he's had the ball on a string today, John Annear. One of those days when he can do no wrong.

**DC** yes he was on for a long long time it seemed the moment was lost, but Peos knew he was out there because he'd seen him I think, a couple of seconds before he got involved in the play, and eventually still went back looking for Annear, who's kicked 4 goals, kicking at the Eagles 24<sup>th</sup>. Starts it right, it's swinging back nicely, they contest, in fact it carries the players down there on the goal line and sneaks through just about a meter over their heads and the 24<sup>th</sup> goal for the West Coast Eagles. 24 18 to 12 9

**PM** Well my old club Collingwood, cleared John Annear to Richmond a couple of years ago, so I cannot understand that as we see that lead up to that play through Paul Peos I thought he was going to be cornered first but he had the time to get away. How they could let him go to Richmond I don't know because he was one of their real gutsy goers.

**DC** there seems to be that added brilliance with him now Peter, he really has added another dimension to his game at the West Coast Eagles.

**PM** Yeah

**DC** I think it's, it's almost being cast in the role of vice-captain and having to give the leadership and really, he's relishing that. This is Miles, charged down by Crocker it ricochets to Hart. Of course the Eagles will be intent on getting as many goals this afternoon as they can this afternoon bear in mind they had that big loss against Carlton. Brilliant play Mainwaring, and as a result their percentage took a terrible denting. It's down now in the mid-80s so they need a big result like this one to get them back on an even keel. And certainly they're getting it this afternoon. 24 18 o 12 9.

**PM** Wayne Schimmelbusch. I wonder if this will be his last year in league football, 300 game better in Wayne Schimmelbusch, and I tell you what in those 300 odd games, not many bad games by Wayne Schimmelbusch but there he is, getting to the end of his career, Wayne. Ishchenko, gee he loves to throw his weight around, Crocker to Fairley, Fairley a high ball now a chance for Lockyer from behind to fist it away, he does exactly that, well done by Lockyer, Harts seems to uh fumbled a few times in this quarter. The umpire's found a free kick to North Melbourne, said it was holding the ball it will come back to Peter German on half forward flank. German. Brennan on the mark. Now that floats back, this could be a goal. A lovely kick by Peter German. And it is almost an anticlimax. He's kicked two for the game. The Eagles streaking ahead. 24 goals 18 162 a huge score, leading North Melbourne 13 9 87.

**DC** there he is then on the 50 meter line, Peter German. He started very well and he came off the ground in the second quarter. He didn't appear to be injured, but I can't imagine he would have come off had he not been injured. If anything, just watching him there, he may be slightly favouring a leg

**PM** he's the sort of player Dennis, that can often not put four quarters together and they give him a break every now and again on the bench.

**DC** Annear once more sending the Eagles into attack. And that's a brilliant mark. It's lost because of the state of the scoreboard. But what a clever mark it was by Ross Smith opposed to John Gastev who's been a very lively customer on the forward line, watch that, just controlling it, getting it down to his own advantage and hanging on. Meantime out there the Eagles are chalking up quite a few 15 meter penalties. Smith has come up towards the middle of the ground as he kicks towards half forward, that's a long kick, miles with that prodigious leap from behind fists it away from McDonald,



Mainwaring tries to soccer it forward, this is Worsfold he's been a fine player, I think when the coach picks his best players tonight Worsfold will be very high up the order. This is MacNish on the outer side he goes down towards the forward pocket Holmes going back with courage, coming out with dash is Law, takes the mark, plays on swings it to the outer side. Malaxos. Who's done a very good job on Jim Krakeour. Jim Krakeour started brilliantly, Malaxos came on early in the second quarter, and has cut him out of it

**PM** You can see there on screen, Malaxos really concentrating, keeping Jimmy Krakeour in his sights and certainly as Dennis said, Krakeour has gone right out of the game. Phil Krakeour hasn't been in the play at all today, it's taken away here. Player on screen here for north Melbourne is Shaun Smith another player who's spent a lot of time on interchange. Larkin across to Phil Krakeour, Krakeour a shocking kick, off the side of the boot it is not Phil Krakeour's day. Straight to Lockyer, Lockyer to Mark Zanotti. Zanotti on the right foot brings it wide to centre wing, Malaxos copped one in the back still going after it and heads for the boundary line for a touch down!

**DC** well, great endeavour, the roles reversed and Jimmy Krakeour had to be the spoiler, the harasser, did it pretty well. So, throw in on the outer side. Won down I think by McCann taken by Larkin, Larkin gets it across to Crocker, Crocker goes looking for support from German who fell over, Peos arrives and proceeds to fall over as well, McDonald to German can he kick his third goal, no, he pulls it around the corner, Crocker is there, Mainwaring making no concession and that's a pretty tough decision. I suppose he did go over the head there of Crocker, took him high. (*Booing*) But my word he was committed to the ball and I suppose if Alexander sees this result in a goal, there's the replay Peter

**PM** oh yeah, definite free kick in the head, around the neck, but he was committed, as you said, Mainwaring and uh he wouldn't be disappointed I don't think with Mainwaring, Ron Alexander

**DC** no, that's the point even if it results in a goal, you'd be happy with that sort of commitment

**PM** there's kick from Crocker and the West Coast supporters very very delighted with that and if they win this, the Eagles, looking at the score, this, this could put the Eagles seventh? They would end up seventh in the ladder and round about the hundred percent mark, so it could certainly help them this game as far as percentage goes

**DC** they'd be rapt, wouldn't they? That really gets them back on an even keel after the hard part of their draw, and the bad news for North is the hard part of their draw is still to come

**PM** yes, I would agree with that, and Melbourne gee they're fit. The Eagles are fit and there's the siren

SIREN

What was a brilliant performance by the West Coast Eagles in the second half in particular, 24 18 162 the Eagles have defeated North Melbourne 13 goals 10 88.

## 1992.1 Sydney v North Melbourne

24 April 1992 SCG (926) 76-125 Channel 7

Bruce McAvaney, Peter McKenna, special comments Gerard Healy

**BM** Final term about to start. Sydney trailing 61 to 86. Ishchenko against Tunbridge. One of the duels of the night. Ishchenko runs straight into him. Tunbridge tries to get a second crack at it, then tries to kick it away, tackled by Stevens with a long way to full forward, Longmire and Bayes, Brenton. Good tackle, Longmire, then Spargo, Smith. Off the ground Longmire with a chance. Stops, waits, oh well played Longmire, very well played, and kicks a left footer, for a goal! His second for the night and just as they did at the start of the third quarter, a goal in the first minute for North Melbourne.

**PM** well, I think Gary Buchanara will be tearing his hair out. That was a poor effort by the Swans defenders. You watch this in a moment,

Yes, it did appear to be in slow motion. Longmire appeared to walk around a couple of Swans tackles, he doesn't appear to be fully fit there, Longmire, see him just walking through Brunton.

Well not like Neil Brunton, he did get it too easy Johnny Longmire there, particularly at this stage of the game when the Swans are normally so desperate. This is what they need. McGubbin, from Lawson, in towards the pocket, again, they fall away up forward, and it soccered away by Martin, again it just rolls over the line. But they just lack that class forward to take over a game like Wayne Carey can.

Yes, well they recruited Minton-Connell for that and uh unfortunately he went down with an injury. I'm sure a few of the Blues people, the Carlton people would say that's natural justice, with the Williams affair, but um, I thought it was good play by Martyn there. Just, he knew he was under pressure there and just soccer kicked the ball over the boundary.

**BM** Dennis Carroll, there's Martyn, Dunkley and that's out on the full. So Sydney making uh hard weather of it at 61 to 92. Dennis. Ishchenko the target, Tunbridge and Dunkley from the side, Lewis just tapped it forward, Dunkley had the kick smothered, here's Doolan, still with Doolan, able to get rid of Scholl, oh well played in the end by Schwass, to take it off him, Mitchell, looking for a free kick. Back to Kelly. Left foot doesn't uh make the distance. Missed there by Gray, playing his first match tonight

**PM** Well every time Barry Mitchell's looked like getting the ball tonight, he's been swarmed and swamped by North Melbourne. Obviously, they've thought he is the key to the Sydney side.

**BM** Tunbridge over the top. Gray. North Melbourne holding it up with this big lead

**PM** well we're 15 meters out from the Swans goal, they desperately need a couple of quick ones. Brendan Carlin and Darren Goldspink. This is Darren Goldspink, he's done an excellent job tonight, now here's a free kick for some shepherding. And it has gone the way of Richard Dennis. It's amazing how those free kicks though always seem to go to the back man, it's amazing.

**GH** Didn't you ever get one, Pete?

**PM** Oh, you have to earn them in front of goals, Gerard, you should know that. Tunbridge, Lawson, good mark. And Ben Buckley creeps over the mark and now goes back. Now Lawson, he's looking for the short one. Now he brings it, that's a good kick. Carroll a good lead, that is a beautifully executed forward play, and that's what they've gotta do more of.

**GH** Yeah well Lawson waited for an object or an opportunity there to give it to Carroll. He picked the right option there it was the first time that one of the Swans have led into space for a long time.

**PM** Dennis Carroll, yet to score a goal tonight, there's a drop punt, will it sneak over the pack and it does, for a valuable goal.

**BM** Larkin's handpass to Schwass, over the top, smothered off the boot it'll be play on. Lewis will want a good bounce, didn't get it. Now his left foot after Holmes's handball, Strooper, might have been a bit lucky.

**GH** I think if the Swans kick the next goal this game becomes wide open a bit it'll make the deficit only 19 points.

**BM** Lawson into a space. Unable to take it but recovers uh but then a little mix up with it Mitchell and North with Buckley, tapping it over the line. Wasn't the hardest mark for Lawson but he's working hard at the moment, running into spaces, giving some movement on this forward line. Ishchenko's tap. Here's Lawson again, round the body to full forward. And getting back Dennis.

**PM** Lawson now is back with Buckley. We thought that uh Buckley little bit slow in that second quarter. He's starting to exploit him again.

**BM** Dennis to half back. Ishchenko Tunbridge will come at the back and take the mark off him. Goes into the centre. Missed by Gray. An important ball. Buckley's handball. Quick handball away. Drop punt by Brayshaw. Marked by Carey who's been outstanding. Longmire on a lead, Bayes with him, and well played by Higgins.

**GH** yes, well John Longmire hasn't got the advantage on strength on Mark Bayes, he's a very very strong player with great upper body strength, has done a lot of weights in his time. Cain Longmire just can't push him out at the side.

**PM** Ishchenko gets it to ground. Anthony Rock swinging around on the right, left foot, then on the right foot, Lawson should mark. Oh, he was lucky to get that. He was paid the free kick but he didn't really go hard for that mark, Gerard.

**GH** very lucky indeed

**PM** Jamie Lawson to Strooper, oh, he went right underneath that one. Schwass punches it to the line and over, half forward for North.

**GH** it's probably David Strooper's uh quietest night for the Swans. He's been their leading goal kicker with 14 and one tonight's 15. And uh since the first quarter really hasn't provided any avenue of attack.

**PM** well he hit that fence very hard early too we must remember. That's a good mark for Strooper. Strooper now, will he give off a handball, he had a couple of small players running past. He brings it in towards half forward. That's a free, ooh that should have been a push in the back, I think it was there to Thrupp. Off the side of the boot and the mark has been taken by McGubbin. McGubbin who's looking to bring it out to the pocket, it's a long way home but the lead was there. Oh, Jimmy West couldn't get there, soccers it off the ground, Michael Martyn, now he's lying over it, then he flicks it back, Ross Smith around the boundary line it's still in play. Staritski, Stevens, a long kick to the half forward line, Carey was there, tapped on by Spargo, Carey again, he taps it on, good play Wayne Carey allows his team mates to race after it. Ishchenko showing surprising pace, Buckley gets it further afield to Spargo. Brunton back with the flight of the ball tracked it beautifully.

**BM** Goes to centre wing. Smith leading uh Holmes, Holmes goes to ground as he does like to do. This time not taking the ball with him, Smith back to Spargo, got a good bounce, usually a penetrating

kick, handballs over the top to Shaun Smith. A good little give by Shaun Smith in the pocket, and that's a great kick, hitting the post in the end, by Crocker and that would have been it I reckon at 13 15 to 10 7. Bayes, straight down towards Doolan, that's his target and a very good kick and he finds him.

**GH** I thought Schwass could have uh gone a bit harder in defence there. Good mark to Doolan though.

**PM** Strooper a good lead, now they've got to get it moving quickly. That's a good kick. That's a great kick out in front of Dunkley. Dunkley's gotta get it moving. The leader's onto the pocket, by West. West and Denis, oh he couldn't mark it, West, oh he's got a chance now, now he loses it. Handballs back to Carroll, Carroll around the corner a good kick, goal!

**BM** Sydney, they've just an outside chance. 73 to 93 within 20 minutes, uh, 20 points, there's a lot of time. Tunbridge, Ishchenko, Larkin out of the centre. Carey, Oh well played, he's clearly the outstanding player out there tonight. he's such a booming kick he's got some chance, he goes out wide and finds Staritski who's not a lot closer, probably oh seven or eight meters closer, and uh

**GH** It's a little bit too easy the way he got away though

**BM** Drop punt, good kick and that looks a goal. It is. Well they did it in the third quarter and the second quarter. Every time Sydney goaled North would reply and they did exactly the same here at 14 15 to 11 7

**GH** Yes, a good goal to Justin Staritski, who's first game for the year, excellent pass from Wayne Carey and he has been by far best on the ground and a long driving kick from Staritski finishes with a goal.

**PM** Back to the centre, North Melbourne getting their goals a lot easier than the Swans. Here's a chance for Higgins. He'll swing onto the left foot from 50 meters, Leon Higgins. Now West should mark here, he does, oh he's going to play on, too slow to kick it oh bad football, still a chance, now West again to redeem himself, can't do so, as players swoop in on the ball, soccered off the ground. Who's going to end up with the loose ball? Gee, that was a bad mistake. Staritski. Further afield to Buckley.

**GH** Great defence from Richard Dennis who was the one to drag West down

**PM** yes, but oh, just Jimmy West, he's just too slow. To get rid of that ball. There's the kick in towards half forward, over the back. Strooper, Dunkley, they need their middle men firing here. Look at the pace of big Tunbridge, he's got a couple to beat. Ray Shaw being one of them. It's a loose ball. Thripp. Did it pretty well. Scholl. Tunbridge. Held to him. Umpire calls play on, the umpire's letting it go. And at the risk of repeating myself, this is the best umpiring exhibition I've seen all year.

**GH** have to agree with you Pete

**BM** half way through his final term. 26 point margin. Ishchenko and Tunbridge. Ishchenko this time. Thripp going to ground. Mitchell, Carey and Stevens. And we'll start it again. So the time's there for Sydney but they're not playing well enough at the moment. And North who have a good outstanding record at this ground look like they'll go on their merry way. Well played Schwass. Larkin with the run of it deep in the pocket. A centring kick. A good one, giving his forwards a chance. Longmire late. Ross Smith. Taken off him by Bayes. And the kick by Lewis wide, to Gray, the uh man playing his first game. Made a mistake, got away with it, to Lewis. Open paddock in front of him here. Goes long to half forward. Strooper and Carroll. Scholl, Martyn. Buckley, good tackle on him by Carroll but Buckley also did very well to get it forward to Crocker and then around his body. The left foot, Staritski got a poor bounce, McGubbin with him. And now McGubbin from centre wing.

**PM** McGubbin a handball over the top. Thripp. Oh, they're mucking around with it, the Swans, they'll lose it here, Staritski to Shaun Smith, the lead is on. Larkin, in front oh cleverly tapped that with the left hand, good play by Matt Larkin. Spargo. Shaun Smith again as he races into goal and slams it through and that could be the sealer.

**BM** Lewis, now Doolan, missed by Mitchell it was a hot handball but he got it back cleverly. Centre half forward, Strooper hurting himself at the back and then out of the contest giving North an extra man. Kick being squared by Fairly but marked there by Lewis. Played pretty well, Lewis. Centre half, oh good kick Tunbridge. Oh Tunbridge, well played just kept on going Tunbridge, all night. Been severely tested tonight Tunbridge but he has responded

**GH** Yes, I think that he's battled well against a couple of opponents. Ishchenko probably had the better of him in the first half, the second and the third quarter he fought back well and got on top. But you'd probably give it to Ishchenko in a points decision.

**BM** 50 meters out Tunbridge. Drop punt. Didn't kick it very well won't quite get to the square. A lot of fliers up. Gray couldn't take it. Good tackle uh on Scholl by Dunkley. Carroll over the top of it with Gray. Still Carroll. Now Scholl. Tackle put on him and finally out of play. And a Sydney player on the ground behind play. A free kick here.

**PM** Well it's a free kick, but there's a few Swans players injured and their physio therapist is out there, Gerard. Doug Coleman, that great physio man.

**GH** yes, he does a good job. He's been with them for ten years. They can't get rid of him.

**PM** Crocker to centre wing, this is Justin Staritski who started on the bench. Now he wants to handball wide. He's got the loose man running out there, Spargo, he's not sure what to do, Paul Spargo, but he gets it back to Smith who's been an excellent player. Staritski has done well too since coming on. Longmire in, oh Bayes underneath it and it floats over the back to a waiting Matthew Larkin.

**GH** Yes, well Larkin read the ball well there, kick obviously intended for Longmire but too long, and Larkin with great anticipation read that best and here he is taking the almost half volley. They've struggled in front of goals tonight but could seal it with this one.

**PM** Yet to score a goal, Matthew Larkin, but he has now.

**BM** It's the biggest of the match so far. Tunbridge wins the tap, McKellor over the top of it with Spargo and Tunbridge and Ishchenko will have to go again.

**GH** Well North Melbourne in their history have played 63 night games have played with a 58 win percentage compared with the Swans 58 games for 56. So perhaps they're not the night time specialists that we've come to think. I think they're going to win this one.

**BM** Crocker, Larkin, well played, Good mark against Kelly

**GH** they have built up that reputation as the specialists of the night game

**PM** Got the stats there uh have you?

**GH** Well if I give you this win, can you fix them up for me?

*(laughing)*

**BM** well, Larkin to kick his second goal within a minute. In a similar position, maybe 5 meters further out. Drop punt, not a bad kick. Hits the post. So, that's uh a number of posters tonight's. Larkin with 1 three. And two

**GH** Two posters to Larkin

**BM** yeah, he's played pretty well, hasn't he? The captain Bayes' kick to Lewis

**GH** well, Lewis,

**PM** well he's fast becoming the Swans best player I think, Gerard

**GH** I think you'd have to say Bayes was a good player also

**PM** Yeah, Bayes, and uh Lewis. Dunkley who was well beaten. He tried hard but he was really was well beaten by Carey. Well that was in the back, should have been against Strooper on Buckley. Strooper's got it. Oh he almost handed that one over. Here's Higgins. A bounce. Onto the left foot goes Leon Higgins, slams at goal, and hit another poster. Well. So Leon Higgins, in a burst in the third quarter kicked 2 quick goals and we thought Sydney were getting back into it, Bruce.

**BM** looked a chance at that stage but North withstood the challenge and now steaming away. Martyn to centre wing. Schwass and uh Lawson, couple of little speedsters. Schwass with the height advantage. Well played by uh Gray the 19 year old. Mitchell who's been besieged all night. Really been against the odds. Now Holmes. And just running it out of play was Staritski in hot pursuit. So uh well not only time but North Melbourne well and truly beating Sydney tonight. Been out scored in each of the final three quarters. Tunbridge lays it down towards Mitchell. Ross Smith unable to get a kick away. Lewis now Mitchell, to half forward, everybody waited. Fairly, the tackle was okay by Dunkley, West was unable really to tap it forward to the advantage. Now Dunkley again kicking with the man. Here's McKellor, I reckon this will be his first kick. Goes wide. Looks for Carroll, Martyn with him Martyn has the slight advantage, Carroll still with him. Swings a handball towards the pocket, Martyn got a good bounce. Set up beautifully for him, kicks to Crocker, North away with some rebound, Shaun Smith provides the lead for Crocker that's the way it goes, he finds him at centre wing.

**PM** he's been very good, Shaun Smith,

**GH** yes one of the better players on the ground, Smith

**PM** Oh Carey, a great mark. What a terrific, went early, hung in the air. Now he gets up and puts it towards Schwass. Oh, good pick up Johnny Longmire, couldn't get away with it, Bayes has been good. This is Darren Holmes. Wide. Strooper. Races out and takes the mark at centre wing. Now he's got running players. One of them being Thripp. Thripp marks. Now is that 50... No. Swans supporters appealing for 50. Now Thripp, he's got McKellor on his own.

Now he can sprint, oh, well he saw Rock coming so he stopped, Allen McKellor. He wants to kick a short one here. He's looking for someone to run into the space and he's found that man in Leon Higgins and he could have, couldn't have kicked it to a better man

**GH** He was always going to be a risk playing McKellor so early, he's only had the one game in the seconds, still looks a little bit out of shape. So, uh, he'll go back I'm sure and come back a better player.

**PM** Leon Higgins for his third, a long kick. Oh, good mark, was it, and it has been paid, it will go Sydney's way to Troy Gray or is it going to Jim West?

**GH** the umpire's called play on. He's lost control there.

**PM** well, I thought it was a mark, uh either West or Gray they raffled it,

**GH** well the umpire didn't blow his whistle. All the players thought it was a mark. (*Booing in the crowd*)



**PM** Well I don't know what happened there, I've rapped them all night the umpires

**GH** they've let you down at the final bell

**PM** well it's a bounce, right in front of the Swans goal not that it would make that much difference to the result.. There's Jim West having a kick at goal but he's kicked a point.

**GH** it was Jim West I think that came down with the ball initially

**BM** he had the first grab and then Gray came down with it and therefore the mark, I think, was disputed.

**PM** Well, there's the - Nah, it's a mark. Gray was in the front spot wasn't he?

**GH** he was. Barry Mitchell's the only one on the ball there,

**PM** unless, unless Barry Mitchell said that he told him to play on and then he was pinged.

**GH** well. We'll leave that one for the post Mortensen

**BM** yeah. Too confusing at this stage of the night. Stevens to centre wing. Just lucky it was not a point the difference. Carey. I think he might get Peter McKenna's three. There's Crocker. Schwass. Centring kick. Longmire, Bayes, Tunbridge. Longmire in between the two big men. Bayes has been, well, excellent, hasn't he? To the centre. Off the ground by Stevens. Holmes can sit and wait, needed a bit of time. (*Illegible*) Did okay. Higgins. He's had a fair few touches, that one not one of his very good ones. Gee he set North Melbourne up nicely here. Staritski. Stevens. Smith. Bang to full forward, Longmire versus Bayes. Well played again Bayes, Now Thripp but the handball puts his teammates under pressure. Here comes Bayes away to Holmes.

**PM** Holmes on the left foot the long one out wide Strooper. Oh, good play there by Scholl, put him under pressure, and the long kick by Scholl to the half forward line and smith has been terrific.

**GH** well, Scholl has been a good player across half back also as has this player on screen but I think tonight as good as any just emphasises the need for a good centre half forward

**PM** Right, there's McKellor did it very well, formerly of Richmond and Footscray. Terry Thripp, oh. He looks very slow tonight. McKellor again. Spargo. Shaun Smith, McKellor. Jamie Lawson, just doesn't do enough, Lawson, and again it's Shaun Smith chipping in to take the mark.

**BM** four goals to Smith and missed a couple that were relatively easy so he could have finished with half a dozen. He's played well enough to have six. Kick towards uh Carey and Tunbridge. He's just kept on going hasn't he?

**PM** Yes, he's battled manfully by himself. But with Longmire being held by Bayes to just the one goal, Shaun Smith's Contribution as a foil up forward has really been important for North Melbourne.

**BM** Ian Fairly goes back. High one by Scholl. Schwass versus Doolan. Schwass did it well. Well he can kick this on the run with a drop punt left foot. And he does put it straight through.

**PM** North Melbourne they've struck form with a vengeance tonight. Difficult to win up here, but North Melbourne over the years certainly haven't found it. Carey has been magnificent. With the half forward line looking for Spargo. He's marked. And it's another goal maybe coming up here as Spargo sprints into goal and hooks it across his body and a behind only.

**GH** he needs to get some goal kicking practice from Peter German

**PM** he's a great kick on the run, he played in the game earlier tonight which North Melbourne won easily.

**GH** Ian Fairly just coming off the ground after a solid performance as always. He's being replaced by Ishchenko. Very underrated, Fairly.

**BM** Mckellor to Thrupp. Half back, so uh this game in its last two and a half, two and three quarter minutes. Strooper, just one hand that was not very good. Mitchell round the body. Carroll just getting rid of Martyn and Higgins trying to break through and unable to before it goes out of play. So disappointment for Sydney because the win against Carlton was a bonus last and for North well it brings them back to two and three, just like Sydney, but does give them some momentum now with a very good percentage. Crocker, a high one. Higgins underneath it with Ben Buckley. Oh, good mark, Higgins. Not easy. He's played very well Higgins, he'd be in the best three or four for Sydney

**PM** I think Sydney have been very competitive all around the ground. They've just fallen down once again up forward. I think we'll find later in the day that the uh centre bounce take always would favour uh Sydney. They really do need Minton-Connell and possibly Whitney back in the side. Jason Love who was their leading goal kicker last year with 52. To give that forward line some impetus.

**BM** Mitchell's uh floating torpedo punt marked by Lewis who's uh on the better side as a left footer, but it's going to be a tough one. And he's kicked it across the face for a behind, so a point to Lewis. He's kicked one one, and Sydney crawl up to 11 10 to 17 17 but still the margin 43 points and Richard Dennis who would be pretty happy with his nights work to bring it back in.

**PM** very strong uh overhead mark the former Carlton forward. Now off the side of the boot, and still in play. McDonnell to centre wing. Doolan, oh, he hobbles after the ball and eventually ends up with it. Kelly has died out of the game in the second half. I don't know if he's a hundred percent fit, Paul Kelly. That's Holmes. To centre wing. Ishchenko. Good play. Brayshaw. Now Spargo. The lead is on, Longmire versus Bayes. And a good mark Longmire, but you'd have to give the honours on the night to Bayes.

**GH** yes he's been very good Bayes, he's been assisted by the ruck rovers and the on ball players dropping into the space. But on that Occasion Longmire has the clear passage. A bit similar to the way Dunstall operates, leads to that the opposite flank clear space and he sets up a shot at goal

**PM** John Longmire going for goal number three. And he has put it through. And north Melbourne careering away with the game now. There's a happy band of supporters. 18 17 plays 11 10

**BM** well Bayes has uh certainly won the duel, but three goals, has uh been handy, hasn't it

**GH** well it's an average of say 66 for the year, so a little bit down for him on the night. On average only. There's nothing a full back can do about those ones.

**BM** but if that's gotta be your worst game for the year, and you've kicked you've done all right, haven't you, coming back from injury

**GH** particularly after injury as you say Bruce

**BM** so a big win for North, 18 17 to 11 10 and they'll be smiling at Arden Street after this performance. Schwass around the body. So this topsy turvey season continues from the SCG tonight. Doolan and Stevens and Lewis. And still in play, Mitchell to Lewis. And finally out.

**GH** I think Schwass coming back was another big positive for North Melbourne

SIREN

**BM** So the Kangaroos win by 49 points. 18 17 to 11 10. Smith with 4. Carey and Longmire with 3 each.



## 1992.2 Adelaide v Brisbane

26 April 1992 Football Park (42 759) 134-74 Channel 7

Dennis Cometti, Bernie Quinlan, Drew Morphett, Max Stephens

*It's raining, the quality of the DVD is poor, vision is terrible, the sound is underwater. Umbrellas in the crowd.*

**DC** on the outer side, Ross away to McDermott, Weidemann standing start, towards half forward. Could have almost been Jameson's free, and it is.

**BQ** the crowd wanting Hodges. Hodges giving him some movement at full forward as well. Campbell facing him face to face. Ingerson. They've got the options up forward if it's not Hodges or Jameson, Ingerson. Shaun Hart has been prominent. Now Champion across the goals again and Hodges has got it!

**DC** oh talk about coming back into the heavy traffic. Gabby Allen

**BQ** oh, across the goals again and Hodges has got it!

**DC** all he didn't do was sing happy birthday there Richard Champion as he kicked it

*(A lot of over talking and oohs and ers here that I simply cannot disentangle and so this is a very clean and clear version of a conversation that is friendly, incredulous and bantering)*

**BQ** that was a terrible, a terrible mistake from Champion. He's clearly an experienced player, Champion he's not a young player Richard Champion, he's been around for quite some time. That was a terrible mistake, 24 years of age but Gabby Allen will be looking at that (*illegible*) 8 goals for Scott Hodges

**DC** Merrett gets in down, Payne with the run of it, still he goes, boots it towards half forward. Worsfold, with a little bit of time that time, Maynard against the flow though. McGuinness punches out towards the outer side wing, Hart against Hart and they're shoulder to shoulder, Easy to work it out, for a throw in.

**BQ** hip to hip

**DC** (*laughing*) No smiles there from Shaun Hart who's tried very hard in defence this afternoon. Ross in front. Clearly was pushed in the back. No free kick.

**BQ** they just keep producing blokes of size don't they?

**DC** Adelaide? Well it's a footballing state I guess and they've got a lot of depth. They've stockpiled a few from the last couple of years, some youngsters. Here's another one, Noonan towards the boundary line and hot on his hammer. And it's shovelled across the boundary line once more. 18 16 plays 5 9 at Football Park. And it's going to be a free kick to Noonan is it? So, Noonan's got this ball. Next to the boundary line. Do you think umpires are aware of margins, Bernie?

**BQ** um, (*laughing*) forget that one, Dennis

**DC** This is Ross, McGuinness next to the boundary line. Hugs the boundary Jarman recovered well. Hart. Sanderson back on the ground. Ingerson. To Max Curran

**BQ** Campbell dashes out of defence. 20 meter handball, gets it back keeps going, Matthew Campbell, Wearne. Windsor a mile in the air, now he just hoist that up high, and says well up to you, you take a mark. What's happened here? Umpire's seen a free kick right in front here, to the Brisbane Bears.

*(Booing) this is Adelaide. They are winning by about a hundred points and they still boo when the other team get the free.*

**DM** yeah, Free kick off the play. And uh, Ben Hart the player who infringed, so Hutton to have this shot from about 20 to 25 meters out. Almost a gimme goal it should be for John Hutton.

**BQ** Hutton, who's kicked just the one goal today. *(Booing)* make it two.

**DC** 13 minutes remaining. 18 16 to 10 5 Kennedy doing the ruck work. Opposed to Ross. Retzlaff brings it away. Building it towards half forward. Windsor is down there with Weidemann. Weidemann got the fist on it. McGuinness goes off the ground out towards the boundary, out of bounds and it will be thrown in

**BQ** and, Dennis, what a bonanza weekend for the AFL. Crowd here today 42 thousand 759 and after some of the attendances we've had uh in Melbourne and around the country that's something like 250 000 for the round

**DC** mm

**DM** Well that's a great crowd isn't it Boo, because the record here is 45 864 against the West Coast Eagles last year

**BQ** And this is the Bears who ran last last year

**DM** exactly

**DC** Latent drawing power. On the outer side they battle after it. *(laughs)* this is McGuinness inside the 50, slides it across the face, Ingerson goes back on his fingertips and through for a minor score. So, 19 or rather 18 17 plays 10 5. A beleaguered defence this afternoon, one of the members, Matthew Campbell, a former South Australian brings it out, intended for Wearne. Well done by Ingerson coming back to crowd him. And Wearne fights back to knock it over the boundary line. Schwerdt controls it well. Over the top, Liptak. Liptak inside the 50. Centring kick shows good discipline. All Bears there. Supposed to be a best man along with Payne was Hart. They combine to give it to Green. Green dashes away from defence and boots towards half forward for his team. Ashcroft has been quiet today, had it bounce off his chest. This is Windsor inside the 50. Hutton going back, it won't sit for him, it runs away from him and goes out of bounds. And we'll have a throw in.

**BQ** 125 plays 65. So, the Crows almost double the Bear's score. We're mid-way through the last quarter. Boend Bears in attack. And they work it well out of defence. Here's Lee. Take your number one ruckman Rehn off the ground and uh you bring a bloke, Ross on and he keeps winning in the ruck. Hinkley, at centre wing. Jameson. Schwerdt. Here comes Hodges. He's swamped this time. McGuinness fronted the pack went without it. Soccered away by McLuckie. He loses ground and doesn't find touch. Ball still in just outside the 50. Well done. McDermott. A little kick to centre the ball it skims past the defence. But soccered off the ground by Noonan. Merrett leads the race. Not sure he's been 100% fit today Roger Merrett. Ashcroft. Back to Hart, Shaun Hart, a good little pass. And he's found Gastev, centre of the ground. Retzlaff. Couple of ex West Australians combining, but he's too slow.

**DC** Oh, round in circles

**BQ** Jarman smothers, well they might come out with it eventually but that's uh way out of where they need to be. That's a kick from the centre circle to the wing

**DC** Klug's back on

**DM** Yeah, Johnny Klug back on and Hart back Hart off the ground, Johnny Klug not moving all that freely. A couple of great smothers from Jarman, playing in the centre

**DC** Thrown in the outer side. Merrett looking for a free kick and that's a very soft one. Centres it. Either one of two. It's Kennedy, alongside the centre circle. Kicks it inside the 50. That breeze has fallen away and kicks carrying a lot further down towards that left hand end as we watch it now. Paul back from Weidemann. Schwerdt with an awkward one, Leslie came to meet him. Klug is in there, Lee tries to go off the ground, picked up again by Leslie (*illegible*) Palfreyman who from 35 meters out fails to bend it back just enough. Hit the post about half way up. 18 17 to 10 6

**BQ** straight up the centre of the ground. Patterson. Paul Patterson. From West Adelaide, playing his 5<sup>th</sup> AFL game. Fielke dishes it off to Lee. Kicked by Lee. Jameson. Hodges on the edge of the goal square. Hodges working to the front but the leap by Campbell gets the ball away. At the moment Hodges and Jameson leading the goal kicking record for the Crows at 8 apiece. Well. Hodges can improve on it today but Jameson's got a little work to do, he's kicked three today.

**DC** Ingerson in front Kennedy over the top, it falls to Jameson and he's missed, the long side, a minor score

**BQ** Three four for him

**DC** long afternoon for the Bears. 18 18 to 10 6. Campbell towards the outer side this time. Merrett. I venture to say very close to his first mark. Hasn't taken too many. Goes very wide. Baine was up, dropped it, McGuinness carries it across the line, it will be thrown in.

**BQ** you can get all the possessions you like over there, you're not going to win the game

**DM** No, they've very haphazard in their approach to the goal today, uh Brisbane, and that's probably due to a lot of the pressure that's been applied by Adelaide. The tackling's been excellent and this man's been terrific in the middle of the ground, his smothers have been invaluable.

**DC** McDermott got it to McGuinness, back to McDermott. Champion got him. A bit too casual there, Chris McDermott. Bain just threw it across, oh

Laughing

**BQ** no free kick

**DC** got his blind side,

**BQ** amazing

**DC** good side. There's the kick from McLuckie, inside the 50, no well short. He's pulled off the kick at the last moment. Ross took the mark goes in to Lee. BY hand across the top to Maynard. Gets it onto Schwerdt now who runs by the centre circle, kicks it inside the attacking 50, where's Hodges, up, couldn't hang onto it, Jameson gets the handpass away, Sanderson, they've kicked a goal.

**BQ** The margin 66 so Adelaide exactly double the Brisbane score. Ross wins in the middle. Kennedy works it out for the Bears. Maynard the handpass backwards. Lee had it spent. Weidemann there, grabbed when he didn't have the ball. Oh no, holding the ball! Says the umpire!!

**DM** oh that's a tough decision. Because Weidemann was clearly held before that free kick was paid. Unless the umpire thought he was in possession or over the ball. It did appear to be a free kick to Weidemann. He can't believe it. (*laughing*) you wouldn't want to be stared too often by him would you, by Weidemann, you'd get a hole in your dial.

**BQ** so Ray Windsor, who came back to the seniors last week. And kicked a goal after the siren to get the draw for the Bears. He's kicked a goal here. His second for the day. And Weidemann still having a chat to the umpire. He said in Fish Creek that was a free kick any time

**DM** Yes, so the Bears have actually outscored Adelaide in this quarter, against the breeze. Something that Graham Cornes wouldn't be all that happy about. I'm talking about Adelaide's percentage which is only 97 percent so they really need to build it up and had a big chance if they had of gone on with the match in this last quarter.

**DC** Play restarts then. Run down by Kennedy who's rucked pretty well. Missing it was Maynard. Kennedy missed it likewise. Windsor, stood in the tackle got a kick away. And Lee marks right on the defensive 50. Scott Lee, twice best and fairest for Centrals has played pretty well in defence today, although it's been pretty much regulation down there for defence. They have dictated the terms. Kick comes out wide, Gastev is run down, and he's gonna get a free kick, Johnny Gastev nasty cork in that exchange, I would think, at best. Hopefully he'll be okay.

**BQ** he cops a few doesn't he, Johnny Gastev. A very gutsy, courageous player.

**DC** Plays on by hand, Champion left it behind, Ingerson, keeps it down inside the attacking 50. Champion goes back with dash. Well picked up. I don't think he'll go across the goal again. Close to the boundary line. Hart just pushes it across. Not much subtlety there but the umpire shows a little compassion, so we've got a throw in, 19 18 to 11 6 inside the last five minutes of this game.

**BQ** Gastev coming off too, uh Dennis, and uh Peter Worsfold coming back on.

**DM** Oh ruckman got hit in the face with that one. Ingerson feeling his lip. Kennedy can't clear the pack. Handpass comes back to McDermott. Hoisted up inside half forward, awkward bounce here, comes to the back of the pack, Champion, He's kicking backwards, dangerous again. Worsfold losing ground, Campbell, runs it over. Well, that started about 40 out from goal and finished up rushing a behind.

**BQ** That's something,

**DM** Max Stevens, down on the boundary line, Max.

**MS** Darel Hart coming off, Drew, he's being taken straight down to the rooms for treatment. He has a sore lower back, and uh at this stage it doesn't appear too serious but the Crows not taking any chances.

**DM** The Bears working the ball out of defence. Windsor just behind centre wing. Over the wing, outer side. McLuckie. Caught by Jarman, smothered by McGuinness Thrown says the umpire. And it's going to be a Bears free kick.

**BQ** I think he was slung well after he got rid of the ball, Drew, so McLuckie to take the free

**DM** Okay, it's gotta come back here to Matthew Kennedy. Under 4 minutes to go so if Hodges is going to break the Crows goal kicking record he's going to leave this right to the last minute, by the looks

**DC** There's Kennedy on the outer side, forward of the wing. Still light misting rain falling at Football Park. Kicks down to forward pocket, clears the pack. And there's going to be a free kick and it's going to the Bears.

**BQ** and Hodges coming off the ground, uh Dennis. He has some sort of injury, it doesn't appear to be all that serious but a great performance by Scott Hodges, he's kicked 8 goals 1 and a standing ovation from the Adelaide Crows fans. Sugarman about to come back on the ground.

**DC** well his AFL career has been something of a rollercoaster ride, Scott Hodges. But the crowd certainly wanting him to succeed and very warm in their applause as he came off the ground. Rehn comes back on, (*booing*) awkward time to come back on, just over 3 minutes remaining as the young man goes onto the forward line. Meantime there's a shot at goal from Hutton and he's missed by quite a margin just sneaks it through for a behind. 11 7 19 19 as we go down to Max Stevens.

**MS** Very busy Dennis. Uh John Gastev coming off a short moment ago, he has a knock to the right knee, it too, without saying the same line all the time, doesn't appear too serious

**BQ** And now Hart works it out of centre wing. And a diving mark taken at centre wing by Sanderson. Brenton Sanderson. Up towards half forward. Ingerson at the pack. Climbs into the pack. Jameson the handpass. The Crows have the ball going forward. Bears can't trap it. Here's Jarman. Great stuff. Snap by Jarman's off line. Rehn's there but can't mark, and the ball out of play.

**DM** Yes, another mistake there from Richard Champion. Unfortunate. They've tried hard Brisbane but nothing's come up for them. But a few mistakes in defence, handpassing when players have been covered has uh has been really a major fault in their play today.

**BQ** 10 goals the margin. Adelaide in front. Here's Ingerson from the goal square, oh he missed it, and another rushed behind.

**DC** Just over 2 minutes remaining. 19 20 to 11 7. Here's our man again, Max Stevens.

**MS** Yes, Scott Hodges coming off has a corked thigh, and uh will take no further part in the game, which is a bit of a shame.

**DC** meantime they battle after this ball at half forward, the Crows. Wearne comes away, boots it back towards midfield. Weidemann missed the mark. White rather tentatively goes off the ground, Lee. The other extreme boots it hard down to half forward. Storming up the ground is Hart, liked his game. Windsor got it to Noonan, goes over the top to Palfreyman, or rather Palfreyman is charged down by Weidemann, close to the boundary line is Hart and this one is bending around and goes out of bounds about 50 meters out from goal

**DM** we saw, we saw there again, Dennis, just one handball too many from the Brisbane Bears. Three very good handpasses and then just that extra one that put the uh Brisbane Bears player in trouble.

**BQ** big pack around this. Merrett throws it out, and at last, the umpire sees it and the crowd says they've been doing it all day.

**DM** Free kick to Jarman. Up towards centre wing, Champion's there. Jameson over the top, Champion the mark!

**BQ** Yeah, good mark. He was in front, he got the first touch to it.

**DM** Bit of toe to toe there with Jameson.

**BQ** oh, Champion!

**DM** he's giving it away to Liptak, has he made some mistakes! Here's a chance for Rehn. Oh, he hooked it back brilliantly. McGuinness keeps it going forward, he's got Rehn in support. Tony McGuinness on his wrong kicking foot. Centring kick. Too long for Ingerson. Bain is there. And they get back in defence. Green and the kick by Green over half back. We're playing out the last minute. Merrett goes back for Peter Worsfold. His kick over centre wing. Big climb almost a great mark taken down there by Ross and he's given away the free.

**BQ** Yes, we saw that Weidemann uh paid the mark of the week the other day, by doing the same thing, Drew, he put his hands on the shoulders to get that lift, and it's certainly illegal

**DM** Hutton slides and marks on the 50

**BQ** Champion being taken from the ground after uh that last mistake. Ahmat back on

**DM** now the kick by Hutton

SIREN

**DM** there goes the siren. Oh, it's a beautiful looking kick, plenty of distance. Did it score? It scores a behind. And the Crows have scored a big victory.

## 1992.3 Geelong v Fitzroy

26 April 1992 Kardinia Park (22 062) 175-77 HSV7

Sandy Roberts and Peter McKenna

**SR** Geelong go into the final quarter here at Kardinia Park in a commanding position. They lead by 47 points. Can Fitzroy do something? Handley loses it.

**PM** They've moved Ablett straight back onto the ball, which is a good move from Shaw.

**SR** Armstrong getting the free kick. Towards Wheildon. Plays on quickly to Lard still 70 meters out. He goes for a short kick, soccered it, straight back towards Armstrong. He kicks blindly, and high towards the half forward line, the bounce is not a good one

**PM** oh!

**SR** for Bews, Neild and Hinkley giving back up support and look at Hinkley, he just drifts across that half back line. McGrath. Stoneham, with the one hand. The other was locked with Paxton. Bairstow shovelling it down. Only as far as Baldwin. He looks for Wynd. Going with him is Wills. He's gotta beat three of them. They're trying to lock it up here. Does well to get it towards the centre wing, then the handpass to Bews. Now they've created a bit of space. Trevor Pull passes beautifully to Ablett, and he's only 52 meters out. Gary Ablett, has now kicked 530 goals in his career. In 151 games.

**PM** You notice when Ablett marks 55 from goal, not one Geelong player is bothering to make a little lead into space, they know he's going to have a long bomb

**SR** This is only a moderate bomb, a medium bomb from here. Let's see what he does. Well, as peter says, you give them a rap and that's what happens. ...off hands, brown. Little chip, Oh Yes! Bairstow, directly in front, second grab

**PM** Well Mark Bairstow a little bit too tall there for Jimmy Wynd. Flicked it out with the one hand, the right hand, then butted up and took a good mark. 30 meters out, 20 meters out, directly in front. A reasonable day. There is his stats.

**SR** a goal

**PM** 86 and the medallist makes no mistakes. Another one to the cats. And they go further ahead. Geelong 17 18 as the snowflakes tumble, Fitzroy 10 8

**SR** Yes, it's a bit of a procession here at Geelong. Dundas goes on. And Broderick comes off for a bit of a chat to the coach, Robert Shaw, on the phone. Excellent goal to Mark Bairstow;

**PM** Abbott versus Handley, oh in the end Bews went against him. This is Blakey, he's got the job on Ablett now. Jeremy Gard on the left foot, Beautiful kick too, oh, Dundas came from behind, almost give away a free,

**SR** did

**PM** and he did. They've been slaughtered across half back. Fitzroy. Here's Kenny Hinkley who's been uh very good at half back Hinkley, he is a class player. To the half forward line, and uh, nothing much happening at the moment, as far as Fitzroy is concerned. A bounce at half forward for Geelong

**SR** well Neild and McGrath have been excellent for Geelong. Across the half back line and they've repelled many many attacks.



**PM** Still at half forward. Abbott, now McGrath. Played a good game today. Ablett has it thumped away and really, this is uh Roos over the top. Now its Roos again, Lyon, no mark, it must have been touched off the boot. McGrath soccers it off the ground. Mark Bairstow. Whoops. Now Joe Cormak. Formerly of the West Coast Eagles. Wheildon trying to get something moving on the left foot, oh, disappointing.

**SR** well

**PM** as the mark was taken by Rogers

**SR** once again Alistair Lynch just loping after that. If he'd not injured he really is putting up a pretty poor show

**PM** Bews. Handley on centre wing. Towards Stoneham. Geelong have looked very impressive today. Ross Lyon off Broderick back onto the ground. Stoneham's kick to half forward. Ablett though all over him. And it was right in front of the umpire. Forssman's kick Brown will be the flyer. Yes! Paul Brown has kicked three. But right on the boundary line.

**SR** oh, what a kick. Goodnight lions. Four goals to Brown and the Cats are starting to do as they like. It was knees up Paul Brown on that occasion, a good mark from behind.

**PM** Oah

**SR** four goals fast becoming one of the exciting players in AFL in his second season. Excellent mobility on the ground and a good aerialist.

**PM** (*laughing*). Centre bounce. Knees up. Bews couldn't take it. Wills.

**SR** They go steaming out of the centre. Roberts

**PM** oh!

**SR** It almost stuck. Almost.

**PM** Well the second half has been most disappointing for Fitzroy. Their score at the moment is 10 8. They were 9 4 at half time so they've kicked one goal four. McGrath back to the centre. Gard. LATE OVERPULLED. Paxman can't pick it up he's ridden into the ground. Wynd has tried all day. Cormack now in the centre. Joe Cormak. Up towards half forward. McGrath got a hand to it, flicked over the back, Dundas must be a chance, no McGrath just glides through the pack, gets his kick and puts it over the line, to safety.

**SR** well the one-eyed Geelong crowd appreciating that play by Tim McGrath. He's been a good player too, 14 kicks he's had after a pretty tough start to the season. There's that flick over the top that time by Wills. Paul Roos on the left foot. One on one, Hocking versus Osborn, down the ground it goes, here's a chance for Fitzroy as Matthew Armstrong swings onto the left foot but he has missed.

**PM** well Alistair Lynch has come off the ground and he's been replaced by Brett Stevens so we must give him the benefit of the doubt. There's no doubt the way he's been approaching the ball that he's been hampered by an injury, we believe an Achilles, and they are very difficult to play with, so uh problem for Fitzroy for the next couple of weeks I would imagine.

**SR** yes, no doubt, they just couldn't afford to lose a player of his class. Look at little Andrew Bews. He's right back in form. Good play Geelong. Hinkley. They've got runners everywhere. Sign of a confident side. Hinkley. Oh don't tell me he's going to run down and kick a goal. Look at this,

**PM** four



**SR** Ken Hinkley into the open goal. Oh, A magnificent goal. And he's happy. Whoah, look at that. That is magic to watch. Kenny from Camperdown. 19 19 Geelong. The crowd are happy. Fitzroy 10 9.

**PM** (*laughing*) great stuff

**SR** well Kenny Hinkley, all Australian selection last year, an excellent goal off the half back line, set up by Bews.

**PM** Centre bounce once again. Abbott, couldn't take it. It's an absolute procession out of the centre as Wills goes with a long kick towards full forward. The mark is not taken by Darcy, it was touched. Play on is the call. He gets it to Trevor Pull, flicks it around his body, Scott is spoiled, Morrish, tackled by Darcy but he did get the ball away and it drifts over the line

**SR** well Fitzroy are now playing for one thing, and that's their pride. This has been an absolute debacle here considering the improved status they've shown, or they've received in the last couple of weeks

**PM** 64 points is the margin. Baldwin, runs into a brick wall, eventually soccered off the ground and over the line for another throw in.

**SR** well it must be 95 percent Geelong supporters here because no one's leaving. They've been entertained by a great display from their home side.

**PM** No no one's left yet, Forssman, delightfully through to Bairstow, who'll have a shot from 45 meters. Lovely kick for goal, now they're working on percentage. 20 19 to 10 9

**SR** Well a pretty good days outing for Mark Bairstow, 15 kicks, 5 handballs, and 2 goals 1. A class ruck rover of 1991. He's back in form with a great display today.

**PM** yes, Geelong, doing it on the bit. Abbott versus Handley, Ross Lyon, oh wild handpass. Hinkley again after that great goal a couple of minutes ago

**SR** ooh,

**PM** Roos hard after it. McGrath has improved. Former North Melbourne player. Well done by Paul Roos, hooks it back in front of goal. Rogers soccered it off the ground. He's got back up support from Steve Hocking. On it goes to Miles. To the half back line, it breaks over the pack, Abbott, Lyon, still Ross Lyon, back it comes to Abbott, to the half forward line and Matthew Dundas waits underneath the ball. Little rover he's a long way out from goal he's looking in towards Richard Osborne, it clears him, he had no back up support either. At half back, Fitzroy trying to get it to Abbot. That was Broderick. To the half forward line. And again, the mark, too easy for Geelong. This is Mark Neale. Now Neale's got the loose man. Oh, danger here because Robert Scott is off and running.

**SR** hoh

**PM** Under Wills. To the half forward line. Ablett versus Blakey. Ablett breaks down. Brown. Did it well. Paul Brown chips it across. The lead is there. Oh, Bews a diving attempt, couldn't take it. Ross Lyon will clear it and in the centre of the ground, he will find Abbott.

**SR** Paul Abbott has spent considerable time on the bench today. He floats one towards half forward. The oomph has certainly gone out of Fitzroy here. Broderick, push forward to Miles. Out the back door McGrath, just head for the boundary line. Goes wide. Wheildon chasing. He leaves it for Gard. Fitzroy go back inside 50. Osborn a big flyer, who's waiting down at the back? All Geelong. Steve Hocking, McGrath and Robert Scott. Another loose player on centre wing. Trevor Pull had miles running but elected to go himself. Ablett. Well. Darcy came from behind him and perhaps upset him.

He gave a deft little nudge. Didn't get away with it. Stoneham. Cleverly to Wills, from 49 meters, chips to Miles, oh Bairstow's there as well. And they've both mucked it up. So, a throw in on the left forward pocket.

**PM** Yes, I think uh Bairstow might have said to leave it, he wasn't sure what to do then.

**SR** Centre breaks well, well and truly with Geelong, well therein lies much of the story. Ablett leads in the race. But the boundary line will beat him.

**PM** always seems to be a special roar

**SR** yeah

**PM** every time Ablett charges after the ball with the crowd hoping something miraculous will happen.

**SR** well he's done more for this town than most

**PM** ah

**SR** just with his performances on the football field. Trevor Pull, tucked in the pocket. Have a snap, Trev. He did. It landed in the square Pete.

**PM** Wynd

**SR** and over the line

**PM** well I'm glad he heard you then, when you advised him to have a snap

**SR** well, he's tucked in the pocket, only 40 meters out.

**PM** yes, and uh been a good player since coming across from Richmond.

**SR** 139 plays 69. Down towards Darcy. And again over the line goes Matthew Armstrong. Time remaining, just on 13 minutes. Stoneham does the ruck work. Ablett can't get a look in. but he recovers. He steals the ball, flicks it high around his body. Darcy caught behind. Elliott got it out. And as Peter McKenna would say the Johnny Beckworth kick almost

**PM** yes, never mention him again, as we see the marking stats for the final quarter. Now that is an indication, not of overhead marking strength, that's an indication that you've got control of the ball and you're chipping it around a bit. 13 to 2. Not very good for Fitzroy. Now here's Wills. Oh, he did that very well, the chip pass. Into the pocket. Pull. Keeps it in. Now he might have a shot from here. Trevor Pull.

**SR** have another shot

**PM** well, give him your advice again Sandy, he can't have a snap this time. Gunna have a direct kick from the boundary line. This will bring the roof of the new grandstand down if he kicks it, he's hooked it slightly, Ablett at the back. No mark and it is a behind. Pretty impressive Geelong.

**SR** Nothing will bring the roof of this new stand down Peter, it's quite magnificent this Brownlow Stand

**PM** No, it's great, (*illegible*) commentary area

**SR** the best in the land. Full credit to Geelong. 140 plays 69 71 points the margin, Stevens flicks it over the back. Baldwin should be first to this, he is, and they try and set up something on that outer wing. Stevens goes towards Roos who can't quite get there to take the mark but he does tap it further afield. Oh, Neild, coat-hangered. He'll take the free kick. Well, he won't but Geelong will. He's not up. Hocking does, Steve. Gary of course still out injured. And Stoneham marks. Seventh mark to

Barry Stoneham. Down to Miles, inside 50 Geoff Miles, gets onto the left foot kicks in towards Ablett. Hammered away from him by Blakey, who lost it, went to soccer off the ground, it may finish up with Ablett. Out comes the handpass. The master will have a snap. Oh, the master will goal! 5 goals to Gary Ablett.

**PM** well he was a little bit stiff here, John Blakey because in the one on one he did very very well to force it to ground and fist it away and eventually the ball landed back with Ablett who doubled back and the nice handpass set up the goal for Ablett. Hasn't been absolutely outstanding today but he has kicked 5 goals and you cannot keep that man down, he's too good.

**SR** back in the middle again

**PM** well Mark Neeld, Sandy

**SR** well I think they're gonna have to stop

**PM** he is still down

**SR** yes, they can't uh can't have the bounce until either he is removed from the playing area or he's gonna get up and perform and the latter looks very unlikely. On a stretcher,

**PM** we've seen a lot of heavy knocks this year, haven't we?

**SR** well it's a shame

**PM** players going down, and they take him straight over the boundary line

**SR** particularly to happen at this stage of the game

**PM** it looks like he's clean out. They needed over 70 points. Now the field umpire is going down and saying you can bring him across, across the ground. He's obviously going to take no further part.

**SR** you never like to see that

**PM** no

**SR** it was a very high tackle

**PM** that's really for Geelong the one blemish to come out of the day.

**SR** They lead by 77 points. And it's at the same token been a very disappointing day for Fitzroy because I'm sure, Peter, they would have come down here expecting not only to be very very competitive but also in with a 50 50 chance of taking the four points.

**PM** yes, I think they were pretty confident but uh they haven't been up to it, I think particularly the second half Sandy, that Robert Shaw would be disappointed with the efforts of a number of players out there, I reckon they've been spectators.

**SR** in the second half they've kicked one goal five while Geelong has kicked 10 goals 9

**PM** yes well, I think a lot of that has to do with a lack of effort and the coach won't be happy. And Mark Neeld in good hands there. George Clark's there and uh all his training staff, they're a good mob down here, these Geelong trainers.

**SR** Yep. So, now we're ready to resume, 10 and half minutes remaining. Handley, a thump as good as a kick down to half forward. Forssman showing pace has it cut off however. Lyon gives it across to Jim Wynd. Floating kick to Caven who marks just forward of centre. Up to half forward. Brownless is there. Couldn't take it. Rogers says thank you very much and the attack is repelled once more. Bews gives it to Handley. He hammers it to Stoneham who can run on here. Just a little chip in towards

Darcy. Well spoiled however. Darcy tried to give it back to Stoneham. Forssman now, does, but he over runs it. Stevens close to the boundary line, the ball spills free and over.

**PM** a good spoil a moment ago by Morrish, it looked like a certain mark to Darcy but he had the pace to just go with him and just put that fist out. Forward pocket for the Cats. Stoneham. Oh, too easy. Barry Stoneham around the corner a beautiful snap, and that is a goal

**SR** that is too easy isn't it

**PM** well he's kicked his second, Sandy, but how easily can he turn, and no one coming at him. 22 20 Geelong 10 9 Fitzroy. And there he is Barry Stoneham, he was delighted with that effort, he grabbed it out of the ruck, turned on the left foot, probably looking for a handpass or a short kick but when he saw he was clear he slammed it through

**SR** 152 plays 69. That tackle's too high, surely.

**PM** Jim Wynd has been a trier all day for the Lions. He's done well, so too has uh Paul Roos. Weildon soccers off the ground straight into the arms of Hinkley but he too loses it, back to Weildon, could have been leg then, the doc. So, he'll have another go. Pumps it in towards goal and has put it through for a behind.

**SR** when you consider, Pete, that uh Gary Hocking has got to come back into this side, Neville Bruns was playing in the reserves here at Kardinia Park today

**PM** Damien Bourke,

**SR** Damien Bourke

**PM** Plenty of talent. I really think that uh Geelong

**SR** Brownless has spent the majority of the day on the bench

**PM** well, I think that Geelong's a big danger to Hawthorn, because I still think the Hawks are favourites, but this is a side that could worry them.

**SR** You are keen on the Hawks, aren't you?

**PM** Well they're a very good side, and until they get knocked off they're still the favourites, and uh, but Geelong, they're not far off it. There's Wills.

**SR** and Riccardi, got a paddock now. A little chip in towards full forward. If it sits, Stoneham may kick another one. Pulls it round the body and goes bang! Thank you says Bazza. Three goals to Stoneham, and are we looking at a one hundred point thrashing here?

**PM** well, at the moment Sandy, its 158 to 70 so what's that, 88, and we've got 8 minutes of play left, so the way they're playing, a big chance to win by a hundred points. Stoneham just really showed his great skill a moment ago. Here's Brownless having a kick. Centre wing. Ross Lyon. Tim McGrath. Lyon was grabbed when he didn't have it. Ooh, and McGrath and Lyon exchanging pleasantries there. And Ross Lyon will get the kick. Well, it was originally his free kick. And that's how the way the umpire went. Roos. No mark.

**SR** Free kick

**PM** free kick for too high. No, the advantage paid now to Broderick. Broderick in towards full forward. Stevens at the back. Two bites, couldn't take it. Handley. Steve Hocking. Osborn. Abbott. Armstrong. Hooks it across his body for a behind. But at least there was a semblance of team work there, unfortunately for Fitzroy it was only a behind. 23 20 Geelong very impressive to 10 11.

**SR** just on 7 minutes remaining. Bairstow had it on the tips of his fingers but couldn't control it. Armstrong to half forward. Scooped out towards Paul Roos, a hurried kick. Mark not taken but it's going to be a free kick, going to Wheildon.

**PM** Directly in front. Well Darren Weildon yet to score a goal, he has had a decent spell on the bench, but really for a guy of his talent, he hasn't realised, he's had four kicks and three handballs, but hasn't real, probably a couple of inches short for a key position, but should be doing more.

**SR** straight in front, kicking into the blue and white flags, and he has, put it through. So Wheildon, gets his first goal. He was the club's top goal kicker last year, with just 29.

**PM** well Darren Wheildon, there he is, with Paul Roos

**SR** why are you looking at me like that

**PM** well I'm just thinking what a, you know, fancy a top goal kicker

**SR** 29

**PM** winning it with 29, I mean, it just, it says you haven't had a great year, the side. Back to the centre. Handley. That was Paxman getting it to Blakey. For the half forward line. The race is on for it, Rogers, was too quick then for Jason Baldwin. That's unusual. Baldwin on the left foot, in towards full forward. Oh! Billy Brownless flies to take a screamer. Off he goes to Miles. Handley, very mobile for a big man, can go over the top here, very skilful too. Riccardi. Back it comes to Handley. Into the centre of the ground. Cormack was underneath it. Gee Stoneham's had a great last quarter. He's lost it this time to Abbott. Now it's Seecamp. Again it's Matthew Armstrong. A long kick. Over the back, McGrath, played a good game Tim McGrath. Good to see him doing well, discarded by North Melbourne. Handley. Looking for an option here, he goes for the long kick to the half forward line, where Stoneham sets himself, oh, too easy.

**SR** To the running Hinkley, well he's kicked one sensational goal, Jimmy Wynd may try and stop this, oh! Bairstow tackled high, shrugs the tackle, from 48 meters, shoots in towards goal and puts it through for one behind. 23 20 44 scoring shots to 22. Really does tell the story of the day. Ah! *(laughs)* Brown an effective back spoil, Pull, floating kick in towards half forward, no mark taken. Cormack didn't want it, Lyon, Stevens, Cormack again, this time he gets his kick, its high, Roos comes over the top can't quite hold it long enough. Well tackled by Trevor Pull, a chance now for Forssman to break the tackle, steady, and head for home. One behind.

**PM** well he's an underrated player, Forssman. We've got a few like that down here at Geelong, those medium sized players, but well they've got plenty of good players to bring into the side. And uh, they're going to be a force to be reckoned with the Cats.

**SR** Morrish, just nothing on offer. Eventually Caven moved. Stoneham over the top can't take it. Wynd has been knocked up getting kicks. He's been a trier all day. Hinkley, wonderful ball control. Stoneham again. Wynd. Advantage is going to be paid. Brown from the pocket. Close. Very, very close. Paul Brown has kicked number 5. He's joined Gary Ablett as the principal scorers for the cats.

**PM** well that all started with Stoneham contesting that mark. Kept his eyes on it, he's happy, so was Paul Brown. But he kept his eyes on the ball, he was infringed, advantage paid, and Brown, is a very talented player. And is a beautiful kick. He's kicked three from the boundary today. There's a thump by Caven. Bews. Brownless might go the thumping kick, no he won't. Handballs over the top. This is Pull. Pull'll go into the pocket. The lead is on. A good lead. And a good mark by Darcy. Oooh that could be 50. Yes it is 50, I thought so, against Pull. No. I thought he was about to bring him back for 50 then.

**SR** well, he bought him back, he bought him back about 8 meters

**PM** well the crowd started to roar. They thought it was.

**SR** yeah

**PM** Tim Darcy, will kick, a 45 degree angle, a great camera shot of this one, right behind, number 28 for Geelong. Now I said he's a good kick, I'll back him in for this one

**SR** Give him a rap

**PM** Oh don't tell me, he doesn't even make the distance

DVD STOPS HERE, FOUR MINUTES SHORT OF THE END. UNABLE TO READ FILE. NO FURTHER VISION OR SOUND

## 1992.4 Richmond v West Coast Eagles

26 April 1992 MCG (17629) 96-97 Channel 7

Peter Landy, Ian Robertson, Don Scott

**PL** final quarter from the MCG in Round 6. Richmond leading the West Coast Eagles by 20 points. Honybun with the first tap out getting it out of the centre most important, Turnbull looks for and finds Scott Watters on the run at right centre wing. Barich can't take it, Langdon playing at full forward, centring kick from him, oh Nicholls can't quite get the mark they still might get the goal. Peos! Has hit the post

**IR** Actually, that was good play by Langdon then. He swatted, he swatted it into the centre then and Nicholls, I suppose should have taken that, they're difficult to take overhead marks when you've gotta stretch, but really, I think he could have made a better effort, Scott Nicholls. Trent, I should say, Trent Nicholls.

**PL** Turner. Kicks in well. Oh, a short pass, Honybun will get it back, looks for Griffiths, and Griffiths runs out of room. Started on the bench, Stuart Griffiths. Boundary throw in. speaking of the bench, David Honybun on screen there, he's got a lot of time on the bench this afternoon, or just next to it. Little bit of a push out there, the Umpire says play on.

And the Eagles will do just that. Watters, to Laidley, back to Mainwaring who unaccountably fumbles, but that's the pressure applied by Richmond, and Mainwaring streams around the boundary line Looks for Langdon, can't find him, Turner. Read it better. And Scott Turner chips in to take the good mark.

**IR** Watters playing ruck rover or centre because he's up around midfield now

**PL** Turner, looks awkward kicks long this time Knights the target couldn't take it. The Eagles have got back up support in Lewis and it will be a ball up on the outer wing. Lewis and Knights will be the last to get up. Watters. Nicholls. Right on the boundary line with a centring kick two on one in favour of Richmond and Turner, ducking back well to take the mark. He's playing with a lot of confidence. Here's Campbell or is it Lennon, streaming out of defence

**IR** you were right the first time

**PL** Campbell was it they look a little bit alike. Laidley. Runs into trouble throws the ball one handed, Lamb, over the head of Peos, Lewis made good possession

**IR** being held

**PL** and he'll take the free kick. Long looping handpass to Watters.

**IR** good pass

**PL** Langdon, on the chest and lace up Carl Langdon within kicking distance

**IR** Actually, Scott Watters has done a pretty good job for the Eagles. He was given the job to tag Weightman, Weightman now on the bench and Watters becoming a creative player.

**PL** well Weightman did get a hefty knock earlier in the game. Would have taken the wind out of his sails. Langdon's shot at goal is good, or has he missed it? It's only one point. So, Karl Langdon has to be content with a minor score.



**IR** Well they've caught up in the behinds department. Now they've just got to kick three goals, four goals to win the game if they can keep Richmond goalless. It's a big ask, in the last quarter of a game of football. Kick in goes towards half back. Good effort Honybun, marks the ball handballs away to Free, Free kicks blindly to half forward. No mark taken back there, Brennan recovers first, little pass is good, Laidly marks between half back and centre wing. Runs on, short kick, a little too high. Richmond have got the numbers back there where Free, quickly, kicks back towards half forward. Kemp, there to help out. Short kick. Waterman, handball been told to play on I'd say, on all occasions. Jackovich. Kick is marked by Barrich. He plays on. Handball, Lamb, running onto it, kick into the pocket, Langdon can't mark, can't control it, taps it to his own advantage. Goes for goal. Smothered. Griffiths, Keays was out of bounds, the ball was in. Keays kicks it back to half back and Richmond clear the ball magnificently.

**PL** David Honybun should be fresh, having spent a lot of time on the bench this afternoon, but his kick is a poor one, and the Eagles will go forward through Brennan after it came down there from Waterman. Doing all the attacking so far in the final quarter, the West Coast. This is Campbell, he'll relay it to Griffiths, bad handpass to Maxfield, the ball sits okay for him in the end and he'll steady on his own defensive 50 meter line. Kicks to Honybun, couldn't take the mark in that marking contest. Nash, held, could get a free kick. No, says the umpire. Laidley tracks the ball

**IR** That didn't go out!

**PL** well, he was out.

**IR** And the ball stayed in

**PL** The boundary umpire didn't think so. (*laughs*)

**IR** Let's take a look (*laughs*)

**DS** We won't enter into that one, it was terribly close (*laughs*)

**PL** well it was a real line ball, literally wasn't it? Lewis, a tap on, almost went to Free. And it's tied up. A bounce will take place in front of the interchange area on centre wing.

**DS** It doesn't look good for the West Coast, you get that feeling they're just not in top gear. Richmond have got that smell of victory and they're playing accordingly. Maybe a couple of goals would change the tone for West Coast,

**PL** Certainly would, they're not out of it yet by any stretch of the imagination. Jackson, he's played a good game today especially in the first half Dean Kemp can't control it, it's out of bounds once more. The boundary umpire will throw it in in the middle of the interchange area. Jackson, behind

**DS** no a shoulder, yes

**PL** Free kick. West Coast.

**DS** fair enough, that's fair enough

**PL** oh I don't know, sometimes they pay those and sometimes they don't, Don.

**DS** Shoulder. Yeah, I agree with you

**PL** Brennan. Good punch away by Keays, but it goes straight to Jackovich who kicks the ball around his body, Langdon, on a lead

**DS** He's just too quick that Scott Turner, that's Turner's biggest problem. Not quick enough off the mark, but he can run up the ground as he did in the third quarter, a good player, but Langdon has got away from him on three occasions in this the last quarter.



**IR** he must kick this, Peter if they're to win the game.

*(Booing as the West Coast player lines up)*

**PL** well within kicking distance, Karl Langdon, he's put that one through

**DS** That's alright

**PL** without any mistake at all. Only 12 points the difference so the Eagles certainly back in it with Langdon making a difference at full forward. He's kicked 2 goals 1. Kemp, out of the centre, follows it up well, can't get a boot to it, he'll second chance here, spoons it out to Lewis, onto Mainwaring, could be another one here, 45 meters out, goal umpire hasn't moved, it is, it's there! It's a contest. The Eagles certainly playing with a lot of heart now as Mainwaring puts through his first goal, there's only a goal in it

**IR** well we'll just see what type of spur this is going to make for the West Coast and what Richmond are gunna do, because it's a critical time for both sides here, Lewis across to Mainwaring and Mainwaring just getting his kick as Keays comes in from his left. So, two quick goals for the West Coast, can that be the spur that they're, or incentive they're looking for?

**IR** well it was a good effort by Lewis, he could have had a real ping at it, but gave Mainwaring the space, so very critical breaks from the centre now in the last term. Lewis's little kick off the ground, Mainwaring runs onto it, taps it to his own advantage, chipping in is Nicholls, around onto the left foot, the kick was smothered, Lambert,

**DS** oh

**IR** handball goes further back to Keays, Keays is a sweeping handpass, Lees is the player who was the target. Away to Edwards. Edward now, a long kick to centre half forward. Both players running underneath it. At the back waterman. Richmond fans believing a little push out. Waterman goes for the boundary line

**PL** What about that handball by Craig Lambert when he got it out of the centre to start play? He really is quick with his hands.

**IR** ruckman gather in the left half forward flank region for the Tigers. Honeybun tries to get it down to Lambert, a chance here for Campbell. A kick across his body no mark taken a real struggle for possession now and it could be against Jackovich no, Richmond supporters appealing for it, the umpire decides on a bounce, about 40 meters from the Richmond goal

**PL** good play by Jackson to hold the ball down in the Richmond forward line

**IR** Tigers desperately need a goal to halt the forward thrust of the Eagles. Watters does well, gets his foot to the ball, kicks it to the wing, Knights, around onto the right side then gets back onto his favoured left foot. High towards half forward. And a good mark taken by Jackson. He could be just the man that could lift the Tigers

**PL** They need him firing because he started well, played an excellent half, wasn't quite so dominant in the third term too far out to score. Tried the torpedo punt, Honeybun in the middle, couldn't take the mark, Mainwaring running well. Sort of get the impression if the Eagles can get the next goal they'll be able to go on and win this but if Richmond steady they'll be in with a real chance to stay there. Linen's kick up towards full forward. Two West Coast Eagles almost spoiled each other. Nash, was he tripped? Oh, the Eagles are able to once again close the ball up and a bounce will take place about 35 meters out from goal. Richmond yet to score a major in the final term. Ball tapped out to Mainwaring off the ground in front of the member's stand in the right forward pocket for the Tigers and another boundary throw in. It was 20 points the difference at the final change, but the West Coast

have been able to reduce that now to one goal. Worsfold, will he get there first? He will, in front of Brennan. Out of bounds. Oh, very hard to tell from here.

**IR** Fortunate for Richmond. At least play starts in their left forward pocket

**PL** yes, the Eagles were going to clear that. It's going to be Jackson and Jackovich. Honybun there are well. Brennan over the top, White's gotta finger on it, so has Honybun and it'll be a bounce. A real important bounce, this, for Richmond.

**DS** both sides

**PL** Both sides. Yes, true, very crowded. Kemp a knock on. Knights tries to knock it back to Jackson, Turnbull off the ground, Lewis is running, Jackson is there with him, Lewis keeps it in play, tries to find Nicholls, Griffiths is there, he fell over at the wrong time, Mainwaring covering more ground than Bourke and Wills in the final term

**IR** well Don

**PL** Peos, Peos a high kick to centre half forward.

**IR** marking contest and getting back and taking a finger tipper was Metropolis, play on. Up towards full forward. Now what's happened here, the umpire back at near the centre is saying that the free kick should go back to centre wing, is he? Well metropolis going back to kick over the man over the mark. Well,

*(Booing)*

**PL** all that was

**IR** well, only the umpire's know what's going on

**PL** while all that was going on Honybun has come off, he's laying down on the ground exhausted and Waitland is coming back on.

**IR** well, Metropolis now, short kick, playing on his own now Jakovich. Oh, bad marking there by Richmond in a close game. Jakovich who kicked the ball to Langdon for a goal earlier in the quarter, terrific distance, so I think this elbow here, he's a big boy, should be able to kick the distance from 50 meters. Lovely high drop punt kick. It is touched, right on the line, is it? No! It's a goal.

*(Ad break skips a bit of the commentary)*

**PL** in the final quarter. Jakovich up to full forward again, Langdon, gets front position, Peos spins out Keays. Knocks the ball forward. And that means the Eagles are in front. So, they've scored 21 points to nil so far in this quarter. They're with 14 minutes to go. David Honybun sitting on the boundary line, a position he's spent most of the afternoon, it would seem.

**IR** *(laughing)* exactly right

**PL** Turner, will kick in. The Eagles looking much the better side in the final quarter. Tigers haven't looked like scoring. Jakovich punches clear again Lamb a knock on. Richmond player getting ridden into the ground down there. I think was Lennon, yes it is.

**IR** and a player that they're missing, Richmond, in that third term third quarter who was so good was Naish.

**PL** Just need to lift to get back into it. Jakovich punches well clear. Free overruns it, might give Lewis the opportunity. Pines overran it as well. Keays. Brennan was the high flyer. Lamb held up, ball up says the umpire. *(Booing)* Bounce to take place on centre wing. One point the difference in favour of

the West Coast Eagles. Started the last quarter 20 points behind, managed to peg back the difference. Jakovich again jumping high. Lambert taken out of it. Still got the football. Watters, elusive, at half forward. Where's Langdon, in front, Turner behind, takes a good mark.

**IR** well done. He's played a fair game, hasn't he?

**DS** yes, in the third quarter Ian, but Langdon's led him to the ball on three occasions earlier prior to that mark

**PL** Oh, bad kick, Mainwaring streams into an open goal, bang goes uh car uh Mainwaring, but he's missed! A sitter. And that makes the difference 2 points. Well, a real let off for the Tigers.

**DS** How to you reckon Scott Turner's heart was beating as Mainwaring was belting in towards goal?

**PL** well part of his game I guess don he needs to work on, his kicking.

**DS** Well that was just an Indi, he can kick the ball a long way. It's just the direction that was astray on occasion, see this ball will go a fair way

**IR** yes, well outside 50 meters, out there Keays flies high but Jakovich who's doing well for the Eagles leading from the front as a the big strong ruckman should. Oh, the ball forced out.

**DS** Richmond have got Brennan up across the half forward line now, Hogg's playing in the goal square. They've got Weightman at centre half forward I suppose or at flank

**IR** Hynes gets to the front. Ball left behind. Chance for Nicholls. He's well tackled. Lambert has the football. Jakovich the tackler, or Barrich is it? And Barrich gets up quickly. So, we'll have a ball up just inside 50 meters, a chance for the Eagles, they lead at the moment, by 2 points. A real struggle for Richmond now, Keays, a sneaky little handpass Edwards, Lambert, must have heard the voice out the back, Campbell over the top, Brennan, a little slow Edwards. Just as little slow. Eagles lifting. Mainwaring. Chance for Brennan, he taps it to his own advantage. Lambert in there to help. Handball goes over the top. Weightman swamped. Watters. Free kick to the captain, Richmond. Dale Weightman will take it. Centre wing far side

**DS** Breman now playing on the ball. Knights has gone onto half forward flank, changing with Breman.

**PL** and Weightman with that lovely baulk, gets it to Naish. Badly directed kick again

**DS** oh, shocking

**PL** and Worsfold chipping in to take the timely mark. So really breaking down across the half forward line this quarter, Richmond, no addition to their three quarter time tally. Honybun. No, it's not Honybun, it's Edwards, another tall blonde, who's done a lot of the ruck work today with Honybun on the sideline. Lewis, edged out of that contest. That must be a free kick.

**DS** don't yes, Tony Francis, real oh free, realising what he had done. That's a sign of frustration in his face then

**IR** Wearing Francis Bourke's old number. Who is chairman of selectors at Richmond at the moment.

**PL** Chris Lewis from the right half back flank. Transferring play to the centre wing. Big pack of players down there at the moment. Big gather by Lambert. Quick kick by Edwards up to the edge of the square. Oh, Knights, mark or free kick? Free kick it is, he's paid. Too high.

**DS** he just about held it anyway, didn't he?

**IR** I agree with you

**PL** Knights from the edge of the square. Richmond badly need a goal here. Turnbull in front, taps down to the advantage or punches down to the advantage of Kemp. That might be out of bounds on the full, it's pretty close to it.

**DS** That's a big full forward line Richmond have got, they've got Hogg, Menegola and Jackson, all in the goal square.

**PL** Edwards, speaking of talls, well almost Menegola, Weightman, Kemp, sandwiched, tries to get it to Knights, the Eagles making a wall of players, it's really hard to get through there, their defence has really tightened up in this last quarter. And again, it will be a bounce inside 50, 40 meters out from Richmond's goal, 9 and a half minutes left in the match, 2 points the difference, in favour of West Coast.

**IR** and 17 and a half thousand fans here today to watch a pretty interesting game. It's as though it's gonna go right down to the last minute or two. Eagles lead by 2 points. Kemp get the ball out

**PL** Oh!

**IR** and White goes for the boundary line.

**DS** well that was deliberate, but he let it go from about 40 meters from the boundary line so the umpire I don't suppose in that situation can penalise him, but his intent was only for the boundary line.

**IR** well, he'd be a bit toey, I think. Anyone who makes a mistake in these last few minutes to give the opposition an advantage. There's a free kick.

**DS** he didn't move it on

**IR** it goes to the Eagles, maybe against Craig Lambert or Jackson

**DS** Jackson's done that a few times I think, well I know he has. It's about time he was pinged.

**IR** watch this, now it goes to Turnbull, yes, Jackson has the footy underneath

**DS** Now he's held it in. That's the third occasion done it. He's been pinged.

**IR** pretty hard to get rid of it though isn't it? (*laughs*) Hynes marks, free kick to Richmond, push in the back and it will go to McClean. So the Tigers still battling it right out. Great to see. Who can snatch victory in the dying minutes of the game? Up towards half forward, Kemp, caught with the footy, gets the kick out. Watters is going to get caught, but he gets the handball away to Laidly. Laidly at half back. Goes very very short. Still the ball in the field of play. Can Keays get it back to his team mate in Lambert? No. Laidly comes in and makes sure that the boundary umpire has to earn just a few more cents this afternoon.

**PL** Centre wing is the throw in, just on Richmond's attacking side of centre. It comes down to Lees. Kicks it up to Knights, needs support there, Weightman gives it to him,

**IR** Oh!

**PL** Weightman nearly has his trousers dragged off, Lewis is there, Menegola a tap on, Mainwaring's played a magnificent last quarter for the West Coast Eagles, and look at that disposal. Jakovich doesn't let him down, marking on centre wing. The Eagles have answered the challenge. Whether they win or lose I think Mick Malthouse would be pleased with their last quarter effort certainly. Edwards punches down. Naish. Who has, uh not Naish

**IR** Peter

**PL** but Nicholls, who's been booed every time he's been near the ball today.

**IR** if the West Coast lose I don't think Mick would be very happy at all

**PL** I said with their effort

**IR** if you get this close you've gotta win the game

**PL** True, good point. Keays, from Lambert. And chipping to take it forward

**IR** play on, play on, play on,

**PL** Right, there's a play on call, Barrich lost it, Peos. Possessions clearly in favour of the Eagles in the last quarter and Dwayne Lamb taking the mark in front of his former teammate Todd Breman. Lamb possibly too far out to score, he's going to give it a good roost though. Just about into the goal square, marking contest down there, McQueen,

**IR** Well done, good little tap, saw that guy

**PL** and Turner, and Turner with a long clearing kick this time to centre wing

**IR** yeah but It's one on two, the Eagles advantage

**PL** Oh, mark, mark

**IR** but a good mark taken out there by Waterman. And Scott Turner perhaps the wrong option. The Eagles having the numbers out there on the far wing.

**DS** Breman now out there playing on Mainwaring. On a wing.

**IR** Waterman. Long kick. In towards the forward pocket area ball comes to the back. Important possession here. Taps it just behind himself, not bad. Breman. Goes to Campbell. Campbell's kick pretty ordinary.

**DS** Oh

**IR** Laidly, can he kick a goal? This'll make it awful. It's a goal to the Eagles. Well Richmond haven't given up, here goes Naish from the centre, kicks it long, in towards full forward. No mark taken. Can the Tigers take this? Knights is ridden into the ground. Handballs over the top to White was clear, quite comfortably in the finish. A bit of pressure there.

**DS** Breman's hurt himself, he's signalling for the trainers.

**IR** Jakovich's kick wide to the wing. Mainwaring, very very agile and adept with his footwork. Kick towards half forward. No mark taken. Swooping on it was Peos. Turner under pressure. Peos's kick to the goal front Metropolis has a chance, oh, metropolis is down, gets it to Langdon, away goes Lambert. Lambert, no one to kick to so he kicks to the open spaces of the wing. Lees must take possession, he does. Kicks it towards the centre wing position. Knights, bounces kindly for him, he can't quite control it. And he's tripped, free kick to Matthew Knights.

**DS** Breman seems to be all right. He's either dislocated a hand or hit a nerve in the left arm.

**PL** Power coming on for Lambert. Hogg flies from behind. Weightman, can he get a goal. He gives it to free. Snapshot. He's got a goal. Richmond's first score in the quarter and they come within a kick, 13 13 to 13 11

**DS** well they fought back well, Richmond, Weightman the captain involved, he's lost that guard of pace but he's still very quick in his reaction Dale Weightman. Maybe a free kick against Hogg. Breman under some cloud. There's a quick handball. Free spins, finds space,

Onto his left foot. His first. And an important one.

**IR** Can Richmond come back again? Boy, excitement here now, Peter!

**PL** The Eagles have taken the points in the last quarter, will they get the four points though? A most important possession here to try to get it out of the centre. Laidly, is he going to be the one to do it? No, it's a Richmond ball. It's Campbell. Out to right half forward. The boundary line may be too close. In fact it is too close. So, we'll see a throw in. Worsfold quite content to do the honours there, and we've got just under four minutes left in the match. Plenty of time for both sides to get a goal.

**IR** West Coast by two points

**DS** Oh, free kick

**IR** Jackson takes it out of the boundary throw in and it's thumped back over for a boundary throw in once again

**DS** Jackson should have been penalised on that occasion, he used his hands to push out Turnbull the opponent in the ruck

**IR** Again the two same players go for the ruck knock out. Ball comes to the front. Gathered by Waterman he was out of bounds,

**DS** yes

**IR** and he was the umpire only a matter of four or five meters from that incident. So a throw in will take place right near the players interchange area

**DS** It's a lot, it's the little things, like Jackson was caught behind Turnbull in that ruck throw in, he's gotta get front, if you want to, or Turnbull likewise

**IR** Big punch from behind. Down on the ground Naish. Laidley takes it over. Seconds ticking away for Richmond, they've gotta get it forward and kick a goal. We're now into time on in the last quarter. There's the time left. Three and a bit minutes. Comes towards Naish. Desperate stuff by Nicholls, Jakovich, now Lamb kicks the Eagles into their forward half. Back there, no mark taken by Keays goes through to the rear and Free with the footy as it goes over for a boundary throw in left half forward for the West Coast. So, they're well within scoring distance now, the Eagles. Can they get a goal? A real struggle. The ball goes back toward centre half forward. Metropolis, shot for goal!

Oh,

**IR** it may bounce through! Bouncing! Right on the line it's taken over, no, Peos caught, Langdon'll kick it! Gets the goal! Quite a critical goal that one. Third one for Langdon. And he's pretty excited about it, the Eagles lead by 8 points

**DS** What about that hit out from Edwards? He hit it on the attacking side of the goal, of the pack, I'm sure it was Edwards, and the ball's finished up down in the West Coast pocket. You don't hit the ball back towards the opposition goals on a boundary throw in like that. Especially on half back flank. Good play by Langdon, he's certainly fired up. A lot of endeavour down there on that occasion.

**PL** Karl Langdon's made a difference in the last quarter. He's kicked two goals he has three for the match. Naish, out of the centre, inside 50 now for Richmond. They've got to get two goals in two and a half minutes, a tall order, they've got only one from only one scoring shot in the final quarter. But an excellent quarter by the Eagles. They trailed by 20 points at the final change. And I guess a little bit of experience counting here as the clock ticks down. Their first visit to the MCG this year and it looks as though now, it will result in a win. Naish, nice side step, kicks from a standing start in 50 but White succeeds in punching the ball over



**DS** good play by White

**PL** the boundary line to gain a few seconds. Or maybe a couple of meters for his side. A case of maybe so near yet so far for Richmond this afternoon. Kemp, kicks across his body back. To the centre wing position, and again, this time it's Barrich to take the ball

**IR** yeah, percentages. Play the percentages now and we're nearly into the last minute, big ask for Richmond.

**PL** Oh just about impossible now. I think perhaps the injury to Hogg didn't help them. He played full forward this quarter. Naish, out to Maxfield, and Breman's had to play up the ground. Hogg got a heft knock right in the third quarter. Powell, who's pretty fresh, can he kick a goal, no he can't

**IR** he's missed

**PL** Breman good tackle. Powell just about throws it away Menegola knock on

**IR** Oh well done

**PL** Great goal! And still the Tigers come. And uh Weightman, putting through his first score of the afternoon. Two points the difference, less than a minute to go in the match.

**DS** well that was Volley ball wasn't it, watch this, Powell gets it across not on that occasion but will now, there's the high handball, Menegola, across oh, what can they do, less than a minute left!

**IR** They must win the ball out of the centre don,

**DS** Two points the difference

**IR** Very critical now, this centre break, it's been a great struggle by both sides all day. 14 13 14 11 Richmond have got it away goes Griffiths, this marking contest, Richmond, Hogg, off the ground, it's bouncing close, it's through for a behind. The difference one point in favour of the Eagles.

**DS** how much time left? Thirty-nine seconds!

**IR** Are you excited Donny?

**DS** Ah, it's a great game

**IR** the 17 and a half thousand fans here at the MCG are on the edge of their seats. The Eagles, to kick it in towards this near side, the mark, no, it's punched away from Naish by Jakovich and still a boundary throw in, 50 meters from the Richmond goal and the Eagles lead by one point.

**PL** less than half a minute to go so from this boundary throw in the Tigers must go forward if they can. Jackson, gives it to Weightman, he gets swamped, holding the ball

**DS** no it's his own man, it's his own man did it

**PL** well he's still swamped whoever did it,

**DS** he's not too fit either, is he? Look at the the little fellow

**IR** and time ticking down, it's not going to help Richmond, the siren almost immanent, they must get a

SIREN

**IR** no, no chance. There it is. So a fantastic finish and the West Coast Eagles have run out winners in another thriller. Chris Mainwaring played a magnificent game in the last quarter. Our second one

point win of the round, Essendon's getting up yesterday on this same ground by one point over Melbourne.



## 1997.1 West Coast v Bulldogs

Round 6 1997 Friday 2 May WACA (29 838) 99-113 HSV7

Tim Watson, Bruce McAvaney, Ian Robertson

**TW** Start of the last quarter first goal of the term to West Coast kicked by Phillip Matera 8 goal margin they've kicked 8 goals in three quarters they need to kick 7 goals to nil to win the game in the last quarter, it's a big ask. Chris Grant kicks the Bulldogs to within scoring distance Croft couldn't control it, and away goes Stone, kicks it out wide not really to the advantage of his team, Grant tackled too high, just gets on with the game and kicks the uh West Coast the Western Bulldogs in towards half forward, Gehrig gets back, can't quite get that ball clear Heady, under a bit of pressure, Stone for the West Coast, does well, gets it down as far as Hall. Scotty Vine, minding the mark, diligently, its Turnbull actually. His kick towards half forward, now they go forward again Phillip Matera to Jakovich, Jakovich's kick to the goal square. Down there was Grgic, Dimattina handball away to seal, he's gunna get run down, Lewis, McKenna, handball, there's a goal coming up, to Phillip Matera it's his second in a minute. The roll is on for the West Coast, they have kicked two quick goals, and the margin back to 24 points in favour of the Bulldogs.

**IR** It was an intelligent kick then from Jakovich. He had the shorter option, he could have gone to Lewis he went for the big fellow, over the top the ten meter square, and working hard at the bottom of the packs, and the Western Bulldogs are now going to have to take the ball into their forward line and score just to stop the momentum of the West Coast Eagles.

**BM** The moment of truth isn't it? 10 11 - 14 11. Such momentum the crowd gives the home side here, they're roaring. Matera, that's Phillip again. Well played by, uh Schofield, the ball ricochets off Cousins, West Coast going forward hard, Phillip Matera taken out of it, no free kick, so (*illegible*) in trouble, handball okay do they break the tackle, quick kick away from Powell. Only as far as Evans, Evans belts it back to Lewis at full forward William, Dimattina, out of play. They have to stop the momentum, free kick to Dimattina, against Lewis just silly stuff Chris, there.

**IR** yeah, untidy.

**BM** Doesn't need to do it. Well, that's ridiculous, not sure what he's trying to gain out of that. Dimattina, now Shaw's coming off the ground, and Cameron coming back on, free kick to Vine. Got to steady the ship here the Bulldogs they're 4 in front but, the game feels a lot closer than that all of a sudden. Smith, Darcy went to ground, ball getting back on it handball to Banfield, well done, cut off by uh Quill? Back to Hall gone, holding it, play on called, boundary throw in. That intensity for the Bulldogs has got to lift, it may have happened just then in that passage of play. They've got to match West Coast's intensity, right now.

**IR** The game's all about ebbs and flows. At the moment the West Coast Eagles have the momentum with them.

**TW** Well Evans tackled, got the handpass in the direction of Hall, a good gather by the tall player. He gets good distance with the kick, Jakovich is on the end of it, gets advantage there by that kick, he runs away from Ellis, Ellis a great smother in the finish though and forces a boundary throw in between right half forward and forward pocket for the Eagles.

**IR** it's an interesting finish coming up, we spoke about a controversial behind which was awarded to the Bulldogs in the third quarter. West, for the Bulldogs, kicks it out wide. Peter Matera dragged to the ground didn't have the football, free kick to the Eagles, looking for a 50 meter penalty, the umpire having nothing of that. Have the feeling, if he put his hand up he probably could have gathered that

footy. Matera's kick goes in short, at the feet of Schofield, nice bounce, a good gather, towards centre half forward, punched away by Ellis. Only comes as far as Lewis, gets another chance. Doesn't quite go as hard as he could have got the second chance and Scotty West able to just lock it up there for the Bulldogs. Centre half forward for West Coast Eagles. 16 and a half minutes left. Scotty Vine gets back to contest the bounce with Grgic. Gets it not quite clear enough, Grgic and Vine, and the umpire just has to do it once again.

**BM** West Coast deep in attack, four goals behind. Vine and Grgic, Evans onto it, normally a sharp shooter, high ball. Not good. Out on the full. So the Bulldogs to bring it back in. They led by 3 points at quarter time, by 3 at half, 36 at half time three quarter time I should say, and the margin now is 24. Cameron, quiet night, needs a big last quarter, gets it outside 50, importantly, Scott Vine, well done, though Turnbull belts it back. Wills stays underneath it, got to get rid of it, did. Powell brilliantly done. Good hands. Good evasion but then was swallowed by McIntosh, Grant takes too long, handball okay, oh that is smothered, some desperate things going on here. ?? Symmons out of the centre, ball to full forward, Grgic with the height advantage, Lewis to try and robe it, Matera to get it, tripped, Matera still with it, ball hard to get goes towards the line, Dimattina trying to pad it to the line, but still not out. Taken by Evans it is. Boundary throw in. exciting stuff.

**IR** that situation back there in the centre of the ground was just magnificent because Western Bulldogs needed to get it clear from that circle of players and the West Coast Eagles. Just worked their butts off to keep it there.

**BM** There's a little throw there,

**IR** very close, wasn't it to the boundary line, kicked forward by Evans to the front of the goals, bounce will be important here, Peter Matera will be onto it. He'll get a goal. Peter Matera, left foot snap, is off line. Disappointing result for the West Coast. They're surging and they could have done with a goal there. 10 12 to 14 11. Margin is 23 points in favour of the Bulldogs. 15 minutes left. A nail biting finish looming here at the WACA. Did you mention the odds were 10 to one on for West Coast? Ooh. That was a few Bulldogs supporters showing a bit of loyalty in having a few bob on their team tonight. Kick in. Gather is by Rowan Smith, he's just got that little bit of pace to break away and effectively kick the ball down the line McIntosh not able to control it and a boundary throw in on centre wing. 95 plays 72. McIntosh there manning up on Chris Grant. They've had a terrific battle. Maybe Grant fighting his way back on top over the last couple of quarters. Boundary throw in. Vine gets it down, Cousins is there. Handball to Banfield. He's been out of it for a quarter and a bit. Heady, takes it from him and then kicks with the left foot to centre half forward. Ellis, could have nearly taken the mark, maybe wasn't quite aware of the situation. Schofield, gathers the ball, well, flits around, onto his right foot, kicks in towards half forward, over the top. Good interception, just a little touch there by West. Cameron. To go down the line. McKenna, can be gather and break the Cameron tackle. Cameron does well just to harass there, goes across half back for the Bulldogs and the umpire will be forced to bounce.

And you wonder what might have been going through Ellis's mind a moment ago when he should have probably gone for the mark, he went for the punch, perhaps his coaches words were ringing in his ears about not punching from behind in that second quarter.

**BM** Symmons forces forward, McKenna goes to ground, Cameron doing well now in the quarter, to centre wing, Grant went to ground, McIntosh, Darcy, some terrific play going on by both teams. Turnbull got it from Banfield off the side, fortuitously finds McKenna at half forward, who normally uses the ball very effectively. He's so patient McKenna. He's had a pretty dirty night. Kicks to the pocket to Lewis, he's got it, Lewis is a great kick for goal, but this would be exceptional. He's tucked away. Looks to give off in a situation like this and he does again, to Evans. He may be a couple of meters too far out to score. He's not the longest kick around, he's gunna kick from 50. Its 10 12 to 14

11. Can signal there for a moment. Now if he was a Collingwood player, from what we saw on Anzac day, you'd go short, after the two legs up. Nobody leading that's three, you feel like he's waiting for something, to go not happening. Kicks from right on 50, he's hooked it, gunna be a behind. 10 14 to 14 11. Still feel the Bulldogs are one goal away from being safe. Another goal would nearly put them out of reach but at the moment, they're under pressure because they haven't been able to get the ball past half forward.

**IR** But they've only taken it into their forward once, in this last quarter. So, a milling of players there at uh centre half back for the Bulldogs, centre half forward for the West Coast. Breaking is Brad Johnson, kicking it to himself is Leon Cameron, and then gets it well outside 50. Darcy in front couldn't take the mark, Symmons to swoop on it, force an error, Banfield, to Evans, high a marking contest the ball spills to McKenna. He's been important, he's had a couple of possessions handball to Grgic, in goes Jakovich, clean, and kicks the goal. He's kicked two goals and he's been an important player. He hasn't had a lot of possessions but he's got the West Coast back to within 3 goals.

**TW** Just forcing the ball forward here.

**BM** they're closing, the Eagles. 11 13 to 14 11. Doggies have got to stand up now. Darcy and Turnbull. Darcy wins the tap. They've been getting it out of the centre though Banfield ripped off it by Liberatore, Libba in hard on the bottom. Smith breaks one tackle, can't break the next. Terrific play by Cousins, away Symmons, Symmons kicks to half forward. Jakovich has been a tower in this last quarter. What a colossus he's been in the game, Jakovich.

**IR** he's got 14 possessions

**BM** he's got Lewis again. Now he may not be off this time, he can probably kick this Lewis. He's looking. He's been effective Tim, you talked about that move up forward at the start of the last quarter to get Dimattina out of the centre square, and he's been a pretty good move by Mickey Malthouse. Lewis from the pocket. Great kick, he's got it. Super goal. The force is with them. You wonder now, if the Bulldogs can stop it. They're 12 14 to 14 11. They're charging home so that's all back on, Danny Southern's coming off.

**IR** well I think they need to send a special backman, and perhaps that's what ?? is going to do. He's going to go down there and pick up Lewis and uh put Dimattina probably further up the field, maybe get him back into the on ball section, because he did a lot of damage in that department in the third quarter.

**TW** Oh I think they've got to start thinking a bit more positive, they've gone a bit defensive the Bullies and they've got to get the ball away from the centre. ?? through his hands, Johnson back onto it, Evans, Cousins has been instrumental in a couple of centre clearances. Bulldogs get the ball up to half forward but it's chopped off by Heady, who's getting plenty of the football now. The Eagles kicks in the direction of Jakovich, it doesn't quite bounce in his favour and he's a bit disappointed the big fella, but he's been pretty good. His comeback match, he's been out for nearly 12 months.

**IR** In fact Hatsers hasn't come down, to Lewis, Hatsers he's gone onto Grgic

?? So a boundary throw in, right half forward for the Eagles. At the back Turnbull, the ball spills now for Rowan Smith, it will not come up for him, he's able to get the handpass away, and kicked forward in the finish by Liberatore. Only as far as half forward, goes straight past Quill, gathered by Montgomery, gets it to Rowan Smith, Smith's kick bounced awkwardly, nearly gathered here by Powell misses Stone for the Eagles. A terrible kick by Stone, just anywhere, over on the full. And the free kick will go to the Eagles, to uh, the Bulldogs. I think their last score. Look at that, at the end of the third quarter. They're having trouble to score in this quarter. Johnson for the Bulldogs. 10 and a half minutes left, Johnson's kick will land it close to the 50 meter line, punched away by Kolyniuk.

Tackled by Steve Evans, still underneath Steve Kolyniuk. Now gathered by Turnbull, his kick to the wing, Johnson kicked away, Symmons racing after it and knocks it clear for a throw in. Ten minutes left and 10 points the margin in favour of the Bulldogs.

Well the Western Bulldogs have now made the shift Dimattina has gone back onto the

Ball. He's picking up Banfield. But the Western Bulldogs just can't get their hands on the ball.

**BM** Darcy, they need a goal desperately, Liberatore underneath it, Banfield under him, and a bounce. 14 11 to 12 13. Inside 50 in the final term. 11 to 2. And the Bulldogs haven't looked like scoring a goal in this last quarter. Dimattina important going forward. Croft great effort. Ball got it away. Grant. Montgomery. Montgomery goes for the - kicks it. Well done. Dimattina getting an important touch up forward, Grant excellent, and Croft before him, and then Montgomery with the finish. It was the one they needed.

**IR** fantastic bit of play there by Chris Grant. Just watch this crumb, the ball almost hit him in the face, he moved around the front to be a crumb and then an excellent handball to McDonnell. A good finish. Now they need to settle again, they need to get the ball back out of the centre just to give themselves some confidence.

**BM** there's still plenty of time left, 9 and a half minutes, a goal for the Bulldogs. Its 16 points now the margin, they've got the ball close to half forward, Montgomery's little handpass looking for Hudson, not able to break clear. Cousins is able to shrug the tackle, a handpass for Evans. His handpass not bad for Symmons, Symmons goes down to half forward, good stretching mark there, taken from behind Jakovich by Ellis.

?? Ellis, kicks in the direction of Darcy, chipping in was Cousins, then Banfield, runs away from the centre of the ground, kicks in towards centre half forward, oh well done there by Grgic, he stood his ground, and that serves the slipping. And Grgic has the football at centre half forward for the Eagles. Nine minutes left. 16 points the margin. He's a good kick too, Ilija Grgic. We're just watching the replay there of the delivery from Banfield, you didn't quite see, that juh slip, Grgic a safe chest mark. And he kicks from directly in front and he puts it straight through the centre. Ilija Grgic kicks his first goal. And it is back to a ten point game. 15 11 to 13 13. 8 and a half minutes left.

**IR** well Banfield's just gone up a notch in this last quarter. His work around the packs has been sensational. 26 possessions. Up until this point of the game. Now it gets down to discipline. The side that does the right thing at the right time. The West Coast Eagles might have been drilled in this department.

**BM** Need at least one more goal to win it, the Dogs, I should think. West Coast are going to keep scoring now. 13 13 to 15 11. In the centre, Darcy got the tap, centre clearances are gonna be absolutely vital. Smith, brilliantly played. To Darcy who holds it up to Grant whose been a huge winner since quarter time. His handball a moment ago to Montgomery was pure class. Grant at centre wing, can't waste it. Kicks out wide, Hudson, who's been on the interchange for most of the match, is a long way from home. Chips away to Connell. He's got him. Well, it had to be absolutely spot on. It was. Cousin to cousin. And Simon Minton-Connell who has kicked 4 goals tonight, 2 in the second and 2 in the third has an opportunity to stretch this again, and he hasn't looked like missing these tonight. Dare I say at a moment like this, that he really has kicked well? I'd say this is the most important kick that he has had in the 6 games that he's played for the Western Bulldogs. He's 50 metres out. He's kicked it strong, he likes it, he's got it. Terrific goal. 5 goals straight from Minton-Connell tonight and 16 11 to 13 13 starting to get difficult now for West Coast.

**TW** well it's too early to say whether this is a match winning performance by Minton-Connell but the Western Bulldogs going into this match really needed someone to stand up in their forward line, kick

a bag of goals and it's been Simon Minton-Connell tonight. Only six kicks, but he's been super effective, 5 goals just to keep that gap wide enough.

**IR** so 17 goals for the season now to Simon Minton-Connell, and (*laughing*) gee whiz, it could be a very very important 5th goal from the uh Bulldogs point of view. The Eagles go forward once again, Schofield's kick is a bit of a mongrel, but Lewis, not able to gather. Crewel over the line, he's going to be penalised. The umpire was right on the spot there. So, he must have had a good look at the expression on Peter Crewels face, there was every indication there that it was out, on purpose, short kick has been marked by Grgic. So Grgic for the Eagles from about 30 meters. Lewis kicked a goal from pretty much the same position there 3 or 4 minutes ago, and it's in the hands of big Ilija Grgic. He goes short to Lewis improves the angle, perhaps not quite that much closer. But certainly, Chris Lewis a good kick for goal,

**BM** he's played smart in this last quarter, hasn't he?

**IR** Yes, 16 points the margin. Will he bring it back to ten points once again? It's a beautiful kick it's another Eagles goal. 2<sup>nd</sup> one to Chris Lewis and we're still in for a tight finish you would think. 10 points in favour of the Bulldogs.

**TW** beautiful bit of finish from here from Lewis, in fact, had his West Coast team mate been able to get the right spin on the ball, a little bit earlier the ball may have found its way into Evans's hands in the forward line but he couldn't get the right spin on it, Schofield, a moment ago.

**BM** back to ten points. They've kicked 6 goals in the last quarter, to two. With a few more points. Rowan Smith's had a couple of balls out of the centre. Well done, he rode the pack and got the kick away Chris Grant has been magnificent, that is a sensational effort, he's killing Ashley McIntosh in this last quarter. He's the big hope. Goes short. Now Smith is a thumping kick. He's about 70 meters out, gives it everything to full forward, fly from the back punched away by Hudson, Minton-Connell runs away, ball taken off him. Back to Morrison throws it in the end, no free kick Minton-Connell gone, holding the ball not called for, umpire swallowed his whistle. He tries to go forward, there's unbelievable bits of play by both clubs. And Banfield over the top cut off by Donnelly, well done Kolyniuk get back then the tackle on, is it Schofield, trying to get away ,

??/IR ooh,

**BM** Hardman (?) a long time. Free kick to West who ?? who wanted out of there, a huge passage of play

?? Terrific

**BM** Gee Tim, if your gunna replay a minute of your career, that might be it, Scotty West called to play on, goes wide, he's got Dimattina all on his own out wide, he is, gets to 50 gives it everything he's got, gets to full forward, Grant launches himself and take it he has been the difference. He's taken himself to another level in the last 3 quarters of this match. In fact in the last quarter he's gone up again, another notch. Remember a game he played late in the season, he played at the MCG when he went onto Hird in the last quarter in the game he played on Carey. Grant, to kick a goal but really should put this match out of West Coasts reach, it would mean they'd have to kick 9 goals in the last quarter to win. He improves the angle and he kicks it. So the important thing here, Tim, is that the Bulldogs have been able to kick goals in the last quarter, they've been under huge pressure but they've kicked three last quarter goals, which means that West Coast have got to kick 9 to win it.

**TW** they've been able to answer every challenge in this last quarter. A number of their players actually going down with cramp and some of those centre line touches that we saw just before. The power and the play, the pressure applied from both sides, it really has been a wonderful contest tonight. The Western Bulldogs taking points in the third quarter, the Eagles striking back in this last



quarter and they've still got time to get back into this game but as you said, Bruce, they've got to kick 9 goals in this last quarter to win the match now and you'd almost think that's beyond their reach.

**IR** Gee the 8<sup>th</sup> mark by Chris Grant, his 16<sup>th</sup> kick and a goal was fantastic play by a leader, in the Western Bulldogs camp. I heard David Smorgon talking on ABC radio about the fact that he did stay with the Bulldogs when he had a terrific lure from Port Power but gee whiz, he's a great leader now. This is Luke Darcy with the free kick from the centre ruck contest. At least they've got the footy. He wastes a few precious seconds, kicks it hard towards the forward fifty meter line, snucked away but only as far as Croft, he ducks and weaves, one way and then the next, and is kicked forward eventually by Powell Morrison is there, he can't control it, boundary throw in about 35 -40 meters around from the Bulldogs goal. 4 minutes left and they lead 113 to 97. 16 point margin once again. Darcy doing the ruck work. Gather is by Hudson, he's got some space, and he has run too far. Well gee whiz, that was a hot penalty, Paul Hudson not remonstrating there with the umpire. We'll have a look at how far he may have run.

**TW** one two three four five six seven eight nine ten eleven

**BM** small steps, too,

**IR** and uh Paul was really looking to kick that ball right into the goal square. Morrison goes in short, Symmons is taken the mark, just outside the defensive 50. There's Scotty West, standing on the mark. Symmons goes long and it will land close to the wing. Back goes Ellis. Probably interfered with his team mate in Darcy there, chipping in was Evans, his kick to half forward. Pressure now on the Eagles but Scotty warrant is back there to uh lead the defence. Ellis gets it to Johnson, he's able to run away one bounce, to player in support, its Cameron, he can go wide, looks out wide for Grant. Leading McIntosh, kicks with his right over his left shoulder, not far enough. Didn't hook it far enough. But off he's gone, out on the full. 3 and a half minutes left. Footscray lead by 16 points.

**BM** it's a pretty good lead at this stage of the match. Sierra. Between half back and centre wing. A great come back by the Eagles in the final term and then a terrific effort again by the Bulldogs to hold them. McKenna wide, they're trying to set it up. Gerard wants to take Minton-Connell on its gotta go for him now. Phillip Matera came in to provide the shepherd into the pocket, out of play so wasted ball in the end by Dered but he did punch it forward. 17 11 to 14 13. It's only the second time that uh the Bulldogs have kicked more than 15 goals against West Coast since they started playing them in 1987. The other time was in their very first match when they kicked 17 so they've been very good. Forward Grgic, out of there, air, close. Hits the post. He's been good Grgic, in this last quarter. 14 14 to 17 11. In 50 % of the matches they've played against the West Coast the Bulldogs have not managed 8 goals, uh ten goals I should say. So tonight they've been very fluid up forward with 17 goals, 17 11 to 14 14. Cameron wide, Darcy the target, with Turnbull, brought it away by Turnbull, Evans has a fumble, Montgomery well done, and you just wonder now, Schofield there, if there's going to be time even for West Coast to kick the three. 98 plays 113. It's been a terrific game of footy.

**IR** Yes, there hasn't been much in it all night. The Bulldogs got away to a six goal advantage at three quarter time, the Eagles came rushing at them but the Bulldogs have been able to answer. Struggling for possession, Ellis can't break away from half back, Scotty West over the top, to Turnbull. And the umpire forced to bounce. Two and a half minutes left in the game. The Bulldogs lead by 15 points. You would think that they could hang on from here. The Eagles need 3 goals in just over 2 minutes. Kicked forward by Peter Matera, it'll land within scoring distance, Lewis, not able to quite get rid of his opponent. Phillip Matera just took his eyes off the ball momentarily. Kicked away there for the Bulldogs by uh Steven Powell and it goes over for a boundary throw in. Two minutes left. Boundary throw in just forward of centre wing, favouring the Eagles. Still they need 3 goals to win the match. Bulldogs have been quite terrific. It's been a very very intense struggle between two well matched up sides tonight. Luke Darcy in picture. Chris Grant, terrific since quarter time. Scott Vine, a great

leader, Liberatore driving Ben Cousins mad, there's been some great contests all over the ground. McKenna not able to control the football and the umpire will bounce once again.

**BM** Only won once before here in uh Perth, the Bulldogs. But they're home now surely, what a great performance by them. It's going to do so much for them this year, isn't it? Came into this uh match after a bad loss against Adelaide, a bit lucky to get away with it against Melbourne, they're gonna be four and two now. And bring West Coast right back to the forward. Kick away by Darcy, West was a hero in that first half, when things were tight. Ricochets away from Hudson, Symmons onto his left foot, back into the centre, Rowan Smith, Schofield with him Smith plays it cleverly, with confidence. Now can measure up and kick the ball to West. West is away he's got a couple short, goes in short towards Hudson, cut off though, by Hall, one minute remaining. Ball is kicked to half back. Matera. Turnbull. Matera comes away. One bounce, goes in short for Lewis, no it's going to be out of play. So we're less than a minute to go and the Bulldogs lead 17 11 to 14 14. Boundary throw in. Fawes for it, Smith, off the ground, Kolyniuk, handball by Powell, he's been terrific. Quill out wide. Looking for Grant, also McIntosh, Grant's got it, handball terrific to Smith, didn't half follow it, going to ground though McKenna, handball to McIntosh, McIntosh goes short, looks for Evans, Evans will use Lewis, time's beating them though. Lewis is 55 meters out he's kicked 2 goals in the last quarter, goes for his third hooks it a bit and misses, a behind. So Lewis with a coupla goals in the last term. Less than 10 seconds remaining. Terry Wallace right in front of me. Terry, fantastic effort.

**TW** yeah look they've been great uh all night, I think probably the biggest thing that they've done tonight is uh weathered the storm. It was one of those when they really come in front hard they can fall apart but I just thought a few blokes, they uh, they really stood tall.

**BM** your match ups have been great.

**TW** a well you have them, some weeks they work and others they don't. And uh last week everything we planned didn't work, well it's worked out well tonight.

?? Terry, what did you say to them at half time?

**TW** Oh look you know we came over for a uh, for a job and you know, this is a finals side that you're playing against and we expected finals type football and uh in the third quarter we expected them to come on with the game.

**BM** siren the moment! thanks mate, well done. What an effort terrific stuff. Terrific stuff by the Bulldogs Fantastic winners here tonight... It was stirring, wasn't it Tim?

**TW** It was fantastic the way they kept at it, because there were moments when the West Coast Eagles were going to get on top. The Bulldogs in that second half were just fantastic. They attacked the ball, they attacked the man, as we said to Terry Wallace a moment ago, his match ups were very good. They were able to take the key play getters for the West Coast out of the game and even in that last quarter when they were under enormous pressure, they seemed to be able to steady and a lot of that work was done by experienced players. I know Robbo said those experienced players need to stand up and they did. Scotty Vine was fantastic and Leon Cameron, although he didn't have a great game, he got some important touches in that last quarter, Rowan Smith was also very good, but gee, nothing like the side I saw last week. The Western Bulldogs they were sensational, tonight.

**IR** Must be the hardest thing in the world for a coach to keep a team up week in week out.

**TW** well this game, it's very tough, and you see them there and they deserve that; this is a very tough trip this one, the hardest road trip in football to come over here and win against the West Coast Eagles. The West Coast Eagles gave it plenty in that last quarter but you just felt that they didn't have that same intensity in that third quarter.

**IR** well, the Bulldogs are going down, with a small army of fans, to recognise them. But Chris Grant was an absolute hero after quarter time.



## 1997.2 Collingwood v Adelaide

Round 6 1997 03 May Victoria Park (24 663) 84-83

Peter Landy, Leigh Matthews, Neil Kurley

**PL** Footy's home ground, its Victoria Park today, Adelaide and Collingwood and the Crows need two goals to draw level with the Magpies. Richardson and Vardy, Modra, a little slap on, Stanfield, kicks the footy nearly kicked a couple of heads as well Vardy! That would have been an amazing goal but it's only a minor score.

**LM** I would think like Tony Modra, I mean why wouldn't Vardy have taken possession of the ball, I mean, kicking the ball in mid-air when its bouncing is a very difficult skills, I've no idea why he wouldn't have grabbed it and then tried to work his way into a goal scoring position. And Pittman is the man who's gone to centre half forward for the Crows.

**PL** Richardson. To the outer side. Crosisca the target, there's some shepherding, there, oh, nothing for it, either side. Jarman. Vardy this time, takes the mark right on 50 and right on the boundary line. Quigley makes a lead for him, he ignores that, centring kick, Richardson punches it away, Pittman had a chance and Watson fumbles it through, rushes it through, whatever you like for a minor score to the Adelaide Crows. So they've added two behinds. The difference back to 10 points, 65 to 55 in the final quarter and again Richardson will bring the ball back in. Burns going short for him this side, he's again gone with a rushed down side. Oh, and that's out of bounds on the full, and it doesn't matter, It's bounced out but from the full back, it's going to be a free kick and the recipient is going to be Koster. Kym Koster, wastes no time, drive it in long. Modra! Oh, what a great grab. That's classic Tony Modra.

**LM** that is a fantastic grab. I mean he wasn't necessary under pressure. But the early jump prevents Brown from actually getting in the air and we know Modra has that ability to jump, get good elevation and basically hold the opponent down and basically Brown couldn't jump in the air, but he still had to hold the ball, it really was a fantastic mark. A Mitsubishi mark contender that one.

**PL** Tony Francis coming off being replaced by Alex McDonald. Modra lining up for his fifth. He's pretty happy with that, he's got the five, Adelaide now 8 goals, the margin now being 4 points, if Adelaide have to rely on Tony Modra to win the game for them they might be in a bit of trouble, but let's see how far.

**LM** Lets have a look at it. See how he jumps early therefore Nate Brown isn't able to get into the marking contest, fantastic mark. Said earlier in the game that Modra would have to kick 10 for Adelaide to win, and I still think it will be at least 6 7 or 8 if they're to get up.

**PL** Francis on the bench, having a re-tape, it looks like. Modra, kicking his 50, he's got 5 goals 2. The Crows have added 1 goals 2 in the term and the difference is back to four points. So they'reeter coming home with a wet sail. Williams, over the head of McLeod, chance for Caven. One of the best on the ground Peter Caven formerly of Fitzroy and Sydney. That dramatic club of course. Maybe best remembered for that sickening collision with Tony Lockett. I'm sure he won't forget that. Rehn has it knocked away by Monkhurst, Williams, looks for a teammate, finds Buckley, now Russell, Collingwood's best ball carriers, brother Curran, but he's pinned, the ball jarred free in the tackle. Still the Magpies with numbers, they lose out though James, Ricciuto, Ricciuto's kick to half forward, oh, Mora again, mark, free kick, whatever.

**LM** Great mark. I tell you it was Ricciuto that time who kicked the ball into Modra's path. And uh just the toe of Modra, he was just able to get the half a yard clear of Brown to get the mark, it had to

be a very good mark and he only probably just held it, just controlled the ball according to umpire ??

**PL** would have been a free anyway I think. For kick number 11 and his 6<sup>th</sup> goal. A goal here will put Adelaide in front after they trailed by 2 goals at three quarter time. Modra from 48 meters kicks and he has kicked one behind. So, five goals 3 to the leading goal kicker in the competition at the moment.

**LM** and 8 goals 14 to the Crows. The inaccuracy has been uh extremely costly, up the other end 10 5 to Collingwood 8 14 to the Crows, and uh the accuracy in front of goals very (*illegible*) result.

**PL** well Tony Modra's best year back in 93 he kicked 129 goals. He only kicked 75 last year but at this rate he's doing pretty well. Averaging over 5 a match. There's Curran finding Burns at centre half back for the Pies. Only lead by 3 points. Alex McDonald takes a mark under pressure. Wants to move it quickly, he's got Gavin Brown who's broken away from Modra, Modra, won't chase Brown. Undisciplined stuff from Tony Modra, maybe he should have followed him up as Brown allowed to kick under no pressure. Looking for Osborne, had a quiet first quarter, quiet since, now Ben Hart for the Crows, he's got Koster. He's got Edwards all on his own, its Croisica, just get there in time, the ball wasn't really weighted all that well. Too much air, allowing Croisica to come in and thump it to the boundary.

**LM** Yes, it took too long to deliver the ball Koster, too long to know that Edwards was there, and then the ball held up over his head, it was good defence by Croisica to get there to spoil.

**PL** Left half forward for the Crows, Monkhorst, big monkey, the big fist, gains ten metres to Wright, bit of time, has to kick around the corner, allowing Ricciuto to take the mark in front of Buckley. Mark Ricciuto. Coming up for his 13<sup>th</sup> kick and his 19<sup>th</sup> possession. And Nathan Buckley's opponent on the mark has 27 possessions, Trent Ormond-Allen takes the mark close to the boundary line and Adelaide Crow's left half forward, he's got the running wing, as an option, ignores that, going long, looking for Modra, but Modra's too far behind, Larry Monkhorst has taken it, an easy mark across half back for the Collingwood side.

**LM** Yes, waiting and waiting and waiting and then kicking the ball in long. If you're going to kick it in long you've really got to get it going early before the opposition defence gets settled.

**PL** Watson now, a little bit of time, looking for Buckley, unable to mark, good work from Tregenza, Buckley tackling from over the top, Wright, gaining some valuable ground. Tregenza caught from Buckley, second efforts from Buckley, great start for Collingwood. Going to Russell now, penetrating kick up forward looking for inside 50. Good body work from Johnson, out bustling Jason Wild, Johnson came up quickly, Ormond-Allen coming up from half forward, looks to play on, umpire play on calls it, goes across the face of goal now, Bernie McLeod has got a bit of space and time wants to kick long up through the centre of the ground, Pittman over the top, good punch from the Collingwood defence. Now (??) Williams, Edwards, out bustling, out smarting him, chipping in front, now Koster. Bit of target space now, wet ball, taps it on the ground, going in board? To the centre corridor, looking for Stanfield, and finds him. Play on's the call Umpire Carey, Stanfield had his hands on it maybe should have held that. Only had 2 kicks, one mark for the day, very quiet. Their second goal kicker, behind Tony Modra, its Adelaide by three points just under 15 minutes remaining in this final quarter. Crows with the only goal so far for the term. That's pretty ambitious for Pittman, can they run it out again? They can. Croisica to Buckley, Burns, to Crow, brushes the tackle, still got time to recover, Ricciuto's there, it nearly came, Wright from Russell, Hart. Good mark in front of Osborne. Osborne had a good first quarter, he's been quiet since then, got his only goal in that term, Darley at half back, Smart breaks for him, from centre wing. Frowby (?) Kick down towards Modra. And Modra leads out well to mark in front of Brown, but he'll be kicking from 50. Quickly points to the goals, probably indicating go long, have a shot, he's kicked 5 goals three.

**LM** and the wind here is going to push the ball, he'll get a good at every opportunity Smart was coming off Rocca, this is a difficult shot the wind is going to push the ball from Modra's left to his right.

**PL** A goal will put the Crows in front by 3 points. Well I tell you what, it's not bad, but only a behind. So it's 5 4 for Tony Modra, the difference back to 2 points. And Collingwood so far scoreless in the final term. The Crows very quickly eating into their 3 quarter time lead which was 12 points. Richardson will bring the ball back, he's gone straight up the ground looking for Russell or Wright, and the, Namaatta has taken the mark, he's lost a boot, and maybe got a bit of cramp there or something, but he's given it to Russell.

Scotty Russell help him out, runs off half back, runs his full measure, mark to Croscica, Pierce Rolands runs his full 10 meters, now gets his kick in to Sav Rocca. A chance for Osborne to ease the pressure for the Pies. Richard Osbornes 2<sup>nd</sup> goal, he kicked one in the first term, he had about 5 kicks in that first term, and he's been quiet since, but a very very good goal for Collingwood, much needed,

**LM** it's a cruel game, isn't it? Good again the execution the ball from the kick off its one of Collingwood's specialty, to run the ball out again. And again, one shot at goal for one six pointer. Osborne the man to finish. The Crows have kicked one goal four from their opportunities. You do have to score from the opportunities. Today Collingwood have done it, Adelaide have not.

It's 71 to 63. Collingwood in front, from that Richard Osborne goal, his second. Big Shaun Rehn gets it up to Jarman, Jarman's kick doesn't go that much distance, more up than down and across. Holstein over the mark, Crow's hurt his shoulder again, he copped a big Mark Ricciuto shirtfront in that second term, Alex McDonald. Half back for Collingwood relieves the pressure. The former Hawk, left half back, I think he's coming off Scott Crow. His shoulder looks a bit second hand, oh, oh great mark Edwards, Monkhorst, caught flat footed, he goes at goal, has his I think it might be there, we'll wait on the goal umpire, it is, it's a goal. Edwards gets his first and the difference is back to two points. And Scotty Crow, with the glasses on him on the boundary line, looks in uh a bit of bother with that shoulder.

**LM** we see in this situation here, the change in direction of play it's gotta be precise and uh I thought Edwards didn't know whether he was going to spoil but all of a sudden he realised the ball was just dropping short because the ball was into the breeze, marked the ball and then took back his pace to run in and goal, so the Crows are still in it, they're still coming.

**PL** Back to the centre, and Neil Kurley has some news on the boundary for us.

**NK** yeah, Tony Francis is down the race so I don't think he'll take any further part in it, and Crow's off with a shoulder, the doctors are looking at it now so he's doubtful as well.

Russell off the ground, oh there's a clash of heads there, Osborne hit it pretty solidly. McLeod, who was brilliant in the first half, McLeod across his body, back to Watts, it's too high, gone down to a free kick to Scott Burns. Lot of courage Scotty Burns, runner up for the Copeland Trophy last year, excellent find for Collingwood is Graham Wright, tumbles one towards Paul Williams, escaping the Shaun Rehn arms, Williams going in by looking for Sav Rocca, Nigel Smart holds his feet, Ormond-Allen up from the forward line into defence. Gets his boot to the ball. It's a high kick. Wide. To Monkhorst. Excellent evasive skills from the big monkey, up to Curran, on his left boot, chips in and chips in to Matty Francis.

**LM** interesting, Shaun Rehn has disregarded the uh the major knee boundary he has looked this second game up to me. Today uh Rehnnny. First game up got a bit of freshness about it today, not being slow of movement, and good use of the ball by Collingwood, a good tackle by Rocca caused that errant kick out of the Crow's forward line.

**PL** it's a 2 point game. Matty Francis will kick directly in front from about 48 meters the Collingwood cheer squad love that one. And so does Matty Francis. The Pies extend their lead out to 8 points. He's doing a pretty good job so far, Leigh, coming on and replacing Monkhorst in this second half,

**LM** yes, he's useful, useful player, he can play centre half forward, centre half back he can play as a smaller ruckman, getting Monkhorst worked his way through the tackle there and Curran, it was a good use of the ball. Grabbing the forward line, Francis, but every time they're having a shot, Collingwood, they're kicking the goals.

**PL** the fans are pretty happy at the moment wearing the black and the white. Nine Collingwood players have now kicked goals. Collingwood making the most of their opportunities, up forward. Monkhorst and Rehn. Russell, who's been brilliant, spiral punt kick off the boot, Hart underneath it, oh, and nearly gets cannoned into by Rocca. Showed courage there to get it to Ricciuto, short of right centre wing. Ricciuto will look for Koster, and finds him, in front of Curran. Koster, goes for distance, get up and under, Pittman, too tall, Hinkley, off one step, Stanfield and Richardson. Ball hits the deck. Still Stanfield, gets it back to Brett Jones. Modra double, team down there and it's knocked out of bounds for a throw in. Right next to the behind post. 77 plays 69 at Victoria Park, a ground on which the Crows have never won. Took Hawthorn some 25 years to finally win here and they won with a goal after the siren, by John Peck. A throw in. So it's worked its way about 5 meters further around from the scoring area. Watson, watches. The throw in to be contested by Pittman and Monkhorst, slapped out the side. Chance for Vardy. James again. Wheeler but under kicked, Crosisca tried the punch, or should have got out of the contest. Brown. Oh, ooh, well he rushed it through for behind but you wouldn't want to do that too often today. So another behind to the Crows, scoreboard shows 12 5 to 9 16. 7 points.

**LM** There's kicking, they've kicked a lot of behinds the old Crows, you don't want to do that against Collingwood because their execution kicking skills are so good.

**PL** have a look at this, there's two kicks and its right back to the right half forward for the Collingwood side. Buckley does it so well with pin point passes over that goal, and also he leaves the ball on the ground, Leigh, until he actually has to kick the ball, because the umpires don't time it until

**LM** you have the ball in your hand. What's the wall, bending of the will, that's good intelligent play.

**PL** Rehn and Francis, Francis flips it behind. McLeod, underneath Scotty Russell. The Collingwood faithful calling for holding the ball to umpire Hayden Kennedy but he won't give it. Bounces the ball. Rehn gets a big slap away, Jason Wild, a late inclusion, again with McDonald, Steven Patterson, McDonald throwing the ball from Wild, scooped it up without handballing it, so an illegal pass, results in a free kick to Kym Koster on centre wing, for the Crows. It's Collingwood by 7 points. Still got about 9 minutes remaining in the game. As Pittman gets the ball goes to kick long, wants to move it forward. Stanford, and Modra in the pack. No one can mark it. Vardy gets a rushed kick, directly in front, drives it through for the Crows, one point the difference.

Well Andrew Caven's done everything right today apart from kicking a goal, and he did that there.

**LM** that's the ultimate pressure you put on the opposition forwards. Caven has been very good today against Anthony Rocca but this time he's taken the punt, run hard into the forward line, one it gets Rocca out of the forward line, but secondly, you never know, you might bob up in there and now the Crows forwards aren't dominating the game. Pittman at centre half forward this last quarter has started hitting the target, across there.

**PL** can the Crows record their first win at Victoria Park? They only trail by one point, we've passed the half way stage of the term, they've had plenty of the football, and they get some more of it here.

Chance for Tyson Edwards if he can ever pick it up, but it's coming back it's going to be a free kick. It's going to the Crows and I think Jones is going to take it. He is. Brett Jones. Short of the centre circle, things looking good for the Crows at the moment. Croisica in front, couldn't complete the mark, Pittman comes in. it's going to be a ball up.

**LM** and again, we see two Collingwood players tackling each other. Gavin Brown on the top of the ball Gavin Croisica tackling in the – you see it so often these days to make sure the umpire can't call a holding the ball to make a pack of players rather than just one player over the ball,

**PL** Monkhorst and Pittman. Won by the latter Wright wins through. Somebody was being held. Collingwood's free kick. It's going to be Francis. At centre half back. He's done quite well today. Buckley. A great half back.

**LM** Buckley at right half back, or between right half back and right centre wing for Collingwood, probing kick down towards half forward, bounce favours Adelaide, Osborne tries to push Hart over the line, he did that eventually and it will be thrown in right in the middle of the interchange gates in front of the Collingwood social club stand. A nail biter here. The Magpies trying to hang on, the Crows finishing, at least so far, the better. In the final quarter, Rehn and Monkhorst. Nobody can get a decisive possession Rehn nearly, Wild on top of him, dragged off it by Koster, dragged is the operative word. He's dragged out and so too is the footy for another throw in. Right half forward for Collingwood, in the scheme of things, a very important game, with the Pies meeting North Melbourne at the G next Friday night with the Crows meeting Essendon at Footy Park on Sunday, so it's critical whichever side gets the chance to win this, to break away from that bottom pack. Osborne sends it up high through the forward line, the whistle, against Collingwood, a free kick to the Crows, Rocca pushed Caven in the back. That's the kind of situation to keep the discipline don't give the ball away.

**PL** Caven looking across the face of goal, (*quick change? James?*) provides an opportunity for him, time to steady. They're trailing by a point straight back to Kane Johnson, so they haven't really gained much territory at all.

**LM** (??) good play by the Collingwood forwards, they didn't allow the Crows to get a loose man in that part of the ground.

**PL** Johnson has to kick long looking for Leeman, great mark by Caven in front of the pack, excellent hands, plays on quickly looking for the lead in, Rocca, courage by Caven holding his ground with Sav Rocca and Smart bearing down. He doesn't look too good (- *try flattened!*) under the pack as it's wrapped up by James. (*laughing*)

**LM** (*laughing*) you don't want to be standing there when one of the Roccas is coming at you because they do attack the ball hard. Good play by both players good contest by Rocca, good contest also by Caven.

**PL** Tony Francis, I think checking out that right ankle, they've had it re-strapped inside the rooms according to Neil Kurley, Graham Wright no chance, the Collingwood faithful, oh

**LM** Oh,

**PL** Oh, taken hard Paul Williams (*Roons?*) by McHale, free kick to Williams (*Roons?*) and a fifty. Right half forward for the Pies, still six minutes remaining in this final term, it's the Pies by a point. Got a real chance from here, Williams, it will be just over a 50 meter kick,

**LM** unless there's a cert beyond, one it would be worth driving in, I would think. yeah, one of these set plays, one kick, so which way will he go, with a short pass they all start leading, decides to kick it long into the square, just short of the square, high fliers, no one can mark, ball's still alive.



**PL** A rushed behind. Collingwood by 2 points. In the context of this it might be useful behind

**LM** mmm

**PL** they can get a goal, five and a half minutes left. Pretty good Adelaide, took the points in the first quarter, although they didn't lead. Smart, looking for options. Getting pretty dark here, doesn't show up on screen. Lennon, Monkhorst, neither can complete the mark, Tregenza, Crows trying to set something up, Tregenza again goes towards half forward, kept within Francis, this is Tyson Edwards, gets it to the front

**LM** OH!

**PL** Oh Modra, took off 4 kilometres in the air, there's a push, Collingwood free kick.

**LM** Oh, Tony Modra flying Pete.

**PL** The Woods are away. Goals have been scarce for them in the final quarter, the crowd roaring, as Buckley gathers at right centre wing, long kick by Buckley, in turn Croisica couldn't mark it, Osborne, quick tackle by Hunt, Croisica

**LM** into the open goal! (*illegible*)

**PL** missed (*laughs*)

**LM** Yes, holding the ball decision that one. Again, Ben Hart, he just hasn't got the surety now that he had in his first year of football I would think. It's amazing. He was a bit unlucky he just thought of thought what am I going to do, was caught cold by Osborne from behind. I don't think it was the holding the ball rule, I think it was maybe unfair when its adjudicated that way but he did have prior opportunity and he didn't dispose of the ball correctly, so it is a correct decision even though maybe from the spirit of the law, uh one would argue that point.

**PL** well Richard Osborne last week at the MCG kicking for goal, I think, from memory, he missed about 3 or 4 very easy ones. He's kicked two goals straight today. From right on 50. He's got his kicking boots on this afternoon. A crucial umpiring decision going Collingwood's way and the Magpies get a little bit of breathing space. Osborne kicking 2 goals in the last quarter.

**LM** Yeah, here we go, we'll have a look at this, yes, he had 2 or 3 steps, he just panicked a bit then Hart, sometimes you've just gotta think your flow through the pressure a little better than that, you fail to do it and uh again when Osborne when he had to kick the goal didn't look like missing and Collingwood really look like winning this game because they've just kicked so accurately.

**PL** Well in Richard Osborne's 257 game career I'm sure there wouldn't be many goals more important than that one in the scheme of things. It's the Pies by 8 points. As Patterson gets the ball out of the centre. Croisica's been moved up forward, Scotty Russell now a chance if he can bend over and pick it up, long handball looking for Osborne, Ben Hart over the top, Rehn, can't pick it up, now it's off the ground, Ricciuto, desperate stuff by the Crows. Keep the ball moving quickly Crows throws it onto the boot, Patterson can't control it, Burns it was, Tregenza, on the burst, into the forward line for the Crows, inside 50. Richardson over the top, now Modra, around the corner! Across the face of goals and out of bounds. (*Illegible*) he's kicked today and one out of bounds, so a decent game, so far by Tony Modra, averaging over 5 goals a game. There's 32 for the season so far, as the ball is thrown in. Pies by 8 points, right next to the Adelaide's Crows behind post. Francis and Pittman. Pittman, allowing the ball to fall down at his feet. Monkhorst trying to get it away, now Matty Francis, has time to steady, a floater, over the top of Buckley and Ormond-Allen. Umpire McHale calling an infringement against Buckley for a push. Nathan Buckley, just the look on his face says it all. Trent Ormond-Allen, sends it in long and deep 15 meters out from the Crow goal. Pittman! Play on's the

call, Modra, trying to kick one off the ground, while relieving the pressure for Collingwood with occasionally Gavin Brown on his tail. Umpire Carey's calling

**LM** Pittman is thinking that this is his mark. Let's have a look what happens.

**PL** Oh, very close

**LM** Well, that is his mark as far as I was concerned. I mean when the ball is marked by a pack play it often touches other hands in the (*illegible*). I would say he had first grab and he brought it down.

Russell? Yes, just inside 50 on the Adelaide Crows right half forward, a big punch by Pittman I think it was, gaining another 10 meters. Just over 3 minutes remaining. Collingwood by 8 points. 13 6 to 10 16. If Adelaide loses by a close one they can only blame their inaccurate kicking. 10 16. 26 scoring shots to 19. There's the Collingwood defence, keeping it, wrapping it up in their half back line, by Alex McDonald and Jason Wild, both of them late inclusions, replacing Schauble and Jason Taylor. Alex McDonald.

Just 3 minutes to go. Can Collingwood hang on, can the Crows pinch it? Modra does the ruck work and does it well. A little flip up, Koster. Came from Edwards, into the pocket, Vardy, snap shot, I think one behind.

Yes it is, his third behind of the day. So, there's still a chance for Adelaide if they're good enough, but 10 17 as Russell said, bad kicking and that's bad footy a cliché I know but it really fits the bill here today. Brown should mark this

**LM** Yeah, Brown Bews has that option when they uh go short in the forward 50 coz he's such a good mark.

Gavin Brown, directing traffic. He's the skipper. Thought about going short again to Wright. He's got Watson on offer, close to the boundary line further up but he's kicked it a little bit further inboard from there, Pittman is there, and Francis, and Collingwood players able to tie it up again. Still 2 and a half minutes remaining, that's plenty of time. So they need two scoring shots Adelaide, to tie it at least, 2 goals of course, they're going to throw it up the ground, must be fairly heavy there. Rehn knocks it away. Almost holding the ball, Vardy, under pressure. Jarman, who's been strangely quiet of late, Stanfield, nearly caught, Edwards handpass to James, James goes at goal! And he has slotted it I think, wait on the goal umpire, yes siree! It nearly hit the post, And Brett Jones has made it a very interesting ball game, one point the difference, two minutes left in the match.

**LM** It's been an amazing game, I mean, they've just peppered away, the Crows, they've had trouble scoring but they just keep the pressure on. One point with two minutes to go so the game anything could happen, James just squeezed the ball in, could have straightened up a bit more, just got it in, so uh the Crows have kept coming but Collingwood have been able to answer it up until this point.

I think the Adelaide Crows have only led at one stage during this game, so whichever way it goes, it's been a pretty tough game, a great game, Rehn, over the top of Monkhorst, to Jarman, back to Rehn, quick hands. A nice 50 meter punt into the back, the forward line for the Crows down the ground, over the mark taken high. Luke been been taken back into the back line, (??) stability

**LM** he was pushed back for his hallucinating defence when there was only a minute or 2 to go, Collingwood have got a one point lead and uh Dunkling has been very very good today.

He's got Alex McDonald on his own and he wants to, to slow it down, position game, he did this a few weeks ago, unaware of the time if they can keep chipping around and keep possession, run the clock down. Graham Wahl, (*laughs*) a wayward kick from Burns, Wright going in short to Wild,

slowly creeping up and gaining territory, left half back for Collingwood in between half back and wing. Back to Burns, they've had about 5 or 6 possessions, short kicks,

**LM** (??) that situation when the Crows players have to push up from defence, to make sure there isn't an unmanned Collingwood player

Should go to McDonald, he's unmanned at the moment. Good to see.

We're in the final minute of the game, Burns decides there are no other options but to go long, good Monkhorst, that's the stuff. Holding the face, Monkey, let the clock run down. He's called time on, there's nothing much you can do here. He's copped one high from Pittman, but I think (??) stage here Leigh, you probably know more about it than we do.

**LM** Oh yes, I think he's probably trying to hold up time, the umpire, Umpire Brady called time on very quickly, (*laughs*) but just the fact is, Collingwood have got the ball, they know there isn't too long to go.

Damian Monkhorst, he's a plumber by trade but he could take it back in. Big marks needed here. Punched away by Smart now Pittman, Wheat hooks, back to Smart, kick slews off the side of the boot. Brown! The captain's mark may save the day. He gets up gingerly, Gavin Brown, they must retain possession here, turnover could be costly, well they've got the best man for the situation in Nathan Buckley. Is disposal is usually pinpoint, as it is here, Croisca. Still the clock ticks down, Croisca at left half back - there's the siren! Collingwood have slipped home by the narrowest of margins, Adelaide so near yet so far today

13 6 84 the Magpies and the Crows an inaccurate combination today 11 17 83.

**LM** That last passage of play almost said it all. When the ball was heading forward it was Gavin Brown with the bit between his teeth who came and met the ball. He went on to uh Modra, after Modra kicked 3 goals, and Modra got his 4th goal on ground, and he got a little bit of the ball in the fourth quarter, but he just had to earn his every kick against Brown. and when a quick kick came forward, it was Brown taking the first step, getting to the front position, and when he took that last mark at centre half back with ten seconds to go I think that was indicative of just an approach and

5 11 after half time for the Crows so certainly Collingwood's accuracy was the telling factor today. They had 19 shots the uh Crows had 28.

*This was hard. There are 3 but I can only separate out lm – who also talks over the top of the others. Much of this was unintelligible.*



## 1997.3 Essendon v Brisbane

Round 6 third May 1997 MCG (37 642) 102-72

Drew Morphett Terry Wallace, Ross Glendinning, John Russo

Umpire Gavin Dawe clearing it with the Lions skipper, Michael Voss, (*siren*) the other co-skipper, Alastair Lynch is on the bench. Start of the last quarter. Still conditions at the MCG it's pretty dark, the lights are on, Keating's been a trial all day, he gets the hand pass to Lambert, running onto it Lappin went without it, Lambert another possession. Robbins. Inside 50, Fletcher marks. First goal or two could still make this game interesting. Adrian Fletcher going back a fair way. The leverage gives him a move from near the edge of the goal square, and another, but the Bombers players own defence so it's pretty hard. Fletcher has to go for the distance, soccer! Goal Ashcroft!

Was it a free kick? Yeah

Yep, (*illegible*) going to Justin Fletcher. Interference in that pack.

So the Lions just when it looked like they got that all important goal to start the quarter, have been denied. Here's what happened in the pack there.

(*Illegible – been retarded was Jerry?*)

Yep, Matthew Clarke the offender, so Fletcher, looking to clear the zone. Can't quite get outside 50 Champion takes it straight back towards Clarke and Fletcher, and Clarke's got it this time, well the big fellows a chance to make amends. Giving away that free kick just seconds ago but his teammates able to drive it back in. Good piece of body work. And he's picked it up. First goal the last quarter to the Brisbane Lions and they start now to ever so slowly close the gap.

But that's an important one, isn't it, given that Westcroff missed out and Champion arguing with the umpire Robin Daw, can't help you with what he's saying. But Matthew Clarke just enjoying a rest up forward while Clark Keating takes the centre bounce.

Clarke 6 marks, 11 possessions. They've won the hit outs 12 to 2. He's now kicked a goal. Back in the middle and Keating wins. Lappin. Very quiet today but he's put some class into it here. The kick to Leppitsch! A push. Ooh, that's another free kick against them when goal is a certainty. That's two in about 2 minutes.

John Northy will really be starting to heat things up in the coach's box now. His players building up opportunities to score the goals but letting them go. And now the Bombers with a chance just to settle the game down a little. Blake Caracella towards half forward, front position to Blumfield couldn't complete the mark. The Lions are in there, Johnson, Fletcher, but all tied up. Leppitsch caught behind in the contest and that push, picked up there by umpire Gavin Deller who was just standing some 20 meters away side on saw it perfectly. Now the Lions through Fletcher. Chapman, out to Johnson. Steps his way, cops one a bit high, umpire lets it go, Chapman again, his handball didn't clear the area. Che Cockatoo-Collins steps in this way that way the left foots going to form favour with Essendon. Lloyd, back towards Misiti into space Cransberg couldn't gather it, Berbakov out to Cransberg, left foot. This time it's one for him! Cransberg with 2 goals. 3 goals last week against Collingwood, giving his side a chance, now on the top of things here.

Yes, and he's been an important player, as mentioned, a couple of times, since he's come on, and just adds that bit of flexibility there, the kick intended initially coming from Mercuri for a teammate Shorter, that's a good snap, he's had some options wide, if he wanted them, but he didn't miss.

One in the middle by the Lions again. They've dominated there but haven't put it on the scoreboard. Ball spills away. Lappin. Very high to centre half forward. Leppitsch! Off hands to Ashcroft, he's handpass blocked. Leppitsch from the ground. *(laughs)* Clark working hard but Daniher for the Bombers. Leppitsch is down with Grant Denham back to Hardwick with the handpass and dive by Misiti who covers the ground magnificently. Well the Bombers got close to Collingwood on Anzac day and fell in a heap towards the end to lose by about 5 goals, they led Geelong at 3 changes but lost it in the last quarter, so can the Bombers hang on today, in the last quarter? There's a mark that was paid. Plenty of them haven't been. Barker, into Lambert, margin is 25 points. Essendon in front. Lambert short. There's plenty of time left, just under 16 minutes. Ashcroft. Hard to penetrate this zone defence by Essendon. Lambert with distance Clarke off hands, punched through for a minor score.

Justin Leppitsch still in the hands of the trainers. Suffering cramp. Has his number in the umpire's book on report. Not too much going right for Justin Leppitsch and probably is typical of uh the entire Brisbane Lions outfit just at the moment. Gary O'Donnell, controller across the back, giving it to Dustin Fletcher, he tosses out wide towards Berbakov can't complete it, Tristan Lynch, the Lions will have trouble getting through centre half forward here because Leppitsch is still on the ground with six trainers around him. So Champion tries to go around that, ends up with Ben Robbins.

But look how many Bombers are in the defensive 50. There, the wide shot there, how do you get through them? They've got about 16 back.

*(Meantime Leppitsch is being carried unceremoniously from the ground, by 4 trainers, 2 have his arms, and 2 have him under the knees, his legs outstretched. They are running, and Leppitsch is bouncing in mid-air looking extremely uncomfortable.)*

As Leppitsch is carried off. So they're without Leppitsch, Scott and Lynch.

So Ben Robbins. His only option is to clear all defenders so he's going to have to kick from the 50 meters line. It'll be a huge kick from this boy if he can make it; he gets the distance but not the accuracy. And the Brisbane Lions move on 21 16 very hard for anyone at the end of the game to explain that sort of inaccuracy. O'Donnell.

Well, a lot of them have been rushed. But they've been forced to kick from 50 or more because they just can't penetrate this zone defence.

Scott Lucas has been part of that. Flirts with danger here in towards the opposition at centre half forward, are his team mates good enough to get it away, yes they are. Wellman on the run, towards half forward. Didn't carry. Bews, off the did cross, the Lions again.

**Drew** When you've got a zone defence and you make a quick break, you've got no forwards. Dick Frost's hand pass. Tristan Lynch has been all right. Forward of centre wing. He ties to centre. Voss is there. Swamped. All Essendon. Fletcher, plenty of time to get back to Doolan, across the ground to Cockatoo-Collins. Now there's a forward in the back pocket. Cockatoo-Collins to centre wing. Flipped up by Chapman. Down to Champion. Across the ground he comes to Ashcroft. He looks up and all he can see is red and black. Still on the 50. Lappin's attempted mark spoiled, its flipped back to Lappin the handpass onto Clarke, he needs this! 40 meters out, hit the post. Oh. No, he got it!

Well their persistence is paying off Drew, they're getting it forward often enough, and Matthew Clarke has been their shining light in this quarter, just resting down there, when I say resting, just being down there, rather than Keating on the ball. A quick use of good hands, been a good finish from the big fellow, he's unaccustomed to kicking goals.

**Drew** Centre bounce. And it goes the Lions way but Denham chops it off. John Russo, on the boundary line,

**JR** Yes nothing serious with Justin Leppitsch Drew, just um not an injury as such, just cramping in both legs. The physio is working on his muscles, and hopefully he'll be okay.

**Drew:** Another goal here would be interesting for the Lions.

**Terry** Champion's probing kicking towards that area. Essendon's numbers once again Bury, Doolan Hardwick, combining as they've done most of the day still not the use of the ball, as good as it should be.

It's right untidy, isn't it Terry?

**Terry** Yes. I mean these two sides prior to the start of the season were going to be two of the top ones. And the conditions haven't been that difficult today, admittedly a little slippery, we've had some light drizzly rain and the grass surface is quite lush, but quality players shouldn't be making the errors that these guys are now. Here's another push forward by the Lions. Trying to penetrate Essendon defence. Prior. There's Ben Robbins. He's down, very slow to get up. Misiti under pressure. So the ball has gone from one half back flank directly across the ground to the other, and Ben Robbins, showing some pain on the face there,

Yeah, I think he hurt himself, in a collision with Ben Doolan,

**Drew** Well they could finish with seventeen men.

So it's McRae one of the fit 17 drives in. Voss, can't complete the mark, it's at ground level. Essendon numbers are there, the hearts are willing by the Lions but they aren't quite able to do it. Pushed on out wide. Another opportunity. Dick Voss wasn't able to run through with the ball. Champion on the left. Is there a Lion spare? No there's not. They've lost it. Bombers, through Lloyd. Now this is a very vacant forward line because everyone's up the other end. Johnson has space to work in. Chip kick, finds Lappin.

**Drew:** Leppitsch has come back on, suffering cramp, shouldn't be out there but they haven't got 18 fit men. Good mark taken here by Clarke. The combination of Clarke and Keating have given the Lions first use of the ball but they haven't been able to penetrate the defence. Kick by Clarke out in front of goal, all Essendon, Pryor to O'Donnell. Cockatoo-Collins now any forwards for the Bombers. Wellman has come from the backline to give this a long run and take the mark. Well done son. Caracella. Inside 50 and nobody on him. Taken to the ground by Champion. It spills to Bews. They've got no problem getting possessions back in this half, the Lions, but what about in the forward 50? Barker. Great kick. Oh, should have taken the mark, dropped by Craig McRae, has he kept it in? Eventually – oh, it is in. Gee a mark there would have been handy. 17 points the difference, so 3 straight kicks and the Lions could be in front, but how do you get 3 straight kicks against this defence?

**Terry:** Colford, away he goes, into centre half forward. Lloyd in the front position, Bews, does the wrestling from behind. You're too short Andy.

Free kick for holding, Terry.

**Terry:** Lloyd. Very well weighted kick into Gray Caracella.

**Drew:** Funny things you see on a football field. Gary O'Donnell is now picking up Clarke.

Here we are back with Ben Robbins, coming in underneath him was Doolan, and really, the boy's rolled out with a little bit of pain, carried off and now on the interchange bench. Blake Caracella at the other end of the ground lining up. He spent 2 years with the Essendon reserves. Gets his chance this year, gets his chance for a goal, he's done it. That's two to Blake Caracella.

Yes, they just keep chipping away the Bombers and again, sharing the goal kicking around. And Walsh too, he hasn't had a lot of the ball so to kick a couple of goals in that situation is handy. Just doesn't seem, as Drew has mentioned a couple of times, Brisbane Lions when they've gone forward can really penetrate the defensive efforts of the Bombers.

**Drew:** In this last quarter Essendon have kicked two straight goals and the Lions 2 2 but it's still 23 points the margin. Essendon back into attack. Lloyd has the ball punched from behind. Fumbled by O'Connor. Back to Denham. Inside 50. Lucas. No mark. That will be a ball up. 9 minutes remaining in the game and the Lions would have to come home with a withering run to come up. Back hander by Keating but it's out in front of goals, Cransberg for his third, got it! Same as on Anzac Day, came off the bench and kicked 3.

Yes, and you'd really suggest now that makes it pretty tough for Brisbane Lions to get themselves back into this game. That's the one that will settle Essendon down and bridge that gap and they get too far away I'd suggest from the Lions, even though they've made a concerted effort in this quarter, so far. Just not enough assistance in their forward area for Matthew Clarke who's kicked their only couple of goals.

**Drew:** so Cransberg with 3 goals, and the Brisbane Lions are staring defeat down the mouth now. Clarke Keating tries for his side to flick it on out, he does do that but Berbakov with Misiti with Daniher combined to take it away. Wellman is one out, with three Lions wins to Cransberg he couldn't complete it, Cockatoo-Collins his tackle on Kennedy was good, Hart, onto Johnny Barker, approaching 50 games of league football, in towards the centre of the ground. One on one duel Denham and Tristan Lynch, neither, Daniher, back to Mercuri forward handball, running Calthorpe, over the top to Caracella whose got a man short in spare got him. Matthew Lloyd just able to find the space, running away from Danny Dick Voss

Yes, good term of kew by the Essendon players, just sharing the ball around and Lloyd who's had a very quiet day, just 4 and 5.

**Drew:** Tom Cruise in the number 18 jumper.

So, let's see what Tom can do. (*laughs*)

**Drew:** Left foot. He's kicked it like a movie star. Across to the right and just the one behind.

We all acknowledge the new club, the Brisbane Lions, but when we look at the history of the Brisbane Bears, if we combine it, this is 18 consecutive losses at the MCG for that side.

**Drew:** Comes off the pack to Caracella, tackle there by Lynch. Crowd 37, 632 here today. That's a monster crowd for these two teams at the Gabba, but of course never that big, but 37 000, good attendance. O'Connor, the umpire said that was a push out and the free kick goes to Keating. Brian O'Connor doesn't argue too much. Seven minutes remaining in the game. Plenty of whistle going on. He's got to go back and do it all again, and the clock is ticking down, so this is eating into the Lions chances of winning the game. Kick by Keating. Barker tries to work to the front. Doolan, first senior game for the year, he's mopped up beautifully all day, Ben Doolan, no teeth, courtesy of Craig Kelly a few years ago when he was playing with the Sydney Swans. And uh Doolan today has had 21 possessions. Down to John Russo.

**JR** Glen Robbins has injured his right ankle. His boot and his sock is off so I'd be very very surprised if he returned so he'll uh probably not come back on.

That's certainly disappointing for the young 20 year old. Really has had a very good start to the season, Ben Robbins, but today a quiet day along with many of his teammates. Matthew Clarke has been a solid worker. A couple of goals in this last quarter, Champion in defence. But really the

workload has no one really stand up and put a stamp on this game for the Lions. And probably also for the Bombers.

Yeah, pick a forward who's shone like a beacon today. That's a hard job.

O'Connor, Keating wins the tap out and it just rolls on towards the line again

**Terry:** So Brisbane led by 6 points at quarter time, Essendon, right on the siren by Blake Caracella took the lead by 3 points at half time, by three quarter time they'd extended it to 25, now its standing at some 29 points. Denham, onto Lloyd. His hurried kick under pressure, over the line and out of bounds on the full.

**Ross** I think it will be a boundary throw in, Terry, I think he was over the line before he actually kicked it.

**Drew:** Good call Rossco, pull that white shirt on. What was the quote that Kerry, uh, Kevin Sheedy, after the Lions belted them up in the Ansett cup, Sheedy said they'd be an automatic leg in for the grand final, didn't he? The Lions, he just thought they'd so many advantages they were certain to make the grand final.

**Ross** Yeah, look at this. (*illegible*)

**Drew:** Well, he's going to be a long way short of the mark. They're going to be 2 and 4.

Well, the consecutive weeks I've now seen them now Drew, last week in Adelaide and today they're just looking pretty flat and not terribly well coordinated at the moment. I know there's a fair season ahead they've also got West Coast at home, actually they've got 3 of the next 4 at home, so that may be a help to them.

**Drew:** Here's a kick by Lloyd to the edge of the goal square. Plenty of hands on it, but no mark. Champion out of defence. Oh, he's trouble. Lloyd's dangerous this close. Centring kick. Loses ground, O'Connor, good hands Caracella, I like the look of this boy, just 20 years of age, good looking kick, oh, just off the hands and through for a minor score. And uh last year, when they were the Brisbane Bears they won 7 of their first 8 games, didn't they? And went on to get as far as uh the preliminary final.

The start this year hasn't been as good. Winners only up at the Gabba have been the Brisbane Lions. Lost twice at Football Park, lost against Hawthorn at Waverley and now their trip to the MCG does not look like being a fruitful one at all. Voss and Fletcher from half back, Lappin on the right foot, has the target of Leppitsch, stretches up, takes the mark

Well, structurally, a good piece of play. Some run from half back through the midfield, then the kick across towards the centre of the goal mouth and Leppitsch able to play one on one footy.

Yes and then we see that Leppitsch was advantaged by the fact that Hardwick just slipped at the last minute, we might get this on camera, yes, there we go, just lost his footing, couldn't get back in time.

**Drew:** So Justin Leppitsch, 2 goals to date, going for three, got it. So a goal in the first, a goal in the third and a goal now to Justin Leppitsch.

Yes, he's had problems with cramp, uh even as early, in the early part of the third quarter, and uh he's height advantage a bit of a benefit there. As Terry said a good passage of play there with Voss setting that up to Fletcher and all a bit too late unfortunately for the Brisbane Lions.

John Northy, coaching as hard as he can go. They trail by 25 points with just 4 minutes remaining. Out of the middle, Denham, excellent mark, Tommy Cruise, Matthew Lloyd. Off to Calthorpe. Cransberg's been good, kicked 3. Cockatoo-Collins been quiet, been absolutely brilliant a couple of

times. Lucas! Taken to ground, play on said the umpire. Spills to Dick Voss. Outside of his foot. Wellman! Lucas again! Right in front

He's probably a little bit lucky not to be pinged for holding the ball just earlier on, when he was tackled, but the umpire let it go. A bit of shifting there by Cockatoo-Collins allows Misiti to get that checkside kick coming in. Pretty effective.

**Drew:** Well Lucas has taken 12 marks. Pretty good stats, nobody else on the ground has taken double figures. Lining up for goal number three. The Bombers are back on track.

Yes, it's a good uh good sign for Essendon. Some of the younger players have led the way today, and the players like Caracella, Lucas, Cransberg not so young, not so large numbers of games, just sixty sevens, Berbakov, Lloyd, Cockatoo-Collins, O'Connor, all set a bit of a tone for the side.

**Drew:** so, Essendon now by 31. Lucas with 3 goals. Cransberg with 3. Leppitsch with 3. Can he get the opportunity to add to it here as the ball is within the forward line for the Lions. The Essendon defence hard at the ball happy to tie it up and happy for umpire Deller to come and ball it. Brian Wood the Essendon runner still working it hard out there, probably does just as much coaching as Kevin Sheedy does. Premiership wingman with Richmond, Clarke, Matthew Clarke the good hit out to McRae on the right foot, floats across to the right and just the one behind.

Just the 3 kicks to McRae, Kevin Sheedy coaching in game number 384, its just he's made a few moves in that many games, hasn't he, still working the board just them. Fletcher from deep in the pocket to Wellman. It's a little bit of keepings off here just for the moment, they've now got the break, Prior's the runner, from the centre of the ground, the targets are there. Cransberg gave front position, the roving done by Daniher, Bews keeps his feet and allows it to run over the line and out of bounds.

Essendon 101 Brisbane 71.

Bit of a grin there from Andrew Bews playing his 266<sup>th</sup> game, fourth on the list of current players still going around. Kennedy out of defence. Denham takes a mark. Johnny Denham, on the left foot, out in front of goal, clever kick. Plenty of markers there and crumbers, Cransberg a bit of a fumble, Dick Voss, the whistle's gone from the umpire who wasn't in the area officiating in that part of the ground. And it was overtaken by David Howlett who paid the free kick to the Lions and Champion takes it. Centre wing. Clarke. Floats the handpass in. Ashcroft to centre half forward. Lappin. He hasn't gone at the ball confidently today at all. Misiti back to Wellman, two to one Essendon. And the one for the Lions wins. Well done Johnny Barker.

Comes around to the right foot towards the point of the square. Gary O'Donnell. The captain of this Essendon side and really the controller from half back. Tosses the ball across to Prior. And now they're coming down the outer side, O'Donnell's the target, three Lions go up, three Bombers stay down, and Blake Caracella is one of those but his kick is offline. Two goals 2 to Blake Caracella,

Pleasing thing here today for Sheedy is he's giving game experience to some of these kids. Caracella just 20,

Yep

And while some of the stars are injured, he's getting 4 premiership points and some experience for kids.

Matthew Kennedy, long down the centre of the ground, O'Connor in front, Keating from behind, Voss does the roving his handball is wide, but doesn't hit the target. Johnny Barker a couple of goes at picking it up, on the left foot, Tristan Lynch, works hard enough at his game, the boy. Covers a lot of ground. From some 80 meters out towards Leppitsch, Leppitsch under the ball, four Bombers are



back, Hardwick's one, Misiti's another, Mercuri to O'Donnell on the left foot, finds Lloyd. He's got Doolan with space, has to gather it to beat Champion, he can't - the fumble was costly, the Lions back again through Fletcher. Now they have the spare man, its Bews.

**Drew:** centres to Clarke.

SIREN

**Drew:**there's the siren. And it's a 31 point victory to the Bombers. After 2 successive defeats they bounce back. And the Lions still can't win away from the Gabba.

They just grind away Drew, they really just wore Brisbane down, who losing a couple of players on interchange, Chris Scott and Alastair Lynch just lack a bit of or lacked a few options for the coach in John Northy. But a pretty even performance from Essendon their back half pretty strong, coming through the midfield their players contributed pretty well, but going forward they had plenty of opportunities to kick goals, they end up having 9 goal scorers for the match and it was that third quarter that really wrapped it up for them when they kicked 6 goals to 2 they got away to a 25 point lead and increased that, as Drew mentioned, to 31 points at the end of the game.

**Drew:** that will be some consolation I suppose for that one point defeat in that qualifying final last year when the Bombers had to go up to the Gabba.

## 1997.4 Geelong v Fremantle

third May 1997 Kardinia Park (16, 467) 97-43

Dennis Cometti, Peter McKenna, Don Scott, Dipper (Robert DiPierdomenico)

**DC** start of the final term at Kardinia Park, Standard up, Norrish down, but Norrish the crumbs, high kick down towards the attacking 50 for his side, waiting in front Biddiscombe though, off the ground, down against the boundary it runs, still Biddiscombe, and he puts it across. (*I can hear seagulls*) It'll be thrown in 12 10 to 6 6 White and McGrath will go at it, I except White to win this one and he does, Biddiscombe taken high, no free kick. And the umpire will ball it up, about 35 meters out from the Dockers attacking goal, charge this afternoon. Shane MacInerny tosses the ball in the air, White towards the boundary Callahan hard against the line

**PM** oh

**DC** takes it back, hit the post. Good effort from there, deep in the pocket, of course favoured by the left foot, in towards the boundary but even so, no room in which to operate.

**PM** Now that Dennis, was his 19th kick and he's had 4 handballs, so he has really stood out in this Dockers side, in a losing side so far, uh he's been a real hard worker. Well, he's a very good player. it was bad luck early in the year because they lost Shaun McManus too because they were two terrific young players across, oh, kick in just gets there, to Barry Stoneham, Stoneham chips it further afield, Mike Kirkpatrick whose been in very good form this year, former Bomber. And North too, wasn't he, North Melbourne, Steinfort? Centre wing. Chips it in, dangerous one, a good fist away Wills has been good since his old club he's been excellent. On the left foot puts it up high. Parker's got a couple to beat and numbers win out because coming across the front is McGrath, out wide, couldn't quit hand onto it it's still in the play. Pickering, McCary, Pickering again, gains about 20 meters to Kilpatrick, Kilpatrick kicks in to the man, that was Waterhouse, but Houlihan's been excellent and he'll drive it to the centre of the ground and he finds a mark here, coz its Robbins on the ground driving it in towards full forward.

**DC** McGovern getting in front. Speaking of Houlihan, 20 possessions for him, only a youngster, handful of games, very impressive. Maloney and Burns and Burns slides backwards into the fence. He'll feel no pain at the moment though; he's having one of those days. He's been alright. Thrown in, Stoneham against Bandy, Burnham initially shielding the ball then slaps it on, Colbert, he's game, sliding in there, Colbert over the top, Umpire will ball it up. Colbert, he's had 15 possessions. They've dominated in possessions, Geelong; the longer it's gone after their blistering start when the Dockers couldn't find the ball. Since quarter time it's been more of the same. Gradual progression by Geelong. At present time, what is it, 178 kicks 75 handballs to 141 kicks and 51 handballs, so virtually, it's like having a couple of extra players in terms of possessions. Sholl, against the flow, does well, plays it on the boot, pulls it back to the middle and Houlihan again, some savvy there, knowing where to go. Put him on the end of a loose kick. He's already got two goals, one in each half. Well he's going back a long way.

**PM** he's near the centre square, in actual fact he's crossed the centre square, there he is,

**DC** I reckon he fancies himself, he'll probably go from 52 meters out.

**PM** He probably short pass (*illegible*)

**DC** Very gloomy too as Houlihan kicks from about 45. Not quite the carry played against the post by the Docker's defence. Behind.

**PM** And there he is a greatly improved player Adam Houlihan. 12 11 to 6 7. The Dockers had a good second term when they got themselves back in the game, and a very disappointing third term.



O'Reilly, McGovern, and he runs around Brownless (*laughs*) the crowd roared, Callaghan again, onto Jason Norrish (*Sam - water splashes with every step they run*) and Norrish straight up in the air and Barry Stoneham flies through the air and takes the mark. he's started to get back in a bit of form, Stoneham, gone wide and he finds Grant Tanner, a half forward kicker at the back, here's Wills, and he's still getting the hoots, but he's certainly hasn't let the Dockers down. (*Crowd are booing Wills*) He's been very good. Oh, Callaghan waited for it, I thought he could have come in and taken that mark. But the umpire says it's my ball and the umpiring overall has been very good under these conditions. Because they've let it flow

**DC** Wry smile from Craig Callaghan. Ball thrown up inside the centre square, Bandy up too early it spill across towards Parker throws it on the boot, gains about 20 meters, Sholl, now there's the bouncing ball having missed the mark. Clears it back in setting some ground. Mansfield, good evasion, now a strong tackle by Black now (??) his progress, sliding in down there Delaney knocks it the Dockers way picked up by Allen, pitched towards the 50, leads towards the contest, Anderson knocked away, Bandy like a rover the handpass not good though, McGrath fumbled, Dockers, gained about 10 meters now Hocking, centre wide, Hocking with some time, kicks it down to half forward and Jarrod Hall. Hall started so well. He's forward of the wing. towards the middle, Waterhouse, did nicely to Wills (*booing*) Wills kicking it down towards half forward, all Geelong, well, they compete, picked up eventually by McGrath, McGrath inside his own defensive 50 chips it out wide towards the wing, with the run of the ball is Robbins, acceleration follows a good pick up. The kick not particularly good though. Norrish gathers, sweeps it away quickly taken away by Harding, Harding back to the wing and Toia. Luke Toia on the wing. His side down by 40 points. Wet slippery day at Kardinia Park. It's hard to see them getting back from here. Toia, drives it up towards half forward. Again. Nobody there. Craig Sholl on his chest.

**PM** well, they've very very disappointing up forward, the Dockers. They've just got nothing happening for them. As a handpass comes across for Sanderson. Oh, over-running it was Parker, that's Houlihan to Hocking, they've created the loose man, Riccardi slips, and caught, Hocking again, they've gotten the numbers round the ball. This is Tanner, the heat is on Brownless has it punched away by Tiley but here's Robbins latching onto this ball, tries to bend it back. Puts it thought for a behind. As I mentioned, very slippery conditions, playing on Stephen O'Reilly would be a nightmare I reckon for a full forward.

**DC** Ronnie Burns was on for his 7th there but Robbins took a shot at goal, the man's not impressed. Cunningham intended back towards the square, McGovern friendly wave to the umpire, not sure that works, kicks it out towards half back, Riccardi got a fist on it, Clement traps it nicely in front, to Wills (*booing*) out against the line Andrew Wills, O'Reilly now, running out of space, it's still in, now, was that off the boot of Tanner? Not sure. Boundary umpire says not. And we'll have a throw in. Down towards left half forward for the Cats. They lead by 41 points. Stoneham and Bandy, Bandy works in front, knocks it down, Hocking spins out of trouble, Tanner off his step, floats it down towards the 50 it bounces just in front of Robbins, its claimed by Delaney, slung, the handpass effective, taken by Parker, Parker back toward half back. Over the top Toia. Riccardi taken high.

**PM** oh,

**DC** They're bending in ways you're not supposed to bend as this ball at left half forward. Riccardi very good when it really counted when Geelong were establishing their lead. He'll kick from about 60, down towards full forward goes the kick, Graham is a crowd favourite, no mark, dragged down there is McGovern, Bandy's got it, lucky to get through the tackle Bandy, some indecision, gets it back towards half back again the Geelong players queue up and Stoneham, starting to hang onto a few marks.

**PM** yes, he's coming back to form, Stoneham, played well last week again Carlton. Steinfort, Robbins, Steinfort again, here's Kilpatrick, Steinfort again, good play by the young fellow as he tries to bend it back, it starts to swing, Booms is there, bit of skin, bit of skin, keeps it in play its still in,

and oh that might be out on the full. Oh, I thought it came off his boot then, over the line. Well it's a throw in and the Dockers player down is Black.

**DC** Black.

**PM** is that Black

**DC** Yes, young Heath Black.

**PM** oh, let's hope that is not a shoulder, because he's ohh, that certainly does look like the AC joint,

**DC** no

**PM** and he's in a lot of trouble young Heath Black, they're calling for the stretcher, and that is rotten luck for this promising young player. And he's in a heap of trouble as out comes the stretcher, quick smart, and Dennis Rich holding up the game (*Single man running with stretcher in one hand.*) to allow the player to be attended to.

**DC** so Black, well, we wouldn't expect him to come back anyway, but he wouldn't be allowed to come back (*Boy lying on his back, blinking pain*). Only hope for the best in this situation. It's a far too familiar sight this season in AFL football players seriously injured coming off the ground.

**PM** there's been a few shoulders too, hasn't there, with Wayne Carey and this one and there's been a few others.

**DC** Riccardi taking a spell. And they're taking a lot of care with Heath Black

**PM** Its great the way these stretchers do come apart, the player, not required to move or to get onto the stretcher as he was in the old days, to get onto the old canvas stretcher.

**DC** still it would be nice if we never saw another one, wouldn't it?

*(vision of Black being loaded, wincing, and lifted carried off by 6 walking men in hideous purple and green tracksuits.)*

**DC** Just watch how this all happened. Steinfort's got the ball and the shepherd just 5 meters to the left of Steinfort. Nothing to it, Brownless a big man coming in hard on the youngster, and Black off the ground. It's often the way it seems, it's almost been a lost cause now, down by 41 points but you've got to keep your wits about you. The game might be hopeless but you can't ease off, not saying that Black did, but

*(Talking over each other - gibberish unintelligible)*

**PM** you have to learn Dennis, just not to relax. Now watch this on replay. Now there it is. He probably didn't think he'd be handled in such a way by another player when it's so far from the action, but you just never can relax in a game of football, especially when you're near the action.

**DC** Especially when there's not a lot to play for, the game all but done. Bandy goes up, knocks it out wide, here's Hocking, Hocking hard against the line, the little chip pass Colbert slipped over and Stoneham takes the mark.

**PM** Yes, right back in form in this game, Stoneham. He's relishing uh his centre half forward position after finding form on the back line last week against Carlton. Good kick. Steinfort's been impressive Don.

**DS** he has he's been on and off the bench Peter, I don't know why they took him off but he's done some very very useful things. He's a good cut of a lad. There he is, socks down. And a good little lead there up the ground that's where you should lead, not out to the flanks, right up the middle. Now he's got a set shot from, well he'll have to kick it from about 40 meters from directly in front. Carl Steinfort he's already kicked one, and the crowd will roar if he, oh he kicked far too close to the mark, Roos, disposes of the ball, kick it, tries to boot it off the ground, that's Parker, up in the air, Tanner waits underneath it, Callaghan was there, now Kilpatrick, bending it back on the left foot, it's a high floater in towards half forward. Knocked away by Wills, grabbed by Stoneham. Stoneham brings it back in front of goal and Derek Hall gets underneath it. Good play by Stoneham. They're certainly disciplined, Geelong, and Hall will kick them 20 m.

**DS** Lay down misere should be for Hall. Well if Brownless earlier instead of blazing away at goal shot it across to Ronnie Burns open up the face, as Hall lines up

**PM** well, they're doing it on the bit Geelong at the moment. Disappointing the Dockers in this final term, Derek Hall has kicked his first and it's drifting out to a pretty big margin, Donald.

**DS** well, there's Kilpatrick, a high up and under ball, comes out, there's the value again of being a skilled player over the years, your body Barry Stoneham, the exponent of the left foot checkside kick, and he held that ball nicely across his body and opened up the goal.

**DC** 13 12 to 6 7 since half time the Dockers just the one goal, kicked by Heath Black and he's off. And Allen off, under the blood rule, during that break. As Hocking gets it out of the middle, Hall again!

He's a terrific aerialist, isn't he?

**DC** yes, and he came across unheralded.

Started out as a back man, now gone forward. He could play down back as well, coming into this game he'd kicked 7 goals for the year just behind Ronnie Burns, he's the leading goal kicker here at Geelong.

**DC** So versatile, that's really his best feature. Played wonderfully well for Western Australia in the state of origin game against South Australia at Football Park last season, a late inclusion in that team. And now Hall from 40 meters out, this will test him, has it got the carry, not quite, off hands, a behind. McGovern to bring it in. again the marking is good, not many options there, Cribbins (*Docker*) almost a one hander and across the line. Don made the point before Geelong are very good at covering the kick ins and again there, McGovern using up all his allotted time. Cats on top. 48 points the difference. Bandy and Stoneham. And Stoneham since half time has really found something. Gave that one away to Callaghan, close to best on ground. As the ball bounces across the line. I think Kilpatrick probably has that honour.

You know Dennis, Stoneham has taken ten marks, and so has Derek Hall in these conditions.

**DC** terrific. Riccardi off the ground, 25 possessions, Kilpatrick 27. Callaghan 25. Colbert from behind, Hocking, over the ball met solidly and he's got plenty of company. Tanner goes across, making his presence felt, and it will be thrown up on the wing.

**PM** So the sting gone right out of this game, and the Dockers will be happy to get back to the west and some uh dry conditions. It's a bit stiff because -

**DS** He's done well, Bandy, hasn't he?

**PM** In the heart of Melbourne

**DS** he really has done well,

**PM** well in the heart of Melbourne it seemed they were playing in fairly dryish conditions, so a bit stiff to have got the wet ground down here at Geelong.

**DS** he's got the height advantage, Bandy, over Stoneham and Stoneham can't get off the ground as Bandy can, but still, he's done very well, Bandy.

**PM** coming over the back for the ruck work there was Greg Harding, and knocked it towards the boundary line. So Stoneham to take on Bandy again. And a bit of yapping going on, and friendly banter by the looks of it, the young player and the experienced one. Bandy at the back. Stoneham. That was Luke Toia and eventually it's forced across the line by Glen Kilpatrick. It's actually been a fairly ordinary last term this, nothing too exciting happening. Let's see, Bandy again, against Stoneham, oh Bandy the big man came over the top, there's Steinfort, oh not back there again. I know Don loves this ruck work, when it keeps going back over the boundary line I don't think there's anything more boring Dennis.

**DS** well there is nothing, yet, nothing more boring Peter, and uh, there it is and it's opened up, and it was good play

**DC** Robbins left it behind. Crashing in there Sanderson, back towards Robbins, Sanderson, found it on the ground. Steinfort did well, almost threw it out (*Train horn blares in the background*) McKinnon and the kick blanketed. Delaney couldn't control the bouncing ball, and another ball up. Hard slog for the players. Hasn't been pretty a lot of this, but the players will certainly know they've been in a game tonight. They'll be leg weary and pretty sore, a lot of body work. Hard to run in these conditions as well. (*actual clickety clack of train on a track!*) Ooh, and Harding copped a very nasty one, and there's that situation again,

Head down, he's okay

**DC** Have to be protected but it's so dangerous and that's great to see but ohhh, into his hip. Yep, that is the one thing that you don't want to see in footy. Mansfield of course committed to the pack and it sort of opened up and Harding was coming through. Harding inside the 50. Parker got fingertips to it. One hand. Lamb wobbles it out towards the boundary (*laughing*)

(*laughing*)

**DC** Kilpatrick, Cavanagh, thought it out pretty well, it didn't quite come off, but mean to scoop it up I think, that would have been a ten out of ten if he could have just flicked it up onto the chest of his teammate. It's all academic now. Brownless in front. Bandy tries to hook it down, goes after it on his knees. Tanner. Kickett. Some bodies in there, willing bodies too, still working hard, Mansfield, couldn't control it.

**DS** I don't know why Geelong haven't left young King on the ball because really, the only way a young ruckman improves is through exposure and uh it would do him the world of good to be out there and just trying different things.

**PL** well particularly because they haven't got Barnes for a number of weeks, Johnny Barnes, and they'll certainly miss him too, with his agility and skill. So, that's Sanderson getting it through Hocking out towards the boundary line again. And this last ten minutes... (*laughs*)

**DC** it's you Pete, I think you're a jinx

**PL** it's been terrible hasn't it, this last ten minutes. Just, I think the players are waiting for the siren. Difficult conditions. It's very easy sitting up here in the commentary box, it's harder out there. That's Craig Callaghan again, Michael Mansfield trying to get a free kick, he was hardly touched but he's got the kick, just retarded slightly. Michael Mansfield, centre wing, mark, to McKinnon the former Adelaide Crow. And he's chipping it in short and finds Tanner. Grant Tanner on centre wing. And he's looking for the kick out to the boundary line where Hocking was there but Harding flies from the side and puts it over. So Geelong have been far too good in this match today, the Dockers briefly in the second term came back and looked like making a contest of it but Geelong too many uh guns, too many numbers around the ball for the Dockers. Dockers have been leaving it to individuals. As Colbert flies over the back. Back it comes to Dale Kickett, now Tony Delaney, centre of the ground. Number 37 of the Dockers is Mark Gale, oh, he threw it. Holding the ball. Adam Houlihan will take this kick.

**DC** Adam Houlihan most impressive. Down towards centre half forward, indicating he wants to kick it long, and does that. It floats towards the pocket, Stoneham almost, and its away from the players and across the line and out of bounds. Hocking not happy. He's not suggesting it was a mark is he? I think he might have been. So a throw in will pit Brownless against Bandy, final term, a big margin. Hocking runs onto the ball, off hands, and it bounces, and through for a goal.

Well there's been a break in play and a goal has been scored. It's been a long time coming, only two goals scored in this last quarter. And the ball spills out to Hocking. It wasn't a set move, he just happened to be in the right place, as the ball spilled over the top and you see there, he's very happy that's his first goal for the game.

Barry Hocking rubbing further salt into the wounds as Colbert gets it to Steinfort. A quick kick, oh hope he's dropped it, he's caught, is that holding the ball, no he's good enough to get it out. A big handpass comes out to Harding, and down here on centre wing a mark has been taken by Matthew Clucas who looks very much like Luke Toia. Clucas to half forward

ahh

And that was where, this is not even a contest, it must have been touched off the boot as Colbert kicks it wide. Here's Parker, off the ground. Nothing happening for the Dockers up forward. Oh, *(laughing)* he just shoved his opponent in the side, legally, out of the way, far too easy Mansfield, receives it back from Steinfort, latches onto it again, ah, cleverly done over the back but waiting for it is Craig Callaghan he's about to kick his 22nd kick down toward centre wing and he finds Geoff White.

It's becoming very dark here at Kardinia park, too White started in the ruck has been moved up forward, has had a quiet day.

That's an up and under kick, that certainly won't help the forwards and again uncontested at half forward. They have not got a half forward line the Dockers.

Is that his first mark for the day it must be.

I know, it's Billy Brownless, and the crowd roars.

**DC** it was his first mark as the ball comes out towards the wing, Robbins is there. Toia. Around the pack knocks it across the line, well, happy with his work there. I tell you what Don, it will be dark out on Corio Bay tonight.

*(laughs)*

**DC** on your trip home

**PM** laughs you're going back in a row boat to Sorrento, aren't you Don,

**DS** I could end up in Bass Strait.

**DC** Now it's an open boat, isn't it, with no lights,

**DS** no, no lights going through the most treacherous part of water in Australia

**DC** Sholl, comes away, I wish you well as the ball bounces through the centre square out towards the half forward line comes the kick from Parker.

*(laughing)*

**DC** Biddiscombe couldn't control it. Gale, soccered away by Biddiscombe, out of bounds on the full.

So Gale's got it.

*(laughing)*

**DC** Oh, the mind boggles, it's like a Hemmingway novel. Dragged out is Bandy, and a free kick is going to Graham.

Mark Graham he's been very steady again today.

**DC** His grandfather Jack was a South Melbourne legend, and he's made Tony a very good country player. Kicks it long around the outer side, Hall almost. Houlihan in front, can't control it. Across the line so inside the last 3 minutes of the game it's 97 to 43. Geelong in control.

Yes, the Dockers haven't had enough doing enough, they've left it to Callaghan and Wills and young Heath Black, he was doing well and bad luck with him, it looks like a shoulder injury. That's Callaghan off the ground again, when he comes in to lay the tackle, that was a good effort. It's knocked out further afield, that's White, getting it to his teammate here in Quenton Leach, down towards half forward Waterhouse, couldn't mark, Gale, working hard, Clucas goes in after it, well done, there's Waterhouse. And is that, he's made no attempt to get it out he could have easily been pinned then and that's what the Geelong players felt and Dennis, Rich having none of that and giving the player plenty of opportunity. It's on just the boundary line this last quarter very disappointing. I thought the Dockers might come home with a bit of a run at them. Biddiscombe, tunnel ball job here, Sanderson straight up in the air, Wills disciplined to punch it away, Mansfield, soccered off the ground, there's Quenton Leach diving on it, now it's Houlihan whose been very good, might have copped one in the back, 18 kicks and 5 handballs, Adam Houlihan.

**DC** Craig Callaghan will sleep well tonight, he's the last man to get up again, he does a power of tackling for a man his size, just watching him moments ago he had to lay a tackle, and had a decision to make, really do I have to, you can see he's almost tackled out. Norrish, Delaney, leach, stood up in the tackle, Norrish, throws it on the boot, wobbles it inside the 50 but how many uncontested marks have the cats taken in this vicinity? This time it's Sholl, kicks it out wide, Kickett, nursing a bad back, soccered it down towards half forward, McGrath in the opposite direction. Sliding in there Robbins, Parker over the top, Kickett again, Tanner can't keep it in, it's out of bounds. Just over a minute remaining in this game and the margin is 54 points. Nothing Jerrod Neesham can do. They've got North Melbourne next week, today a very important step in setting their season up. They'll have to work their way back from the pack again, a lot of teams with similar records, so congested on the table, Mansfield, Steinfort on his knees, missing the ball Norrish coming away is Tanner.

So Glen Tanner to the half forward line. Harding versus Hocking oh clever soccer skills by Hocking its Clement there, uses his body well and then goes straight for the boundary line and quite happy to



see it over, almost on centre wing. Well the Dockers, I just get the feeling, official attendance 16,570, I just get the impression the Dockers, they're such a free running side, they certainly need dry conditions I think to have the ball bouncing for the them. Free kick it will go to Harding I think he was grabbed.

**DC** But the attitude was never right was it, I mean

No, I didn't like the first ten minutes, I didn't like it at all

**DC** no

Geelong had too many, you mentioned the uncontested marks, there's been a heap of them. Here's Waterhouse, he's been pretty quiet. So 15 seconds left in this game and I think the Dockers players will be quite happy to hear that siren and get on the plane back to Perth.

**DC** we don't have a stat on the number of boundary throw ins but I reckon it's probably topping the league.

Where have they got Melbourne, Dennis? Over there?

**DC** In Perth

**PL** In Perth, oh well, they should get a dry ground over there. As we see it bent back by Gary Hocking, siren about to go soccered away - and there it is,

## 1997.5 Hawthorn v North Melbourne

third May Waverley (24 663) 84-83 HSV7

Leigh Matthews, Kevin Bartlett, Sandy Roberts and Shane Crawford.

Into the final term it's a 5 point ball game as Stevenson soccers off the ground, it comes wide toward the wing, Schwass leaves it for his teammate in Robert Scott and he gets it clear, he kicks to half forward first goal vital, over the head of Holland it goes, they gotta defend now. Ridley gypped at the, and he loses it, desperation plus down there as Ridley goes in again, puts his body over the top of Craig Shoal and holds up the ball.

**LM** they've changed Holland to centre half back and Graham to centre half forward for Hawthorn.

At half forward for North, just in their 50. Taken out of the air by Holland. Bell takes the mark now, been a live wire. Not a lot forthcoming in the way of leads, Holland's back packing and it's Neilson who takes the mark. A good start by Holland in this final term. comes wide, kick almost came off the head of Glen Freeborn he needs help and eventually he just soccers it off the ground, past Wayne Schwass, Ridley comes to meet it, look out he meets Schwass, legless is there at all told, Woods is caught. Ball spills free, North a chance, the high kick is by Stevens. Goes straight up and down, taken by Salmon, a good kick, finds Lord, Lord goes on with it quickly to Holland. Runs out of room but eventually gets his kick. It's a left footer towards centre wing. Difficult one to Graham, King, storms through centre wing, has a bounce then kicks it high and long up towards full forward. And a strong mark taken by Milligan.

Oh that was a great mark.

Bad mistake by Graham.

**LM** yes, it was a bad mistake it was a dropped chest mark and I think it was a bad defensive (??) by Jencke too he actually looked for his opponent, he looked for Manton instead of going for the ball when the ball was floating into that part of the ground. And uh. Bernie?? Was completely caught out of position, ?? was backing into him and Jencke couldn't get any gloop to try and jump and spoil.

Five goals last week, let's see what he can do. This for his first for the night, this to regain the lead for North Melbourne, (*can't hear the words over the roar of the crowd*) and he's got it.

Instead of Grant taking the mark the ball went inside Hawthorn's 50 and its cost them a goal

**LM** yes, it's very hard, we've said that all night, it's really hard to manufacture goals. They've sort of been coming by opportunities and so when you drop an easy mark get the move on, and even then I thought Jencke was too concerned with where Manton was. Once the ball's in mid-air you cannot control the kick and that's when the defender has to attack the ball if he can.

Michael Green, the great Richmond ruckman always had a great saying and that was play the ball on its merits. Ruck. Went past ?? target, Stevenson he's been great with 3 goals in that third term, here's Drummond, a tremendous ?? McKernan all night, short to Lord, edge of the centre square, the Hawks once more into attack. Dunstall.

**LM** slipped over again Dunstall. Four times he's slipped over when the ball has been in mid-air.

So, Martyn goes wide to Scott, McKernan, just stretches, so it's on the half back flank, pops it out in front, Freeborn, caught behind, taken over by Lekkas, so the Kangaroos by a point 81 plays 80 Luke McCabe on the interchange bench there with uh it looks like uh Tallis is also there, went off with the blood rule in the third term. So Holland, who's been moved into defence, tried a fresh air kick, Lord paddles the ball on then kicks it off the ground, back towards the edge once more of the square.



Anderson around the corner, this is where you've got to play in front. Lekkass running with the flight of the ball, Shoal trapped it, on 50. Pumps it back into the square, Manton's got the sit, bounces wrong side of the post.

One point

Quarters tonight have been running extremely long, 31, 32, 36 minutes. Ridley. To Salmon. Over the top it goes to merka Hawthorn's away here. Pritchard through the centre, runs his full distance then goes out wide towards the lead of Dunstall, can't get there in time, Martyn tears to tidy up, gets one grab, two grab, can't take it cleanly, Graham now down in the forward line,

And it's over the line there with Stuart Anderson

**KB** Should have went to the square then Leigh do you think?

**LM** well, yes, I think so. I mean, it's just Martyn plays three or four metres in front so he's always able to play with the lead then the lead is wide, it has to be very wide if Dunstall is to find an uncontested possession.

Archer and Graham again. Archer got a hand to it. Bell's at the bottom of the pack.

**LM** The problem is I think KB is that Martyn has been well on top of Dunstall in the body to body duel so whenever you go to them in a direct contest uh Martyn has been more often than not spoiling and bringing the ball away. And I think that's why, uh, its forcing, Dunstall has been forced to lead into a very wide space to try and get uh an advantage.

Graham went high, Bell takes the kick over, past Scott it goes, Treleven keeps it in play for a moment, so another throw in on that outer side. (*Man down*) That looks like Graham after that big leap. Might have just taken the wind out of his sails. Uh. He's up and ready to contest again and does so. An opportunity now for Lord soccered off the ground. (*Unintelligible sentence here of several words*) well smothered, oh here's a goal for Harvey, he snaps for a goal and pops it through, on a hammer. ?? Harvey gets his first, it's his 7th for the season and Hawthorn now lead by four points.

**LM** it's just a nice finish isn't it? a flurry of possessions, there's pressure, pressure, pressure, Hawthorn keep the ball running forward, eventually smart and the ball was smothered, but it was Harford on the left side, pressure game, but straight through the middle, really, a terrific finish.

Yes that goal was manufactured through Chick kicking it off the ground, and then a good smother by Crawford, and Harford who's had 21 possessions and he's kicked a goal so it's another big game by the youngster. McKernan, down to Rock, still inside the centre square. Allison, juggled it on that favoured left boot, kicks deep in the forward line here's a chance, Stevens at the back of the pack just needs a good bounce, oh just slips over, couldn't keep his footing, knocked through by Lekkass.

So Hawthorn by 3 points. Stevens started on the interchange bench, did kick a goal in that third term

So the Hawks short to Lord, now Pritchard wants it back, he's been ignored, so Lord just pumps the ball up towards centre wing, Scott. Versus Scott. Woods. Back to Scott. Continued on. Caught high. Will take the free kick.

Stevens is coming off for Longmire. So Johnny Longmire back on the ground. Kicked a goal in the first quarter which was his 500th in league football, so Woods has got a loose player on the edge of the square, its Holland, he's done well since he's been moved into defence in this last term. Kicks the ball wide, inside 50 Harford has it. Thumped away by Simpson, at ground level, Lekkass should get there first for the Hawks. Tumbles the ball back, got no one home, been marked by King.

Midway during this final term. Still anyone's game. King, in defence. Goes back towards a crowded centre wing area, McKernan in from the side. Big pack of players up. Condon caught, Pritchard, delicate little chip, has to be pinpoint accurate and it was. Graham swings round, he's recovered after that knock, he goes towards Dunstall he's (??\*\*%) and he takes the mark.

It's an interesting move putting Graham to centre half forward and Holland to centre half back Leigh.

**LM** well certainly, ah, uh, Archer had been on top of Holland in that part of the ground, so it's sort of a reasonable punt, I mean Graham's been fair, but again if the breeze held up the ball, it's certainly quite a significant breeze I think that North Melbourne's in, and really, uh as we know, tonight, Dunstall has always led wide, and that time the ball held up and Martyn couldn't get there in time.

His two goals so far have been kicked from this end of the ground. He's kicked another one. He's kicked three. No, he's missed. Well I be blowed, well, you were right about this Hawthorn crowd, Leigh

That Hawthorn crowd were pretty happy for a behind, you would have thought the scores were level

(*laughing*) oh, dear. So one point only as they're kicked back into play, find Rock he comes back in towards the centre, it's okay he's got McKernan. Corey McKernan swings back and looks down towards the 50 meters line. The Horse has just come onto the ground, that's Johnny Longmire who paddles it out towards Schwass, he gives another one away to Robert Scott, he eludes one, he kicks in the pocket, it's a lovely pass and the mark has been taken by Shoal.

**LM** really with the modern kicking drills it's almost a disadvantage to kick a behind. you're almost better off to have it out of bounds and draw a boundary throw in most sides now bring the ball in from that forward kick in the defensive area so well.

Craig Shoal came into this game with 7 goals 5 to his name (*booing*) for the season, he's kicking he's cruised it across the face.

One more behind goes on the board for North. Trailing by 3 points

So Jencke short to Ridley, what a close game, it has been tonight. Hawthorn trail by 3 points, led by a point at quarter time, trailed by 4 points at half time, led by 5 points at 3 quarter time and still lead by 3.

Taylor, he's been one of the Hawks' best, just pops it up, it's a dangerous kick.

**LM** wind held it up in the air, it did, it didn't get any penetration.

So he kicks it back to 50. Mellington's the high flier. Gee he's got a good pair of hands. He's kicked a goal in this last term. He's been on and off the interchange bench. That's a good grab.

**LM** fantastic shots these ones from behind the goals and you can just follow the flight of the ball. Excellent camera work, isn't it?

(*Booing*) he's kicked 6 goals for the season so he'll be kicking form right on 50 so the distance is there. He's kicked a goal.

yes, (*laughing*) we didn't have to depend on the crowd or the goal umpire, we could see for ourselves that that one was never going to miss and North Melbourne have uh taken the lead. we see here, Taylor and he's tried to be precise but the ball was held up in the air and it was Shoal running with the flight of the ball which takes a heap of courage and North got rewarded when Mellington was able to jump into this ball a good high jumping grab.

Two goals to Mellington. North Melbourne now it's clear, it's just really now goal for goal. Treleven takes it out of the middle, down towards the half forward line. Flicked back towards Pike. To McKernan, or its dangerous now, as Corey McKernan goes back. That's going to be 50. That's 50. And that's going to bring McKernan to 25 meters out from goal directly in front.

**LM** yes, a little bit stiff Treleven there, come from behind, I mean the umpire has got to call play on. Let's have a really good look at this. McKernan marks the ball and let's see if he's played on. Oh, only really going towards the direction of the mark, just a little bit of over zealotness then by Treleven, Corey McKernan, kicking from 30 directly in front, drop punt, looks uh... one behind

One behind to Corey McKernan. He came with 3 goals and he was hoping that would be number 4.

Four points the margin

**LM** kicking they've been coming out of the back pocket almost all the time but then they're caught over the one side of the ground and getting the ball further out, it's really only chipping around the boundary, there's no penetration round the centre square.

Well done by Rock wasn't it. And that's Kenny Jacks, just reacting ever so slightly after that (*man in suit in glass box throwing a tantrum*) 50 meter penalty.

McKernan to take the free kick. Now he's just forward of centre wing, goes long in towards half forward and strong defensive mark taken by the veteran Ray Jencke, given it off to Taylor

And Taylor comes away, he's in the back pocket. No one really anyone to kick it to in two minds, he just kicks it out on the full.

**LM** well what he had to do was just kick it to space, and then there's no kicking out on the full was a bad error, you just have to drive the ball long to space,

So, North Melbourne with a chance, a high flier is McKernan, knocked away by Salmon, ground level, Archer does it well, great drumming, he's got some space, he goes very short, sets it up once more to Lord. Still in their defensive 50, they go wide danger once more, oh, Harford does well. The ball did hold up once more, Leigh.

**LM** if they're going wide it is going to hold up because they're into the breeze.

Lord from the half back line, was chipped, he wants some movement on the forward line so he kicks it high. Good mark by Lekkas to Dunstall, on the lead, versus Mighty Mick, can't get there, Mick first to recover, kicks it off the ground, he's the past master at that. (*laughing*) (*Unintelligible over-talking*) sails it over the line

**LM** what is surprising me tonight is that Martyn is being uh quicker on the recovery than Dunstall which is very unusual for the Jason Dunstall we know. One would wonder whether he's got full power in those legs after coming back from that knee injury last year.

40 meters out from Hawthorn's goal. Archer and Graham, Graham over the back, dumped on by Schwass, he's booted four, Harford had it lost it, North Melbourne just forced the ball back over the line for a boundary throw in.

So a throw in on the outer side. Denis Pagan what does he think of Hawthorn, how does he rate the brown and gold side? (*They go to the coach, an inset screen on the game*)

**DP** um as I said earlier they've got a strong tackling football and regardless of the score there, they'll be the same and you can never ever write them off.

Well, he's finding that out now, you can never ever write them off. Just one dire struggle unfolding here at Waverley. Well, there is Denis Pagan, still having plenty to say to his runner. Crowd of 38 953 in attendance here at Waverley tonight. And this game there for the taking on centre wing. Allison, Scott and taken over. Just in North attacking zone, they're kicking with the aid of a very slight breeze, Blakey, Treleven, Blakey tries to pluck it out of there but the big fish just steals, Paul Salmon, his kick is short towards Condon and Pike. And again over. Peter Schwab and Ken Judge, the Hawthorn hierarchy as we go to the throw in. Salmon. Front spot. Angelo Lekkas. Pike over the top. Condon at the bottom. Sir Anthony Condon, 144 games to his credit now. Hawthorn coming in without Johnny Platten, Lekkas, gets a hurried kick it was down towards Stevenson but beaten on this occasion by Brett Chandler.

**LM** He marked the ball well as quick flicks out of the pack on the North Melbourne half line on the majority of occasions Peter Bennett.

Chandler goes towards a congested wing area and that's a good mark by Shoal. he's got those elastic arms and he kicks up towards half forward McKernan in the pack, taken by Holland at the back, gives it off to Pritchard, stops for a moment and it's just the height that enables Salmon to pluck it out of the air. He gives a little bound as he goes towards Holland, he chips over the middle once again, this time he finds Crawford still a long way from home but Hawthorn have possession. Crawford looks up to the forward line, which way to go? The kick was a wobbly old punt it wasn't pretty and it was marked by Longmire.

It was a shocking kick. Longmire. Thumps the ball back. Shoal. he's taken a couple of big grabs in this last term sure hands, Mellington's on the lead, Shaw in front, couldn't take it, the Sherrin slips through. Taylor, kicks wide, looking for Holland. Too much carry on the ball, Shoal just happy to take it over the line.

Well Shane, what do you think of Hawthorn's chances? We've got just over six minutes of action left.

**SC** Yeah, I think if Hawthorn are going to win this game, what they're going to have to do is minimise their uh, uh, oh phoof, I'm just watching the game as it's in progress, but yes, they're just making too many errors. And uh they're going to have to minimise that.

Yes, they've made a few kicking errors, picking the wrong options.

Yes, just kicked the ball poorly this last ten minutes of the game, going forward, picking the ball up.

So boundary throw in on centre wing. North Melbourne by 4 points. Salmon and McKernan they've been at it all night. They've both been outstanding for their sides. Harford, gets it across to Lekkas so the tackling pretty ferocious, they've been hard at it, Taylor and Scott. Neil Kurley might have a report on Johnny Longmire for us,

Yeah if that suspect knee of his is hurting him a bit and he ended up playing with it.

So, a throw in on centre wing. Inside 6 minutes remaining. Paul Salmon pumping himself up and the team. It comes out the back. Scott leaves it for Bell. He goes with the left foot, low kick in towards the 50 passes Mellington for a moment, now it passes Stevenson, comes to Lord who in towards the middle to set something up here, Taylor goes even wider a chance for Scott, brilliantly smothered. Scott's got to go again, now he does the shepherding work for Taylor, he does that and they (??) has a look down towards the forward line towards Jason Dunstall and Mickey Martyn. Dunstall comes out and is taken over the line.

So a throw in in the right forward pocket for Hawthorn.

Gee, it was a great smother by Rock,

Fantastic play.

they're down by 4 points the Hawks at the moment, Treleven and Blakey come across and here's the ruck work, soccered towards Dunstall, look at the tackling there from Simpson, that was good, Archer. Clever kick. Coming across the ground, out of the immediate danger zone and forcing them out as well. Certainly not out of trouble yet, Stevens, coming to the bench, and there's Johnny Longmire, closer to camera, looking a little uncomfortable.

Another throw in

Another 5 minutes remaining.

Anthony Stevens and also Freeborn on the interchange bench as well. Don't forget of course, Talking Footy on uh Monday night. On 7. And here's the throw in. Salmon again. Chip couldn't take it with a kick, goes towards the boundary line, and seen over by Brett Jarman

This is important play Leigh here Leigh, for Hawthorn forwards to try and retain possession.

**LM** well as I mentioned earlier how many players around the ball, well I reckon there's about 30 of them here, I can count 5 pairs of players not within 10 meters of the boundary throw in. Hawthorn have to open up a bit I think try and use some of their players out try and create something.

Harford at the back of the pack. Archer, couldn't take it. Gets support. Good play by Simpson just kicks the ball to space but Hawthorn should get there first. Lekkas can he set it up, gets the ball back to pocket, they've got two players there, they can raffle it, good play, coming over the top was King, made plenty of ground, Archer with those good hands, to Chandler, clever play, straight back over the line.

Gee King made some ground.

**LM** He certainly did, that's kicking into the wind, the ball just held up enough it just wouldn't get any penetration with its flight as it held up. It was very good play by King to get there.

So Archer versus Holland, half forward line for Hawthorn, the time clock ticking away, just over 4 minutes of action left. Holland, thumps the ball, taken by Pike, the fresh air shot, then kicks it off the ground. Simpson, bundled over, Pritchard caught high. He won't get a free kick, he'll get a ball up. And a wry smile.

*(laughing)*

Umpire John Harvey to bounce. And it's Saturday night. Holland. So Hawthorn forcing the ball forward, it's on 50. Chandler. Deft play gets it across, so King, here comes the ball out wide, Scott needed a bounce, Harvey's off the interchange bench for North. Brad Scott thought he was held so did the Hawthorn fans. They pile on top of one another. We've got a ball up.

I thought I saw a jumper uh

A free kick to Hawthorn. This is an important free kick, if it goes to Scott poetic justice I suspect, because his free kick about ten seconds ago, and he throws the ball over his head! And he's got 50! Has he got 50? Will the umpire go back Leigh?

*(laughing)*

**LM** he took two steps back and then decided that Scott hadn't lifted his arms in the air.

Wow

**LM** it was a split second umpiring decision that one

He's had a big week John Harvey

**LM** Yeah!

*(laughing)* Oh it's the third of May, by the way.

There's Scott from the edge of the centre square, kicks a high ball in towards full forward. Hawthorn needing a mark. So to North Melbourne.

*(Commentary is illegible over the roaring of the crowd and the excitement as a goal is hurriedly kicked.)*

Dunstall

Has now kicked three.

there's a few players in this there was jumpers for the ball it was a quick kick forward, I think lucks a fortune, he happened to be there, he happened to be in the goal square, a nice little bit of good fortune for Hawthorn.

3 goals to Jason Dunstall and his third has given his team the lead with under 3 minutes remaining. Who's going to rip it out of the middle? Allison leads in the race but only for a moment as Lord soccers wide, towards the boundary line, now the pressure on North Melbourne they are playing catch-up football. And Lord is quite content to see a throw in on that outer side.

Oh, what a finish.

Three goals to Dunstall, 3 to Stevenson, 2 to Salmon and the Hawthorn chant starts up. There's Salmon and McKernan, Wayne?? He's on half back,

Floats the kick wide to the wing, no mark taken. Good recovery by Lekkas who flew high, off to Crawford, gets a hurried kick up towards the right half forward flank. And over the line goes Anthony Condon. With Martyn Pike. Change been made. Jencke was about to leave the ground and is now heading back out again. That was a good kick by Graham, a saving kick and headed towards the boundary have the numbers

Late in the game

Couple of minutes left. Still anyone's game, a couple of points in it. A high ball is marked by McKernan. he's almost down to centre wing, he goes long and towards full forward, and here's Kennedy, caught by Waltham, (???) he's been pinned!

Oh, that's a tough decision, tackling him from behind.

**LM** well I think that's the most contentious part of the umpiring the umpiring rule. And it is a correct decision. Once the player has taken a couple of steps he's had a prior opportunity to kick the ball, you hear it from John Russo all the time. He had 3 or 4 steps and he didn't see Mellington coming and the umpire really have to pay that decision. I don't even know if they're happy about it to be honest.



I'd argue Leigh whether he had prior opportunity. I mean you've got to have some opportunity to make a decision and get yourself balanced in some shape or form I think he took about one and a half steps. I don't believe that's prior opportunity.

Well, this kick to regain the lead for North Melbourne with one and three quarter minutes remaining. He kicks the goal, it's a beauty! North regains the lead. And Mellington has kicked his third. All in this final term. 15 7 plays 14 9. It's still goal for goal.

It certainly plays (??) I think it's really according to rules of holding the ball it probably was holding it but again, I don't know about the morality of it I don't think I agree with that so much, you almost need rear vision mirrors now as a player, because if you are, have taken two or three steps, and pinned from behind, well, more often than not you're going to get free kicks. He was a bit unlucky then, Johnson.

So North Melbourne by 4 points. It's been a big quarter for Anthony Mellington. He booted 5 last week, he's kicked 3 in this last quarter, thumped forward by McKernan. North Melbourne, can they sense they've got this game? King, puts a foot on the accelerator got the pace, sets it up to Allison, making ground, Allison's got it. Great thump out of the centre square by McKernan. Under a minute and a half of action left.

**LM** I think we often talk about how often the centre bounce goes straight up, I think that bounce bounced straight back to McKernan he thumped the ball 15 meters forward. It's just um one of those unpredictable thing whether they be key umpiring decisions or the bounce of the ball. Just sometimes they work for you and sometimes they don't.

*(Sam says - therein lies the Zen beauty of football. In that last sentence.)*

Kicked a goal in the third quarter, he's kicked 9 for the year. He'll be kicking from right on 50. They lead by 4 points. The distance is there. It's a great goal.

**LM** yes, well, I think that's just about the game. 34 seconds to go as we can see there a 10 point lead to North Melbourne. (??) the value of getting the ball bounce back towards McKernan he thumped it forward and he received the situation, King now on the forward line enough pace to run clear and them deliver the ball to Allison, and again another accurate kick , they've had two shots in the last minute North Melbourne and they've slotted them both.

Two late goals to North Melbourne and they've opened up a 10 point lead. It should be enough. This time it's Salmon who goes with a big belt out of the middle down towards half forward, Archer bounces off its Holland who picks it up and kicks it high but no great distance. Stevens defends. Taylor chases hard. Lekkas goes over the top of Blakey, it's locked up with Stevenson and coming in for a bounce is umpire Mark McKenzie.

Just 12 seconds remaining and I'm afraid Shane Crawford, it's not going to be Hawthorn's night but they were valiant in defeat. *(Cut to young bloke with boy band haircut standing in the crowd)*

**SC** Yeah that's right, they tried very hard, there's always next week but full credit to North Melbourne, they played very well and deserved to win.

Thanks Shane and for your time tonight too, and all the best for the future.

Thank you.

Siren

There's the siren, victory to North Melbourne, been a thriller!

## 1997.6 St Kilda v Melbourne

4 May Waverley (21 104) 121-35

Drew Morphet, Dermott Brereton, Mark Harvey, Craig Kelly

Yes, pretty dark here for the start of the last quarter at Waverley and the Saints up by more than 10 goals. Seecamp and Nicky Winmar wrapped him up in a good tackle,

Not much thought into that by Marcus Seecamp but uh at least one thing he drew the tackle and made uh Nicky earn uh well the ball up at least anyway.

Young gets a toe to it. Everitt and Stewie Loewe have just changed once more, as soon as the uh ball moved down they swapped over.

A mid Wakelin's a spare man down here, who's up there?

Uh they're just changing over, Ingerson's yeah, Ingerson's just doubling up with Hall, and uh on Hall with Gaspar.

There's Smith a bit of a scrappy start, Clarkson, meets Hart number two to one. Steven Febey went through pretty hard, comes out to Brown, kicks wide to Thompson. Directly into the breeze in the final term the Saints. Kicked by Thompson, Szills.

Stewie Loewe led to the back of Sziller then and uh saw him by himself and just took the lead away to make sure Sziller had the uncontested mark.

Cripps to Everitt, juggle! Mark! Well actually, you know, if if the match up had been better there, Seecamp like I said early has taken 20, you've got about 20 centimetres difference there. And also Stew, I didn't think played that all that well then, took up all the gap running backwards and so Everitt had to go wide and that's why he's right over the top of here,

Everitt's kicked three, he improves the angle a little bit, missed that one. But see, he was forced in that pocket, Stewie had taken up the corridor towards the 50 meters sign, uh painted on the ground and basically forced him out there, so Stewie's just gotta be a bit aware just where he's pushing backwards.

I was watching him uh go up for the first lead, so when he ran back deep into the 50 he actually ran straight in the middle, did he?

Yeah, straight into Stew - where Everitt would have led to.

Exactly the opposite to which Neitz did in the second quarter,

Yep

Lights are on here at Waverley, just as well, it looked like midnight. Matthew Febey clips the ball back in some sort of a handpass (*laughs*) Harvey. Well that was a bit of a half-hearted uh tackle attempt by Jimmy. Cripps. Towards the outer side. And Healy, Daniel Healy,

First kick, he's missed it

Spun around on his left foot and made up his mind very early on, I don't think he was going to pass it (*laughing*) there's the bike, I told you they had a bike somewhere,



There it is

It's trundled down, it's lost its back wheel, that's the only problem. (*Vision of the players on the sideline, a bike, a massage, coaches,*)

(*laughing*) Wazzie going for a ride, surprised he hasn't got the headphones on, having a listen,

There he is, the man who stands right in the middle of shot just to get his head on camera, in front of the bike there,

It's a funny uh, a funny sort of zone that St Kilda are employing there, the 50 meter mark, there's a huge gap on either side where they can actually pick a guy out with a nice sort of 40 meter pass.

Lot of players around this, kick clears the pack, Neitz couldn't handle, Young back to Campbell, Peckett, got a man in half distance, and that's who he goes to and finds Brown. Tony Brown's had a good game, off the left, towards the 50 - spoils it

Oh!

He's hurt, Jimmy he's got it right in the side,

Stops right in the back,

Woewodin kicks towards the centre of the ground, look Jimmy, he could break a leg but I'd guarantee he'd play next week, oh, it's a battle scarred body for Jimmy isn't it, already, you feel for the big fella

(*laughing*)

He's got a, oh, look at him, oh, and he gave Stewie one as well he goes you can't do that to me. (*Grimacing, holding his side, jogging off field*) (*laughing*) he'll play forever.

And there's nothing worse than that on a cold day, is there?

Oh, that's terrible (*joyful*) the official attendance guys is 21 104 people, Jimmy Stynes 11 possessions in total there, 55 percent of the time he's finding the mark with them, so

Yeah, good struggling effort there by Jimmy against the overwhelming odds, they're just bottling it up again,

My concern is now for the Melbourne footy club, I mean you've seen you've seen Hawthorn leaps in going forward

There he is, there's the incident there (*replay of Jimmy being hurt*) ooh yeah

But if they lose this one, really, the whole club and supporters and the whole supporter base is going to be very despondent. It'll be very hard to get people to part with a few dollars for the next uh few weeks, in terms of a membership drive.

Joe will find it, don't worry about it. (*laughs*)

Yeah (*laughs*)

That's half the reason they haven't been putting their hands in their pocket,

That's a good lead by the kid, well done!

That'll give him a bit of confidence,

Absolutely! Absolutely, see the thing is, he's been letting Shanahan lead him to the ball, and you don't know how good a player he uh is capable of being, in that circumstance, but the ball comes in, from the set kick and uh he let Shanahan that time he dictates the circumstances. as I said, I saw Paul Roos in his first game of senior footy out here in a night match, he played on Robert Shaw and Shawie kept him kickless for three quarters, so well, let's hope a similar scenario here and the boy's got a big career ahead of him.

Alastair Nicholson, doesn't make the distance, and it's rushed through by Wakelin for a behind.

That's just typical of Melbourne then, they had Neitz in the goal square and three St Kilda defenders back there,

He didn't make the distance

You've got to get at least one bloke down there who would be a target on a lead to go in there and draw one of them out with a lead at least, anyway

And also a crumbing player in case it does fall short,

Yep, true

It's about to absolutely pour down in a second, so get ready Harks, get the broolly out,

Yeah (*laughs*)

I'd like you to go a bit further down onto the ground please. Out of the cover

Cripps, uh Neitz.

Dropped what he should have taken

Ah, I think we could forgive David at this stage of the match (*laughs*)

And kicked in, here he goes again Nicholson, off hands, to Winmar. Wakelin, Hobbs closing the gap on him, so Wakelin's kick up in the air and he's turned it over. Clarkson - that's a good mark, Leoncelli. Todd Viney, just thumped it to the goal square. Neitz high! He came down with it, yeah, I don't quite know if he got first purchase on the ball there, we might uh if we get time to have another look at that (*replay*)

Just seeing Todd, Todd Viney kick that ball, he's only had 13 possessions. 54 percent, so...

Yeah

And he had to kick that ball very high because no Melbourne player was leading, they were just standing stagnant

And Viney's their best wet weather player too, there's no doubt about that, and uh and the other two boys, Jeff Farmer and Shaun Charles out at the side, uh, it makes it a bit difficult up forward when the ball hits the deck, but guys, this is just I know there's probably uh twenty to twenty two minutes left in this game, but it is vital for the Melbourne Football Club, you touched on it Harvs, if they don't kick 3 or 4 goals, here, or even a couple more than that, they're uh hopes of a membership drive uh in the next few weeks could go out the window.

It's just about character and the supporters who come out on a day like this, they've got to give them something, and their coaches, especially Neil Balme, I do feel sorry for them.

Farmer?? Gets the ball back, Febey just pops it up very high,

Has to use his body here

Oh and Neitz couldn't take the mark, Healy sees the ball out

It's a good ?? dirt ?? Dermie, whenever we played, Leigh Matthews always said to us that uh how you finish a game is how you start it next week and uh you often find guys who kick three or four goals straight in the last quarter also carry that on into the next week. And not only for your own confidence, but for the team, it's important.

Yeah, Leigh was a big believer in that. What Melbourne can uh

Well, if I was Neil Balme I'd be saying listen this one is out of grip but if anybody doesn't put in in this last quarter and at least win this quarter, the scores in the last quarter, you'll be coming off even if I end up with 12 men on the field. I want to win this last quarter.

And how would you train them during the week if they didn't do that.

By, depends on the character of the boys, you've gotta weigh them personally to know how to get them up how to get their spirit up, but uh but they've got it in the forward line, they're working hard, they're holding it in there for the last 2 or 3 minutes.

Neitz tries to knock it towards the goal square

(??)

Wrapped up

That situation there, a pack tackle, a very good indication, of uh, you know, good spirit, if you can get more than one tackler on an opponent.

Talking about character Port Adelaide, 34 points up

Oho,

Half time

Fantastic.

I think I might barrack for them,

You'd jump on anyone's band wagon

*(laughing)*

Well done Jimmy, he's here with the stop marks,

They had the wall set up across back there, that's why they got that, Melbourne,

Kick by Febey once again back towards the pocket, ducking and weaving Campbell, Cripps, Brown, oh on his own at centre half forward Peckett, (No 1) should be a lay down misere, but, well, snap, that was just very very poor play, there was also Thompson was by himself, there was Peckett running down, he had the ball obviously, there was Thompson, Everitt they could have just kept running running and drawing the next play and kick an easy goal.

I've just watched the blond boy Thompson uh run back to his position in the zone and has be given Peckett a spray  
(??)  
(*laughing*)

Well, nearly 10 minutes played in the last quarter and we haven't had a goal which is not good for Melbourne. They uh well breeze a bit fruity, I don't know if they've got much use of the breeze here in the last quarter but uh they need to finish the game strongly.

Now another left footer Healy, so he uh by all accounts should kick this one, but he's going to pass it to Burke.

It's going to be very tight for Burkey.

Well it was a pin point pass, but yeah you don't like the angle from where the Crows skipper is kicking from

At the ten minute mark in the last quarter Aussie Jones gets another run and the boy we talked about, Thompson, comes off.

That's just not acceptable, having Burke run around there by himself on the forward line, is it not?

Well not really but I really Healy should have actually kicked that, I think uh Harvs. Oh, he's going to pass it, that's, this is where it's very very disappointing for a Melbourne, for a coach and for the supporters because this is something when a side's switched on and is really having a go you just don't let these little gaps open up, you man on man when they're around the forward line, (??) position forward line, it's always very very close, compared to this at the moment, it's a bit disappointing.

And Brown centres it and kicks the goal.

Well they just keep going further ahead, St Kilda, (*vision of two young women clapping happily with St Kilda scarves*) but guys, Melbourne one win for the season in the first game of the uh year, they were close against Sydney they've had a coupla games where they've gone down by uh you know a fairly close margin, that one being Sydney that I made mention, I would dare say

Bulldogs, 2 points,

Yeah I would dare say that this last 15 minutes for Melbourne is their most important 15 minutes of their year at the moment, they're playing not just for their pride, but for the fact to get their supporters to part with the \$80 odd dollars to boost their membership and help survive.

Stone, certainly never lets anybody down, Viney just gave him a don't argue.

It's good to see Todd's bit of aggression like that.

Neitz. He got boot to ball

It'll go close

It's a goal

Oh!

Oh, that is fantastic. That is fantastic.

No, it's touched it's been touched

Gee that's disappointing because really the kick from Todd wasn't a good one, and he made something of nothing there David Lynch. And Neitz beating two opponents then

He's just a terrific player

See the strength in his uh in his legs there, just to stand up through the tackle. Not even just to kick it but to stand up in that tackle was fantastic, but to get the kick away.

I couldn't see it being touched.

Well, I couldn't either.

From side on or from behind the goals,

Well look Todd's trying to set something up here, just get a little bit of something moving, they're just trying something different. You can't blame them for this, just breaking it up. Woewodin with the ball now, almost in the centre of the ground.

St Kilda got their numbers back here, they've crowded their forward line again.

Oh this isn't a bad kick if Neitz can make it, just touched, just in front of him, Sierakowski, that body line, no but Matthew Febey marks.

Move it quickly Matthew

Spent most of the first half on the bench.

Harvey. And prepared to play on quickly. Cripps,

There's nobody near Burke

Now Burke is 50 meters in the clear. 50. it's unbelievable. Now he give it to the opposition. That's also unbelievable. Steven Febey.

There actually wasn't a lot of lead, the only lead was there evet everyone else sort of got caught out of position, pushed up too early.

Yeah, well every, yeah exactly. Well everybody went to him as he gathered the ball and he had like 60 70 meters to run with. Good spotting kick that one. Jimmy's having a go in these last few minutes. He knows the importance of uh the final minutes.

He's got Farmer, Pyman here by himself

Burke gets back there that a (/??) spoil gives away the free

At lot of the time what you can do if you think the players actually going to make it to you, and spoil you you can run straight out you can make out a legitimate attempt has been made by you at the ball and if you run into them you just draw the free kick.

Neitz is the target. But it drops a bit short. Winmar.

Good play by Winmar, (??) in the hole (?)

Joel Smith, now he's 40 meters in the clear.

Kick to centre wing, Gaspar can't mark it. Now back Peckett, now Justin Peckett mucked it up last time he had a long run, what about this time? Goes for the goal again

Oh he's messed that up. Oh,

Again, he had the run, he had the space to come forward and then Everitt just didn't time his lead, I don't think. As well as he could have.

Yeah, good call, he didn't make it long enough either, Everitt you know. He had to come up, you know, 25 meters directly in front to force his opponent to follow him up then. Been Seecamp.

But Peckett's probably not used to having so many uh kicks in the forward line.

*(laughing)* shots on goal?

Usually a back pocket. Mind you, once as a back pocket I saw Cousins kick five on him in a quarter,

Aussie Jones!

Well we saw the difference there, Aussie Jones can finish the ball, Peckett's not a bad kick but as you made mention he just doesn't find the shots on goal enough to be experienced on that. *(Rain buckets)* Can I come in now?

You can! You can come in verbally, but you can stay out in the wet stuff Ned

Me too

You're out there too Harvs,

Guys I really felt then that the little fellow, Austin Jones, got himself into trouble, he sold the dummy, went on his right foot, he slotted it through. Well done.

Speak up Ned, you sound like you're bubbling. *(Rain is so heavy!)*

*(laughing)* It's pretty heavy and the crowd going for cover *(there are umbrellas)* they'll probably go straight to the car park.

I could get electrocuted out here

Ha ha *(laughing)* Yeah, we can only hope

Brad Campbell, in his first game, Burke, it's always pretty wise, kick it to the skipper. (??) Back over his head to Winmar

I tell you doesn't this make it hard, now, when uh, you're this far down and it starts, it starts pouring like this. Oh, get me off of this field, please.

Alan Jeans used to always call this situation in a match if you were this far behind, and it was wet and you knew you couldn't win, the syndrome of losers limp, he used to come in any little hurt or ache used to be magnified and you'd limp until you got taken from the ground so you weren't out there for the final siren.

*(laughing)*

All you want to do is get into those nice warm showers, don't you? In the clubrooms,

And you'd want to get there early too, look at boys, *(vision of the dripping special comments guys)*  
*(laughing)*

Don't you guys develop losers limp and start sneezing or anything. I wanna see you out there for the full game.

Thanks coach

*(laughing)*

What does a coach do when there's 18 fellows with losers limp?

*(laughing)* you're in trouble *(laughing)*

Well I reckon the uh remaining 14 or so minutes of this game might be a bit like water polo after that solid shower.

Yeah it's eased off now, it's just a downpour *(laughing)*

Of course it has, getting blown away here

He's been very good Matthew Young

Yes,

Given not enough chances at Hawthorn, grabbed the chance at St Kilda with both hands. That's soccered through for a minor score by Stewie,

I thought young Hopgood then was held, when he uh had the ball, but the umpire's a lot closer than me.

Now this is really hard if this is a set play because everything just goes out the window. You've just got to try and get the ball long and moving forward. See this is going, oh short, you can't

No mark to Matthew Febey, Sziller in there, Woewodin always sounds like a commentator's stutter, Woewodin,

*(laughs)* yeah

Well done by the young fellow uh Woewodin there, he just hung onto the ball, it's so easy once you go to ground in a pressure situation being 20 yards out from your opponent goal. Just to get it out

Free right in front.

I missed that one, what was that for?

Well that was going to be a boundary throw in 40 meters away and now it's a St Kilda free, right in front

Sorry I couldn't see it because of the rain

*(laughing)*

Ah, but yeah, to get a free is a big effort, so it must have been some little altercation off the ball,

Apparently Marcus Seecamp had a fair bit of Martin Everitt off the ball, he's kicked 3, he's kicked another one. Well the Spider here was in trouble with the law during the week, he's laying it down today

I like that, yeah

He's so important for them isn't he really? When he gets going he creates that other goal kicker that perhaps the focus can go away from Stewie a bit and uh like we said earlier he's effectively seen (??) 13 kicks he's had he's very very good he's been uh the last 3, 4 weeks been a difference.

For a six foot seven player uh 14 kicks in this type of uh rainy weather, it's just a superb performance.

Well Loewe and Everitt came into the game as equal leading goal kickers for the Saints for the season with 10 each, Loewe's kicked 5 Everitt four which is a great effort by big blokes, in these conditions as you say. Burke. Never stops.

Well at the end of the game you look up Burke's statistics, and he never ceases to surprise that he's had it that often.

Well the Saints are 83 points ahead Mark Harvey that is a wonderful margin. I think it was the 83 grand final margin between the two.

I don't remember back that far Dermie

I think it's about to increase here as well

I'm just having a look at all the Melbourne, the Melbourne forward line players here, just standing here, with their hands on their hips. If body language says anything, they just look despondent at the moment. They're nonplussed.

Now if they're going to kick this out

Burke's coming off. Stan Alves has decided to play a handicapped game. *(laughing)*

Woewodin's gotta kick this long though, just don't let it go short, there's too much margin for error... oohh

I mean they're just persisting going short in wet weather footy, it's just not on. Really.

Yeah, I'm just glad they're bringing it out to the member's side where we are calling out commentary from because the rain's so heavy *(laughing)* I can't see them on the other side of the ground.



Yeah, Harvs, speaking of persisting, it is persisting down at the moment.

On the 50, Robert Harvey,

Gee, its heavy now.

Shut up Ned, just cop it and do your job.

Sierakowski, first game back after suspension, he's been reported again. Barry Hall. The St Kilda players getting free all the way down this broadcast wing. Young into Sziller, 55 meters out, high for Stewie Loewe, Matthew Febey,

It's interesting now, when you're, it's just gone out of bounds, when you're trying to take the overhead marks like Stewie was, you notice his hands, you called it earlier, you start to get them closer together and flatter, so all you do is pat it up in the air, and that way you get a second grab at it, because

Yeah

If you had your hands like you'd normally mark when it's a bit dry it would just go straight through and hit you on the noggin.

Yeah, Gary Sidebottom used to mark like that. Just flat handed, even in the dry, that was just his marking technique former St Kilda, Geelong and Fitzroy player. Flat hand the first grab and try and catch the soft cushioned second grab

Uh Smith, just inside 50. Hall outside 50.

He's moved alright Barry Hall. Today I think he's getting fitter as the season goes on.

Well he hasn't been able to train, he's had this ankle injury he's been coming on the way down and hasn't been training. It's very congested here now.

That is

You, you talk about conditions, these are the conditions when you dislocate the fingers (*vision of teenage girls under a broolly*) and all that sort of thing, isn't it?

And sometimes you run around for five minutes before you realise you've done one (*laughs*)

Yeah, they're that cold on the old Onka Paringa's Harvs. (*laughs*)

Onka Paringas?

(*laughing*) the fingers

Jimmy Stynes won a good kick there, against Everitt, Jamie Shanahan, he's been good all day.

Yep

Yes

Up near centre wing, on the bounce to Brown, good handpass! Steven Sziller! 40 meters out has missed it

Maybe Neil Balme should think about putting all his players in the back line now just to stop the embarrassment.

hahaha, little bit late for that, don't you reckon Harvs?

I reckon that's gone out the window

Well, any more embarrassment, put it that way

*(laughing)*

It's 120 to 35. 22 minute mark. Actually 3 more goals and they could win by a ton.

Yeah. Pyman

He had a go after half time, Robbie Pyman but uh with the weight of numbers, St Kilda, you see there, every Melbourne disposal going forward now is met with one or two Melbourne uh St Kilda tacklers. So they're under extreme pressure. Just finding numbers to the ball, St Kilda,

Powell, lost control of it. Scramble, and the ball out of play Brad Campbell making his debut today, 21 year old from Port Melbourne,

Well you'd just be thinking now Harvs, if you were Jimmy Stynes, you've just got to kick one goal to finish off.

Yeah, let's hope they can convert this into a goal while they've got it down here

*(Vision of two little boys grinning under umbrellas)*

Well they had a goalless first quarter, and at the moment they've got a goalless last quarter.

We were talking earlier guys, while we're going to these pack situations that uh the difference it could have been for the Melbourne, Melbourne club if they'd won, had a bit of luck in a couple of those close ones, there's a couple of umpiring decisions that didn't go their way, the confidence in the the way the ball moves, all of a sudden changes and uh I think this might be the end of uh sort of the three or four weeks where they've been a bit unlucky and they've sort of eventually its caught up with them and now they're sort of saying well gee whiz, now we've got under the pump early we're struggling

*(Vision of two 50-60 year old women under an umbrella)*

Yeah, yeah, there's no doubt you can fall into that uh that logic or that uh illogical state of mind whereas if they had won a couple more, say if they were on two or three wins, they'd uh put this one down to back luck and they could come out next week and blitz somebody, but they're in trouble for falling over for 7 or 8 weeks in a row, with just a demoralising loss here, unless and I just can't see them doing it at the 24 and a half minute mark but unless they come away and at least put one more goal on in uh in a good fashion

It's interesting, you see, in the last few years, they've actually had very slow starts.

Yeah actually you're dead right there, they have finished pretty well during the season

But the other side of that, how do they regroup now, how do they get back on track after this?

Very hard to regroup when uh your good players aren't out on the out on the paddock, isn't it Harvs,

Well yeah I mean obviously Lyons and Schwartz and even Prymke, I mean I think they miss a player like that today

Good player

All that type of thing, you know, he could have played on a Loewe,

He's a good player Paul Prymke

Very underrated

Nicky Winmar's kick toward the centre Stewie Loewe charges at it or Peckett he doesn't want to run the ball to the forward line any more. It's not good for the team plan.

Hopgood back to Febey. Gaspar. Steven Febey out towards the wing, they've kicked just 2 behinds in this quarter and the Saints have added 3 goals 4

Three on one situation there and they still go to Neitzie.

Yeah, mark dropped by Wakelin, pretty much out of touch, but it's a tough old day

The Febey boys have been a little bit quiet today

Yeah, they've had a go in the last quarter here, obviously being experienced footballers they've realised the importance of this last quarter for the Melbourne footy club but yeah they haven't had a great deal of it

They're die hards. St Kilda fans huddled under an umbrella and watching to the end.

As they take it over the line again. you've just gotta imagine, Neil Balme, would he be sitting in there at the moment, Harvs, and thinking come on guys I want to see another goal or would he be already mapping out what he's going to say to the guys after the game

He would be fuming and he would be mapping out and I would say he'd lock the doors for half an hour to an hour and really tell 'em a few home truths and really give it to his players I would imagine.

Young. Good kick to centre half forward. Loewe. Didn't go for the mark, waited for it to come off hands back to Healy. Everitt again. He just kept moving backwards and forwards, side to side behind Seecamp there Ned and uh he just had no idea. He just had to watch the big fellow there, watch over the shoulder and had no idea where the ball was coming from, just classic forward play there.

And it's a very hard decision

It's the siren

So Everitt for his fifth goal

He's missed it

Oooh

I told you he missed it

Yeah it hit the post.

But yeah, I mean, he's in front again, a slippery ball. It's very hard this time, the end of the game.

So Everitt kicked 4 goals 3 Stewie Loewe kicked 5 goals 4 and uh well Jim Stynes was almost dead half way through, or earlier in the last quarter but he fought on to the end, never gives up for the Demons, but they have been flogged here today.

121 to 35.

Yeah 86 point win to the St Kilda footy club over Melbourne

We see the St Kilda die hards here, and you are a diehard if you were one of the 21 104 people who made their way out to Waverley today it really did start pouring down here late in the game. But look where Melbourne go from here we don't know.

## 1997.7 Sydney v Carlton

4 May SCG (37 933) 142-83

Bruce McAvaney, Gerard Healy, Sandy Roberts, Robert DiPierdomenico

Will Sydney march on their merry way?

Carey doing the ruck work, it passes crook, it's taken by Lewis, who's been very good today, still in the middle. A hurried kick is by Adam Wright, down towards Koutoufides, Roos effects the spoil. May have given away the free kick in the process.

Free kick in the middle of the ground, paid by Mark Nash

Back to Dale Lewis

By the looks of things. Smack in the centre, so the left footer goes in towards half forward, bit of pushing and shoving here, no mark taken by Kinnear, although he tried hard, Stafford gets a deft little chip, Kinnear again gets a handpass away, still going is the youngster, and eventually gets it towards King, he threads through the eye of a needle to Orchard who bounces it towards roll.

Um and puts through one behind. So the one way traffic it appears, continues, and Earl Spalding, certainly not enjoying his 100 th game for Carlton. The Duke, played 209 all up, currently sitting it out on the bench. Christou,

When this happens, the sting is taken out, particularly the final quarter. Roos, a good spoil, Dunkley doing the roving work almost, gets it down towards Nicks he's ridden into the ground, could almost have been pinned. Koutoufides, Clape short, in towards half forward, Williams will mark. He kicked the first goal, for Carlton (*booing*) and goals themselves have been few and far between against his old club, his old fellas giving him the rounds of the kitchen.

Now uh that's interesting. You wouldn't normally allow the trainer to come out and do that, (*he gave Williams a towel to mop his face*) unless you were in the immediate vicinity.

Williams kicking from just inside 40. Angle shouldn't hurt him. By the wonderful cheers you can guess what's happened, (*illegible*)

He's had over 20 possessions Greg Williams, kicked 2 probably his last uh game at the Sydney Cricket Ground. He made it his own along with the uh bloke sitting alongside us today, in his hey days, in uh the late 80s. Kick towards centre wing, Carlton have got numbers here, Clape to McKay, to Sexton. To take Koutoufides he just doesn't have enough and he's one of the uh the problems for the Blues this year, so much expected of Kouta, such a match winner. Good take by Murphy. He's probably been, if you can find something out of Carlton in the second half, he's been the one that's given a bit of spark up forward, he's a good kick Murphy, you'd give him a great chance from here to goal.

**BM** so Glen Manton injured, by the look of it. Carlton will be down to bare bones, Spalding forced to come back on the ground. Murphy 45 meters out across the face so it's not happening at all it's a behind. They crawl up to 6 goals 10 to 18 15. Dyson short to Nicks, Nicks short to Lewis. He set the match up early Lewis along with Kelly Cresswell in that opening term. Speaking of Cresswell he kicked the first couple of goals in the match. Allan missed it. Cook. Forward, oh good take Seymour, takes the mark, then goes very short to Stanton with a hard ball, Seymour goes again and then pushes the ball forward of pocket and it's a boundary throw in. Good player Brad Seymour, grew with Heuskes last year, didn't he, as a defender? We've seen Heuskes and his array at Port Adelaide, in the first few weeks of this season. It's been a superb performance by Sydney today, they are right back on track where they left off in 1996.

Stafford contesting with a little bit of a shove, Brown, been quiet. Heads to the wide open spaces, the outer side, the shadow of the light stand. And that ball just sits there. It'll be Orchard, Orchard will take it and give it back again they can run it down towards the 50, inside 50 hermoine (?!) relieves Stafford and takes the mark unopposed. He comes towards half back, Spalding was his target, fisted away by Carey, waiting down was Sexton, Williams still running those legs pumping away, they'll be tired now, as Seymour intercepts and pushes it over the line.

Talk about the walking wounded of Carlton, the latest casualty there is Manton, we'll get a report from Dipper shortly, but in the meantime the thrown in on centre wing, Carey a little too far underneath it, taken by owld, in towards Kernahan, took his eye off the ball for a moment, so the younger forward, in Lance Whitnall, comes in over the top to take it.

Coming back after a bag of 7 in the reserves.

Whitnall kicking from just outside 40, almost directly in front. He starts that right too,

Now Dipper, you've been down there with the Carlton boys. Manton?

**RD** Yep, Sandy, looks like he's got a twisted ankle. The doctors are sure of that. He's in a bit of pain they're just going to ice it up now. Not good news for Carlton.

Kevin Dyson will bring it back in. Keep running, no one coming at him. The nearest one is Williams and he's 25 meters away but eventually Christou does but by the time he gets there it's going to Carey on centre wing and belted over the line.

Throw in on the outer side. Sydney fans delirious. Full house. They have been somewhat starved of football in the opening half of the season here at the SCG so they're certainly making the most of this game this afternoon. They do have a number of home games in the ladder. McKay's handpass just slightly astray. The tackle was solid and the ball goes to ground and we'll have a bounce.

Even the crowd now is somewhat hushed now. King's handpass smothered, the youngster goes again, soccered by Cook but straight to Brown, who tumbles a punt up towards the half forward line, wanted Koutoufides but was well spoiled, pushed out was Clape but fairly. Roos now (??) in business, just shuffles along towards Shannon Brown who under pressure, kicks out of bounds on the full.

So it will be Christou who'll bring it back into play.

**BM** between half back and centre wing, neat kick, good distance. Kernahan and Koutoufides will be the fliers for the Blues, Kernahan with an opportunity from 50, good kick off the boot, bit of a classic, if he's got it. He has. 2 second half goals from Steven Kernahan from a sedate opening for the final term. Both teams. 18 15 to 7 11. So a good individual effort by the captain, the 33 year old who hasn't played much footy this year. They've just got to find something to take home, don't they, from the wreck. 7 11 to 18 15 in the final term here 70 points the difference. Carey doing the ruck work because Stafford's playing at full forward with Lockett off the ground. Stafford did go forward, late in the next tour against Hawthorn next week. Dunkley tries a toe poke, Williams, good hands, Brown out wide, wanting Whitnall. Seymour, well done. To Roos. To Grant. He's had a fairly quiet day, he's been on the interchange for a lot of it, Kelly was magnificent in the opening half when things were pretty hot. Cook. Back to Grant, Grant sizes up an option or two, floating kick not good so he'll be disappointed with that, kicked one out of bounds a moment or two ago. Kicks one into the centre, oh Rockman's a good spoiler, Clape, Clape kept his head, and kicks the ball forward.

Towards Kernahan, it bounces off his chest. Dunkley's the first to recover. Not a pretty kick but it also bounces off the chest of Koutoufides. Nicks handpass over the top goes to Clape, who's ripped away from the ball. Beautifully controlled by King. Off to Cook. Sydney threatening here to go forward

again. The youngster gives it to the old, weary legs of Paul Roos but they're still pumping they're still going, King back to Roos. Has a look down towards the forward line, puts them inside 50, effortless mark taken by Darren pleasant, no opposition. Steers it in towards O'Brien. Oh, how's that for fancy work from Craig O'Brien, finishes it off with a goal! O'Brien has 5. And Sydney record their 19th 19 15 plays 7 11.

and this is just a little bit of a side show here from Craig O'Brien, just a bit of a spin around on a thruppeny bit and made up for the mark that he should have taken. He got the result. 5 goals is a pretty good day in anybody's language.

**BM** he does kick 5 or nothing a lot doesn't he,

Yes, he did it at St Kilda

**BM** 15 goals for O'Brien for the year and a couple of 5s in that lot. So he's a bit all or nothing, and today he's been everything after half time. The good thing is though when Lockett hasn't supplied, he has, so often. Carey doing the ruck work with uh Allan, Sydney maintaining their huge lead here. Carey goes early, bouncing ball, Sexton pushes the ball forward, to half forward, Dunkley hard at it against Koutoufides, and Dunkley running it over, and Kouta second there, as he's been a bit today, coming off Orchard, he's been good Maxwell coming on. There's Manton with that ankle problem.

Orchard 9 kicks 4 handballs, so he's done well, he's run the ball a lot. Proutt running it towards the line

**BM** boundary throw in 19 15 to 7 goals 11 here at the Sydney Cricket Ground. Allan looks for Williams, got cut off by Dunkley, now this will be interesting, looking for O'Loughlin or anybody.

*(laughing)*

Oh he's skilful O'Loughlin, Hanna with him, O'Loughlin still with a chance, Blues have the weight of numbers at the end of that, and it's going to be a bounce. Sun still streaming down on this ground.

John just with that fire of John O'Loughlin's skill, he was playing the ball to himself there and just pushing the ball in front of him, do you consider that to be in possession?

No.

Cook taken by Bristol. It'll be a free kick. It'll come back. He's coming off though Sandy, Orchard back on.

John Russell (*4th umpire*) normally only lying on or over the ball Gerard, paddling in front of himself wouldn't be deemed to be in possession

Troy Cook on the left half forward and a tired Ange Christou, on the mark. Stafford offers a lead it's a little too far but look who's in the back - a diving mark by Captain Kelly. Sensational play.

He's got so much acceleration, he came out of the sun, he just blitzed them.

7 games away from a major milestone in his career, that being 150 games. He'll bring the house down if he can kick this,

You shouldn't give him a rap, it's not good.

In towards full forward, Roos is there, Stafford, does the roving, onto the left foot, his snap kick was partly smothered, McKay comes away with a handpass to White, he travels it further forward, he's

spoiled him he's caught and ripped. Out of it, Stewie Maxwell's a left footer, it goes back into towards full forward once again. Sexton is there in the last line of defence. Pops it over the top to Fraser Brown, he's got a bit of time.

**BM** and then kicks to Kernahan at half back, Kernahan's got Christou, and that's where he's going Dunkley can have a go here with Christou, oh well played Dunkley, juggled beautifully, handballed O'Brien, O'Brien's got Roos in the pocket. Now Roos could run on here. He'd kicked it in, he's 50 out handball terrific of King, Kings been outstanding today it's his 13th handball, back towards does he kick his third goal? Just misses, a behind. Just thinking a moment ago Gerard, with Herd injured and Carey not playing for a fair while, Kelly's just about the number one man in the game, isn't he, at the moment.

**GH** Yeah a few players have suggested that over the last couple of weeks that he is the most influential member, individual member of a side. It's a great handle to have the best player in the competition and he sits, it sits very comfortably with him.

With a few arguments, the advantage is going to be paid here to Hanna. Over the back he goes to the lead of Murphy. Whitnall's screaming for it and Murphy goes back. He came into this game with five goals next to his name for the season, 5 4. And looking for his first goal of the day. Carlton are looking for their 8th. Kicking from 45 meters. A drop punt, and again, hitting the woodwork. Second time this quarter.

The fans starting to stream out of the SCG. They have seen a wonderful performance by the home side, Dyson, back into play and a good mark taken by Ward. Carey came in but uh Ward stood his ground and bounces his way in towards the middle. Floats one towards Cresswell got to take on Hanna, Lewis is there with him and Hanna beats them both, does well, Clape does the shepherding. Goes down toward Whitnall, he's gotta beat Seymour, can't do that, and he just heads for the boundary line.

Seymour and Dunkley forming the nucleus and of course Roos, a phenomenal defence. 130 plays 54. Seymour again but its wart over the back who slaps it with a right only to be taken by Brown who finds McKay on the outer side.

Centre wing, centring ball to Whitnall, good kick. Whitnall about 60 out. And then delivers to full forward, Murphy the target, got him. He's kicked 4 behinds, Murphy this is his best chance,

Seymour coming off too for the Swans,

**BM** he's been the best, Murphy, straight in front, a lot of possession after half time. Orchard coming on for Seymour. As Murphy kicks from 40 meters out directly in front, and he's hit the post again. Well you wouldn't read about that. 5 behinds to Justin Murphy. 7 13 kicked 1 5 in the last quarter, Carlton. Dyson, who's kicked in magnificently today. (??) By Carey, not paid, gee he had a lot of it, doesn't matter in the end, Nicks has been handy, he's been a good link Nicks, he's trying to draw Clape, Clape won't be in it. And Nicks delivers to Stafford over the top, a bouncing ball, will Lewis get onto it off the ground,

He looks pretty tired, Dale, actually,

**BM** you think he's had enough

He's every right to be tired

**BM** he's had a big day, Lewis



The official attendance will be interesting because whilst a few people now just starting to trickle out there aren't too many there hasn't been too many spare seats in the house.

No, a full house, throw in in the left forward pocket,

**BM** they got 6000 next door for the rugby league match yesterday.

Maxfield, under pressure.

Not many spare seats here Bruce,

Well they had a couple of early hiccups, Sydney, but they're right back on track now.

It's a long season though, there's a long, long way to go, as Silvagni soccers off the ground towards rattan, he's got Bradley there and uses him. Bradley can bounce his way down towards the middle he's had a couple, the 251 game veteran. Looks down towards Murphy again and he marks in front of the eyes 50 meters out. Williams and Dyson together down in the forward line. He goes with a long kick, that's a lovely kick by Murphy, an excellent goal. Justin Murphy finally breaks through for his first goal of the afternoon, and Carlton's 8th. They trail Sydney 19 16 Carlton 8 13.

Well he keeps on keeping on Craig Bradley, what a career he's had. This hasn't been one of the more memorable games that he's participated in, but he uh he has continued to play, and his picked up his share of possessions with 25. It just hasn't gone right for anyone at Carlton today.

**BM** 130 to 61 so Murphy finally getting a goal. He certainly had a lot of chances, a free kick out of the centre, going to the Blues is it, for an infringement?

A square infringement,

**BM** so Allan gets it, the free kick goes to full forward, will Murphy get into the action again, oh great flying over the top of Roos and Hay.

Having a great quarter, isn't he?

Just got to thread it between the two big sticks.

Wants some kicking practice.

**BM** Now did Roos just, did Roos just touch that I wonder, he seemed to have a little bit of it didn't he?

Murphy ripped it away. It was a good grab. I'd have to pay that as a mark.

**BM** He's just hungrier than anybody else out there at the moment, wants the footy. Kicks it from 50. He's close. He's missed. One six to Murphy 8 14 to 19 16.

7 more minutes remaining. Dyson. Grant breaks to the outer side, a tired Craig Bradley gives chase, he won't give up Craig Bradley, off he goes to Orchard he's got a real burst about him. Whoops, bang into (??) Maxwell, Bradley also loses the ball and soccers off the ground wide towards centre wing, misses Brown, under pressure and under threat of losing it, he does Roos takes it pops the handball over the top, t they've got the numbers everywhere. Orchard, he gives it away to Cresswell who stops to an absolute standstill before pinpointing King. Up towards right half forward. Spalding and Nicks both there, Nicks (??) on that occasion, gets the handpass away Sydney go charging in towards Lewis, a little too far for him Stafford tries to flick it back, almost successful, here's O'Brien, oh he's

dangerous right in front of goal. Hammill right on his hammer, still going is Aaron Hammill, close to the line, keeps it in play, to Hanna, pops one up high and the mark taken by Craig Bradley.

he's in the back pocket, will come across the ground, and it's gonna be okay, he finds Silvagni, one of the Blues' veterans, a 215 gamer now. And the team of the century full back. Finds Whitnall, marksman his kick is short to Adam Wright he's kicked a couple of goals, in fact Carlton's only goals in the second quarter. Steve Kernahan, he should goal this, he sneaks away from Andrew Dunkley and pops one through.

So Sticks gets his third for the half, one in the third term and now two in this final quarter. Still Carlton trying to close that 10 goal barrier.

Yes, and it seems that Stephen Kernahan has been playing football for about 35 years, he's been such a huge player in the game for many many seasons. And he's finished up with 3 goals, a great performance in a struggling team.

**BM** 19 to 9. The official attendance has just gone up on the board. 40,623. What a remarkable turnout. Fantastic crowd, and they've seen their team at their best today. It's a bit hard for them at the moment, the intensity obviously gone down a bit, Carlton getting some great goals, but Sydney's first 3 quarters were brilliant. Now Rockman sits and waits for it, taken by Hanna, short to Clape, Clape in broad. And Hammill's kick wide, Allan, Roos still fighting for it, then Grant, and a mark by King. Wouldn't be too many sides have had 40 thousand here, to an AFL match that must be very close to the record. Carey inside could take that time by Grant. Delivers to half forward, O'Brien on hands and knees, Sexton with good effort, free kick given to Sexton, advantage given to White.

And White's away, chipping into the middle Kernahan is there. Murphy's alone on half forward, he's only got to get it to him and he'll have a shot. 45 out for his 2nd goal. He's kicked one goal 6 out of Carltons 9 14. Murphy from 45 starts this way more left and is successful. 2 6 to Murphy.

The official record attendance here was against the Cats, 44000. Still 40 today, a fantastic effort.

Kernahan once again into play gets the ball down again to Justin Murphy who got one through.

*(Sleeping weeks old baby wrapped and snuggled with red and White)*

**SR** That's something Bruce that you may be able to relate to in the next few weeks, and let's hope whoever she is is as quiet

**BM** yes, I'm very clucky at the moment Sandy

**SR** I've noticed

**BM** 19 16 to 10 14. Bradley out of the centre, so Carlton making something of the final term. In the pocket, Williams will bring it back to advantage, to Murphy, who's having a huge last quarter, and uh, it's a behind. So what has he kicked, 2 goals 7, I think. 2 7. Just repeating what Sandy said we had 44000 here last year for Geelong, 44000 a record crowd, and over 40 today. 19 16 to 10 15. Roos to bring it in. Shannon Grant running hard, and Clape boots it over the line.

I think from memory there was a huge expectation and build up for the Geelong game last year and the Swans made a mess of them also.

**BM** they had a big win here. Carey, Allan, Grant can't get it away, taken by Koutoufides, Koutoufides is good kick, there's another one, first goal for Anthony Koutoufides for today and when you look at that score line you might think that Carlton have been in it for a while, but they haven't.

No well there were signs from the ten minute mark in the first quarter that there was only going to be one side in this contest and just couldn't accept the fact that Carlton were going to offer little resistance and we watched the first half almost in disbelief. But the Swans machine just kept getting better and better and better and finally they let up about fifteen minutes ago and Carlton have got some respectability onto the scoreboard. Lockett, of course, on the bench, having a spell. Hammill slaps it forward, but straight to Lewis who pinpointed out Max Hurley and away goes Stewie a tired Fraser Brown chases, Max Hurley runs into the pocket. He wanted O'Loughlin, got a touch to it maybe but too late, umpire says no, out of bounds on the full, so Hanna will bring it back. And back into the Carlton line up Mil Hanna kicks to half back line ooh Cook was the flier couldn't take the mark, White there, Nicks, Christou. King. McKay.

Hasn't Dale Lewis blossomed as a player? A couple of seasons ago there was some suggestion he was going to go down to the then Footscray, and uh his future really was on the line, he's such a talented player they got to pull the frustrated with his lack of consistency, during the Barassi era, in the last 12 14 months, he's just been a fantastic player.

Kick from Kelly goes across the ground. O'Brien and Silvagni, Silvagni leaves his man and charges towards the ball. O'Brien's right there with him, well done by SOS gives it away to Craig Bradley who's got a bit of time now in the middle. A couple of bounces, he heads down towards half forward Koutoufides, Kernahan, they're both there, the latter takes it pops it over towards Whitnall, from a standing start he gets going, snaps in towards goal and misses to the left.

11 16 plays 19 16 8 goals the margin. At one stage it was something like 12

**BM** Big kick by Dyson his first for the match, Koutoufides you feel the Swans have just lost concentration completely here, good kick Kernahan. Just missing, a behind. They've reduced the margin by 31 points in the last quarter, so they're saving a little bit of their percentage today, 11 17 to 19 16 but unfortunately for them, they're still going to be very much down the bottom of the table with just two wins in the first 6. Dunkley big fly. Good kick, wanting touch, Christou, King, McCabe to put the pressure on King and he does. With a hip and shoulder and it's going to be a boundary throw in. Got to go down to Kardinia Park next week Sydney that will be a cracking match for Geelong haven't won its last 3. Lewis front spot, Cook, he'll be pretty fresh and pretty hungry too I can imagine for as many kicks as he can get. Late in the match Kelly attacks, magnificent opening by Kelly, to Nicks, to Maxfield now this will be the cream.

*(laughing)* it is, it is

**BM** they just wanted one more didn't they? Beautiful play. Kelly, Nick give Maxfield first. As Cook gets the ball long, Kelly's take an give was superb as was Nicks. Who went straight into shepherding mode and that's important. And a good finish by Stuart Maxfield.

That prompts the Sydney chant they know the siren is not too far away.

Stafford back for a run, Ratten couldn't take it, Kelly gets it out beautifully, to Lewis. Here they go again down towards Stewie Maxfield, they've only got a set delightfully to King and he gets amongst the goal kickers. Finishing on a high. And King in his 7th game gets his first goal.

Back with that old ten goal game Sandy.

That's been the margin for most of the afternoon, after uh the first goal the first quarter blast by the Swans, they just have not relented.

It's fitting that they have finished in a bit of style. It would have been a bit flat if they hadn't kicked at least one goal late.

Kingsman excellent. First game back last week. Looked a bit out of sorts in the slippery Waverley Park but today oh, the goods. 21 to 11

You uh you suspect that the Swans are really suited by a fast track they've got so much speed through the middle of the ground now.

Yeah, no doubt, Sydney are, Stafford and Kelly are the edge in that department in the centre square. White's kick Kouta after back to Roos, excellent game again by roo veteran, oh Kelly, finishing in style, started brilliantly, goes to full forward, a late chance. Nicks of that happened in the third quarter, but it happened in the first too, but uh (*other guy says something I cannot understand, 3 words only*)

There'll be a big celebration in the old town tonight. Brilliant performance by the Swans. Absolutely outstanding. It's a fantastic win, 132 to 83

## 1997.8 Port Adelaide v Richmond

4 May Football Park (36 090) 122-58 HSV7

Dennis Cometti, Terry Wheeler, Ross Glendinning.

**DC** Richmond down by 59 points starting the final term. Port Power the assistance of the breeze right here, knocked on by Wild out towards half forward, Bowden gets back boots it out very wide towards the wing and Gaspar, that's a good grab in the circumstances Darren Gaspar, running for him is Bond, haven't seen a lot of Bond goes in the Merenda direction who started well, he's got the ball about 60 meters out across to Campbell, Campbell, pressed for room pulls it back with a good kick towards the middle in from the side Kellaway, spills to Broderick, Broderick goes for goal and I think he's got it.

It's a clever goal to Broderick who uh even though he's spent time on the bench, has now had uh 19 possessions, and as Dennis said that was a good mark by Darren Gaspar he's been a very very good player this year so far for the Tigers, particularly in defence where he's been under pressure, a fair bit of the time. Campbell just being able to centre that ball sufficiently enough to see that ball spill, a referred goal to Robert Broderick

So Richmond have responded to Robert Walls after each of the breaks kicking the first goal the second, third and now this last quarter but they need to be able to go on with it.

Gaspar fumbles it Brown doesn't his handball intercepted by Holland a little kick, only as far as Campbell, he in turn across to shoulder, Merenda, Bond, Wanganeen back to Bond, Michael Wilson has Gale for company just turns him around, settles on the left foot, Dickie, away you go mate, got space, a kick towards Cummings, Tigers jump upon it, spills back out free, Nash laid on Cummings, ball ups the call

Unfortunately for a full forward when you lead like that and the ball comes to you in that fashion, they've gotta be bread and butter marks, you've just gotta steel yourself, and make sure your hands are in the right situation, just your mindset's gotta be perfect, a lot of work goes in getting the ball down to you to let it go through your hands like that

Scott Cummings came into the game averaging 7 marks, just taken one so far today. Bowden sweeps out wide but Wilson intercepts from 50 drops it back in to centre half forward. Tape been steady in defence Jamie Tape, to Holland out wide towards Chaffey, held up by James little prop kick over the top Bulluss, another one will follow, does ooh, ever so close to the line, boundary umpire lets Duncan Kellaway have that one. In towards the 50 meter mark. Charging out is Richardson, Merenda does the roving. Too slow, wrapped up by Hudsman. Steven Paxman doing very well. Who would forget his great save in the final seconds last week match? Again he's at it Bulluss in the centre of the ground, Bond, the Richmond Bond pushes out towards Michael Gale from some 70 meters out towards Richardson, floats over the top Donald Dickie feeds a handball back, Carter on the ground again from the bench little short kick finds Dickie once again.

**DC** Dickie, up and under, close to the boundary line, Wanganeen, to Bond, great pace around the outer wind kicks through the wing, backing back is Tape with great courage. The mark is paid to Poole, Tape is down hurt, Brown comes away a little chip towards the 50, Lockwood runs onto the ball 40 meters out closing, kicks and kicks truly

Well he is one of those group of half a dozen young players just such an exciting prospect again their ability, this is Port, to get the ball out of their defensive areas, we see the mark being paid to Poole run the ball down the outside and make Richmond pay for keeping possession inside their 50. It's a clever goal.

For the former Geelonger under 18 player coached by Brian Cordy, picks up his second goal one in the first, one in the last Port Power back to 59 point leaders Bond whose controlled half back with this bloke, Gavin Wanganeen, Wilson, Cummings. Just great quality use of the ball.

Exactly right there's applause also for Brendan Wright who comes off for a breather, and Matthew Primus is on for his first run. And that's the sort of mark you must take as I was referring to before that Cummings let go through his hands, an earlier effort.

So 3 goals to Scott Cummings. 2 in the first and 1 in the second. Leading goal scorer for the Port Power side, has a bag of 8 to his credit at AFL level with Essendon. From some 48 meters its long, it's strong, its home. 4 goals to Scott Cummings, Port's 17th, 18th

And that breeze perhaps in his favour, it looked as if off the boot it was going to be a bit too much left the breeze pushed it back, and again, Michael Wilson for his 22nd kick, the player who delivered the ball down there, came in front of the goal first and just bent back beautifully. Well read. (*laughing*)

**DC** (*laughing*) 21 goals in the season now for Scott Cummings how was his inswing and a right hander. Kellaway knocks it down out of the middle its kicked down towards half forward by Willis, loose ball behind, running onto it once more Bond, he's been wonderful. Across it comes to Wilson, a short one is on to Wanganeen, Bond five possessions, Wilson 25 Wanganeen coming up for his 21st. Long down to half forward, Poole again attempted to mark he'll be penalised though. Making no concessions, they're not happy, what do they want? Bowden short. Broderick he's away, Gale right across the ground, finds him, alongside the centre circle, Daffy the lead, well, they've gone directly across the ground, and this really, given the breeze, is the negative side of the ground, you can see the breeze grab the ball as he kicks it back towards centre half forward it still might come off though, Naish, Merenda, (*laughs*) well I suppose Naish was under pressure but certainly Merenda was marginally better off and soon it became far worse. It was about 2 meters away and back to goal

Yes and that's been the difference today Dennis, has been Port's strength and in that situation have been able to extricate themselves out of a tight area and get the ball away and Richmond haven't been able to.

So from true centre half forward position, the bounce, Richmond with the opportunity, Naish, looking for Richardson, won't get back there. Steven Carter dropping back into the hole. Out wide, Wanganeen, Primus running alongside Wanganeen to the wing, Lockwood sits for him, wrapped up there by the Tiger defence, Tape working him. Bond, but it ends up back up with Lockwood slams it onto the boot into half forward but Jason Torney in defence. Naish, to Broderick, handballs on to Kellaway giving the run, left foot again towards Richardson and still can't reach him Port Power prepared to drop back into that hole that Richardson leads too. Daffy, two players have him, he's going nowhere.

Been fortunate today that the rain that was intended hasn't arrived but it's still dark and the lights are on. The ground level play of Port Adelaide has really been the difference between the two sides. Ball just spins out from Dickey. Kick up the ground, Bond, to Michael Gale he settles from 40 meters out kicks and misses it. 7 goals 8 50 to Richmond, a long way behind Port Adelaide.

**DC** yeah, 64 points the margin, so this will be unless something dramatic happens, their best winning margin as I said at three quarter time their highest score adding 21 against Geelong, they're closing in on that that. Here's Wanganeen, 3 goals this afternoon, popped up everywhere Wild taken to the ground, play goes on, then Tape, out of defence, close to the boundary, Gaspar he's tried hard, towards half forward ill directed though, Heuskes right half back, Primus, quite a luxury leaving him on the bench so long but I suppose Cahill thought that they were going so well, why tinker with it, Primus to Wanganeen forward of half back. 93 Brownlow medallist played in Port's 1990 premiership team to Mead at centre half back, kicks it along the scoring side of the ground Merenda did very well in a tight situation, and that could well be 50, no nothing doing, Merenda sold himself into trouble



initially, now Ryan, Ryan kicks inside the 50 Heuskes! C (???) Got no chance. Bombs away this is his role attacking from defence Bond down towards half forward big fist on that one from Holland out wide Bulluss gathers it Bowden alongside still Bulluss feeds it wider Gale's onto it, back to Bulluss, going down towards half forward, a centring kick then trying to get on the end of it Richardson, and that's a great mark. A touch of class there but a long time in coming.

Yes as Terry mentioned it's been a pretty dull day for Matthew Richardson if opportunities were there he's under pressure players have tidied him up pretty well. Paxman and Mead have had the job on him at different stages. He has spent time on the bench of course in that third quarter,

DC official attendance today 35 559. Well lack of practise I guess. Only 7 possessions for Matthew Richardson, just the 4 marks as well. He started the day leading the league in mark at 48 including 14 in round 1 against Geelong, a far cry from that today thanks mainly to this man, Paxman had him early and closed him down. Paxman out of defence high towards half back

Primus in the front position out-bustled that time by Bulluss to Merenda, one bounce, the handball on to Campbell short finds Gaspar

Darren Gaspar in an unusual situation as well, not renowned for being a goal shooter, deserves a goal, though as mentioned, he has worked pretty hard.

Approaching 50 games of AFL football after 21 with Sydney has a career total of 2 goals. A big opportunity for him personally, settles over it and it remains at 2. The defence for Port Adelaide, Breuer, not good work there by Shane Breuer unfortunately and Torney has a run to have a shot at goal from up against the boundary line.

That was terrific by Adam Heuskes he took off about 60 metres away to pick up the mark when he realised no one was there. Given the shape of the game, that's real discipline. He sprinted.

Torney into Campbell. Campbell his 26th disposal. There's a signal out of the set play book, which one it actually is I'm not sure, it's the one where I kick to Michael. (*Laugh*) Michael in turn goes short to Paul and Paul fumbles. Kellaway comes in to try and mop up for them Heuskes the tackler

Too high Terry, unfortunately

Kellaway tosses it up towards the full forward zone. Gaspar in front, paid the mark - a look of anguish on his face, he's closer in and I don't think he likes being in closer.

A little chip kick in a good mark in the front position Mead unable to do the spoiling, and here he is settling over the ball, some 35 meters. No one gunna help me boys (*laughing*)

See the huddle here

That's disappointing, disappointing for him. But Paxman now, to Francou comes back to Brown, he's got plenty of space on this side of the ground now, couple of bounces, goes on long Wild caught from behind, Merenda trying to run onto it, met there by Carter, Brown wrapped up in the Campbell tackled.

DC eleven and a half minutes to go. Merenda gets up limping this bounce 60 meters out from the Tigers attacking goal. Well they've played in the second half like a team devoid of confidence. Primus boots it up towards the wing, Lockwood in front finessing close to the boundary, good touch calls it back to the middle, give him the benefit of the doubt, Primus has got it, Primus the short one back to Lockwood, he's about 60 meters out, there's Cummings on the strong lead, (*face check?*) down there by Turner, he still manages to slip away down in his direction hands to it but couldn't hand on, Kellaway slides in its going to be a free kick go to Torney. Told to play on, swings it out wide,

Broderick, and Bowden out there Wilson, just loves a run. The ball out of bounds. Well that sums it up. Holland and Poole, Francou in trouble, Holland again, in trouble, shovels it out Broderick's away. Lockwood's off the ground Kingsley back on meantime, that's what the applause was about Wanganeen overran it, Gaspar kept it in, Campbell, oh taking a long time was Bulluss, no prior opportunity according to the umpire. Taken by Bond. Down towards half forward. Merenda, great attempt from behind, Daffy, roving the pack about 70 meters out, on the bounce down towards Richardson, was he pushed in the back? No free, Merenda gets it going goal ward. Chaffey, Kellaway, gave it away. Heuskes trundles it towards the boundary, Wanganeen, plenty of skill on display there Campbell and Wanganeen and they tie it up for a bounce.

Adam Heuskes must have a voice just like one of the Richmond players because Duncan Kellaway just handballed straight toward him.

I think it was the goals looming that uh (*laughs*)

(*laughs*) yeah

Duncan wanting to get the ball off.

So the ball bounced inside the Richmond forward half. Primus the recipient of the free kick gives it off to Wilson casually strolls across the front of goal with the left foot kicks it out into the space there for James to run onto, slips at the critical stage, Chaffey and Gaspar have him, he keeps working there, in comes Kingsley and they tie it up. Well from a position where Port Power could have lost the ball and Richmond have gone back for it, unable to save and hold it all up.

Primus now to do the ruck work against Bulluss, holds the prime position, just fists it towards the boundary Bond and Wilson, Michael Wilson 26 disposals for the afternoon. Chris Bond just the 13, over the top comes Kellaway, thumps it but there was a free kick in front, the contest between Primus and Bulluss Primus gets it John Cahill will be very happy to see Primus out there and getting some touches in the game after sitting on three quarters on the bench. They're into attack again Port Power, spills it on out. Poole. Flicks it on, Carter tries off the ground, Breuer picks it up, caught in the tackle, caught with the opportunity Cummings kicks it in to Eagleton who was in the white (?) Kingsley, back pocket, round the corner, bounces through again. Shane Breuer goal number two for him.

Well the way the game's flowed today, if that was the situation with Richmond at the other end, rest assured Port would have brought the ball away just the numbers, the tap ons, they've thrown (??) off for a well-earned rest to be replaced by young Watford. You can be sure if this was the situation at the other end of the ground then Richmond wouldn't have got a goal today, the way they've gone, but (??) up well.

**DC** just over 5 minutes until full time. 123 their top score. Primus wins it down. Ryan falls on top of it Francou on top of him and a bounce. What a day of frustrations for Richmond. After a bad loss to North Melbourne and they snuck home against Fremantle after playing some ordinary football that day, a powerful last term by them but they haven't been able to produce a quarter like that today.

Dennis it doesn't get any easier for them with Carlton and West Coast their two next opponents at the MCG.

Well the Blues with their problems too of course, I'd say it's going to be tough for them. Kellaway I'd like to see him kick a goal in this last quarter. Gets it away and the kick comes down towards the pocket. Now it's Chaffey who kept it in Bond has got it meantime Brown is on it. So all the prime movers coming off the ground for Port, in comes Burgoyne, meantime around the outer side Port move it towards their forward line Naish has got it though across half back sends play back to the wing and Kellaway falling to the ground, to Campbell very deliberately prods it around the boundary. Bond, Merenda, set up Mead's got him dragged down, again Bond, so good, (??) caught Bond, to



Francou to Heuskes, this game has been good back there too, Heuskes not his best effort though picks out Bulluss.

Bulluss with 5 marks for the afternoon, and really just showing here he's got nowhere to go so his option is to go long towards the half forward line, he does that Port Power the first ones to take the ball Nathan Eagleton, his second game. Lade, Brown and Lyle.

A few possessions there today.

Yep. So just in Richmond's favour but now it's thumped back towards Port Power favour and Bowden and Kingsley see the ball over. Adam Kingsley interesting player 3 years at Essendon Reserves, Mark Williams the assistant coach here at Port Power had a very high opinion of him when he took him and he certainly hasn't let them down. Lockwood and Gaspar, to Kellaway across the body. Carter. Interchange player whose come on and done quite well. To Mead. Kicks in towards Burgoyne, I think went down a little bit too much there, Broderick to Daffy wheels around, in front of Richardson park, Merenda has to fly, goes up the ball comes down Mead clears away once again.

Bond again, so often the man who brings it out. Could see him teamed up I think in the future. A watchful forward may be required, for Shane Bond, he's in terrific form. This is Tape on the wing towards half forward, Kellaway, can't see mark, and tugs it back towards the middle. Merenda from behind. But Richardson did well that was a strong pack grab there and Richardson finds himself about 25 meters out directly in front

He come into this game with 222 career goals Matthew Richardson but has been unable to add to that today.

**DC** two hauls of six this season, two against Adelaide, three against the Western Bulldogs this for his first. It's tight, I think it's okay. It is.

Yes, as you mentioned Terry they now go into two weeks, or the next two weeks some very tough games. although in some respects the way Carlton performed today they're probably playing just as similarly as Richmond at the moment but conversely Port are away for their next two but then they have the following three at home, so favourable. And Port Adelaide make the trip to Melbourne to play St Kilda at Waverley, North Melbourne at Optus Oval and then back here to Football Park to for Melbourne. So the way Port Power are playing today there's another couple of wins sitting there potentially for them over the next 3 weeks. Mead, off to Heuskes long into the half forward line, Poole does the fly and the contesting. Francou at ground level runs around on the right foot drags around far enough Cummings pushing back Turner does the spoiling, through for the one behind.

Well it wasn't Richmond's day from the start, being led at quarter time and through last year and this year they have only won once after trailing at quarter time, so Robert Walls really has his problems with the start of the game for the Tigers and its only got worse for them as the day has gone on. Bowden on the left foot to Bulluss he has plenty of room, takes a bounce, cuts back inside, kicks in towards the centre half forward. Heuskes again.

8 marks 19 kicks 4 handballs to Carter the bounce misses Francou but he'll get it back from Poole, runs on, Cummings again,

Looks like bad news Terry

Yeah, Richardson. Richardson's in a fair bit of trouble, Terry I think with a wrist

Oh dear isn't it amazing, in the last 30 seconds of the game, and Richardson in all sorts of trouble. It's so often the way

Broken forearm there perhaps

You wouldn't it's a bit like Heath Black yesterday for the Dockers, in just the last few seconds

**DC** so what a day for Richmond. Off comes Matthew Richardson in pain, well received by the fans showing some compassion. Harrison back on for the final 15 seconds Poole oblivious to all that gets in front, Broderick had the ball, lost it, Francou across the body hit the base of the post or was it Eagleton, it was Eagleton. Just looking at Richardson so despondent down there in the dugout. 19 8 8 12. Clipped by a teammate on the way down (*Richo injury replay*) and there's the siren. Richmond looking quite bewildered. 19 8 to 8 10. A suppressed smile from John Cahill.

## 2002.1 St Kilda v Collingwood

3 May 2002 Docklands (46 089) 28-111 Channel 9

Dennis Cometti, Dermott Brereton, Gary Lyon, Peter Larkin

*Oh my god the picture is SOOO much better. Wonderful. Etihad Friday night, 3/4 time watching the teams stretch on the grounds surrounded by support staff. Display. Funny. The ground is so busy, photographers, police, trainers and runners and coaches and security. There are sooo many people out there. The footballers are shepherded around the ground like a flock of merinos, by well-trained handlers responding to invisible signals. Oh the Saints are working out the lactic acid at three quarter time.*

Good bounce too. ruckman fought it a draw at their feet O'Bree, digs it out, it was very quick, it comes down to Clement who kicks down to half forward there's that man again, they've had trouble all night with Anthony Rocca. And he will kick at goal, distance shouldn't be a problem, from right on the 50.

Hands have been good tonight,

Yep

Clean, one grab he's taken 7 marks

Uncontested, that's his 5th,

5th contested, that's right and the set up was great at that centre bounce. They had Leon Davis playing full forward out of the goal square with Daniel Wulf is his opponent and the other one on one inside 50 was Anthony Rocca and Ashley Hudson. AFL average of 52 but big Anthony from here is a better than an even money bet there, he's 65%

DC in he comes, going for his third, doesn't impart the correct spin, but its okay. A wry smile.

He actually shook his head then to say, oh that was an ugly kick wasn't it? Most of us dream of kicking ugly ones like that. He's kicked an ugly one 55 on the fly

*(laughs)* it's a mongrel 55er

Oh, a very, very good miss. Wouldn't you dream, just to kick like that Gaz. You could.

No well, look at that that's got more outswing than Dennis Lillee and there it is, there's the reaction from Anthony fair enough too.

So, Anthony Rocca kicks his third, uh third goal of the night three goals two to big Anth and Collingwood skip away to a 64 point lead up goes Stevie McKee gets the tap down to Shane O'Bree running into a bit of form. From behind Rocca to Buckley, Buckley kicks inside, Riewoldt versus Fraser, Fraser uses his body well, looking for Nick Davis so too is Brodie Holland, close to the boundary line. Good play Voss dives on top of it. We'll have a throw in. let's have a look at that Anthony Rocca reaction when he kicked that helicopter 55 meters, just watching it bend back. He's saying how did I do that. That did swing a long way in the air.

*(laughing)* I'll wear it

DC Boundary throw in, shinned towards the goal line I think it was Davis, Wulf has got it now looking for the boundary, Beetham over the top, gets it back, a little one two with Baker, kicks it up

towards the wing, the mark is taken by Thompson, tries to get it across to Riewoldt, in trouble, well the bodies are going in willingly but they're not moving it too far. It's Maguire

He's sore, he's sore Riewoldt, he got clobbered. He's a good kid.

Two good ones there

Yep

Cloke and Riewoldt

Look at him sucking it in, that hurt, well done. That won't go down as any stat. but you see it up here you admire them for it.

**DC** Noble, knocks it down. Beetham taken down. Another bounce. The umpire working hard. 13 12 3 8 big crowd at Colonial tonight.

Still doubled up Riewoldt (*laughing*) oh that hurts

**DC** big collection, around the footy. Hay's got his arms free Buckley spins out of trouble. Ball came out in the reverse direction though, Beetham's away kicks it down towards the attacking 50 didn't look. McKee goes back uncontested, nobody near him and McKee can stroll away. Chip it out towards right half back and the mark is taken by Prestigiacomo.

Gee that's a disappointing result. I mean you can kick it and mis-hit it or whatever but that was kicked straight to the opposition who didn't have an opponent within 30 meters of him

He clubbed it didn't he

Yeah

Prestigiacomo just strolls out of defence to Licuria he can go wide and does, to McKee. Wakelin out on the wing has run from full back, and takes the mark good strong running tonight by Shane Wakelin. He's had a good night, two screamers earlier in the game. Nix looking or Anthony Rocca too strong for Riewoldt, who's still feeling the effects. Tarkyn Lockyer squares it up beautiful football, waiting underneath the pack was Freeborn good play by Wulf but he's kicked it straight to O'Bree O'Bree mis-hit the ball completely, he was looking for Lockyer in the pocket and the mark has been taken there by Trent Noble. Noble transfers play, he's held it up in the breeze far too long, and in goes Brodie Holland. Holland lines up and kicks his first for the night and Collingwood's 14th.

Well, Grant Thomas now, Dermott, would be looking for things that these players can control there's are some things they can't you know, the lack of experienced players but just missing targets like Cayden Beetham did earlier and kicking across goal in dangerous situations like Trent Noble did then, they are the things that would be really disappointing for him and give him a pretty good indication of where these players are at because, really, there's no excuse for that.

**DC** Brodie Holland 12 goals for this season including a career high 8 against the West Coast Eagles round 2, kicked 37 for Fremantle, his best effort while he was there was 4 twice, he's a dangerous player in the forward line. 14 12 3 8 as this one begins to blow out. Noble knocks it down. Buckley hooks it down towards half forward. Riewoldt that's a very good grab, changed direction almost in mid-air, hard to do, he did very well the young man. Comes to Lawrence, up to the wing, Noble

You know who used to do that? Tilt the body when they were in the air, Malcolm Blight had an uncanny knack of being able to jump and actually spin his body when in mid air

**DC** Thompson Beetham Rocca tracks him. Good hard chase effective. The kick it wanders out towards left half forward Johnson works in front of Milne Acres the back timed the release Didak throws it on the boot, here's a chance, Betheras, nobody inside the 50 for the Magpies, he had to stop, Rocca runs hard, Betheras well he bought a bit of time out there whistling dancing, eventually pulls it back Thompson in the road though, Riewoldt gets it to Baker and the danger has passed for the Saints momentarily at least, Baker makes it interesting, was pushed in the back in the act of kicking, it'll come back.

**EM** Umpire blowing hard as well, there it is. Yep, right in the, one hand on each number and the free kick comes back to uh Baker. You're rapt for Steven Baker, Dermott aren't you?

**DB** yeah, look for a tagging player Ed, he's got good clean hands and he's got pace, not competent above his head, but he's not a tall bloke, but yeah, I reckon there's a lot to work there with for future years.

**EM** Wulf to Lawrence and Collingwood flood back just to pay the compliment. Up towards Milne good play by Johnson got to the front and slapped it to the boundary line a throw in, Collingwood by 70 points we've been playing 7 minutes in the final term.

I liked his game, Johnson, we saw him here, Dermott I think it was here when he had osteitis pubis. Lowest ever score 8 7 that's with the roof and everything else we are going to blow that out of the water tonight.

**EM** 7 minutes in St Kilda are 3 8 26

**DB** can't see them coming with a rush either,

Well we can say we were there on the night Derm, that the record was broken

We were part of history

**BM** total possession Collingwood 272 St Kilda 219 Collingwood the equivalent of 4 players playing good football ahead of the Saints. Down to the Doc on the boundary line.

Yeah, Josh Fraser a quick conversation with the doctor on the fielded he's a little bit sore around the left hip and groin by the look of it, they've brought him off just to rest him walking the boundary Josh Fraser

Steinfort kicked it and punched it, Betheras got it to O'Bree but it's coming back to Betheras he was taken high and he'll get the free kick at left half back

Surely Dennis that was a take back for the first free kick Steinfort had the ball and he played on under pressure, it should have gone back for the first one

There's a bit of a blue going on in front of us

There's a bit happening off the ball and it's a Collingwood free kick going the way of Lockyer

Lockyer and Dirty Harry Callaghan were into it

Freeborn and Callaghan still mixing it up and now 50 against Callaghan two men with short fuses. It goes against the Magpies so Lockyer will get 50 and almost be within scoring range. and I think that's a team rule, once you give away a 50 you're off the ground, Callaghan is, but Betheras actually is awarded the kick down the ground, he had the footy, when the fight erupted on the wing. Better for him this time, a few players inside the 50. goes looking for Rocca, Riewoldt did well, behind the

chance for Davis tries to milk a free kick, nothing doing, Rocca battles on, Voss gets it across to Thompson back to Riewoldt good shepherd got him free he kicks it high up towards the wing, Freeborn in front of Clarke, juggled attempt by Freeborn emerges with it, dragged down, Milne at close quarters, got it to Clarke tackled by Betheras, Hayes gets a handpass to Thompson, Thompson looks to the middle, all Collingwood doesn't know where to go tackled by Lockyer and he's penalised for holding the ball, so tactics sold him into trouble he had no one on.

Your heart goes out to him because he looked down the field and saw nobody was on and he had to do the brave thing take the ball on himself and just hold it, and he was a sitting duck a target

Lowest score has been Carlton 4 9 33 at Optus so the Saints might break that one as well as Steinfort takes it inside 50 for Collingwood.

Allan Didak has started to get a bit of the footy as well, he's been a highly rated and highly taken draft pick for the Magpies who they'd be hoping will come on and play regular senior footy this year.

**DC** Steinfort, runs just inside the 50 mis-cues, Noble was up trying to crash his way through was Holland going nowhere, an ball up right on the kick off line. 96 plays 26. Final term Friday night football from Colonial stadium and Collingwood after a sluggish start to the season are starting to look very good, certainly on the premiership table. Now there's going to be a free kick for the Saints, it will go to Noble, against Rocca who was doing some body work illegally.

Trying to work a bit too hard they were trying to make something out of nothing then the Collingwood boys trying to free up some room close to goal

**DC** free kicks Collingwood 15 the Saints 13 Noble. High ball, outside the defensive 50, Hamill was pushed in the back, no free kick Thompson dragged down, Wulf juggles it, well played Clarke feeds it back, this is Baker in trouble from behind, well last season that would have been holding the ball, and this season, a belated whistle, it's still holding the ball. And that's reassuring as the face of footy changes this doesn't.

**EM** Burns has the ball for Collingwood. Rupert Betheras sneaks out the side and gets it lace up on the chest beautiful kick from Scott Burns that went 50 meters across goal, Rupert plays on straight away the leading Rocca, takes the mark on his knees, and Anthony Rocca will kick for number four

They've had their heads bashed in tonight, the St Kilda boys, they look like they're running in gum boots now. They're just slow, slow on the chase.

Look at this Derm, just for a minute. Trent Noble there asleep and he's standing on the goal line and he's not getting, the footy's not going over his head and get out marked by Anthony Rocca the only spot that Anthony Rocca was going to get the footy was in front of him, he had to stand 5 to 10 meters out in front of him and you're right they're flat and he just tuned out then, that's what would be disappointing Grant Thomas.

**EM** 9th mark for Anthony Rocca, 3 goals 2 63 % probability from this position. He has run himself into the ground Anthony Rocca, he's been great for the Collingwood side and has missed. 3 3 to Anthony Rocca. But Collingwood now move on to, if you believe the scoreboard here, 14 13 973 to 3 8 26. Who owns this stand?

Everyone, don't they? (*laughing*)

Now this kid's got a bit of size about him, Maguire,

**DC** don't look at me Ed (??) up towards the wing, going back with great courage Riewoldt.

This kid, he is played a wonderful game tonight,

**DC** Cloke?

Yep

**DC** he got the free, short to Holland, both sides really just going through the motions, play on is the call, I don't know why, he looked back towards the middle, I'm not sure he stepped towards the middle, he puts into the path of any one of three Collingwood players, Lockyer comes up from half forward kicks it behind Betheras who traps it to his own advantage the other end of the ball Prestigiacomgo goes over the top Burns in the pocket, it can go to Davis in the square, turns around and kicks his fourth too easy

Good pick up by Prestigiacomgo, wasn't it? I mean he's not known for getting them below his boot laces but he did that very well, and within two paces put the handball out to Scotty Burns, can't be expected to hit the target, he's come straight off the deck, but that's a great handball by big Presty and Nick's there to mop up the gravy.

**EM** so after the first two goals, after the first 2 goals of the second half, Collingwood have now kicked the next 6. The Saints got the first goal of the game, Collingwood kicked 9 straight then it was two to the Saints and now 6. And Collingwood go forward again Brodie Holland wants to get on the scoreboard again he takes the long route, Burns went back but the mark's been taken by Maguire. Handballs back Hudson to Wulf still defensive 40. Out wide to Riewoldt bad bounce under pressure Buckley waits back to Rocca. Rocca's got Davis on in the square if he can get the kick, now it comes to Buckley he kicks and hooks and kicks a point. And Nathan Buckley tonight has kicked one goal two. Doctor Peter Larkin's boundary side.

Yeah, just Josh Fraser update Ed, having a lot of attention on the right hamstring stretching up they been discussing with him if he wants to go back on but I just can't see why you'd want to risk him tonight.

**DC** Riewoldt right half back, 15 possessions for Nathan Buckley averaging 26 a game this season, 26 against St Kilda a career high 36 against the Saints round 15 2000, he's not soft getting the football, but he's got his problems tonight he's on report. This is Beetham coming away from his own game, whoops, missed the footy!

That was amazing!

**DC** O'Bree Colin the runner outside, Didak, down towards half forward, goes with the right boot Betheras running back, needs a bounce, can't quite control it, snaps, did well, his first

We've seen most things tonight.

**DC** well

*(Laughter)*

A fresh airy

Yeah it was a beauty wasn't it? He did turn one over in terrible fashion earlier this quarter

Yep

And then we get this tonight, a little bit of everything. That was a beauty.



**EM** actually got two stats for that, it bounced off his foot twice

A fresh airy. I've only ever seen that once before.

A little inside Nicky that, so get a stat, he'd be a bit disappointed Derm when he has a look at that on the replay, if he does

**DB** yep, put that in the archive

**DC** 16 14 3 8 under 8 minutes remaining in this one. It's in the book as far as the results concerned. 110 to 26. Burns O'Bree, getting valuable touches now O'Bree. They need to run him into form. Maguire goes back for the Saints tackled by Davis well he lacks support. Hudson goes down under tackle, Wulf goes in short, the mark is taken by Callaghan back on the ground after an earlier indiscretion. He kicks it up towards the wing Riewoldt, short of the wing

Just getting bashed up physically now as well in the contest St Kilda. They're flat off the mark second to the ball and they're finding the bigger Collingwood bodies too tough to go with now

**DC** been a bad night Hamill can he take on the tackle? Yes, says the umpire, Umpire Coates.

He's one body that can stand up to it Dennis, but not on that occasion

**DC** O'Bree plays it off the only man inside that 50 is the one with the ball that's Davis decides to swing it out very wide, Wakelin has been very good pushing up the ground was in that contest Oliver tries to slap it St Kilda's way goes by hand this time Beetham, learned his lesson close to the line Oliver upended Licuria got him, this is Milne tried his heart out Milne still he goes, little chip pass down towards the 50. Davis! yes yes

**EM** Leon! to Wakelin whose been good. Nice kick running out of defence. Betheras takes the mark, centre wing, Collingwood by 84 points. We've played 18 and a quarter. 6 minutes as you see on the screen left in the game. Betheras has the ball and a huge amount of leading going on in the Collingwood 50 so Betheras kicks it long. Nick Davis from behind, Rocca from the front its punched away by Riewoldt, Wulf does well with the fall of the ball, to Thompson, takes it to centre wing with the kick, from behind the fly was a good one and the mark has been taken by Oliver. Oliver for St Kilda, his first touch, inside 50 looking for Hamill Cloke from behind puts the pressure on but Hamill does it well and Cloke makes every player earn his money.

He does

On every possession

He's been great. This is only their fourth mark inside 50 for the evening St Kilda on the other hand Collingwood have taken 16 with Anthony Rocca four of those

**EM** lowest score of the year, 4 9 33 Carlton so they need this and another score the Saints to get past that mark, and 8 7 55 the lowest ever score by the Port Power at Colonial Stadium ironically against St Kilda. So Aaron Hamill from the boundary line. Comes in

*(laughs)* now the umpire didn't even realign him then

**EM** reverse shot, from just inside 50

Come back *(hits the post)*

Can't take a trick the old Sainters. *(laughs)* only their fourth for the night.



What are you giggling about?

You're taking delight in this Gary, aren't you?

Laughing with them not at them

It's been a tough night. they've tried a tactic that I guess when you build yourself up for it first time out last week against Sydney everyone embraces the concept and says let's get stuck into this, this can work, it's exciting its new its different second time round it just hasn't quite got the appeal

**DC** Collingwood got a free kick from centre half back. McGough got it from Buckley comes back to the middle this is Wakelin inside the centre square, probing kick, inside the 50 Davis one hand to it couldn't hang onto it, Callaghan tidies up for the Saints, goes wide Begley Begley at left half back and of course the element of surprise was gone as well tonight they've had a week to plan for it the Magpies and based on the tapes they would have seen last week. They came prepared. It still took them 15 minutes to shake things off, but after that, they've dominated. This is Davis at centre half back 16 14 plays 3 9. 4 and a half minutes to go in this one Davis goes back to Cloke,

**EM** and a sensational crowd in tonight 46 089 at Colonial Stadium

**DC** says something about the drawing power of the Magpies. Davis chips it outside the defensive 50 Buckley on report tonight for striking, a remarkable sequence of Brownlow favourites fronting the tribunal and so far it's not good news out of there. This is Prestigiacomo.

Crowd buy play for bucks then. Sounds pretty relaxed about it all. I think, having had a look at it again Dermie, you're going to be able to mount a pretty strong case. But no surprise what you'll say,

Ooh, he'll have the best in his corner

You still think McLeod should have got off

Well he should have

Perry Mason will be making an appearance on Monday night, I can tell you.

He definitely will

Hard drop there by Noble and the Collingwood players really put the pressure on. Good play there Beetham out the back there though to Black, Black on the left foot kicks if forward up goes McKee, got one in the side and he gets the free kick. Yeah, got one high, the big Steve McKee who has been a tower of strength for Collingwood the last two weeks across half back, releasing Rocca and also Fraser into the ruck. Handball to Burns who crashes through. Burns back to Buckley, Buckley back to Burns Burns holds the ball looks for somebody, goes back to Johnson, out wide, Steinfort's the man also lurking with intent is Lockyer. Tarkyn Lockyer looks up, not much happening, Burns has run into space now, Collingwood by 83 points. McKee

That's what he's looking at.

And O'Bree runs to space takes off now he'll break open some ground

Oh off the ground

Oh dropped his kick, back to Didak who mis-cues on his kick to the pocket, and Freeborns marked that,

I reckon he's taken a sneaky little double grab there which the umpire won't pick up the second one over the boundary. He's gotta go with the mark. I reckon that angle showed a little double grab on it.

That's why the torp can be dangerous.

Yep,

It is off the side but your forwards, coz they're the reactive ones, they're the ones that react quickest, first

Now this is good play, the man on the mark there for the Saints, that's good play it cuts down on the nullifies his ability, no he's stepped of it, he's going to bring him back in

**EM** biggest crowd of the season at Colonial stadium here tonight 46 089

You heard it from the umpire (*laughing*) diligent to the death. He's claiming he's shortened his run up Ben Freeborn

**EM** in he comes, I tell you you'd nearly back him from here Glen Freeborn, he sneaks around and has mongrelled it out to the goal square. It was a centring kick in fact, that's what he'll be telling everyone, and its punched through for a rushed behind so the margin back out now to 84 points Collingwood 16 15 111

Ooh fair call from you Derm that may have been out of bounds

**EM** 3 9 27 St Kilda

and a fair call from the umpire too, technically, if you want to keep walking back around the boundary line you could go to the goals at the other end and then walk in Gary.

Yeah but even if you have a look at it from the other way, he did seem a bit cramped for room

Yeah, I thought he was, should have opened the gate. (*laughing*)

**DC** marvellous kick from Black to Thompson, Montagna under pressure taken high out there I think Maguire will get the free but advantage is paid, Thompson's got it now, kicks down towards half forward then Prestigiacomo worked around Oliver. Oliver's getting the free kick, advantage is paid, they're waving play on down in the pocket, kick comes towards full forward from Schwartz. And he's kicked a behind.

I'm sure Oliver would like it again

**DC** yes,

The record's safe. Don't write them off

**DC** From what?

Lowest

Getting the record, or just sneaking past it

**DC** meanwhile Collingwood bat it around on their last line of defence, this is Lockyer 6 15 3 10 a minute to go Lockyer Licuria. So St Kilda will finish up with a couple of records that they wouldn't have set out to achieve tonight. A short one from McKee. Strange game to say the least.

**EM** Did St Kilda come, Dennis, in your mind with any intent of winning this game.

**DC** You'd have to say not, same as last week although obviously the system can draw a game. McKee up towards the wing. Well it says that your team is inferior to the other team, that's the basic tenet of what you're doing isn't it? well even I suppose Terry Wallace against Brisbane did much the same thing, you're trying to contain the damage there's Holland kicking it down towards half forward, Callaghan still eyes only for the footy, there's a whistle, and somewhere amongst all of that Freeborn will get a free. The last eight seconds of the game. Freeborn sets it up SIREN doesn't get there in time. There's the siren. Collingwood have won their fourth match. A difficult week for them in as much as they knew what was going to happen, they've come here and contended with it very nicely in the end. And they've won big time 16 15 111

## 2002.2 Fremantle v Essendon

4 May 2002 Subiaco (25 319) 89-62 FOX FOOTY

Tim Gossage, Matthew Campbell, Ross Glendinning, Lachlan Reid

*¾ Time silent watching of the Essendon players in small groups, talking, swishing and spitting water.*

This final quarter at Subiaco, Fremantle leading by 15 points Simmonds who was excellent in that third quarter, wins the knock, Hasleby, a bit of indecision, might cost him it does Misiti, another clearance for Joe Misiti, getting it long inside the 50 coots over the back, can't quite take the mark, Rioli, hasn't had a lot of the footy this afternoon, Parker indecision again Riley wraps him up but it spills free to Grover, Grove looking for Troy Longmuir on the outer side out in front of Wellman. One on one and Longmuir gets the boundary and gets some relief

In fact Dean Rioli hasn't had a kick today so it's uh tough times for Dean

Young Haines on screen there, he's had a pretty good day when he's been on the ground

Throw in McGrath a pretty interesting third quarter, got a bit of the footy, Misiti, worked hard for the Bombers around the corner pressure again well done Walker, punched the ball away, to Bell, game 150 looks up at Farmer, whose work rate has increased tenfold since just before half Time. He's enjoying his run on centre wing in the midfield and Peter Bell is enjoying just the run he's a superstar player, gets it to another midfield star in Hasleby kick short of its target, well done Forster-Knight, it comes out to Fletcher, he's been at both ends of the ground on numerous occasions, it's a good kick, oh Heffernan had 75% purchase on it, it virtually bounced off his thigh, and over the line and out of play

Should have seen the difference with the running Tim, as Peter Bell has got a bit of give and go around about 100 meters. Trent Croad stood with his hands in the air in the middle of the ground not moving wanting the footy, you've got to run son,

25, 313 Saturday football that's a pretty good crowd for Fremantle fans and if they win this you can bet your bottom dollar it will improve even more. Croad a good toe poke then he fell into the back of Misiti and threw his body on the line, correct decision by Umpire McNerny. Misiti very influential in this game and will need to continue that

Bit proppy

**MC** in this last quarter, 26 disposals already. His work inside the centre square has been excellent. Here's Barnard. Caught. Great chase. By Croad. Ball spills free to McVeigh, McVeigh long kick Kooops, does better with Blumfield if falls to Leigh Brown whose had a day out this afternoon, Farmer, does better on the wing, I like him on the wing, I know he's not as damaging kicking goals out there, but he's a clever player and they're going through him quite a bit. Pavlich, thinks about playing on, doesn't.

But because of that reason uh, Matthew he's been dangerous because he's been able to be someone they've been able go through, so Essendon haven't paid him that much respect and he's got away from Mark Johnson quite a bit

Pavlich decides to go to a long lead of Longmuir. It's not a bad kick but it goes over the back to Barnard once more Essendon need to find an avenue to goal. Jacobs in two minds but eventually kicks across the ground. McAlister, started on the bench, that's a clever kick just squaring it up and there's Joe Misiti once again. Lloyd breaks now Parker right with him though, he's done a good job, so Misiti's forced to go laterally, to Ramanaukas, Ramanaukas now the kick towards Lloyd but

chipping in and taking the mark and doing a good job is Koops. There's Farmer once again the kick not a good one, it suited Mark Johnson, umpire pays the mark, Farmer not happy.

Definitely a mark.

Could have been away there Fremantle. Koops can't quite spot his target, McGrath. You just sense that Essendon to throw everything at them early and Fremantle aren't quite as aggressive to the footy as they were just before three quarter time

Nah, fair call it's a fair call In Fremantle's favour they've got Medhurst, Siegert, McPhee all on the bench, all good runners. Pretty fresh.

Polack over the top, inside 50, reaching over the top. No free kick, fans wanted a free. Jason Johnson threw his body on the line as he does every time. Here's Wellman, not a noted goal kicker, gets away from the tackle, wants to straighten on his right boot and slots a very important goal. (*Fans boo*) You just sense Fremantle think that they've got this game covered in this far out but the margin is back to 9 points.

(*booing for an opposition goal first instance, at Subiaco.*)

Well you hope they're not thinking that as Medhurst comes on for Leigh Brown. Look at this commitment from Jason Johnson here, he got cleaned up by Longmuir here but he put his body on the line, and they just persisted Essendon and Wellman whose been quietish played on the wing did the right thing, turned, took a couple of extra corrective steps, so he didn't have to kick on his left foot, kicked on his preferred right and a much needed goal. 16 possessions uh, predominantly as spare man and across wing, now on the forward line.

Well, Shaun Wellman has got the all-important first goal for the final quarter. To get them back to 9 points. Jason Johnson having to come off. The blood rule. Much debate about the blood rule over the past week.

Back of the head, he's got blood dripping down the back of his uh neck and onto the jumper he would have got that in that collision where he put his body on the line

So over sixteen minutes remaining. Plenty of football to be played out. Which way will this game turn? Bell which way will he go? Straight down the middle, Jacobs missed it (*laughs*) Farmer almost got it, Croad palms off gets free from 50, kicks it high one on one, tough ball to mark for Longmuir, Fletcher come over the top with a spoil, Jacobs once again somehow got it over to Heffernan, does enough, he's gotta beat a coupla Dockers though and he shows a lot of poise in tight, and gives it over to Forster-Knight. Now the Bombers start to run. Fletcher. Over the top to McVeigh he's got a paddock to run into McVeigh they won't come at him, chips over to McAlister. Bombers running now, they've got an open forward line. They haven't had that a lot this afternoon. Alessio comes out. Can't quite get it. Walker there for the Dockers feeds it off to Norrish they go backwards. They're under pressure. And Troy Longmuir gets one too high and gets the free kick.

Joe Misiti

Poke in the eye for Longmuir and he's gunna go to the long option of Walker at half back just outside his defensive 50. I reiterate the point, Fremantle Dockers I hope they're not thinking about camping on this minuscule lead because Essendon will make them pay. I think the Bombers are going at a better rate at the moment even though they still trail by 9 points. Plenty of time in the game, 15 minutes remaining on the clock

I agree with you Tim you can't defend the game from here on in, you've got to keep attacking, you put the pressure on the opposition not only on the scoreboard but by body and everything, keep the momentum going forward

Carr kick to centre wing. Croad. Stayed on the ground Jacobs did very well he was the flyer, punched the ball over the line and out of play. Danny Jacobs enjoying arguably his best season in the AFL. He's only 19 he's still an exciting player isn't he? He's got a lot of footy ahead of him

Oh yeah, and he allows someone like Wellman to go to a different position because he can play centre half back.

Alessio demanding front spot in that ruck contest, Blumfield, Ramanauskas, he's tried hard, left foot kick, long way out from goal, Lloyd, under pressure, he's gonna get this back, Lloyd, he was on the ground he bounced up got it to Heffernan, he spots up a man inside 50 Pavlich demanded front spot and got it, knocked down by Walker, only as far as Rioli, Rioli spots a man inside 50 Hille, he's out numbered here Polak, it's three on one, under enormous pressure he did very well, and the crowd acknowledge Graham Polak. The Bombers just needed a free shot on goal and they probably would have reduced the margin even further.

Yeah look it was great thinking by Rioli to chip the ball wide but his kick sat up a bit high and then Polak, again, eye on the football, not concerned about the body, and uh you'll always come out in front with percentages there.

Rioli, had it, lost it, Alessio under pressure. Misiti slaps it forward, Hille did well, Bell slung almost threw it, through for a minor score. So they are under pressure the Fremantle Dockers. The margin back down to eight points.

Trent Croad on the bench just having a spell as is Leigh Brown who has had plenty of possession Brown, 17 disposals but 13 marks, playing that loose man. Here's Walker. Essendon coming at the Dockers now. His target is Simmonds but he's got to beat Alessio and a flying Barnard, Barnard almost getting it Cook, to Haines, missed the body, missed Longmuir, did well

Well done

Strong over the ball, got it back to Haines to make up for his error he gets it to Medhurst, Medhurst now, long kick, Carr's got to go, Fletcher from behind, it falls over the back to Longmuir he goes without it, Johnson, loses his feet gives it to McGrath, he loses the footy, players dive on top of it, Cook wants to hold it in the air and he does so. So the ball still in the danger zone for the Dockers. Exciting movement there by Troy Longmuir, earned himself a rest.

Yes, he just commits himself all the time, sometimes recklessly, but always for the cause of the team. Siegert on, he's uh picking up Jason Johnson, with his head wrapped up in a bandana.

Just (*laughs*) inside the forward 50. It'll be another ball up. Over 12 minutes remaining. Fremantle led by 15 points at three quarter time. Essendon have got it back to 8. There's Jason Johnson, a lot of talk on the couch on Monday night about players being wrapped up and that they're going overboard with the blood rule, much debate about that to come. Bell, Norris, good quick work hands there by Haines gets it to Bell, he's running he's kicked two brilliant goals this afternoon, this one's out in front, it's just as good a kick he's found Longmuir.

(*laughs*) I was just watching Peter Bell there, he was as excited as if he kicked the goal himself, his work ethic is extraordinary and his preparedness to run and run for the cause not always just to get the footy back as Carr comes back for a breather, for McPhee, but the give and go, sometimes is statistical, some people say too much, but the setup there was perfect.

Well he's kicked three, one in each quarter Justin Longmuir, he missed a couple early, but he's back on target. This is a tough kick from this pocket,

It would be a crucial goal in the context of this game. A lazy little run up and he's just I mean if ever a goal, if ever a ball slid across the front that one did

3 goals 3 I've got for Justin Longmuir, Tim, thank you

Correct. Haven't lost it. Ramanauskas.

Not sure that I had

*(laughs)* Mark Johnson that kick is wide. So Fremantle may have just lifted their rating in the last couple of minutes, as the Bombers, laying down the gauntlet, the game is not won that's for sure and certain. Just 9 points the margin. 25 319 people in.

Cook 6 people have come in in the last quarter *(laughs)*

Yes and one has left and that was James Hird unfortunately for him. Kick into the pocket. I think Forster-Knight has done a good job on Medhurst since coming on to him.

He's another player that some clubs don't pay enough attention to, Tim he got under their guard early as did mind you, Harvey, for Essendon against uh Fremantle, so it works both ways. Good learning curve for the young fellow, both of them

Justin Longmuir taps it down, Cook has a free kick, it's against Justin Longmuir, its gonna go to Fletcher, to Barnard. 25 out from his own goal. 9 points the margin, just a tick over ten minutes remaining in this game. Barnard has a bounce then kicks to centre wing, Simmonds wanted front spot here's Johnson, Jason punches it long. McAlister didn't have to change stride, McAlister looks up, the lead from hill, good mark, good kick and Hille can go back 25 m out, tough angle.

Clever knock on by Johnson, Tim it was just uh very smart knowing the ball's going in the air, if he grabs it he's a chance to be tackled, pushed it forward very quickly and then you're always a chance to set up there. This is as important a kick for Essendon as Longmuir's was previously

Made his debut back in round 8 last year. He's had his hands full today *(steady booing from crowd again as Essendon line up for a kick. It is DISGRACEFUL)* with Troy Simmonds. An important kick in the game, for Hille. *(Booing increasing with his run up)* he's bent it back, for a goal, Bombers are in the contest.

Bombers get it back to 3 points and I hope you're enjoying this uninterrupted AFL coverage right here on the Fox footy channel, as I turn my microphone back on

Look uh that's uh, great persistence. Here we see the punch forward by Jason Johnson some might say fortuitously. But you've still got to have someone running onto it. McAlister whose still reasonably fresh hasn't had a lot of work to do today it's important that his pass was effective and it was, and then Hille really did finish very well with it for a not a renowned goal kicker

Just over Hille's first goal for the afternoon but it's just over 9 goals apiece and now the margin's back to 3 points. They don't mind close finishes the Dockers, Hawthorn down in Tassie, St Kilda earlier, here this year. Over the top it falls to Heffernan. Play on it didn't go the distance, McPhee there for the Dockers, but cutting in first is McAlister, Misiti, round the body Jason Johnson there, coming out Matthew Lloyd, Rioli, oh good work from Bell. Got it over to Norrish. Simmonds was waiting out the back he quickly goes towards Haines, the kick wants to be good. Haines has got to beat Blumfield, on debut. Johnson did well. Somehow it goes back to Haines, he needs to get rid of it, he back pedals, does well, Simmonds, he's got some time now. Loping around the corner, Medhurst in force tonight, Longmuir, support

Farmer's on

Farmer's on! McPhee spots him now. The wizard! Chest mark. Oh he thought about it



Sorry Matt, I didn't mean to cut in but he drifted away. Jason uh Mark Johnson was so intent on getting the football. Farmer took the forward's option if you like of sneaking back behind play, and uh it worked this time because his teammates kept control of the footy.

Kicked a goal in the third quarter, as we see McPhee just spotting him there. And I thought for a second he didn't have enough on it, McPhee and it was going to be a difficult one but no it bounced over Farmer's head but it's enough and Farmer who kicked one in the third quarter whose only kicked four goals coming into this game, he's been playing on the wing this afternoon, but this is a very important kick

He was recruited to kick goals.

And reverse angle, we'll just see, what faces Geoff Farmer. And he slots it through. His second goal. More importantly for the Dockers, a bit of breathing space.

Very much so and I've been this is the most impressive game I've seen Farmer play for Fremantle he hasn't played many obviously, because he missed a couple in his first season at the club, however, in terms of his work rate and importance of the timing of when he's had the footy and the release player he's been when they've needed someone to kick to across the middle of the grind, the ground when they've come out of defence under pressure is very important, and that goal, obviously, very important.

**TG** Second goal for the day from his 12<sup>th</sup> kick Geoff Farmer, 18 disposals, 8 marks his best game. Only a very short time at the Dockers but he's looked impressive since just before half time. But the Bombers won't lay down and die. That handpass from Barnard. Missed its man, Norrish there, oh, turned it over as well, Rioli under pressure. Simmonds tunnel balls it out. Koops has been good. Norrish almost threw that to Cook, to Pavlich, McManus runs, Fremantle, he could have had a bounce, decides to kick, inside 50 Longmuir up Justin takes the mark. First thought for Shaun McManus was to pass to the leading Longmuir. He did have 20 or 30 meters space in front of him.

Yeah, he did, and its, this is probably sounding super critical, but he led wide again. Try to get up in the corridor between the two 50 meter signs on the ground.

3 Goals he's kicked from 50, too close to the man on the mark, it'll land just on the goal square, Pavlich got hands on it, didn't take the mark well done Barnard. And McVeigh

That's deliberate, Tim.

Deliberate but smart. He went to the boundary line.

It's all he could do. He looked up there was nothing on around the 50 meter mark on the junction there, look at this oh he missed it

Gee Pavlich would have been disappointed with that he made position well. Still inside their forward 50. Oh a chance to atone for Pavlich, can he do it? Oh, Yes, He Can!

Perhaps that was in his mind, Ross, he thought I've just mucked up a goal by dropping what I should normally take, he's just taken it upon himself to finish it off.

Looks its uh it's been inspiring for Matthew Pavlich today, early particularly on James Hird he's set a real standard which I think showed his teammates that they could take it up to the better side. Which most people thought, other than a co commentator of mine that they were going to be a winner today and in that inspirational type of play which he performed earlier on he's done it again. Its it's for a vice captain, first class.



Just his third goal for the season and the crowd are starting to chant. They sense an upset. Last week it was the Eagles who beat the Lions. Back to back weeks. Can the Dockers do their bit at Subiaco? They're making it a cauldron the West Australian teams, they, no defeat so far at this venue at Simmonds has been awesome today. Kicks to half forward. Bad bounce for Croad, Barnard, he's tried hard Paul Barnard and knocks the ball over the line and out of play, we'll have a throw in.

Tim the really, the vexing question, particularly from Fremantle's point of view, why this standard at home and why so poor away? And that's been the question for some time and I can't answer it.

Terrible against Geelong last week but then again maybe Geelong are better than we think. Heffernan in tight McAlister goes to ground, McVeigh was held without the footy, umpire Margets was spot on just under 7 minutes remaining, still the margin is just 15 points and with a man called Lloyd standing down in the forward line, anything could happen that's the direction this kick takes but Bell will float across like the champion half back flanker that he is. Let's go to Lockie Reid

James Hird, just an update on him he's gone for scans to hospital, a possible fracture above the eye and also the nose, he's had blurred vision he'll stay in Perth for the next couple of days.

Well let's hope everything's alright for James Hird.

*(Overtalking, unable to separate words.)*

Indication too - sorry Matthew, uh just Peter Bell's work rate 28 possessions and having been tagged by Blumfield and now Ramanauskas, it's a real credit

Well he's certainly celebrated his 150<sup>th</sup> game in style but there's still plenty of work to be done for the Dockers if they're going to upset this Essendon side.

Essendon haven't uh certainly by any means haven't thrown in the towel, they just lacked someone to really spark them, to take the ball forward and do something uh that was going to lift the rest of their teammates. They're uh just plodding at the moment, can't quite break free.

Alessio and Simmonds. Tapped cleverly by McAlister who was searching for Forster-Knight or Johnson. Corey McGrath, in the traffic Walker with a punch here's a chance for Forster-Knight, throws it on the boot, Wellman, up forward, couldn't get it Polak, gee that *(laughs)* handballs into a bit of a danger zone there. Kooops, good tackle from Wellman, Misiti what can Joe do? Around the body a little bit too far, Ramanauskas couldn't get his hands on it, they needed that one, the Bombers, but just the behind. To bring the margin back to 14 points.

I suppose if Fremantle do win the game, they have withstood one of the best competitions in the game because there was no doubt that Essendon surged to come at them.

Oh and Essendon haven't been in absolutely poor form they still boast a very good line up, you know, in terms of personnel, so you've still got to play against some very good players, it, look it's a real credit to Fremantle if you say, Tim, as you say if they remain in front when the siren goes, but it looks likely that way.

Four weeks ago everyone was saying there was only two teams in the competition, Brisbane and Essendon, times changed in that space of time, Collingwood have jumped up, Geelong and Fremantle and West Coast aren't going too bad either. Good mark Simmonds

He's been first class

The conjecture about Troy Simmonds and whether he was a good pick up for the Dockers.

Oh, I think he's proved that from the start

Absolutely. Outstanding 2 weeks ago at this venue. Didn't have his best game last week but he was no orphan there. Fremantle can work it out defensive 50 Polak he'll be loving this. Siegert, oh any game he plays is a bonus, elevated off the rookie list

Now the question marks too about Polak being selected in the first instance on such very little uh game time, but he's stood up alright, so

Justified.

Exactly

Just under 5 minutes remaining goals have been hard to come by for both teams. Kicks to the contest. Alessio over the top of Brown. Farmer cutting in and just wiping a little bit more off the clock from the Dockers point of view.

It was actually Matthew Lloyd right down on uh his respective half back flank following Shane Parker down so he's had to work far and wide for the few kicks he's had an opportunity to get. That's a free kick.

That should have been a free kick to Alessio he has a go for Croad who he gets it to Bell who gets it to the Wizard, he runs to 40 meters and nnnn yes, he puts it through. Celebrations galore by the Dockers as the Wizard gets his third goal.

Yes, and a couple of players there in Pavlich and Polak the two Ps coming down to say to Trent Croad that ruck contest there, I thought there might have been a free kick there to Essendon for round the neck, but the umpire didn't pay it and so be it, that's his judgement. And Farmer, by gee talk about the thickness of the paint there.

It just I mean it almost confused me

That's not difficult

Thanks for (*illegible*)

Geoff Farmer 3 goals. Some criticism of Farmer and Croad and Simmonds and obviously the recruiting staff of the Fremantle Dockers to their, their lack of output but they've certainly justified it today, they've been very good, Croad, not a superstar but he's worked very hard, his work rates been good and Simmonds and Farmer have been outstanding. Close to line, and out of play. Steven Koops and Troy Cook former club champion. The blood rule for Trent Croad coming off the ground. It is fair to say there has been some criticism of Farmer and Croad and Simmonds.

Oh look in terms of how they've played or the actual selection of them or recruitment of them

I suppose, I suppose justifying their recruitment

Yeah,

With their form of the last month

Which falls back on the players themselves I think they were good selections however, it's up to, and I think Simmonds has certainly been the best of them.

No doubt. And Haines has played well today to Bell left foot pass tight to the line and over and out of play. 31 disposals for Geoff Farmer 22 to Simmonds with 13 marks, 17 to Leigh Brown with 13 marks. They've had 332 disposals Fremantle alongside 268 for Essendon. Slapped down by Longmuir to Wellman, Fletcher should clear for the Bombers.

He's got Blumfield breaking for him. The defensive 50. Out wide searching handball to McAlister. 20 points down the Bombers, they a goal here, in the next foray. Johnson. Norrish, to spoil, too many numbers for the Dockers, getting harder and harder for the Bombers now. Siegert, into the sunlight and Pavlich, just shielding his eyes did enough to take the mark. He won't be in a hurry to play on.

It's an important win for the club, uh particularly Matthew and they travel to Footy Park next week to play Adelaide,

How's that for a

That's going back

That's going back a fair way

He's gone back 40 meters to Leigh Brown for mark number two million and 8

I don't you should be able, in my rule, I don't think you should be able to go back to kick in the defensive 50

*(Huff off the side)*

And the kick from Brown is uh

**TG** Well I guess in the context of the game, it's not pretty what they've done, but they've taken 30 seconds off the clock which is what they're attempting to do

**WB** You're not allowed to go back over half court in basketball and I just think it cuts out this

**TG** Yeah, but it's not basketball and this is basketball

*(Above snarky exchange is like BT and Richo)*

Tim Gossage talking to Wayne Britton during the week about basketball as Croad gives it to Peter Bell, 33 possessions in his 150h game, the torpedo off one step by Croad gets 65 meters Johnson does well on Farmer body on body forcing a boundary throw in. Subiaco Oval. Round 6. No interstate side has visited here. And if Essendon are going to change that and come up with the first win, they need to do it quickly. Longmuir, Blumfield, now he's got Jason Johnson, got some space to run into, Farmer, accelerates right at the last to force the error, terrific work by Farmer, McAlister went without it, Hasleby now Lowe, ball up, umpire Dean Margets.

*(Verbal errors in the above were because of trying to stop/cover the argument)*

Seriously Matthew, uh some wag said during the week if Fremantle get up and beat Essendon today they should be swabbed. That's probably one club that could be swabbed, do you think, Fremantle?  
*(Peace offering?)*

That's almost as silly as my comment about going back into defensive 50 then again, you've got a Brownlow, so you can get away with your comment. Half forward right, Fremantle, Carr shows the dummy to Forster-Knight, then kicks into the pocket Pavlich has to reach up and stretch he does, is right on the 50 meets the boundary line. Inside the last 90 seconds. Fremantle to win the game. Essendon have lost 3 of the last 4.

3 wins, 4 losses, find themselves with 3 wins 3 losses, very unusual territory

With James Hird set to stay in Perth for a coupla days, with a facial injury, taken to hospital. Pavlich. Can he ice the game with a beautiful long kick? It's across the face, they'll fly they'll contest and Mark Johnson will be happy to see it through for a rushed behind.

21 points the margin.

With the comparison which you've mentioned a couple of times with West Coast uh last week against Brisbane, are very similar, players just stepping up to the mark, and not being daunted by the prospect of playing very good sides and uh across the lines, they've had very good players, Fremantle,

Trent Croad did brilliantly, knocked it down to Hasleby, handpass to Justin Longmuir stepped right then left and goes back with a handpass, he goes short and Croad will reach up and take a mark.

That will be a fitting finale if he does go back and kick the goal with what is it, 24 25 seconds remaining in the game. That's if you're a Fremantle supporter.

He's kicked one, Farmer's kicked 3 Simmonds one and Medhurst one

So between them, the recruits this year and Croad has a chance to make that seven. Our of 13 not a bad return.

SIREN

They've won the game. Chris Connolley's happy. And Trent Croad can just put the full stop at the end of the sentence, and does. Dockers home by 20 points.

## 2002.3 Kangaroos v Hawthorn

4 May 2002 MCG (33 345) 87-155

Anthony Hudson, Peter Daicos, Steven Silvagni, Christi Malthouse

Underway from the MCG the Kangaroos try to get some respectability back late in the day, Simpson, Grant this marvellous Kangaroo midfield has really been overwhelmed today

And just a move that has been made, Glen Archer has gone back into North Melbourne's back half and he's picking up uh Barker

Shannon Grant came off the wing which allowed Graham to sit back for the Hawks as a loose man, now in the end they're not running the ball into the forward line, even if they win possession of the ball and they're being picked off by the Hawthorn defenders

Shannon Grant again Baird whose playing almost as a defender in attack, they've really lacked option though and Rawlings has been terrific for them for Hawthorn. Picioane.

He, along with Vandenberg, Picioane, Vandenberg have really come on this season

Much improved players I think the sides were there last year and it's certainly where the Hawks have got their improvement over the last couple of years. Harford jumping up wasn't the greatest of options. Very tough for the young man in Vandenberg there in the Roos through Colbert using Stevens on the way out, adrift on the wing as often is the case, David King charging away going looking for Baird again and just completely worried out of it by Graham who's been dominant off half back. Dixon, getting up the ground on his hundredth game could have gone for Holland, goes longer for Chick, Cochrane good spoil and he's getting a chance back in defence.

Daics, all day the Hawks have had players wing, where they can go to, they've got go to players when they run the ball out of defence and they're on the wing, all on their own.

Well you have to ask yourself how they get out there is it the Roo players that are running forward of the ball or sitting on the opposite side of the ground and just risking it, hoping that the players like Stevens like Archer and uh players closer in are able to win it and get it out to them. They've certainly been caught out. They're in the middle of the ground now. Motlop, Shannon runs off chips up and Rocca will mark. No one home in the goal square.

Have a shot Sav

He'll wind up, big Sav. Graham is running back there, it will go over his head, it will go over his head for a goal. That's a big kick. Three goals to Sav Rocca. And that North supporter, or Kangaroos supporter, pretty happy with the effort. It went a long way and they've started the quarter well. They're 76 the Hawks leading, they're 175

I guess big Sav hasn't had a huge day but this was his third goal. We know what a lovely kick he is and as a full forward kicking three goals, you've probably done your job for the day.

So Sav Rocca kicking the first goal for the last quarter. Digby morale, Morrell coming onto the ground. *(laughs)* Morrell,

That's what they need, a lot of it *(laughing)*

Crawford, that was a lightning handball and they're going forward again. Crowd of 33000 at the MCG and the Hawk portion of that crowd will be well satisfied. The Kangaroo fans though would

have a number of questions. But Leigh Colbert's been one of their best out of defence. He's done a job on Nick Holland. Oh Walker!

Walker! Have a shot son,

Great leap! Look at them sprint forward, the Kangaroos, they are streaming forward. (*laughing*) I don't think even Sav could kick a goal from there. Morrell takes the mark,

Well two good overhead marks in the end for the Roos and that's an area of this game, that they really have lacked is the ability to control the ball overhead.

Well they have, the Hawks have taken 50 more marks than the Kangaroos and its one of the few times the Kangaroos have actually taken a mark inside their 50

Rocca has improved in that area, can take a mark over his head

Kicked one goal one today, Digby Morrell, and now he's kicked 2 goals one.

So they've made a more promising start to this quarter. Sav Rocca off the ground after kicking that last goal

I guess it's one bonus the Kangaroos have kicked the last 4 goals of this game, so certainly, they've, they keep on trying, they're trying to get themselves back involved in this game and that's one positive that's come out.

Sav Rocca, two goals in this last quarter, Sav Rocca kicked one set that last one up with Morrell. Able to score. Stevens out of the centre, an area they've certainly been well beaten and Clayton will mark. Nick Ries has had the job on Shane Clayton, has kicked 3 goals, along with Sav Rocca, will go to an unguarded goal square, did not get there, faded away, it goes through for a minor score.

Well Sav, Sav Rocca actually came off the ground for a short time, he's back on to the field just wondering whether he just had a bit of a niggle or he's carrying a bit of an injury, Daics?

Cox.

Yeah I suppose the other thing is just maybe some instructions. He's further up the ground isn't he? Steve now

He is

Kangaroos have been good this quarter so far they'd love to get another goal out of it. Back to Baird, is it oh was that paid a mark to Stevens, no Archer,

Good protection

It was good protection, cleared a path for Glen Archer who loads it up for a big torp Oh, and that's a couple of behinds in a row when they dearly would have loved goals.

And he had to go for the torp because the Hawks had three players virtually in the goal square all on their own so the North Melbourne players, sorry the Kangaroos were all up the ground, so he had to go for the big torp.

Well the margin was going toward 90 points, wasn't it at one stage, and it's back at 51 so as you mentioned the Kangaroos have certainly added some respectability to their day.

So out wide, Angelo Lekkas, best on ground, Nick Ries back to Lekkas, across the ground, into the middle, on his own, Simon Cox another very good player. Ooh, running torp, hardest kick in football. Over the top, McCartney went the wrong way, unlucky bounce chic Picioane's back there, slapped it up to Hay in the attacking zone jigs through with Barlow back towards the square McCartney

underneath it, oh great courage, it's a free no advantage, the Roos have it with Makepeace into to the middle to Rocca. Oh hangs off and misses his mark Harvey. Goes back, getting a bit of the ball now the Roos as a team. Clayton has it now, half forward into the middle, players everywhere for the Roos now as Pickett lines up will go in long and that's a shocking kick, Morrell underneath it, it'll bounce, the suit is Rawlings tries to slap it down, Lekkas in support, they should run it out again and Ries over the top and Johnny Barker marks. They're doing it easily at the moment, the Hawks, certainly a lot of their thinking able to get them out of trouble and Harford to send the Hawks up

So Daniel Harford. Very wide, close to the line and Daniel Motlop sees it over. Harford's had 18 possessions. Rawlings 22 Cox 23, as we look at the total kicks and rally the Hawks have dominated they've had 185 to 136 so it's a significant difference. Holland and Burton, big Spider giving Colbert, and this has been the other positive for the Kangaroos, Leigh Colbert showing some signs of confidence. Rocca, not sure why it is he didn't have a shot, Clayton wants to kick his fourth goal for the Kangaroos, and he's missed. Margin now 50 points.

Well the signs are better, they're running, players are playing further up the ground at the moment, they're playing across half forward, pushing everyone up the ground and going over the top at least they have a little bit of space if they're able to break that line at half forward are able to run towards goal

And I think Sav, he's provided an option at centre half forward, he's come out of the goal square a bit further so they're able to go through Sav who provides a contest at centre half forward

So Rawlings, out wide, Graham did well. It's all that was needed. He left 3 player, 3 Kangaroos players in his wake. Barlow marks. Wing outer side. Into attack. Picioane's the target, bounce and then bounced over the line. Vance Picioane's been a very good player.

They do it well the Hawks, they get numbers back into their defensive half but when they get control of the ball they run hard very early, they run hard with a lot of pace. And they provide the option down the middle of the ground.

They've been very good

Burton and Holland tango Barlow decides to cut the crap out and just thumps it forward, Colbert, Chick will push through no Cochrane, did enough just to slap the ball out of his path. McCartney towards wing, well done Byron Pickett, good use of the body, starting to move it better, Grant, it's too late though, they have to finish the game off, that's what Pagan will be looking for. Loose ball will come down, Watt'll go through get his hand Morrell will slap it on, chance too high, King no played for it, it'll land, Harvey, he's cheeky, Graham knocked him off the ball in the end, Lekkas. Too easy in the end, the Hawks out of danger again, so they've done it in all areas. Used the ball and under pressure been able to use it. Cox towards wing, Picioane did it beautifully will run off.

Gliding through the middle Dixon, received it beautifully and unloads, goes for the vacant square and misses,

All set up there then for Ben Dixon, but the Hawks have that's their first score in fact for the the last quarter so in just over ten minutes of play have only scored the one behind, the Roos in that time 2 goals three, they've had some other chances as well. Ries going to the bench for the Hawks, a marvellous performance from him so far, we've touched on that a number of times. Robbins, as players breaking to the wing, adrift is Daniel Motlop, gets some good protection from Simpson oh it wasn't good protection as it turns out

Fantastic chase



Simpson gets it anyway and delivers for Rocca, now he's within range, so that very quickly with Sav, oh disappoints everyone and goes for a pass to Anthony Stevens. Not controlled, says the umpire. The switch is on for Dixon he's got Barker pushing up to the wing, or through the middle, Crawford and Holland, breaking through the middle, Lekkas, 30 possessions for Angelo Lekkas, he loved to cap it off with yet another goal, and he's got three for the day. In career best form. 22 10 for Hawthorn 13 7 for the Kangaroos.

Well Angelo Lekkas probably two or three years ago he was at a crossroads at his career and certainly last year and once again this year he really has stepped up and become a very very good player.

A job of two players, goal kicker and ball magnet. Very good.

Biggest bonus in football, a player doing the job of two players, Angelo Lekkas has knocked up getting the ball he's been super player in mid field and then has topped it off with 3 goals.

He's kicked 7 goals for the year now which is certainly very handy.

Dixon went to smother the ball, Watt into attack, Rocca straight through the hands Clayton in danger. It's coming back.

I think that's a good decision that too.

Yea,

The two, two good signs SOS over the last two weeks, Hawthorn's willingness to finish games off

To finish games off and I I just think their hardness and their competitive instinct has really come out over the last couple of weeks and that they really are running hard once again, the players who didn't have the preseason that they would have hoped to have had have now played 4 or 5 games and they're reaping the rewards.

So, where, where do we assess as to where they're at, Steve, in terms of uh looking ahead to teams like Brisbane and Essendon and so forth.

I I think really the Hawks will really benefit probably in the second half of the season, they have got a few injuries but they're not major injuries and uh certainly if they can get up their full list, or their better 22 or 3 come the the second half of the year, they're capable of finals or they're capable of anything

They've got Geelong next week and then the following week Carlton at the MCG

So uh we'll put that one away

A couple of easy ones there. So Barlow chips it back to Crawford. Crawford'll chip it back to Barlow, so the boys are waxing on that outer side. An old football term. Johnny Hay has it, so

Waxing, that's right

Yeah, in in long. Thumped away, well done, Morrell it was, got his fist to it, Rawlings is there, Barker's there, Archer's there, they're all there. Dropped in the end, Pickett, Makepeace whose had a very quiet afternoon, such a key with his running out of defence for the Roos, he's certainly has been stopped by the Hawks. And King wide on that outer side will mark.

Nothing ahead, absolutely nothing ahead. Shannon Motlop is the only player of the Kangaroos who was forward of him on that occasion. The rest were all Hawks Simpson goes for Stevens who's floated down. A little detour across centre half forward. The Spider! No not able to take it this time, and the Hawks again, teaming up on half back and so often they've had the switch on. Dixon, through the middle he had Vandenberg, goes wider instead, Barlow back in the team today, Baker into space,



down there, it looked like Jonathan Hay. And the ball over the boundary line. So Hay going forward again. In this match

McCabe back here for the Hawks. Winning possession for the Hawks, fantastic.

Yep, yep there's Ries 25 possessions for the young man in his third game, Nick Ries. 22 10 142 plays 13 7 85.

Anthony Stevens off for the Roos, John Baird back on the ground,

Inevitably I guess at some stage the questions are going to be asked about the impact of Wayne Carey and not being there for the Kangaroos Steve I mean obviously they'd love to have him at centre half forward for a start

Oh for sure, it's going to take a while to be able to replace a guy like Wayne Carey, I mean certainly we know what type of footballer he was and uh, you know, they just don't grow on trees, players like that.

Crawford! Was he off? Quick kick from Cox, tried to conjure up a goal from nowhere, Picioane, great hands, and Daniel Chick kicks it. And don't they love it

Why wasn't that ball rushed through for a minor score?

What about the quick hands of Daniel Chick. Fantastic.

Good execution all round from the Hawks, SOS, today.

Their willingness just to share and create opportunities for each other. It was actually Vance Picioane who gave the quick hands there. Fantastic.

So 148 to the Hawks playing 85. And a fine victory, 63 points at the moment, a fine victory. We still have at least a good ten eleven twelve minutes to go. Into attack. Morrell was pushing in the end, no matter, Rawlings sitting back again has been a super player. Vandenberg will be shepherded time allowed to him by Hay well done, good kick by Barker, he was off in the end, Vandenberg continues to run, Barker goes over the head inside 50, Chick was a decoy, jumped, Harvey slaps it down Robbins, hasn't been too bad, has tried. Nick Ries over the top Bateman, with Pickett hovering, who has been very quiet, will end up with a free. Very quiet afternoon. Byron Pickett into the middle, Burton. Over the top Simpson, back to Spider Burton, so Spider gets a rare kick into the forward line, and again, Simon Cox, one of the very good players out of danger round the body and this man clearly best on ground.

28 possessions for Simon Cox

Ben Lekkas coming in for possession number 32 not much on offer for him. Colbert and Holland,

And three goals

Big pack at half forward. Shannon Watt. Grant. Another Hawk injury we'll get an update on that in a moment. The ball goes towards Cox. Nothing for him on the switch of play so often they've been able to do that off half back today, Dixon, and Barlow. Let's get to Christie Malthouse.

**CM** Thanks Anthony, well Chance Bateman has just sat down on the Hawks bench and he is pointing to his right knee in a bit of pain there so they're just assessing that and Jonathan Hay who was actually struggling a little bit when he came off just had to go on for him so watch him as well.

Baker, another strong, positive lead back. He was so good in this game early, maybe drifted slightly out of the game although looking at his stats you wouldn't know that. He's had 12 marks for the day, what a performance.

Yeah, I think that that really is the positive Johnny Barker last year was one of their real key targets in providing the option and over the last two weeks he's regained that ability to be able to mark the ball and obviously that's a positive for the Hawks.

113 marks to 45 on the day on the day and John Barker's contribution - outstanding,

It is outstanding

He's had 18 disposals, 12 marks and now kicked 3 goals 1.

We talk about his marking ability but also his kicking ability is outstanding as well. A very good kick for goal and uh really a real asset for the Hawks when playing up forward.

Johnny Barker 3 goals, Dixon with 2 so between them 5 goals as part of this total of 24. The problem the Roos have SOS is these are the players really that have to work their way out of it, coming back into this team, or a lot for Dennis Pagan to have to introduce. Pickett, off wing loads up and goes in long, Rocca couldn't mark it, knocked it down with his knee or thigh, oh, Lekkas, again. Campbell smothered in the end by Brent Harvey, Cox out wide, Vandenberg, towards the boundary. What, I don't know what he was trying to do then didn't go to the boundary, Daniel Motlop hands off to Harvey with his back to goal. Advantage given to Shannon Grant normally a good user, just bombs it in the air look at this two against three against one knocked away, Ries out wide there are two Hawks out here. Ben Dixon he has drifted down a lot today, wing or half back and his willingness to carry the ball certainly has stood out in this game. Goes in long, Holland with a set will jump, couldn't mark it, it will come down, Crawford, didn't keep his feet in the end, Cochrane out of danger for the Roos, he chips up, Grant has it

So Shannon Grant who's certainly had a fair bit of the footy as the day's worn on has had 31 possessions Burton, onto Daniel Motlop advancing on half forward and he's gone, there's more torps than you've ever seen in a game! And he has a long one and it's through for a behind. It's like a throwback to uh the seventies with the number of torps we've see, particularly, well since mid-way through the third quarter

And their executions been pretty good as well

Mm. Well more power to them for it, it's great for the viewers, isn't it? Everyone loves a good torp. Rawlings delivering very wide and close to the boundary line and here's Vandenberg and he has got lots of space to work in.

So off half back just over wing, Crawford using the body its good for the Hawks because the ball ran another 15 meters you should never be frightened to let the ball to run on closer to the goal, so its half forward, in front of the members, boundary throw in.

One thing the Hawks have done well today is that when they've had a ball carrier, they've protected the guy carrying the ball that he's able to size up an option and execute his kick correctly.

Ball thrown in, Burton, towards the Hawthorn goal Archer over it, too high in the end so against Robert Campbell. Glen Archer, stat sheet won't show a very good game but again, he's put himself in. Burton, in long, chance for John Baird, oh. Cannonned into by his own teammate McCartney, Motlop kicked off the ground, Lekkas did enough Graham with a lot of time as Lekkas peeled off further up the ground, he will go over he's head, running onto it Hay, no Pickett got there first. So a chance for the Roos, trying to draw players, he'll just bomb it, he'll go long, Simpson with a set, in the end, up too early, through to Harford.

It's like they're trying to get some highlight reels going here. *(laughs)*

Again the Hawks out of defence. Ries goes for Vandenberg. No-one really pushing for them. Now there's a good strong lead coming from Barker. Very cruel bounce for him. Archer. Harvey, who went through the opening term, without getting a tap. David King. Oh, Stevens has drifted down into the pocket, he can run out and try to close it off, which he does not do, a behind Kangaroos 13 9 Hawthorn 24 10. Getting back to Carey and his absence, if they don't get it together and he doesn't come back to the Roos, and leaves at the end of the year, what do they need, what should the Kangaroos go for draft picks, should they go for an experienced type of player, what should they do?

Well it's pretty, it's a tough call really, because they Kangaroos got off to a pretty good start this year obviously today's game isn't one of the real great efforts of the Kangaroos, but uh certainly, they'd dearly love another key centre half forward, someone of the Wayne Carey ilk, but uh you know as I said, they don't grow on trees, and they have drafted young kids over the last couple of years, so maybe they've got enough young talent in their senior side but also in their seconds side to bring through, so they might need a seasoned player to compliment those young players.

Graham out wide, picked off by John Baird, who hasn't been too bad in the early part of the season. He's played in defence. In long she goes. Vandenberg back there and through the traffic kept his head. Ries does well, they're in the corridor now running Crawford, two bounces, let's make it three, Spider Burton confronts him, goes in looking for a marking option McCartney had it and lost it, Hay, stolen beautifully by Daniel Motlop who shows a bit of form, so he's one player that may be able to make a name for himself over the next 4 5 6 7 years for the Roos they're into attack. Rocca its right through his hands, too easy for Harford who has all the time in the world, chips out wide and number 37 Angelo Lekkas has it.

Yes, run out of room pretty quickly, Shannon Watt coming in to try and close him out. Eventually the supporting cast arrives. Rawlings 24 possessions for Jade Rawlings and many of them like that, delivering nicely to Luke McCabe, up on the wing another man whose just got loose all day, Cox, Harford on the overlap he's got Vandenberg pushing forward, got Chick running back, Hay coming out of the goal square Holland down there as well but Picioane was the short option.

I'm watching Shannon Grant, Huddo, he's a hundred meters back inside the attacking zone for the Roos that's been the problem and the Hawks have made them pay.

Vandenberg! Right on the line

And it's coming back. And that's one of the problems. Shannon Grant's back in the middle of the ground, their running players or Hawthorn players are inside 50 Grant was back across half forward, he might be tired, he certainly has run out of steam but that's one of the reasons they've been run off their legs too

You're spot on Daics, you can be attacking but uh when you haven't got the ball you've got to apply some type of pressure, and uh the Hawks when they've got the ball they've been both ways. They've been attacking but they've also been willing to run their opponents down and provide some pressure to help their defenders out

But they've run themselves out of position. They're running too deep. Run between half back half forward.

Barker, for goal number four, and it stayed left. 3 goals 2 for John Barker. I'm not sure what the stats record for the year is. But 370 disposals, that's a massive amount, for the Hawks, isn't it, today. 370 to 277 so they've almost had a hundred more touches

I don't think it has been an overuse, certainly their handballs in the latter part of the game after half time they've probably played around with it a little bit but their execution has been pretty good and they've really run into a brick wall, so Robbins, Clayton, into the middle, Burton can go on again,

Archer was there. Hands off Robbins hasn't been too bad, goes in drops short. knocked away by Angelo Lekkas this time, McCabe head over the ball, Motlop, Shannon, just chips up, Rocca will run, no, it was out of bounds we'll have a boundary throw in, inside 50 Roos into attack. 27 and a half minutes last quarter, has it. The Hawks are 24 11 155 13 9 87 the roos

Got their work cut out the Kangaroos. I think genuine running ability around the ground one of the big problems, especially here at the MCG

Rawlings again taking the mark. 11 for Rawlings, Ries another possession, 29 for young Nick Ries, great effort, Cox he's had 30 touches as well, they've just racked them up all day. Chick one on one with Daniel Motlop and there it goes, SIREN a sweet sound for the Hawks. Consistent performers all day, the Kangaroos on the other hand blown out of the water early. Both teams now with 3 wins and 3 losses. One on the way up and the other one with plenty to do to get back on the winning list.

## 2002.4 Carlton v Western Bulldogs

4 May 2002 Docklands (29 783) 68-96 Channel 10

Stephen Quartermain, Robert Walls, Michael Christian, Gerard Whately

So will the Bulldogs break the ice in season 2002 or can the Blues stage a fight back? We bounce the ball to start this final quarter, and we'll have a take two in the middle.

Franchina he's got the tagging job on Scotty West so he's wearing him closely, Matty Lappin in the goal square for Carlton, cirddy hooks been with him all night.

Darcy beautifully done, kicks a high ball inside 50 for the Bulldogs, the double fist is from McKay. Bandy, here's a chance for Johnson. Goal! Just what the Blues didn't need Robert Walls.

Well that's right Stephen and you've got to give credit again to Luke Darcy, it was Darcy who was able to clear the ball from the centre, he's an absolute marvel, and he punched it long to the forward line, Daniel Bandy, he's able to get it at ground level feed off a handball to Johnson running towards goal and he's one of the more accurate kicks in that Bulldogs team, so, makes it very hard for Carlton now 28 points

Two goals to Brad Johnson

Luke Darcy, 18 possessions for a ruckman, a minute into this final term, what a match he's played. From the centre, here he goes again, I can't believe it he kicks inside attacking 50 Johnson a chance clever handball to grennao oh he tried to wheel around loose player not loose, Bandy can he get boot to ball, no Beaumont, well played by the Carlton defence only as far as Giansiracusa, a couple of fumbles still got some time, what will he do? Sweeping handball, Gilbee, tried to get it on quickly to Eagleton, now back to Gilbee snap from the pocket, and he misses. Good pressure by the Blues but the Bulldogs equal to the task. Gilbee just couldn't quite finish. Margin out to 29 points.

Chris Grant can't take a trick can he? He got that ball in a bit of space and his feet went from under him, he slipped to the ground he got the long ball to the goal square, Bandy got wrapped him up.

3 behinds to Lindsay Gilbee by the way. As Carlton work the ball out of their defensive 50, Christou, to Plunkett, Houlihan runs up the centre corridor drives it long, Hotton has it fist away, Murphy's been quiet by his standards, Franchina back to Murphy can bang it long from 50, it's a good looking kick, hit the post! Second behind of the evening for Justin Murphy. The Blues need goals. They trail 12 12 to 8 8. Early in this final final term.

Umpire hadn't finished waving the flags so Rowan Smith will have to go back and kick it in again. Rowan Smith who kicked a very important goal in that third quarter, kicks into the pocket to Giansiracusa,

This will be his 15th disposal, played the first half on Murphy.

No question the Western Bulldogs have got some exciting talent. Giansiracuso's one of them. Long kick to the wing, fist from Christou at the base of the pack Harrison, wobbly old kick Beaumont leads Grant to the ball then fumbles still got plenty of time, great chasing Chris Grant, always had support there, McKernan, now a chance for Christou in space at half back, assess his options, kicks to Plunkett, great spoil coming from Gilbee. Numbers though with the Blues. Fletcher, they're fiddling though Carlton, Wiggins concedes some ground, in fact 25 meters to McKernan who ambles off and kicks it high as a consequence. Lappin well played, Carlton a chance here, he thumps it long towards full forward, Whitnall across the front of the pack can't take the mark at the back Harrison, tracks it towards the line, tried to keep it in or at least made the impression he tried to keep it in.

Boundary throw in, deep in Carlton's attacking zone

Played a pretty fair game for the Bulldogs Ben Harrison playing across half back, he's had 14 disposals. Played a good bit of the night on Lance Whitnall now he's on Freeborn.

Carlton deep into attack. Hotton reaches over the top to Whitnall, Croft was there to affect the tackle, Kretiuk off to Croft, handball a little loose, West and Smith, free kick, coming back to West. So the Bulldogs get out of trouble.

28 points in front are the Doggies. Almost 5 minutes gone in the final term. Plunkett, copped one a bit high, here's Libba, (??) Bandy, Gilbee has been busy, so's this man, Alby, did it nicely back to Gilbee, 55 out, good centring kick to the tip of the goal square, Freeborn getting back. Misjudged it, Eagleton, was set upon by three Blues (*laughing*) ball up.

He got sandwiched didn't he?

Lindsay Gilbee's got a bit of toe he really did accelerate from wing to half forward and featured in a couple of pieces of play and then put the ball to the hotspot and Eagleton got it and one two three they came at him, he had nowhere to go.

So bounce down, gee if they can get one here the Bulldogs, it wouldn't be the sealer, but it will make it very tough for Carlton. Well done by Hotton, tapped it to Christou, Prendergast, back to Christou, he's had a good night for Carlton. In his first game for the season after a broken arm. Murphy. Christou up to 23 possessions. Now Murphy's going to transfer play to the Docklands side of the ground and he finds McKay who's got about 30 meters on his nearest opponent. To the wing. He finds Fletcher. He kicks in the direction of Hotton who works his way to the front. Liberatore, good handball under pressure to Grant who side steps Ratten. West. Toe pokes it along the boundary line, stays in play, Beaumont goes inboard to Plunkett, and Christou, Carlton trying to set something up here, drills the pass to half forward, out in front of McKernan, got clean bowled, when you're hot you're hot but Corey McKernan won it back, well done big fella, handballs it over the top in the direction of Gallagher. Straightens up and finds his skipper. Well done by McKernan to win the football back and well done by Gallagher to find his captain, and now Ratten will line up on a very slight angle kicking from 40 meters out.

And it certainly keeps the game alive if he

He's worked hard Corey McKernan, hasn't had much relief in the ruck.

Brett Ratten has kicked one, and now he's kicked two. And the Blues stay alive.

Corey McKernan coming off for a break. 14 minutes to go in the final term and the margin back to 22 points

And so too Gallagher, the two boys who set that up, Gallagher the player whose got the football now spins around and squares the ball to Ratten and Ratten makes no mistake. So, both coaches using the interchange bench very quickly at this stage of the game.

Ratten has 2 and Carlton stay in touch. Still plenty of time. Last quarter's just 8 minutes old.

Interesting contest between Christou and Bandy, Christou had 24 disposals, Bandy's played well also, kicking goals and setting them up for the Dogs. Brown out of the centre, he should have perhaps kicked, he tried to handball to Gallagher and the Blues take it away, Franchina, low towards Lappin over his head, and it's all Western Bulldogs back, Croft takes some time to pick it up, he does now, kicks, and gets to Smith, still inside defensive 50, kick out wide to Harrison, and the Western Bulldogs in



Liberatore running with Brett Ratten.

Harrison has Gilbee on the wing, clever kick, gets to Garlick at right half forward, the Western Bulldogs working it, it around the city wing here at Colonial Stadium. Garlick long kick inside attacking 50 Bandy from the side, couldn't quite get hold of it, McKay works it to the side and we'll get a boundary throw in.

Daniel Bandy, Robert Walls mentioned an enthralling duel between Christou and Bandy.

One reason Christou gets a lot of ball is because Bandy does the ruck work as we see now and Christou's free at ground level

Whitnall, inside his own defensive 50, probing kick towards Freeborn, ends with Merrington Prendergast, didn't take the ball with him, West, good tackle by Franchina. Merrington out now Prendergast a chance, handball to Whitnall, what can Lance set up here? He directs traffic, from the wing then pumps it long inside attacking 50, Ratten going back, oh, almost could have got a free kick credial into the path of Gilbee on the wing, a boundary throw in.

And something that Ratten will do, he will push forward because Libba his opponent Libba he's so much taller than him and, and Ratten is smart enough to know the more times he gets in the forward 50 the greater opportunity he's got to mark and kick goals, against Libba

Eccles, coming in for Carlton, Prendergast off, Darcy, too strong in the ruck, Freeborn, could have been a free kick to Plunkett, and the umpire's paid it.

Well ten minutes in, one goal each in this final term

There's 22 points the difference

Well Plunkett, drives it long, inside the 50. Whitnall!

He's paid it!

He has paid the mark big Lance and he'll go back and line up for goal number five. What a night he's had.

I think Croft should be playing on Whitnall and Bartlett should uh play on Merrington. Croft is a senior defender and I just think he would be a far better match up on the dangerous forward

It was almost uncontested in the end.

Yep

Oh Lance Whitnall will lead Trent Bartlett a merry dance he's such a smart player.

So if Whitnall can kick this it'll make it a 16 point ball game and Carlton are back in it.

He's tired

That was a tired kick, wasn't it Robert?

Yes, he's tired he took a ball on the wing and almost stopped before he kicked it. Socks are down and uh he's just about had enough. He'll fight on though.

Four goals 3 to Lance Whitnall. Lucky let off for the Bulldogs as Liberatore takes the mark on centre wing. Liberatore plays on, hoisted high to centre half forward, Grant comes to meet it, well played, he trapped it cleverly handball was a straight, Wiggins from half back, loose player forward of the wing, Eccles, can he set something up here, he kicks in short, Ratten, marked on attacking 50, play on, kicked to a vacant goal square, Houlihan gets bad ball bouncing

Well played Alan Green

Well Carlton certainly controlling play in the last few minutes, margin's just 20 points and this quarter we've played just 12 and a half minutes so still plenty of time for the Blues if they're good enough.

Bulldogs have got all players to one side of the ground.

Rowan Smith goes the long option and that's a great mark by Harrison who you've been impressed with Robert

He's marked well tonight, he gets in front and he's sneaky tall, he's one of those players you think he's a flanker and he does play around the flank but he would be around 190 centimetre, the old 6 foot 3 mark and a pretty good vertical jump. He can take a good mark.

16 disposals and 6 marks to Harrison as he goes to the wing. Hotton did well. Sideways to Freeborn. Now he drills it long. Croft back. Wrestling with Merrington. Cranial decides to concede the behind. (*Light booing*) They're doing it by behinds at the moment. Its 19 points the difference. 13 and a half gone final quarter Bulldogs in front.

Carlton doing all the attacking and you just sense that it's just a matter of time before they can score a goal, kick in comes back towards Harrison, Franchina, Harrison has it, he's tackled by Hotton and a bounce at half forward for the Blues

And Whitnall's dropped back to the goal square, Bartlett his opponent, I think that's a good ploy and Rattan's dropping out of this contest, he's back towards the goals as well on Libba. So they're setting up as well as they can, the Blues.

Carlton have the ball on their half forward line. Darcy, Bradley, has a bounce, tackle by Garlick is a good one, Ratten a chance, West keeps his feet and eventually bowled over by Franchina and another ball up, this time 45 meters from the Carlton goal. Great chase from Garlick.

Yes, Garlick's got his hands full playing on Craig Bradley, you can see in picture there, he's got touch on him, Bradley will lead him in and then drop out he's as smart as they come

Bandy, doing the ruck work. Taken by Merrington. He runs to 35 meters and misses. Gee that would have been very handy goal. 4 consecutive behinds to Carlton. Margin, 3 straight kicks, 15 minutes in.

And Bulldogs have made a change in the ruck. Bandy has gone into the ruck, Luke Darcy has dropped back to the goal square on Christou and I think that's a good move because Luke Darcy's rucked the entire game, he's been up against McKernan and Merrington and Hotton. He's dropped right back to the goal square, and Bandy, now it's his turn to take control in the ruck. Carlton get the next goal Bulldogs could be in bit of strife.

3 goals the difference, Doggies in front, but there's a lot of time left. Bit of soccer off the ground by Bradley. It's a free kick to the Bulldogs advantage paid, this is Bartlett.

Oh geeze

Gee it's a bold kick, Gilbee good tackle too, he didn't win the football but he laid a great tackle on Wiggins. We'll have a throw in Carlton into attack at half forward. Bulldogs gotta be positive, you can't save the game from here,

He's still looking relaxed (*laughing*) (*coach, manager man in shirt*)?

Throw in, Fletcher over the top, back of the pack. Eccles, found some space, now off the ball, the Carlton player went down, umpire said it was okay as cranial marks. And gives it to Smith, the Doggies are away as Croft marks at half back. Pursued by Merrington, tries to crash through the



tackle, just got through it but put Harrison under extreme pressure. Handball conceding ground back to Smith, they're under the pump the Bulldogs, look out Bandy! Play ons the call, Turnover Franchina

Free kick

Play ons the call, Freeborn at half forward kicks in short, Whitnall!

Great work out on the work there by Carlton, their tackle and their chase and their forced error, and they hit hard, Croft is really struggling and then Whitnall on the lead out in front of Bartlett. I think they've gotta get Croft onto Lance Whitnall and move Bartlett back onto Merrington.

Whitnall from just inside 50. Contest in the goal square, Bandy, thumps it back towards Ratten, diving on top of the ball, well played by Liberatore, he emerged from the congestion, wobbles it towards half back, Harrison, needs to make a contest, he's outnumbered, now support from Bartlett, clever kick around the body, Dimattina will need to go, ball close to the line and out of bounds. This game right on the knife's edge. The Bulldogs lead by 18 points but the Blues are coming hard. We've played 18 minutes, final term.

And just look at the tackling there, Croft couldn't get away, he gets a rushed handball out to a teammate he gets wrapped up, ball ends up in Whitnall's hands. Tired kick doesn't cover 40 meters

West, from the throw in, a valuable possession as he puts it inside 50 with the flight of the ball, well he put his hand up then when it was required, Chris Grant,

Gutsy mark, running with the flight of the ball, you called it Stephen, that was a very very courageous mark, running with the flight of the ball, he didn't know what was coming, kept his eyes on it, and it was Scotty West who broke away from the pack, you see Chris Grant there running back, now he's got no idea what's coming and a great mark. Now let's see how his kicking goes.

Well, they're under the pump the Doggies, but if he kicks this, this would just about be a match winning goal, this would be enough, you'd reckon.

This is the situation in which Chris Grant's been criticised over his career, the crunch goal, the clutch goal, whatever you want to call it, the goal that has to be kicked to win the game that he hasn't delivered,

Let's see what he does

So Chris Grant and again, he's got the grip. He's got the hand to the middle and front of the footy, that's the way it should be, let's see if he can kick through it

He took the crunch mark, can he kick the crunch goal? He can! Grant gets his

He can! Grant gets his third and at the 19 and a quarter minute mark, there's the clock on your screen, there's just over six minutes left, it should be enough Robert Wall.

It should be because we've gone 19 minutes and at the 19 minute mark it was one goal apiece, it's been a really good contest, an arm wrestle, Scotty West breaks forward, he's had a good night and Chris Grant takes the crunch mark and goes back and kicks the crunch goal. Well done.

Three goals to Chris Grant and a very relaxed president. Hotton jumps high in the centre, takes it out, gets to Bradley, can the Carlton side respond? He kicks towards Murphy, oh brilliant spoil coming from Smith, now a chance for Freeborn, 35 meters from goal, he kicks, and – hits the post, oh, well Carlton have not taken a trick in this final quarter. They've done all the attacking and just haven't been able to convert on the scoreboard.

Great interception by Rowen Smith, it was almost a certain mark to Murphy, ball came out to Freeborn who missed I just think at each centre bounce they've got to get Darcy in for the centre bounce then let Bandy to the ruck work but you've got to have Darcy in at the centre bounces, he's so good.

The Blues have kicked one goal six this quarter, could easily have been 3 or 4 goals. Franchina on the 50 tries somehow to get it to Merrington without success. And we'll have a ball up.

Well they've had opportunities Carlton as you've said, Stephen and a couple of posters, Murphy's hit the post in this final quarter, so too Freeborn, but the Doggies have been dogged, they've really got numbers around the ball and they've just pressured and pushed them wide and tackled as they've been about to kick the footy, they've really put the pressure on the Blues.

Johnson clearing kick for the Dogs and we'll have a throw in. So 21 minute mark of the final term. It is the Bulldogs leading by 23 points.

Be the first time in a long time that Chris Grant's played the entire game as a forward and I think that is what he needs, just to be settled in the forward line.

From the throw in Dimattina by Hotton, Franchina, Ratten almost the death touch to Eccles, Bulldogs are there in number, West, now Garlick, on centre wing probing kick towards Bandy, good spoil by Christou. Lappin, been quiet tonight, gets the handball to McKay he's got Eccles loose on the wing and now Carlton, can they mount something? Kick to half forward, Whitnall has marked too far out to score as Ratten comes from the ground, we'll get some comments shortly, from Gerard. The kick was poor comes to Smith, Giansiracusa inside the square, he can run, bounce didn't quite come back to him but he draws the player beautifully, now a chance for Gilbee, he runs in, and kicks a goal for the Bulldogs. It's all over. The Western Bulldogs have responded to the Carlton challenge and lead by 29 points 22 and a half minutes in

And I would say a dozen Doggies have gone to Rowan Smith in the backline, he was the one who intercepted, he took the mark, he was the one who was able to get the ball forward and it was good run and carry and finally a handball across to Lindsay Gilbee who's missed quite a few tonight. He got that one. And have a look at the face of the skipper, I think he knows the games gone and he's hurt he's doing it pretty hard.

So it is the Western Bulldogs 96 leading the Blues 67 out to 29 points at the 23 minute mark of the final term.

Darcy back in the ruck

First win of the season coming up for the Bulldogs. Hotton's run down, Bulldogs get possession, Garlick to half forward here's Bandy he's got Eagleton on, Bradley's going to run him down, Eagleton loses possession, free kick, is it

Yep

It's coming back and Eagleton's got it. Into the pocket. Plunkett, clever little kick to Eccles, and he's going to clear defensive 50 for Carlton. Looks for Houlihan and finds him. Murphy, along the boundary line to half forward kicks it straight to Murphy

Nice player Robert Murphy

Beautifully balanced, isn't he

Yeah, he will be a hundred and fifty 200 game player for the Dogs

Giansiracusa to Harrison who was picked off that kick by Fletcher, but Carlton don't have any numbers back, (??) get that now Bradley forced to go short, and was that 15 m? Gee whiz, umpire says it was, and Merrington's got the kick, directly in front but he's 55 meters out. So, Andrew Merrington

His father played for the Bulldogs,

Yeah, Garry,

Yep

Long kick, its coming back but not enough one behind when the Blues need goals and need them fast. So 25 minutes almost ticked over in the final term it's the Bulldogs 14 12 96 Carlton 9 14 68 that's 28 points the difference

One goal 7 the Carlton total in this final quarter kick come sin towards Bartlett, at the back Harrison, gets a handball to Darcy, to West, and the Bulldogs moving it forward Giansiracusa confronted by Merrington well played by Merrington now Freeborn to Fletcher, the Carlton side back into attack. At the back, Murphy.

He's been good hasn't he? He's been good when the pressure's on and again I think he's found his niche for the next couple of years at least. Play across half back. Could be a midfielder eventually, he's tall but he can run and cover the ground.

Kicks across the round to the opposite pocket. Bartlett, runs nonchalantly to half back, kick just hits the mark Darcy keeps it in handball though astray. Garlick read it a little better, Harrison, hoists it high to half forward, Hotton in front can't complete the mark. Well played by Wiggins he attacked the ball hard and we'll get a bounce.

Good play by Saunders too to force the contest there, he came from behind and he made sure and uh Terry Wallace will be happy with that effort. Player rankings Darcy number one that's no surprise he's just end of ground level, Scotty West has been good and Rowan Smith has had a wonderful game.

Gallagher now Plunkett for Carlton, sweeps the handball to Beaumont, little give to Lappin who has been well and truly wrapped up tonight by Credly, done a wonderful job on Lappin, to half forward, Croft the fist, Smith, Johnson, and West, three of the key midfielders. Back to Croft and it goes out wide and finds Burse, goes short to Gilbee

Who's been busy

Been lively hasn't he

One goal three he's kicked,

He then goes short to Darcy who's told to play on, nonchalantly kicks around the body, and Chris Grant takes the mark.

Have a shot

He's 55 out from goal

Have a shot, get four out of four (*laughing*)

The cheque will be bigger.

Ha ha so Chris Grant 3 goals 1 is his tally tonight. So he's going to have a ping, at the 27 and a half minute mark of the final term. The Bulldogs are home. West with 28 touches is the leading possession

getter on the ground. Gee he's using some time (*booing*) so in he comes, the captain for the Western Bulldogs, 3 goals tonight. Gives it everything he's got, falls into the goal square, Libba's in there (*laughing*) in the end the ball comes out to Lappin, Lappin to half back and Prendergast should mark it, he does,

Murphy was loose, but well played by Giansiracusa just holding Prendergast up, short kick is poor, Gallagher traps it SIREN as the final siren sounds and the Western Bulldogs have recorded their first win defeating the Blues by 28 points.

## 2002.5 Brisbane Lions v Geelong

4 May 2002 Gabba (27 015) 146-89 FOX FOOTY

Ian Robertson, Malcolm Blight, Tim Watson, Bill McDonald

The margin is 48 points in favour of Brisbane, King in the ruck for Geelong Lappin slides in Ashcroft and Clarke, and something we don't see often in modern day football Robbo, mud

**IR** Yes, I had a look at that when I went down to the ground to speak with Jason Akermanis and it is a little unusual in modern day football, but the boys are still handling that footy pretty well as we saw there with Josh Hunt, he took the mark and kicked the ball forward but the Brisbane side, just always it's a terrific sign when you look as though you've got more players on the ground than the opposition. Cameron Ling has kicked the ball to the goal line and the mark has been taken and a goal will be kicked for Geelong. Cameron Ling did pretty well it looked like Brisbane were going to clear that full back line but Kingsley has marked and he will go now for his fourth goal, it looks like just a formality, doesn't it? The player on the mark is right on the goal line you can see there from behind the goal lines, kick, Kingsley has kicked his fourth, Geelong have got their ninth. Four goals two to Ki-Kingsley, far and away the leading individual goal kicker for Geelong the rest are singles and Geelong are 9 10 64 importantly for them the first goal of the last term trail by 42 points.

Yes it was Ian, it is good that they've got that goal now, they haven't been disgraced by any means at this stage and you know a couple more goals and strange things can happen in football, and just good to see them keep going and keep at it.

**IR** It's been a promising start for Ki-Kingsley this season, he's kicked 14 goals for the year just 22 goals for his entire season for 2001 so he's well on track to beat that. The ball comes out to Brad Scott kicks towards half forward Foster attacked it for the Cats, Martin Pike there to lay yet another tackle, he's worked hard all night, has Martin Pike,

Brad Scott's game a good one, 20 possessions.

Yeah it's been good he's just mopped up, him and Chris Johnson across half back have been terrific.

There's Daniel Bradshaw, he's wearing out that trail around the boundary line as he has throughout most of the second half, King put the tap down. Powers puts it forward for Brisbane, he might create something out of this through Black, he's right on the boundary line the tackle came from, to put the pressure on. Ling, to tidy up for Geelong, runs away from Voss, little handball to Steven King and he chips it outside 50 and finds Corey. So good pressure there there from the Geelong defence to create the turnover, can they go forward now through David Clarke, he's a couple of men running for him on the outer side. The kick came in and Leppitsch took it absolutely brilliantly, drifted across and took the mark, he streams forward now, Milt to lay the tackle, did just enough just to knock the handball loose but it still spilt to Lappin. Rooke went again. Lappin got away from him, squares it up, Ashcroft, to Pike and Pike goes to half forward finds Voss 60 meters from home. Couple of men on in space, one of them is Simon Black, just has a happy knack of getting by himself and you have to wonder how can one of the midfielders surely the focus of opposition attention, but just one of those blokes who finds space.

No because 20 seconds ago Justin Leppitsch would have read a kick and he's the best in the business at it, so the Geelong midfields going forward, they're in positive mode, all of a sudden it switches over.

So here's Black. From right on the 50 Sanderson attacks it for Geelong, Headland pinched it, picks his pocket! Brilliantly! Snaps onto his left boot but pulled it back to far and scores a behind. 3 goals 1 this evening to Des Headland and he's been quite promising.

**IR** Been terrific, we've mentioned him a few times, but that's what say people in football they say well how did he get free, well the real reason was, it was great play from Justin Leppitsch that turned the whole game upside down. Little bit too predictable by the Cats to go down that left hand side when they maybe I watched Steven King make good provision in the middle of the ground, but the vision from the player, he obviously couldn't spot the skipper. Well, they've got possession of the ball across their full back line and their leading goal kicker has the ball. Kingsley in towards the centre half back position and it's taken here for the Cats by Jarrod Rooke, his short kick has been well marked by Corey. Corey for Geelong, goes in towards half forward, Graham, got the front possie, but good defensive work by Mal Michael, strong play by McDonald, back to Michael, gives away a little bit of ground to Ashcroft, he spots a player Morrison. I think the Brisbane Lions would be happy to see this player have all of the ground time available to him in the last quarter, Shane Morrison his kick was okay, found Notting, able to run all the way up to the forward 50 and then spots a player at half forward, that player is McRae and he will shoot for goal.

There's real footy smarts, Ian isn't it, that you don't panic with the footy, bide your time, draw a player, your teammate peels off, opens up the door for you and then not to get a rush of blood and have the presence to use the footy.

**IR** Well their captain is a very good player (*laughing*) from that point of view isn't he, and if you just keep watching him and take a few little tricks out of his trade box, I'm sure you'll go a long way. As we watch Craig McRae shoot for goal, directly in front which was important and he's kicked it straight over the goal umpire's head for a goal, he's kicked his second. 2 goals to Craig McRae 3 goals to Headland, a couple to Luke power, 4 to Alastair Lynch, a couple to Chris Scott and all in all it adds up to the score line of the Brisbane Lions leading comfortably, 16 17 113 Geelong 9 10 64 margin 49 points,

This is just this wonderful play, again just wonderful presence, had a wonderful finish as we've mentioned, and a lovely kick for goal.

So margin is 49 points. McRae with his 2<sup>nd</sup> goal. From the centre bounce Bartel wrapped up their by Beau McDonald, we'll have yet another bounce in the middle of the ground. Clearances, Geelong actually in front now, Malcolm 29 to 27 Brisbane on top strongly, early.

Yep. Bartel, hasn't touched the ball, he had a good purple patch in the second quarter but this is a great lesson for him, like fourth game or something, you know, it's just great.

McDonald slapped it to half forward, it's picked up by Sanderson for the Cats sweeps the handball wide to Hunt

Good kick

Long kick inside 50 it was a beautiful kick, great penetration. Mooney got hands to it couldn't bring it down, Johnson, thrown out of the way by Scott, Michael crashes through he's wrapped up by Ablett, play ons the call. Umpire lets it go. Mooney hacks it out of mid-air and just misses to the right hand side, in fact it grazed the post on the way past, his first score for the evening, Cameron Mooney, we see Darryl White jogging the bench. McDonald off and Keating on for Brisbane. They lead by 48 points and it will be Chris Johnson to bring it back into play. 14 and a half minutes remaining in this final term.

Both teams teams have employed the zone tonight, and oh they broke it early and it's been a lot better in the second half, they haven't been quite as damaging getting the ball away from these

Johnson to Black, he goes over the top to Scott and Brisbane build off half back, the kick is good and a mark taken by Keating, Voss is there in support, and rather arrogantly, I don't think he was ever threatened at all by uh Steven King, he'll get it back again and he'll share it with his teammate Notting, Notting'll kick a goal, no he won't he'll kick a shocker. 2 out of 10 for that one, Tim. Out of bounds on the full, free kick for Geelong to be taken in their right back pocket, by Tom Harley.

How'd you give him 2 out of 10?

It went forward

Ah, be kind, be kind

It went forward (*laughing*) it's closer to the goals than it was

He kicked it, he kicked it, and it covered 35 meters (*laughing*)

Ok. The kick goes out wide where it was taken there by Milburn shared it with Clarke back in towards the middle, Clarke oh Black rather, to Leppitsch, now Leppitsch just plays with his opponent. Actually it was Ben Graham, kicked it into the pocket, that should have been nearly a mark to Scarlett, the crumbs were gathered by Milburn, Sanderson short to Clarke, he waited for it, and then uh rather lazily handballed it to Graham, back to Clarke he gets onto the right boot this time and luckily for Geelong Ling is on the end of it. Cameron Ling can hang onto the footy and then bombs away and it really was a bomb into to half forward. Gathered here by Riccardi, Riccardi hooks the kick, it will go all the way, it will go, no it will be Johnson's first goal, in AF, in senior AFL football, well done.

So Steve Johnson gets his first goal and the Cats get their 10<sup>th</sup>. 10 11 71 they trail 112.

Hope you're enjoying this coverage line and uninterrupted right around Australia on Fox FOOTY

**MB** This uh kick as you say, it was a bit of a mongrel punt, Ian, and Riccardi's kick just bounced favourably for the youngster, he'll be excited about that, he'll probably remember that. Not if he kicks a thousand, he won't.

So Steve Johnson's first goal in league football he just hesitated for a moment, he was going to let it bounce through and then he thought you beauty, it sat up and in he went and kicked his first goal. King high up and under, almost go for a ruck contest right back in the middle, it spills to Bartel. Snap inside 50 it was a quick one. Graham takes the juggling mark, and Malcolm if I've heard it once, I've heard it a thousand times, that is the advantage of playing in front when you're up forward.

**MB** Well its more the advantage playing in front when there's a pack or a 50-50 going on in front of you, that's the advantage not necessarily, I still think you can play from behind the forward line when you're reading the game up and down the ground, a lot of defenders don't like playing in front I reckon you should always test 'em out occasionally.

So here's Ben Graham he's kicked one goal 3 for the evening. His 11<sup>th</sup> possession coming up. From right on the 50 and he guides it home, no problems there for Ben Graham, he's got his second

These are important, aren't they, for the Cats in their development. We've spoken often tonight, and even in the previous five weeks about the youth policy and the way they're going along those lines that it's important they finish the game off

**MB** Look I think one of the greatest things of all, said in football happened during the week. When Frank Costa said, plan A is play the kids, Plan B is refer to plan A and there's no plan C. I think that's the most succinct thing and confident building thing I've heard at a footy club in years, and knowing Frank, he'd mean it.



Let's hit boundary side with Bill McDonald.

**BM** We won't be seeing any more of Beau McDonald tonight, it looks like he might have reinjured the ankle that's kept him out for the last couple of weeks, it's packed in ice and we won't be seeing him back out here tonight.

The play re-started and Rooke gets first foot to the ball, only gets it about 30 meters towards his own goal. Ashcroft was there, Scott, Michael and Scott. So the first obviously was Brad because the last one is Chris. And Chris's kick goes out wide and the mark has been taken out here by Notting. He's probably 75 closer to 80 meters from goal so at least 2 kicks. He'll go in short, the lead was provided but uh just reading it uh quite nicely and getting between the kicker and the intended receiver which was Lynch and a good mark taken by Brenton Sanderson.

It's interesting what Leigh Matthews has done tonight with Notting up forward and also Pike, I mean we've seen them play there before but they've actually showed some terrific form up forward, great for some mix arounds later in the year.

Hunt kicks the ball long, out to the contest which was between Chambers and his opponent, then Hunt, it was Keating out there, with actually Copeland out there, with Chambers, the umpire has decided that a bounce should take place, or a ball up should I say. Quite greasy conditions after rain, well, fairly heavy rain fell in the third term. 12 and a half minutes into the last quarter. Lions 113 Cats 77

Lappin on the burst, from 60 meters out right on the boundary he'll square it to the goal square, tailor made for Alastair Lynch, spills off hands and through for a rushed behind. Brisbane's 6<sup>th</sup> rushed behind for the evening. They do attack the goal face, Malcom, we've seen a lot of contest within 15 meters of goal tonight

**MB** yep, Alastair Lynch creates that and usually gives a very good contest.

So, Sanderson, to Hunt went with the spiral, only as far as Keating, he slaps it back into space, Black if he can keep it in is a real chance here for Brisbane, almost slipped away from him, he got it, sure hands, inside to Scott, from 30 meters out, tight on the boundary goes for home and kicks a fantastic goal.

Well Brad Scott just threaded the needle there on that occasion and has kicked his first for the evening. And Brisbane go further in front

Look, That is a serious punch isn't it, that does create luck I suppose, with the punch but it's going forward, and Black just standing off the pack, not right under it this time sets it up and Brad Scott, he didn't show any emotion but when he walked back another 10 meters he's just a big smile, he was really pleased about it.

Gee Leigh Matthews still barking instructions down the phone line to the interchange bench. The game has still got plenty of time to run and he can still find reasons to send instructions to the players. Ling's kick, well, uh disappointing really, the Brisbane will clear quite definitely, Simon Black short to Lappin, it could go wide to Pike but swings around to his right and kicks it in to half forward where they outnumber three to two, they're going to take possession of the ball. Johnson just unselfishly, kick by McRae is a goal, just took a step, probably took two bang, goal. Craig McRae has now kicked three goals, they've got a long list of goal kickers and they go marching on, they've now kicked their 18th goal they're 18 18 126 the Cats 11 11 77 so the margin back to 49 points.

And right now, Mark Thompson wouldn't be looking at that goal. What he'd go back to is Cameron Ling's kick that went 20 meters along the ground, compared to Simon Black's that went 20 meters to



a team mate, whereas Black didn't panic the young fella saw someone coming out of his right side and just gave up the ball a bit. That's the education of that.

So the margin is out to 49 points just under 10 minutes remaining. Brisbane looking dangerous. Chambers and Keating. Chambers got it down. Geelong get the clearance. It'll go inside 50 Graham hands to it, couldn't take the mark. Chris Scott. Gets it out to Michael. Michael handpass over the top to Voss, and Voss laconically, across his body and finds Chris Johnson on centre wing. They're streaming forward with numbers, Brisbane, you get the feeling they're pretty keen to finish this last 9 and a half minutes off in a blaze of glory. Johnson goes over the top to Ashcroft, who'll get it and go, he'll go inside the 50. There's Pike again the target, got one hand to it, was he being scragged by Scarlett? He appeals for the free kick. Umpire says nothing doing. We'll have a throw in right alongside the Brisbane behind post. There we see uncontested possessions Malcolm, Brisbane have had a lot more of the ball in space tonight

**MB** yes, they're very good at it.

Headland from the ruck contest. Chambers, slaps it out towards the 50. Here's Voss, can he do something spectacular, great vision, put it around the corner, it wasn't 15, it comes to Pike, he twists and turns, gets away from Scarlett, goes inside the 50, Lynch just shoves Harley under the ball, Notting the one handed pick up, little handball, goes straight to Harley, he's wrapped up by Power, gets a hurried kick out towards Corey, through his legs, pressure football from both sides, Corey goes again, gets it outside the 50 towards Scarlett, Lappin dives in as well, they throw themselves on the football, Chambers in there, Voss in there, Bartel in there, in the end the umpire says we'll bounce it 65 meters out from Brisbane's goal.

**MB** what, uh, the players are probably getting a bit tired. I mean they've played on reasonably hard firm grounds and this has had, how's that kick from fox, that's amazing isn't it, uh yeah it was a bit when you walked out there, wasn't it, just a bit mouldy (??)

Most definitely

**MB** So, it's going to be the first time for these teams that these players have played in these sort of conditions.

And it apparent too that they're, you know, they're basically going up and down in one spot a little bit, and well it's been a fairly high scoring game, 36 scoring shots for the Lions, 22 for the Cats and a 49 point margin in favour of the Brisbane Lions. Striving to get the ball clear, they've had a couple of bounces in that area of the ground, now they succeed, but Voss on the end of it, it creates a certain amount of space there for Ashcroft, he throws it on his left boot and the mark is taken right in front of goal for Brisbane, by Power, is it, Notting, Notting has the ball right in front of goal, only, 11 meters out, so it will continue the barrage of goals for Brisbane. 18 18 126 to 11 11 77, and Notting, kicks his third. Notting gets his 2<sup>nd</sup> goal, and the 19<sup>th</sup> on the scoreboard for Brisbane, 19 18 132 the Cats 11 11 77.

We can watch this again, and uh just great hands from McRae on the ground wasn't it, to give it up, and Voss as we know is capable of that, Ashcroft just around the corner, and it falls short, under pressure, most balls fall short, and Notting read it best.

So Tim Notting with his 2<sup>nd</sup> goal extends the lead a little bit further for Brisbane. And they're finishing this game pretty strongly. Players pile in again. And so many times this evening we've seen secondary bounces. Shaun Hart there, plenty of players around this ball, bit of a glue pot just developing in the centre of the ground here at the Gabba, not often we see it in modern football. Keating goes up gets the tap down, there's power to run onto it, the tackle came from Kelly did just enough to hurry the disposal, Scarlett tried to slap it to advantage but only as far as Keating, to Brad

Scott, back to Pike, Scott lays the shepherd as Pike searching handball to Keating, Brisbane working around the outside towards half Copeland, in fact it was Black. Tumbled out of the contest. Corey tidied it up, got it to Foster. Foster to Bartel, tried to duck through the tackle, couldn't do so, got it to Rooke, Rooke a kick around towards the wing attacking the football was Kingsley, it spills to Ablett, can he do something creative? Here's a chance for the Cats. Inside 50 Graham's got three to beat, it spills to the back of the contest, Michael tries to soccer it out of mid-air, Graham to put pressure on. And Michael happy to take it to the line.

Its wonderful play then by by Mal Michael. Just first of all to get Ben Graham underneath the ball, but then when he actually went to the boundary line a lot of players fall over or try and belt it at the line, all he tried to do was to keep the ball marching along in front of him without losing his feet.

So, King palmed it down into the path of Johnson. There's Graham the skipper, pumps the handball backwards to Kingsley, again by hand to Clarke he squares it up to centre half forward, Rooke goes back with the flight, almost took the mark spills to Bartel, hurried snap will go towards the goal square. Mooney tracks back, Keating lumbering after him, Mooney, swings onto his right boot snaps it at goal, it's not a bad effort for Cameron Mooney, he's kicked a goal. Mooney gets his first and Geelong get one back. They fight on late in the game at the Gabba, it's been a quiet night for Mooney, just his third disposal,

But a pretty good finish there

Yeah Brisbane have kicked four and the Cats now 3. So I mean, to think you're going to get a shared quarter in the last quarter up here it's a miracle, because they do run over teams. That's pretty good.

Fair gap between their 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> goal the Cats got their 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> goals early in this term, and they've had a struggle, their, well their 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> goal earlier in this term, their 12<sup>th</sup> goal kicked by Mooney. Hart, in the centre bounce area out towards centre half forward. Gee that's a top mark, that's a really good mark there by Headland, in front of his face, he had an opponent to beat and he beat him pointlessly. Short kick, has that got the required distance? Play on says the umpire. Hart back to Headland, so a couple of possessions in that passage of play for Des Headland, in towards the full forward area, falling in front of Tom Harley, and again the player's endeavours can't be questioned. Not able to clear the congestion, so the umpire will ball it up about 30 meters from the Brisbane goal. 132 the Lions. 83 the Cats. 49 points the margin.

Geelong, would be pretty happy, gee that kick by Headland's gone through for a goal! What a freakish kick by Headland for his fourth goal

Well I think that a lot of people are very pleased for Des Headland's form tonight. And uh he's obviously worked hard to get back into the team. Now okay this is, this is what I've seen him do before, some freakish stuff, but I think tonight that what he's done is good basic stuff as well, he's really kept his head and uh it's amazing when you're confident, in good touch, how sometimes your luck just runs your way.

Bit of luck there, but still, you need it.

Yeah

So Des Headland with his 4<sup>th</sup> goal, 19 possession for the evening in his first game for 2002. After being dropped for the finals last year, he played 20 games up until that time but he's come back firing tonight. Geelong go forward, Graham ran over the top of it, here's Michael crashed into his own man Scott an then gave him the football, Chris Scott tried to hack it out of the air, comes to Ablett, release Ling, and he snaps a goal. Great hands there from Gary Ablett junior and a great finish there from Cameron Ling.

I wonder how many times you'll say that over the next few years, Ablett to Ling. I mean you just wonder, don't you. Its uh good stuff here. Just a nice little poke there from Mooney to get it out, he just didn't panic Ablett, and Cameron Ling under pressure there

My word

Kicked it beautifully over the ball

A couple of the players that we spoke about before the game, coming to the fore there, in particular Gary Ablett and of course, Cameron Ling. From the centre bounce the ball will be gathered by Brad Sholl, kicks a wobbly old punt kick in the area of Chris Johnson and Gary Ablett, Chris Johnson whose played a pretty good game for the Brisbane Lions, a little toe poke to the advantage of Brad Scott, to the advantage of Michael, back to Brad Scott, a couple of possessions in that passage of play for the Brisbane Lions defender, Brad Scott. Voss's kick, all the way to the goal line, taken by Milburn over the top Josh Hunt, in turn Scarlett, shares it out wide with Steven King, he's got support from Harley, Harley decides to go long it's a mongrel kick though close to the boundary line in front of Mooney and Darryl White and we'll see a boundary throw in just forward of centre wing favouring the Cats. 89 to 138 so that's back, the margin in the last 7 or 8 minutes has gone from 49 to 55 back to 49 back to 55 and presently 49 points. King does well so does Kelly. Kelly might get another chance there. Well pressured there by Ashcroft, gathered the ball, kicked it, over on the full free kick to Brisbane Lions player, Darryl White. Marcus Ashcroft will take seniority I would suggest.

So it was a beautiful kick up there from Kelly one handed but just not the percentage played in trying to put it on the boot, not in those tight confines around the boundary line. The mark is taken by Rooke. his 14<sup>th</sup> possession coming up in his 5th game of football, back from whence it came, he was looking for Mooney, spills off his hands, and over and out for a throw in. so just under 3 and a half minutes remaining, its Brisbane by 49 points. 20 18 to 13 11 Keating and King, King just nudges him under it, his punch went straight to Ashcroft. Ashcroft to Chris Scott, just drops the slippery football, gathers again, kicks up towards the wing it's a 2 on 1 contest. Pike just works Scarlett under the football cleverly and took the mark. Serviceable game from Martin Pike this evening, his 18<sup>th</sup> possession. Long kick towards half forward, the target was Black, Josh Hunt read it and just got over to get across to get a fist to it, his handball was looking for Rooke, put him under the pump, the young fellow, in came Power and in the end they all just dive on it and they're pretty happy to call that one a draw.

Yeah well I suppose you've got to give that young Black a little bit of credit for trying to create something. I mean they're down by a big margin, Josh Hunt I was talking about and it didn't quite work for them. Cameron Ling, just gets a little toe poke to it but it hits the behind post so it will be a boundary throw in left forward pocket for the Brisbane Lions.

Saw a wry smile there from Mark Thompson, a little bit uh exasperated but at the same time just smiling to himself and saying about these blokes, they'll improve.

Well no doubt about that, more ground time, more pressure, and quality opposition they've had tonight. Gary Ablett beaten on this occasion for it by Chris Johnson. Takes the mark and plays on quickly, goes out wide where Pike has marked

That's an amazing kick what Chris Johnson did there. He forced Pike to actually go over the 50 meter line to mark it rather than kick it to where he was, so it gives him some chance from here, it's a long kick and it is late in the game though. Just a smart kick.

49 points is the lead that the Brisbane Lions enjoy. Martin Pike to add to that, maybe. Wasn't too sure about himself, got past his opponent Milburn, and kicked the ball all the way to the line and it is rushed through for a another behind to the Brisbane Lions. 20 goals 19 138 margin now 50 points

He'll have another go, Martin

And that's exactly what's going to happen. Pike has the football on this occasion decides to share it with his teammate that gave him the chance just a moment ago. That kick by Johnson into the pocket brilliantly marked by Notting, well tackled by Milburn, kicked by Power. Missed. Right in the goal square, a scramble. Where is a foot? Is there a foot there? Yes, it may have been a Geelong player because by the goal umpire's confirmation, it is a behind to Brisbane. 20 goals 20 140 now the Lions leading the Cats 13 11 89. Kingsley 4 goals, the leading goal kicker for the Cats and for the Brisbane Lions Headland and Lynch have 4 apiece.

A long kick in, umpire's whistle's gone, interference in the marking contest, it's going to Steven King against Clark Keating who pleads his case. It's coming back further. And the opportunity here for the Cats. Ball comes out wide to Corey, he marks in space, little chip over the top looking for and finding Ben Graham strong mark the pressure came from Michael but Graham has it 70 meters out from goal, left half forward,

He's made a decision too on this guy hasn't he, going to play forward, give them some hope up forward

The kick inside 50 Kingsley is wrestling with his man that allowed Darryl White just to drift in, trademark White style across the contest take the mark uncontested. Got it out to Simon Black. 26<sup>th</sup> possession for him, found its target, it was McRae, little looping handball over the top to Chris Johnson, Ablett came in to lay the tackle, it comes in to Brad Scott, high kick around the outer wing Hunt'll fly for Geelong, brought it to ground, chance here for Headland, steps inside, Hunt, little handball over the top. Chance for Notting if he can gather, 10 seconds remaining in the game, he squares it to the goal square, and finds Alastair Lynch. Mark and or free kick. So with 4 seconds remaining on the clock, Alastair Lynch will have the final kick of the game and from about 15 meters out you'd certainly back him in to kick his 5th

Certainly had enough of it. Brian Sheehan paid the mark. So Lynch the final kick of this contest, he's kicked 4 goals straight for the evening. Chance to make it number 5, and from 15 meters out, kick on its way, and he puts it through for a goal, 5 goals for Alastair Lynch, and there's the final siren, have we seen the start of another winning streak. In the end Brisbane 21 20 146 have defeated the Cats 13 11 89.

## 2002.6 Sydney v Melbourne

5 May 2002 SCG (23 578) 99-71 Channel 9

Dermott Brereton, Gerard Healy, Anthony Mithen, Dwayne Russell

**DR** 29 points the margin, Swans lead, White to James McDonald an initial fumble, now to Leoncelli from the wing, can they get the first one? Goodes rises and just went the safety option with the punch, could have marked it. Out of play.

**GH** He's had a good game though, Dermott, as the centre half back all day

**DB** Yep

**GH** Hasn't had the best of seasons, but just starting to find the ball at the moment

12 possessions for him for the day, Adam Goodes.

Heath (*needs*) to do the ruck work, edges Mott out of the contest, legally, Johnstone

He's been good since he came on, Johnstone,

James McDonald wide, too wide for the intended target, Bruce,

And down on the boundary line. Mytho, Of Brad Green on the bench

On the bench, fit and willing and able, but just not required at this stage,

Just six possessions for Brad Green, we saw him set up a couple of the Demon goals but hasn't run for him today

**GH** Neitz out of the air from the ruck contest, caught by Seymour, James McDonald over it, players diving in, early stages final term, momentum important, Melbourne can't get the break away, 50 from goal.

**DB** Now, you look at that last bounce down, and watch Paul Kelly, the space he has got, I'm not sure whose playing on him, started up on him on this final quarter, he's got the ball now, just talking away there to the runner (*laughs*) getting some instruction, he's getting all the space. Watch him just go to the defensive side of the pack and he just swoops and if the ball's free he'll just run through and try and pick it up on a burst, but he's getting all the room. James McDonald, you reckon he's the opponent, Gerard?

**GH** Yep, 50 from Melbourne goal, Seymour, Woewodin, good tackle, dispossessed, Wo-ey over the ball and we'll get another ball up 49m from Melbourne's goal. Woewodin has had a high possession afternoon, Vardy is the man, Gerard, you were talking about isolating one Demon in the square, Vardy at the moment is the man they have isolated.

Up the other end of the ground, Matthew Whelan there on Matthew Nicks. Nicks of course, the star there in that third quarter, Broadbridge still with O'Loughlin

**GH** White v Mott in the ruck. Johnstone gets the handball out, Maxfield, steals, goes to the wing, Broadbridge, O'Loughlin, Nathan Brown almost got it out to White, they're still fighting with Broadbridge, but James McDonald, once again you could put a rubber band around about 15 players. Saddington, big pack around the ball, finally some space, Johnstone inside 50 to the man up forward, Vardy, over his head, Dunkley, back in defence, Goodes. Kurt. About to get caught by Bruce, kick away just in time, out of side, Whelan and Wheatley,

**DB** four of them across the half back line, the Demons, they're playing the game they like at the moment, whether it'll transfer onto the scoreboard.

**GH** Handball dangerously

**DB** He does

**GH** Puts Whelan under a lot of pressure. Back to White, wider, Johnstone,

Just another broken tackle there (*laughs*) the big brick wall, he might have just swallowed up Matthew Whelan then.

Wheatley, has it on 50. Early stages, final term only 3 and a half minutes played, this a most important kick.

**DM** Get the feeling this is probably their best shot at an outside 50 goal here, the equivalent of a 3 point range in basketball. He can ride it.

**GH** yes, he's a very good kick, and if it goes through, they're going to be given an enormous fillip in their self-belief. I wouldn't write the Demons off just at the moment, I think they're a huge chance still in this match particularly if he can sail this one through. He's kicked two goals. Drop punt, not bad off the boot, the goal umpire dancing, behind. It's just flat at the moment, isn't it, it's eerie

Yep

**GH** It's as if everyone is just sitting there thinking well are the Swans going to capitulate, is Melbourne about to make a surge, everybody waiting for the plot to unfold.

Maxfield to kick in from full back he has done for most of the day. Short, Cresswell, had plenty of the leather, wide, McPherson has Seymour short, ignores that, goes long to Kelly on the wing, just inside the line, takes the mark.

He's starting to find a bit of the ball.

**GH** Kicks back towards running Schwass, also just inside the line

**DB** He'll be half fit for this quarter because he hasn't been taxed, he hasn't run too much out of the back line, he's found a bit of it.

Short, just the required 15 to nicks.

We spoke about Wayne Schwartz just before the game started, Dermott, you questioned his pace and I think that may well be what Rodney Eade has recognised, just let the game almost tire itself, or the pace just drop right off, and then throw him in the middle where he's not exposed. Good running from Goodes.

He ran all the way from the centre of the ground to attacking 50 to be the recipient, tough angle though

**GH** Well Ricky Mott is still by himself. Geoff White doesn't know whether to cover the goal square or cover Ricky Mott. Ricky Mott just showing his inexperience and not trying to drag White away.

Well you won 3 B&Fs here Gerard, how tough to kick a goal from this pocket

**GH** Pretty tough, like uh all acute angles, but this is a very tough shot, and I think top of the square's probably the best option.

Across the face, the behind was probably the worst one,



**GH** It's a look this is an important day for the bloke on screen and Sydney, because if they can find a centre half back, an attacking centre half back, even if he's taken to full back, then uh they're uh a key position player up, and that releases Saddington to do another job. And Saddington not far from All Australian in that position last year. So it gives them a lot more flexibility.

**DB** If they can use Saddington as their pinch hitter to go on a quick guy coz of his pace or take the second forward that is very tall, it gives them great flexibility.

**GH** Wide. Rises couldn't mark. Off hands O'Loughlin, Schwass, O'Loughlin, McPherson, Schwass again, Sydney playing with them at the moment. Back to McPherson, high bomb Barry Hall the target, one on one. Well played by Whelan, fixed him under the contest showed a bit of strength. (*Laughs as a spectator is clearly heard to yell 'what's wrong with you, ya bastard'*) Handball, Bizzle, Broadbridge, who'll be the Demon to provide some inspiration, Whelan, Brown messing around with it still, Williams, Ellis,

**DB** Oh

**GH** (*laughs*) plenty of possessions. No momentum. Woewodin. Brought back

A professional job there by Daniel McPherson

Yep,

It allows the Swans to sweep a lot of players back into defence. Right now Ricky Motts going up and down in the one spot and maybe a change with Doyle or

**DB** Room for Neitz on the lead. He was actually walking backwards when the lead was presented then. There's still room for Neitz if he goes out the other side or he comes out this flank

**GH** Woewodin inside 50 he's on the move. The man you spotted Dermott, drops it, and it's out of play, just hasn't been his afternoon

**DB** he hasn't had clean hands and I reckon that's a by virtue of the fact (*blank*) on the chest at half time and he has not had clean hands and when there has been opportunities, and when they have got there, there's been marking contest, high up against 2 or 3 opposition

**GH** Ball slapped, all the way towards the wing. Wheatley, bad position, can't get there in time, way, he's been in great form has David Neitz, been captaining Melbourne extremely well, the Demons, not even winning a Wizard Cup match pre season

**DB** Kelly McDonald the match opening in the middle, finding himself on him, 18 to 13 he's brave James McDonald though isn't he, for a whippet?

**GH** Hmm. Leoncelli, kicks into White, Woewodin, Demons have pushed Bizzle forward. High kick, might be a good option. Bizzle forward, can't take a mark, Johnstone, can't mark this and it's out of play again, 50 meters from Melbourne's goal. And time is one of their enemies. We're 8 and a half minutes in, final term.

**DB** I think one of the of the important things with Clint Bizzle is too, he's an outside 50 goal kicker as well, he's a massive kick of the ball, that's him on screen, there, so if he can drag Goodes outside the 50 and give Neitz more space behind him.

**GH** Off hands, Bruce, high kick, across the face of goal, Neitz can't get there to mark, and it's out of play again.

**DB** And you can't take away from the fact that even though they've crowded Neitz, and they've done a great coaching job against him, Rodney Eade and his cohorts, he's been splendid. Andrew Dunkley

**GH** Neitz to do the ruck work, tries to knock it down. Williams to Johnstone. Can he thread it through? Not a bad shot, gee he likes. Melbourne still in this game!

**DB** he's a thinker, isn't he, Travis Johnstone? Most blokes would have been rushed then.

**GH** oh with a ball in his hands, he's dangerous, he's uh incredibly dangerous. Having a good year too. Unfortunately missed a I think it was a hip injury that he got, no a groin injury that he got a couple of weeks ago, but uh there is two traps in footy when you're in this position, one of them is to overcommit, the other is to just hold back, and I get the feeling that the Swans are just trying to hold onto the lead, it will be whittled away. They need to kick goals to get a victory.

**DB** Eight Swans to the left of screen in the defensive side, so, Gerard, I think you're right, it looks like the Swans have decided they're just going to hang onto to this lead rather than play the game out and try and increase it.

**GH** 23 points at about 15 minutes. It's doable. Beautiful palm down. Leoncelli, can they get a mark at full forward Neitz one grab, Vardy the crumb, couldn't get it through and its rushed by Seymour,

Well that would have put the uh shudders or the shakes into a few people uh in the Sydney coaching box. Two chances there, Neitz had a good grip of it, and Vardy had a chance to snaffle it. The Swans have got to try and kick goals to save this match, not try and save it.

**DB** it's always fraught with danger, isn't it when you play 8 men in your back line, it means it's like a mini flood it means you're going to play the game inside your forward 50. Now all the Swans they have to go wide, there's none of them straight on down the line

**GH** Geoff White's the danger man now. He's got on top of Ricky Mott and he's giving a good use of the ball when it's in dispute in the air.

**DB** Seymour, they look committed to the members pavilion side of the ground now. Bennett, one grab, got the second, spoiled by Bruce, Woewodin to Bizzle. High pump, but it's all Swans, Goodes up, spoils from his own man, Johnstone, they could make something out of this, Melbourne, quick handball up through traffic Yze, Funcke, oh, not 15, long handball, Leoncelli, White, 50 from goal, kick smothered, Swans all flooding back, try and make it too difficult for the Demons, White, Schwass, Leoncelli, finally Kelly, puts the ball out. Through traffic, Fosdike wide, wedged under the ball was O'Loughlin, Broadbridge. Well played, didn't give the free away, wide, now a chance for Nathan Brown, can he kick this? Keep the Demons in it? Drop punt!

Good kick

**DB** Game alive!

Great kick, Dermott. Wantt that a beautiful finish, under pressure, end of the day, fatigue a factor, the kid's just nailed it.

**DB** You've gotta say they're a big factor here the Ds they have slowed to a walk, the Swans

For the second time today, they've got a chance to bury Melbourne and all of a sudden they think they're uh half a chance. Centre clearance important here.

**GH** Schwass on screen, on the bench, margin back to 16 points, we've only played 12 and a half minutes, final term.

Yeah well they've isolated Travis Johnstone as the danger man. Schwass was playing him too wide and Ben Matthews has gone on to Johnstone.



White up high and early. Nicks just thumps it on, didn't want to take possession. Maxfield makes the thump on look okay, Yze chases, Maxfield goes toward the boundary and Fosdike. Shepherd, Yze can't smother, high kick, Ellis, inside 50.

Free kick

Hall gave him one, O'Laughlin keeps the ball in play with brilliance,

Well done

Now a chance for Bizzle,

**DB** Gotta use it wisely here, there's plenty of Swans ahead. Bennett, shrugs the tackle, Bizzle backs back, well done, well composed

*(SAM – first mention of composed, by Dermott Brereton 2002)*

**GH** big fly by Goodes, in the back, free kick Melbourne and they deserve one too because Barry Hall just shoved out his Demon opponent at the other end of the ground. And they're just missing too many of those clear ones. Geoff White a real danger man

Yze inside 50, White in there waiting, good punch away by Kennelly. Forward pocket, White, Vardy, danger man, can he find a target, centring ball McPherson. Saving mark.

**DB** Well, you called it, they butchered their opportunities in the first half, they did a butcher job a hatchet job on one then. They should have come away with a goal there the Ds.

Nicks, Whelan with him,

The ball along the boundary line by Saddington

**GH** Well measured kick. And we'll get a ball in on the wing, 14 minute mark, final term. Melbourne more inside 50s in this quarter than Sydney.

Sydney are getting the bounce off the half back line again now so consequently, when they push it forward Melbourne are sitting back with numbers.

Bennett who started on the bench, can't break free. Neitz off and Green on. Interesting move, you would think if you were going to move Neitz anywhere from the forward line it would be into defence.

**GB** He might be just getting a bit of reprogramming from the coach, for about 60 seconds. You can't see it happening for very long. They've got numbers back, you can see it on your screen, so they're probably going to have to work double overtime to get a takeaway here.

16 points the margin, still plenty of time, find a target, Cresswell, almost throws it out, Maxfield, Kelly, old heads combining, boundary line.

**DB** Well they're hanging onto the ropes here, Sydney. They are on the ropes with both gloves up in front of their eyes.

**GH** And Neil Daniher's thrown all their runners at them. Mytho, the bench for the Demons.

Yeah, Jolly, Nicholson, Neitz and Schwartz. So not a man under 6 4.

White. Well and truly above 6 foot. Knocks it down, good kick forward, Scott Thompson, oh no, just an inch too wide. Free kick. Matthews, back flank.

It really does turn into a game of inches now, doesn't it?

He's got a piece of the boundary line on his cheek.

He's got Geoff White in front of him

White, rises, so too does Saddington, Mott off the deck, Kelly half forward, brilliant, O'Laughlin 50 out. Centring ball, long towards full forward. That's not Dunkley there is it?

**DB** Yes! Dunks! Let's have a look at this kicking action now we put the microscope on Matty Nicks. Maybe the ??

Oh, He would be looking right now saying around him for someone run around behind me to give off the handball to, I'm 25 out.

This is a certainty Dermott. Andrew Dunkley knows this may well be his last opportunity in AFL football

**DB** to kick a goal?

To kick a goal

He's only kicked 11

**DB** well, it'll be a floater whatever way it goes

He's in his last season, he knows this could well be it

It's a very important kick, he lines it up

**DB** It's a floater!

It goes astray, and one thinks he might might end his career with eleven

**DB** (*laughing*) he's kicked a floater

**GH** and Jack Daniels was going to take all the credit for him if it went through

**DB** He's a legend, Dunks

17 points the margin. So 3 Demon goals unanswered and they're in front.

**DB** He kicked one from his range last week in the dying moments, from inside the square, off the ground.

I reckon it gets to a stage where, with him Sydney should have got somebody forward just to go for the safes handball.

Oh!

Awesome leap, sorry gentleman, Great leap by White, he might have set this up, to Yze, towards Bruce couldn't pick it up, ball clean balls a couple and Cresswell. Diving on Yze he pulled it in but a big pack was around Cresswell, he'll get a bounce

when you called Cresswell before half time, he still had it 11 or 12 times, well he's got 16 for the match now so he's severely dropped out of the possession count after half time

**GH** Neitz back onto the great. Great shot there of uh Geoff White almost making a bid for the mark of the year. But a couple of players at Melbourne need to lift, Green with 6 possessions and Bruce with 8 possessions, 2 of their best players this year haven't got near it. Johnstone had Matthews and Cresswell not allowed to play on advantage. Luckily for Melbourne.

Matthews on the wing. 18 minutes on the clock, final term, wide ball, great mark by Bennett. Edged Brown out of the contest. Goes for the the central ball, high up goes Nicks. That could be the game winner.

**DB** Well he's the real show to kick it, there's no doubt about that. Amongst 2 players then and I would shudder to think what is going through Neil Daniher's mind now. Watch this on the Gerald Bennett, he just outsized his opponent there. Look at the hands of Bizzle. He should have been able to recognise that he was outsized there, young Matty Whelan and he needed to spoil.

**GH** Nicks no angle. They lead by 3 the Swans. Drop punt, looks okay, its drifting, off line

**DM** Ooh, they live

**GH** Pressure does funny things, even to those who run in straight lines, but Dermott, this has been a problem for Neil Daniher. He has rolled the dice, taking all his height off the ground, there was always going to be found with some match ups where uh there was a problem, and the

**DB** Yep

**GH** Nicks one was the one that was isolated by the Sydney coach, couldn't get it out though.

And Gerald Bennett, uh Gerald Bennett getting the grab on young Nathan Brown, I think, getting the one on the half forward flank.

Woewodin kicks to himself. Long high ball wide. Bizzle, neither can mark it, front position, also up Schauble, Well played by James McDonald, got the handball out, free kick,

He doesn't play an dissimilar game to Paul Kelly, James McDonald, he's uh, the only difference is that he's probably down by uh 15 kilograms in weight but he burrows in and he's in and under.

**GH** Had the photo, the big poster of Gary Ablett on his wall for his entire childhood. Goes from one back flank to the other.

**DB** This is going to work for them here.

Broadbridge, if he can hit Bruce on the chest, or, Ellis. Ellis has got it on the wing. The lead's come. Open forward line, Green – doesn't mark it.

Free kick!

Gets the free.

**DB** oh, well he can seriously kick it this lad, he can seriously slot one through.

Well, Scotty McLaren, he's picked up a push there, had to get one eventually. We've ticked into time on final term by a matter of seconds. And this could well prove just how valuable goal kicking is, with Nicks missing one at one end and Green a chance to slot one. Even though he's had a bad day. It may not have been his day, but it could well be his moment. (*Booing*)

You can see that his average is better than the AFLs. Good side for a left footer, and he has missed to, the near side, and you were mentioning pressure earlier, gentlemen. 3 goals unanswered Melbourne still in front but time ticking away.

**DB** Every time Sydney, Under Maxfield's guidance, from the goal square, they've come in, they've split from the middle of the ground and they've gone to the sides. They're going to split again

Cresswell takes on Woewodin. Wobbly kick dangerous kick, getting there with a hand on the ball, Scott Thompson, comes out of the pack in the end. Kelly, composed, Matthews, toward the wing, Bizzle boundary line beats them all. Fosdike making the contest. 21 minutes on the clock final term.

Ball about to be pumped back into play. Front position. Wheatley, slapped it to White, caught. Kelly over it, knocks it out, big pack around it again, and we'll get another bounce

**DB** that's the pack you're talking about Gerard.

**GH** yeah, I think the players on top of it have gotta be held responsible for getting the ball out and if they don't want to uh, they want to sit on it, they've gotta be pinged. The Swans yet to kick a goal in this final term and unless they do that, you can't imagine them winning.

Yeah. Doyle, now Cresswell, High kick inside 50, Schauble the target, up they fly. Bizzle, he brought that down. Well, the umpires' going to bounce, Bizzle, surely marked that. He thinks he did.

**DB** Purchase there. No off the deck. Good decision. Bit of umpiring.

Ball about to be bounced inside attacking 50 for the Swans. Demons still need 3 unanswered goals to hit the front. Schwass, caught. Leoncelli's tackle. And the umpire will bounce it again. And every bounce is in Sydney's favour.

**DB** once again, you'll look at this view from this side, after that tackle there, and you'll see Kelly and Cresswell stay this side of the pack and try and sweep the ball.

Hall v White. Ruck contest, Hall. Palms it, Bizzle stole it.

**DB** Almost again

Back to White, oh, off the side of the boot. Did it catch the line?

**DB** Yep.

**GH** Ooh. Well boundary umpire.

**DB** Cresswell and Kelly both had a shot at it didn't hey, they both had a run at it (*booing*) then

Well a few fans here thought it was out of bounds on the full. The rule is if any part of the ball of the ball has to catch the line, I think 90% of it but it had an edge to it. If you can have an edge to an oval ball.

**DB** It's the outside of the line.

Hmm. Ball about to be bounced out for the Swans. We're into the 24<sup>th</sup> minute of the final term. Still a 17 point lead Swans, led by as much as 44 during the 2<sup>nd</sup> term. White. James McDonald. Oh, handball trapped by Saddington. James McDonald might mop up his own mess, gets the handball on. Williams couldn't find a target with it, Kennelly can. He was outside the boundary. Kelly's brilliance, back to Kennelly. Ball still alive Nathan Brown toe pokes, it

**DB** oh, that hurt him

To the advantage of Bizzle. They can go to the open side of the ground, they go down the corridor, Funcke, draws Wheatley out of it, goes quickly to White. Drop punt, Johnstone, he's got it inside 50

**DB** well he can make something happen here, if he goes back, well, he's if he's gonna get the journey there. There's Nathan Brown, he was brave in that skirmish, there

He might have hurt a knee, When the got the ball off the ground

**DB** Look at the leg,

Corky I think is it?

Mmm, hopefully.

Yeah, the thing that's gonna go for him, is that his feet were off the ground so there was no planted foot, and sideways action

Nup, I think that's a big corky. They've got the stretcher out, so there will be a delay

**DB** so he's holding the right hand side of his, the right leg on the outside, and that's the side that Schauble came in from so there's contact there, lets hopefully the body hit on him has moved him completely sideways and it's not anything to do with the knee mechanism. Just a big corky as you called it

**DR** would he be that sore for a corky though? He looks very sore and very worried

Yeah, if you'd had the knee, if the knee hit that muscle right away, if could be in, you've had one yourself Dwayne, and you've got bigger thighs than most of us

**DR** (*laughing*) good targets weren't they?

But, uh, I mean now the problem is that he kept holding his knee, now whether he was holding it to release the thigh down easily or whether or not he's got a knee injury we're going to have to wait. Now he's off the ground and you wouldn't imagine there's any knee problem there, but funnier things have happened.

**DB** he was brave though he was very brave, look at the, the Demons in the meantime,

Have got their bench, their benched players have run on into the field of play

**DB** (*laughing*) get them off, get them off

Now, surely you can't do that?

**DB** (*laughing*) they all, it was like they were going to do a

An all in brawl, like the off the bench clearance for baseball

**DB** I thought it was gonna be like grid iron then, they're going to change their offensive team to their defensive. But. The balls back with Travis Johnstone. The stretcher's still to get off the ground there. He's going to walk through the ground and go straight into the race there, best intentions come to fruition there and nothing serious is wrong. Well Travis Johnstone makes things happen.

Well back to the equation, 17 points is the margin, Travis Johnstone has the ball, 50 meters from goal, angle, at a kickable angle certainly, and we have time enough for Melbourne to kick 3 goals if they're good enough.

**GH** They gotta take their chances. Though haven't they. They were presented one with Chad Green. This is another one. They're 40 meters you're only going to get half chances at this time of a match

**DB** its 27 minutes on the clock

He's worried about the distance, pushing him astray, he'd probably like a bit more space to take on Matthews.

Big kick this, drop punt, starts it right it's not bending back, it's across the face,

**GH** And that might be the end to the Demon's chances. Only a behind. Sydney will run the clock down at every possible chance. We see Nathan Brown's collision again.

**DB** And were back with Maxfield. Go to the right, that's the way he's gone with every kick out and the sway of numbers as you see, pushed to the right there.

3 minutes plus time remaining. They've gone for distance, White from behind. McPherson. Just hacks it to the wing. Broadbridge, Schwass, oh, Kelly, piece of captain's brilliance, chip kick towards Schauble. Game over!

**DR** Yeah, there won't be a lot of time on. There's been just 2 goals kicked in this final term. And I think the home crowd in some respects have been robbed of that final quarter where you've kicked multiple goals to extract the victory, but this has been one, almost the old Chinese water torture, but, it's been uh drip drip drip but this one could give them something to cheer about.

**DB** Clever kick, that one by Paul Kelly in years gone by he'd been on the burst, he'd have tried to drill that, but he just touched it forward and let Schauble run into it. The boy known as shwaba.

He's coming off a strange injury, a torn eyelid, which doesn't sound too extreme, but uh, wouldn't be all that comfortable. This to seal the match. Well you can see for yourself, Sydney Swans are home.

Yeah, that was a great kick there by Andrew Schauble he he ran in a straight line, we had a good look at it, but uh, this is where the goal was established. Paul Kelly, we can just see the sidestep that has uh been such a famous trait of his game right throughout his career, coming to fruition once again and he hit the target and so did Andrew Schauble.

**DB** First game of Andrew Schauble's career, seven years ago, he played as a forward, so he finds himself back there again and what looks to be, puts the sealer on the match. Ben Matthews on screen

Swans will win, just playing out time now, White against Ricky Mott, ball in dispute, no one can break free and we'll get another ball up in the middle, that secondary ball up that Gerard was telling you about earlier, that we so often get. 44 points the biggest margin that the Swans had in the second term, Melbourne back within 11 but couldn't go on with it. Paul Kelly leading from the front when it mattered. Bounce to restart play. Over the top with a big punch down Broadbridge, driving through, unable to take possession, Williams, Ty Kennelly slaps toward the boundary, and will be pretty happy maybe to see the line. Well played, oh, he keeps it alive though

We can see there why Sydney have more throw ins than any other team in the competition. Ty Kennelly been drilled, obviously just to go to the boundary line.

Well, you mentioned, Schauble's first game, Ty Kennelly was named emergency 7 times before he finally got the call up and now he's one of the instrumental players in the Swans teams that so often play well up here and he's also represented the country. 93 to 71 into the 31<sup>st</sup> minutes, the final term. You can hear the roar. Schwartz in the ruck now, doing some work, Vardy lost it, Kirk, McPherson, caught, Leoncelli, Maxfield, beats everybody to it, once again tapping to the boundary, high kick towards half forward by Fixter big pack flies, Broadbridge crumbs, Schwass,

Good tackle

Might put the finishing touch on it, O'Laughlin, Saddington, kicks, goals,

**DB** Clean pickup Dwayne, wasn't it? Clean hands off the deck

**DR** Yeah, had to be. Wasn't the best of handballs by Michael O'Laughlin but uh I think the Swans will go away from here pretty pleased, they've found a bit today. I think Saddington going forward a couple of times, has been a plus for them, and Goodes set up a couple of times by going into defence.

**DB** yeah, and Goodes going into defence, I mean that's the best way to learn, isn't it, with four points and a win. I mean so many times in league football you learn from your losses, but they've learned a

bit today, as you've called and they've come away with the chocolates. And there's plenty of football left in Paul Kelly still.

That's the good news. Such a brilliant career and the captain's performance in this final term has proven exactly what leadership means to a team. There he is, the old war horse, and the young one, in front of him, about to go up in the ruck contest, Mott, against White, ball palmed down, Woewodin, drop kick

**DB** (*laughs*) don't call him that,

To half forward. Nah, sorry, he's better than that today,

**DB** been fantastic

Kennelly, as he was last week. Kelly again, just messing around with it a bit, playing out time, Maxfield wide, Cresswell, superb afternoon, kirk, handballs inward, back to Cresswell, may be some cream on the cake yet, inside 50, Hall the man that started it all, didn't take possession, Bizzle,

SIREN

Siren! When they led by as much as 44 points, Rodney Eade, the man on screen would have been a very confident man, when they led by (*missed this bit, dumb dumb*) back to 11, but the Swans have prevailed, many thanks to that man Barry Hall, with 6 goals.



## 2002.7 Port Power v West Coast

5 May 2002 Football Park (27 056) 133-79

Dennis Cometti, Kevin Bartlett, Russell Greene, Rod Jameson

**DC** Start of the final term at Football Park, opening bounce, Cox reaches over the top, into the path of Chambers, handy of the third term, runs to 50, this could be a fairy tale start, what's he done? He's kicked a goal, how 'bout that?

*(laughing)*

**DC** his second.

Well that's exactly what we just said, if they get the ball out of that centre square, that's what they were able to do in the second quarter, run the ball out of that centre square and kick goals, now for some reason they weren't able to do it in the third term, but what a start for them at the start of this last quarter, with Callum Chambers kicking that goal, and we've only been playing 35 seconds when he banged that one through.

Didn't he show some pace though, unbelievable.

Well, they've got some players who can really run, so we'll just see whether Port Power take the foot off the accelerator. Carr, works well in close, finds Francou, loves to set it up, finds Schofield, inside 50 Tredrea's always going to be a target, he's booted 3 goals, Collica, weaves his way out trouble finds Jones, roccas the ball to Chambers, confidence is high, finds Braun, who's been so good today. He's had 19 possessions Chambers, from half back, continues to run, looking for Kerr, good fist away came from Ken Kingsley, works his way out of trouble. Cannons the ball into Schofield for a boundary throw in. Now Hardwick has put down Embley, so this just might be the turn of play they need. Wilson's going to be the target, couldn't take it at ground level, put upon it for the half volley Montgomery comes away. They'll set it up Primus. The run comes from Wanganeen, it's a poor handball, put Davis, put Nick Stevens under a lot of pressure. Wanganeen onto the left boot goes wide, finds Tredrea, edge of the centre square. The gun forward, drills it, chipping in, good strong play by Casey Green, just a young boy, from East Fremantle playing game number 14. Judd. So it's been a big transfer of play. Wooden from half back, finds Cox so looks like John Worsfold may have said just keep moving that ball as fast as you possibly can. Haynes, he's been handy coming off the bench, Wilson, too much Carry on the ball, he's looking for a free kick. Hardwick, cannoned into by Merenda for a toss back in.

**DC** 33 points the margin. Wilson. Not much to it. Tossed in. Primus being held there by Cox falls behind. Bishop, good evasion, Bishop former Melbourne player sends play toward the outer side wing, Glass there, with Tredrea Peter Matera on the deck, found it okay, Glass, works back, Green, well played by the West Coast Eagles Glass once more, middle distance kick, Braun just forward of the wing, 14 12 plays 9 9 Braun kicks inside the 50. Down goes Wilson, Wakelin stayed on his feet. Hardwick, Kingsley, under pressure with two men to choose from they share it, Bishop to Mead, Schofield is on the wing, the former Eagle in more ways than one, running down towards right half forward Judd in pursuit, Schofield runs inside 50, like him from here, not his best effort, it wanders off line and forced across the line for a behind.

Young Kerr and Juddy just really tried to run as hard as they possibly can, at the end they were going up and down on the spot, and Jakovich, actually turned his back on the play, actually turned his back on the play rather than going towards the player with the footy.



14 13 97 Port, West Coast 9 9 63 Cousins, gets the bounce he wanted, charges through the centre half forward, sets it up, a chance for Chambers. Embley can kick a goal,

**DC** Oh

Has missed

**DC** that would have made the highlight reel that one

Dennis, you've seen a lot of Embley, over the, he's an enigma isn't he? One day he can really lay it on kick 5 or 6 goals, and that's just unforgivable, he should have nailed that that would have given them some hope and a lot of confidence.

**DC** he plays better on instinct I think.

Troy Wilson is off for the Eagles. One goal two all of his scoring shots coming in that second quarter. Hardwick, short, Primus on the stretch, from half back. Takes a breather. Looking for Mead, tried to work in the outer position, Matera been terrific since half time great kick, finds Haynes, can set it up a hard run comes from Casey Green to the forward line, Chambers can be very very dangerous. Cox! Kept alive by Merenda, Williams a wild kick, marked by Wakelin, so a wasted opportunity, Montgomery creates the run from half back, Adam Kingsley comes away, tries to hit the target with that left boot finds James with a roll of the shoulders, Bishop fends off don't argue. Jones rockets the ball back to Haynes, runs inside 50, Eagles on the charge, Merenda! Couldn't take it, big fist away, went through for a behind.

Amazing, all bar 3 goals kicked at that lake end, and we've had 23 in the game.

For all their effort, I mean the Eagles have been very brave this last 10 and a half minutes or so, six and a half minutes actually they've just gotta get a nail, another goal on the scoreboard make things a little bit easier for them.

**DC** Kingsley, jabs it in gave it away, stretching Haynes has taken the mark and should kick a goal back over Kingsley's head.

He's kicked, if he kicks this, this will make it very interest-, they really do need a reward for all the hard work they've been doing this last 7 or so minutes, they actually need to kick this goal to put the pressure back on Port Adelaide.

**DC** Hinkley, that movement with the hands, says, I know a lot of Italians, I know he's not, I'm embarrassed. Here's Haynes from 50, kicks the goal, Eagles still in this.

It just looks as though Woosha has said to 'em at three quarter time, alright boys, we're 8 goals down, 7 or 8 goals down but just go for it, just run, run through the lines, take 'em on and anything's possible. They got the first goal in 30 odd seconds, and as we see now it's back to 4 goals. They've really given themselves a chance.

So Eagles drag it back

**DC** Yep, back to 26 points.

Centre bounce, so important as Cox comes charging in beaten by Primus, taken away by Francou, drills it, great kick, great lead by Tredrea,

Wonderful player

He always plays in front, always leads up, always presents himself as a target.

And quality kick by Francou then, didn't panic was on full pelt once he touched, once the footy got down to him, saw Tredrea coming up and was a really good kick.

He's booted 3, 2 in the first quart, 1 in the third. Tredrea, from 40 metres out, deliberate kick. He's got 4. Port by 32 points.

Always had that buffer Ken, of about four or five goals, even when the Eagles have charged, always had that bit of a buffer. I would have like to have seen it if it was only maybe a 2 goal ball game how the result would go.

**DC** So the Power have met every challenge this afternoon. 20 disposals as a key forward tells you a lot about the performance of Warren Tredrea. 2 goals in the first half now 2 in the second half. Primus knocks it out, Francou somehow got it out, Primus over the ball, plenty of company, dragged down, Schofield, he in turn was dragged down, Braun, Cousins, bouncing around, inside the centre square, penetrating kick, down towards full forward, getting a fist on it, Wakelin, getting the crumb Montgomery, Hardwick comes away very wide, Primus hoping it goes out and it does. *(Laugh)* Chambers, with the speed couldn't keep it in, boundary throw in. There's the time remaining. 103 plays 71. Primus, solid return, today. Missed the showdown, locks up with Cox here. Cox directs it down, Stevens, who started so well, across half back looping handpass, Kingsley, Francou, that was Matera who went cruising past 22 possessions now for Francou, Schofield, kicks inside the 50, Glass very conscious of Tredrea and why not? Storming up is Jones, haven't seen a lot of him, close to the boundary line, he's got a job to do, runs it across, boundary throw in 103 71 last term from Football Park.

Port by 32 points Tredrea on screen, he's booted 4 goals today. Lade to do the ruck work, pushing and shoving with Cox bundled over by Burgoyne, Jakovich, that shoulder must be hurting, hitting the ball hard was Stevens taken away by Dew to Poulton 65 meters out Cornes looks dangerous, couldn't take it, Glass, to Jakovich, what can the old head do. Under pressure, finds Cox, defensive 50 short to Collica, Cousins wants to provide the run across half back. Goes wide, Looking for Williams, needs a kind bounce, gets one, now he needs support, inside 50, Kerr, Haynes got a good bounce, Merenda, quick kick, quick snap, taken by Bishop. Rebound football. Kingsley to James. He's at half back. Take a breath. 15 13 103 Port West Coast 10 11 71. Barnaby French to Burgoyne. He's had a terrific game, pumps the ball back to 50. Trying to tickle it was Glass, Francou, danger, for West Coast, penetrating kick, Lade's getting back big fist away that time from Jakovich squeezed up on the boundary is Green, Dew, sets it up, Lade, running with the flight, great grab by Josh Carr,

**DC** why?

Who concedes ground, why, I don't know. He was only on the 45 meter gets it off to Schofield. Maybe he's a house mate.

**DC** maybe. Two former West Australians.

Schofield will be kicking from 45 meters. He's had it 15 times he's taken 4 marks and he's kicked a goal. That goal coming in the third quarter. From 45 meters out. He's a dead eye dick. Two goals to Jarrad Schofield. 16 13 109 Power now by 38 points

I mean that was a disciplined act then, Ladey kicking it across to the forward pocket, instead of having a shot, because the angle was really non-existent, and that was a disciplined act, passed on then, Schofield ending up with the footy, and a goal resulting.

**DC** 109 plays 71. And suddenly the sun is out at Football Park. It's taken a while. Cox and French, off they go, French won it down, Cox, slick hands, too slick initially for Braun, Cousins slips over, great balance though on the way down, kept his head, Green to Matera, Matera to half forward, mark is taken by Munro who gave them life briefly in the second term, little chip pass in short to Williams

and he's marked about 40 meters out. They will not go away under John Worsfold, the West Coast Eagles, I'll give them that, they stick at it, and the moment the opposition eases back, they're there.

The next 15 minutes is very important for the Eagles. I'm not saying that it's out of their grasp it's still still uh still not likely but they could still do it, but what they don't want is a blow out, so they've got to just keep working, working, working

**DC** just inside the 50, puts it across the face neatly, but the back by Wilson, punched and across the line. So just over 9 minutes until full time. And the margin is 38 points. Cockatoo Collins just sneaking back onto the ground.

Yes Dennis, Daniel Harvey's coming off, he's had groin trouble all week and Daniel Kerr looks like he won't take any further part with a heavily strapped driver or hamstring.

**DC** Merenda dragged down, thanks Rod, Schofield sitting down, Judd in the opposite direction, throws it on the boot, wide of the mark, bounces in the pocket, Haynes tried to keep it alive and succeeded, a handpass comes to Cousins, it was well worked by Munro, Cousins bending it back, oh, terrific goal, all class

Well they refuse to go away, they're very very persistent the way in which Woosha used to play himself, never knew any other other way, used to go a hundred miles an hour, and still anything is possible. 8 and a half minutes to go, not likely but anything's possible.

Two goals to Ben Cousins,

Still plenty of time. 16 minutes played in this final quarter.

Ben Cousins, two goals, just continues to win the ball. 24 possessions today, for Ben Cousins, one of the favourites for the Brownlow Medal. Burgoyne, pinched that time by Judd sensational first half by that young man, been little bit quieter in the second. Munro couldn't handle it, Kingsley can from half back. Cockatoo Collins has just come on the ground replacing Hardwick. Jones, just knocks the ball on Cockatoo Collins with a bit of body strength, finally sees the ball over for a boundary throw in.

With that acceleration that Judd has got, a lot of the time, most boys would have to kick with their left foot but he's able, with his acceleration, he's able to get back onto his preferred side

French, from behind, tried to take it out of the air, Matera, had a very good second half. Francou somehow got the ball to Burgoyne, whose been crunched.

He has battled extremely hard Matera, in all facets of the game, just makes you wonder, what, what happened in the first one and a half quarters.

Well he hardly touched the ball, I mean 3 times in the first half, but had 10 possessions in the third quarter, 109 plays 77 just under 8 minutes left in this final quarter at Football Park. Schofield finds his partner in crime in Francou, Holden, on centre wing, drills it, (??) Slips catch, Matera cleans up, finds Chambers, from half back. Embley's the target, trying to walk Montgomery under the ball. Wakelin's got 2 to beat, tough odds, chance for Embley can kick a goal, 45 meters and closing. Hits the post. He does have a few shots at goal, Embley.

He does. I mean, Dennis mentioned that he seems to do his best work on instinct, maybe he had too much time to sum up the goals there, but as a forward, you've just got to really nail those ones and put the pressure on the scoreboard. That was a wasted opportunity.

There's Dew.

**DC** Watch Chad Cornes in that replay. Good smother. Dew up towards the wing, in from the side French, couldn't hang on. Down in front it trickles out of bounds. Under 7 minutes remaining in this

one so time ticking away as any chance at an Eagles comeback is concerned. They've played with great heart, I know it sounds patronising. But Port, with the score on the board would seem to have their measure, but they keep on coming. Judd to Wooden, goes in short, Wilson missed it, Wakelin stood up in the tackle, Carr, a chip pass, its two on one Bolton, quick to release it, Bishop back to Bolton, Bolton goes down to half forward, James, juggles the mark, well done. Roger James, with Cockatoo Collins spears the pass in, and Tredrea, strong hands, in front of the eyes, takes the mark 40 meters out directly in front, he's booted four.

Well, there's the difference. I mean, a hard leading forward up here, precise kick hitting right out in front and he's able to take the mark, whereas up the other end, I'm not sure whether it was Wilson, the ball was just a little bit to his side, unable to take the mark. Wasted opportunity. Ball rebounds. Back here, Tredrea about to kick his fifth.

**DC** Deliberately in, gives it a lot of air. The umpire doesn't move. 17<sup>th</sup> goal on the board for Port.

They just haven't they just haven't taken enough of their chances when they've gone inside 50, I think that's been one of the big difference between both sides. Tredrea and co down there have been able to convert, whereas their use of the ball inside 50 for the Eagles forward line for a lot of the day, they've chipped them over bloke's heads, they've gone over their heads, they just haven't been able to hit the target, so that's been the big difference

5 goals to Warren Tredrea, that equals his best against the West Coast Eagles, which came in round 22 last year. 115 plays 78. Braun has tried hard today, hardworking midfielder. Looking for Haynes, slaps the ball away, Haynes works hard at ground level, Barnaby French just wheels his way out of trouble, finds Kingsley. Short to Wanganeen, goes wide, beautiful kick, Montgomery didn't have to break stride from half back, Cockatoo Collins, has to hit it hard, he's got Jones to beat, falls back over the line for a toss back in.

5 goals to Warren Tredrea, 2 goals to Che Cockatoo Collins, and 2 to Stuart Dew and 2 to Nick Stevens been the leading goal kickers for Port Adelaide, and for the West Coast Eagles, 2 to Chris Judd, Ben Cousins, Callum Chambers and David Haynes.

Matera, Short kick. Taken by Poulton. Started on the bench. To Wanganeen, to Stevens N who loves to run with the ball. In front Cockatoo Collins, well an open forward line with players running hard makes it very very hard for defenders.

That's what makes me very dead inside it's just that they. On the break when they get the footy they don't waste it and generally speaking on the majority of occasions hit a hard leading forward, and as a backman no matter how tight you are, how close you pay attention, unless you've got arms 15 foot long, you're not going to be able to get rid of the footy out in front.

He's had it 13 times today, Che Cockatoo Collins, kicked a goal in the first quarter, one in the third. From 48 meters the roar will tell the story, straight through the centre. 3 goals to Che Cockatoo Collins. They lead by 43 points.

That's one of the biggest difference between the sides today, as you can see not often have the Eagles been able to burst out of the centre to lay the ball up to a hard leading forward, on many occasions this afternoon Port Adelaide have done it to perfection.

**DC** well when the season started I had Port Adelaide in my top three, I see nothing to change my mind today, all the pieces are there it's a question of them all clicking it's a very important piece, Stevens charged down there by Judd, Poulton goes towards the outer side, Dew is in front out there, screens the ball, runs onto Glass, tackled by Dew, this is Green, across half back, high up and under. Cockatoo Collins gave a contest, did well, knocked it away from Cox, Braun couldn't control it. Jones the handpass, Matera released and away he goes, scuttles through midfield again too tall for the

leading forward. That's been a problem. Embley under the ball there was no going back. Bishop took the mark, Montgomery, to the outer side, James in space just under 3 and a half minutes to go. Francou towards the middle now, Cockatoo Collins, wide of him but Burgoyne backs him up, runs inside the 50, decides to burrow his way to goal, he's tackled, and that's holding the ball Glass gets the free.

I wanna know why he didn't use his (??) it was there, he's all by himself over the top instead he tried to take everybody on

Wooden finds Jakovich, it's good to see him out there because when he went off in the second quarter with that shoulder injury, it looked like we may have seen the last of him. Still, it might be hurting. Wilson, just the one goal today. Been disappointing up forward, finds Embley who seems to waste his chances on the forward line, gets a lot of the ball, gets a lot of shots, maybe this time he can thread it through.

Well this will be the easiest shot that he's had uh, the hardest of the shots he's had this afternoon, so he's just as likely to prove us wrong, Kevin and post a six pointer

He's kicked 2 behinds (??) this final quarter. From just inside 50 pushes it left, can't bring it back, through for a behind. Power by 42 points. Stevens to bring the ball back into play. Finds Wanganeen. He's been all over the ground today Gavin Wanganeen. Coming from half back, looking for Wakelin, on the stretch he's a long way from goal, Matera, hits the ground running, does way Burgoyne is looking for a free and Tredrea has marked it on the line, he's marked it,

It's not 15

*(laughs)* and just chips it back and finds Lade

I reckon that one just went as far as that last one did that Tredrea Lade, I reckon there wasn't much in it. You should never concede.

**DC** the players are attuned, probably to 10 from last year and I think they knew that was 15 anyway.

So Brendan Lade, yet to register a score today, just 20 meters out directly in front. Hammers it home.

So Brendan Lade kicks his first goal, good work by Wanganeen good enough to get his foot to the ball, and I reckon that was clever play by Burgoyne, I reckon that was 15

First one, or the last one,

**DC** Margin 48 points. Great story, Brendan Lade whose on the forward line having a bit to say, back in the middle the ruck work is being done by French, with good effect too, he won it down to Schofield, Lade helps it on its way, Dew, burst the oncoming players gets the handpass to Bolton 55 meters out, to Cornes, very much an exercise run now Dew kicks another one. The Eagles possibly don't deserve this.

Well they've got the witches hats out on the field at the moment. And it looks as if it is just a bit of a training run, but we hope, hopefully the Eagles can rally in just the last couple of minutes and get a couple more goals on the scoreboard.

Well its 54 points now. They trailed by 44 points at quarter time, had a great second quarter when they booted 7 goals, got it back to 14, blew out to 39 at  $\frac{3}{4}$  time, now its 54. So maybe just the one quarter when the Eagles got on time. 23 13 133 West Coast 11 13 79. As Barnaby French comes charging in, does his own roving, Schofield tied up by Braun. Well, Port Adelaide today 26 possessions to Montgomery, 23 to Adam Kingsley 28 to Peter Burgoyne and Josh Francou 26 27 to Roger James who came off the bench. Big possession winners today, touch of the fumbles, rare

mistake by Cousins, Braun shares the ball around and Wanganeen, couldn't take it, one of those rare times he doesn't take one of those spectacular marks. Merenda has been very quiet today. Now there's a wrestle in the goal square, so Montgomery will take the free kick, to Barnaby French, take two. Stevens, had the sit on Cousins, Poulton. Looking for Cornes, very strong Cornes, keeps his body on line, close to being in the back.

**DC** I would have thought so

As the siren sounds Port Adelaide have had a big win at Football Park



## 2002.8 Richmond v Adelaide

5 May 2002 Docklands (23 355) 73-105 Channel 9

Brian Taylor, James Brayshaw, Michael Roberts, Gary Lyon

So, Richmond and Adelaide, 16 points separates them heading into the last term, all to play for, Adelaide looking to be 4 and 2, the Tigers looking to break even at 3 and 3, we'll do it all again.

Someone generally emerges in the last quarter as really put a stamp on the game, usually it's the players with some more experience, with some real class and the usual suspects are the ones you'd be looking at Ricciuto's playing about centre half forward against Darren Gaspar which is a different move.

Clarke and Hall thumped by Campbell forward for Richmond, but only as far as Burton, whose been good, nice kick too, finds Scotty Welsh, he goes with the same style of kick to Stenglein, long handball now to Bode, had to stop and wait for it, now the kick inside the 50 looking for Ricciuto, thumped away by Gaspar, Bode goes and gets it again, now he runs into a power of trouble, gets it to Chris Massie, handball off to Bickley just outside the 50, high kick they come from all angles, Ben Hart can't hang on, on the ground Ty Zantuck, happy to concede, first score in fact, it was Kellaway. First score of the final term goes to the Adelaide Crows, a behind.

The best example in that big last quarter that I was talking about was Wayne Campbell against Melvin and he had something like 17 possessions in the last quarter so he would be one player that may be looking at, just off the top of the head, Brian

Campbell, another one that needs Trafar, you talk about the big names, none bigger than the skipper, as Leon Cameron from full back waits for the right opportunity to present. Ball, in the air, Ricciuto was tackled and not allowed to shoot the ball out by hand, we'll have a ball up at half back for the Tigers. Tigers in this final quarter kicking to the southern end here at Colonial, roof's closed today, there's the Richmond bench. See Fiora there, Pettifer, ball up, quick kick out of the over the line, free kick will go to Gaspar here. How do you rate his game today, Gary? Been okay?

Been solid. He's uh, stood up pretty well in the third quarter. He's had 10 touches for the afternoon not a big possession winner, not very often beaten though. Put the clamps on Mark Stevens after Stevens kicked early 2 goals.

All Australian, two years in a row. Gaspar, Goodwin, brilliant first half. Kick in to centre half forward, presenting there was Stevens, spills to Perrie. Looked very dangerous early in the game. Slipped over, McLeod hasn't been his normal brilliant self got that one out wide. Stenglein

I rated this fellow, he's had a very good afternoon. Coming up for possession number 19, gone head to head with Joel Bowden, Bowden also had 19 touches but he's kicked a goal.

He's to reverse angle it, a lot confronts Stan Lyon, he just kicks it out in front of goal in hope the Crow player could leap. Cameron, received the wide ball, dangerous kick, Houlihan couldn't control it, big opportunity Adelaide. Bickley Welsh, over the shoulder, Gaspar who once again get in the way. James Brayshaw.

Adelaide really have made it very difficult for Richmond to clear the area. They've done it superbly. Big fly McLeod, terrific mark. And now he steps out of the way of Torney. Kicks it to the hot spot, Massie! Well there's an example of a player putting his stamp on it, there's an example of a very ordinary beard

Wow

Perhaps that is a terrific grab and then the kick, this is low, what happens there you just saw there was all the Richmond players heading towards the goal square because that's where they expected the footy to go.

That's painted on, Gary

Don't worry about the beard, make sure he kicks the goal

Not a lot of game time for Chris Massie, this is an important kick. On the way. I don't believe it. Has he got it?

Its home

I think he has. Well done! Goal.

Well, Andrew McLeod puts an early stamp on it and gives them some breathing space. Chris Massie, coming over from Carlton, hasn't played a lot of footy, the Adelaide Crows coming back from some terrible injuries. But just a beautiful kick to the top of the square, with some depth and some pace. So, good news for the Crows, seeing Chris Massie back out there, he's got some ability.

First goal for Massie, for Adelaide, the Adelaide goal accuracy before today 56.3 ranked number 11 in the competition, and today, a shocking 39 % conversion rate today for the Adelaide Crows. Back in the middle, stretching their lead to 23 points, centre half forward for the Tigers, Johncock did well across that line, in the third quarter, stopped many attack, Bickley was run down, still got the handball off Nelson delivers forward, he'll find a target. Beautifully done, the Crows, as Perrie arrives with the ball, for a shot on goal

It's a great set up, wasn't it, another Carlton recruit, ex-Carlton boy in Ben Nelson, Mark Bickley just smart enough, presence of mind to go to ground, but hang onto the footy, get the footy off to Nelson who, and it was good lead from Liam Perrie, who started this game very very well, kicked two goals in the first quarter, been quiet since. Ungainly, I think I call his kicking style, but it's been effective.

Obviously important, wants to get into a big of a gallop on the run in the approach. Bit of an ordinary effort. In dispute, Welsh, danger, Massie, right foot snap, missed. Opportunity away in their inside 50s in this quarter, Adelaide have gone in four, Richmond have yet to go inside their forward 50.

Bowden comes to the bench as a result of Graham Johncock's dominance over him since quarter time.

This is where Richmond have found it very hard to clear the area. Zantuck handball to Campbell, he's got to duck back, so much up the ground coverage which is very good from Adelaide again, they cough it up inside the 50. It's been the pattern all the way through the game,

It has, it's been a really impressive part of it, is their forward line pressure. I think Gary Ayres would be as delighted about that as anything that comes out of this match, they've worked really hard, their forwards, they've created opportunities.

Boundary throw in as they keep the ball in the area. Hall works his way to the front, Clarke did nicely, Ednie, the first gamer tracks it across the line, Ednie and Andrew McLeod, two players at either end of the footballing spectrum. A first game with 23 355 people at Colonial Stadium to see this round 6 clash. Clean possession taken by Campbell, tumbling kick along the line. Ottens' took clean possession, then gave it off to Chaffey, now it's Knights. This is where Richmond don't have a lot to kick to, only one player forward of that exchange and that was Houlihan, and he was about 5 meters behind Tyson Edwards so the only option for Knights to go to the line, and he did.



Technical aspect that Richmond can't get anyone forward of the ball to kick to Gary, or are they just not running hard enough.

Aw, I think, I think it's been a problem all day if you have a lot at the names of those who've attracted the footy, no surprises at the top of the list. But I don't think they've run through the lions hard enough today

Handball out of the pack. Knights, an opportunity to kick and hurt, Houlihan on the lead strong mark. Deep in the pocket though. Very deep

Bit perceptive, overhead isn't he, Brian

Well they are all, the Houlihan's, aren't they?

Yep

You can see how deep he's arrived in the pocket there, wouldn't surprise me if he attempted to run around, Edwards has tried to corral him on the mark at the moment and, make him kick straight, he wants to get around on the right and he does that. Brilliant, individual effort! Houlihan. Goal. Tigers are back.

He has that uncanny ability to do something a little bit special. And it's come at the right time for Adam Houlihan today. Good mark, nice strong contested mark, and then, Brian, you summed it up beautifully. Its only their 10th mark inside 50 Adelaide have taken 11 in actual fact, and usually its Richmond that are dominant in that area, so they've fallen down a little bit and their strength's being exploited by the opposition.

Well, if the scoreboard was put away and you just went on general field play, you would not believe that 18 points was the margin, Adelaide have had it all over Richmond, but to their absolute credit they have hung in. Marsh flies high Bowden ends up with the footy, now Chippendale, claimed, Tyson Edwards who's been very good on the ground wraps it up.

You said if before that sides that sneak up and pinch games like this, don't you? After all the opportunity that you've got, that's a fair jump, from Ben Marsh. So, from an Adelaide point of view you would like the next goal, not to relax, but have a little bit of breathing space.

Brad Hopkins with the Nike in the ear then, he'll appreciate that (*laughs*) tried to find McLeod, unable to, Ben Nelson battling hard there, Chris Massie bowls that pack over as the Tigers win the change as Leon Campbell, uh Leon Cameron coming onto the ground, as Ednie whose acquitted himself very well in his first game, makes his way to the bench.

Ball up, Adelaide's end of the ground. Ruck work surprisingly left to Bowden. Knights, tries to run it down, before the boundary line. And Bassett there waiting to come on and he'll now sit down. Disposals per goal there pretty even. We saw a remarkable stat there on the board yesterday in the Hawthorn Kangaroos game where Hawthorn at one stage 8 disposals per goal. Clarke tries to work it out, McLeod didn't have time to set himself, just had to advance it forward, did it well, up went Massie, Chaffey has to gain control, Bode, pressurised, well done. Forced a turnover, Doughty, who didn't get that high, I thought, the umpire was standing close by, did a good job of acting. Kellaway missed his target gets the McLeod get the handball off, this will be the sealer, Stevens has kicked his third goal! (*Booing*)

Well I don't know how many superlatives we can lay at the feet of Andrew McLeod but he sums up this match today for me, for my words. His forward line pressure, here again, watch this, one tackle there, he just worries Fiora out of the footy, it's no coincidence that the good players keep their feet and the ones that are still learning their craft lose theirs.

Stevens with his third and let's have a look at how it happened. Beautiful football, Gary Lyon from Andrew McLeod, let's have a look at it

Forward line pressured Fiora out of it, Fiora lost feet and the good players stand up. 28 touches McLeod, 3 marks, 4 clearances 10 inside 50, well, it's another fair afternoon's work from, well he's not going to win the Brownlow medal, he'll poll plenty of votes.

Well I thought he was not his sensational self, but when you look at those stats,

Oh no, yeah, no he's been excellent,

You think in the Adelaide best and fairest at the end of the year, Gary might be a mention

Fair chance.

Clean possession there for Ottens out of that exchange. This man's been very good, Tyson Edwards, claimed from behind by Tony Harrigan. And the Richmond faithful let the umpires know they're not overly pleased with what's been going on.

They haven't turned it up, have they? Richmond? It hasn't been going their way, but they haven't turned it up.

Torney needs to find someone to kick it to. This is where Adelaide have been very good, the pressure, the one on one pressure, around the ground has made movement of the footy very hard for the Tiges. The skipper Campbell, long drop punt, fly from Fiora from the front, trying to control it there, Hudson, only got it as far as Ben Hart. And the experienced defender now kicks it back into the corridor, very nearly Chaffey, hands and knees, Knights will have to run at it does it very well. Might get it back here, too. Matthew Knights in Russell Evett style will please the fans in Adelaide. Handball backward into the play, Campbell inside the 50, fly from behind, Hudson can't hang on. Game stepping up a cog. Smart. He can't control the footy. Bouncing dangerously now. As Doughty gets it out of the area and they stream away. One handed grab there by Bode, dishes it off to McLeod, puts it on the afterburners, inside the 50, top of the square, fly from Perrie, can't hang on, holds his feet, Welsh and Zantuck, and now Stevens, frenetic, snap on goal, has missed to the near side.

Good good contest, wasn't it? Good football. Great tackle, late tackle there, this is party time here, just one arm, one hand will do. After burners, that's a great description he's got another gear where most players hasn't, haven't. Andrew McLeod.

25 point lead for the Adelaide Crows. 14 minutes into this final quarter. If it's going to happen for the Tigers, it's got to be now. Cameron looking for Campbell. Campbell flies. That's been one of their problems, the tall targets, in that area, handballs off Ednie, Fiora, put his head down, coughed it up again, Bickley surging through the middle, got a hand on it there. Kellaway confronted with a heavy bump, Ricciuto appealing the free kick. I think we'll have a ball up. No, McLeod, somehow extracted the ball, an impossible position and did well to keep it there the Crows when it appeared Richmond would clear. There is the extraction.

Stole it.

Unbelievable wasn't it?

Obstetrician

A ball up 30 meters from the Adelaide goal. You would think time now running out. 15 minutes. We have a 25 point ball game. Adelaide forward 50. Bode, Welsh, handball out McLeod, got a little bit of room to move here and manoeuvre, brings it back on the left, unselfishly, centring ball, Stevens sets himself but Kellaway did well to mark.

Been a good player Kellaway for the Tigers today.

This again is their problem, handballing to a stationary player because the targets up the field are all held. Houlihan tries to get rid of hart, he did beautifully, Gaspar magnificent pick up then he's stripped of the footy, Hart working hard in that contest to control it, and then thumps it forward. Perrie out in front, handball on the out misses its target, but he'll get a free kick. Royce Vardy and he's back, now Tyson Edwards with it, inside the 50 with a kick to Stenglein, could have been interfered with, the captain on hands and knees, thumps the handball to Massie, he goes by hand to Bickley, 45 meters out, shot on goal, he has missed the lot, that's out of bounds on the full.

The tables almost been turned on Joel Bowden and Tyson Stenglein. It's almost Bowden running with Stenglein now.

Kellaway forced to play on, got himself into a bit of a hole there, Arthur now coming very deep, oh, very lucky, Richmond, not to have the ball stolen. Zantuck. Ednie, on the charge, Chaffey there, boundary line beats them all centre wing. Chaffey there, and Bode, top 5 and inside 50 as you see McLeod doubling anyone else, Danny Frawley in the team, no answers yet, Alan Richardson the former Pie, coaching staff in the back seat. And ball up in the centre wing.

They just don't look all that dangerous in the forward line at the moment, Kayne Pettifer playing at full forward who's struggled all afternoon. They've also got Houlihan and Cameron and Barry, not Barry Hall, ray Hall.

They've got to kick 5 goals to win the game Richmond, and you just can't see them doing it in the current run of play. Adelaide again coming to Colonial Stadium or to Melbourne for that fact, against Adelaide, against Richmond I should say, and playing very well

Game in the balance, I reckon I'd have Ottens inside 50, Ray Hall perhaps to do the ruck work. It's the old case where you need two Ottenses.

Hard tackle on Doughty. Rucked up, getting the handball, finds Nigel Smart, who massages a short little kick back to Doughty, haven't gained much by time's on Adelaide's side. 21 possession for the match for Doughty been a good one.in short to Clarke, coming in for the injured Rhett Biglands and doing a good job. No one on the mark, so he just lopes away. Long kick now, Ottens up with one hand, Gaspar. Beset upon, Welsh picks it up, handball inboard to Goodwin, standing start shot on goal, out of bounds on the full.

Again an opportunity created by some pressure

Back in the play, Houlihan, Vardy got a good shepherd there from Pettifer. 25 point margin here, inside 50s Adelaide in this quarter dominating. Torney stand and deliver, he does. Against Hart got a bit of support there from Chaffey as well. Now just 7 minutes remaining. Obviously big risk football needed to be played now by the Tigers. Torney, Kellaway, moving forward sets himself, beautiful mark, gives it off to Chippendale, he's wrong footed on his right foot, still did well to Pettifer. Ray Hall was there. Perhaps could have attacked it just a little harder, he waited for it to bounce. And a ball up 20 meters from the Tiger goal.

We talk about Brad Ottens, he's had a good afternoon, but hit outs at the moment sit at 36 to Adelaide 23 to Richmond and the clearances where Adelaide are so strong, 33 to the Tigers, 27 they continue to lead the league in those areas in those statistics.

Adelaide are going to get home, on a day where they've just managed to convert 39% of their scoring opportunities. Ball in dispute in the Richmond forward 50 there, Wayne Campbell trying to marshal the troops and get them on board, that's the Richmond goals. Ball up over the top went Ottens. Didn't

get hand on ball. Working hard Knights, Chippendale, bit of fancy footwork, little dribble kick out of the pack found (*illegible*) Hart

Had a job in the forward half for the first couple of quarters, and now he's back in the more comfortable position, that wasn't his best kick. Ottens the fly from behind, well done. He had 3 to beat, 4!

I reckon, if he'd just panned a little wider. And that, that's uh, for me, that should be a pretty clear lesson. Chaffey got it outside 50 and just banged it in there blindly, Brad Ottens was going to be in the general area.

I think it's called utilising your sources Gaz,

Yes, it's very nicely summed up. They've been out marked inside 50 today, Adelaide, and that doesn't happen too often. This is his 9<sup>th</sup> mark and 5<sup>th</sup> contested. That's a pretty valuable commodity to have

Brad Ottens must get this, and does. Well I hope Bradley Ottens got nice broad shoulders, boys, because with Matthew Richardson sitting down after re-injuring his hamstring, he is going to have a pretty hefty workload in the coming month to six weeks you would think, and he's certainly delivered today. He's kicked his third goal and he's been terrific through the middle but someone, one of those other big fellows is going to have to put his hand up to support him.

Stafford coming back next week might give him a little bit of a chop out.

19 point lead for the Adelaide Crows, Ottens has 3. Richmond facing their third consecutive loss. They play Sydney at this ground next week and the Adelaide Crows have got Fremantle, in form Fremantle at Football Park. Goodwin, Doughty, shrugged off the tackle, went wide to Bickley, been a superb contributor today. Bickley, over the top, Stenglein, McLeod, the flow, the run, the delivery, not able to get onto the end of it Perrie Ricciuto was fair dinkum in the Wayne Harms 15<sup>th</sup> row, thought the boundary umpire was going to let it slip there as you see in an important match up in the game.

Yeah, head to head all day these two and in the end, Tyson Stenglein has been able to take control. He's had more touches, but he's also been dangerous going forward.

Clarke and Ottens. Leon Cameron dispossessed. Reels it back in. high kick, outside the 50. Overhead mark taken by Mark Bickley, you don't say that too often in a call. That was very nicely done, he's going to get it back too, the former captain kicks it off and finds Nathan Bassett, 40 meters out, slight angle.

Well known full forward Nathan Bassett, (*laughs*) spent most of his career at full back, and spent a bit of time on the interchange bench today. In fact he played a little bit, oh occasionally of full forward when he was at Melbourne, boys.

Well you talked earlier Brian Taylor, about Nigel Smart reinventing himself, or it might have been you in fact, Gary. Mark Bickley has certainly done the same thing. He was a player many thought was going to play his last season last year. 96 % the AFL average from this point, and this would really seal it if he could thread it through. Not going to make the distance, and thumped across the line. Six goals in his career and 4 behinds for Nathan Bassett (*laughs*) so he spent much time, of his time in the back half. But getting back to Nathan Bickley playing some of the best footy of his career.

He looks rejuvenated. I mean I remember at one stage last year I think he almost retired. And now he looks ready to go another couple of seasons. As Ricciuto marks. 20 point ball game. Ball back in the direction of Welsh, off hands, Chippendale is nailed. Attention to detail for the Crows today has been great. Zantuck, Knights. Running out of defence, Houlihan. Only got a one on one contest further

afield. Pettifer presented though, in front of Massie. Kick out in front of Rodin whose been towelled up today by Johncock. Rodan and Edwards go at it.

That's a poor finish from Kayne Pettifer. He hasn't had a good afternoon at all. His development has just plateaued a little bit. He looked like he's just going to come on. He needs to find some form.

Well you talk about the heat being on Bickley and Smart, it'll now be turned to the likes of Knights and Leon Cameron after today's, third consecutive loss, the pressure will be come, come down on those boys and they'll have to make some decisions, the Tigers.

Lots of talk during the week Gary about Matthew knights. Tivendale, open goal, gets it. Greg Tivendale went onto Simon Goodwin at half time. Goodwin I think had had 19 touches in the first half, he now sits at 28. So, and he's done a reasonable job and now been able to score a goal himself. He hasn't been the worst for the Tigers that's for sure, he's kicked a couple now in actual fact, and had 19 possessions himself. So he hasn't fooled around, hasn't (??)

14 points the margin. Time the enemy for Richmond. Look at those scoring shots. Quite extraordinary.

Pick one out of the middle, might make it interesting

Make it a ball game,

Of course, the same amount of goals but the behinds is where the discrepancy lies. Big mark there from Ricciuto, full chested,

Always had an answer today, haven't they. Just when it got half interesting, they were able to go back and kick a goal and that's what Mark Ricciuto will attempt to do, he's just gone to half forward in this last quarter just for the contest and to make sure the footy stays in as long as it can. I don't think distance will be too much of a problem for the Roo from here. He's a consistent 50 plus kicker

Well he's working at almost double to AFL average, so that would suggest that he's going to make the journey, and this would really cap the week off the the skipper, it hasn't been an easy one for the skipper. *(There is some booing)* He sets sail, the kick's straight enough if it's long enough, it might be touched just touched on the line, Bassett off the ground, goal, that's the game over.

Aw, what happened there, from a Richmond defence point of view, the slightest of possible chances that they were still in this contest, the very slightest, you'd reckon that desperation would be absolutely paramount. I don't think anyone knew where the footy went, that's the only excuse I can make for the Richmond defence there. Let's have a look at this. They all sort of stand around thinking it's been rushed behind. They just stopped. There's Zantuck stopped, Ottens stopped.

Back to 20 points. Richmond's, final chance blown to pieces there by an easy goal from Bassett, his first. Ottens beautiful back handed tap to Campbell. Torney, gee Adelaide just unbelievably desperate, jumping on everything getting a hand where they can. Hart delivers, precision, Johncock, liked his game today. Goes short to Bickley, what about this man, James Brayshaw mentioned before. Superb. Bode. Marks on 50. Plays on. Centring ball. Plays centre very often, very unselfishly, the Crows, it's always their first thought, went on a deep angle. Kellaway, the all Australian, out wide, Edwards wonderfully well, plays on immediately, then an non - preferred side kick, Bassett gives it on to Welsh, who bangs it from 50! Goal! Got 2! Welsh, ripping goal. From a long journey with a wide angle.

Yes and they deserve to kick a couple from the boundary because they missed some sitters in front in that second quarter when they put on 2 goals 12. He's been pretty lively too, Scott Welsh, he's kicked a couple of goals in the second half, he's an interesting proposition, I like Tyson Edwards as a footy

player too, he can, he does the job most weeks, he's got good leg speed. Pretty disappointing result for Danny Frawley and the Tigers tonight, today, its only tonight because the roof's shut.

Well Adelaide are gunna to be 4 and 2 at the end of round 6 and there wouldn't have been too many footballing experts who would have had them parked at that. Biggest lead in the game they enjoy right now, and in fact, even the experts in Adelaide town thought that Port Adelaide would be the form side of that city

Just recapping next week for these sides, you see the forlorn sight of Matthew Richardson sitting down with a reoccurrence of that hamstring. Richmond next week have got Sydney an' the Adelaide Crows have got Fremantle at Football Park.

They are in very nice shape, thank you very much, the Crows. Sleepers, I think you'd call them

Kick a goal

McLeod has been brilliant today a couple of bounces, from inside 50, running drop punt, magnificent!

Well I tell you what, it's been worth driving here today to see Andrew McLeod. He looks at times to be in a bit of another class. Every other player, and I mean every other player, not just the Richmond team, he just makes it look so easy, kicking goals on the run when you're at full stride is not an easy thing to do but he just makes it look so natural. He set this win up in this last quarter when they were being challenged. He's a superstar.

He does things, Gary that other footballers can't do, and that's across the competition.

Exactly. And he does other things that everyone can do ridiculously easy.

5 minutes ago the Tigers were within 14 points it's now a 32 point well-earned lead to the Crows. Bode. And that could extend further. Bickley delivers, Ricciuto, skirting the fringe Bickley, Gaspar, besieged. Perrie, threw it out almost, comes back to him, volleyball down at the beach at Pattaya! up they go, Campbell

SIREN

Big win in the end, Gary Ayres would be very happy. Mark Bickley there on the ground copped a nasty knock in the end, he'll recover. A 32 point victory to the Adelaide Crows.



## 2007.1 St Kilda v Carlton

4 May 2007 HSV7 Docklands (45 513) 125-82

Dennis Cometti, Bruce McAvaney, David Schwartz, Tim Watson

*Vision of players laying on the field, each with 2 trainers massaging their legs. Then the pep talk. Interviews with coach, assistant coach, Carlton in white away kit which looks stupid*

**DC** Umpire Allen to get us underway, Heath Scotland pivotal in that last term, back on the ground but he came off late in the term with cramp, they need him to be firing. Here's Murphy storming down towards half forward, great tackle, Gilbert surely it was holding the ball no free kick. Gilbert comes again, too slick for Harvey, picked up by Young, here's Scotland twisting, turning, ball, the tackle slipped but he managed to jar the ball out, the contact did, Montagna inside the forward 50, Riewoldt went to ground, Gehrig crashing his way through. O'Hailpin a tumble, gets a handpass through, Simpson run down by Fiora, coming away, Houlihan to Walker, a couple of bounces, plenty of support for Walker, untidy handpass but still plenty of time, this time for Young, Young spots Whitnall on the lead, 75 meters from goal. Whitnall over the top to Walker can they send a psychological message? They're running hard, high ball, up goes Fevola, hands to it, couldn't hang on falls to Goddard, now Clarke out of the back pocket and misses Gram.

**BM** that was a frantic first minute, wasn't it of the opening,

**DS** Well I'm just watching minutes ooh they've got some power of work to do now.

**BM** Goddard to Gwilt to Harvey. Both teams had a chance in that first minute.

**DS** Well he doesn't get tired, Robert Harvey.

**BM** Short to Riewoldt who also keeps working, as we know. Riewoldt and Waite great clash tonight.

**DS** You'd be happy for Riewoldt to get it up that that high on the ground

**BM** Koschitzke wide. Its extraordinary decision not to pay a holding the ball against Murphy in the first 10 seconds, I've gotta say.

**DS** Mm ridiculous

**BM** Montagna, so slow build up now by the Saints. Riewoldt presents short, Montagna goes wide remember the Saints have kicked the opening goal in each of the quarters so far, and they've got them pretty quickly. Del Santo. They haven't been headed all night the Saints. Ball. Good players Del Santo particularly, Ball's been very solid, arguably his best match for the year. Remember the high hard hit he got in the opening round

**DS** Free kick

**BM** Gehrig, free kick

*(Can hear the player say Bullshit man, and the umpire says no it was all around his shoulder, replay show the vision,)*

**DC** it was there

**BM** yeah

**DS** Should front position he's athletic enough to get in the front Gehrig,

**BM** he's having a big night, Gehrig. Going for goal number six. *(Some booing)* Oh boy, that's a big let off. Not an easy kick from that pocket, but the way he's been doing it, you would have fancied him.

**DC** yep, no doubt. Houlihan short of half back. Murphy hasn't seen a lot of it, just forward of left half back. So, a reprieve there for Carlton, can they make the most of it. Cloke gave a contest, well done, Blackwell couldn't control the crumb, it's out of bounds at the interchange gates. 90 plays 74 early going final term. Friday night football. Two two and three teams. Strong tackle, got Fiora down or is it ball in there? Del Santo going very nicely, as he's done all night. Play restarts, Ackland, a good player, Blackwell, he's been very handy, Murphy, just across the ground, it was a nothing kick, Del Santo touched on him just a moment ago, ball to the run of Harvey, well if there's been one criticism of Robert Harvey over the years its that final kick inside 50, but that's being picky, O'Hailpin finds Murphy

**DS** Gee you're a harsh marker Dennis *(laughing)*

**DC** no I'm not, he's a great player, but that's the one chink.

**BM** Walker, quickly on to Ackland, Dennis has talked about his game since half time. It's been very good against his old club into a hot spot, but not a good kick. And Gilbert gets back.

**DS** Got a lot of number back too, the Saints, the Blues are following them down , we heard Brett Rattan speaking to Tim before, they've got an 8 man forward line, but they're not about to let them go loose

**BM** Gwilt to Goddard, that was a good kick, and Goddard ran hard for him, then down, the line to Harvey. Gee, working hard. He's an amazing footballer. Forced to go on the left, Riewoldt couldn't quite find it, where was Waite, and then Gehrig! Oh, another one, eight. We're all counting now Dennis, we're stealing your thunder.

**DC** I feel like Malcolm McKeris.

**DS** Just watch uh Fraser's reaction here when he hits the post.

**BM** He could almost have put the Blues away in this last quarter, could Gehrig.

**DC** Yes, he could have. Here's Murphy, got it from Gibbs, the future of the club, across the ground, Ackland, takes the mark, a runner alongside, decides not to go in that direction, Whitnall works in front, loose at the back Fevola spells dangers, in comes Clarke, well done Gwilt got the handpass away. Blake looking for Koschitzke, they hold firm, Koschitzke at right half back, Gilbert is running, Koschitzke wants to carry the ball to the man on the mark and then pop it over the top, Gilbert, 2 goals to his credit tonight, that's a clever kick, coming up the ground, the mark is held by Voss, right on the 50, Fiora runs on, the kick goes in that direction, Fiora takes the mark. Good hard running, that's what he does best, Aaron Fiora,

**DS** Exactly right Dennis he about 80 meters to get to that kick. He saw it was going to go into space. Brett Voss could just about have a kick here but you fancy Fiora at this distance on the left

**DC** okay, the Blues have dodged a couple of bullets. Their hearts in their mouths again as Fiora shoots on goal this time from 40. Well I think he's got it, just missed the post!

**DS** Just gotta hang on here now Carlton, they've been so brave. Just getting counter-punched at the moment, when this they turn the ball over the Saints have just been so damaging, and the game was always going to open up because they're getting so tired, the players. And it's just who can hang on.



**BM** well since Eddie Betts got the Blues within 4 points in that third quarter, it's been 3 2 the Saints against one solitary behind for Carlton, they have to get the next goal, the margin getting out again, to 23.

**DS** Look at the numbers in uh just looking into the Saint Kilda backline or the Carlton forward line, so many numbers in there, when the ball goes in its gonna be so tough

**BM** Kennedy laid it off, ricks did well, and then Ball gets on the end of it, gets inside 50 and there's another bullet dodged.

**DC** mmmm

**BM** Tim Watson, Tim I don't know if you can hear me down there, what can the Blues do here do you reckon?

**TW** Well they've got to try and shake some of their midfielders free, Baker's gone to Heath Scotland and shut him down, Lappin's on the bench, he's a really good ball user. I would think they'll try and get him on the ground in the next 5 or so minutes.

**DC** Russell to Kennedy, little kick from Blackwell, effective enough, Scotland, liked his game, dominant third term. High ball, Fevola edges the pack forward and takes the mark!

**DS** Gee that was strong!

**DC** well there was some shifty work there from Brendan Fevola,

**DS** He just read it better though Dennis, he saw the ball coming in, he planted his feet, and he was, no one was going to move him. There it is, just plants the feet, maybe one over the shoulder, maybe a push in the back, oh give it to him.

**DC.** Oooh, he's happy to do it anyway. As if he was frisky James Gwilt. He's got the ball 30 meters out, slight angle, put this one in the record, coming up for number 6. Gehrig missed it one end a couple of times. Fevola does not.

**DS** Three straight kicks, and they're well and truly in this Carlton, Lance Whitnall gone to the bench, but just have a look at this, once again right beside was Gwilt. That's just experience. He didn't really, used his hands to plant.

**DC** I've seen that paid

**DS** Yeah, (*laughs*) technically it's a free kick, Dennis. When you've kicked 5 and it's a sixth, and you brings the side back into the game, you let them ones go

**DC** in fairness to the umpire, the umpire was on the blind side, the far side.

**DS** So 6 for Fev. Back to 18 points.

**BM** every centre break now vital. Harvey did well, Montagna runs onto it, to Jones, had to kick quickly, out wide. Houlihan and Voss, Houlihan no free kick I though the umpire was going to blow it. I thought he might have been taken a bit low, Houlihan.

**DS** Good play though, he scooped it up. He put it out in front of him, he gave himself a chance to play on.

**BM** just don't have much room to move, the Blues, do they. They're on the tightrope now, they can't make a big blue.

**DC** no, they put themselves there too Bruce with those last 7 or 8 minutes of the third term.

**DS** They've gotta get big Lance back on, if they are gunna win, he's gotta control that centre half forward area.

**BM** it's interesting he's sitting it out, the big red.

**DC** probably about to come back for one final hoorah. Some tired players. Look at them.

**DS** Luke Ball's been brave, he always is brave but uh he's been out on his feet for the last five minutes.

**DC** Kennedy got a fist on that one, he's been quiet. Montagna, liked his game. Taken high at the last moment, could have almost got a free. Carrazzo waited and waited and then was clumsy but you can see where the umpire came from and that high arm was on the other side, he didn't see it.

**DS** He falls down, yep, could have been one. Probably a good decision in the end.

**DC** good bounce. Rex backhands it. Harvey. Fiora did well, away to Gram, kicks inside the 50. So far the Saints have met every challenge. Here's Jones. Gibbs right there with him, Jones is quick, pulls it back, effective enough. Gram lines up from 35 and kicks it. His second.

**DS** Too easy. As we look down at the Carlton forward line, they've got 16 numbers in there when the Saints are going forward because all the numbers are down that end, he's got such an open 50. So Gehrig, he can run into, he can run into an open space. Brett Voss is actually playing up the ground a little bit, put in a contest, it went over the top but they've just got players running through and not a player within sight of Gram.

**BM** it's a handy contribution from Gram, 14 disposals, 2 2<sup>nd</sup> half goals. The Blues kicked 5 goals in 11 minutes in that burst in the third. That's what they need to duplicate here in the last because the Saints are away again. Inside the 50. Houlihan good tackle, Jones, goes a second time. Gibbs cuts it off, Voss back to Jones, little kick going close, and O'Hailpin the Irish man was able to get back in a hurry and then plays on quickly, and the Blues through Carrazzo at half back.

**DC** Scotland was terrific too. Carrazzo to half forward Thornton on his chest, kicks inside the 50 Fevola the target, will mark. He's giving it hands in the back. (*Fevola clears says fucking hell, what for, for anyone to lip read*)

**DS** Oh no

**DC** Gwilt gets the free. To Gram. Look at this, we've got ourselves a convoy. Down the broadcast wing. Montagna, Milne, at the interchange gates, will get under that one. Plenty of Carlton players there. Scotland, who's tried his heart out, in front held to him by Jones, down goes Fiora trying to push it out of there Houlihan, Walker running out of space at close quarters to Gibbs, taken by Milne, slung, it affected the kick, Scotland once more into the action. Taken down Montagna, tries to get through, Anderson pulled him down. Baker heard a voice, it was supplied by Milne, don't know what he heard, don't know how he saw it, goes to Gehrig 25 meters out directly in front and Stevie Milne must have a rear vision mirror.

**DS** Brendan just asking what happened. (*Fevola can be heard saying "how, I didn't touch his back and mouthing fuck*) Replay shows a nanosecond of his palm on the back of his opponent.

**DC** well he did touch his back.

**DS** Well if that

**DC** go on, say it

**DS** Well if that's what our game is coming to, where that is a free kick, we're in trouble.

**DC** we dash to one end and then the other and Fraser Gehrig pops through his sixth.

*(Vision of Fevola looking mighty pissed off)*

**DS** I just want you to have a look at this Brendan Fevola one once more. He's got the player cold, the player takes his eyes off the ball, and well,

**DC** what are we becoming?

**DS** Well

**BM** so, Ox is it a free kick or not?

**DS** Well, in the letter of the rule, yes, it is, but it's a shocking interpretation and Kevin Bartlett and the rules committee need to sort it out.

**BM** Well we talked about the 2 forwards at the start. And I've just said in the last minute the contrast. What's happened they've both kicked six. One's spitting chips, hating what's happened, and the other one on cloud nine

**DS** Well he'll probably take the next 3 marks now and get Carlton right back into the game.

**BM** dunno know who's more fired up, the Ox or Fevola right now. Scotland to full forward Fev, not quite. Did he get hands in the back?

**DC** *(laughing)*

**BM** Stop umpiring and start calling. Clarke to Gilbert. I've just given myself a real lecture, Dennis, and I've responded. Riewoldt and Waite

**DC** I didn't agree with the message though Bruce,

**BM** it's been a great duel hasn't it and there's the Fev again.

**DS** I think Jones is a spitting image of a younger Nick Riewoldt, a smaller mini me Riewoldt. Maybe the same hairdressers.

**DC** thrown in on the outer side. Ackland decisively, Carrazzo, in the grasp, Houlihan. Clever. Swings around and spots Russell on the lead but the kick did not carry. Harvey. Been instrumental in this final term and the Saints continuing on. This is Goddard inside the forward 50. Almost as if Thornton was on the lead, he was storming out in front of Gehrig. Fraser's lost interest for the moment, a short one to Waite. The time now the enemy of the Blues. Waite, the short kick, Carrazzo gets through a couple of players seemed to have him but Carrazzo is still going, he's 60 metres out, that's a tired kick. Almost to be expected. Wonderful juggled mark. Did he juggle it across the line? The boundary umpire says it's okay, and Fevola needs to kick this he needs to kick his 7<sup>th</sup>. Or at least get it to a team mate who can. That's a mark, he was controlling the football.

**DS** Just doing a bit of furniture removal *(Fev tosses a plastic chair away)*

**BM** he does like to bend it back. This actually is not the worst position in the world for him as tough as it looks

**DS** No, it'll suit him Bruce.

**DC** it's been a weird game, and now it's starting to resemble a demolition derby, puts it across the face of goal and it's a behind. Oh, they needed that one, it was a very very difficult kick.

**DS** Ross Lyon enjoying himself.

**BM** it's the most animated I've ever seen him.

**DS** Good on him

**BM** Well he's 5 in front. Oh. Ball caught up by Betts. Del Santo, his first three quarters were fabulous. Back to Gwilt. Forced out. So, can Carlton make one last run, it's been a good game, can they turn it into a great game? Whitnall, from centre wing. Inside to Carrazzo getting busy. Long to Fevola, that's their play now and Koschitzke a beauty. Remember he took one at the MCG in round one, a bit like that, late in the game

**DS** Against Melbourne. And uh all Saints supporters thought he was back, well, he's had a pretty good game tonight.

**BM** So's this bloke,

**DS** 17 touches, to Koschitzke. It's a really good output for a big tall ruckman he has done a lot of rucking. And I think that's his best position in the ruck. Just until he finds his feet and can go back to that second option as a centre half forward behind Nick Riewoldt.

**BM** gotta man up here the Blues. They can't allow the Saints to control the tempo right now.

**DC** no. running out of time. Under 7 minutes, here's Gilbert, had some important touches tonight. Gwilt. Del Santo, content to draw a player to him. Goes back to Gilbert. Takes on O'Hailpin and drives it around the outer side. Some confidence there. Gehrig was in front, arriving quickly Milne, gets the handpass to Clarke, this could be the sealer, going back is Harvey, with him Scotland, off their hands and across the line. 31 points as Riewoldt looks on.

**DS** Gee he's worked hard tonight, him and Waite have had a colossal clash. Not sure he's actually got the points in that uh tussle

**DC** I think Waite, don't you?

**BM** Bicknell short to Lappin. Now Lappin long with a torpedo, difficult. Koschitzke got a finger on it, O'Hailpin's gone forward but the Saints have got the answers. Well there've been two great duels out there tonight, Fevola and Gehrig, miles apart and Waite and Riewoldt, side by side. Clarke at half back, not many possessions. A couple of good tackles and getting better as the game goes on. Gram good again. He's an interesting player Gram isn't he?

**DS** Well and what he's had to do, he's had to fill a lot of holes. And when he's got that ability to run off half back, he's going to be very dangerous.

**BM** and look at that kick to Montagna whose come from the interchange bench, he's got Harvey on his own, he goes over the back and Robert Harvey takes the mark.

**DS** What a beautiful kick by Leigh Montagna.

**DC** he's had 25 possessions tonight too, Montagna. He's done a lot of hard running, couple of heavy knocks, he's had a good night.

**BM** so Harvey with 5 disposals in the last quarter, coming up for 24. This to be the sealer.

**DS** Reward. Reward for an old war horse that just keeps going. Well we said we love watching the good players play well, Robert Harvey just continues to amaze. Last week he was a stand out in a losing side against Port Adelaide, and to go forward and to take a beautiful mark like that. His legs look fresh, he looks young. He'll play until he's 40 the way he's going.

**DC** Robert Harvey coming off 31 possessions last week, remember the debate last season about whether he should continue, well its moot now. He's having a terrific year. Montagna was after the

football, still found it, Bentick went to ground. Houlihan. Eventually picks it up Houlihan, he's on the wing, goes down towards half forward. Young's in front, reaching up the top Clarke, Murphy couldn't get it. Fiora did, Montagna once more, Baker, slick under pressure the biggest lead of the night the Saints now controlling it on the run home, kick inside the forward 50, some cream on the cake, perhaps. A collision between Walker and Thornton. Picked up by Jones, Milne is on, Jones wants to kick a goal nine. Nine posters tonight. That's 5 short of the record.

**DS** We've still got a bit of time, Den

**BM** Cyril Gambetta 36 years and 61 days in 1925 won the best and fairest for the Saints, there's your answer Dennis. (*SAM: jazz legs*)

**DC** Gambetta is right in my wheelhouse, Bruce.

**BM** Oh, that's a poor (*huh*) turnover and Milnes got it, so a long way to go but right now Robert Harvey would be in front for the best and fairest for the Saints.

**DC** I would think so.

**BM** Stevie Milne, 250 goals in his career, 125 games, so he goes at 2 goals a game for a small forward. That's a big big figure. 51 meters out.

**DC** oh

**BM** I think he's got it

**DC** yep

**BM** well, if you picked up the paper tomorrow morning, you saw the score line, you'd say oh yeah, Saints have won pretty easy. Well they have in the end

**DS** It was 4 points though, wasn't it?

**BM** Mmm

**DS** We spoke last week about a couple of players that don't travel too well, in Gehrig and Milne. Well, they've really stood up tonight. They are very good here at the Telstra Dome. If Ross Lyon can work out the magic potion to get them to travel well and perform, well, they're gunna be such a better side.

**BM** 10 of the next 15 after tonight are here.

**DC** 18 17 to 11 15. Bruce saying if you pick up the paper tomorrow and look at the result you'll probably say oh yeah, what worries me is Bruce, I'm likely to do that and I was here. Scotland kicks inside the forward 50. Big leap Goddard falls to Voss out of defence, and full credit to the Saints. We saw them last week and they have regrouped. We talked about a brittleness last week, well they've been steeled tonight, and this man has been inspirational, Harvey,

**DS** Hasn't he been good?

**DC** deft footwork, cut off eventually by Anderson. His handpass to Gram. Taken down by Bentick, and we'll have a ball up. 125 to 81. Okay Dave. Your top four.

**DS** Robert Harvey, been outstanding again, Nick Del Santo had to stand up because Lenny Hayes was out. We'll give it to big Frase, started off bit ordinary but finished well and Jarrad Waites contest, Dennis, that was more your doing than mine on that last one against Nick Riewoldt.

**DC** ho, thanks very much

**DS** I folded to pressure.

**DC** Umpire Jeffrey being honest. We have a ball up.

**BM** Average score against the Blues this year is 123 in the 6 matches. They've given up a lot of points. Betts. O'Hailpin forward after Gehrig had lowered his colours, they started the contest, I thought O'Hailpin won the points. Made Gehrig miss early. Attard out wide, Gilbert been good, coming of age for him I think tonight. Strolls away, a second bounce,

**DC** oh

**BM** awkward isn't he, but he is effective. But he can kick a footy. Riewoldt back on, Waites still going with him. Jones. Gibbs. Riewoldt hard at him a couple of number one draft picks a few years apart. Scotland's been very good, in a losing team. He hasn't got that much of an option here and he had to go wide to Young and he's missed the target.

**DS** They've been very good Carlton, we've got to remember they have won 2 consecutive wooden spoons. They are improving every week, they're getting so much better, just a little bit of class, a bit like Richmond, unable to finish off games at the moment but they are certainly on the improve.

**BM** 13 players out there with less than 50 games for the Blues but, I'm not sure if was you Dennis or you Ox, you mentioned but no Nick Stevens, no Nick Stevens for the year, they're missing him aren't they

**DC** oh yeah, terribly.

**DS** don't forget Koutoufides isn't playing either, because uh he just slots in nicely and he always takes a very very good player.

**BM** would have been so handy

**DC** his sort of game, Bruce

**BM** yeah

**DC** ball off the ground, 25 possessions. But

**DS** No Lenny Hayes either for the Saints which is pretty important

**DC** having said that, you just get the feeling Carlton sometimes, I know it's harsh, as Scotland goes to Russell, are content to get close enough.

**BM** its 50 against Baker.

**DS** (*laughs*) he's not stopped all day. He put Murphy on his bottom. Twice actually. And Bryce Gibbs coming in and just giving Stevie one. I think Stevie can handle himself okay, Den. We say it every week if there's a dust up

**DC** yeah, that's the Josh Carr rule, where there's smoke

**DS** There's Stevie Baker.

**DC** There's an inferno if St Kilda are playing Fremantle. There goes the kick from Russell, oh now I presume that hit the post, its shaking like a rubber snake, but did they player hit the post as well,

**DS** Can't claim that one Den, that was a player

**DC** not sure, oh was it, okay, I was looking for the record, short one back to the square from Clarke and this is Goddard.

**BM** just when the umpire called out Stevie Baker's name I had visions of Stevie Baker at school getting into trouble with the teacher.

**DC** Not the first time he would have been called like that.

**BM** Goddard,

**DS** Hasn't he improved too as a footballer too, Brendan Goddard.

**DC** but I'm guessing too Bruce that Stevie Baker would have had a long walk, because I don't think he would have sat up the front

**BM** (*laughs*) I don't think so. Would have been handy on your team at half time half time being lunch time.

**DC** (*laughing*)

**BM** back to Benton who's had a quiet one, then to the pocket, can Fev get one last one, gee no free kick.

**DC** oh Fev

**DS** Just get up, finish the game off

**BM** Fisher, to Riewoldt,

**DS** Its creeping into his game at the moment Fev, he's got to get it out, worry about the footy,

**DC** it's not good enough, is it

**DS** No, it's not

**BM** Can't be a great umpire and a great full forward at the same time

**DC** no, rare.

SIREN

**DS** Well the match high on entertainment, lots of personal highlights, but in the end the Saints rocked away with it in the last quarter.



## 2007.2 Essendon v Hawthorn

5 May 2007 MCG (52 047) 96-131 Channel 10

Stephen Quartermaine and unidentified commentator

Hawks start the final term 29 points in front. Quick kick by Welsh, gained 25 for his team. Winderlich, number 25 for Jason Johnson, kicks inside 50

A chance here for Essendon. Punt road end. 50 out. Campbell against Laycock. That's a high tackle no umpire just caught blind-sided there. Hodge forced a handball. Birchall doubles back, now Lewis, number 20 for Jordan Lewis. Averaging 29 disposals a game this season. In the middle is Croad back after injury, takes a mark.

Play on

Croad goes the short option, finds Sewell.

Sewell on centre wing has had the job this afternoon on James Hird. Hird's had 23 disposals, Crawford, kick towards Franklin and he marks on his chest, despite the pressure from Dustin Fletcher. Anguish from Essendon fans but Buddy Franklin line up for goal number 8.

And that is not Dustin Fletcher's fault, because Heffeman got caught watching the ball, did not go to Crawford and Crawford was able to play on easily. And then be able to deliver that ball. You can't stop that as a defender.

Franklin's kicked 7. Can't bring this back, contest and Laycock decides just to thump it through for a rushed behind. So an even 5 goal advantage now to the Hawks.

Fletcher goes, oh shortish,

I think that kick in shows what Essendon will do this quarter, take some risks, go up the middle.

Peverill kicks to Johns. Who's a huge man but just doesn't do enough, does he Michael.

Well, no, well, his leads are great, we know he takes a great mark but it's in the secondary, when the ball hits the ground and how you get after it, he's just got to be able to add that to his game.

Hird, he's had plenty of it, number 24 here.

Fletcher's run hard from deep in defence out to McVeigh and he takes the slider. So patient build up here for the Bombers. They need the first goal, if they can't get it, it's all but game over. Long bomb, in front of Johns, yes, no, not quite. Well he did all the hard work. We'll have a bounce, 40 out from Essendon's goal.

There's the Johns attempt, Gilham, effecting the spoil. Laycock, Hird. Winderlich, feeds it back, Peverill, feeds it back to McVeigh, off a step from 50 square, Brown got back and fists it through for a rushed behind, so Hawthorn in defence have done a very good job this afternoon.

Kick in finds Birchall. He goes short to Shane Crawford, coming up for number 24. What a player he's been for the Hawks, 32 years of age now. Averaging 24 disposals so far a game this season. And Campbell's found some space, Short, to Boyle on the half volley, Campbell follows it up, interesting kick into space, Hawks had the numbers but the bounce favours the Bombers and they're away now. They'll still alive as Peverill kicks towards James Hird.

Well the Bombers need a goal. 29 minutes, sorry 29 points, four and a half minutes into the final term, need to get the ball rolling, try and build some momentum, Peverill tried to get it to the back, missed,



Croad, wild handball straight to Lovett, here's an opportunity for the Bombers, Lovett, kicks it towards half forward, fist this this time by Gilham, followed up by Davey, Davey an open goal, he kicks it and puts it through. That's just what the Bombers needed. Margin back to 23 points and a ray of hope for the Bombers.

Well it was just wonderful front and square there from Davey, got in front, a couple of steps and then goes bang. He's very lethal around goal, he knows where they are. And they need a bit more like that. Going straight up the middle. Get into attack. Get into attack mode. Take some risks.

Robert Campbell has a breather. Alwyn Davey has 2 goals. And Essendon is still alive. Hawks by 23. Mitchell, just threw it on the boot, torpedo, he's pretty effective kick into the pocket. Franklin's there, fisted it down. Now Franklin again, hemmed in on the boundary line, good tackle again, Fletcher, turnover. Now Davey. Oh his kick finds Jason Johnson, to McVeigh, kick couldn't find Winderlich, Birchall, over to Ladson, now that's a clever kick. Good vision. He's spotted up Boyle. He'll line up, kicking from about 51 meters out.

That's what Hawthorn have been able to do all game

Counterpunch

Yeah, they've been able to counterpunch. So this is a big kick for Essendon, and Hawthorn for that matter.

So (*laughs*) Boyle's got one, kicked that in the first quarter. Have to produce his best here. Ah the goal umpire doesn't move. Gee that was a beautiful kick from distance wasn't it?

Did it comfortably, got the journey easy and the umpire did not move. Just good decision making, good presenting. And turnovers in the middle of the ground they really hurt nowadays, with teams so good with their possessions going forward a turnover can really catch you out.

Yeah. Another footballer with a tatt on the inside of the arm.

Mmm. Kevin Sheedy, some real concerns now. And it's been the story in the second half every time the Bombers have threatened, Hawks have had the answer. McGlynn taps it towards Sewell. And that was crude from James Hird, so free kick to Sewell. Mitchell, run outside from Ladson, kicks it high to the central location. McVeigh couldn't handle it, Michael tries to thump it away and then gathers it at ground level, well played by Mal Michael, McVeigh made Jason Johnson reach, but he was up to it. Peverill, now Dyson, he got run through the midfield and he gives it up straight to Crawford. Oh, there's players, plenty of them, inside the attacking 50 and one of them is Ben Dixon. He thought about going, now he does, and kicks into the pocket and Boyle's marked.

Well it's fine to run and take risks but, and the defence did that there, but that's what catches you out.

There it is there, there's the Dyson

When all your players have made a play they're now on offence and the forwards have stayed in defence and catches everybody out.

So, Tim Boyle for his second goal in two minutes. He pops it through. Hawthorn out by 35.

Well, Hawthorn have been very good in that, in that area today. Their work rate has been sensational. Their ability to be able turnover the ball, to turn over the possession in the middle of the ground has been a feature. Their work on the mark. Their pushing back into defence, they've done all the hard things today.

Well it's not quite game over but well, one more here and it will be curtains for the Bombers. Hawks by 35 early in this final term. Ball's now got 3, Dixon's got 3 Franklin's got 7. Just relentless in their

running the Hawks today. Mitchell, back to Hodge. Kick slews off the side of the boot, Davey got clean bowled, but it's just a butter-up. Can he use it? Not a lot on offer. (*Booing*) Forced to go backwards to Michael. Still not a lot on offer. Still not a lot on offer. Shrugs the Roughead tackle pretty easily. And it's returned to whence it came. Peverill. Brown's been excellent.

He has had a really, really good game Brown. If there was going to be one key person for Essendon that was going to score the goals and that was Lucas, but he's just done a wonderful job on him today

Here he is again, after standard kick it inside attacking 50. Clearing kick to space beyond the wing for the Hawks, out comes Boyle to meet it. Can he control it? Good pressure coming from Bolton. Boundary throw in between wing and half forward for Hawks and despite the fact that the Bombers got away to a flier, after 14 minutes it was 4 goals to one. Bombers led by 19 points, but Hawthorn, since that point, have really dominated proceedings. Mitchell in and under again. Sewell, underrated, Vandenberg, good return from the captain, to Crawford. Young who's been valuable as well, late inclusion, for Chance Bateman, puts it over the top and Vandenberg goes back with courage. And has marked 40 from goal. They -that will be returned. It's been overturned.

An' look at Vandenberg yell at McGlynn. Vandenberg is furious. Vandenberg gave McGlynn an awful spray.

Watch it again, there's was a clear mark, and McGlynn comes in here, and oh, gee

Hey I'm going to kick a goal, what did you do that for?!

He wasn't happy about that.

That was his moment in the sun

What did you do that for!

Fletcher Finds Laycock, no wonder the skipper's upset, he was just about to kick a goal.

He almost drew a line in the sand with his teammate. Well it was a stupid thing to do and now we've got a 50. So, a touch of stupidity from the Hawks might keep Essendon in the game.

Gee, it's a fair 50 too.

Very generous.

What was the explanation?

Booing

So Laycock a must kick goal for the Bombers, kicking from 45 out, slight angle. He's tugged it left.

So the margin 30 (*blank screen*)

Essendon runner you heard it there, Umpire McBernie, the Essendon runner was in the 50

On the mark

So the Croad with the free kick at half back. Kicks towards Crawford, well done Dyson enough pressure there, Ryder a little clumsy, now Sewell, Young who's been very good. He loads up, with that left foot of his, kicks into the goal square, Franklin! Couldn't hold on that time.

What about the buzz when Franklin goes around the ball at the moment, from the crowd,

He's playing his 40<sup>th</sup> game of football today, Lance Franklin, it's been his best. I wonder what he's up to for the season, 21 goals for the season. Almost be leading the goal kicking by the end of the round.

Yep, I think he'd be, I think he'd be even

One more and he'll lead the goal kicking. Fevola has 21 and he's now on 21 himself.

Hird at half back, disposal 27. His kick finds Ryder, he's got a couple of loose Bombers. Got to get it moving quickly. Lucas is a long way from home. Out wide to Monfries, he's been quiet, and he's still learning the game, young Angus Monfries, and his kick finds McVeigh. And Mark McVeigh, kicking from about 49 meters out. Kick favours a left footer. It's across the face and it's a mark in front, a good mark by Campbell Brown

He's got a remarkable vertical leap Campbell Brown,

Looking a bit sore, Campbell Brown, he's played a wonderful match.

And uh this is another exciting young talent for Hawthorn Birchall there's McGlynn whose been berated by his skipper. *(Laughing as the ball is kicked toward the boundary line)* Oh, he tries to get it back,

Oh no, *(laughing)* give him another one, Banders

He's got something against the captain.

I stand to be corrected, but I think they shared a house for a while

There's that vertical leap from Campbell Brown,

*(Sentence where all of them are talking over each other and I can't untangle it)*

He must have hogged the blankets because um,

Watson, Peverill, over the top, Mark Johnson, slips a Vandenberg tackle, gives a handball now to Dyson, what will Ricky Dyson, do, kicks to a central location, Johns in a good spot here, and Courtney Johns will kick from 20 meters with really no angle to speak of, and should kick Essendon's 13<sup>th</sup> goal.

Well that's been a rare sight, the one on one contest, being able to carry the ball and kick it over the defence, just hasn't happened for Essendon today. Because Hawthorn have been very disciplined in pushing numbers back.

So, Courtney Johns, there's a bit of to do off the ball as Johns comes in and kicks a goal. So the Bombers have 13 but they still trail by 29 points as we watch Ricky Dyson again. Good vision here, hard up against the line, but he brought it back to Courtney Johns who was in a dangerous position and good body work. Notice no hands in the back there from Courtney Johns, he did it well.

Text book.

So the Bombers hanging in there. They're 5 goals down. 8 and a half of actual game time left, as Ryder throws it on the boot. It's a floater, Johns got there first, couldn't take the mark, OBrearer, oh high, no doubt about that one.

Almost lost his head.

Even the most one eyed Essendon supporter couldn't argue with that one.

Obrearer. To Brown. And Taylor's loose at half forward. Kicks in the direction of Franklin. He worked his way to the front. And he favours left side. The mouthguard, goes into the shorts, Sherrin under the arm. Franklin.

Don't pretend. Go back kick the goal.

For goal number 8. This is a very tight angle he's playing on. Franklin kicks. Oh, it's a goal (*laughing*) he's got 8. Well this is one out of the box.

Well seven minutes and 30 seconds to go, ten is not out of the question.

He does so well here, because basically toe to toe, held his ground against Fletcher, pushed off with one hand, knew where the ball was coming and did it very cleverly. Gee what a floater. Lance Franklin what a game, 8 goals, he floated through his 8<sup>th</sup> from the angle, and well he's arrived if not before now, he certainly has this afternoon. As Mark Johnson hacks it towards half forward. Bob Brown out of mid-air just tried to thump it towards the line, only as far as Welsh. 50 from goal. Andrew Welsh. Margin 35 points. Handball off to Lucas from just inside 60. Kicks it a long way, they'll contest in the goal square, off the back, almost a mark to Michael. And it's forced through for a behind.

Quick kick in by the Hawks, Birchall takes the mark. And Lewis has run hard to receive.

They've run hard all day, Quarters, they've been superb in that area.

Kicks to Brown, has he got enough in the tank. Oh cleverly done, Campbell Brown. Here's Vandenberg. Gets a little handball from McGlynn, Vandenberg on the left foot, Franklin's caught behind, Birchall went for the punch, missed.

Well Dustin will take this out, oh, that's intentional isn't it, no, that's what pressure does to you.

Yep, Fletcher could have gone for that mark an he didn't

Ordinarily, a player with less experience would have marked that.

Absolutely, that's what pressure does to you, and he's got 8 goals, when you're playing on him you just want to clear the area, get it out of here, I don't want it here.

Lucky not to be pinged there, Fletcher

Very lucky

So a boundary throw in. 52 047 here at the MCG and I'm sure most would agree, this Hawthorn side is really starting to emerge. Davey, Lovett, now the run provided by Mark Johnson through the middle of the ground, out comes big Mal Michael has been moved to full forward. He marks 45 from goal. (*Booing*) Didn't spend too many days in the forward line for Brisbane, but did for Collingwood before he went to Brisbane. Has kicked the odd goal.

Yeah

28 in his career. Wouldn't write it down just yet, but he's not a bad kick.

He's a very good point kicker. From 50 meters thank you very much, goal to the Bombers.

Well that's a, well that's eventuated just for the Mal Michaels gone forward and Lucas has gone back, that's been the major change and that's probably the best running that we've seen from Essendon for quite a while in the game and were able to flow the ball through the middle of the ground and find Mal on uncontested lead.

And Lucas there he is on picture, he's gone back and Mal Michael has pushed forward which led to that goal of course, for Mal.

Taylor the tap did it nicely to Mitchell Osborne. Yeah, there's Hawks everywhere here on member's wing. Taylor feeds it out to Crawford. Little one to Lewis, who can go on here, and set up Franklin,

but no, goes into the pocket to Roughead. So Jarryd Roughead is on his correct side. And he's kicked one.

Franklin get on the lead here or

Taken ahead of Lance Franklin in the draft. Just across the face. Jarryd Roughead taken pick two in 2004. And Lance Franklin taken pick 5 in 2004.

Fletcher at full back. Davey. Some exhilarating play this afternoon from Alwyn Davey. He's thrilled this crowd of in excess of 52,000 Stanton, but its very stop start for the Bombers. No flow to their game. Hird called to play on, off a step, well done by Gilham fisting away from McPhee in fact it was Johns. Now Jason Johnson a chance. Monfries, under pressure, kick inside attacking 50. The Hawks with the numbers and Campbell Brown waits underneath it and marks, off to Guerra and the Hawks another opportunity to go forward.

Jordan Lewis, not a lot to kick to.

Mark Johnson told to stop whingeing by one of the umpires (*laughing*) and another bounce.

Peverill and Jason Johnson 30 disposals each for Essendon, Hird's got 28, for the Hawks 27 for Crawford, 23 now to Lewis, Dyson fed it out to Stanton and he goes to Michael, he go, both hands on the footy, got a free kick, well there's an irony, advantage is going to be paid, I think it is, a goal's going to be kicked anyway for Essendon. I think it was Winderlich, I'm not sure who it was, we'll have to have a look at the replay, we had our eyes on Mal Michael who was going back to take the kick for goal.

Let's have a look here, Stanton that was the kicker, Michael got to pushed, we didn't see a lot in that, and it was in fact Winderlich who slotted it home.

So it's the Hawks by 23 points.

Pretty quiet. Jason Winderlich, Winderlich. Averaged 22 disposals in the opening 3 rounds, missed a couple of games and back and at the moment has 15. Ryder up high but beaten by Campbell in the centre, Mark Johnson fighting hard James Hird again, around the body gets some penetration towards half forward, but out comes Murphy but dropped a simple chest mark, tries to knock it forward Hawks haven't got the numbers, but Winderlich fights hard, they arrive now the Bombers. Mark Johnson, kick went about 5 meters, Stanton scrambles it to half, towards full forward. Courtney Johns picks it up, kicks, and he's way off target, missed it by a long way. Free kick to the Hawks in the back pocket.

They made it slightly interesting. Just for the last 3 or 4 minutes. Birchall. Finds McGlynn who's learned a valuable lesson in this last quarter.

And Jordan Lewis ran 150 meters to get that ball.

Now Croad, now the Hawks just happy to maintain possession here in the dying minutes. Luke Hodge, Birchall runs hard to the wing. In fact it's not Birchall, its Gilham, got boot to ball and gained another 35 meters for his team. So well worked, yes, the Hawks are out of danger now. They have their 4<sup>th</sup> win for the season. 4 and 2. The Bombers will be 3 and 3. And now their last 4 matches against the Bombers, have the Hawks. Brown, had a ripping game. Over to Mitchell, looking for Roughead, against Lucas, Roughead stuck out the mitt and has taken the mark.

Party tricks are out now.

So Roughead from about 55. Great kick, he's got his second. Some icing on the Hawthorn cake. As I said, Roughead taken pick 2 back in 2004, Lance Franklin taken pick 5. Roughie's played one more game but there's enough there to show that in the long term sense, Jarryd Roughead's going to be a

very valuable player for the Hawks as well. And if uh, in 5 years' time Roughead and Franklin are playing up forward for the Hawks, gee it's going to be a formidable combination. And a great effort, Quarters, you mentioned Hawks have now won the last 4 against the Bombers, before that from 1998 to 2005 the Bombers won every match between these clubs. Chance now for Taylor. Pokes it forward towards Lewis, good fist in there by McPhee, McVeigh outnumbered, McGlynn, Roughead in there, trying to force it forward, umpire letting it go, McPhee

Oh desperation

By McGlynn, whoop, Franklin, ooh, something from nothing, he's kicked 8, he's kicked 9 I've lost count. (*laughing*) Oh Buddy Franklin, well it was just one of those mauling packs the umpire's just let it go, let it do, and somehow it dribbled out to Lance Franklin who found himself with a couple of metres of space, and he kicks goal number 9.

That's how it happened

Yep

That's how it happened. That last little lunge. (*laughing*) The last time a Hawthorn player kicked ten goals it was the chief, Jason Dunstall in 1996.

Gee!

Well that, I mean were talking the last couple of minutes of this game and you see an effort like that by a Hawthorn, by a Hawthorn player, and that's what sets the standard for this team and that's what they've done all day, and they've put Essendon under tremendous pressure. And Franklin has capitalised

Well he's got nine and now the focus goes on him

And he hasn't had any gifts either, has he? I mean he's worked hard to, for all of his goals, been a bit lucky at times, sure, when the ball just seems to have landed in his lap, but he's been fantastic.

McVeigh. Ball fell to Sewell, Young's in there coughs it up. Birchall, oh Lovett pounced, a good tackle by Birchall, Hawks win it back, Ladson to Brown to Guerra, kick it to Buddy, the crowd yells, all 50 well not quite 52 000 the Bombers supporters won't want to see it

Ohhh

McGlynn, McGlynn, he's looking for Franklin.

He's in forward he kicks to Franklin in the pocket, he won't get there

And Sheeds would hate having two kicks against him also, he's got 2 other players back there to stop it from happening. There is a buzz now though, you can feel it in the crowd, the anticipation. Haven't seen 10 goals kicked since round 7 of last year. Fraser, Guerra, Lewis the base of the pack, McGlynn fighting hard, Winderlich, kept his hands free and got the handball out to Mark Johnson, advantage called. Peverill loops the handball to Lovett, Lovett's got speed here, paces Taylor and Birchall but now has to stop and wait because he hasn't got much to go to. Chips it high straight to Trent Croad.

That's all the options he had.

SIREN

that's the siren and a huge win for the Hawks and I said earlier, a star has been born this afternoon at the MCG. Franklin has kicked 9 and the Hawks have won by 35 over their arch enemy, Essendon.



## 2007.3 West Coast v Western Bulldogs

5 May 2007 Subiaco (40 668) 77-62

Under way in the final term. Western Bulldogs desperate for the first goal of the quarter, but it's the Eagles who go forward to the half forward line. Judd gets the handpass, spins around on the left boot Priddis is available, heads in that direction now, it's a well weighted kick, in fact just a little too much on it trying to get it beyond Dylan Addison who did a good job for the Western Bulldogs. Harris comes out, needs the help of Cooney, Harris dances over the boundary line we'll have a throw in. (*booing*)

Good play there by West Coast because they were severely outnumbered and they just put pressure on them because the Bulldogs didn't have anything up forward. And uh they just happened to hang onto the ball a little bit longer than they would have liked, so good play.

Seaby wins the tap but only as far as the Western Bulldogs, Scott West again shut down by Daniel Chick, he was almost looking him on that occasion as Braun fires the ball to the half forward line and coming out strongly is Quinten Lynch.

Within range Jacko?

Oh most definitely.

Yeah, he might be more comfortable. He had little poke at one just before three quarter time, when there was a minute or so to go, with that pressure by Daniel Chick

Well he knows he'll need to roost it and uh this is where he is comfortable and he can go a long way back with a long run up, and he can kick through the football. And he knows that uh, he's a very good kick for goals, his accuracy, he's usually good even though his shoot are a little bit down, but uh you would back him from here. Now that I've said that

Big call

His two goals so far today have been from outside the 50. This one is right to the goal front, knocked down by the Western Bulldogs, Warren Hargrave, happy to concede a rushed behind.

The other inside 50, the other 2 inside 50s that started this quarter, the boys need to just be precise when they've got the footy and that's where they are so good too, the Western Bulldogs. The first goal to West Coast is going to make it pretty difficult.

Hargrave picks out Jordan McMahon, and its Gilbee, into the back pocket, Brian Harris surveys his options, decided to go short, oh, a poor disposal. So it that. Coming back in from Michael Braun and Gilbee's taken the mark for the Western Bulldogs. Looking for Cameron White, just got to him. Western Bulldogs under enormous pressure again from the West Coast Eagles again and Lynch takes another mark. 60 metres from home.

Hunter leads from the pocket, that's ignored. Lynch goes long, to the goal square, they'll contest. Scott West getting back to help out. And relieving the ball Daniel Cross gets it to Matthew Boyd.

Nothing on up the ground, for the Bulldogs. Nothing. At all.

Griffen, just pokes it over the top. Opportunity for Selwood who looks inboard, finds Seaby, gets the call, from Brett Jones decides to go short, too short, cut out by Cooney. Now to Brad Johnson, shrugs the tackle, strong work from the captain. Now Griffen Best pace

Did well

Shakes the tackle, runs to 50, Ryan Griffen lines up for goal, kicks it long but not long enough and Beau Waters comes back to relieve the pressure for the West Coast Eagles.

Well good passage of play by both teams, good pressure and the Bulldogs finally just got it forward and gee that would have been an interesting goal if they'd got that one.

Staker to Quinten Lynch who plays on, Hansen in best position, takes the mark here against Dale Morris. And a long lead mark LeCras. Under pressure. Harms taken by Hargrave, but LeCras stayed with it, back to Lynch whose run on, caught in two minds, hesitated and is caught holding the ball by a great tackle from Cameron White.

Sometimes you just have to do the first instinct thing and the instinct thing would have been to handball outside then Lynch. He looked and thought about it and thought nah, I don't reckon that was the right option there.

Adam Cooney with two bounces running through the centre of the ground, now looks for Murphy, Johnson joining in, went off the ground, Darcy misses it. Staker grabs the loose ball, excellent pass, as he relieves the pressure to Ashley Hansen.

Just great contest there by Darren Glass put his head over it, when the ball came back through the corridor, and uh they're the ones you've gotta win, and that's why he's the friend of the friendly of the competition.

Daniel Kerr running hard found a centimetre against Brad Boyd or Matthew Boyd and that's been a luxury for him today. Stenglein putting himself about doing the courageous thing as Dale Morris comes in over the back.

In fairness to Kerr he's probably due to have one game where he wasn't the best player on the ground. Its round 6, he's had a great year and Matty Boyd's done a fantastic job but other players have lifted today for the Coasters, Priddis in particular, he's been terrific.

West gets it out to Cross. And out and running again, Jordan McMahon, good pace, Rosa, can't get near him at the moment. McMahon bounces his way to the forward line with a left foot! Did he get enough on it? He's home, and the Western Bulldogs have kicked a goal and close to within 6, 7 points.

Wow, wonderful play by Jordan McMahon.

He ran a little bit extra this time, just to make sure it'd make the distance, but uh he's uh, his ability to get away from an opponent whilst carrying the football was uh first class

Oh it certainly was and that's where they need to create run from half back, it was a chain of handballs, again if they can get it in space and they can get it in the corridor, the Western Bulldogs, they're in this game up to their ears as it is, that's where they can get right back in on top.

First goal of the season for Jordan McMahon. Western Bulldogs have kicked the last 2 and it's a seven point buffer for the West Coast Eagles, a little over six minutes played here in the final quarter as Cooney pumps it to the forward line once more. Glass couldn't take it. He and Brent Staker, between them almost coughing it up as they work it out wide now to Steven Armstrong. With a bounce, Drew Eagleton almost into trouble. Handpass to Waters, and getting it back, and goes again to Judd, but is shot down by Cooney. Akermanis coming in strongly for the Western Bulldogs as well but doing it illegally. Have to see a replay of that. Not that it's reportable, but technique once again. When someone's got their head over the ball you've got to be mindful.



Struggling a bit Akermanis, had a bit of a purple patch earlier in the match, he's only had the 9 possessions, been well held today. Good contest there on Cameron White against Lynch and a free kick to Boyd. Daniel Kerr getting a little frustrated. 10 Possessions for Kerr, season average of 29 to be top 5 in the AFL. Harris with it now. Darcy trying to give him an option, he goes beyond that, Akermanis into the centre of the ground. (*Booing*) Goes quickly, Giansiracusa coming out again but strongly marked Seaby.

Well your skills, especially this late in the game, you've gotta make sure you hit your targets there, and it was a good lead by Giansiracusa, you just have to hit him.

Hearn with problems. Got it to Judd, just in time, he goes out wide and Matt Rosa, calling for the forwards to make a move. Hunter obliges, Harris may have run into this back (*booing*) play on is the call. Here's Daniel Kerr back into the traffic, feeding out the handball, and a big shot from Hunter (*booing*) to the goal square, and it's rushed through for a minor score.

I don't know why that wasn't a free kick if his hands weren't in his back there. I don't know. A new interpretation, maybe the momentum. Look I don't think it was a free kick, uh Liam, but under the new rules, I've seen less being paid.

Yes, well its been uh, well rather than put the rule book away, or not put the rule book away, but put the whistle away at least in the last quarter of a tight game because both teams are getting tired as you can see by some of these kicks,

Kerr. Forced it. Kick away, Judd onto the left foot. He's missed to the near side as well. One goal 2 this afternoon for Chris Judd. Well the Bullies would like this because the West Coast have had the majority of the possession in this last quarter in the first you know, six or seven minutes and the Bullies are still in it.

Well their zone set up here, West Coast, they just cannot get it outside the defensive 50 at the moment. See, that kick is just a, really hit and hope.

Courageous work there from Dylan Addison, got numbers against him Staker, gets it to Michael Braun, West Coast Eagles threatening again and a strong mark taken by Mark LeCras.

He's been dangerous the Frenchman, hasn't had a lot of the ball, but uh, even that one of Brian's, it was a good low kick, and for a young player he's got good hands, and we know he's a good finish, we talked about that earlier in the match. He's cutting his teeth playing half forward. Could eventually become a midfielder. Mind you there's not too many spots on the West Coast midfield at the moment, Chad Fletcher can't even get a game. The all Australian midfielder himself.

And LeCras who kicked a goal in the second quarter. Likes it off the boot. And now mark LeCras, extends the lead for the West Coast Eagles.

Well they're applying the pressure here West Coast as you see with them moving the ball here forward, I mean Michael Braun, very good with his foot skills and throughout his career. But kicked it to advantage there Mark LeCras and was able to complete the mark. West Coast putting the pressure on West Coast, to kill this game, um had a lot of scoring shots, just wanna get back to back goals here and really close it out.

20 year old Mark LeCras, career best 5 goals in a match, has 2 here today against the Western Bulldogs. It's a 15 point lead, in favour of the West Coast Eagles as they look for win number 6 to start the season. Brad Johnson fires the Bulldogs into their forward line. They've been solid in defence all afternoon, the West Coast Eagles. Warren Jones, feeds out the handball, Glass to Stenglein, now Waters going long, to the half forward line. Quinten Lynch

Gees he's an improved player Lynch, he's been working so much harder as a forward than he probably has been over the last couple of years, although last year as we know he was sensational.

Lynch goes from 75 goes to the goal front, ball to ground, Brent Staker wheels around and he's missed as well.

Touched, umpire signal it was touched there

Well Ian you're talking about Quinten Lynch. It's an area where the uh, as a forward, it's hit the post sorry. You need to bring more to the game, it's just not a mark and kick player anymore and that's an area, when even when he wasn't kicking goals in his games he was still getting 18 20 possessions, and that was because of his ability to get on the ground, it's his ability, his versatility, so it will come, the goals will come, as long as the work rate is still there,

Judd going in over the back of Brad Johnson takes on Higgins, was slung, advantage paid, Matt Priddis he's had a day out. Draws an opponent with a handball, he's off the money and Jordan McMahon is off and running

Righto, if they can get a clear possession here they've got an open forward line with Jones versus Cooney.

Giansiracusa's gonna be run down, by Daniel Kerr, what an effort, he's had a quiet day but he's stepped up when it counted most,

The guy's a superstar. Defensive work brilliant, again. He never lets you down in that area, we know that, and even though he's had a quiet day, and it's a good call John.

Lynch takes mark number 12 he's been a power for them up forward. A 16 point lead for West Coast, Lynch centres the ball

Every player forward of the centre circle here in the West Coast half, if they actually happen to turn it over at half back here West Coast, there's not a lot uh, to kick it to, for the Bulldogs in fact there's nothing. The boundary umpire, that's it.

Wirrpanda, hasn't had his best day and able to reel in the pass from Brent Staker. 13 minutes played in the final quarter. Handball over the top coming from Armstrong. But Adam Cooney there to clean up, needs help, McMahon happy to run the ball out, that's an excellent pass

Great kick. (*Booing*) Great kick.

Akermanis, has Robert Murphy running hard.

He just kicked it to Darren Glass,

oh he tried to break the uh, I guess the space for himself, hoping that uh the ball carrier, being Akermanis still hanging onto it, he could've changed the kick direction.

Selwood, combines again with Michael Braun. Now Rowan Jones. Back to Braun. Stenglein, looking inside the forward 50 Kerr the option, worked his way to the front, did that expertly, can't keep it alive though, as Minson, well directed kick and it will go to the advantage of his team mate. And Voss scoops the ball up. Harris at full tilt unable to reel it in,

Look he had the Rodney Eade not happy there, had the triple jump moves going on there as he was trying to get that ball, big long strides, to no avail

One goal apiece so far in this final term. Brad Johnson does the rucking and will get another opportunity here. Good support work coming from Gilbee, subterranean handball going back to Ryan Hargraves who centres the ball Griffen.

Look at the chase from behind. West Coast they're putting on a lot of pressure here.

Again Murphy the target and again Darren Glass beats him to the ball good contest between those two and Glass just holding proceedings up waiting for Braun to arrive.

Having a bit of a dance the two of them

Murphy working hard, good second effort, now he has Boyd available, Cooney in the goal square, Matthew Boyd looking to hand off, goes to Minson, Judd takes him on, high ball. Glass. Knocks the ball out of bounds, doing a great job.

Selwood hurt himself, in that previous contest. See coming through here, after the kick,

There's a good that little dance there,

It was

The tango.

Darren Glass been terrific this afternoon, again, up to 19 possessions across half back, half back line.

Judd gets it out, Stephen Armstrong hugging the boundary line, Hansen escorts it over, less than 8 minutes remaining. The Western Bulldogs have kicked one goal here so far in this final term.

Judd gets the handball, now Staker, whose been busy here in the final quarter, looks for Wirrpanda, all set up, an opportunity for Griffen who came across, mishandled the ball, Wirrpanda makes the contest, Gilbee with his hands full goes for the boundary line and we'll have a throw in.

That's better from Wirrpanda on that occasion. Like Daniel Kerr he's been well beaten today but you just have to have the Kerr efforts and I'm not sure up until that one that we've seen that was Wirrpanda this afternoon, been a one effort player.

Rowan Jones trying to draw a free kick, and does so. Staker, looked off Daniel Cross but he was having none of it. Now Michael Braun, has Dean Cox available. Plenty of room to work into, with a bounce, now going long, Hunter, in the goal square. Holding off Daniel Harris. Good contest there, kerta hard at it. Eagleton, paddles it forward, clean bowl Brad Johnson, Judd, needs help, provided by Stenglein, retreating even further now they get it out to Selwood, has Hunter available from 50, he unloads, didn't get the accuracy, and the mark has been taken by Brian Harris.

Well Daniel Wirrpanda just had to make a contest there and uh, yes he just allowed Brian Harris to take that mark pretty much uncontested. But uh Chris Judd, he's certainly finishing the game off well, he's running hot at the minute with 10 disposals.

I love the break up of his possessions, you know, he wins a lot of contested footys, as we know, footy I should say, know, Chris Judd but also he does the defensive work as well.

McMahon to Cooney, Rainer under pressure running the ball out. Shaun Higgins gets it next, on the wing, only team mate ahead of him, he ignores him.

He's got nobody to kick to, at all inside 50 not one player inside 50 here for the Bulldogs, not one.

Well this this type of game was working for them, in early parts of the game and you think you come here, to Subiaco Oval it's going to wear you out. The numbers that they had forward are not there at the minute and West Coast you know play this ground very well.

Oh, Robert Murphy, I reckon he's done a hamstring. He went, as he went for that ball, he's either cramped badly in that right hand hamstring, or he's done his hamstring.

Well he's shaking his head.

That's bad news.

Robert Murphy, just feeling the hamstring again, he's coming straight off, signalling to the bench.

Gee whiz, he was at full stretch up against the bigger player and there, bang, gone. Ever done one of those Jacko?

Couldn't run fast enough.

Yeah, I couldn't play anything there either, that's a bad, that'll be a big loss. Such a good player, Robert Murphy.

Same leg where he had the knee reconstruction last year as well as the Eagles run it out, to the wing, through Michael Braun who's finishing this match full of running. Disposal number 24 for him. Here comes Quinten Lynch, couldn't hold on. Wirrpanda, trying to draw a free kick, and he's convinced the umpire, Chris Donnelly.

That's where, I think, you tell, the amount of running in this game, when you see a player who probably isn't in the best nick because of his, coming off a knee reconstruction, has done a right hamstring, but it would be a tiring game when you've gotta push back and you've gotta run with the flight of the ball into an open forward line, it is tiring. And there's been a number of time Robert Murphy today for example has been one against 3 on an empty forward line. Very difficult for a forward.

Quinten Lynch kicked goals in the first and second quarters. That is off the money. Didn't like it. That is another minor score for the West Coast Eagles.

Well he's had 5 shots on goal today, and 20 possessions. So I mean, 13 marks, his work rate's been fantastic. So as I mentioned before Ian, the goals will come as long as that work rate is still going, I mean John Worsfold will be very happy with his game today,

Darcy takes on Brent Staker and came off second best. Strong work.

And that's because there's nothing up forward and the Bullies are spent. I mean this game has pretty much gone now, because they can't go up forward and kick goals.

Well they've got Brad Johnson versus four players. So it just plays into West Coast hands at the moment, this kid's strong. Burn, goes long, play on advantage free kick being paid to the Western Bulldogs. Farren Ray with it.

Well, we've got a mismatch up here. McMahon now he's got back on Johnson. He did have Cox for a minute.

Giansiracusa, gets it on quickly.

Darcy and Glass the only two inside 50. With Cox pushing back into the hole. There's no real long option.

Brad Johnson goes short and finds Sam Power who wants to play on. Wheels around onto the left foot. Darcy at the back couldn't bring it down. Rowan Jones hands off, Glass, to Beau Waters, to Judd, now they're running, Lynch, on the lead, they go in that direction, couldn't reel it in under good pressure there from Brian Harris, and now an opportunity for the Bulldogs as Ryan Griffen, stops and waits, needs an option

There's nothing up forward,

And he is going to be caught holding the ball,

Look at the advantage at the advantage though, loose players everywhere.

Hunter coming out, Wirrpanda, picks up the loose ball goes over the top and gets it back, tucked it on the boundary line, it's a two man game for the West Coast Eagles at the moment and a free kick has been won by Jordan McMahon.

Well I mean, you look at uh, 27 scoring shots, to 15. and you'd think West Coast would be up by ten and should be up by ten and uh we just haven't heard them on the scoreboard today West Coast and uh, been winners all round but the Bullies now going forward. I mean you've got Cox and Jones down here and Staker, three on one.

Power goes to Brad Johnson who takes the mark, and will kick from just on the 50.

Gee he works hard, Brad Johnson, he's been pushing through the midfield at times he's also been won out on the forward line. Just got an enormous engine. We've talked a lot about the Bulldogs this afternoon, but gee, you've gotta like the way West Coast are travelling at the moment.

*(Booing)* Kicked the Bulldogs first goal of the match, Brad Johnson, to the 50. That's off the money, and it's a minor score for the Western Bulldogs. Who have kicked just 3 goals since half time.

Let's not forget that Andrew Embley pulled out before the game today, nearly the best player in the ground, if not the best player on the ground last week Norm Smith Medallist, Chad Fletcher, still has to force his way to the side, hasn't been getting a game, that's another runner

And Dalton Gooding tells us Ben Cousins, hopefully July August,

Well, that'll be very interesting, I'm sure that'll cause a little bit of debate amongst the footy world.

Farren Ray. Kicked to no-one in particular Darren Glass, as he's done all day, presenting plenty of defensive problems for the Western Bulldogs, he's still going strong. Higgins with it now. Beau Waters coming in over the top, and umpire Dean Margets has decided he'll take it.

As I mentioned before Ian I mean West Coast, have the luxury of so many good players, and winning and you know they've played well in patches today, but probably not their best game here so far this year and are gunna win you know pretty comfortably in the end.

Good contest there from Farren Ray. Cross was looking for West.

Look how clean that one was.

Daniel Kerr, it's a shepherd, from Brent Staker, slows it down, and now looks up where Hunter, comes charging out, couldn't take it, Dale Morris kept it alive, so too Gilbee, again to Cross, possession number 31 for him, West to Eagleton, nice handpass to Akermanis, *(booing)* he goes short, running into the hole, Power couldn't control it. Jones leads the charge again or was it Shannon Hearn, it was Jones, to the half forward line where Western Bulldogs have the numbers, gets it off Higgins to West to Farren Ray.

He's gunna kick this

Cox on Beau Waters, Farren Ray from 60, unloads and has missed.

SIREN

Just their understanding Ian of the backline, I mean not just West Coast. They're just so dominant, just so streamlined. Just first touch got it to Hearn, to Shannon Hearn, you know, not going to get a lot of raps, but I thought he played a solid game, off the backline, and that's the ball game.

## 2007.4 North Melbourne v Sydney

5 May 2007 Docklands (27 045) 77-62

Fox Footy, Commentators Gerard Healy, Jason Dunstall.

*(This is the best game I have watched in two weeks of watching games at AFL House)*

**JD** Kangaroos embark on the final term with a 5 goal lead but Hamish McIntosh has given away a free to Darren Jolly to start the final quarter. Another look at how it occurred.

**GH** A double huddle for the Sydney Swans as we take another look at that little tap.

**JD** Jolly the handball to O'Keefe,

**GH** So plenty of space out wide

**JD** And O'Loughlin's in front. Over his head. Hall good one touch grab there, O'Loughlin, free kick for a hold, it's Barry Hall who got it this could be the big start for the final term for Sydney. Oh look, he's got 50! He's got 50 for mouthing off, so it's a certain goal for Hall.

**GH** Gee that's the first mistake for that Michael Ferrito's made tonight and the last thing he wanted to do was turn a tough kick into a lay down misere and that's what he's done. It's given Sydney a little bit of momentum to start the final quarter, and maybe, just given Barry a bit of confidence.

**JD** So Hall converts for his second.

**GH** Is it game on again?

**JD** Tell you what was very interesting, you talk about the double huddle, Gerard, the downfield umpire whose looking at the forwards, you can actually hear him talking to them, he said looking forward, hands up. He didn't want to see any holding, any locking of arms

**GH** And he was swung, Hall, after giving it to O'Loughlin, just away from frame there, and then Ferrito, who launched his mouthguard into the stratosphere last week, mouthed off at the umpire.

**JD** Brent Harvey and a couple of other senior players having a go at him. I reckon they're being a bit harsh. I'd rather be encouraging him

**GH** Gee it's a good match up, Hall and Ferrito. And Hall's got 2. They're back to within 4 goals. Centre clearances so critical right now. Simpson at the coal face, sending it to half forward. Is it going to stay in? Only for the time being, Edwards sees it out

**JD** If the Kangaroos win tonight they're 3 and 3 and Sydney are 3 and 3 and Roo fans will look at the next three weeks and say we've got Essendon, we've got Carlton, we've got Melbourne. They could start favourite in all three. This is such an important final quarter. Harris to Rawlings,

**GH** Important tackle,

**JD** O'Keefe, the hurried kick to the wing, over the head of Ablett and Archer. Harvey tracking it back, Ferrito clearing off Hall, O'Loughlin closing, Ferrito kicking to centre half forward. Jones pushed.

**GH** Clearly signalling hands in the back

**JD** Well, there's certainly no doubt in the minds of the players or those watching the game as to exactly what the free kicks are for, which is I think a great understanding of what the umpires are doing.



**GH** Jones to the hot spot, Brown to try and fly, fourth in line who just fists it down oh there's some contact, Jude Bolton wears one high against Edwards

**JD** He hasn't had a great night, but he needed to go then and he did and that's the important thing to do is to make a contribution even when you're having an off night.

**GH** Well he's got nowhere to go, big Joe (?) he stuck it up in the air and if this kick stays neutral it could be a win but it's not and Brent Harvey picks up a pretty good mark.

**JD** Worked his way into the game Brent Harvey after being quiet early, this will be his 14<sup>th</sup> disposal. Still goalless, short, McIntosh, driving it in the Brown direction. It's over his head.

**GH** Gees he did that brilliantly there Leo Barry, just nudged Leigh Brown under the ball with his body

**JD** Adams the handpass to Brown. High kick, Edwards in front, Jolly fumbled it, Petrie, stumbled,

**GH** Oh! How did he kick that?!

**JD** Oh what a goal by Drew Petrie! That was something special!

**GH** Well I'm dying to see the replay of this goal

**JD** He kicked that out of mid-air. That was just unbelievable. And again, the Kangaroos are having a night, everything they're doing is turning to gold because this thing happens one out of a hundred attempts. There's a big pack flying for the mark, he grabs it out of the air and as he's landing just throws it on the left boot almost, that's unbelievable stuff. Great goal sense

**GH** Well Darren Jolly admonished himself there, but I mean if he wants to take that next step as a ruckman, they have to be grabbed.

**JD** A night of great spirit for this football club.

**GH** That might be enough

**JD** They were under siege earlier this year, they were 0 and 3 they were talking about oh Holmes, there's another bad bounce in the middle. Just toss it up and

**GH** Ten thousand,

**JD** Stop the swearing, boys, please, Harris, Kangaroos, Archer wide. McIntosh. At half forward Jones leading Malceski, goes to ground, Malceski keeps it alive, should get a good shepherd from Barry does frees himself up. Now Fosdike, no time to muck around with it, Hall and Ferrito, Hall's got it. Mark, free kick and big Barry can go back for his third of the second half.

**GH** That's an interesting one, he's saying he had the arms around him

**JD** And Barry will find it really interesting because it's exactly the same as at the other end of the ground in the third quarter.

**GH** I gotta be honest, that's a 50/50 that one

**JD** Yeah, I would have thought. (*Some booing*)

**GH** Goalless to half time was Barry, this for his third. From inside the 50. His kick is true. They're back to within 4 goals the Sydney now they're hanging around hanging around, they've got to get back to back goals.

**JD** We certainly aren't being flippant about it, we've heard quite a few profanities through the uh effects microphones that the umpires are wearing and it's the last thing we want to hear, because we would hate to see those microphones turned off, because it does give us a great understanding as to what the decision is about, what the umpire is seeing and reading in the actual play as it goes, I think it gives us an armchair ride as to the way the game's unfolding. So let's hope we can just keep the lid on some of the profanities we're hearing.

**GH** Hall with 3 goals 2. Kangaroos 91 Swans 67. Let's hope for a straight bounce from umpire McInerny. 27, 045 on hand. Kirk charging through space at centre half forward Hall shepherding off, Jack charging through, give it to the big fella, says out of my way. Sydney coming back, can they get the mark? Matthews!

**JD** Interesting decision by Barry, he had 2 handball options, but I think he was trying to get it into somebody's hands to get a set shot. And he wheeled around, maybe he was looking to go himself, I'm not sure, but fortunately it was Ben Matthews who was there. There's the handball, he feinted, and maybe he didn't want to give it to Kirky. I'm not sure, Kirky's not the best of kicks. I mean he would have added all of that up in the computer.

**GH** They've kicked 7 goals straight since half time. Matthews makes it 8 straight. They're back within 18 points. So, 3 goals to 1 in 7 enterprising minutes to start this final quarter and just when you think you're ready to wipe them off, the Swans keep on coming.

**JD** And while that was happening Spider Everitt's come off for a spell, Nick Davis back onto the ground, another goal kicking threat. Now that the ball's been pumped forward Sydney loading up their forward line with their proven goal kickers trying to get in on the action, they've finally got a bit of momentum up, now the Kangas have to stand tall.

**GH** Hall giving it off to Matthews who kicked a goal. Paul Roos bringing Nick Davis back into the fray. His 150 game has not had a kick. One right here would be important. Jolly the hit out. Fosdike enterprising, Hall's going to run onto it with Ferrito again,

**JD** Gee the pace of Ferrito has been the biggest issue in this battle, he's been able to close Barry Hall down and run away

**GH** Jude Bolton running away, so's Kirk, under pressure, squeezes the kick forward, Davis the hit out, Gibson has to conceded, surely, surely,

**JD** and does (*booing*)

**GH** Oh, it's tense, things have just gone up a gear, haven't they?

**JD** Centre clearances have been all one way in this term, for the Swans. And they're pulling Barry Hall right back so if they get anything forward Barry Hall is left with plenty of space in front of him.

**GH** Well they are going man to man on the kick outs the Swans, it does make it pretty easy to break and find the target as opposed to his own normally just concedes a short kick to the pockets.

**JD** Harvey receives from Wells, they kicked 7 goals 3 in the opening term, the Kangaroos, they've kicked 6 goals since. 17 points to the good. A pack on the outer wing. And standing tall is Leo Barry.

**GH** Pretty crowded territory ahead of him,

**JD** Yep, Roos getting numbers back

**GH** (??) to Michael O'Loughlin



**JD** To O'Loughlin straight through his hands and Archer collided with this teammate collected Gibson, who's dazed. Harvey does he win a free? No. Heads to the boundary line and it's over.

**GH** Well all of a sudden there's been a major shift in the game of British bulldog if you like, the Swans are bustling the ball forward and motoring it just with pure weight of bodies.

**JD** Jolly knocking it for Jude Bolton. High one towards the hot spot. Hall and O'Loughlin the targets O'Loughlin, nearly nearly not quite. A bounce. Shee, it was close. They would be right in it, if they get one more, as Spider looks on.

**GH** Gee, just used the body well and nearly.

**JD** Ablett the hit out, lurking is Kirk, got support from Fosdike, he's going to centre it though. McIntosh couldn't trap it, concedes a behind. (*Booing*)

**GH** Interesting handball had to go over the umpire's head.

**JD** 16 points the margin with a long time to go

**GH** So what's happening in the Kangaroos minds right now Jason, are they saving the game or are they thinking attack?

**JD** If they try and save the game they'll lose it. They've got to kick another goal or two. One goal I think would really give them some breathing space and their entire focus should be on doing what they've done from day one, that's apply pressure parts of the ground, work the ball forward as quickly as possible and back one of their players to kick a goal, and that should be enough to give them the confidence to get home.

**GH** McIntosh behind Jolly

**JD** I don't think they've won a clearance for some time the Kangaroos. Here's one.

**GH** Harris, Rawlings

**JD** Lot of pressure

**GH** Forces the kick out, Goodes in front of Sinclair brought down illegally, free to Goodes.

**JD** Brilliant play Goodes. He knew he was going to get pinned if he took the footy, so he just tapped it up in the air

**GH** Yep

**JD** And ended up drawing the free kick

**GH** Short ball, over the head of Fosdike,

**JD** Bad miss

**GH** Archer's going to run onto it, Jolly's pursuing him. Support for Jolly, Swans have got numbers here. Crouch should force the handball on, he does, Fosdike quick, got it back to him, oh loose man for Crouch, its Kirky

**JD** Well this is the man, Gerard, didn't want to kick the football before, let's see if he can do the job here and he'd just about be on the threshold here, distance wise

(*laughing*)

**GH** Oh, just look at him, he's sucking in the deep breaths saying do I have a shot or not. It's so crowded up there, he couldn't possibly hit a target. I was going to ask you, do you think Barry didn't handball it to Kirky because of his kicking, because

**JD** (*laughing*) I'll tell you in about 10 second's time

**GH** In front of goal,

**JD** Oh, there it is, (*Kirky handballs to a man a couple of metres away*) goes off! Schneider from 50, long, long POST

**GH** OH!

**JD** Okay, I'll answer that question. I don't think he thought Brett Kirk could kick the goal so he didn't handball it to him (*laughing*)

**GH** Thank you Jason, oh thoughtful one.

**JD** Roos are clinging grimly to the lead.

**GH** Shannon Watts Just come off the bench,

**JD** They're still 15 points in front. They're playing as though it's a 2 point lead, and we're in the final minute. Watt, long, Oh it's all Sydney.

**GH** I'll tell you what else has happened. All of a sudden they're not identifying loose targets, the Kangaroos. For some reason the Swans have been able to tighten up, whether that's the Kangaroos not quite running so hard because they've worked so hard for the first three and a bit quarters, but the game has changed.

**JD** Richards, forced to go long

**GH** 5 marks inside their attacking 50 in the last 5 minutes the Swans.

**JD** Sinclair, support from Wells. Needs to be good.

**GH** Ooh, it was very good. Boy.

**JD** Geez the marking

**GH** And its 50

**JD** It's against O'Keefe. Here's a chance to kick a goal, Jesse Smith. That's the sort of thing that can absolutely cruel a team when you give away free kicks that result in easy goals, when you've worked so hard to get yourself back into a contest, and

**GH** How long, how long is the square?

**JD** A very good question.

**GH** I thought it was 50 meters.

**JD** 50 or 45

**GH** 40 meters

**JD** You suggesting it's a long 50 Gerard? Smith has never kicked a goal in AFL football

**GH** Oh, and still hasn't.

**JD** Post at each end. 13 14 to 11 10. Malceski

**GH** I'm pretty sure the square's 50 meters

**JD** Yeah, you might be right, because actually you see they cut the strips of grass and they're uh I think they're a standard 10 meters and there's 5 of them in the square.

**GH** Malceski, out wide, Schneider in trouble. Did well oh nice little dummy. Got around Simpson, got it to Kirk, gave it back to him, Malceski with great run. Hall, can he get it to Goodes? He tried, deflected away, Jack, well done to Escarma. Hands in the back, Jude Bolton the free.

**JD** They're still coming

**GH** Yep

**JD** Still plenty of time to do it. It would be some sort of victory. Sydney kicked the opening behind of the game, the Roos got the first goal have not trailed. Halls, got the mark, based on his kick in the third quarter, he's about a meter too far out

**GH** He'll go close. He uh, 55 meters isn't beyond him, and all of a sudden he's got a sniff of things, I think Barry Hall,

**JD** Yeah his confidence has turned around since that point,

**GH** His game's picked up, he's copped free kick, he's kicked a couple of goals, he's lining up for his 4<sup>th</sup>. He gives it a ride.

**JD** Oh hello

**GH** It's a goal! Barry's got 4. And we have got another classic on a Saturday night.

**JD** Yeah, a great kick from Barry. He ran out to the right hand side. Everybody tells you to kick straight, run straight, kick straight uh should have a look from behind at these shots, have a look at the way Barry Hall runs, he's running out to the point post

**GH** Yeah that's because when you're outside your normal kicking range, you've gotta hook it around to get a longer kick.

**JD** Exactly right, but coaches continually tell you to run straight. Those people, if they're outside about 30 they generally always go out to the side.

**GH** Well just when we thought Drew Petrie's goal had given them back their 30 point margin and a bit of breathing space enough to get them over the line, the Swans have bounced back hard.

**JD** 4 goals to 1 in this final quarter.

**GH** Everitt the hit out, coming in, Smith pushed off it by O'Keefe, have to be feverish at it now. Grima to Rawlings kick partially smothered, the deflection all right for the Roos. Smith, again, finding an opening, long to full forward, Brown, was he pushed, play on is the call, Roos oh hang on, a hold going to Sydney.

**JD** I reckon Barry uh Leo Barry got away with one then

**GH** Yeah he did. Except for the big ride and all it did, he didn't get anywhere near the ball, he didn't get, he took Leigh Brown out of the contest.

**JD** Kirk now O'Keefe full of momentum this Sydney outfit. O'Loughlin

**GH** Isn't it amazing how all of a sudden targets are being hit?

**JD** It's a tidal wave! Schneider on to Hall, crashes the pack, Jack the first gamer got pushed out of it. Gibson did well, now Sinclair to Wells, take off Daniel,

**GH** They need a big contribution from Wells in the next ten minutes.

**JD** Good chase from Hall forces a wobbly kick Simpson ducks, Ablett wraps him up, Simpson knocks it out, Grima is brought down, play on says the umpire, sort it out yourselves, and they might its Schneider handballing inside the 50 O'Loughlin, can he knock it on? Schneider running onto it, Barry Hall is lurking needs support, turns it over. Harris.

**GH** Some tired boys out there

**JD** Sinclair, forcing the kick to midfield, Malceski can he gather it... This is a match winning ball, this contest

**GH** Gee, Jones was dragged out of it, surely illegally, umpire was unsighted. Everitt kicks it inside 50. It's being played at a frenetic pace, boundary throw in

**JD** And that's exactly what the Swans would like right now. Look behind Jason, this contest, there's 8 blokes, 9 blokes with hands on hips, they are just absolutely out and yet they know there's 8 minutes that are going to determine the result.

**GH** 10 points, the Roos lead, Goodes, slapping it to the centre corridor. Rawlings, well done, got it to clap (?),

**JD** Geez yeah, some players are, just can't lift their legs, it's just been so frenetic the last 5 minutes.

**GH** Jack in front of Wells. How do you feel for the first gamer right now?! (*laughs*) Grima, to the wing, the bounce so important here. Jones can swing onto the left, can he hit a target long, Brown has to double back with Barry, will he concede a behind the defender, he tried, and has to tackle Brown, and now Shannon Grant, one more could be enough. That might be the one!

**JD** Gee I thought Craig Bolton just erred in his approach on Shannon Grant, he had to know he would go with the left foot, he actually comes slightly right of centre because that's the inboard way of ducking back into the corridor, but left footers, we know what they're like, they will swing onto it at any angle, you have a look here, he's just guarding the corridor inside and that allows him to switch onto the left foot.

**GH** Look at that reaction in the background. (*The crowd rises, arms over head, roars*) Priceless. Very significant goal. Means the Swans need 3 in the final 8 minutes. Spider could get one back in a hurry, and does,

**JD** Whoa! (*laughs*)

**GH** That's why they got him there. Gibson in a chat with Shane McNerny. Wanted a free. It was not forthcoming. We'll give you another look.

**JD** Spider's had a big 10 minutes actually, his work rate has been spot on, and that was a great kick,

**GH** Barry Hall just working it off the ball, they're both holding each other, but is one trying to compete with the footy and one not.

**JD** Did he touch it?

**GH** I think he got a tip on it

**JD** No he's not looking at the goal umpire, I think he's appealing to the field umpire for a free kick for holding.

**GH** Oh 27 045 are on the edge of their seat if not standing. We need a time on in the last quarter, but as you see still a long way to go. 7 and a half minutes.

**JD** Couple of great efforts by Kieran Jack in this quarter

**GH** Yeah,

**JD** McVeigh knocked it to Ablett, who kicks to O'Loughlin, he's going to double back, he's got all the time in the world, he should finish it! The Swans are back within 4 points! (*Crowd going berserk*)

**GH** Kieren Jack

**JD** Yeah, he's got some serious go in him Kieran Jack, that hard in and under, he will get just little taps on the ball, throw his body in line, he's been in the action, he got it out and that allowed Jolly to get it out and the quick kick from Ablett, I think it was, just overcommits Glenn Archer. He went the big spoil, he's gotta get something on the ball, he didn't. I tell you what Michael O ran his full 15 to make sure he didn't miss

**GH** Geeze we see Mickey O'Loughlin a lot, get a lot of goals like that.

**JD** the Kangaroos led this match by 39 points when Jones goaled at the 12-minute mark of the third term its now just four.

**GH** Kangaroos have gotta win – the contest here

**JD** I thought that was a simple statement, Gerard, (*laughing*)

**GH** They've been slaughtered at the centre takeaways in the last uh quarter.

**JD** Oh, look at that for a thump.

**GH** Swans haven't led since it was 1 to nothing. 7 minutes to go, buckle up for a terrific ride

**JD** Isn't it amazing because the last two times the Kangaroos have come up with a goal and we thought that might be enough and instantaneously the Swans have been able to wipe that straight off the board and then come back with another.

**GH** Rotations continue. O'Loughlin off the ground.

**JD** Didn't have it. Free kick.

**GH** Now look for them to just slow things down. They still need to kick another goal, but they also to start eating into the clock.

**JD** Oh he's missed it

**GH** Wells to Sinclair,

**JD** Great gather

**GH** and then pulls the kick, Jones was on the lead, McVeigh knocks it away, Petrie on the top of the square, oh what a tackle by Barry but, there's Campbell

**JD** Oh, he's done it again!

**GH** His third goal! Spectacular! Oh, what a ride this is!

**JD** You look, the Kangaroos deserve to win this match.

**GH** Yep

**JD** Yes

**GH** They've answered every single time. It would be heartbreaking if they were to go down. But you just keep thinking they've got the answers and that was just fantastic, and Matty Campbell, he's like all those live wire small forwards that are always in the right place at the right time. They know, somehow they know where the ball's going to be, and they're always there, Johnny on the spot.

**JD** Gee this crop of first year players coming into the AFL this year have provided us with a lot of excitement already. They come in so confident. Matt Campbell is one of those, he's got 3 goals tonight. And that's crucial in a 10 point game as the Roos get a centre clearance now and Edwards lays the handball off to Wells. Caught by Kieran Jack. Jones, Sinclair, O'Keefe wouldn't let him go, Rawlings back to Jones. One he leads by two wouldn't go on the third. Malceski to Fosdike. You don't want to write the Swans off. Six minutes, they need two goals, they're gunna be a chance here, the ball is long in the Hall direction

**GH** Oh,

**JD** Couldn't hang on, oh Pratt's clearing kick a wobbler. Archer, steadies, defiant, along the wing, Ablett, the spoil, boundary throw in. (*booing*)

**GH** Now that they've got a couple of kicks margin in front, the Kangaroos, they've just gotta win a clean possession and then just chip it around. They can't afford to play loose or play off their opponents. Jolly's hit out ineffective. A bounce. Stop the clock. The baying masses, the Kangaroos fans on the outer side want to celebrate will they deny them. Goodes goes without it. Watt Acres the back and takes off, and ducks away

**JD** Well done,

**GH** Very well done, now Smith, showing some poise in his first game for more than a year. To Jones. Paid the mark

**JD** Oh! Did he pay it prematurely?

**GH** Had a word to the Kangaroos though, you've just got to steady ahead of target.

**JD** Grant, on the lead

**GH** There it is

**JD** Surely, now they've done enough.

**GH** If he kicks straight, you'd just about bank the four points.

**JD** Return to form for Shannon Grant. 21 possession, he's got 3 goals to his name, coming in for goal number 4. This is what they've been missing in the first few rounds. He's been working hard, his tackles have been up but he hasn't provided the scoreboard evidence

**GH** Tonight he has

**JD** Their small to medium forwards doing the job for them tonight. Grant with 3, Corey Jones with 3 Matt Campbell with 3.

**GH** This the most important of the lot. If he kicks this, they should have three wins in a row.

**JD** Sheeze

**GH** Grant has 4 goals, and the Swans will need 3 goals in four and a half minutes if they are to win it

**JD** I don't think the quality of this win for the Kangaroos should be underestimated. Yes, the Swans didn't play well in the first three quarters except for a couple of little patches, but they weren't allowed to play it was because of that the Kangaroos have done. And even when the Swans did lift a gear a couple of times, a couple of times in the first quarter, certainly in this last quarter, the Kangaroos have still been able to answer, and you've got to give them all the credit they deserve.

**GH** Yes it's the big scalp on the back of Geelong and Brisbane. This one I think just puts an exclamation mark on this side and the job that Dean Laidley has done under some fierce pressure, to hold his nerve and get a performance like this and square the ledger 3 and 3

**JD** Yeah, they've just about taken the sting out of the Swans now

**GH** Rawlings to half forward, over the head of Edwards who was terrific in the first half, has this one knocked away into the boundary line, it's staying in for Craig Bolton, kick deflected, Harvey, Watt, Rawlings, high ball, half forward, Petrie is pushed out of it by Barry. Play on is the call. Craig Bolton to Goodes. Takes off targets O'Loughlin,

**JD** Done it again,

**GH** He's read that so brilliantly well and running. 55 out, Hall one on one with Gibson, Gibson the spoil, whose going to run onto it its Adam Goodes again. Spider in the pocket and misses

**JD** He might have missed, but there's some really good signs for Spider. He's moving and working particularly well,

**GH** Gee what though, it was an important spoil from Gibson. I thought it was brilliant. He held his ground and was strong enough to hold the wrestling position with Barry Hall, he got the long kick he wanted. He backed himself to win the one out contest, Gibson up to the task

**JD** Three and a half minutes to soak up. Ferrito to the middle,

**GH** Has to be a free

**JD** Free kick to Brown.

**GH** Speak about going early

**JD** Advantage, Smith

**GH** Hasn't this bloke added some mobility to the midfield?

**JD** McIntosh, inside the 50, Petrie off the ground, Swans concede (*booing*)

**GH** Been a huge month for Dean Laidley, Jason, (*laughing*)

**JD** Do ya think? It has been a Lazarus type of performance to come back from where he has, and I don't think he's been paid probably the due credit either,

**GH** Mmm

**JD** Malceski, gee they continue to pepper away, this Sydney side. We know they won't go down quietly. Bolton couldn't reach Hall with the handball, and the Roos are doing enough. They're hanging on well. McIntosh to Jones.

**GH** and Gibson did very well again. I apologise for calling him Shannon before, he was a former Hawthorn player, Shannon Gibson that's Josh Gibson of course, but he's been important in this quarter.

**JD** Petrie pops it up, Sinclair is off. Barry closes, Sinclair short. Edwards should go back and have a shot and take up 30 seconds.

**GH** And again, that was an important mark, clean hands under pressure from Craig Bolton, little bit of cramp, he'll take his time.

**JD** Little chip pass from Jess Sinclair was a good one too.

**GH** They'll make other clubs sit up and take notice. Aaron Edwards can't get the finish here, Jolly will deny them a score. Coming up on 2 minutes to go. The Roos who started this match with a seven goals to one opening term, it was an arm wrestle then for the next 2 quarters, the Swans have flown home with a 6 goal last quarter but are going to come up short, and the Roos victory nothing less than they deserve. A boundary throw in with 1.52 to go. They're out on their feet, but they're gunna to have 3 wins in a row the Kangaroos, with Essendon, Carlton and Melbourne to come in the next 3 weeks. This club that so many thought were gunna be contending for the wooden spoon will be contending for the top 8 across the next month Jolly on half back kicks out wide to the wing, Sydney in contrast will be 3 and 3, back here to take on the Saints next Saturday night. Ricochets off the boot of Jude Bolton out on the full. Archer, another terrific night from the veteran, the night when he ties Keith Greig, for the second most games played in this club's famous history. Jones cramping up as well, supporters have loved the effort.

**JD** 16 points the lead. And still the Swans are going to make them earn it. Brown has headed back, kicks to space it's a foot race, and look at Gibson take off,

**GH** Oh,

**JD** Ooh, and Schneider, equal in the desperation, fantastic, and then hits the loose man. Time running out though.

**GH** Geez, you gotta love Gibson's effort then. The run, he lost possession but he still put some pressure on, Schneider, even when the game is seemingly, obviously won.

**JD** McClay will go back, hooked the kick from 50. O'Loughlin, OH MY GOODNESS

Nah, taken it off him. Taken it off him I think

**GH** Yeah hands on the shoulders

**JD** And that was a clear hands on the shoulders, absolutely,

**GH** A wry grin, still did well to hold the mark mind you, because he went very very early. Yes, Dean Laidley you can celebrate tonight. A terrific performance. Nought and 3 three weeks ago, the future being discussed of the players, the coach, the club and here they are three weeks later on the edge of the top 8. We'll get a boundary throw in with 2 seconds to go. The Kangaroo army are gunna love this. Shannon Grant with his best game for the season, he kicked 4 goals. It started early, a seven goals to one start to this game will finish with a Kangaroo victory.

SIREN



## 2007.5 Adelaide v Collingwood

5 May 2007 (43 915) 62-86 Channel 10

Malcolm Blight, Robert Walls, Anthony Hudson, Tim Watson, Corey Wingard.

Let's get into the last term. Scott McLaren sets them in motion, its Collingwood by 22 points. Hudson rucking with Fraser, Cox takes possession for the Magpies, an easy clearance there's no Cloke, he started the quarter on the bench. Van Berlo nowhere to go. Ball up.

This is a top 4 spot we're looking at after round 6 which doesn't change that much uh in a lot of seasons some seasons it does. Very important game here now for both these, both these teams.

They're not going to get that one out either. I don't reckon anyone at the Adelaide Football Club would've written down matches at home against Essendon and Collingwood in the first six weeks as defeats in the opening phase of this year, but that's what's happening right now and Adelaide are staring at right now and they can't afford to concede a goal here, otherwise, there's probably no coming back. Heath Shaw, bold stuff but a wayward kick. Egan tries to make something of it, Knight's in his path for Adelaide, free kick Adelaide's way and they're called on, McLeod, good shepherd laid by Doughty, and the Crows work it long in the Perrie direction, he dived on it, he didn't (*get that?*), high tackle, reckless from

Prestigiacomo need not have done it and there was a free kick there for the taking really, if Collingwood got it right on Ian Perrie. Now Adelaide have to make every post a winner here. But Clement, set himself perfectly.

Just strong body work on Welsh by Clement.

Got Burns away, Fraser working hard for him on the wing.

Well, Fraser's got out to the wing I reckon 8 times in this game to take easy uncontested ball. He is so much fitter than the Adelaide Crows ruckman.

9 marks for Josh Fraser Heath Shaw

Ben Hudson is just hobbling around on the wing, he's got a hobble going, he's certainly not fit.

And he has been getting plenty of the ball, Ben Hudson, in the matches up until now and Fraser's been down with his output from previous years. I think down from about 17 per game to about 12 per game, so Fraser putting in a good one. Toovey, goes for Fraser but couldn't get there that time. Stevens, with the anticipation, for Edwards, the big Crows names combining there Goodwin, Torney, took a long time to kick, he was trying to get it, you can see, to a one on one. Bock, Shaw, Maxwell and Douglas. Douglas kept it in, didn't seem so wise now. Hoh! Almost a goal, of course, couldn't have been, but uh nearly another poster.

Malcolm, have a look at Ben Hudson, in the centre square, fair dinkum you could move quicker than him at the moment. He is in real trouble.

Easy, Rob

Yeah thanks Rob.

Big Maxwell into Mal Michael, lead with that uh own behind then. Thomas lovely kick, Prestigiacomo, we might have a look when we can at that incident a little while ago, the tackle on Perrie. Didn't look good.

Knights roving. Now Doughty, steal from Burns, Collingwood could hurt, Egan, the late inclusions, sets it up and Chris Bryan will line up for number 4.

Well this is amazing, um, that kicking and decision making.

16<sup>th</sup> mark the Magpies have taken inside their forward 50 and this is just a lovely kick, just a lovely kick by Egan, and you can see Bassett, once his eyes are off the ball, he's gone. 16 marks inside the forward 50 to the Pies, just 5 to the Crows. (*Booing*)

Chris Bryan, 3 second half goals, Collingwood lead by 21.

Oh! The stick

7

They must be very fat posts, Malcolm.

They are.

Oh, Mick could have been having a drink in celebration, instead, there could be torture to come who knows. Crows certainly not out of it yet, although some people think they are. Oh maybe they are the way things are bouncing for them the roll of the dice, Fraser, what was he doing there?

He's kicked it to his direct opponent

Ben Hudson to the wing, O'Brien wrestling and just trying to keep Stevens out. Lockyer made a bit of a meal of it but he's had a good match, we'll forgive him for that. Burns up to the wing and Ben Johnson, possession 19 coming up for Ben Johnson, could go along the line to Scotty Burns or Tarkyn Lockyer instead, uses Josh Fraser

See Fraser is free. Fraser is 60 meters away from, uh Hudson.

Oh, it wasn't a good kick from Josh that time. Cox out to Johnson, Swan, very careful about this approach, they don't wanna rush things. Bryan sets it up, Bryan couldn't get it that time. And again, it's McLeod. He got them back into the game really, in the second quarter so maybe he's going to try and do it again, they're moving now

Goodwin in his 200<sup>th</sup> game, trying to turn into a winner, Bock from behind, didn't really go for the ball. Casualties everywhere out of that, Clement though, keeps his eye on the footy and that is a perfectly placed curling soccer kick.

Humph. You know earlier in the year I saw someone play that deliberate. What did he try and do, did he try and keep it in play?

Hudson's running, limping, as you can see there, through the centre square, desperately trying to get down there to be in the contest.

Running about as quickly as Peter Hudson, Wallsey. And not the one that used to play for Hawthorn, the one these days who's been out of the game for 30 years. Clement under that. Adelaide fans wanting a free - expressing their dismay that they're not getting it. Heath Shaw to Johnson. Collingwood holding up thus far. Time enough for Adelaide yet.

Thomas

Free kick. Whistle went early (*booing*) Collingwood's ball.

This is the match up that's just killing the Crows. Fraser running free around the middle of the ground without any opposition and Pendlebury with him.

Pretty well placed kick too for Lockyer to run on to. That was clever play by Knights, not conceding the free, get Shirley now on the wing.

This is a huge period now, this next three minutes, goals are going to be at a premium but if Adelaide can get one, they're back in it

Adventurous from Rutten, uses McLeod, Taylor the kick, Perrie's his man, Perrie and Presty, Perrie, paid the mark.

McLeod off half back in this final quarter three or four times has just burst and rebounded and set the Crows up.

See if he held it long enough. Got in good position, but Presty, can sometimes, oh, he didn't get contact,

Ahh, it's a good effort.

So

Could be a couple of free kicks in there as well

Oh yeah, this, this is the one, pick the next one out of the centre and the 3 goal rule applies, Tim

Not always convincing in front of the big sticks, but that's, that's as good as you'd expect from anyone to keep the Crows alive!

As uh Hudson comes off and as we watch the build-up, Ben Rutten using his hands and running, he's the machine through the midfield, I'd like to see him play more further up the ground, and a couple of times he's done that, he really does try and set someone up

Pretty good mark in the end from Ian Perrie and more importantly, kicked through.

Adelaide hopes alive. Perrie out marking Prestigiaco. Here's the tackle earlier in the quarter from Presty, coming at Perrie whose head was over the ball. Gotta be careful of that. Adelaide within 16 points and Edwards wins it away from the centre. Skirmish but Clement again the only man keeping his feet, just forgetting to pick up the ball, Heath short to Cox and Collingwood have this wing to themselves. Scott Burns, having a very good start to the season but getting himself into trouble. Free kick to Knights, off to Edwards. *(umpires whistle)* let 'em go *(booing)*

*(laughs)* gee its amazing isn't it, just that one bad decision, *(booing)*

Its gotta come back again.

It'll come back but already in this final quarter the Crows took 3 possession getters in this final quarter, McLeod, Goodwin, and Edwards and how often has that been the case? *(booing)*

The Crows disadvantaged by all of that, because Collingwood were able to set up their defence and they're organised as Adelaide go forward now was that a push in the back, not paid and again Clement is the steady one. Heath Shaw gives it back to him, handpass not great there, but Shaw gets it to O'Bree. Hasn't got much to kick to.

Just back behind that Clement I think he's coming off *(booing)* he's crook. He's in trouble James Clement.

In that marking contest, Malcolm here it is there.

Yeah Corey Wingard mentioned a bit of Achilles trouble or something, Corey, can you remember, was it, his Achilles you thought.

Yeah for Clement, he has got a bit of an Achilles problem, a few of the boys have uh had lots of rubs throughout the game, but yeah, James has been in some pain throughout the third term and early now, too

Young Griffins, on in the ruck for the Crows with strict instructions to run step by step with Fraser, there he is there, number 6

Of course, Clement missed a game with a calf problem early in the year,

McLeod again, he's having some wonderful touches at the moment, sending Thompson away this time. Crows with renewed spirit and run and zip up forward. Bock. Again they share it around, again Thompson digging deep. Chance for Welsh from behind, he flew, look at Toovey, young man playing his fourth game, full of beans. Sending it out wide for O'Bree

*(laughs)* how good was that?

Well that was James Clement like, a bit. That's a huge out for Ox, I mean he's had Presty off for virtually half a game, and now Clement in a crucial last quarter, so things haven't quite gone Collingwood's way here.

And again, when Presty missed in that second quarter, two goals quick on the board to the Crows.

Burns up to the wing, Doughty and Dick, and Davis on McLeod. Rare misjudgement. Still involved though, Edwards, Knights working for him. Bock. Thompson, here's the (??)

Oh yeah.

This has been an amazing game, the way the momentum has just swung from one side to the other

At three quarter time I just couldn't pick. I mean they were going well Collingwood but it has seen-sawed, a genuine see saw game and to nominate who would win this game at three quarter time, clearly

Yeah, one of you got carried away

It was a very bold call

I've got a very good excuse if Collingwood lose, don't worry about that.

I look forward to that Rob as Welsh lines up. A very long run up by Scotty Welsh, a bit of hesitation, an increase in acceleration and from 50, he's missed. The Crows have been good with set shots compared to Collingwood, but that is a crucial miss. 9 7 61 to 10 16 76 tough night for the coaches. Neil Craig unbeaten by Mick Malthouse until tonight.

Well we said Huddo at the start of the game 12 goals could well win it

Yep

And I reckon that'll be about the mark

This is a war of attrition now. Heath Shaw. Davis told he's gotta go. And he kicks well, to Johnson.

Good to see Leon Davis getting kicks in the back half in the midfield for the Pies.

Egan, just not responding initially to the placement of the ball, but he's got it now. Clement having his leg worked on. They could do with him back. Rocca with Rutten. Good contest. Griffin, good tackle by Cloke, Shirley, Edwards, he's come back well from an injury. Goodwin, oh that's dangerous

Look out

It slipped through Thomas's fingers but Lockyer was there. And now Josh Fraser from outside 50, long and straight. And it might be the winner for the Magpies. (*Booing*)

Gee there was a big jump in the air from a bloke sitting alongside of me. Robert Walls very happy with that kick from Josh Fraser

Well, the effort of Thomas there just to deflect the footy, and this fellow whose kicked the goal, he's had a fantastic final quarter. Massive final quarter by Josh Fraser,

He got the jacket underneath there, or doesn't he bring it out any more, Joffa (*mad Pies fan in the crowd*)

Well, Joffa will have it, but he's gotta wait for the phone call from Eddie before he puts it on.

Wallsey had his gold lame on at  $\frac{3}{4}$  time

He did too. Oh, here's Dick now getting involved and his kick is astray. It's a poster, but wrong stick though Rob. (*laughing*) out of bounds on the full. Nathan Buckley an Alan Didak. Handy players watching on. Didak a late withdrawal for the Magpies. Certainly would have been loss for them but they've covered nicely.

Free kick. For Johnson Crawley pushing him out

Well, let's look at this. Adelaide are going to have to kick 4 goals, like they did late in that second quarter, to actually get over the top of this so they're gunna have to get a hurry on.

Still almost half a quarter left. How do Collingwood go about it from here? They'd love another one to really put it beyond doubt. Goodwin out wide, but it's a big task here for Douglas, out of bounds wouldn't be a bad result. He doesn't get it.

Gee

Rhyce Shaw, to Davis,

Gee the brothers work for each other there. Heath Shaw put the shepherd on, Rhyce picked it up. Heath Shaw there in picture, he's had 8 disposals, in this final quarter and you can just see there. The appreciation. Have a look at it there, a bit of body work and he keeps the body to prevent Douglas from getting near it, fantastic team work.

Davis, Bermuda triangle. Impossible angle. Rocca's there. (*Booing*) Collingwood dangerous yet, but it's a rushed behind, the Magpies lead is 22. I must say I think all football fans could appreciate that uh two sons of a Collingwood captain and nephews of another Magpie captain are embodying the spirit of a Magpie revival in this 2007 season.

Free kick to matnat. Heath Shaw, like he, he's really fought back tonight, hasn't he during game because he's done a great job on him, Douglas

Douglas got those goals on him in the second quarter,

22 possessions though, Heath Shaw, it dried up for him early. Van Berlo. Crows not giving it away just yet. Oh, Bock got him in perfect position to mark, couldn't do so, Vince able to lay it off. Flying shot. Out of bounds on the full.

Should've been a mark by Bock. Just dropped a sitter there.

I wonder if it's a little dewy, it's slipped through a few pairs of hands lately. Not 15, Collingwood still under some pressure here, but uh Dane Swan has an ability to waddle his way out of trouble, deceptively quick. Goodwin. Vince with 2 to beat. Leon Davis did it beautifully, a clean front on spoil

and deserved a little feed off from Heath Shaw. Toovey now, Rhyce Shaw there for him if he needs him, and he does, for once Rhyce Shaw is not quite quick enough to get out of trouble.

Again Leon Davis in the defensive half, here we see it there coming in to help he gets the spoil, doesn't give away a free kick, and he is developing as a footballer, instead of just being the forward pocket specialist that he was for so many years.

This is van Berlo for the Crows. Bock trying to mark that with one paw. Couple against him here. Best he can do is try and keep it in and hope he gets a ball up and he does.

Good result for both clubs that though. The ball up is in Adelaide's attacking 50 Collingwood hanging on,

Crows have gotta kick one or two and quickly, to fan the flames of a revival

Rob where did you have Collingwood, at the start of the year in your predictions

I had 'em in the bottom six.

Well

Nearly 44 thousand here. Tremendous crowd as you'd expect for Adelaide and Collingwood, and the Magpies are poised for a memorable victory. Leon Davis playing a big part at the moment. This is Douglas though, squirting it to Shirley, Thompson, Adelaide being forced backwards. Doughty, now releasing Shirley. Here's a chance for the Crows. Could someone snare it in the air, well played O'Brien, kept his body right in the path of his opponent and away comes Lockyer.

They've quite often had this barley up position, haven't they, one out wide.

Pendlebury it is with the wing to himself. Time to think about it. Bryan won out and he's got it again! He's played a tremendous second half and he sits it up, hoping for Rocca. I reckon that clipped the stick, Rob

9 times it's hit the stick. This will be a world record. *(laughs)*

Thompson takes it and they're outside 50 now. Goodwin, Edwards, Bock, Maxwell the tap on it, Vince held without it, must get a free. Got Burton and Perrie as the two towers up forward. They're both moving now. Chooses Perrie, would've taken a good manoeuvre from there, a little off balance, clumsy, free kick advantage, Johnson finds

Sorry Malcolm

No sorry Huddo, they just can't find a way

They're exhausted aren't they?

Can't find a way to get up next to goal

They really are. Perrie might be a bit injured as well but he's not much left in the tank I don't think for the Crows, a really tough road trip in windy conditions last week, over at Subiaco against Freo, Magpies still full of run. Bryan again. Given away a free kick I reckon that time.

50 meters

50 meters

*(Can hear umpire and player arguing)*

Might be a wise idea just to turn the volume down for a minute, there

You'd reckon players would learn, wouldn't you? I mean he's had a good game, good second half, he's presented himself in the team. I mean all he has to do is put his hands up and stand the mark. It's a, he does the team thing.

Everyone ahead on the ground, of Bassett. Thompson and Swan. Douglas there has a get out valve at the back but couldn't get to it and the Magpies winning all the important contests at the moment, and they are spent, the Crows.

They are. I tipped that at ¾ time Huddo.

*(laughs)* you did too, you're a good man

If they win this, if they win this, it's probably their best win away from home for 4 years since they've played in finals.

Oh it's impressive Malcolm

Yeah

Its impressive, to come over here and play a team that we all really rate, the Adelaide Crows, and with such a young side that they've got you know, there's no Didak, there's no Buckley, James Clement's off injured at the moment.

It is an understrength Adelaide team though at the moment, we should remember that

Sure, oh sure

Stevens for the Crows as they try again and Bock 70 meters out, wastes no time. That's pretty good, just wouldn't fall for Griffin, shunted over by O'Brien,

I tell you what Tim, when the final siren goes and Collingwood win, the Adelaide supporters will go berserk towards the men in blue

What our police force? *(SAM: umpires are wearing blue)*

It's almost teal, isn't it which probably reminds them of another mortal enemy. Here's a chance, Thompson, has to kick this. He doesn't. It's another behind and Collingwood still lead by 22 points.

Look it is true, Adelaide have a lot of injuries, Collingwood have a lot less. But in Adelaide their form over the last 3 years, you just had to go for Adelaide, I mean you just had to pick 'em at home.

That's true

At three quarter time?

No, before the game *(laughs)*

Huge win. I mean

Well particularly with Didak dropping out of the team, it sets them up for the season, I think only 2 more matches away from the MCG for the Magpies. Holland due to return next week

I'm not sure how many games they play at the MCG but it's something like 16

18 isn't it

18, is it yeah,

16 or 18. In Melbourne anyway,

Yeah, terrific uh draw no doubt about that



Burns, it opens for him, it's an open square Rocca's back there, Rocca and Rutten. Rocca still hasn't been able to get the ball to fall for him. Now we talked about the size of the numbers on the back of the umpires, in blue. Well apparently they forgot, they didn't have them because it's a special edition they didn't have any numbers for it and they had to go to the local sport store and get the numbers, the netball numbers, or the, not the netball numbers, and iron them on. That's a true story.

Well, the geisha do that.

I don't know if they actually went to the sports store, but uh

I'm glad they've done that, because its made a hellova difference to the game (*laugh*)

Chris Knights has lost the footy, gotta give it up, it'll be thrown in. Nothing going right for Adelaide.

They look to be wearing Collingwood down in the middle of the third quarter, they kicked 6 goals on the trot but its all turned pear shaped. Dale Thomas, to Burns. Thomas again. Knights has another go, and that's not a bad result.

Gee, they just won't let it out of their forward 50 Collingwood. They've been mighty.

We can say what we like but its actually 30 shots to 17, I mean, phew

Yeah. Comprehensive isn't it

This is a flog, this is a mini flog And Neil knows it. Neil Craig knows it. Hasn't been a good performance.

Little push from Ben Hudson in the back (??) to do it,

Well, Ben Hudson's nowhere near match fit. He's working his way towards it. So. Bit crude there, giving away free kicks, fitness fails him, and just gets a bit sloppy in his approach at the ball. If Chris Bryan puts this through it will be his 4<sup>th</sup> goal in the second half and uh probably the best effect he's ever had in a game of league football

Yeah

We mentioned before, 20 disposals on Dave burn, hasn't been able to repeat it, had a couple of misses in this last quarter.

I think the thing we've gotta look at here is that, I mean, Adelaide have some babies playing on their team as well, we know that. But it's the middle order players now, I mean the Shaws that have been around for a little while, Swan who's you know, played a few more games. They've been the catalyst really.

McLeod pumps long, Heath Shaw in the way, collected well at the second go. Prestigiacomo to Lockyer. And Collingwood after a most inauspicious start to this season as they fumbled around for three quarters against the Kangaroos at the MCG and burgled the premiership points and the end, have strung together 5 pretty good weeks since, and this is going to be, for the time being at least, the culmination of it.

You've gotta remember too, last year they were finalists and they were right up there weren't they for much of the season. We forget that.

Well, they, they finished fifth after round 22 and went out of the finals when they were smashed by the Bulldogs which was a disappointing performance and I think a lot of people thought that they'd fall away, I know that I did, no doubt about that. But uh you're right Malcolm, blokes like Swan, and Maxwell and Travis Cloke, they've all lifted. And the youngsters like Thomas and Pendlebury, Cox, Dick, Toovey, you know, Toovey's been given really responsible run with roles in each game that



he's played. Now Heath Shaw's still only played games in the 30s, so gee the upside's huge for this team.

Not long left, Collingwood with the game parcelled up. Another rucking infringement. Adelaide free kick, Hudson just goes on with the business and gets mown down.

Well

It's holding the ball

His brain has let him down a bit at the moment, because he's exhausted. He's just tried to run through three players

And a 50-meter penalty. So, it only gets worse. His brain hurts.

Yeah, that's dumb junk time. This is a memorable win to Collingwood. All those supporters back in Melbourne will absolutely be loving this, they'll be licking their lips.

The lecturer was Ray Chamberlain. (*Referring to an umpiring tirade*)

Nathan Buckley whose season continues to have a major cloud of doubt hanging over it. Burns pumps Collingwood deep into attack, Rocca, Cloke and Egan getting in each other's way

SIREN

It's the Magpies night at AAMI stadium. They've downed the Crows by 24 points and their season is growing in potential.

## 2007.6 Brisbane Lions v Fremantle

6 May 2007 Gabba (27 175) 120-75

Alastair Lynch, David King.

19 points the margin. The Dockers have never won here in their 6 previous attempts. They're under way in the final term, can they pull something from the fire? Bell, couldn't get the tap away, a free kick found and it'll go to Richard Hadley. Pokes it wide, Colin Begley the first attack it will be Brisbane's. Chips the pass and Jonathan Brown, he's been a little wayward in front of goal this afternoon, but he kicked one from the goal line in the third term after kicking 3 behinds. In his previous 3 attempts.

When you even get that easy one from a coupla metres out, it helps with these longer ones. I think although he's been pulling them left, over the last few weeks, he'll bounce back and he'll slot this one through.

Seven goals he kicked the last time these two met here at the Gabba. He's now got two.

It's amazing what a little bit of confidence can do, and as a forward if you can just get one under the belt even if just from a meter or two, it certainly helps. It helps you on the scoreboard knowing that you've actually converted one and Jonathan Brown leads so well and leads his club so well that was a great goal the pressure was on, on him and on the team to get off to a good start in this last quarter.

Been good this afternoon without being dominant. Jonathan Brown coming off a 27-possession game, 15 mark game last week where he kicked 3 2, he's now got 2 3 for this afternoon. Sandilands down to McManus for the instant reply, Dockers inside 50. Not going far. Hadley on hands and knees tried to shuffle it out. And the umpire will sort it out with a ball it up

And the forward line set up for both teams, interesting. Fremantle Dockers have gone six forwards, uh Brisbane Lions at the other end have 2 players inside their forward 50. Pavlich had the lead, had no space to work in.

McDonald and Sandilands. McDonald wins out to Black, caught, McDonald, secondary palm down perfect, Copeland, Notting, Power, Harding, loves that kick

Oh, he does 3 of those each week

They could raffle it. Stiller,

And by the Lions getting numbers back in the defensive half, they're as good as any team at the moment of clearing the defensive 50. They run it out extremely well

Stiller out to Johnson, good punch, Mundy. Heath Black, took on Copeland and won. Long kick. Roe. Thumped down from front spot. Hayden. Scott Headland he couldn't kick it around the body. Good smother. Ball in. Rowan Smith on the boundary.

Just want to talk about Rowan Begley's skills. He's a kid that's come from Ireland, he's uh playing now in the big time in the AFL and his skills are fantastic.

They are amazing. Sandilands down to Power. Just a chip wide. Notting. Now one of the things we talk about with Colin Begley, he had so many hurdles to overcome with the oval shaped ball, but one thing he didn't have to overcome he said was reputations. He came here he didn't know who anybody was, didn't know who the good players and the bad players were, approached them all equally.

Notting. Gives off the handball well. Rischitelli, Power, Hadley, Adcock. Harding. Short pass, wasn't 15, Stiller, waltzes inside 50 and nails it!

You can talk about skill though, I thought they were fancying around a bit there was a bit of not so much lairising, but beautifully deft little chips and kicks but what disappoints you most then was why was it the pressure that Fremantle came into this game with, I think Chris was talking about their defensive pressure and their closing speed and all those sort of things, that just disappeared off the map at that point.

Shaney Stiller, 21 during the week, so nice celebration with a goal on the board.

As Alistair said, the birthday boy, Shaney Stiller 21 during the week. Brother Jeremy was a Lions rookie, a couple of years ago

A coupla years ago, yep

Didn't quite make it as a senior player, but Shaney's certainly got the goods. From the ball up, the Lions look solid at the moment. McManus, Crowley, they'll need Pavlich to stand up. Can't get a run at this one. Big pack

Free kick

And a free kick against the Dockers. Roe, Lappin, back to Black.

Gee that's the float in for the team, forward 50 entry and just the easy free kick given away, out come the Lions again.

That was a terrible free kick, Tarrant didn't even sight the ball, just walked straight into his opponent to give it up.

Stiller, all the way back to Roe. Wide kick. Tough one for McDonald, Sandilands with him, (*laughs*) McDonald, had to bounce it like a basketball, the little man wins out against the two tall, Bell. Kick not so good, Roe, spent, because he's had a couple of efforts in this string of play, but he's got it now, from Black, sends this pass wide beautifully to Johnson. As you said, he's in the book, reported earlier today for a head butt. Kicked towards full forward, Jonathan Brown was there, two Dockers had him, ball in.

Yeah, a bit of attention to Jonathan Brown there, obviously Chris Johnson was gunna go to him, pass was just a little bit off, but Jonathan Brown to get a hand on it.

Robert Warnock to do the ruck work against Jonathan Brown. McManus.

He's been good Warnock,

He has, in his first game of AFL footy, looked very solid. Grover, Dodd, Tarrant, tough half volley, had his feet taken from under him by Merrett, Lappin, caught, wrapped up. Going nowhere and we should get a ball up here on the wing. Holding the ball against Lappin, didn't attempt to get rid of it, according to the umpire.

Oh well, maybe it was a good tackle, rewarded. I think he tried to get rid of it, and once again, maybe a frustrating decision, uh for most of the crowd. But Nigel Lappin would be very happy with the way he's come back into league football.

Crowley long, gee he made it hard for Headland, Copeland in the sun, thumped it down, we'll give him the benefit of the doubt, Stiller got it from Hadley, gives it to Power, Johnson too far out to score. Jonathan Brown leads back towards the ball! Strong hands!

Good mark. Very strong hands.

Beautiful kick.

Beautiful kick. Just just you know, just favoured it perfectly for his run and body position, gotta give some credit to Chris Johnson there, because I don't think they've all been beneficial to, I mean the one prior prior to this one, was not giving him better than fifty fifty chance.

It's about knowing your team mates, now Jonathan Brown knows exactly where Chris Johnson where he kicks the ball. And I can assure you Chris Johnson will drag it out to his left and he'll put it out in front of you, so Jonathan Brown ducked back and ran into a nice pass.

No concessions, from the umpire here. He was winded but still told he only had 30 seconds to attempt goal number 3 and he was spent. Couldn't get any air in, out of bounds on the full

We need to flick the boot off there and do the laces.

*(laughing)* Hayden, Bell, time running out for the Dockers. Heads wide, reach from Tarrant but he couldn't mark it. Merrett who's been good. Adcock, Black, again the leads come Brown, McGrath, they're all up there waiting for it. Handball to Colin Begley is good from Hadley and he finds Chris Johnson inside 50 and Chris Johnson to line up for his third.

Well time might actually favour Fremantle Dockers here because this looks like it could open up and Brisbane Lions waltzing into their forward 50 now and the Dockers look like they've pretty much stopped.

It's happened a bit as you suggested with the set up too, talk about that after.

And he's still only got 2 for the afternoon, misses to the near side. But not just the scoreboard now, but time the enemy for Fremantle to notch their first ever win at the Gabba. Last time they were here they lost by 68 points Fremantle, they were crunched, 21 goals to 10, Jonathan Brown as we mentioned earlier, kicking 7 of them. But Brisbane has had their measure, right throughout their contests, either here or even in Perth. Stiller. Just pops it wide to Notting, makes him work for it, in the shadows, and Simon Black one of the underrated superstars of the competition, Brownlow medal, Norm Smith medal, three premierships, and a terrible kick sometimes.

Oh he's just a bit weary from probably covering 16 kilometres.

*(laughing)* Crowley, over the top to Parker. And he heads long and high, hoping for McPharlin. Thumped down by Roe, it was a legal thump down, Tarrant got the kick away, Solomon, he knew traffic was coming, he wanted to ride the bump, gave it off to Hasleby, McPharlin, good fly at it, got crunched again. Headland, he's caught, and he might go for ball if he doesn't attempt get rid of it, he doesn't, the crowd not happy. *(Booing)*

Once again, that's been fairly typical of the Docker's entries. Ooh, in a crowd, they've gotta pluck something out of the extraordinary.

Rolled ankle there for Chris Tarrant, as you saw, Lappin, Hasleby tried to get it out but Lappin stole it back, the old firm combined, Black back to Lappin. They run the wing together, thought about going back to Black but said you've had it a couple of times, that's enough.

Dockers have got numbers again that's why they're not kicking it long straight to Dockers defenders

Black, Harding, that makes it tough. Notting couldn't get a fly at it, Dodd. Johnson over the top. Hayden, who had an initial possession, has to give it off again. Warnock to Johnson now the long kick towards full forward and a good mark to Roe. Tarrant tried to field for the body but went straight past him and marked. Robert Copeland. 100 plays 68. You sense the Dockers are gone, they've got nothing left. Hadley wide. To Simon Black. Lappin again.

They're playing that little game out there with each other, we'll have three each here before we push it on to somebody else.

To Jonathan Brown. Can't bring the mark down, got hands on it. Dives in, shoots it out in the Power direction, McDonald, he's faked the handball, sold the dummy, might have a shot, chips it to McGrath.

Credit (??) big Beau McDonald

How's that for poise

He's great poise, hard to understand what the Dockers were doing there, they've pushed numbers back, very difficult to win the game

Good to see Beau McDonald playing some good footy, did his posterior cruciate against Fremantle here at the Gabba in round 14 back in 2003

And had to undergo an operation, which is unusual for the posterior cruciate, but had an operation and uh has bounced back very well.

Ashley McGrath had a couple of shots and missed in the last 15 or so minutes. He's got 3. Make that 4. And the Lions are home.

Well he's been instrumental hasn't he we think now what's happening at the finish but remember Ash McGrath at the start was the one who limping off the ground focus and uh, and then disappeared off the ground, well, had his neck and back attended to, but has come back on to be equally as effective.

Nice bit of play from Beau McDonald there,

Four goal afternoon for Ashley McGrath. Not his best, he did kick 6 goals against the Dogs back in 2003. But he'd be happy with his days work. About to bounce the ball. Rowan Smith!

The difference between, on this game is is uh the forwards lines. Brisbane have got a mix of big bodies and good quick leading players and Freo are just going with the big body plays at the moment. I think they're missing Geoff Farmer.

Beau McDonald, rose high and gave the free kick away.

That's the second time that decision's happened today.

Johnson, and now Tarrant, Roe's kept him relatively quiet, Chris Tarrant. He's had 14 possessions and kicked two goals, but hasn't been dominant by any stretch of the imagination. Pavlich leads to the pocket, that's ignored. He's going to go the whole way. From the paint of the 50. Plenty of carry on it. That's why he went the whole way. He's got 3.

Beautiful kick for goal there, Chris Tarrant, but unfortunately, kicking from outside 50 requires beautiful kicks. As we look at Beau McDonald's early jump, and as we saw young Warnock, I think the decision went against him in the first quarter, that same umpiring decision, and so little bit of confusion for the ruckman there in the middle. But uh you shouldn't be having your shots from your key forwards outside 50, as uh Harvey said, at three quarter time, they haven't had good shots on goal. But the main reason is coz they're having their shots wide from outside 50.

That's interesting. The ruckman saw that there was an object on the ground inside the centre circle, went over and picked it up and gave it to the umpire, whose now, gave it to the emergency umpire. What it was I'd be interested to know.

There's a job for Smithy.

Yes, investigate.

Investigation. Three goals for the afternoon, for Chris Tarrant, Jonathan Brown he's got a couple to his name but he's having a rest. Just a quiet sit down next to Rowan Smith and a cordial.

From the ball up, McDonald. Matthew Carr caught by Hadley Warnock, who as we've said a few times this afternoon, has been good. He gets it back again. Peter Bell, Hasleby, rover, they're going backwards. Warnock, he's caught, dumped by Chris Johnson, toe poke through his legs they're back in the Dockers. Hasleby falls. Handball to Mundy, chips the pass its wide, Tarrant's their go to man at the moment, Roe, appeared to slap an arm, umpire said play on, Roe overruns it, Tarrant, to Solomon handball to Adcock for some strange reason. And he's content to see it out. Inside 9 minutes to full time, we've played 16 in this final term and the Lions have it wrapped up. 106 to 74. From the ball up Roe, caught, handball's legal, to Hadley, Copeland, Adcock, he's running rings around the Dockers at the moment. There's a fight on behind play. Harding, and Harding gets the free, it's against Chris Tarrant.

I think a bit of frustration from the Dockers forwards.

I think Justin Leppitsch who coaches the defensive half for the Brisbane Lions, would be very happy with the way they've run the ball out, bit of a tight pass there, just look at the replay, bit of frustration there hasn't been any space around him.

Oh, he got one before, he did, Harding, but as we've said, it's always the retaliator who has the free against him. Roe heads wide. Good mark. Hadley against Josh Carr. Handball smothered by Josh Carr, picks it off spears it to Pavlich. Doesn't get there. Roe in front, takes the mark. He's become an essential part of this backline, Jason Roe.

As we touched on in the first quarter, players on the third tall all can go on the dangerous small forward for opposition teams, reads the ball so well, in that instance, he dropped off Tarrant, who'd led towards the ball, obviously wasn't going to get possession so just peeled off in front of Pavlich.

Notting wide, Simon Black takes off on Josh Carr, sends the pass in the direction of Brennan, hasn't been up forward much today, finds himself there now. Centring ball to Simon Black doesn't go for the shot, heads to the pocket, Notting, back to Chris Johnson, back to McGrath, with the outside of the foot, Ashley McGrath's got five!

Brisbane Lions boys just sharing it around there, just having a bit of fun with the Dockers defenders in that instance, Timmy Notting well within range and easily kick on goal but just thought he'd give it off to Chrissy Johnson, over to Ash McGrath and that has been a good return, 5 goals for Ash McGrath. His main role is the forward 50 defensive pressure, tackling chasing but a by-product of that, as we said, can be goals.

5 goals for the afternoon for Ashley McGrath. He now has 16 for the season and he now leads the goal kicking for the Brisbane Lions this year. Eased his way past Jonathan Brown who is on 15. From the ball up, just playing out time now, the Lions who've had it stitched up for a while, they still can't win here, the Fremantle Dockers, had a good chance in the second term when they opened up a 2 goal lead, but it's been all Brisbane since then. Adcock, ridden a little by McManus, ridden a lot, according to the umpire, and Jed Adcock, who only played the 8 games last year with that quad problem, he looks to be over that.

This young fellas been an outstanding player this season

Stiller?

Stiller. Been very precise with his kicking, just runs well off half back, got enormous running ability as you see here, he goes again, finds space,

And he's a local boy, which makes it even better really doesn't it. From the Northern Eagles. Heads wide and the mark taken by Johnson.

Heath Black, wide ball for Webster bounces kindly for him, Lappin's coming at him. Little pass is okay from Matthew Carr, Sandilands handball not good, Fixter cut it off, sent it to Simon Black, Sherman, knocked away from him by Matthew Carr. They're tired a few of these boys, it's been a hot afternoon, Headland and now the wide ball from the boot of Webster. Hayden. Tried to kick it inboard cleverly to Hasleby whose has caught a hand, and Black sends it back to Sherman. Lead comes from Johnson, Powers in the goal square, Luke Power, just calling for a one on one with Heath Black, and that's where it's headed. Power and now Brennan over the top tried to pluck it, Grover had a piece of it, boundary line the sanctuary for Heath Black. Notting keeps it alive. Parker he's caught by Power, almost threw it across the line. Ball in.

Luke Power, he likes the idea of being a big Power forward (*booing*) every fortnight I reckon he used to come down and tell me to get out of the road and I'll go one on one down here. His quality of midfielder, not quite his position at full forward but can always find a goal.

Did kick 6 goals against Collingwood a few years ago, did Luke Power so he can slot them if you leave him there. Kick from Heath Black wide, Hasleby beaten for it, Copeland, Simon Black, Stiller again, and now Roe with some space. Lead comes short, Rowan Begley,

After he's left with space inside 50 if you can find a lead.

Fixter's the man he's going to go to. They went to everybody else except Fixter. Black knocked it down and that's out of bounds on the full from Black's boot, and Lappin will take the free.

Terrific chase down at this time of the game.

That was a good chase.

Terrific chase down, it's just what Freo aren't doing.

Freo have given it up.

Yeah, they have too, that's quite right. Copeland.

And that's disappointing I think. I mean the game is over now, but it's been over for quite a while, and uh I'm sure the coaching staff would like to see their team fight it out and certainly their supporters would like to see them fight it out, a bit more than they have today

Merrett, Adcock, Harding all get a possession uncontested, easing it around to Rischitelli. Popped in the direction of Brennan, who got one in the ear for his trouble. And Jared Brennan will line up at goal. Yet to kick a goal this year Jared Brennan of course, as we mentioned earlier, one of the players that the Brisbane Lions got for the Des Headland trade to Freo. He and Troy Selwood who's not in the line-up at the moment, Brennan being the player that they got with pick three. And he misses to the near side.

I think he'd love having a few minutes down there in the front half at the finish, wouldn't he? I think after being nailed at centre half back for this year, this would be just a joy to him.

Not having to chase one of the stars like Tarrant or Pavlich you can lose some sleep knowing you have to play on those guys.

Heath Black. Sorry, Heath Black's kick cut off by McGrath, twists and turns and sends it to Chris Johnson, and even he's too spent to collect it. We'll get a ball in.



didn't quite get the bounce there Chrissy Johnson and it has been a very hot day and they've had a couple of those in recent weeks the Brisbane Lions, they'll be very happy the way they've run it out. And this week's on a short week, with the Adelaide crows next Saturday night, will be all about recovery.

The top 5 possession getters there, it was Black on Black really, both have had plenty of it. Rischitelli, kick smothered, ricochets, Notting was there, rolling off the ground, it is, a Rischitelli goal. Michael Rischitelli.

I've loved him this year. I've seen him play 5 or 6 times. He got a bit tired a couple of weeks ago because he'd been tagging round some of the best runners in the competition, but he's become quite aggressive in his offensive work, he was a great runner in (*bringing taggers down*) (*SAM not actually sure of that*) but I think you're right, his kicking which I think was a weakness in his game has now become more than adequate for the role that he plays.

First goal of the afternoon for Michael Rischitelli, ten tackles last week, a good performance chasing players down, he's had 16 possessions again this afternoon. And the youth in their midfield has been magnificent to watch again today around Black and Lappin and Power, long kick out of the middle, Tarrant flies, and Roe front spot, taps it down to Power, Patfull, Rischitelli again, Harding, shrugged the tackle, kicked towards McGrath, a little too hot for him, Hayden, oh, McGrath! Crunched by his own man Fixter. And the ball in the hands of Heath Black. He's okay, which is good news. And now Chris Tarrant who kicked a goal from here about six minutes ago, pokes it to the pocket to Crowley, and he will line up to get himself a consolation prize for the afternoon.

All too late. Fixter always goes hard at the ball, just a bit of frfrfriendly (*laughs*) fire there, Ash McGrath wouldn't be too happy, but the coach will be happy. Very hard right up until the final siren.

Rowan Crowley, who's made the most of his second chance. He was drafted pick 55 in 2002 de-listed, redrafted as a rookie, and he adds his name to those that have hit the post today, and this weekend, and there's a fair list of them. It's that extra bit on the top they added.

The added bit, not the fat bit

Because that would have been counted in the early years as a behind and not a post being hit

A poster

See, adds to the stats. Copeland. There's a couple of idle possessions and a couple of idle comments being made inside the last ten minutes. Sorry gentlemen (*laughs*) Notting's got it on the wing, all the way back to Copeland.

They'd be pretty disappointed, uh Freo in Solomon. He's not given them anything at all today, and he had to in these sorts of conditions, Cook has been very average, McPharlin has not done anything at either end of the ground. So there are three names that are expected in big games to perform who have failed them badly.

Brennan to Rischitelli. Possession 18 coming up for him. 27 175 here today and the majority will go home happy. The Brisbane Lions they're knocking on the door to be a threat this year. Mathew Carr to Crowley. And the Dockers would have considered themselves a threat at the start of the year given last season but Brisbane Lions here at the Gabba is one of the teams that they're going to have to beat if they are to be a real contender. Free kick, given away and Adcock will take it.

Just struggling a little bit with cramp, Jed Adcock, but uh, normally you'd think he might pass it off, but he's a back pocket and he's snuck up for a shot on goal so he'll find a way to get that calf right and have a shot.



Ah, with the scoreboard looking this way, if you're a back pocket player, Richie, you'd have a crack here,

From a back pocket, is that David?

I never kicked one

Didn't ya?

44 point margin with this kick to come and he hits the post

That is amazing. As soon as you start talking about something, (*Forgot to relisten*) hit the post and Jed Adcock been a fabulous player over the last couple of years, bit frustrated last year with (*forgot to relisten*) but just slotted in beautifully and leads that defensive half.

Cook.

SIREN

An impressive 45 point victory to the Brisbane Lions here at the Gabba.

## 2007.7 Melbourne v Port Adelaide

6 May 2007 MCG (16 266) 71-76 Channel 7

Dennis Cometti, Tim Watson, Bruce McAvaney, Ricky Olarenshaw, David Schwartz

**DC** Final term at the MCG, Sunday football, it's been a thriller, 5 points the difference then, Lade uncontested, hooked it down behind, Chad Cornes' under pressure, Sylvia arrived quickly effected the kick it wanders out towards the wing, Peter Burgoyne pursued by McDonald, kicks it very wide, White out it front, had it knocked away reaching over the top is Warnock and a boundary throw in. That tells you something, only 3 times in AFL history has the 16<sup>th</sup> side defeated a team in the top 2, most recently Collingwood over the West Coast Eagles, in round nine of 2005 McDonald in there, Jones who had a terrific third term follows the ball to the boundary.

**TW** Rivers is free in defence for Melbourne at the other end of the ground at the moment, Kane Cornes is trying to get free and uh Pedigree, uh Pettigrew going two on one there with Travis Johnson.

**BM** here's Shaun Burgoyne, a lot talked about him today, it's a good kick to Pearce. He's been terrific Pearce, Lonie, it's a good handball because he's on the right side for him probing kick, White the target, Rivers in trouble, he went the wrong way Rivers, Warnock held up by Ebert.

**TW** Ball up. That's the area Godfrey just got to stop Shaun Burgoyne pushing up to those clearances around the centre of the ground and able to get a possession, that's where he's damaging, running out of there

**BM** so Pickett on the interchange, Cracker had it smothered, Miller's on the interchange as well. Warnock Yze's been good, oh Bell, what was he doing? He's trying to give the look away handpass, now Yze may get a free here. Ball up.

**TW** he just got lost then, didn't he?

**BM** Motlop, Rodan, Mahoney and Thurstans for Port.

**DC** so the boundary deep in the pocket, White very high, Maloney out of the air not 15 the umpire said, Tredrea a bit stiff, played it brilliantly. Kane Cornes lined it up and hit the post! Seen a few posters this weekend. There were 9 on Friday night, last night the game I was watching had 7. There's Bell, Dunn is breaking for him. Takes the mark at left half back.

**TW** Be patient here

**BM** Kane Cornes without a goal this year would really have loved it then. Rivers. Feel like it's going to be a low scoring last quarter, it's hard to see it really breaking up, isn't it?

**DC** yep

**BM** Bates.

**TW** Gee he worked hard there, Dunn

**BM** he's been quiet, Miller and Dunn the Two key forwards haven't given Melbourne much today.

**TW** There's nothing up the field on that side of the ground though, so they're gonna have to switch play again.

**BM** McDonald provides the lead, well he got a free kick. Peter Burgoyne was closing so quickly then, the vonn (??) kick put McDonald under pressure, White, he's done well. In short, couple of options,

Petterd. Two terrific first matches. Out wide, Rivers. Just too far out, they've built pretty well. This kick important. Jones, just keeps working, doesn't he?

**TW** And the ball players there, they're all looking around at each other saying whose going to back him up. They had the numbers inside the defensive 50 but they're all just guarding space. What's this?

**BM** well, he kicked a goal in the third quarter, his first goal for the season. He's only kicked 3 goals 19 years of age. 48m out. Lovely looking kick, scores are level! He might be pressing for your top four the way he's going, Jones!

**TW** I love the way this bloke plays his football. That was a very good finish too by Port Adelaide just sitting back on their heels again, guarding space, not prepared to work hard enough in their defensive part of the ground. Mark Williams will be annoyed with that because they had the numbers there, just somebody had to take responsibility for Jones, no-one was prepared to do that.

**DC** 66 apiece. David Schwartz.

**DS** and scores are level down here, and if Demons are going to go on and actually win this three players that are going to play are real key, Aaron Davey picked up by Surjan, Pettigrew is picking up by Travis Johnson he'll be very important and Bate who was very good in that third term being picked up by Troy Chaplin.

**DC** Lade has to wait, camped under the ball, White came over the top. Well controlled by McDonald, Bruce, White, did nicely. Swings it down towards half forward, it pitches out in front of a couple, who'll be the first to arrive? Chaplin jams it on the boot close to the boundary line and it runs away from Brian and goes out. There's Chaplin, made his debut against Melbourne, round 4 2004 came in as a late replacement for Chad Cornes. What about Tim's top 4 they'll come a little bit later, we saw the top 5 possession getters on the ground so far, McDonald, Yze's had plenty of it as you saw, getting been back Chad Cornes, Thomas, Chad Cornes once more. Across the ground. This is White. Very deep, White, demanding a fair bit of Ebert, can he get there? Fell over, now Bell's got the football. Melbourne's on the burst, Godfrey to Davey, storming down towards left half forward, pulls it back. Bates!

**TW** great decision makers, great ball users. You can't have too many of them in your forward half. He could have blazed away there, and that was a critical kick from White on half back, should looked inside they had 3 guys just camped inside the centre of the ground there waiting for a one on one.

**DC** and the great thing about speed, it buys you more time to make the right decision. Davey's got the speed, the kick from Bate though just falls away and is forced across the line, for a behind, but Melbourne lead and the crowd watch the scoreboard tick over and there's a big roar at the MCG.

**TW** Chaplin is Bates 4<sup>th</sup> opponent this afternoon, so he's been the real worry in the defensive part of the ground for Mark Williams.

**BM** Melbourne's been in front four times today but the longest they've held the lead at any one time is Two and a half minutes. Port have been able to get it back quickly, Kane Cornes' had it ripped off him by Johnstone, so can the Demons get more than a kick in front, that was a give. Bates got it, Sylvia, good vision, Bruce, now he's a classy player, and he's missed and he had an option, a handball option at centre half forward,

**TW** they just haven't looked sharp Port, today, though have they?

**BM** nup

**TW** they just haven't looked like they're running on top of the ground today.

**BM** well they had the win in the driving rain last week and the week before they were here beating Collingwood. Gee, that form looks alright now, doesn't it? I mean Port have beaten the Dockers in Perth and Collingwood here at the MCG. And yet a team lower than 5 have got a 2 point margin in this fourth quarter.

**DC** Melbourne's last 13 scoring shots have yielded 3 10. Lonie gets it from Surjan, goes around the outer side, White's in front, knocked away by Pettit from behind. Spills across to Wade, clever handpass, Cracker did well in a tight situation, almost worth a kick, down towards half forward. Johnston though with speed comes away, telling kick, oh, wonderful mark. Thomas went back with courage, on the overlap Cassisi who's been pretty quiet. This is Bentley, now a chance, Burgoyne, Peter 40 meters out. Okay, he's decided he's going to take his time. Umpire telling him to move just a little bit quicker.

**TW** and you're wondering why he finds that sort of space on a turnover like that because he was trailing the Melbourne players (*booing*) they broke, they thought the ball was going to Bruce in the centre of the ground, they all took off and then there was a turnover.

**DC** Matt Thomas has had a tough day but that was a gusty mark, going back into unexplored territory moments ago. And the beneficiary could have been, Peter Burgoyne, as it is, he misses and the margin is back to a solitary behind.

**BM** Ricky Olarensaw

**RO** Well Port must have been worried about Nathan Jones and his influence on this game because he's (*sic*) direct opponent Daniel Pearce has been told to go to full forward, so Jonesy out of the back, out of the play.

**TW** interesting move. Johnstone, there he is, Jones.

**BM** Not reading the script and gee, he's played a big second half.

**TW** Bate again, how hard he worked today

**DC** mmm

**BM** four different opponents, Tim, and Thurstans on the mark. Smart to Dunn. Now Maloney's out wide. Johnstone will come to him.

**TW** that's okay, they've changed the angle, they're not going to have the space

**BM** Carroll's on here. Left footer though, oh, so he's going to have to take the mark. Ebert, important here, Pearce Lonie, good tackle, well done Maloney, only as far as Ebert, White could be on here, the kick inside, White needs a good bounce, Brown's gunna hold him up, doesn't quite, White goes for goal and scores are level. And Carroll just fumbled one that he really had to take.

**TW** it will come down to turnovers.

**DC** that kick to Carroll needed to carry a lot further, it held him up, he was almost cussing and cursing as he went down to mark that one. He wasn't concentrating. There's the mark taken by Dunn.

**TW** he's coming into the game in the last quarter. That's a good sign for the future of Melbourne, isn't it, Dunn and Bate both capable of playing those third tall roles in the forward line.

**DC** and Jones, has been very good, another youngster in a different role there's Carroll. Jones seems to have a (*sic*) old head on his shoulders, there's Maloney, just looks that way, he's still young man the kick down towards half forward, big pack, punched forward by Port. Chance for Lonie, did well, falling to the ground, did well, Thomas in the grasp, Kane Cornes its Two on one, and the one

prevails, gee we've loved his game. Petterd, swings it to half forward, Sylvia, surely a free kick, nothing doing. Down in front Maloney, scores are level, Bruce a handpass, alongside the centre circle, White took one in the face, comes back to Bruce, advantage was paid Johnstone usually. Measures the kick this time he measured it incorrectly. Shaun Burgoyne was a step in front and took the mark.

**BM** he was quick there Burgoyne, wasn't he? He read that well. That's an awful kick coming out defence, think it was Thomas Brown goes in front. B

**DC** oooh

**BM** Wakelin, Neitz, Surjan, Bentley and Davey, Tredrea, Brown, Bates, still Bates, handball to Davey, Davey from 50 off the side. Lade, oh good mark.

**TW** umpires have put the whistle away Bruce, just one free kick paid in this last quarter.

**BM** good awareness from Noel Lade there, he was running against it and the ball just fell into his hands, he's gone for the one on one, Cracker, Petterd's had the better of him after Cracker's done some really good things. Kane Cornes.

**DC** White, timely fist, well done, hammers it away from Tredrea.

**TW** they've got no run at the moment, Port, they've got no overlap in their play they're not prepared to run and carry the ball. Neil Daniher. It's going to be an anxious last quarter for him, as it is for that lady too (*nice 70ish woman in crowd, looking anxious*)

**DC** after the boundary throw in, Burgoyne, Kane Cornes coming up for his 24<sup>th</sup> possession, timed the release perfectly. Cracker went a long way and he's through, a couple of bounces, running down towards half forward, out in front of Cornes, threw himself at the football. That kick demanded a fair bit, of Chad Cornes and he was equal to the task.

**TW** just took the youngest kid on the ground for Port Adelaide just to show some run and some dare, just took off. Knew that he had the motor, and that's a beautifully weighted kick too.

**DC** it was centimetre perfect

**BM** humph

**DC** another half step out in front of Cornes and he wouldn't have been able to get there. Important kick this one, (*booing*) Chad Cornes steps inside the 50, kicks and misses. But it's enough for the lead.

**BM** both teams have been inaccurate in front of goal from set shots today

**TW** there's no wind down there, to speak of either at ground level,

**BM** Pickett, who we haven't seen a lot of since he had the cut behind the ear, Rick telling us that he had the stitches. To Johnstone, Port back in front but only one goal in this final term, from Jones.

**TW** Pettigrew back on Bate now.

**BM** Bell to Pickett, he'd love a big last quarter, he's gunna have to go, he is gone. Gee that's a bad, bad turnover and Motlop quickly on and that's a waste too perhaps. Johnstone's who had a wonderful last quarter, kept going, Pickett fumbled, under the pump, Burgoyne ripped off it, Melbourne fierce, Johnstone playing a real big last quarter his one fifty to Brown, Brown through the centre to Godfrey, Godfrey wide, it's got Dunn. Now this is an important kick. Davey, got 'im. Tough angle.

**TW** they're going via the cape, Melbourne, but they finally got there. They have to work hard off half back. Terrific play there by Travis Johnstone. That's not something he's known for his desperation but that was just terrific play and that ball did not carry and that was not a mark.

**BM** So Davey to put the Demons in front or level. If he misses the lot its still Port Adelaide. See the angle, its tight. Kick from Davey

Ooh,

**BM** all square.

**TW** (*laughing*) it's going to be an agonising last quarter for Melbourne supporters and coaching staff

**DC** Thurstans, in the back pocket then, to Ebert. That wasn't an easy shot for Aaron Davey, but one seven so far in the final term and right now both these teams would miss their mouths with a spoon. There's Cassisi, Ebert, short, Thurstans again,

**TW** Melbourne had 35 more possessions in the third quarter but they've evened up again in the last quarter, so Port are getting the ball now.

**DC** Thomas. Showed a lot of it to Sylvia the kick from Thurstans with a hand in the back gets Thomas out of jail, he wants to go, spotted Cornes out of the corner of his eye, Kane Cornes confronted by Pickett advances the ball 20 meters. Motlop manufactures something, too easily round Bell, sharp angle, out of bounds on the full this time. Hand me the spoon.

**TW** the one thing he should have had on his mind then, Motlop, was to actually centre the ball

**DC** oh

**BM** its Kane Cornes, he's in trouble, I think

**TW** here it is, here's Pickett. Now that is the tackle that the AFL are trying to outlaw, that's where you pin the arms and you drive the body into the ground. He's got no way of protecting his head in a circumstance like that, that is a dangerous tackle,

**BM** and uh, he's still in a bit of strife there, Kane Cornes

**DC** sheeze, (*vision of Cornes conscious, lying still though and in obvious serious pain with trainers crouched around him. Head is the focus.*)

**BM** it's just an awful moment when a player goes down like that and now the umpires are holding up play with scores level. (*Running with red plastic canoe-stretcher*)

**DC** it's just a good thing we don't play on Astro turf.

**TW** that's the tackle they've been talking about all summer long. It was gunna be, don't be surprised if Byron Pickett gets sided for that tackle when the match review panel takes a look at the tape tomorrow. That's a dangerous tackle, when you know you've pinned the arms like that, there's a duty of care, and it's gotta be, Byron Pickett taking responsibility for that tackle.

**DC** I tell you what, if it goes before the judiciary, Byron would be out a long time, wouldn't he, given his record?

**BM** Ox is down there, absolutely, Ox is down there with Ricky at the moment. All square Ox and uh Kane Cornes coming from the ground.

They are coming from the ground, they will be taking him off on a stretcher. Just both teams huddling at the moment. There's a real eerie feeling (*vision of the golf cart, and the Port players in a huddle*) as you said Denis, Byron Pickett he might be in a bit of strife for that, he's known for his aggressiveness,

but it's one of the things that they are trying to outlaw. And the crowd are just thinking, well, they've lost a good player, Port and may be in a bit of strife.

**BM** we just saw Chad Cornes going over to be close to his brother. And he's going to be fired up here. So Chad Cornes coming back to his group (*vision of Pickett looking very unhappy*) have a look at him, have a look at that. Do you reckon he wants to win? Ricky Olarensaw, Ricky, you're a fair way away from it, but it is an eerie feeling right now, as this brave young player comes from the ground.

**RO** yeah, it's really hard to say which way it'll go now. Port could come out fired up or they could be rattled by seeing one of their teammates go down. It's not their only injury concern either because Troy Chaplin came off just before that. He limped off with a left ankle injury he hurt in a marking contest. Um, they've got his boot off, ice applied to his ankle, he's gone for the game as well, so they've lost two players in the last three minutes

**DC** well anyone who knows anything about Port Adelaide would know they're not likely to be rattled. The good thing was the head was up when he was on the stretcher. There's Chad Cornes, Kane Cornes on the ground. And Chad came back like a ... evangelist, talking to his teammates.

**TW** Probably concerned there, as you'd expect,

**BM** how hot's this footy gunna be you reckon?

**TW** its gunna be hotter than it's been at any stage today

**DC** the place to be will be in first. Mike Williams has won 6 out of 12 against Neil Daniher. Head to head one of the premier players in the league coming off on the stretcher. Kane Cornes, 25 possessions. Bruce has got the football, so no action taken when the incident happened. Could hear more of that. Carroll feeds it back, Bates, Melbourne looking to pick up where they left off, McDonald, goes short finds Johnstone, Johnstone right half forward. 69 apiece. Plenty of time. Johnston, deep into attack, big leap at the back from Neitz, tries to soccer it off the ground was Yze, came off the boot of Thomas, out of bounds on the full. So Yze who kicked a spectacular goal in the run of play not far from this spot a couple of weeks ago. A set shot for the left footer, not impossible. He has wonderful skill, runs around, opens the angle, pulls it back, slides right across the face, most unlike him, off hands, Dunn, snaps, and it's a goal, I think, no, a behind. Ho, so close.

**BM** he's had a good last quarter, Dunn

**TW** hasn't he given them some life, up forward alongside Bate? Davey's been good today too, had plenty of the ball, pushing up into the midfield, blistering pace on display.

**BM** since the long break its 3 10 Melbourne 2 8 Port.

**TW** Kick ins aren't the best part of Ports game.

**BM** and they've had plenty of them, Tim, with the inaccuracy from both teams,

**TW** this is where they've had trouble, with the second kick all year, Port,

**BM** Surjan back inboard, just trying to build something here, Pettigrew, Cassisi, doesn't waste too many Cassisi Thurstans out wide, been on the bench a fair bit today. Down the line, just too high for Ebert, Bells had a good match. Motlop. So, a little victory for Melbourne

**TW** Rivers is playing on Ebert. If you're the player kicking the ball to Ebert, the one thing that you need to do is just make sure that you keep the ball down a little bit low

**BM** being a top forward Tim, was it hard to do?



**TW** well, it's very hard, coz I think players have been in and out of the game, but I've liked the performance of both this afternoon. The Port players have been down

**DC** advantage paid, Burgoyne was going to get the free, Thurstans to Lonie wide of the mark off hands and out of bounds. So Melbourne with that erratic kick retain their lead but a boundary throw in in dangerous territory. Lade is coming up to take it. Big test for young Johnstone here. Lade, very conscious of very small men, oh, lays it down for Cracker, Cracker! Misses.

**TW** oh didn't they create that space beautifully for Cracker?

**DC** oh you could see Lade licking, (*laughing*) licking his lips when he saw Johnstone.

**BM** just a good effort from the Demons defence, just to put Cracker off balance at the end

**TW** he was the least likely bloke to go to too, of all those blokes that congregated at that stopped play, he was the one you least expected the ball to be directed to

**BM** Interestingly, White coming on now, for Melbourne. He's had a very good game White so the Lade factor could be very important. Rodan to Thomas. To Cornes, Chad Cornes. Long and high to full forward. Melbourne with numbers and Carroll takes the mark. They had three fliers Melbourne and Port had none. It's a handy 50 too, territory's pretty important with 5 minutes to go I'd reckon.

**TW** Yeah, they've gotta work hard now Port just to slide back so they can create the numbers in the defensive part of the ground. Just watch that, terrific mark there by Carroll under enormous pressure.

**BM** White, coming up for disposal number 22. Gee it'd top his weekend off wouldn't it, being a dad last night, if the Ds could have a win, Bate's been terrific,

**TW** Interestingly, Tredrea at this critical stage of the game, is on the bench.

**BM** Godfrey. So, this kick, can Godfrey put it to advantage? He's about 80 meters from goal, it's a slow kick to ha, the pocket, Neitz, well, nobody went with him. He's missed a couple Neitz, but he's kicked two.

**TW** it just hung in the air forever, and Wakelin lost him, and in the end it was just an uncontested mark and you can see by the reaction there of Warren Tredrea what he thought of it

**BM** one captain watches another captain – hit the post! That was a good kick by Neitz, it was coming back. The biggest margin all day Melbourne is 2 points. They lead by one

**DC** And in the game the last 9 scores behinds, 5 to Melbourne, 4 to Port. Here's Surjan, deep in his own defensive area, Wakelin pushing up the ground. Haslett at left half back, nobody near him, White is running hard, he's ignored White, coupla bounces, characteristic of last week, now he goes towards half forward. Motlop should have gone harder Carroll the defensive mark.

**TW** that was really terrible defensive play there by Wakelin. He had to kick the ball early and hit White who led from the centre of the ground.

**DC** Warnock out wide to Brown, White is on in the middle, White's got it now, runners alongside. Decides to hold up. Heard the umpire, White, a little indecisive, goes back to Warnock. A test now for the young man's steel, Warnock goes for distance, terrible, Lade uncontested, Melbourne by a point. Lade from half back. Peter Burgoyne running on the wing, spots Motlop, goes long, hangs an eternity, Motlop takes the mark, Carroll overcommitted. Motlop with the outside of the ball, kicks the goal. The man who failed them at Launceston didn't fail them that time.

**TW** You could just see that unfolding from the time the kick didn't hit its target across half forward. Warnock took the kick, he tried to just bomb the ball, what they had to do then was just use



*(pronounced news)* the numbers they had behind the ball, just be patient, just show a little bit of composure and pause. But that's what happened, when you have inexperienced boys playing across the back line in a pressure game like this. Still plenty of time on the clock though for Melbourne to make the play again.

**BM** Motlop's second goal. 34 minutes since Port's last goal. It's been a drought but they're in front. You don't feel like there'll be more than another goal in this match. Next goal wins almost you think, right now. White, Jones, both been good, Sylvia off the side of it, Bate might be the man, couldn't quite take it, Thurstans did well but didn't release, and then Bate on his wrong side, the full forward, Davey, little left foot, it's a goal.

**DC** Bad angle, (??) boys *(can't make it out over the noise)*

**BM** Coming back, free kick. You're spot on Dennis. I was up with the crowd. So, Peter Burgoyne on the end of it now. Was it against Neitz was it?

**DC** I'm not sure, it was a push in the back in the marking contest.

**TW** Here we go yep.

**TW** Yeah, he did push him out.

**BM** so that's the 8<sup>th</sup> free kick, that's 8 since half time

**DC** Warnock over the shoulder, White left it behind. Head down, Dunn in the opposite direction, Warnock did well to Rivers releases Bruce 5 points the difference, Bruce storming down towards half forward, nobody really deep, has to go to Davey, oh, only Charlie Chan would like those odds. The handpass came from Surjan to Cornes, to Burgoyne drives it out very wide to Ebert. That was about the third of two options. Davey, they needed somebody long in the square Melbourne. 5 points Port's way. There's Motlop. Ebert's got the football. And Port now will run down the clock *(booing)* and I've got to say I never quite trust Port in this situation, Chad Cornes has got the football.

**BM** They've raised the stakes, Dennis. Cornes from centre wing. No mark taken. And then under huge pressure.

**DC** Oh no.

**BM** ridiculous. Madonna was falling over.

**TW** they've got pick up Wakelin here, the balls gunna go backwards.

**DC** that last gentleman, 200 over 180 I think *(vision of man going ballistic in the crowd)*

**BM** I wonder if Melbourne are going to get another possession

**TW** they've got to find them, they just can't allow Port to do half a minute.

**BM** controversial finish. Controversial last quarter.

*(Booing)*

**DC** they're a savvy football team though Port Adelaide, they've done enough

**BM** they're gunna get home here Port. They're gunna beat Melbourne at the MCG for the first time ever.

SIREN

*Crowd is booing madly. There is no cheering. It is awful.*

## 2007.8 Richmond v Geelong

6 May 2007 Docklands (34 584) 62-222 FOX Footy

Gerard Healy, Danny Frawley, Quentin Hull,

Final term is go. Blake to Ablett, long ball inside the 50, Tigers should get numbers back, Raines out for Bowden he's had it now 17 times.

You'd expect the Tigers to have at least five minutes of unbelievable energy and if they can kick a couple of goals, they may be able to you know, develop that and actually, build on it. But if they don't get a score in the first few minutes and the Cats do, well then, it could be an avalanche.

The mark, Pettifer, near the boundary line. Free kick down the ground, either to or against Matthew Scarlett. It will be a 50 because that will be the greater advantage so Pettifer will get the goal, Pettifer, so Pettifer will get the opening goal in the final term. Might be still a bit of niggle remaining in this match.

Well it's a good start there for the Tiges. Maybe Scarlett didn't quite see it coz we're watching Pettifer line up for goal. Obviously it was between Jackson and Scarlett, Here we have a look at it, and there's a bit of a scuffle there. If that was a 50?

That was the 50

Well was it a 50 Gerard?

Well, course it wasn't a 50.

I can't believe that. Hayden Kennedy said that Scarlett threw Daniel Jackson to the ground.

Well, maybe there was more to it that we didn't see

I don't think so

Well no wonder Scarlett's miffed, coz I'm confused

Wallsey's not happy,

*(laughing)*

Can he lose the mantle, the coach with the highest losing record? He'd love to hand it to Terry. Blake to Ling, away, long to full forward can Ablett get back, no

They're dropping numbers back, the Tigers with the ruck work, they're going to have to pin point pass not long bomb, move the ball quickly in there.

Terry knows the pain that Robert has endured for 15 years. King, Raines, over the top, Deledio, off to a remarkably quiet night, from the Tigers speedster. McGuane, kicks Richmond inside 50, Johnson the spoil over Meyer. And it's over for a boundary throw in.

Well you're right Gerard, Matty Richards in the ruck, he's just staying behind the ball, so Geelong will have to lower their eyes and widen their vision going forward

Yeah, they've got a couple there now.

There's Matty on his own,

Newman, working hard, Ablett there as well. Oakley-Nicholls on the 50, Foley quick hands to Johnson. Tuck back to Foley, kick partially smothered boundary throw in.

Range is also just uh, across the back line by himself, now pushed up to the wing. So it's going to be tough they can move the ball quickly though the Cats, they'll get it into the forward line, and Danny that's why, if you look at that forward line, that's why they can really press up hard if they can get their act together through the middle. So much talent down there with the Abletts of course, with Mooney, Hottons. Tomahawk and Darko at ground level.

Shane Tuck winning the free, coming up for his 18<sup>th</sup> possession, the 25 year old. He was third in the best and fairest a couple of years ago, tenth last year. Some of the all-time games record holder, a very nice kick. So the Tigers begin the final term with the opening two goals.

Well all they can do is play out the game until the siren sounds, and they've kicked the two snags, two free kicks, but we'll have a look at this on the replay here, Blake just shepherding off,

Now Blake didn't really need to do that when he's rucking against someone like Tuck

No

A significant height advantage. It will be Richo who'll ruck in the centre of the ground as we have a look the Tuck kick. 22 goals is our margin.

Blake, Newman sharking it, so Tigers getting some clearances now, Tenace is brought to ground

That's gotta be a free kick surely

They're not getting much, it's fair to say, the Cats, in the final term well two to the touched free kicks were goals for Richmond, Tenace definitely wore a free kick there, like he put his head over the ball and two players just jumped all over him.

Good bounce,

Yeah, he's bouncing it all right though.

Richo's gone holding the ball, so once you take the ball out of the ruck, you've lost your prior opportunity, if someone tackles you, you're gone. Like that.

It will come back.

They'll bottle it up and he has a throw.

They'll do the same, regardless, Bartel to the wing, target is Joel Corey. Good mark. Now, backs himself and runs away.

Just treated him with contempt, that's what's disappointing.

Look at the kick, Cameron Ling! He has kicked one goal tonight, he got his in the first quarter.

Right, Brett Deledio is his direct opponent, and I know you're not having a good night Brett, but you've still gotta defend. Cameron Ling's pushed forward and you've gotta play as a defender just give Cameron Ling far too much space there.

Ling for Geelong's 30<sup>th</sup> goal. They're now 50 points away from the all-time record.

Well it's been a slow start for the Cats in this uh world record attempt in the final quarter, but the next 5 minutes will tell I think Scott, I don't think they can leave it too late.

No, you're right. I suppose from Mark Thompson's point of view. Its pleasing Gerard you say there's 30 goals, there's obviously 33, 34 goals, it may be the record. But you'd think, well how many does a full forward kick? Normally 8, 9? The leading goal kick has been four so it's been a real spread of goal kickers.

Mmm if you look at their forward line, they've got four full forwards. They've been rotating in and out of the square. Big Otto's down there now, Mooney's started there, Nathan Ablett's goes down there, Hawkins has been down there, so's Cameron Ling. So, uh, its potent, its flexible and its gunna be tested next week.

Bartel going without it. Selwood shoving it wide, scrappy passage of play. Bartel, look at that balance,

The power through the contest was unbelievable though (??). And he's going to be on the end of this kick, is he? Oh the bounce eludes him and Polak read it well for Richmond. Raines. Running out is Johnson. On to Oakley-Nicholls in front. Spearing the pass towards Richardson, Johnson can't mark, Jackson, Hughes fumble, Pettifer wants it deep, Hughes fumble again defers to Meyer. Scarlett did well not to give away a free and we'll get a bounce.

Phew, there was a few fumbles in that passage.

Mmm

Richmond for it, Bartel couldn't hold it.

Gee the umpire, the umpire all over Geelong here at the moment, inside the Richmond forward line. It's the first, third free kick

Tigers saying we wanted them last week.

And Geelong are saying we need the record. (*laughing*)

Bartel there holding tight and that's a good call

Yeah, good call.

So Tuck now for his 2<sup>nd</sup> in this final quarter an its Richmond who are peppering away. They've kicked 3 goals to 1 in the opening 9 minutes here.

Well we can kiss the record goodbye, because every goal Richmond kick means the ball is in their forward half, so Geelong just need to play four quarters of football. Keep at it, keep going at the ball. Yeah, the free kick was definitely there,

And the finish was true. In front of the now, well, less than half full stadium. Tigers fans disgruntled. They'll have beaten the traffic a long time ago. The Cats fans though, they're loving it, they're soaking it up. A 132 point lead.

You don't see the approach from a ruckman these days coming side on too often but Richo's done it.

Selwood

Joel Selwood's enjoyed it.

Varcoe's the target, King there provides the spoil, Tuck will gather momentarily, big tackle by Selwood, Kelly pushed, play on the call, Varcoe to Ablett. Shovels it back. Selwood,

Just mucking around with it too much under the pressure here now Geelong. They're turning it over.

White.

They've targeted Oakley-Nicholls a bit, he's got it again. He's had 7 marks now.

That's a good kick. Pettifer with Judinksi to beat. In the back. Oh.

Listen to the Cats fans. They're riding

They reckon they've been stiffed in this last ten minutes. Let's see if he drops his legs. Pretty stiff I reckon Spud, I know he finished on his back the player with the footy almost dragged him down with him,

Could have been play on the call, ball up for mine.

Tigers with 27 possessions to 17 in this final term.

Pettifer looking for his second of the quarter and it's not coming back, a behind. 30 goals 9 plays 8 10. Tigers will be 0 and 6 for the first time since 1962. Corey for Enright. Geelong will be 3 and 3, hosting West Coast at Skill Stadium next Sunday one o'clock eastern time right here at Fox Sports AFL.

I tell you what, if that's not jam packed, I'll be surprised.

Richmond getting numbers behind the ball, this is why Milburn has to hold the play up, tries to spot a target.

And does. Enright.

I wonder if the motivation of the world record was used by the Tigers at  $\frac{3}{4}$  time. Do not let this club own the world record. I remember Ron Barassi in a State of Origin match found out that they were 98 points down or something along those lines. And he sent the message out by way of motivation "do not get beaten by 100 points" now whether that's any consolation or not, it certainly didn't worry the West Australian's too much, who won.

And Ablett waiting down, it's Nathan, he stabs one, so Nathan has got 4. And now they're 44 points adrift of equalling the record.

Oh we needed that one Gerard, I thought Matty's played a very good game, Matty Richardson, or a fair game, he's tried hard, but he's the loose player in the backline after the ruck tap, and probably not enough talk here, he was running back with the flight of the ball, (??) Ablett, great awareness. Just knowing, all right, the balls gone over me head and great left foot snap.

I'm glad you've jumped on board Spud, uh using the royal we

I noticed that I thought how rich is that?

Yep

Well we've worked pretty hard for this world record and it's not often you get a chance to be involved in a world record.

No, you're right,

Trying to make, to add a little bit of colour, Quentin,

Oh, very colourful.

195 to 58. Hotton's the hit out, Ablett over the top, here's 200 beckoning, the next target. Kelly is brought down. Moore.

And a dance, plus one and two.

Free man

Yeah, it's White. White's away. Again they target Oakley-Nicholls at half forward,

But Richo and Millburn at the moment can spot him up.

Oakley-Nicholls, broke his collar bone late last year, played just four senior games in his rookie year, going short here to the forward 50 and targeting Pettifer again. Who's getting some shots at goal late. Wants to pass this one off but it Corey Hughes, coming up for his 6<sup>th</sup> shot at goal, he's got 2 goals 3.

How do you see Mackie as a defender, Spud?

Well at times he just watches the ball Gerard, we see it here, he just expects Pettifer to go back, the positioning of that situation, you've just got to play in front and force the forward wide. There's no way known, that Mackie, if he was on his game, there he should have been in front, sparring with him, just on his hip, forcing Hughes wide but they led up the middle like that you're just switched off for half a second.

Hughes, kicked 3 last week, and has 3 tonight, so one positive at least to emerge for the Tigers from this destructive night at the 'gong.

See Pettifer there just put the ball into space. I suppose we can't be too critical of Matt, he has kicked 4 Gerard. So,

But what you're saying, you want him in front, especially

Anticipating that lead.

Yeah, especially in that situation. More hip on hip, at least force the guy wide, I suppose, the strong suit of him. And I don't think he's super quick. I think he's very good in the air, I'd be interested to know what his leg speeds like,

Big Cleve

Cleve's been good. Nah, Mackie, I'd like to know what his leg speed's like

Since half time it's been 11 3 to 7 3 so the margin's only been 4 goals since half time and the margin was 107 points and the Tigers are getting the frees in this final stanza. Deledio. With one kick and now 4, 5 handpasses tonight. The record looks beyond them. 44 points to get, ten minutes to get them. Ablett, away good ball, Glen's got Johnson, could goal, more chasing, Johnson long. Nathan Ablett wants 5.

Well done Polak.

Yep, spoiled it well, Raines got by one, can't get by big Cam Mooney. What a tackle.

It started that way Gerard, Geelong at the start of the game, their tackling intensity was spot on. We've had a bit of a lull this ten minutes in the last quarter, but these tackles, they have stuck all night.

Like a big bear wrapping him up.

Geelong have kicked about 10, 11 goals from tackling pressure, from turnovers.

Yeah, as good as directly in front. Mooney for his third to cross the 200 mark. Well the Cats of 07 might have to give way to the Cats of '92 for the record. They need to take every chance from here. 9 minutes to go.

Could be a bake by Bomber Thompson after the match.

Should be

Billy Brownless will be celebrating now. He was part of that '92 team.

Oh Ling! Don't speak too early,

It's not over yet, bouncing it to the square, chance for Geelong, Bartel's done everything tonight, so why add you a name to the goal kicking list. He becomes their 14<sup>th</sup> goal kicker. They cross the 200 and they've now got to get 37 points in the last 8 32.

Well, we see there that goal from Ling, just kept at it, Cameron Ling, did you see Bartel just strength, he deserves to be in the spotlight, he does

The match though he's been the, you know, I think with Gary Ablett, they've been the best two on the ground. I've really enjoyed his work tonight and I've followed his season pretty closely, he's been one of the most consistent Cats. And a little one there, just to go on with.

Richmond have never conceded more than 211 in a game, ever. And that was by Geelong in 89.

I'm sure there's some records you've missed Quentin, but I tell you what, you've got just about all of them.

Ah,

Scarlett, now Johnson, and they're doing it without Egan and Chapman in the second half. He's gone the way of the bench

This is the bloke who's uh, gonna put a show on one day. Lot of excitement for the boys from Corio Bay. Oh, that's Polak riding the bump. White.

That's one of the few tackles ever broken tonight by a Richmond player.

Richardson missed it, Milburn doubles back. Should have time. Good shepherd Enright, still working for one another. Frawley, out wide, Mackie, thought about him, brings it back to Steve Johnson, well he's done enough on his return, now he's gone towards Bartel, he's going to run onto it in the pocket, oh, he's gone for the soccer and that has not come off to the mocking jeers of the Geelong supporters. *(laughing)* 32 11 to 9 10 on a night billed as Geelong's most important since their semi-final against the Swans, back in 2005, and they've delivered everything their supporters could have hoped for and then a whole lot more.

I reckon Richo stood up pretty, pretty well in this second half,

Oh, he certainly has,

Newman

And Newman can have a shot of goal here, he keeps it low and spears it into the post.

Almost play on but there's nobody guarding the mark.

7 minutes to go, 6 goals required to match of all time record score.

Spud, whatya do if you're the coach right now, of the Tigers? In the next 2 or 3 hours. I mean how do you address this with the players? Do you do it tonight, or do you do it tomorrow?

There's two ways you can do it Gerard.

What would you do? Give me your way.

I reckon the morning. I'd say boys, I'm not going to talk to you tonight, go home have a good think about it and we're going to watch the game, we're gonna watch the first quarter probably. The four quarters would be like a slow Chinese torture I would have though. We'd just show the first quarter and that, that that'd be enough to say well, boys we didn't turn up, we didn't compete. You know, we're paid to turn up and play, but you've gotta compete. It's an unrelenting game AFL football its ruthless and they had to know Geelong come out with all guns blazing, but they didn't absorb any pressure at all tonight, the Tigers.

Mooney goes long to the top of the square. Who's waiting now? More of the Tigers lost it

That's a good tackle, Bartel on Raines

That's a great tackle, no opportunity, good decision from the umpire

And in the morning, I'd want some input from the players,

Yep

Bring your comments to the table. Don't wait for me, don't wait for the coach. I was in the box, you guys were out there.

So do you drop anybody?

Well,

Off the ground it's a goal, the soccer kick was good, and the man who got boot to ball was Tenace. And he becomes their 15<sup>th</sup> goal kicker.

Is that a record Quentin, 15 goal kickers in a game, come on, let's see

I've only got so many fingers on my hands, Danny, on my hand, count them

All night, Gerard, I've just been like a broken record, but how many goals have Geelong kicked there tonight that have been just too easy? You talk of 15 stoppage I mean that's basic stoppage. I want the players in the morning Gerard, getting back to the Tigers, put names on it, don't say we, we didn't do this, put your hand up, put your hand up and be accountable and be honest about it.

209 plays 65. 5.45 to go. They need 5 more goals, do Geelong. Here's White.

Tigers leading

The speed White,

Yeah, and a long kick

Well that will be advantage goal, no it'll be a Geelong free kick, no goal. Hands in the back for Poole. The crowd tonight, or those that were here earlier, was a beauty. 34 584.

So do you axe anybody Scott, or do you

Oh, its very difficult Gerard, to pin it on one or two players, I think its just about impossible to pin this performance on just one or two players. No doubt.

Down to 5 minutes to go. Geelong with just 4 majors in this final term, the same as the Tigers.

This bloke's worked hard.

They've had a handful and awkward looking kick, Geelong will win that.

Just got himself a little bit on the wrong foot as we saw,



Just one bounce too many there from young Tucky

In saying that Gerard if the VFL team Coburg by reports is going really well, you've gotta perform good performances,

Yeah, well Terry Wallace has said that there's guys pushing up from the reserves. That's why blokes are being axed. Somebody's gotta get 'em more exposure, because clearly this is not about playing finals footy for the Tigers. This is about seeing what they've got and building.

This is unacceptable. I mean its gotta make a statement.

This is unacceptable.

No doubt. There would have been a fair bit of match practice I would have thought, early in the week, Tuesday. They wouldn't have a bruise out there tonight, seriously, they wouldn't bruise a grape.

Bring your mouthguard to training as Ling marks with 4 minutes to go.

Well, disappointment uh for the heritage's number one member.

Oh, the bottle was back on the shelf. Robert Walls was there, he'll be gnashing his teeth, but uh he'll have his say on the couch.

Hawkins will try and make it with this kick Geelong's highest ever score against Richmond and the most points ever conceded by Richmond in a single game.

So an element of history for this young Cats group, Hawkins by the way, lining up for his fourth goal in the second half.

He kicks this Quentin he'll be the 4<sup>th</sup> player of Geelong who'll have 4 goals for the night.

That's a record for a night match at the dome, in May.

*(laughing)*

Hawkins kicks it, oh we're just being silly now aren't we. 3 minutes to go they're up to 215 that's 24 points short of the all-time record. The lead is 150. The all-time greatest winning margin by the way they won't reach that's 190 Fitzroy and Melbourne back in 79 (*SAM check this, not sure about Fitzroy*)

There's a bit of work to do for here, Spud, I mean he's in the position I think, to effect a spoil a couple of times, and he hasn't been able to do it. We saw Hawkins there just turn his body a little bit knowing that McGuane was gunna come on the right hand side and try and punch, but he just protected the ball with his right shoulder which was pretty good work.

Umpire still bouncing it well. Nathan Ablett is caught, got the handpass away. Varcoe is slippery, and he feeds it out wide to Milburn goes back to Varcoe. And that as good play by the Cats. Milburn to Bartel, finishing with some run, is there another one waiting for them, Steve Johnson, he's kicked two. He's caught there by Foley, Foley's been one of those Tigers that hasn't stopped.

He's been Richmond's best by a mile,

Yep

Tack tackling Raines, oh he's pinged him for holding the ball, like they need any more insult.

You're right Gerard, ten clearances, 13 contested possessions 28 possessions for Nathan Foley.

Mooney over the top, Johnson on the run, gets the Tigers in the air, his kick dies on its way to the square, and Bowden concedes.

White in the back pocket. And now loose men, he's high. Coming up on 2 minutes to play. McGuane goes deep. Newman at the back. Pettifer, Enright, kept his footing well, (//) oh big man's got space, what are you going to do,

Oh that wasn't what you expected but still, they keep the footy.

Unpredictability about them. Scarlett took forward. Good a ball to the wing. Kelly should take off here. Good run by Mooney, kicks gunna make him work, Cam, time for a party trick. Towards Ling, he's got rid of Deledio

Oh, big mark from Big Red

Well it was a big grab and he's played a fantastic game Cameron Ling. He's really turned

Big year, hasn't he

Oh, he's really turned his form and Mark Thompson's got it right with Cameron Ling. He's playing on the opposition,

What's he done there?

I think it's just the way he landed,

Just cramp hopefully

Yeah, look last year, Cameron Ling, all due respect he was getting 35 touches and Geelong were losing games of football. Now he's having his 17 18 touches playing in the opposition we see in the replay here, I think he just landed a little stiff legged Gerard.

Okay

For goal number 35 tonight for Geelong. Ling kicks his third. As it stands right now this is the 8<sup>th</sup> highest score in the history of the game.

Just to finish it off with Cameron Ling, I think he's got his right spot, Mark Thompson needs to be congratulated for the form and what he's done with Cameron now, coz he's played on Brett Deledio now Brett's gotta find something here. You know Ling's kicked 2 goals in the last couple of minutes. He's only had the 6 possessions, Brett and it's the next phase in his career. You know, he's going to be a very very good player, Brett Deledio, He'll learn a lot playing on a guy such as this. He's got a big motor, he's got great concentration skills, been a fine effort from Cameron.

157 points is the margin. Is there time for one more on this amazing night for Geelong? Truly remarkable. We came here expecting them to to give it some sort of effort but not quite to this extent. It's been staggering.

Now Richie Benaud will be pleased with this final score.

*(laughing)* Give it to us Gerard

I wouldn't go near it, out of respect for the great man, wouldn't go near that.

Umpiring to the bitter end. And that's what it's been for the Tigers. Well we warned them. Deledio the free, advantage play on, his kick, had it 12 times. Raines, trying to bomb it from long range. Oh, good hands by Mackie whose spent the second half down in defence he kicked 4 goals in the first half.

They've got 20 seconds to kick a goal here, the Cats.

They're an outside chance.

Got it to Varcoe, wants to run, the veteran, centring ball, awkward, look out, don't get injured now. Blake is tied up, they'll stop the clock,

Well Mark Thompson and his team can take a bow. They're 3 and 3, they're in the top 8 and they host the unbeaten Eagles next week, at home. It's going to be a beauty. What a night for Geelong here at the dome.

SIREN

They equal the 8<sup>th</sup> highest score in league history a 35 goal avalanche as they smash the Tigers to the tune of 157 points.

## 2012.1 Western Bulldogs v Collingwood

4 May 2012 Eithad Stadium (38 155) 77-98 HSV7

Bruce McAvaney, Dennis Cometti, Leigh Matthews, Tom Harley, Matthew Richardson

**BM** so fascinating half an hour in front of us on Friday night footy. Collingwood led by a point. They won the Anzac day match their last game in an absolute thriller by that margin. Picken kicks forward. Chance Giansiracusa. Pendlebury back to Clarke good tackle Giansiracusa though, and then Buckley, didn't get the first one, but coughed it up, Sherman, Cooney, Griffen could go all the way – oh, scores are level.

**TH** And just further to Richo's point about the one on one Collingwood's actually started that quarter with a 7 man because Collingwood wanted to get the extra player there, so the message really is quite clear from coach Brendan McCartney, we're playing this in a one on one game and we're going to back ourselves in to win in those one on one contests.

**LM** They've been really good in the centre bounces the Bulldogs, but they've been really good in the hit outs, it's been 18 3 Bulldogs way hit outs in the centre bounce

**BM** So that's uh of course Jolly not playing tonight Leigh,

**LM** That's right, Minson doing really well and Roughead,

**BM** Minson had a record number of hit outs against Collingwood actually last year I think, all told, so Collingwood, kick by Cloke to centre wing, Sinclair on the end, no it was Dawes going to Keith, Sinclair was just inside Keith. Now Keith just taking his time and not a great kick and its going to be a throw in. And Leigh, Collingwood haven't won a last quarter this year, they've actually won one in their last 12 if you count last year. Does that mean anything at all?

**LM** well it means they haven't been playing their games out strong, it's as simple as that and it's in the back of the Bulldogs mind, I'm sure they've been reminded of that, so it's just something more for the Bulldogs to hang their hat on.

**BM** Cloke, Sherman to Wallis. Does he get it out of the danger zone? Well Collingwood have got the numbers here. It's a good effort by Brown and a boundary throw in.

**TH** The thing with this Collingwood side at the moment Bruce, is there are players, Brown's on screen, it's only his second game back Shaw's missed some footy, um they're obviously a player down with Johnson as well

**BM** Reid

**TH** Reid's coming back, Wood hasn't played a lot of this level in this intensity, so they'd want to get a couple of goals early.

**BM** Griffen to Wallis, gee Cooney was clever now he waits, Cooney, holds it up kicks to full forward, Roughead, good job done by Reid though. Back to Brown, back to Clarke, back to Beams. Just a massive game for Collingwood, you know, they're 3 and 2 so much talked about their form pre-season and early season and we thought well they'll win tonight and they'll beat Brisbane next week and they'll be 5 and 2. They've got a fair bit to do. Dawes gets rid of a couple. If they don't win tonight you feel that the whole world changes a bit tonight for them. And then Sidebottom off a step and O'Brien takes a good mark.

**TH** What a clever kick

**LM** (*laughs*) that was a good kick. I just think up the other end when Cooney grabbed the footy, I mean you just picture Cooney taking off with the footy breaking the 50 metre line but I don't think he's just got that sort of pace in his legs with that, with that uh sore knee that's probably going to trouble him for the rest of his career

**BM** gee the back half players have been kicking goals for Collingwood tonight. Harry hasn't kicked one this season, he hasn't kicked one now in fact, scores are still level.

You just get the feeling and Collingwood over the past couple of years, their cream will rise to the top. We just saw an unbelievably special bit of play there from Stewie Sideham really showing his peripheral vision out to the side there, so they do have the class there just need to get their hands on the footy.

**DC** the other side of the coin is what this would mean to the Dogs, hey? Lake out of the back pocket drives to half back. Austin should have given away a free kick. Play goes on. Brown to Beams. Man on in the middle, Ugle, and he's taken the mark about 60 metres out. Got some long options, decides he'll go long, intended I think for Keith in the goal square, back he goes, got fingertips to it, being held, What? Oh, we were talking about that before. Man in front often doing the holding, very hard for umpires. Hargrave behind his man, who initiates the contact. Collingwood think they know, at least their supporters do. Strong mark by Minson. How good was that? He's growing in stature, carrying the burden of number one ruckman pretty well tonight, not a bad kick either. Well two players backed off the footy for the Dogs, punched away by Sidebottom, Cross tries knock it forward, taken by Reid, short one is on, Cloke has to stretch. Now he's about 75 metres out from goal, Cloke, sends it long, Fasolo, backs off the pack, comes his way, behind the pack but interceding there and doing very nicely was Austin, gives it to Murphy

**BM** and a good kick and finds Minson, sweeps the handball, Cross'll go back inside. Liberatore, now having to wait Roughead but he should take it and he does, now it's an open forward line. Dahihaus was one out with Maxwell

**TH** Does he go down to Maxwell?

**BM** you'd think he would have can Higgins get it all the way. I don't think he's going to get there quickly enough, gee, not sure and then Higgins Dahihaus completely outnumbered and then Maxwell just pinged it off and then Clarke out of play. But not bad in the end, they're forward in their stoppage.

**LM** their forwards forced it out of bounds when they were outnumbered in their forward 50 so they can restart from here

**BM** what do you think they must do from this point?

**LM** Kick four goals.

**BM** (*laughs*) simple as that. So Wood, well done Sidebottom, well done Pendlebury, running hard and then kicking a beauty, to Keith, so well weighted for Pendlebury. Now Fasolo's on gets to him now, we haven't seen a lot of Fasolo tonight. I tell you what Cunningham is running so hard towards the goals, can Pendlebury get it to him, he goes for Harry, he missed from the set shot and he misses from a running shot. Gee H.

**DC** wasn't Pendlebury pushing himself though? He's a remarkable player. 28 possessions now for him, involved in the back pocket then pushed up beyond the wing, Griffen to the wing on our side of the ground, the broadcast side, spills to Maxwell, Maxwell gave it across towards Beams, now Buckley the high ball in, punched away down there, two Magpies, over the football, Fasolo slips it away to Dawes, Dawes had his kick smothered, in goes Fasolo again, high stepping through the pack,

nothing doing, Murphy emerges with it, two men on in the opposite pocket. And he finds Addison, Addison, Djerrkura that had him in the triangulation, but they didn't triangulate.

**TH** Take a bow Matthew Boyd

**BM** oh the smother, how good was that? So Djerrkura, Higgins! Fly gee uh I think it was Maxwell underneath it, Cross has to hold the ball and Beams too good there. And then off Maxwell's foot for a boundary throw in. This is good for the Dogs. Collingwood's had some chances here and they haven't been able to, that was fantastic, as Tom said, by the captain. Still like the Dogs who could get one against the flow. Collingwood have controlled most of the last quarter, no goal. Griffen, oh, he's played a fantastic game. Kicks the ball to half forward, Cooney couldn't quite, well done there by Buckley, Brown great smother Picken, boundary throw in.

**LM** Couple of really good smothers, quite inspirational, really it looks like the ball's leaving the area then a teammate lays a smother, real team building, team lifters those.

**DC** A real tug of war boundary throw in half forward, that was a long throw in too, Griffen almost got onto it, great smother by Maxwell, comes to Sinclair, boots it over the top to Swan, Swan kicks inside the forward 50, the kick favours Hargrave, from behind O'Keefe, almost the mark, Hargraves trying to claim a mark there, soccered away by Keith leading back was Austin, blatant push in the back no free kick and again, well, back to back kicks as they say. Could almost have been a 50 too

**LM** 3 umpires, 4 umpires obviously the umpire who was controlling play missed that but the umpire out of zone saw it.

**DC** Murphy, lurking behind comes away, well it falls short. It was intended for Addison it was never going to make it. Cloke's got it, man on the mark Addison, was about 40 metres from goal. Now, this is not beyond Cloke, he'll kick from just inside the 50,

**TH** Watch this, fatigue starting to set in there. Take the easier option, potentially drop it into Djerrkura there.

**DC** Think Murphy would like his time over again. Cloke, wouldn't you know it, wouldn't you know it, Robert Murphy knows it now. Marvellous kick.

**BM** he's had a good second half, Cloke. I mean uh right spot right time there but his second half's been good, he's kicked a couple, Murphy's such a lovely long kick but he had the short one on which was about 35 meters, there was some danger in that but the long ball was never quite going to get there. Cloke, the mountain of a man cut it off, and as Dennis said, well he's always a chance to bang it back over the head, so that's a body blow, isn't it? That's a big blow. He's done well in the second half, Cloke.

**TH** Yeah, I think the intensity certainly just fills the gap, the score has ebbed and flowed in favour of the side who's just got the intensity of the side whose putting their head over the ball and I've just got the feeling its Collingwood at the moment

**BM** Wood wins that tap, Picken bustled out, gee Beams has been good. Swan gets the ball forward. Talked a lot about Cloke all night. Only the one disposal in the first half, but a terrific second half. Murphy under the pump again, well he's, oh, it's a hard call, but he was, he he deliberately put the ball out of bounds, so.

**TH** Yeah, good call. Cloke again to full forward, oh Keith did well, Fasolo ducks and weaves and kicks a goal and Collingwood get away. Poor old Robert Murphy, hey?

**DC** Yeah, hasn't gone right for him in the last few minutes and Collingwood have got their biggest lead of the match. Back to back goals. And everyone I think at the ground, a bit like you were saying Bruce, expecting the cream, the best of the Collingwood players to rise to the top and get them over the line. It hasn't happened yet, but it's starting to happen. As Fasolo sits down.

**TH** A deep kick into forward 50 like that just puts your defenders under extreme pressure, that's great work putting his head over the ball, came straight off the ground then Fasolo, looked a bit lame, so we'll keep an eye on him

**DC** yeah Fasolo going solo and doing it very nicely, working his way out of the pack, and just getting it through. Beams to Pendlebury. Pendlebury, one of those players, a rare breed who can find something, another gear in situations like this, on the lead is Goldsack, there's a surge coming from the Magpies. Goldsack, runs to 50, sends it long but its off target, way off target, out of bounds on the full. Still, they're out by 7. Another goal and the Bulldogs will be hard pressed. 13 rather. Another goal and they'll be hard pressed. Here's Cross. Kicks outside the defensive 50. Austin was up, punched away by Cloke, Ugle got the crumb, crawls after the football and the umpire will move in and ball it up.

**LM** would it have been better when Ben Bream went back to defence and Keith went into the forward line? Keith's giving them a good tall target as that third uh the third big fella down there, so that's been good that change

**BM** he played a bit of forward last year, Leigh, so he's sort of replaced Dawes when Dawes was injured. So Cross, productive tonight, as he so often is here, Boyd, this is his 2third disposal that one hugging the line and kept in which is good for Collingwood I think. Pendlebury, floating, Roughead, well done by Reid. And then Liberatore getting a kick to it half centre wing, Picken's contest was pretty good but so was Maxwell's. Wellingham off the interchange. Bangs it back, Cloke from the side, well done, Sinclair, he's done pretty well Sinclair, Ugle got a little hand on in, Minson shimmied the handball, Sherman has to sit and wait and Reid just pinged it off. Not much Sherman can do about that.

**TH** Closing the space really well at the moment, both right at the coal face of the contest, the speed at which the Collingwood players are attacking, on that occasion it was in the air.

**DC** that interchange perfectly timed for Wellingham, there he is, number 21, onto the ground and immediately having an impact as the ball found him. Swan's over it, trickles out Swan gets it, O'Brien, athletically done, to Beams, Beams forward of the wing, again kicks it inside the forward 50 back goes Dawes, knocked away by Addison who goes on to apply a strong tackle on Goldsack. And we'll have a ball up. Plenty of green to work with down there. Knocked down by Minson, leading back is Cooney, confronted by Beams, sold a team mate Des Prem into trouble, spills across to Dahihaus goes with the outside of the boot, Harry got a hand to it, well done by Higgins, across to Brian Lake, he kicks it down towards right half forward, in front the mark is missed by Toovey, there's no one forward of the 50 as far as the Dogs are concerned, Giansiracusa gives it Sherman and he sprays it way right, the good news is it bounced out.

**TH** Good result there, ultimately. Had a bit more time than he thought he would but this boundary throw in will go to the teeth of the goal, important the Dogs get on the burst here and Collingwood are one on one

**BM** so the rucks aren't there and Pendlebury just gets rid of Cooney and then they get rid of Pendlebury Giansiracusa, ball up. Hey Richo, a quick one, Beams has a game high of 31 disposals.



**MR** yeah he's been outstanding Bruce, he's just come from the ground. He's had 10 tackles, 8 clearances, he's really stepped. I know Balley's up there tonight, I think since Balley went out, the last few weeks he's had to step up and he really has

**BM** So Pendlebury on 30. Tap by Wellingham sharked by Cooney bouncing ball, O'Brien and Sherman, danger, to Djerrkura, can he, ball coming back. Collingwood, Djerrkura can't quite break the tackle. Collingwood with all the numbers. Sherman gets in there, that ball very much in dispute. And a ball up.

**DC** gee Collingwood didn't play that too well did they, or was it my imagination? Give Djerrkura his due. Couple of times there made something out of almost nothing. So ball up, near the goal line, Dawes in front, Minson, looking for a man back towards the middle but failed to do the most important thing, win the tap. It's out of bounds, although this ball will come to a dangerous spot. Nathan Buckley working the phone, not altogether happy. Liberatore ran into a dead end. Over the football Sidebottom tried to hack it out of there. Cross showed courage to go down low, Cooney feeds it back, brilliantly taken by Lake. And he kicked a goal! That is a magnificent kick by Lake.

Oh ho ho

**DC** puts it through! Well they need inspiration, it comes off the boot of number 36. What a goal. He's had a night. Confidence factors into so many things on the footy field, generally the master of one of the best players in the competition, Travis Cloke, I think that played into that goal, deep on the boundary, lots of bodies around him and able to slot it through. The smile well and truly gone from that face (*Nathan Buckley*)

**BM** it was a remarkable kick I wasn't it I mean just the depth and the angle.

**LM** now the defender sneaking in behind the uh behind that press up but the fact that he actually steadied, is indicative he's had a good night, felt good about himself.

**BM** Pendlebury having a great match, and a huge last quarter, banging the ball forward of centre clearance is Collingwood's way free kick there but not paid to David Goldsack, back to Fasolo, well done Ugle got rid of it, Liberatore had it whipped away Sidebottom forward, Goldsack's been lively hasn't he, kicks the ball to a very dang – well it wasn't quite, had too much on in the end. Lindsay, Lindsay Gilbey's been with us all night. Lindsay, do you feel like this group has the belief from this point on?

**LG** Oh definitely Bruce. Probably something they've got to do now is still win the contested ball because that's where it starts, but take probably a few risks, uh that's what's kept us in the game tonight, uh along with our contested footy's been really good.

**DC** Hargrave kicks in, Austin takes the mark

**TH** Lindsay makes a really good point there, there's courage when you put your head over the ball which both sides have done and there's courage when you have ball in hand, and your actual ball use and the Dogs need to back themselves in

**DC** Griffen finds Cross. Cruising past is Cooney, three of their biggest names. Goes to half forward, Giansiracusa, dangerous forward, possibly the best forward on the ground. Lays the ball into the path of Sherman, and Sherman marks deep in the pocket. 8 points the deficit

**LM** How will he construct this? I think outside of the right foot.

**TH** You know him well Leigh

**LM** Banana yeah well he loves, he loves a goal, but he's a right footer, he's going to



**DC** it's come back to Higgins, Higgins runs inside the 50, that's a wayward kick but some size in the pocket, off hands, taken by Fasolo, fed it back, Dawes along the boundary line, threaded the needle, Buckley normally good with his feet, runs towards right half back, kicks it long down towards half forward. Hanging on Keith the free kick. Big ball.

**BM** It was. Geeze Dawes's handball was so good just this Sherman kick back to Higgins, not in a goal scoring position, I reckon you're, oh, so easy from here – but uh Higgins had less chance of kicking a goal than Sherman did,

**LM** it took him too far away from goal, he had to peg it 50 meters from where he marked it.

**BM** and that's a grubber. Lake and Cloke what a fascinating duel they've had. There's premy, to Wallis, back to Cross, Cross to Higgins, no it's been a terrific night. That's a slow kick, not a good one Sherman had to attack it, O'Brien, gee there's a free kick to Collingwood and Harry may have clinched the deal. Oh easy to be critical of Sherman but you've gotta take the footy. The ball coming to him and O'Brien ripped it off him. He's had 3 shots at goal in this quarter, Harry.

**DC** Born in Rio De Janerio and moved to Perth when he was 3. Harry O'Brien. What an acquisition he's been for Collingwood. On and off the field. And that time it was very much about his on field exploits.

**LM** Well, lucky, the kick had to go boundary side. As soon as it come a little bit inside and Sherman was caught under the footy, he could have worked harder second effort I reckon but he he had the momentum of the footy, Ash and O'Brien just too good.

**DC** the stress, telling on all involved. We saw Nathan Buckley on the phone I don't think I've ever seen him like he was then. So helpless the champ, just looking on. We've got a ball up. Still inside the 50. Collingwood's way. Umpire Donlan, had his share of big games, will ball it up. Dane Swan, not sure what his mum Deirdre makes of those tats. Handpass comes across. Wallis, Murphy, opportunity for Des Premy. Winds it down towards half forward. In front Higgins, almost the mark. Good recovery by both players, Higgins found the footy and O'Brien found him. Sidebottom, Clarke, and Clarke across half back goes looking for Beams. Beams has had a big night but this time he loses out to Griffen, Griffen shows a lot of the football down there to defence though, missed by Clarke at the back of the pack it was nicely gathered and the handpass came from Sidebottom. And they run it out as Clarke finds Ugle on the lead. Reid involved as well, they kept their heads.

**TH** Played that really well the Pies there, as Dennis said, just great composure with ball in hand.

**BM** well they sort of created a famous back 6 didn't they Collingwood, in the last couple of years and uh right there they played like that. Picken gets it, from Austin, back to Boyd, to Murphy, a couple of bad moments in the last quarter Murphy for such a fine player. And then Cooney's kick to centre wing, at the back Griffen, does it sit for him, well, he keeps it in and that ball will probably roll out and it does. And you reckon the Dogs have got one last roll of the dice. They've got to get something out of this you'd think. I know there's time, but 14 points behind, they've struggled to kick a goal in the last quarter, must do something from this stoppage. Deep in their forward 50. Jones, Swan reading it, quickly on the up, you heard the umpire (*advantage*) and Toovey gets on the end of it.

**DC** away he goes then, a crowd favourite, a cult figure, searing kick inside the forward 50. Ugle, perhaps should have hung on, as Premy gets a reprieve then, out of defence, Cloke is outnumbered, over the top, the mark is paid to Lake. He can go short to Cross, Cross has run on, they had two on one initially, Cross was the second of them, now he's at right half back. Precise with the kick. Jones leads up, marks at the interchange gates. Now or never for the Dogs. They trail by 14. Kick goes towards half forward, in goes Wood, should have marked it. Falls to ground, Sidebottom, O'Brien, Beams, Clarke, now Reid. Well Cross stayed off him. Reid goes inside the forward 50, Fasolo beat

two of them! Alex Fasolo comes up hobbling. And will kick at goal I think. He flirts with the idea of going short to Pendlebury, Pendlebury is still on, but he decides not to. So the onus on him now to kick it.

**TH** He's definitely lame, Den, his left knee heavily strapped.

**DC** boy from East Fremantle. Steps to the 50. Kick is on the way, and I think, maybe Pendlebury was a better option. Don't like to second guess the young man, 92 from 77. So, that's what, 15 points now.

**BM** he kicked a terrific goal in this quarter but uh just missing there. It's a handy lead though late in this match with the Dogs just in quicksand a bit going forward at the moment. There's not much happening, out numbered and out thought Keith just has to wait Sidebottom, back to the youngster in Keith, then Keith's little one to Maxwell. He'll slow it down. He's got Brown out our side, Sidebottom further on, and Maxwell decides to go long. Wood a target with Goldsack, ball goes over the top. Cloke to do some roving puts his big body in and Minson, who's probably as strong as Cloke, not many would be

**DC** oh!

**BM** Ugle had to get out of that, Lake down low, Goldsack, had a good game, Goldsack and rolls the ball out, or runs it out. Boundary throw in. So the crowd tonight, terrific turn up over 38 thousand, Dogs home ground, and they would be very happy with that. Always good when you're playing Collingwood and it's your home match.

**DC** Mmm. Lot of atmosphere here tonight, no question about that. It's helped the game. Beams again has helped Collingwood, across to Swan, sends a high ball down towards half forward. Austin got a fist on it, his intention was to knock it forward, it runs 40 metres behind, Picken running out of space goes to Austin almost out of bounds boundary umpire in perfect position, this is Cross, Addison, they've got to take a risk

**BM/TH** Oh!

**DC** But that's not what they should have done. Taken by Wellingham, runs through, and kicks the goal. That is the knee trembler as they say. Margin 21 points. Gee it's a hard earned victory but they've got it now.

**BM** yeah, they've done well in the last quarter haven't they? I mean Addison, I think, Murphy and Addison in this last term, Addison had to handball there,

**TH** Just the turnover there from Addison all four goals Collingwood have kicked this quarter have come from turnovers. That's just as much Collingwood's pressure as it is the skill of the Western Bulldogs, they've certainly lifted and uh done it exceptionally well, the Pies.

**BM** talked about they hadn't won a last quarter this season, well they have now. It's been an impressive finish by the Pies. Swan out wide. And gets it to Shaw.

**LM** Pendlebury break from the centre square. Gee he runs hard.

**BM** the midfield battle Leigh? I mean Pendlebury, and Swan and Beams and you've had Griffen and Boyd and

**LM** well, they've all been good, but really, Beams, Pendlebury, I mean Swan's even worked his way into the game and I guess that, that's a big win because his opponent Picken hasn't had much of the footy and Swans ended up with his 30 odd, so that particular pairing has been good for Collingwood eventually

**BM** is the player of the match obvious to you too, I mean we'll find out at the end of the match who it is, but is it an obvious call do you think?

**LM** well, it uh it's probably not going to be uh Lake. We spoke about him a lot he still has a rap, done a very good job, for a player sort of out of form he's made sure that Cloke hasn't been a gigantic influence.

**TH** Yeah, I think that obviously the class ultimately has risen to the top for Collingwood and uh I'd give my three votes to Scott Pendlebury. He's just got a fantastically balanced approach to his footy and he's had the 34 disposals, 17 of those contested, and 9 tackles.

**BM** so, Dawe's little kick

**LM** Put Beams in, he's been fantastic 9 clearances Beams, 11 tackles, so

**TH** Yep

**LM** he's been really good in there as well

**DC** Cloke a very high ball inside the 50, off hands comes to Hargraves, with this game in the balance for a long time, eventually Sharrod Wellingham 14 possessions tonight getting the sealer, number 21. There goes the kick down towards half forward. Big leap at the back. Missed by Goldsack, leading back down there is Sinclair, keeps it alive at least initially, but misses everything. Interesting, talking about that number 21, I was just looking at some history books the other day, and Sharrod Wellingham is wearing a number made famous by Lou Richards if you read the history books, but that is one of 7 numbers worn by Lou during his 15 year career, can you believe that?

**LM** 7?

**DC** 7 numbers, he had, as the kick goes from Griffen down towards the pocket. Jones leads back, close to the boundary line, out of bounds on the full. Now immediately you think of a property steward with a sense of humour or uh perhaps a form of disguise for Lou because he did have a big mouth on the footy field, but that's quite remarkable. You go back and look in history and so often players have multiple numbers.

**BM** Cross underneath. Good stuff Den

**TH** Mmm

**BM** back to Cross, back to Higgins, now Higgins about 70 meters from goal, long ball in, Jones takes the fly in the front was Keith, well done Brown, geeze he's a good player, Brown. They've missed him haven't they, and the kick out wide and it's a free kick. Hey, just a quickie Richo, we're about to finish up. You talked about Jones at the start of the match, how have you seen his game tonight.

**MR** oh, yeah, look, he's presented himself at the ball enough, but what I have seen tonight, is he's just run under the ball, far too much, and that's just something you do do as a young forward. As he gets older and gets more strong through the body he'll be able to judge that better. Just gets pushed under it.

**BM** Cameron Wood has come in for the Darren Jolly takes the mark. Leigh, can you see Wood and Jolly playing in the same team?

**LM** uh probably not, I suspect. They're both the big 200 centimeter ruck ruckmen. They really need the Leigh Brown type to be the backup

SIREN

**BM** So Collingwood win in the end by 21 points they win for their third consecutive match and maybe, maybe they're starting to roll. They'll be in the 8 tonight, that's for sure, they haven't been eliminated at the end of a round so far this year.

## 2012.2 Essendon v Brisbane Lions

5 May 2012 Fox Footy. Etihad Stadium (36 361) 129-62

Eddie McGuire, Dermott Brereton, Dwayne Russell, Brad Johnson, David King

**DR** Final term under way here at Etihad Stadium, Bombers have the Lions at their mercy. Davey pounces is on 50, couldn't quite control it initially, but he does, Dalby tries takes it to the line has some success, and we'll get a ball in. 56 points as it stands right now but it's been threatening to blow out all afternoon and it could blow out big time in this final term if the Bombers get their way. Melksham top of the square, Crameri, scrambles it out, Lester, caught, dropped it no free Hocking, he'd love one, Howard straight up in the air, not 15 play on as you heard. Thumped down towards the boundary. Zaharakis got there first, Redden tried to take him down, Hocking ducks out of that one, they've still got some energy these boys, going in hard, Adcock, taken to the deck. Ball up.

**EM** Johnno, set the task for the Bombers, they lead by 56 points. What's a win to finish off this game for them?

**BJ** Well, Derm and I were speaking at three quarter time and 140 points, Ed is what we think the Bombers will finish on to 64 for the Lions, so we'll keep an eye on that as this last quarter unfolds.

**EM** okay, and uh, player down there, another Bomber, we'll have a good look at this one in a moment as Hooker gets the ball out

**DR** It's a knee as well

**EM** That's one thing they don't need at the moment, it oh it looks like a bad knee. The last thing Essendon need is some more injuries. That's the one thing they want to get through this last quarter, I think they'd, they'll trade those 5 goals. Johnno, to get through the last bit unscathed

**BJ** Geez he's in a lot of pain (*player actually writhing*)

**EM** yep, just can't quite pick it up,

**DR** It might be Crameri

**DK** Its Crameri boys.

**EM** It is Crameri, okay Kingy, keep an eye on it, mate, that's terrible news there. Stewie Crameri. Kicked 4 goals in the first term, he thought it was his day

**DR** Absolutely. Banfield. Everybody's watching Crameri and not the ball at the moment, in the crowd there's stunned silence at the moment. Kamezis, beelines it, caught, Tyson had him in a half tackle and Carlisle hacks it towards the boundary it should stay in. Howlett gets there first. Crameri being carried from the field.

**EM** Let's have a look at the replay here Dwayne, and Stewie Crameri tried to walk off on his own steam there and then couldn't, so look at this, oh ankle as well, went underneath

**BJ** Or is it lower leg, He goes for the knee,

**EM** Yeah, I think you're right there, Johnno, he's hobbling off at the moment with both

**DR** So Patfull after the ball hit the deck, dragged down, Stanton a splendid tackle Heppell but still stunned silence here at Etihad Stadium with everybody wondering how bad Stewart Crameri's knee injury is. If it was a broken leg they would have taken him off on the stretcher, so he's at least he was able to hobble off. Kamezis will line up from 50

**BJ** Well they'll be looking to next week as well when they play the West Coast Eagles here at Etihad Stadium and that's why there's the silence, one in hope that Crameri's okay, but two, they need their key forward against the West Coast Eagles

**EM** Gee, it really wrenched there (*replay*) Merrett, Merrett's he's taken some casualties with his tackling today

**DR** Kamezis who has come on as the sub sprays that across the face, Ryder with the big leap couldn't bring it down, Polkinghorne threads it out but straight to Jetta. Stanton had his kick half knocked away, Heppell, still over it. Some of the sting's gone out of this at the moment Stanton tries to hack it away Davey gets the play on call. Jetta was caught high but he puts the jets on. Not a lot to go to forward

**DB** (*laughing*) he probably want to reverse that decision to play on now,

**DR** Crameri not there for him, and in the end Melksham has to make a contest on the outer side and get himself a free,

**EM** David King, if we can down down to you, Stewie Crameri seemed to be moving a little bit more freely as he went down to the rooms. What was your view?

**DK** Yeah, he did Ed, just late was walking down the race, he's been taken down stairs immediately just for assessment. It looked like he could put some weight on that leg. It looked like a medial to me, it didn't look like the full blown AC which looked to be great news at this early stage.

**EM** let's hope so, yeah, I think as Johnno said, it seemed to be, the ankle went first, and then the knee went, so hopefully between the two absorbed enough of it,

**DK** Yeah,

**EM** now this is an out of bounds on the full here. The kick ricocheted from Melksham, off the Lions leg and we'll have a look at the replay in a moment. (*Loud booing*) Bomber's fans getting greedy, they want everything today.

**DB** What's new?

**EM** Derm's into the Bombers fans again.

**DB** Oh I love it

**EM** Give you good reason for it in a moment. Redden get the ball out, chance for the Brisbane Lions but there's all Black and red everywhere here. Robert Murray has had a good return to football. And again, look at this, they're just wide open Essendon, Hocking has got it, he can run the field if he wants, just trotting, trotting, trotting, finding some space, inside to Zaharakis, Stanton, Hocking, now Hocking again, no-one ran with him, McGrath just pointed

**BJ** He's hurt, Ed

**EM** No good pointing

**BJ** He's hurt, McGrath

**EM** Yeah, look at it, just stepped around him. Hocking high up and under. Bellchambers pushed out, no says the umpire. Adcock relieves

**DB** That's a professional spoil by Goose McGuire there just took the body

**DR** Kamezis, outer side, to Golby. Been a disastrous day for the Brisbane Lions, they came into this thinking they would have been a contender in this game and they really haven't been in it. Bombers

had them on the ropes from the outset. Still a better start to the season for the Lions than last year when they lost their first 7 games of the year, but it's going to be just 2 wins.

**DB** He's got some kids out there

**DR** Yeah. Four losses for the Lions to start this

**DB** They look like a team that played in the swamp last week, don't they

**DR** Simon Black, loads up from 40 and even he can't nail the goal from that distance out.

**DK** Ash McGrath has come to the bench, boys it's some sort of, upper thigh or groin issue at the moment,

**EM** yeah

**DK** he couldn't run as you mentioned, Ed, he just couldn't quite chase Heath Hocking, down that wing and he'll be assessed on the pine now.

**EM** There he is, there's a shot to explain what happened, Ash McGrath had a good game until that stage and Hocking was able to just walk away from it.

**DB** Good umpiring.

**EM** Yet, so the kick to himself means that the kick out, without being touched was taken over the line out of bounds was taken out of play, so throw in. What's hangin' off Goose?

**DB** Oh (*laughing*) it's his strapping,

**EM** Ball comes out the back to Polec. Rockliff, Rich,

**DB** surely Goose McGuire doesn't travel that quick he leaves a vapour trail?

(*laughing*)

**EM** is that, oh, here we go, there's a vapour trail, Davey, if he can get going he'll leave one, onto the left boot, no look, goal, if you don't mind, Davey! Goal number 3. Alwyn Davey.

**DB** He does, he has steam coming off his heels when he lays the ear back, the ears back, that bloke. (*laughing*) He's good

**EM** look at this one

**BJ** That is a great goal isn't it Ed, because the handball makes him stop no look knows exactly where the goals are. That's just a classic goal from Davey, from 50 too, on the turn.

**DB** You make a great point Johnno, and that is, given where you are on the ground, your knowledge and whereabouts of the 50 line, the curve, how close you are to the boundary, some players can snap towards goal and know that they're hitting it between the sticks without ever looking at it. And it's a unique talent a few people have.

**DR** Heppell, got a kick without taking possession, Watson, Davey again inspired right now. To Stanton, up a couple to beat, Rich and Stanton get there at the same time, and Howlett takes it across the line, but they could well punish the Lions here the Bombers and get a percentage boost, the Bombers. One of those teams that are unlucky, they meet Brisbane once, Greater Western Sydney once, Gold Coast once and Melbourne once so for that draw they really need to get as much percentage out of games like these as they possibly can because they don't get the big fill meeting those teams twice like some clubs do. Black. Hands it back to Rich. Pops it back to half forward, Jonathan Brown has hardly seen it. Sees it here



**DB** That's a good kick by Rich off a half step without really securing the ball in the hand

**DR** Sits it on Patfull, a little, Fletcher takes an arm, no free and it rolls to the back and across the boundary.

**DB** Yeah, Patfull's not happy. He asked the umpire why not.

**DR** That's good news,

**EM** Oh that's a good sight

**DB** Yeah, Crameri's up and running

**DK** Yeah, he's just going for a stride here in front of us, guys, he looks quite well, no strapping on the knee, that's a great sign uh the Bomber fans are very happy to see it.

**EM** Banfield's kick, to the goal square, Fletcher from behind as usual, just gets the hand in Robert Murray, little poke over the top it was a good one. Hooker, with that ungainly running style gets away, out to Zaharakis, little kick forward, Stanton puts his body on the line and does it again,

**DB** You know when you run, when you run when you're a kid and you run in your dad's shoes and they're 6 sizes too big for you and you keep your feet (*laughing*) low to the ground so they don't come off

**EM** The shuffle

**DB** Yeah, that's how Hooker runs,

**BJ** I reckon he's got Cliff Young's gumboots on

**DB** I reckon he did a lot of running as a kid in his old man's shoes.

**BJ** (*laughing*) that's the best explanation for a running style I've ever heard

**DR** I've never done it, so I'm gunna get my dad's shoes when I get home

**EM** We're getting a bit of an insight into the mind of Dermot Brereton today, as Brown goes short to the pocket

**DB** Look at it next time, (*laughs*) his feet don't come up high off the ground. (*Booing in background. – laughing and booing at the same time is weird*)

**EM** Kamezis has got it,

**DB** He's like a pacer, at the trots, (*laughs*)

**BJ** He's not doing the bum-flick too well, he's not getting the touch. He's never going to do a quad running is he (*laughing*)

**DB** No,

**EM** Kamezis comes in and misses to the near side. I tell you what he's been effective though today, because Jonathan Brown hasn't had much of it.

**DR** That's right,

**EM** So Carl Hooker from East Fremantle,

**DB** They're a big team Essendon. They've got a lot of tall, big players.



**DR** Straight down the middle, Bellchambers, speaking of tall players just bumped out of that. Yes, if they ever get Gumbleton going, who knows?

**DB** Yeah and they've got Ryder as well, Hooker's a big player, 6 5, 6 6

**DR** Stanton, sold that one well, Zaharakis, Stanton runs on, and Stanton gets. He's got a couple of shorts. Monfries leading short, still there if he wants him, he tries to hit him. And he couldn't quite half volley it Angus Monfries.

**DK** I'd love to know what testing they do for endurance at the Bombers, and what levels Brett Stanton is at. Because I've watched closely Daniel Cross for many years, and this guy looks if not on par with a Daniel Cross with running ability.

**EM** Monighan's had a great day, just gets the end of the ball with the boot there. High up and under they fly against each other. Good play by Polec who's shown a bit today, Woodford West Torrens player, 19years of age. Pick 5 in the 2010 NAB draft.

**DB** Mmm

**EM** Dalby, another young player 20 years of age, Patfull was in there, Dalby followed up his kick which I like to see a player do, over the line and out of bounds.

**DK** You wonder what heights the Bombers could go to this year, Ed, I think that most people had them out of their 8 at the start of the season. They've had a fast start, 5 and 1 and the end of today. You wonder if we have to reassess the Bombers given their new found form.

**EM** and Kingy, I'd like your thoughts on their training, I'll ask in a moment, they've had some soft tissue but they have built up and turned themselves into a finals looking side. Might have had some early casualties, hasn't hurt them on the ladder though, they've only lost one game by a point, as we've been talking about during the course of the day, so some early pain might get some late season gain, that's idea from James Herd, certainly.

**DB** Last three entries inside 50 they've suffered from not having Crameri already and that's evident. They've had to back track and go out to Ryder on that occasion, they went to Monfries in the forward pocket on this side of the ground, you can already see just a little bit of, not uncertainty, but just straightens them up with his ability to lead and contest.

**EM** and Kingy, you played obviously under Dennis Pagan who wasn't adverse to making you train hard.

**DK** No he uh he had a few fat blokes to work with Ed, that was the problem. So, look I think it's going to pay dividends in 2013, 2014 the base that these guys are getting, we know they've put on a couple of kilo each physically just to handle that finals type football when it comes around but the structures and the set ups and the damage that they've got in their game now I think is more impressive than their physique.

**DR** Stanton never stops running. Averaging 26 possessions a game this year again. High towards the square off hands. They've got Michael Hurley who could come back next week, its doubtful that he will, they might make him wait an extra week, with his hamstring, but they've got some goal kicking power still to come back.

**DB** Well that's another 6 foot 4 bloke.

**DR** Yep. Run down from behind tackle, Polkinghorne had it, Crapper the free against him. Harwood, Hanley, tries to part the seas. Rich with the handball over the top make it tough for Crisp, made it impossible for Crisp, Robert Murray, Tyson, Howlett, turnover, back to Harwood. Still a chance for

Crisp to have an impact front spot Hardingham and again they peel. Zaharakis decides not to go straight away, holds it up.

**DK** And Eddie, just to follow up on that point, last year when they started so well the Bombers everyone was expecting them to drop away. This year with start well again, just their depth and their strength they should be able to continue it on.

**DR** Johnno Brown's got a wicket here boys. Col, uh Hardingham as he kicked that ball

**DK** Yep. He's already got a damaged left shoulder as it is and I think Brownies just tested to see if it's still functional at the moment, *(laughing)*

**DR** There's strapping on it

**DB** There's a target. A lot of players get cranky as they get older, *(Laugh)* Brownie's just on the edge of that age. You could do some damage with that sort of size.

**EM** Yeah, the old bandage is a giveaway. Charlie Sutton in the uh grand final had a bad thigh, he wrapped up the other one, because he knew they'd be trying to hit him, back in '54. *(laughing)* Mind you, I think not too many hit Charlie that he didn't square up or maybe got in early. Heppell's been fantastic again today, he kicks forward some icing on the cake for the Bombers coming up maybe. Adcock has been a good player today, gets the one two going, now he's in trouble, Hudson, did well, kick coming out from Hanley up towards Brown. Full chested takes the mark. Gives it away to Banfield, Banfield oh, he went under his legs, nearly there. It was like the midget wrestlers in the old days, Derm, *(laughing)* underneath the old referee's legs. Here's a chance for Cornelius,

**DB** *(laughing)* Cowboy Gibson,

**EM** That's it and little to-jo as the ball goes to the boundary line we'll have a throw in. *(laughing)*

**DK** He's played 350 odd games Dustin Fletcher, and I think that's the first time he's seen that move. *(laughing)*

**DB** He almost got nutmegged. *(Laugh)*

**DR** Brown, takes it out of the ruck, but it's just not his day, Jonathan Brown, he's had a tough time of it coming back from the second of his bad facial injuries. Just the one goal week and hasn't seen a lot of it today although he's got a couple to his name. Almost a throw from Watson there from Robert Murray. Gets a handball out, straight through Polkinghorne. Umpire's found something. In danger, Brisbane Lions free. And the crowd getting a little restless here, 36 361 here at Etihad Stadium. Probably coming in to get out of the weather. It's a disastrous day outside. And long bomb at goal from Lester and through for a behind. Great to have the roof in winter, in Melbourne

**EM** Just watch *(laughing)*

**DK** Looked at it, Banfield, too. Looked at the hole

**DB** He actually gave him the hello. He went underneath the cape.

**EM** Lonergan kicks up the line. Melksham's been good today, he's a good player Jake Melksham.

**DB** They're just breaking down a little bit 60 metres from goal, the Bombers now

**EM** Yeah, I think both sides would declare if they had the opportunity here.

**DB** Yeah, if you could call bad light they would. Ah, they just got, but you know what, this is an opportunity for someone like Ryder to go you know, this is my time to actually see if I can just pour on three quick ones, take a couple of clunks, teach me, you know, relearn how to lead to the midfield

as they stream forward. Because Brisbane Lions all their numbers are back behind the ball. So whenever they get it and pump it out it's going to come back in fairly quickly

**EM** Bellchambers is throwing his body round, look at that! From Monfries, they've got another one! Monfries gets his second.

**BJ** Well Bellchambers, he drew the crowd with his big leap over the top of Ben Hudson, and the ball went behind he didn't get a hand on it and Monfries was at the back of the contest. We see here the long ball in, Bellchambers up, early leap didn't touch the ball, and a clever goal from another player who just knew where they were Derm.

**DB** Yep

**EM** So the Bombers out to an 11 goal lead now. They lead by 66 points. Robert Eade, your players of the game so far,

**RE** I think the two main ones Ed have been Brent Stanton and Dyson Heppell, but uh, Stanton was tagged in the first quarter by Golby, he had 7 or 8 possessions that weren't, uh, weren't too effective but that was dropped, and Heppell being the loose player in the defensive has really hurt them.

**DR** About to tick into time on, final term. Polkinghorne, bangs it inside 50, Brown can't get a run at it neither Cornelius. Carlisle did well, Banfield just as good to Black, feeds it back but there was no one there, obviously heard a voice. Crisp. Patfull, Harwood, and that was too tough for Kamezis to grab. Back to Banfield, tries to burst his way through. Still gets an opportunity, turns it over to Watson. And now, the Bombers have some space on the run. Colyer, first game back from a broken thumb pre-season so he's looking lively and fresh, kick not so good though, Hanley cuts that off to Golby back to Hanley pops it wide. Jonathan Brown up to the wing, takes the mark. Kamezis out wide, 70 from goal. 20 minutes gone final term 66 points the margin, it's the biggest lead of the game. To the top of the square, Patfull can't get the jump front spot though. Good grab though for the Brisbane Lions

**DK** The jumper was Cornelius

**DR** Yeah, it was Cornelius

**DB** Yeah, he jumped at it like, this blokes got some talent. He can clunk them overhead, jumps early, some parts of his game, like when he almost got a fresh airy from a set kick before, some areas, you've just gotta really tighten up and tidy on this, but here's a bloke that knows how to lead, can lead and can mark well over his head in a pack. (*Booing*)

**DR** And he kicks that straight, just squeezes it in for a consolation prize for him. He kicked 4 goals 3 a couple of weeks ago against the Gold Coast and looked like he was going to be about to have a

**DB** Yeah

**DR** Stand out arrival year and then last week didn't really do much against Geelong. Had some good patches but some bad patches today

**DB** Not talking about his social standing, but as a forward line player, he's immature in the way he goes about his football, but he is talented. I like watching him. I reckon he's something to work with.

**EM** So the margin back to 10 goals. 36 361 in today. Stewart Crameri, with some ice on that ankle and also on the knee and he sits out the rest of the game.

**DK** So too does Ash McGrath for the Lions, Ed, so it's perfectly fair, at the moment, very sporting of both clubs

**EM** We said they were going to declare a bit earlier there Kingy, and perhaps they have. *(Laughing)* Anyway Bombers'd want to win by at least 10 goals that's a nice psychological barrier. To walk off with a 10 goal win in any game is a beauty. And conversely,

**DB** Angled that punch, Dustin Fletcher

**EM** He did

**DB** He, he drew the fist across to that direction to get it out in the corridor.

**EM** The Lions will want to get inside that 10 goal range. Patfull tries to get it going. Here's a chance for Brown from 48 on the fly, he kicks it to the front of the square, perfect position, up goes Fletcher, did well, just guarded the drop zone. Didn't get near it Derm, but his opponent was never gonna mark that ball.

**DB** No. See the thing there, Cornelius's jump needed to be an earlier jump directly into the body so Fletcher's taken out of a jump, and it doesn't have to be as theatrical as Cornelius was thinking, it just has to be a chest mark by shifting the opponent out of the way

**EM** Stanton will get the free kick for out of bounds on the full on half back. So, just under 4 minutes left in this game of playing time. Good result for the Bombers. Just under 36 thousand of their fans basically here. Not so many Brisbane Lions supporters

**DB** Possession 39 for Stanton

**EM** Merrett off the back over the line out of bounds. Another goal would be very handy for the Bombers to go in an 11 goal victory.

**DB** I can't think of another season that at the 6 round mark where we've had so many players - Having said that, Gary Ablett contributed 3 of them - 40 possession even when we were getting the Geelong teams of 4 or 5 years ago, the 500 possession games, we weren't getting that many 40 possession players. We're getting one or two blokes doing it every weekend.

**EM** Yep, Stanton's about to be one of those. Bellchambers, to Watson, that's 35 for Watson. And his 35<sup>th</sup> was a beauty to Jetta who can line up for goal number 3. So Stanton at the moment's got 39, Watson 35, Heppell 33, and the other side of the page, Rich with 29 and Redden with 28, Black with 25 are the best for Brisbane.

**DB** And the other thing that we were mentioning before, they are a big team Essendon, they've got some big lads out there. If you're a mid-fielder Johnno, you'd have to play key position for the Dogs. If you were a midfielder and you had to saddle up next to Jobe Watson. You'd be looking at him saying Oh mate, you're meant to be outside the square standing on the spine somewhere. He's an enormous on-baller.

**EM** He's bigger than John Nicholls, he comes in and kicks and kicks his third goal for Leroy Jetta. Back out to a 11 goal lead for the Bombers. Bombers fans are nice and excited here with Leroy Jetta. Dermott's been giving them a little bit of a poke. And with good reason because there's form, as Dermot Brereton,

**DB** What!?

**EM** We look back on just some of the great moments with Derm. Really got the Bomber fans up and going *(vision of an old game in which Dermott kisses an Essendon player on the lips)*

**DB** Yeah, this'll work, go down well, he's a good mate, Billy

**EM** Hello Billy

**DB** Hello to Billy, over in Perth

**EM** Yeah, no that was Waverley that one,

**DB** Yeah, I know, but he's in Perth now Billy

**EM** Well he left after that game. He was shamed

*(laughing)*

**DB** Wonderful bloke, really good bloke *(laughing)*

**EM** Billy Duckworth, one of the great great personalities. Alright, let's go guys, 11 goals in front, the Bombers fans are nice and happy, they're pumped up. Dwayne we've got 2 minutes and 41 seconds as Fletcher sits down, let's go

**DR** From the ball up, it's their biggest score of the year the Bombers, 19 13 127 so it's going to be their biggest victory, their biggest score. To half forward, Melksham, bouncing ball he gathers on 50 looks forward, spears it to the top of the square, almost a scoop from Watson, Lonergan steals, gets up hands it back to Watson, to Davey, looks up he rolls it across the face. Only a behind

**DB** *(laughing)* Jetta was saying Come on brother, what about a bit of love across the square? Watch it he might sneak in the screen here, Jetta, on the right hand side, just out of screen, put the hands up. *(laughing)*

**DR** Bombers resting Fletcher now, they'd rest them all if they could. Crisp. Tries to thread a handball through some traffic. Cornelius, got his arms free, but Hocking wrapped him up. Carlisle, Heppell, Zaharakis. They line up again, he's got the short on. Melksham,

**BJ** He'll go back and have a set shot, Melksham, He's had a fantastic game from minute one right through, he's been very consistent today, it'll be a packed house next Saturday night, 7.40 when they play the West Coast Eagles, looking forward to that.

**DB** Ooh that'll be a real good yard stick to see how they're going.

To punch this margin out to 73 points, and Melksham can't kick the goal.

**DR** He's had to prove himself this year. Champion Data labelled him last year as one of Essendon's poorest kicks on his 2011 numbers, so he has had to make a statement this year a few times and he couldn't nail that goal on cue. Merrett hands it over, Davey with the run down, little nudge to the back Harwood,

**DB** Yep

**DR** Quick kick forward is in the Jonathan Brown direction from Redden, he gathers his own crumb. Tries to run through a tackle, can't, it's just not the old Jonathan Brown, not the same spring, not the same team either.

**DB** I don't think he's been disgraced though

**DR** No

**DB** He's had a real dig, I'd give him a 6 out of 10 for this game, I mean things have gone against him.

**DR** Adcock. Polec. Kamezis in the pocket, and Robert Murray's had about enough in his return game as well,

**BJ** You look at the pure stats of Jonathan Brown, 21 possessions 11 kicks, 10 handballs, 8 contested possessions, 7 marks, a couple of goals, yeah, spot on Derm

**DB** And 5 inside 50s, the most of anyone for the Lions, so he's had to come up a fair bit, to meet the ball and then turn around and push it on and in

**DR** Kamezis the sub can't nail that either

**BJ** Doesn't get any easier for the Lions either hosting Collingwood next Saturday night at the Gabba.

**DR** Rider, front spot, Rockliff, thumps it away from him, it's been a quieter day for Tom Rockliff, 34 and 30 possessions, per game the last 2 games coming into this and just the 20 possessions today. They've held him well.

**EM** Well where's Stanton? We wanna get him his 40<sup>th</sup> possession. 11 seconds left. Throw in. Ball comes out to Hocking, Zaharakis, 4 seconds, 3, 2 no, that'll do, 39

SIREN

**EM** That'll do you, not a bad day at the office. Well done Brent Stanton. Great effort. And the Bombers have got home by a lazy 67 points.

## 2012.3 Geelong v Melbourne

5 May 2012 Simonds (18 010) 119-76 Channel 7

Basil Zempliss, Mick Malthouse, Hamish McLaughlin, Tom Harley,

**BZ** Its Grimes that is back just at the moment in the final term. Duncan over the footy, Moloney on top of him trying to grab the footy, the two number 22s and it's a Melbourne free kick. Why I'm sure Moloney had that football. That seems a strange call, I reckon a little bit of guesswork there from the umpire. A long kick inside 50. No mark off hands, Jones, hit the pack hard.

**MM** 3 or 4 Melbourne players flew for that and there was only one on the ground, they were very lucky to get away with it, Jones got good hands was able to resurrect that ball.

Mal

**BZ** so bounce virtually right on the 50 well done by Clark, taken by Duncan it came back to Clark. Now out wide for Morton on the right boot, trying to bend it around, has he got enough on it? Did that hit the base of the post, I think it might of. A behind. Geelong's lead 38 points. First score of the final term. Had a bit on it the kick and indeed, hit the bottom of the post.

**HM** Hunt to Christensen and a little one to Motlop who's had a pretty neat game today. Gillies who replaced Lonergan in this side. Lonergan laid out with general soreness, he watches on from the stand and Gillies goes long to Stevie J hit his hands and bounced to Frawley and he kicks quickly there's 3 Cats and just Matthew Bate for the Demons. Guthrie just patted it down to Christensen roped it pretty well and then kicks to the lead in Duncan. Duncan over the top to Christensen, he's got Bale to beat, gets tackled, can he get the ball away almost, yes he does, Bartram there too he claims deliberate, umpire says happy free to throw it back in to the boundary line umpire boundary side is Tom Harley.

**TH** Tom Hawkins has started the final quarter on the bench which gives Mitch Brown an opportunity of playing in his fourth game. He's got some real talent, had a lot of injury concerns as a younger player, but a good opportunity for him to put a stamp on the game.

**HM** He was terrific last week Tommy, was Mitch Brown, kicked 9 for the VFL side on Friday night in Bendigo and the Demons work it down,, inside 50 little half chance for linden Dunn, Mackie though picks it up and then just puts it a ball, that's got Kelly or Guthrie's name on it, Kelly tried to kick through, Guthrie picked it up, handballs searching for his man out the back, this time it's Harry Taylor, misses him the ball just sort of flicks outside defensive 50 for the Cats and suddenly it's on the wing. And Mitch Brown who we spoke about receives and takes a couple of bounces. Podsiadly and Johnson two options. Podsiadly Johnson the ladder, on the lead in front of the opposite number 20 marks right on 50. Happens quickly. The Cats just raffle it around. They just somehow manage the pressure and find the loose man, this time it's Duncan and Stevie J was on the lead. He can go back and kick and try and kick his third for the afternoon.

**MM** He'll square this up.

**HM** Unloads, and its... hit the left goal post. One behind only for Stevie J.

**MM** I apologise about that because I just out of the corner of my eye I saw a Geelong player sneak in and Johnson finds those players all the time. He's peripheral vision is excellent, he does it almost sneakily, just pulls at the last moment, doesn't he?

**BZ** Grimes to himself and then a long kick. He's got a couple there, Trengove over the back. Nice grab. Handballs immediately off to the ground for Morton, needs to be quick here. To Jamar, inside the square then out, got his kick away, well tackled by Stringer, Morton again got his handball on that



was well done. To Trengove, and finds Magner, forward of the wing, trying to get inside, got it to Sylvia, now Linden Dunn squeezes it over the top, that's a good kick for Bate who will run into the open goal and kick one for the Demons. That's his second. And the lead is back to 33 points for the Cats. Some of the Melbourne boys that we met at half time, check their progress on enjoying it judging by those smiles on the left hand side, good to be at the footy, good to be on the TV boys. Where would you rather be, well out on the ground I'm sure but they're having a good time. Good on 'em.

**TH** Just the young Demons there on screen enjoying the game played today, and in fact its 6000 weeks ago today the first game of football played, and the second game was between Melbourne and Geelong 5999 weeks ago. So a little bit of history there for you Hamish.

**HM** oh Tom! How long have you been working on that for? (*laughing*)

**TH** oh I've been waiting just for the right time to get it in Hame,

**HM** well, you've nailed it this afternoon. Umpire bounces in the middle again, Geelong 33 points up after the Bate goal at the construction end and Moloney goes in that direction again, long ball, a chance for Gillies, he does okay, a tough one to take, in the end its Clark who sort of somehow manages to flick the ball back inside. Harry Taylor to Mackie now to Scarlett, they combine again the old guard and Scarlett goes looking for Motlop and finds him. Terrific. Motlop to Kelly. Over the groin injury, back in welcome inclusion he's been good this afternoon, Kelly with 16 touches and a goal. Kelly back to Scarlett, who with Chris Judd and Matthew Pavlich are the six time All Australians on lists at the moment. To Podsiadly, he'll get the free kick, Pods, on the outer side. We talk about the last 38 matches the Cats have played here and they've won 36 of them, only once have they had 100 points kicked against them Mick.

**MM** When was that Hamish?

**HM** that was uh, since they started their run in 2007 the Port Power that beat them in the last round of 2007 they kicked over a hundred. They keep sides to such small scores

**BZ** Dominic Cassisi with the winning goal that afternoon.

**HM** That's here at Skilled or Simmonds as we're talking about right now

**BZ** Ball kicked forward by Kelly

**HM** Look at this, Stevie J,

**BZ** he read it so brilliantly off hands, he went off the ground, I think intended for Motlop, or maybe to put it into his own path. Either way, what about the magic act out there, Motlop back to Steve Johnson, this would be wonderful result, it was touched, Chapman's right there, wry smile to Steve Johnson

**HM** Wry smile to Motlop. He was saying what are we doing, it's become a bit of a circus.

**BZ** oh

**MM** you have to be careful that this doesn't become, what it is, what it does to the opposition sometimes, it really mocks the opposition, you've just gotta be careful that that doesn't become reality.

**BZ** ho oh ho what about that! Speaking of party tricks well a goal kicked by Wayne Rooney was voted the greatest in the Premier League history, a scissor kick over the top, and I suspect Tom might have seen it and had a go at it. The amazing thing there was that was from the bounce of the ball from the restart.



**HM** But off line, unlike Wayne Rooney, the English Premier League goal, the greatest in history.

**MM** it was Rooneyesque as James Frawley just kicks to himself and then brings it wide to the outer side and Harry Taylor, terrific, just floats in takes the defensive mark.

**BZ** Mick's instructions being ignored, Hamish. He wanted no more party tricks and Tom went the other way.

**HM** Taylor to the top of the square. Hawkins is around the play so too Pods, he flies couldn't take it. Spills over.

**MM** What I'd, what I'd really like to see is the umpire watch the, watch the players and not the ball because uh the Melbourne player was taken right out of that contest before Taylor nabbed it

**HM** West front spot, Jamar just knocked it down, Hawkins does the roving. Joel Corey does well, to Chapman, almost got the handball away, got tackled by Bartram. Now it spills clear. Johnson does well with the body, keeps Garland off for the moment then Garland just jumps on top of Johnson, who lost his footing, there'll be another bounce. 31 scoring shots to 17. Cats by 34 points.

**BZ** and its still inside 50, so a chance for a party trick or two more yet. Chapman pulled off the footy. Morton tried hard, got a clearing kick out towards Trengove, now the runner Bartram sends it up the wing. Fisted away from behind. Davey read it well. Into the path of Clark. Over the top to Magner, Davey kept going, does well, back to Clark for his 5<sup>th</sup> goal. He thought about it, unselfishly squares things up, Sylvia waiting downey read it well, got a handball out. Clark's still hovering around the area. Good handball by Duncan, Enright on the end of it from Scarlett, now Gillies, they've controlled the football nicely. Over the top Christensen, to Kelly and a kick into the middle of the ground and Hawkins has marked. He wastes no time goes for the long one, big fist away from Brown, the Demons defence did well, Bate to Trengove, now he should have the composure here to work it out. They do.

**HM** to Frawley and now down the line he goes, Clark's gotta be good against Mackie and is. Just drifted across the front, takes the mark, little one to Jones, back to Clark, he's kicked 4 goals one for the afternoon, Clark. Inside 50 Scarlett is there with Harry Taylor, it might spill for Dunn, picks it up, fires at goal, Dunn, it's all about the bounce, and it bounces into the left goal post.

**MM** Just asking Tom, Tom, from up here Melbourne look leg, they just don't have the same leg speed as Geelong. Do you class Geelong as a quick side or, and how do you rate Melbourne at ground level

**TH** uh look I think, I think Aaron Davey. Mick is the player who can inject some real speed but I think you're right, they lack some genuine ball carriers through the middle. Geelong win the ball typically in the contested situation and probably move the ball at speed more so through good decisions and spread as you've mentioned a couple of times, than genuine leg speed.

**BZ** a few Cats have touched it here. It ended up with Gillies and now Enright's kick towards the wing and Hawkins marks. Just squeezes one over the top, well done Enright, kept running Mitch Clark just starting to struggle a little now. Bartram read that well, he came off Christensen it was slow though, luckily evaded the tackle, the tackle didn't really stick and it's a high ball to the wing and Hawkins has marked. Suggest its coming back.

**MM** Just noticed Clark come off the ground, he's just having a rest he shouldn't be having well he should chase but he shouldn't have to be chasing these uh the medium sized players. They should be done that by the medium sized Melbourne players who just fall in straight behind.

**BZ** shot of the bench with Max Brook in the background. Gillies has marked. That was touched ball, so a bit of work here to do for Hunt. He did okay, Chapman now has gone to ground, Jones saying that's gotta be holding the ball doesn't it? And it was

**MM** we see Clark there, he's really sucking in the oxygen. His work ethic has been fantastic. A lot greater than I anticipated that he had in him.

**HM** Dunn to Frawley to Davey, lost his footing, so too did Duncan. Spills over and out the back. To Harry Taylor to Joel Corey. Corey now onto the right boot, finds Colin Garland and Stevie Johnson closes late but Colin Garland did well, took the mark, pushed the aggressive Johnson off pretty quickly and then fired into Matthew Bate. Long ball. Colin Sylvia got two Cats to beat. Does well brings it to ground, Jones picks it up, tackled by Guthrie, got the handball away to McKenzie. He fired at goal but Matty Scarlett has, as he so often is, the last line for the Cats. And he marks and goes short to Mackie whose got a couple of goals this afternoon, career best of four against Richmond in that big win by 150 plus point in round six in 2007 round six 2012 that was three premierships ago. Outer side, Smedts, was down the line, Stringer is one of the two Cats there, the young Stringer the older Podsiadly Bate beats both of them goes back with the flight, kicks around the corner. Pretty good to Morton, he marks in front of Gillies. He chases McKenzie, McKenzie gives it to Jones, loses his footing. Morton, back to McKenzie, over the top he can go to the skipper in Grimes. Grimes gets around and just goes to Dunn who came on late in this game. He started as a sub. Inside 50 long ball, Johnson finds himself at centre half back, and he does the job well.

**BZ** Stevie J to Podsiadly. Podsiadly with 3 goals this afternoon, Paul Chapman with 3 as well, a couple for Johnson, 2 goals 2 he's kicked. And a chance for Burns to run onto the football, carried forward, crowd wanted a free kick. Sellar did okay there got the footy to Jones who kicks towards the wing. Podsiadly an opportunity to scoop it back for Kelly, did that brilliantly, Kelly's handball long in the Stringer direction who pops one over the top and it ends up in the arms of Johnson yet again. He's about 80 from home, sends it long in the Hawkins direction, well done Frawley, he's been with him all afternoon. Just a subtle margin, the ball worked over the line for a throw in.

**MM** no he's fantastic Frawley, he's he's had a real day he's he's had uh 17 possessions a lot of those actually I reckon he's had 6 or 7 of those actually when he kicks it to himself and runs off at full back but his most important work is he's been able to stop really the proven uh key forward and form forward of Geelong

**BZ** Frawley again with a clearing kick to Howe, did brilliantly, got rid of Enright, marked and then played on quickly, a long one, towards the wing. Clark didn't quite mark, bursting through, or attempting to at least, was Sylvia, left the footy behind, here's Taylor now to Kelly, over the top for Brown. He's bouncing ball towards the 50, gathered by Burns, given off to Duncan and Duncan short to Podsiadly, who wants to go quickly, and why wouldn't he because look who's on the end of it. Steve Johnson. Now, this is set up Mick, isn't it, for the snap around the body?

**MM** I would imagine, well

**HM** not on the left, surely

**BZ** you never know

**MM** Yeah, you never know

**HM** (*Laughs incredulously*) surely not

**MM** well he's capable of doing anything. He's clearly the best on the ground today, he's actually toyed with the opposition today, he's you know, he's at his best.

**BZ** going with a straight right jab. There's his third goal for the afternoon. So Johnson 3 goals 2, 34 disposals, he's had a lot of the footy this afternoon, he's been a wonderful player, kicked goals and had 34 possessions in round 19 last year, collected the 2 Brownlow votes. So he's back to 34 possessions again and he just keeps on getting better, Stevie J.

**HM** Well, the little give from Burns was good, another youngster. Mitch Duncan goes to the old man in Podsiadly and over the top is Stevie J and he made no mistake. third goal for the afternoon for Stevie J. in the middle Jessie Stringer finds Mitch Duncan, over the top this time to West, takes it in the right hand, sizes up the options, goes long, Motlop, Podsiadly, Kelly, the fall of the ball won't be required! Ah in the back they say, Bartram will relieve for the Demons. Natives not happy. Certainly not the locals. Little ball from Bartram to Howe and then to Jamar. Put McDonald under a bit of pressure, he too put Moloney under pressure. Free kick will go the way of Brett Moloney, the former Cat

**HM** Moloney in the thumping last year, was pretty ill, probably shouldn't have played, didn't get a possession and spent the last half sleeping inside the rooms. Didn't see too much of it. Little gift to Howe goes down the line to Morton, couldn't take it, tries to get around, West gets taken high. So Morton onto the left boot, Magner leads and he takes the grab directly in front about 40 out.

**MM** I'll tell you who his opponent was, Matthew Scarlett who backed, that it was going to be on long kick up the line and he gave him 20 metres and he just stood there, looking at the scoreboard thinking we're 5 or 6 in front, let him go. Uh he has played him, played off him and he's paid a penalty.

**BZ** so James Magner, overlooked in 7 consecutive drafts finds himself playing for the Melbourne football club, he's played every game this year, he's unable to kick a goal, touched off the boot, and a behind to the Demons. Quickly the Cats bring it out. Short one marked by Chapman. 6 and a half to play in the final term. Geelong by 38 points. Here's Taylor, back to Chappie the kick through the middle of the ground. Podsiadly's got better as the afternoon's gone on and that's a good kick and good mark, Hawkins. Wants to go long, sends it down in the Motlop direction, well done McDonald, he left the football behind, it falls to Motlop, around the body, they'll celebrate this one. Wonderful finish. Geelong now out to 44 points. Yeah, it was a beautiful finish. Steve Motlop playing just his 11<sup>th</sup> game today, the younger brother of former north Melbourne premiership player, Shannon, and of course Port Adelaide's Daniel Motlop showing all the family attributes there. He was out of it in the marking contest but fought his way back into it once the ball hit the deck. It was always going to be his.

Great work here from Motlop. You saw the first effort in the marking contest and then the sideways movement once the ball hit the ground. Had shoulder problems, hurt them really early on so he's had to work really hard to get into the side, but he's going to add some X factor over the years.

**HM** you talk about his little shimmy, it was outstanding, so too was the finish as the Demons work it inside 50. Chance here Scarlett. Goes searching for hunt with the handball, didn't connect particularly cleanly but Hunt just goes to Gillies and Gillies quickly kicks the ball outside 50. Push in the back, perhaps, from Duncan, didn't take the mark but kicks it on down the wing to Brown. He fires a handball back to Duncan, bit too hot for him. So just under 6 minutes to play, for the first time the lead is out over 40 points. Stevie J watches on, Jimmy Bartel subbed off earlier in the game, we understand nothing sinister about that, just resting the champion. He was in for Joel Selwood who didn't come up this week. A late out as was Tommy Lonergan, both watching on from the stands. In fact Lonergan from the stands, Joel Selwood from the coaches box as we heard with Tom Harley before the first bounce. Through the middle, the Demons sort of a half chance, Kelly, terrific, really quick hands. Suddenly Guthrie has it breaks the tackle, little one to Kelly, gets tackled by Jones, gets the handball away to Duncan. He goes through the middle of the ground, this time to Podsiadly. Couple of one on ones, Hawkins leads Frawley then doubles back. Frawley's got him covered for the

moment, so Podsiadly over the top, finds Billy Smedts. Weights the ball. Chapman. Right on the arc. Already kicked 3 for the afternoon has Chappie. His 13<sup>th</sup> season Paul Chapman, still you'd think, a lot of quality football left as Joel Selwood quietly watches on and ponders the side that he now captains. Chapman, vision good, kick up okay, kick couldn't be taken by Duncan it spills, Burns, little give to Joel Corey, back to Burns, back to Chappie where it all started. Quick step, inside out torp, McDonald couldn't take it, took it from the ground, quick handball away, spills to Corey can he finish, around the corner, off line, it's through for one behind.

**MM** this, this wonderful play here by, by Frawley. I think by this stage Hawkins is now giving up the lead because he just knows that Frawley's all over him. He hasn't looked at the scoreboard Frawley and that's what I love about him. He just keeps going, winning or losing. He just has a crack

**BZ** Demons down by 45 points, they've worked it to Trengove, just backward of the wing, Now the mark taken by Jamar, ends up with Morton, Trengove it was firing it his way, Mackie got involved, got his body over the footy. Bartram trying to work his way through. Spills out the back to McDonald, he lost it. Here's Motlop again, very dangerous, paddled it across in the Kelly direction, he went looking for Burns, he missed the target. Jamar's handball, sharked again by Motlop. He gave it up to Davey and now it's the Demons that can counter. Bail, little one over the top and that's a strong mark taken by Mitch Clark. He's been terrific. Four goals one and this is disposal number 20. Has not stopped trying. Inboard to Moloney. Now to the co-captain Grimes. McDonald's kick good for Rivers. Just working the ball towards the 50. Kick towards full forward and that's a good mark taken by Jeremy Howe. Just drifting forward and that kick perfectly weighted. Guthrie going back with the flight of the ball, it was going to be hard to spoil from that angle. So Jeremy Howe, had an interesting afternoon, he's taken a good grab, he's kicked one goal one and this his 17<sup>th</sup> possession. To bring the margin back under 40 points, its offline, a behind only.

**MM** disappointing finish although he he can hold his head high, he's one of the players that has put a bit of pressure on the uh Geelong defence. 34 shots to 20 probably says it all, but it's the ease with which Geelong have been able to cut through this back line or their, Melbourne's forward line, that's what Melbourne are trying to get right for the next stage of their development.

**HM** Scarlett to Corey Enright to Podsiadly who flies and couldn't take it. Bate just a little one to Rivers, back inside they go, the Demons. Inside 50. The fly from Clark! The fly is outstanding. He's kicked 4 goals one this afternoon Mitch Clark wearing that very famous number 11. This to make it 5 in a tough afternoon for the Demons, he's been a highlight inside 50.

**MM** 14 contested possessions for a big fella like this Hamish, he he ha has set a wonderful standard already and uh you can tell by the way Melbourne play they're gunna play through him a hellova lot for a start off. But when you do, you know you've got the faith in him that he'll actually put his hands up and he takes more marks than he misses.

**HM** Well, this for 5 which would be an equal BP. It starts left... it never really looked like doing anything else other than sailing through for one behind. But Mitch Clark adds to his tally, 4 goals 2. 43 points the lead as Matty Scarlett goes searching for an option. Duncan runs and he might just get on the end of it for his hard work – he does. It's a funny sort of an atmosphere, Mick, also with half the ground missing, it's got sort of a quiet odd feel about it.

**MM** it is hollow, particularly if the game is going like it is. There's not a lot of excitement one way or the other, I I guess the player that has really sparked any action up has been Johnson, in my book, he's just created so many opportunities for his teammates, taken most of those himself, and and Clark down the other end is the player that's probably done more for Melbourne along with Frawley. So we spoke about the book ends before the game started. Frawley's held up, Clarke's up, it's just a shame, they just seem to have lacked leg power or leg speed through the middle, that's where Geelong's got them every time.

**HM** Hawkins on a hard lead marks about 85 from home. He's T boned, he kicks a long ball inside 50 West, Podsiadly and Chapman, neither can take it, ball spills, to a half chance for Burns, runs hard at the ball but unable to keep it in. it's got to be another win to the Geelong football club down at the Cattery and that makes it 37 of the last 39 since they started in 2007 to really flex their muscle in this competition. Chapman, quickly, one last chance

SIREN

Not for Mitch Brown. It's a 43 point win at Simmonds Stadium for the Cats.

## 2012.4 Gold Coast Fremantle

5 May 2012 Metricon (11 670) 87-94 FOX FOOTY

Alastair Lynch, Tony Shaw, Matthew Campbell, Leigh Colbert

Final quarter under way. Dockers looking for another win. It's their first visit here to Metricon Stadium. After a slow start they're in front and they've got possession through Ibbotson. Out in front of Neale Russell right with him Neale just tried to push it towards Mzungu, and they've got to go again, both Neale and Russell. Tape.

Gee that's good work

Got free Bennell, good handball to Prestia, they're going back to Bennell, they're just trying to find someone, Horsley, over the top, now it ends up with Troy, chain of handballs, another one forward. Day, Ballantyne's got him.

Gee that was good and the thing that stood out for me tonight is that uh defensive transition to chase and we saw that Fremantle had the ball and went out to the wing, but the Suns players were right with them and caused the turnover and got the ball to their half forward now so I reckon that gut running, defensively, has been fantastic.

Just a free kick there for Ballantyne

The other thing too, I love their hands, out of the pressure

Yep

Like they look like they do a lot of work, at training, they do a lot of drills even before the game.

Turned it over, kicked it too far and Sam Iles with a switch to Prestia, he's not sure, he didn't have a lot to continue on that switch to the outer side

Yeah this, this may be the thing that really changes, the offensive run and the spread to the other side of the field mightn't be there, we saw that they were out on their feet in the third term they mightn't have the run in their legs to do that really hard running to the other side they did it defensively, it's just whether they can go both ways.

Well, I I I like the tempo though, because Fremantle can't score. Fremantle can't score.

Yeah

So the only thing is do they turn the ball over like, maybe here, which is an issue but unless it's on the boundary line you get tired in the game, your foot skills go off, and that's where they can get some cheap goals Fremantle. If you keep it out of their hands, they can't score

From the throw in well there's a hold here, now it won't be

Oh it's against Griffin and he was in front Griffin. The handball to McKenzie who drives it in long, Dixon is there, and he's up and he's out and he's clear and he's on his left boot and he goes out of bounds.

Gee that shows something

Well second effort was really good, he got to his feet and took possession

He had one in their third quarter too

No, he's working hard after coming back into the side last week. Karmichael Hunt, he's leading possessions on the ground, contested and clearances combined,

Dockers to clear, off the boot of Broughton, it's an educated kick, because it was either going to bounce for Mzungu or go out. Mzungu decides he wants it, trapped by Mayne, Mzungu again. Did well there Fremantle, did really well to keep that going, and they may keep it going further through Neale.

Beautiful pass

Zac Clarke's on here boys at centre half forward.

De Boer wants to go through the middle by hand, a chance for Johnson, and he's turned it over and they were away there, Fremantle. So can the Suns make them pay for a turnover? Warnock to Hunt, back they go. Iles, Brennan. He's off his line

Yeah they're working so hard defensively with their run they're not getting this run to the other side so

Yeah, I'm not sure the switch is the way to go

There's a kick right through the centre here though boys, if he hooks through the centre corridor, it's going to be on, and it's going to be a ripper

Oh had to have the distance

He just chipped it, gotta drill it Pavlich off the ground, Bennell runs away from Pearce, he runs away from everyone

He's got experience

Hey?

He's still got some wheels, he's really moving.

Iles, choice of two. One was Horsley. Good hands. Shaw on the burst kicks in towards Dixon, back-pedals, ball at ground level, Smith's pretty good for a big man down low McPharlin, Swallow still out there

He's hurt his ankle again I think, he's going at it still,

Broughton on the right boot Brown can cut it off he can tap it back and he does. Head down Weller, to Brown, wins the free kick

Troy the free kick, really good work, second and third effort. Swallow, speaking of second and third efforts, still going.

A whistle,

Now, now he can go

He had to come back around to start on his mark to start with Weller.

I tell you what Fremantle don't look like they've got a lot of run either, to get through these (?)

No, exactly

Told to go and he kicks it to the danger zone. But Fremantle have plenty to spoil Dixon went 5 deep, off the ground Crowley, got it to spin like a drop punt good kick, but Caddy's is in the way. And he's off, Josh Caddy, 70 metres from goal, decides to go across to Horsley,



One more

One more Lynch in line, but its Lynch behind him

Top of the, square

Has to hit the target here and he does. Iles wheels around and low percentage in that pocket, that's a push oh, is that 50.

50 metres Brennan will put the Suns back in front

That's a terrible mistake, that's a shocking mistake, it was gunna be a Jared Brennan kick from outside the boundary line, which you wouldn't know what's going to happen, but now it's a gimme goal.

If there's a bottle of drink in front of Ross Lyon it might have hit the back wall very hard

I reckon he threw the crate

Oh, absolutely

He's nice and calm is Brennan, he's sore, but he puts the Suns in front. There's life in them yet.

I love the tempo, you picked it before the game, Alastair, control the tempo of the play because they've been either very slow or too quick. What they've done today, they've had a lot of patience. We can see the hands in the back. You cannot touch a player after it's finished, and that was just ridiculous play by Hayden Ballantyne.

Yeah, and you know as soon as he did it he thought, on no,

He needs to kick a goal for his side to make up for that now.

Oh yea, not a good one. Great control from Ross Lyon (*laughing*)

One of the walking wounded for the Suns, Jared Brennan, there's a lot of football left in this game, as Ross Lyon knows. Margin just a single point. Here's Ballantyne, the transgressor, high ball tough one to mark. Lynch attacks it

In the back

Push in the back, he'll win the free kick.

Yeah, just eased him under the ball with a hand in the back, here's the spread, Karmichael Hunt's the one. They've missed him.

Might have missed everybody, ran himself into a spot of bother, messy here. They need some speed. Haven't got it yet. Wilkinson slips over, Dockers, waiting for the error

Oh he's got away with it

He has

Just slips, trying to change direction, that's Bluey McKenna, just one of the first decisions he saw Karmichael Hunt

Yeah,

Free on the other side of the ground

From the bounce, Brennan



Well done

Can find a target, just puts it out in front, Dockers have numbers back. Bennell did well

Yeah, well done by both players!

That's stupid that behaviour from Bennell. You don't want to get involved in that. You've got them under the pump no cheap free kicks, didn't have to go on with this, have a look, too aggressive, oh ho oh its close wasn't it?

That's when you're in the coaches' box and you really get nervous.

Good knock by Griffin, down to Barlow, Robertson, chop in the arms. Won back for him.

Got one on one long,

Goes in that direction. Wants Mayne, good spoil Warnock

And a good kick Robertson just set it up over his head instead of being out in front. I I'm worried about the Fremantle run here chaps, I just cannot see where they've got somebody with a bit of spark it might be Ballantyne. But Wilkinson's done a good job on him.

Pavlich hasn't had a heap of the ball

No

17 disposals but he hasn't really impacted the game

third quarter burst, but apart from that

That's right. He could be one that really steps up

Oh that's great.

Oh Mundy, wonderful tap from Mayne, and Mundy misses, scores are level.

Half chances. Deep in games, when you're tired you've gotta take 'em

Suns have won 3 games, in Cairns, in Adelaide and in Brisbane. Not a huge crowd here tonight, and they've never seen their team win at home

Oh look out

Shaw's kick up to Lynch

Gee he did that well Matty, I was just watching Lynch, he pushed his opponent off to run into that space and the opponent went to ground but it was a legal push off.

And it's a two on one there, and Dixon wants it out. And it's a win for the Suns because they were outnumbered

Good result, but yeah, reinforcing what you said, Shawy, I reckon Tom Lynch has got real good game awareness, he knows to play back and forward and get rid of his opponent

I reckon he's about two seasons away from being a very good player.

Weller, Suns worked that out pretty well except for that handball from him. Iles scoops it up with one hand, Brennan,

Here's a switch

And Seb Tape's gotta know what's around him here

He Acres his back and gets clear, kicks it long all Dockers though

What did Jack Smith do?

I think he thought the kick had more penetration and was going longer.

McPharlin put Broughton under pressure. Swallow has to go again, Fremantle now with Ibbotson. Just to Roberton.

I tell you what they're taking some risks now Freo. Inside corridor, short passes

Yeah, they can't find players free forward of the ball

They've gone the big switch with McPharlin, who goes in turn Ryder to Johnson, he goes down the line to Mayne, good hard running from him

Yeah, really good lead, McKenzie's dropped back into the space here, (*booing – well more kind of wailing than booing*) 50 metres from this ball

And no movement up forward. Johnson called to play on. Chip pass to Duffield.

Oh Bluey McKenna would have been rapt with the defensive structures that they've put in place here tonight.

Yeah, they get in place really early, they've been fantastic at that

He's hit it really long. Zac Parker was his target and he almost pulled it off, hands by De Boer, Roberton to Neale, Lachy Neale. And no score, the Dockers couldn't set up for the throw in.

Gee they're just walking this position now the Gold Coast, they

No, they're not on their own but you'd need to know that they've gotta get numbers behind the ball now that's too easy

No one there except Brennan

It should have been.

Brennan's holding the ball.

It's all Dockers, oops,

Pointing the wrong way to start with

Pointing the wrong way confused me.

Well, we'd like to see what happens (*booing*) with this ruck. See what I mean about not having the numbers back? They couldn't get to the contest, that ruckman took the ball out, I'd love to see if he disposed of it legally

Yeah Griffin, you give up prior opportunity when you take it out of the ruck

As soon as you're tackled it's holding the ball. De Boer for his third to put the Dockers back in front. 20 meters out. He kicks it (*booing, or kind of mooing*)

Again, good answer from the Fremantle Dockers, a little bit of a controversial, probably a few seconds with the umpiring decisions, but the Suns have gotta cop that one. Holding the ball there from Jared Brennan He picks up here, he tries to get around one, and that is not correct disposal, so that's a fair decision. It was probably the one before, out of the ruck contest, I think it was Griffin that took

the possession a few seconds before hand that may have gone the Suns way, but that was definitely holding the ball from Brennan.

Dockers out to a one goal lead. Matt De Boer third goal.

One on ones all around the ground now. So both forward lines, the Suns going with 6 forwards, the Fremantle Dockers, just the 3.

Chance here for the Suns as they go forward, out in front of Brown, Duffield's been right with him all night. Duffield goes down, little tap over by Troy was okay, exchange of handballs by Brown going back, Brennan ran out of room, kick to the pocket, Hunt's got it, just inside

They're going to him now even wide.

Now this will round off a big night for him if he drops this through. He's been watching a big of Stevie Jay. No no.

Yeh, he's gonna kick it around his body. Definitely

Let the house tell the story. They're not up out of their seat there Tony so it's just a behind.

Yeah, well, the understanding of the game is the big thing with this bloke. That's what it showed.

No, he's been very good, very very good tonight, Karmichael Hunt

Let's have a look at this ruck contest boys, now that's Griffin in there, that's gotta be, that's gotta be illegal disposal.

So as soon as the ruck grabs it out of the... if he's tackled, its holding the ball.

I'm with you. Zac Smith is taking the mark. That's (*disposed illegal??*) anyway.

Very good mark from Smith. The ball was dropping away, McKenzie's loitering, here he goes. On no.

Top of the square. That's where it goes. Some big men there though for the Dockers in Johnson and Dawson and it's out of bounds.

And the man who was really leading the way and doing the damage with the clearances, Karmichael Hunt, you're watching for him in this situation.

Spills out the back. Harley Bennell, Harley Bennell, he's a star! He is a star!

My man!

They were all over Karmichael Hunt or Harley Bennell, don't you worry about that. It wasn't Karmichael Hunt who got the clearance it was young Mav Weller who got away from his opponent just pushed off and got down low and gave it off to Harley Bennell and he's got so

Oh, that's finish!

Much polish on his game, he just slotted that one through. That's almost regulation work there, good pick up, good clearance, great finish. The Suns again answer the challenge from the Dockers and they lead by a point.

What a night he's had. 33 disposals, 2 goals, Harley Bennell puts the Suns back in front. They're not done with yet. They're tired, they're broken, but they're hungry for a win at home.

Are we seeing something special, in this bloke Harley Bennell?

Oh absolutely.

He just knows how to kick the ball. His poise is beautiful.

Here's high contact, given away here

Oh that hurts

Ooh, Mzungu, he can go all the way, the handball will go, no he goes, he kicks, he misses, a monumental error,

I thought that was not the right decision to leave his man and go all the way because it was an easy handball over the top, but he persisted with his first thought of a shot at goal by kick and uh just pulled it.

Scores level half way through the final quarter. Plenty to come

Oh, through the corridor. That is a shocking kick from Matty Warnock

Zac Smith gave him a half a cook too.

But that ball should have been out the boundary side, 5 metres inside the boundary.

Big Griffin sends it in, Crowley stands and waits, Caddy almost had it and the Dockers back in front

You're right, I think it was Lynch and Zac Smith, they were set up there, that side

Yeah.

They've sacked him

They've sacked him. Bennell's gone back.

Harley's back

There he is. He's gone to the wrong side, you see the Fremantle Dockers players are on that side.

Yeah, he's hooked it. That's 30 metres inside the boundary boys. You've gotta go for 5 metres

The pressures on at any time this late in the game.

Has come out here himself to be with Smith, as Bennell goes up the middle. Huh, not sure about that one Tony,

*(laughs)* that's aggressive,

Beats everyone Ibbotson to send the Dockers forward. Over the back it goes. Iles, gotta call out the back, Prestia's gotta step around Clarke but he does so successfully, hooks it back, good spoil McPharlin, 9 minutes remaining. 1 point ball game. Dockers in front.

Griffin got rid of Dixon, Dixon, good hands to Bennell, likewise, to Weller, kicks to a man on his own, Swallow's kicked 3 goals. Drills it low and Brown is within range. Beautiful handball work from the Suns in close.

Absolutely and Campbell Brown wants an extra couple of meters from the umpire, just reckons he's on his range there

What about Dixon's hands for a big bloke? Just showed his second efforts tonight have been unbelievable.

And this will lift the roof off this place

Oh it will what

As you said, not a massive crowd in here, but if they hit the front again

It'll take his best kick from just inside 50. It's coming back, its holding, its home. Campbell likes it, and the Suns in front again.

Um half a dozen players have just charged over to Campbell Brown there, pumped with that effort. Really working that well, the transition through the middle of the ground, and a couple of options forward and as Shawy said, good hands from uh Charlie Dixon, to Mav Weller, and that was a really nice pass, but then assess the situation, realised it might be a bit risky to go to Zac Smith and Campbell Brown from 50, or about 48, to slot it through

Well wasn't that great vision

Reasonably pumped you could say.

That wasn't the lawn mower, it was like punching the lawn mower, wasn't it?

We've seen that off Brett Lee over the years, after a wicket,

Dixon's jumping all over him there.

Was he what?

Every time the Dockers hit the front, the Suns seem to be able to answer. 81 plays 76.

Wonderful kicking from goal for the the Gold Coast 13 goals 3

Mmm and I think that two weeks ago against the Brisbane Lions, they were really let down by their goal kicking and their work inside 50 but now they're much more efficient.

Dickon in the ruck at the moment. He's a little bit fresher than Smith. Warnock there, Griffin. Mzungu skirting past. Dixon. He's got really good hands in close

Hasn't he what

And he was probably a bit fumbly last year with both his marking and ground level work he did realise and find out through an eye test that he was half blind, so he got some contact lenses and he's going much better, surprisingly, which is good work.

Over the top comes Russell had to leave his man to do so, too much for McKenzie but Caddy steps around everybody. And drives the Suns forward again, Brown is at it. Well crumbed. In the ruck spot was Spurr. Now out wider to Ballantyne. There's plenty of time left in the game (*booing*)

Gee the shorts on the inside, he's gone there

Pavlich, turns, he always gets length with his kicks, lines up Clarke, over the top it goes, Swallow back to help out, on the left boot, tumbles it forward, Hunt and Robertson,

He's got the shove in the back for the high contact, Karmichael Hunt. And I think it's the Dockers who have elected to go the class one defence now which is obviously left one at each end for respective teams, they're playing a loose man behind.

Kicks long, going back again, Spurr clean, gave it to McPharlin, who looked to switch to Broughton. But it wasn't on, so it goes back to where it came from, good vision to see Mzungu, and (??)

Oh, and he's missed it

Dangerous kick

It's a poor kick, poor option, Toy, that was smart by Toy because Lynch wanted it long but he knew that Mayne was lurking and he knew Toy couldn't get there,

Gotta go boundary line deep here and he's gone that direction.

Dockers have numbers to spoil it though.

Oh that's a free kick (*for chopping arms??*)

Here's Spurr back to McPharlin, by hand to Pearce, (??) closing speed for miles, but numbers for the Dockers. Broughton, Pavlich, De Boer, measures the pass needs some closure, but good strong hands Mayne, very good in the air.

Good strong hands Mayne, but just a meter too far out I would suggest.

And that chip brings it inside 50 so Ibbotson, capable of getting home from here.

They used that well, just the short chip to get the ball inside 50

Oh, he's not too confident is he, he's looking inside

He's not convincing us (*booing*)

So will the lead change again.

Gotta get a loose man on the line here, the Gold Coast Suns,

Outside 50 its hanging there, it's going to be a contested, oh, it's hit the post, so we got a throw in.

Dangerous for a defensive point of view, ended

You'd rather a point so you get control of the ball rather than this.

Absolutely, but when the ball hits the ground you've you've dodged one.

Nervous

Dixon, from the congestion, Dawson first to it. To McPharlin, sends it back in. Big pack of players. Griffin almost, wraps up Lynch in the tackle, ball up

It was a Suns mark I think. I think Lynch got the second bite, Dixon might have got the first one, there's Sam Day just uh getting a bit of a service before he goes back in for the last 5 minutes of the game.

No one over the top near the goals here

Yep

Chance Pavlich,

Likes that, dangerous

Pavlich! He's the right man at the right time, Dockers back in front.

Shawy, talk us through that one. There was a lot of space between the goal line, a couple of players really deep but there was space here

Yeah, but you know the space here on the outside, I don't know who got sucked in the ball carry, whoever was playing on Pavlich, we'll pick up after this, but on this occasion you can see Pavlich going out, everyone's watching the ball and Pavlich is too smart, oh you've gotta be better than that,

and the other thing is, there was a player on the goal line, and the Gold Coast Suns player went and stood him, you might as well come 5 metres forward of him so he can go and get to that ball.

Leads changed 4 times in this quarter, Dockers by one

We said Pavlich hadn't had a massive impact on this game, apart from some stage in the third quarter I think it was, but uh, yeah, certainly impact there, really good clearance goal.

Clearance for Fremantle, loose man back for the Suns, Lynch under pressure. Mzungu has it, tried to flip it out, Lynch was in the way, he can't go anywhere, the ball still alive. Pearce, Iles

Been good Iles

Prestia kicks it forward. It's going to come back pretty quickly though. It's all Fremantle as Dawson sits under it, takes the mark.

What they've been so good at is not allowing the play on from these sort of situations.

This is what I hate, this rule. It is a shocker I reckon.

Horsley got a hand to it, Crowley went down, was good enough to get the handball out. Duffield, very good there.

Oh well done Horsley again.

That ball's still in... Duffield now it's out.

I think all players wanted it out.

Wanted a bit of a spell

Wanted a bit of a spell, Prestia seems to be cramping as well, just limps away from that uh contest.

Hunt to Bennell. Dangerous handball. Zac Clarke there, so too Connell, Shaw picked it up and kicked it forward

Oh, the runs on here

Who's going to be first to it? Mundy, Brown,

Campbell Brown, oh well done

They both go down, McPharlin caught, Dawson, Mundy got up,

Oh they're out here, they're out here, and Ben Crowley's in the forward 50

Pearce, looks up. Spots Crowley, Wilkinson got back but his job isn't done with yet. Mayne's comes out

High contact

Wins high contact Dockers will go 7 points in front if Mayne kicks truly. 50 metres, its all academic now, he'll kick the goal, and the pressure will be on the Suns. Chris Mayne's been very very good.

He has been good. He did well then to get back. Wilkinson got back to make the contest but once the ball went to ground, just a little bit of untidy approach with the ball and give that high contact away.

This for his third goal to join Matt De Boer and to give the Dockers some space. (*booing*)

It was only 15 meters out on a slight angle, but you still don't want to give a 50 meter penalty away, because the forward will have great relief. Here's the good spoil to start with he goes in low, that's Mayne, that's Lynch, yeah, Lynch was the second one in.

Yeah, just reckless going in. it is high contact

Yeah.

10<sup>th</sup> goal for the year for Chris Mayne. 10 straight. 10 zip

Yeah, well I suppose if you get 50 meter penalties to the goal line

It's nice

They haven't all been like that

So, we've seen the Dockers come back, sorry, we've seen the Suns come back when the Dockers have hit the front a few times, it's a real challenge for them now with 4 minutes remaining 7 points the margin.

Yeah, you gotta roll the dice now, need 2 goals to win,

Hunt couldn't get through that time, Pavlich did okay, got it out to Clarke, now Crowley's out the back, Brennan can't get free as well. The umpire letting it go for a while, waiting for it to spill out

Oh come on, come on

As soon as it comes out, the whistle blows

I'd roll the dice. I reckon I'd get Charlie Dixon on the ball he gave them about 5 minutes about you know, about 10 minutes ago which was really good, something different in the ruck, get some impetus.

Won by Zac Clarke and Zac Smith had a go as well. Caddy, these contested ball so important in these last few minutes. Spurr, slides in, gave it to a man who was on the ground, you don't see that very often.

Still pushing the ball backwards though.

Mundy, Crowley and a good kick to De Boer, they're weathered the storm there the Dockers.

Yeah that was really well done. Suns were scrapping the ball forward, but just the Matty, the time you've got to reassess once your hit the target with a foot pass.

It's all, well the numbers suit, McKenzie, they suited the Suns there. Now McKenzie

Gotta go up the line

They've got to take some risks

Even try to hit a corridor pass here,

Down he goes towards Brown and good spoil from Duffield.

He's said even something different at the the uh stoppages. Maybe this is where you have the third up jumper trying to clear the congestion because there'll be a lot of player in tight. So if you can get a third up jumper. Brennan will be the one if he's around the area, who'll just jump up and try to knock it forward, you'd suggest

There he goes



Oh there you go, well done

Straight to script. And Prestia, off the ground, it made distance, and Swallow, they summed it up. It's alright. They'll set up again.

Dixons on the bench, he's trying to come on now, he's one of the players they want to get on the ground Wilkinson's there too but the ruck's more important at this stage.

Bennell!

Well, he wanted uh he wanted Weller direction. He's got it back somehow. Don't tell me he's going to do it again,

Yes he is, Harley Bennell, Harley Bennell continues to dazzle. Another great goal by this talented young man

Oh, what a star!

Oh he finishes well, doesn't he? (*SAM dunnt he*) he's a very good player. Got up in the midfield and down back. And again, from a stoppage situation, on that occasion I think it was McKenzie got the hands out and just around the body, same as his last goal, around the body goal, that's three for the game, and he's been, if not best on ground. I don't know who is actually. Fantastic.

I think he's very close.

You fair dinkum or what

37 disposals and he's kicked 3 goals (*laughing*)

All right, he's best on ground.

What a performance by this young man, and Gary Ablett will be looking on and looking at his stats going I'll take that. 37 disposals, and 3 goals. And they're within a point again.

Shawy

Yeah

Dixon in the ruck, Dixon in the ruck oh well done, just got his body involved. Pavlich is on Hunt and he's down. 222 to go.

Again, space on the outside. It's where Suns want to go it's where Freo don't want to go

Caddy, Clarke got down low and gets it forward for Fremantle, two on one

Oh gotta mark this, he's off

Where does he go? He's off. Warnock

Warnock

He spotted a couple of players in the middle, one of them was Seb Tape.

Go long now.

Oh Lynch,

That's a mark

Lynch!

Play on the call. Well done to get it out to Ibbotson and that kick is looking for touch, Wilkinson has Warnock if he can keep it in.

Oh, just didn't have the awareness to

Nah,

Warnock was behind him, he had to keep it in. One point the difference and just under 2 minutes remaining and Hayden Ballantyne starting to cramp

He's cramped up

Tell you what, Simon Lynch had a fair bit on that ball at centre half forward

Here they go

Prestia, Brennan to Russell, Brown legs up and he (*laughs*) kicks it off the side of the boot, so he's now going to ask for a fair bit from Campbell,

Ben Brown wanted a kick.

Didn't get it.

Mundy throws it forward

Oh good turnover Freo

What's happened there?

No it's coming back,

He just cramped up, he just dropped to the ground

I reckon he nearly went to play on didn't he?

He can't take the kick, he uh Clancy Pearce said he can't take the kick,

So we're down to just over a minute and Dockers will try to wipe some of this time off,

Would you take a stretcher out on the ground? You don't want to be one short. Stop.

Good point

Stop the game, grab the stretcher and take him out because you don't want to be one short with a minute remaining.

Let's take a look at the replay.

Now did he try to run off and just cramp up?

No, he was gone (*laughing*)

Nah, he cramped as he marked it

Oh, he's going to try and stay involved,

Free kicks will be crucial here, here he is Pearce, cramping but he still managing to get plenty on the kick.

Oh great result,

It stayed in

Oh it isn't over.

Now it's out 40 seconds remaining. Fremantle lead by a point. The Suns are playing their 11th game at home, searching for their first win, have got to come up with something really special here or the Dockers will go home victorious. Pavlich again looking dangerous, Broughton

Ducked the head.

Last roll the dice, they've just got to, the Lions, huh, the Lions, I was thinking of Jared Brennan, The Suns have got to throw this into the corridor. They may concede a goal by doin' it but it's the only way they're going to score a goal themselves.

The Dockers are trying to just keep it congested. Iles' on hands and knees. Dockers doing enough here, Brennan, trying to get free

Well done the Dockers, they've done very well to hang in this game right to the end. They've uh they've dominated the scoring shots 23 to 17 has come right down to this.

You'd think that they're done now. Clarke, gave it to Pavlich summed it up, didn't want to let it get free, chance Fremantle, ball going towards the goal, flipped forward by Mayne, Mzungu off the ground, ices the game, well done Dockers equal to the challenge they were.

Yeah, well done. Really hard working effort. Dockers. We come to see the Suns a bit and they're exciting to watch, they hung in there for 98 percent of the game today Shawy, but just when required the Dockers have been able to stand up. And that was a really nice little clearance there from Pavlich, and Mzungu just uh Mzungu around the corner, on the left boot, they've been pushed, the whole way, all night, I think they expected or many of their fans expected it might have been a little easier. I think Ross Lyon and his team didn't but this has been a very hard fought affair.

I think you've just got to look at both sides just great competition, but who gets more out of this game, and you'd have to lean towards Gold Coast

SIREN

It's a win though

Siren sounds. A wonderful contest, it's been close all night it's been drama packed, it's had just about everything, injuries, terrific goals, but in the end the Dockers 14 10 94 the Gold Coast 14 3 87 it's a 7 point victory and once again Fremantle in a tight game have found the way to win.

## 2012.5 St Kilda v Hawthorn

5 May 2012 MCG (42 289) 88-123 HSV7

Brian Taylor, Matthew Richardson, Luke Darcy, Cameron Ling

**BT** we've got a cracker coming, Hawthorn by 10 points, Warney's desperate for his Saints to get up

**MR** Warney'd be on the edge of his seat

**BT** I wonder what Liz is thinking about the contest

**MR** She'll be wondering what all this fuss is about

**BT** Yeah, I think she might, too. Stanley into the ruck there, just lost his footing, and Jack Steven gets up with the ball, so can't afford to concede early here, the Saints, got out to 24 points at one stage in that third quarter in favour of the Hawks, Hale to Lewis, Lewis kept the arms free, good play wasn't it? Well done, great example for young kids. Goddard to trap it, in there is Savage, couldn't do much about it, Black out the back door, did well, around the corner Simpkin with a kick along the ground, straight to Fusolo, picked up by Mitchell, banged it down to Buddy, danger danger danger, two on one, Roughead in front, got both claws on it, couldn't hold the mark in the end, need to be quick here, Gilbert out the back door, done all right, Simpkin

**MR** yeah, they did that well, four or five handballs in a row got them out of trouble

**BT** oh boy

**MR** Oh

**BT** got underneath it Armitage, too Mark Hodge squirts it and finds Savage

**LD** They did so well with their hands. They got someone out in space, they just had to execute a kick into the middle of the ground, and just got to read that a little better.

**MR** yeah

**BT** take a step back maybe or is that too hard

**LD** No tough ball but that's one of the ones you don't sleep tonight. You wake up and you think had to find a way to take that mark, David Armitage

**BT** Savage, early in the last quarter, for the Hawks. He's basically directly in front. A 45 meter kick, got plenty of altitude with it, it'll float it to the left though, and a let off for the Saints early in the last. Goddard, back into action very very quickly. Hodge, thump away and he made Armitage earn it as well.

**MR** Armitage has got a nice knee in the back from Luke Hodge in this contest. He's looking a bit sore.

**BT** He's struggling to get up, isn't he?

**MR** yeah, that would've hurt

**LD** He's got a great ability, Luke Hodge, to just hurt you. *(laughing)*

Hodge just has really pointy knees, hasn't he, Hodgey?

**BT** turns back and has a look. Buddy will get a free kick here. A hold.

**MR** it's just a legitimate marking contest but just got that knee awkwardly on the lower back

**BT** he can kick this, Franklin

**LD** Yeah, this is his range BT he loves this side of the ground, one of the few left footers who can get left to right bend on the ball. And Dempster just panicked a bit, grabbed hold of the arm.

**BT** there's the injury there's the knee into the back of Armitage

**LD** Oh yep that's, that's nasty

**MR** Yep

**BT** and here is Franklin as a result of all of that, 3 goals tonight, looked dangerous every time he's gone there. He's gone short to the lead of Lewis. And brilliantly disguised he sold to everyone in the football world that he was going for goal there, including us.

**MR** what a great example though, the players up the ground, you still have to lead, if there's a hole there to lead into

**BT** they all went into relax mode, the Saints

**MR** yeah, the Saints, alright, well he convinced the Saints he was gunna have a shot, and Jordan Lewis led up with the footy

**BT** he did. Great disguise. Now Lewis whose normally very accurate kick on the way, needs it to bend back, it does not. It falls a little short in fact, in the end a thumped behind

**MR** gee all of the shots down that end of the ground, the Punt Road end, have gone from left to right is there a bit of breeze down there, Lingy?

**CL** No there's not much at all Richo, I'm surprised that uh the kicking for goal hasn't been as accurate, it's uh, quite calm out here, beautiful night for footy.

**BT** no excuses Richo, stop trying to find

**MR** well

**BT** the modern day equipment it's an excuse

**LD** Ohh, look at Lenny. Doesn't he go hard!

**MR** Certainly does. That's what he's done for so long, Lenny Hayes, go hard at ground level, harder than most.

**BT** Goddard, and the dummy lead there by Simpkin in the foreground, and eventually, Goddard forced to retreat and go back to the Southern Stand and Jones. Haye's gunna get rid of Sewell for him, clears the path inboard momentarily. Back to Penny now, it's a poor kick, Stratton will get back and drop into the spot. Hawthorn trying to think their way forward here. 79 91 12 point Hawthorn lead here. Been a really hard fought contest all night. Hawthorn by 4 at quarter time, 12 at half time and 10 at three quarter time. Gives you a bit of an idea of how close it has been. Goddard, Gilbert, been on Rioli for most of the night. Rioli has had a feast tonight, but he's just been on fire, Whitecross, Guerra the rug into the middle, finds Smith, Smith's got a dangerous Suckling out wide, if he can get the left boot working and he can, and that'll be a free kick. Would have been a mark anyway. Against Simpkin. Play on goes to Franklin, don't know why that happened, Franklin draws it back, won't be enough. Gee I reckon that was a little nonchalant. 13 point margin.

**MR** Well that is pressing here the Hawks, they've had all four inside 50s this quarter, Saints just have to hold tough. Not with kick ins like that though.

**BT** Franklin says come on, come at me, so he handballs right to Birchall, remember he's a left footer, gets on his bike, 50 to the top of the goal square, Roughead the dangerous one here, Rioli went up on the one hand, basketball style. Savage thrown out of the way. Saints got some big numbers here. Little bit confused about whose going take it though no one wants it. Montagna half cocked, Rioli, got a boot to the ball, intercepted by the big man, Hale. Can he conjure something up, no he can't. They're still under enormous pressure, you get the feeling the Hawks are gunna break their back here. No one wanted it. Look at Rioli with the one handed basketball pluck in the air, like you playing netball the other night, Richo,

**MR** and then the volley, the soccer volley,

**LD** Oh yes

**MR** you just feel like he's going to do something special again any minute now.

**BT** Birchall. Stanley wears him like a glove from behind. Lenny Hayes. They've gotta fight their way out of this trap here the Saints. One over the top from Gram if Riewoldt can make it work, he can't Shoenmakers, Sewell, pinpoint, magnificent. Shiels,

**MR** 90% of the play has been in their forward half for the first 5 minutes, they haven't been able to kick a goal, the Saints have held up.

**LD** They're really missing that run that Sam Fisher provides.

**BT** Now Shiels gives it off, Guerra from 55, long ball, Franklin just throws his man out of the way and I don't think he'll be penalised! And he's been awarded the mark, just pure, pure strength.

**MR** oh, Scotty Walters will be filthy I reckon on that. A long ball coming in from 60 metres out, he is, there's no one

**BT** they went to sleep again

**MR** there's no way known he should have been allowed a one on one there should have been a third man in punch there on the goal line.

**LD** Franklin with his 4<sup>th</sup>.

**BT** Buddy Franklin goal number 4 for him. The Hawks back out by 19 points. Franklin with a big mark in the goal square, once again enjoying his enjoying his work on the big screen.

**LD** Here's Guerra, who went for home, and Franklin deep in the goal square, and good bump wasn't it

**BT** Yeah just body positioning was great, he's got a lot of strength, a lot of size, on Dempster. That is not where Shaun Dempster wants to find himself.

**LD** Oh

**BT** well done Rhys Stanley to Lenny

**MR** he shouldn't, he shouldn't have found himself one on one though, had to have someone on the goal line to punch that through. You can't let Buddy Franklin stand one on one on the goal line and take a mark

**LD** I think once again they're so used to Fisher playing that role

**MR** yeah

**LD** He's their best third man up, always gets across, reads the play so well and has been substituted out of the game from half time. Guerra, short ball to Roughead.

**BT** You mentioned Fisher. Doc Larkins just remind us about him

**DL** Yeah, the last minute of the first half, uh Brian, he just got a knock in the lower back and then spasmed down the right hamstring, and they've got ice on the hamstring, and probably looks like a little tear.

**BT** Okay high ball on the head of Lewis, fist over the top by Simpkin

**CL** Jordan Lewis, BT, he's been through a bit tonight. I know we've already mentioned him but 21 touches himself and he's kept Nick Del Santo to just 10 possessions. Been a terrific effort by him.

**LD** Hey Lingy we often see a midfielder like that, Del Santo, say alright, I'm gunna go and play and Sam Mitchell and try and break the tap. Does that work in your experience, you know, having tried to follow players around, and why haven't they tried it?

**CL** (*laughs*) well, right on cue mate, I think he's trying to do that right now, but uh if they stay pretty disciplined and pretty strong with the match up they shouldn't be allowed to get away

**LD** So what would you do, you just stick with your tag and say bad luck, I'm coming with you anyway?

**CL** yeah, stick with it because you know within 3 or 4 minutes they'll get sick of trying if they can't get away

**BT** gee Saints have lost focus here Koschi's given away 50 and they allow Guerra to play on and shove it down the throat of Savage almost. Luckily knocked away and they got the fumbles and the fiddles and the fombles now and Gilbert goes in, he's attacked there by Puopolo. Under enormous pressure, just gone to sleep at the moment the Saints. Blake stripped of the ball. Savage. In they go. Armitage eventually with the handball out and now Stanley's got it all to do. Knocked the ball loose from Birchall, quick handball Milne nowhere to go had to double back and hook around the corner to Montagna, he did really well. Joey Montagna wants to move it quickly, down in the sipost direction Mitchell led him to the ball.

**MR** yeah, they should've done better there, Joey Montagna played on, Nick Riewoldt, Koschi were inside 50, just had to wait a split second longer to deliver that ball.

**LD** Gram not paid the mark, it was touched off the boot. Hayes. Surely that's not 15. Umpire appreciates it weak he let it go, Koschi, fist over the top Shoemakers, a little gimme kick out wide to Cyril, one of the rare times he's mishandled the ball. Short ball to Smith, he's away, Smith to a one on one, Buddy always dangerous here. Over the back, Franklin along the ground or in the air, he goes along the ground because that's what he likes to do with the buddy ball, bend it like buddy.

He's got 5. The big unit. He's been dangerous all night and has just reminded us why he is a superstar of the game. Great individual effort. He only kicked one nine in the preceding two weeks.

**BT** came in tonight Buddy Franklin with one goal nine in the past fortnight. It's the quietest two rounds he's put together since rounds 9 and 11, 2006. On on cue, steps up, 5 Richo, reminding us why he's just an out and out star

**MR** yeah, had a good one on one, he did have a piece of Dempster's jumper there.

**BT** 10 between Buddy and Rioli tonight. Game high margin of 25 points now in favour of the Hawks. Strong finish with the Saints. Here's Rioli, funny little sideways kick. Dempster, to Armitage.

**CL** be a nice reminder for us all I think, not to write off a couple of champions in uh Buddy and Rioli. A lot of talk that they're been quiet for the last couple of weeks, but both of them have turned it on tonight.

**BT** Well so much so that Richo wanted Cyril shifted into the middle to try and work him into the game.

Extraordinary

**BT** Extraordinary. He even wanted a poll on it, all sorts of interactive stuff going

**MR** and I was the only person in Australia, was I, that sort of requested that, Brian

**BT** (*laughing*) I think you were,

Not far off I wouldn't think

**MR** oh well, it's amazing how everyone jumps off you blokes have

**BT** You've gotta be careful (*laughing*) here's Birchall, Puopolo. Both subs activated here today. Puopolo on and Saad on of course. Saad small forward from the Northern Bullants. 50 goals in his 20 games last year, as a 22 year old. Looked lively when he's come on too. Del Santo around the corner, missed Milera, here is Saad, then over the top of it on that occasion. Whitecross to Roughead, rough is a bit of Mr Fixit at the moment, there's nowhere he can't play. Franklin was there, couldn't hold the mark. Off hands Savage, gives it back to Buddy. On the left from his favourite boundary side and just across the face. Only just missed in the end. Goal umpires must enjoy when Cyril and Franklin are playing in a game too, don't you reckon? They get to see some magic from their perspective.

**MR** we added sweet come through goal umpires Brian

**BT** yes, what about them

**MR** I mentioned why have they got hats on, there's not a lot of sun out there and a few people said well the lights can still get in your eyes, so

**CL** Well Richo that was the reason for the review in the, in the earlier quarters, the light was in the goal umpires eyes and he just had to check. Official statement from the AFL that one.

**MR** thanks, Lingy

**BT** Nicely sorted out down there, Lingy. Been a cracking game for most of the night. Here's Puopolo. Still is. Gilbert. I tell you what at 26 points adrift what have we got? 9 minutes. It's right on the edge here. Not beyond a really good team, but I just think Hawthorn apply enormous pressure at the moment.

**MR** well, they can't get the ball into their forward half of the ground at this stage, it's been played in the Hawks forward half, taken 6 marks in the opposition.

**BT** Dempster to Riewoldt, unable to keep his feet, good run by Stratton, looked almost out of the game earlier survive a concussion test to get back in. Guerra, beautiful centring ball, is it Puopolo, hold, he wants to play on, he took the advantage. Don't think polo got a finger on it. Puopolo. Puopolo with 8 and a half minutes remaining, sends the Hawks out by 32. And a very very nice job.

**LD** Puopolo able to manufacture a goal there. And it would be a hard road back for the Saints, all the momentum the Hawks way, 32 points lead.

**BT** a lot of the people saying you definitely had a bit of the jumper there Buddy, you're getting a lot of reaction on your twitter there Richo, to that. But then again, Dempster, according to Damien Scott



had a piece of it too, Richo. So free kick here for Lenny Hayes, just at centre half back. Wide to Goddard. Goddard, leading possession getter for the Saints here tonight. Short ball to Milera. Mitchell's had 27 for the Hawks their best. Liam Shiels, 25.

**LD** Here's Polo

**MR** Well they were challenged late in that third quarter but the Hawks have come out and played some disciplined footy in this last quarter.

Had a couple of breaks go their way, didn't they? When you saw Stratton go off, you thought that's going to be massive, and also Hodge, both been out of play at the game.

**BT** Well, up at the St Kilda end of the ground they are yet to score anything in this quarter, here's Milne, a chance to make it work and he kicks the goal for the Saints. (*Booing – yes, really*) Milne, with his first goal of the night, deep into the last quarter. And the Saints supporters have stayed, they think there's some hope, 26 points down. 7 and a quarter minutes remaining, Darce, is it possible?

**LD** unlikely BT, but possible, but 7 A grade players, they're always a chance. Oh we love what Koschi's done tonight. Look at that effort, smother, clean hands, set up the goal from Steven Milne. Back to 26 points. It's possible. They need everything to go right here the Saints, including this clearance. Gotta get it going their way

**BT** 7 minutes to do it Darce. The Saints who have won 3 for the year. They play Carlton at Etihad next week the Saints. And the Hawks will take on Melbourne at the MCG. Milera, through a bit of traffic there. Around the corner was Isaac Smith. Once again Milera.

**LD** Gee

**BT** That's not crisp at ground level with his ball handling on that occasion,

**MR** I thought he copped one a little bit high, there, Milera.

**BT** Puopolo and Polo and that's the perfect wing tackle, isn't it? Umpire let it go, it was taken out of the hands in the end. And now Suckling combining with Guerra. Burgoyne on the end of it. Nice little kick back inside to Savage. 42289 here at the G tonight to see this game. Battle of a couple of the big guns. Roughead sitting himself in front. Hale! Good grab.

**LD** he's been an important selection for the Hawks, David Hale, with the issues they've had in the ruck. Young Max Bailey has gone down again with another injury, they've had some of their young players not been able to get out on the field regularly, just gives them a competitive effort in the ruck and he has always been capable of doing that. I saw him kick 7 goals on Matty Scarlett once down at Geelong. I think he's got more in him. I reckon he can push forward, take more contested marks, this man.

**BT** This to put a dagger in the heart of the Saints, to take it out to 32 points. David Hale, from 30, nicely worked. Admired his work. 32 point lead. Hale adds to the goals in this last quarter. It's a four goal one quarter in favour of the Hawks, and they now lead by 32 points.

**CL** just a couple of small discipline issues here by St Kilda. Gilbert had the punch there. Terrific mark by Hale but the old rule, when you're in behind, when you're behind in the defensive end of the ground, just punch the ball. Kill it.

**BT** oh Lingy's turning into half a coach down there, wants the discipline thing done Richo. Not sure you and he would get on if you were playing with him, would you?

**MR** (*laughs*) you'd be a good coach, Lingy

**BT** oh yeah,

**MR** pretty good captain. And I'd go for the marks, I don't rate punching that highly, BT

**BT** Not a, not a highly sort of needed skill Richo when you come forward

**MR** No I wouldn't have thought you'd need to punch too often.

**BT** High tackle on Shoemakers

**CL** we might keep you out of the back half of the ground, Richo, I think. Want a bit more discipline than that mate.

**MR** yeah, I won't play for your team then Lingy

**CL** (*laughing*)

**BT** it's straight to the Saints Polo. Savage checks the mark with the umpire, umpire says that's it. Polo now long and deep. Riewoldt couldn't get a good run at it, almost got it on the second bite. Osborne. Milne from the boundary line kept it alive, only just, and Guerra, not interested in the mark.

**MR** Saints have been really good this year at just limiting the opposition from scoring when they go inside 50, but in this last quarter, Hawks have gone in 12 times and scored on 8 occasions. That's just far too much, that percentage.

**BT** the Saints, Carlton, West Coast and Sydney over the net 3 weeks, guys. Currently with just the 3 wins and facing 3 of the best performing teams in the comp over the next 3 weeks.

**LD** yeah, a big month of footy coming up for them. They'll have to pick themselves up off the canvas. They'll hope Fisher's not too bad. There's some encouraging signs tonight. I think Nick Riewoldt's form and Justin Koschitzke's efforts have been two real standouts. McEvoy surgery on Monday the St Kilda ruck man will be out for 3 or 4 with a knee issue.

Puopolo

**CL** Magnificent attack on the footy and the man by Tom Simpkin there and Buddy Franklin. That made an incredible sound when they hit. (*laughs*) both guys got up but both guys looked very sore.

**LD** Bit to like about Tommy Simpkin, Lingy, isn't there? I mean he's only playing game number 7 but he's gotta bit of go about him, hasn't he?

**CL** yeah, I like the look of him. He'll develop into a good player. He just needs time but he's shown a lot tonight.

**BT** what's it like, the perspective down there, Lingy, for so long you've been a player, you're really close to the action, how do you feel sitting there watching the footy so close up and see the way its played

**CL** yeah it's a little bit hard not to jump off the seat sometimes when the play comes in the area and

**BT** did you realise the impacts were so hard and forceful?

**CL** Oh that was brutal, that contest right then, and that made an incredible sound and it makes me really, pretty thankful that I'm sitting here.

**BT** Koschitzke over the back, takes a nice grab as the third man up.

**MR** This has been the biggest positive this year for the Saints I reckon, the resurgence of Koschi. He's back, definitely.

**BT** The multi skilled Goddard on his left was unable to find a man and now Sewell takes off. Little handball inside to Smith. In the end Suckling, the overlap here from Hale, from 50 metres out, a high ball, Goddard's under it, big Koschi's there a well, Rioli made them all earn it. Have a look at this, Puopolo, Mitchell to Smith. Good finish! Desperation footy to the death for the Hawks. Isaac Smith has certainly offered something that the Hawks haven't had over much of this year so far, some outside run, and some speed, some linkage. Buddy comes for a well earned rest, earning himself 5 goals tonight.

**LD** yeah, Isaac, 22 disposals, coming back into the side, 12 handball receives, that's the way he needs to play his footy

**BT** have a look at Rioli with the little basketball tap, Puopolo with the fast hands, and Mitchell likewise to the finish of Smith it was some pretty good stuff, wasn't it? Looking good the Hawks here at the moment. Sewell

**MR** well there's another, another win out of the clearance for the Hawks, and they've had a win there tonight, they haven't won that, they've only won it once this year, it's been an area they've been down on so Al Clarkson'll be happy that they've won that battle tonight.

**BT** Montagna to Riewoldt on the lead and he takes a nice mark. Good kick by Montagna to find him on the lead there.

**LD** nice reward for Nick Riewoldt to finish with 4 if he kicks this I think. Another close (??) look up you have to always admire the way this man plays his footy, with great courage and work rate and skill,

**BT** good held from Stanley there too, with a little bit of a shepherd on the run. Riewoldt comes in, misses to the left hand side. One 43 left in this one. Saturday night footy.

**CL** Just watching Luke Hodge run to the boundary there, gee he's a tough player. He's strapped up, he obviously copped a massive knock in the first half but still going and running as hard as ever and just a really really tough player. His brother today plays a lot like him. He plays for Geelong Grammar in the big battle against Geelong College, and Dylan Hodge, he got knocked out just before half time, going just as hard at the football as what his brother does.

**BT** That was today was it Lingy

**CL** yes it was, the Geelong Grammar boys got up over College in a close one, nine points.

**BT** and Hodgies brother got knocked out?

**CL** (*laughing*) he certainly did

**BT** Mitchell centre half back kicks down towards Osborne. He's got an overlap runner here in Puopolo. Knocked on out of bounds.

**LD** you mentioned Jason Blake earlier just saw him forcing the ball across the line I still reckon that mobile pinch any ruckman can be an aggressive move rather than a negating move. I think its all about the instruction give. Tonight they were undermanned and they just needed something special. I would have sent the message that said I need two goals from you. I don't care how you do it, but take the game on. Hale can't keep up with you, can't run with you, so find a way to push forward and to clear some space. You know rather than just try to run around the midfield, see if you can get on the scoreboard. I reckon it's a role that hasn't been explored as much as it perhaps could have been

**BT** up the back, the Saints so they are going to go down here the Saints, been a fine effort by the Hawks. Little tap on by Sipos, out to Armitage on his left, bends it back, good looking kick, just across the face and a minor score so... Good crowd 42 289 here and all of the stars have fired tonight

Franklin 5 Rioli has kicked 6, Riewoldt's got a few as well, and Koschi doing well, so good stuff for some of the stars of the competition. Hawks have been challenged many times this game and always managed to keep that sort of 2 goal margin. That's a rare miss from Rioli tonight, been spectacular from him little handball from Breust out wide to Birchall, Birchall inside, stolen by Blake he was looking for Puopolo he kicked forward, good mark taken by Siposs. Game number 6 of his career, first this year. Siposs with Riewoldt going back, to the goal, Roughead did well defensively

SIREN

Siren sounds, Hodge a little battered, but the Hawks win by 35 points.

## 2012.6 Sydney v Adelaide

5 May 2012 SCG (23 969) 94-99 FOX FOOTY

Anthony Hudson, Jason Dunstall, Liam Pickering, Paul Roos

**AH** So it's all on the line as we're into the last quarter here at the SCG big Stevie gets in amongst it.

**JD** As we speak, he's just gauging how far to drop off, when to drop off and how far to drop off, Ben Rutten, he's looking to do that now

**AH** He's still a fair way away though isn't he, from Adam Goodes.

**JD** Yep. He is

**AH** We'll get to that if it goes that way. Dangerfield looking for a free. I reckon he's found one.

**JD** Yep.

**AH** Just lingered a little long in the tackle, and so its Dangerfield's footy. Walker is the man whose most likely to take it at the moment, that's an (??) again

**JD** He's kicked that off one step, low with penetration and gave no one the chance to spoil. A really good kick, it's a tight angle,

**AH** It seems that's all he needs, isn't it at the moment.

**JD** He has got his confidence up, kicking. 4 straight.

**AH** So Taylor Walker with the margin sitting at 7, it's a must for the Crows, and he's done it again. This goal kicking caper, it's easy for Taylor Walker,

**JD** We keep speaking about confidence, when you get the first couple going, Adam Goodes has kicked 5 1 at his end and that's 5 straight for Taylor Walker, when you're striking it nice, look at that, off one step a low dart that travelled 50 metres straight to Taylor Walker (*laughing*) nearly, dropped it. Didn't know whether to take it on the chest or in the hands but he has kicked beautifully tonight. Straight as an arrow.

**AH** So Taylor Walker now 20 goals for the year, which I suspect puts him on top of the league table depending what's happening elsewhere, because Tom Hawkins had a quietish day, down at Geelong.

**LP** We mentioned this before, that Sydney have now kicked 4 goals directly from the centre clearance, and Adelaide now 3.

**AH** Kennedy, (*laughs*) look at Dangerfield,

**JD** Just steamrolling people

**AH** Yeah, get out of my way, there he is, he just kept on coming, and eventually down towards Sloane, and Kennedy there's some terrific contests going on, individual ones, little mini-battles going on, there he is again, still going hard, following up the work, that was Callinan, Callinan that was going on, got it along the line... There's Shaw, back towards Dangerfield, digs deep

**JD** That's a mark!

**AH** He's got it!

**JD** Signalled the wrong way the umpire

**AH** He did, the umpire. Everyone knew that it was Dangerfield's mark. So the margin is back at one, back at a precarious level for the Swans and the Crows looking to strike while the iron is hot and it is at the moment, Jacobs, Vetch, it's not a bad strike, it's a great strike, and they have struck back with consecutive goals, they're in front

**PR** Yeah, really good effort there, I was a bit worried about the handball, as is John Longmire there, he's very worried about the handball, I was a bit worried about the handball to Jacobs, it looked like a really close, in hand handball

**JD** Yep

And uh, just didn't know, that's a really good mark from Dangerfield, but I wasn't sure when that handball was given, we can see it here, good contest by McKernan comes down, hit, just this little one here, I just didn't think there was enough width for Jacobs to do anything but just really good composure from the big man. And a terrific finish.

**AH** Oh this is good stuff from the Crows. They've shown this ability all night really. We've talked about the numbers overwhelmingly favour the Swans in a number of areas and the danger of Adam Goodes. But, if they can't get it down there, they can't do much.

**JD** That's a couple of goals Lynch has has kicked tonight, running from half back and he's now on Jetta. Kennedy.

**PR** He's done a hamstring here, Goodes

Oh, he has, yeah,

**JD** Oh no, he's proppy. It's not a hammy because he would have started coming off. He's just jarred the ankle or something

**PR** Gee he looks sore,

He does look sore, it's not cramp...?

**JD** If it was a hammy, he'd be coming off.

Feeling the hip, or

Hip, yeah

Hip flexor

Keep an eye on that

That is a concern

**AH** Very closely. O'Keefe Kennedy, thought he might as well go on his own. I think Goodes is in real trouble

**PR** Yeah, I don't think he's good.

He can't run

Nup

**PR** He's done something, definitely.

Gotta get the ball

**JD** Now he's signalling

**LP** Yep, well, they've got Everitt as their sub now he's not really gonna be a like for like, mind you there's not too many like Adam Goodes.

*(laughing)*

**PR** Yeah, where's the like for like, Pickers, can you pick one,

**LP** Nah, not on this ground

**AH** Parker goes for Reed, he's going to have to be the focus. Oh what a difference this is going to make on the game if Goodes is no good

**JD** Yes, but he's staying out there, trying to, trying to shake it off. Let's have a look, *(replay Goodes incident)* he goes on the lead and then he just geeze

**LP** It has to be muscle, (??)

**PR** He's done something hasn't he?

**JD** He grabs the left hip when he's running,

**PR** I thought it might have been a cramp but he hasn't grabbed his leg at all, for a cramp, so I think he's in a bit of trouble.

**JD** That's good tackling from Vergonan

**PR** Great tackle, *(booing)*

**AH** Terrific stuff

**PR** Geez they've really lifted, the Crows haven't they?

**JD** They have

**PR** Terrific. They look fit, they'll certainly run the game out, and we know the Swans will also, so it could really go down to the wire, this game

**JD** Well it's been a great contest I mean they got out of the blocks in quarter one, but as soon as Sydney reeled them back, its been tit for tat for much of the game

**LP** Well this bloke's leading the way

**JD** Yeah

**PR** He's been outstanding

**LP** He's been fantastic

**AH** Possession number 24 following on from 39 last week, dexterous stuff from McKay. The doctor's been out to Goodes,

**JD** Oh, a Sydney player down behind play, it was Johnson. Involved in a clash with McKernan, who's now going to fly for the ball. He's in trouble Johnson.

**LP** And Goodes is coming off, *(laugh)* he's probably going to get a possession in before he does

**JD** Yes, Alex Johnson's in trouble, he's still down on his haunches. Didn't see what happened, unless he got one in the family jewels which can have that sort of impact on you. Oh might have just got winded.

**PR** Yeah, he might have

**AH** Some real concerns all of a sudden, on a number of fronts, for the Sydney Swans. Kennedy perhaps held without it for a moment. But it goes Adelaide's way. Petrenko. It's a high one. Tippet, they come from all angles. The only men down were all Crows. Johncock once was a small forward, that time though, couldn't quite get into the clear. Oh they, left it behind and McKernan had the opportunity to capitalise but couldn't. There's one that goes begging.

**JD** Mmm

**PR** (*vision of Goodes*) Yeah they're working high on that

Could be the adductor is it?

**JD** He holds it with the left hand. Let's hope it's just a spasm and not a strain we don't want to see any of the good players out.

**PR** Nah

**JD** Well, you don't want to see any of the players out of the game, but the stars and he's kicked 5 goals tonight and really lit it up.

**PR** Well in the context of this game, the tactics

Well that's huge because Goodes was dominating there, and that brings him off the ground and gives Henderson some relief, and certainly it will change the way the Swans use the ball.

**JD** Here we go

**AH** This is the man who can change the complexion again. Jetta for O'Keefe, Prime position. Oh! Reilly

**JD** That is brilliant!

**AH** What an outstanding grab and now the Crows, boy! That's a game changer. Gets it out wide, slide, wobbly but effective, Petrenko running rampant!

**JD** Amazing transformation

**PR** As good as that mark was, that's a Adam Goodes Henderson contest, right there, and he's off the ground, but let's give credit to Riley because that looked like O'Keefe was gunna mark that football, and he turned around, look at this,

**JD** Could be a two goal, could be a two goal turnaround, he took front spot away and then played on, saw Scott Thompson at the other end of the ground and now they're having a shot at goal ten seconds later. Entitled to smile

I think as he came off

**AH** Smiles all round (*booing*) and the smiles will get wider if Petrenko can kick truly, and it holds on, and gets there. Adelaide by 2 goals now

**JD** That's an amazing fight back by the Crows. They were hanging on by a thread. Some of the key stats against them but that work there from Brent Riley. We saw him get caught out in a one on one contest with Adam Goodes. He got brushed aside, Goodes kicked a goal. More his size player, Ryan O'Keefe he was good enough to get back strong, take the mark and play on. And then Jared Petrenko, well he's been in pretty good form as well, 13 possessions, and now his third goal. And the Crows are excited.



**PR** Rory Sloane's become a very, very good midfielder as well. He was the one who delivered that ball. To Petrenko He's up to 23 possessions. Every time he cuts the momentum swongs, swings in Sydney's favour

**LP** Uh, the red jacket's out

**PR** For who

**LP** For Adam Goodes, yeah, he's got ice on his groin, and you can see Everitt there and there's Adam Goodes, so he's out of business

**JD** That is a massive blow to Sydney's chances of winning this match, and let's hope it's very much a short term thing

**AH** 3 Goals to nil in this quarter. And this man Dangerfield has had 4 disposals already, Sloane's also be influential. It's really up for grabs now

**JD** Oh look at Dangerfield going after it,

**AH** Just the venom in his attack on the footy.

**JD** Petrenko's been another thorn in the side too, on the side down there.

**LP** He's hurt down there, Dangerfield,

**JD** Yep, he's one of those players that just seems to thrive on body contact. He'll pick himself off, shake it off, and he'll go just as hard at the next one.

**AH** Pretty easy is the double tap down from Tippett and they're into the 50. Richards, losing balance, didn't lose his composure, kept it in Sydney hands. In safe hands. Grundy. They are on the back foot at the moment, that's just about the best he could do. He gave Reid the opportunity which he couldn't take. They're just getting pushed off the footy at the moment, and this man is doing a lot of the pushing. Dangerfield, works it back into the clear, high ball Jaensch, into the 50 again, the Swans oh, there's some interference there (*booing*)

**JD** Oh that's a shocker, Rhyce Shaw. He was trying to protect the back of his teammate, Ted Richards who he thought was in the box seat to mark and he was, but Ian Cohen was the man that was trying to create a contest. He was probably never going to be able to fly over the top of Ted Richards and Rhyce Shaw's just grabbed him by the arm. (*Booing*)

**LP** Adelaide have also made their sub, so Lyons is on for the Crows and McKernan's the one they subbed off, so they've left plenty of run here, the Crows,

**AH** Mmm, well Cohen kicked those early goals. The experienced player from the SANFL has shown he can really cut it at this top level. Two goals tonight, make it three now. And that is the margin for the Crows. (*Booing*)

**PR** It's just such an unnecessary free kick and that's the reason coaches get sacked because

**JD** (*laughing*) and get upset

**PR** And get upset, I mean Rhyce Shaw, terrific player and been outstanding tonight. Just grabs the right arm, hangs onto it and drags him down. I think you mentioned Jase that Cohen was never going to jump over the top. I mean the intentions of Shaw is right, to block his teammate, so the intent is right, but the way that he goes about it is completely wrong. So just a bad bad blue from Rhyce Shaw.

**AH** Total dominance in this last quarter, how things have changed. And the Crows have kicked 4 goals 1 to nothing.

**PR** And 34 Possessions to 17. So they are really, significantly on top. 7 to 3 inside 50s as well, Huddo. So certainly The Crows and Dangerfield, Thompson, Sloane blokes like that are really getting involved now.

**AH** Well, it's all hands on deck for the Swans. Didn't really do enough there Bird in the end he's tunnel balled it out of bounds, and that gets him out of jail. Down to you Liam

**JD** Awh,

**LP** The contested possession count, if we have a look at that, 19 more today Adelaide have had over Sydney and now they haven't lost a contest possession count all year, the Crows, so they're continuing on their merry way tonight.

**JD** That looked like David MacKay and Jude Bolton, I think

**AH** Well, we don't recognise Jude unless he's got at least some strapping on his head, *(laughs)* a bandage

**PR** How many teams have played Hawthorn and won the next week, Jase, you're a Hawthorn man.

**JD** Well

**PR** Don't know? Well a few of them have been beaten haven't they?

**JD** Well, Geelong got beaten the week after, West Coast nearly got beaten, an uh if Sydney get beaten here, what are you trying to say.

**PR** Well I think Hawthorn are a really good side, I guess and teams seem to be getting up for the Hawks. Is it a bit of that mental let down the following week, given, you know, the preseason predictions on Hawthorn were very big and it is easy for teams to get up for those sides.

**LP** *(laughing)* don't, don't bring Hawthorn into it in front of Jason, you know what he gets like *(laughing)* because, Canterbury, Reid!

Oh

**AH** Someone has to stand an inch or two taller if Sydney are to win, and Reid – this is a very big moment for him

**JD** Well, he's capable,

**AH** Yep

**JD** He is capable of taking the contested pack mark. And he can be 3 or 4 deep and those arms can reach over the top like he did there, but this is the execution that has to follow.

**AH** And it's the time for him to find it. He goes back and let's rip, but, it's not straight.

**JD** Looked like he hurried that one a bit

**AH** Mmm

**PR** Just look at his, it's like he's the sort of posed (??) Walker's style to Reid's style. And when Reid does kick relaxed relax and when he stiffens up and tightens up like he did there, he does struggle.

**AH** So there is time for the Swans, 11 and a half minutes still remaining, although they wouldn't want to concede any more you'd think. Henderson, Glass for half back. Malceski. Thompson. McVeigh, and they finally get a break here. Hannebery, Malceski, we know he's a big kick, he's a penetrating

low kick too but Smith had the read on it. Henderson not sure about the handball, Kennedy liked it didn't quite like that execution, Hannebery off balance and the result's plain to see.

**PR** I mean the Goodes out is huge, there's nothing the Swans can do about it but we've seen 2 or 3 balls come forward in this quarter that went forward in the third quarter that Adam Goodes clearly marked, so look it's a massive out for the Sydney Swans

**JD** But knowing the team that Sydney is, you still expect them to find a way to respond. I don't think that they can concede the next goal and still win. So you've gotta think they've gotta kick the next one.

**AH** McVeigh. Jetta waits down if it hits the ground. Oh it didn't hit the ground. O'Keefe, he'll feel some responsibility here, he'll know that if they are to get over the line and climb up, it'll be players like him that will have to play a huge role.

**LP** Well they did kick four late goals in the second quarter so they can do it, Sydney Swans, no question about that.

**AH** Had a slowish start to the season, but start to return to form last week. Just the 6 goals going into tonight for the year. And O'Keefe, been such a versatile player for them, comes up with the chocolates at the big time, back to 11 points.

**PR** And we talked before the game about their midfield depth and their rotations, Jason, this is just another example. Ryan O'Keefe was in the midfield early on Thompson, he's able to go forward, he can catch the ball over his head. Jude Bolton's there he versus Riley you can see, so their ability to interchange positions is a significant advantage for them.

**JD** And Brody Smith would be disappointed with that, he was the third man up loose coming with the 5<sup>th</sup> and he didn't get there. But that's an important goal for Sydney and we expected them to fight back.

**PR** Yep

**AH** 3 goals tonight for Ryan O'Keefe, what is coming next?

**PR** Rhyce Shaw, Rhyce Shaw's gone forward for Sydney. Yeah, the forward line for Sydney is amazing, Jetta, McGlynn, Bolton, O'Keefe, Shaw and Reid. So, they've changed things right up, the Swans coaching group.

**JD** And he's produced goals before, Rhyce Shaw

**AH** Oh boy Grundy, what a kick that one. It's climbed mighty high. Good intensity from Petrenko didn't quite complete the job. Bird. There's Everitt on the ground replacing the injured Adam Goodes. Johnson. And it'll be a bounce.

**PR** Yep, Rhyce Shaw has played out of the goal square Jase, before. He's very very quick off the mark.

**JD** But now all of a sudden they've pulled all their forwards up the ground again, and they've got a vacant 50 metre arc. They way they've played a lot of the year. Pulling everyone up the ground and then trying to get the ball over the top. There's Rhyce Shaw, he's now pushing up. As a forward playing as an extra midfield at the moment and you can see all the space, behind them.

**AH** Malceski.

**JD** And that's the kick that he tried to get over the top.

**AH** That was a 50-50 contest. This time Riley not so sure, if he handles this one Jetta, he'll be away. Once twice, give him a third time, he'll take it and leave you for dead!

**JD** That's how they, that's how they set up. They opened up the space they needed the kick over the top. You've gotta feel for the Adelaide Crows because it was Matty Jaensch that was chasing. He was purely and simply running a hundred metre sprint as quick as he could. In the meantime Lewis Jetta is trying to pick up the ball. Now you watch, he gets goal side, Jetta, now all he is doing is trying to pick up the ball, all Jaensch is trying to do is to reel him in. And he's just, no one's got the speed, Rutten didn't have the speed. He got the kind bounce and he strolls in.

**PR** I tell you that's great coaching from the Sydney Swans, but a lack of awareness from the Crows. I don't know if they had an extra player back, double team Reid. You have to be back inside your defensive 50 because you've gotta know, exactly, what you called it up here in the commentary box Jase, so they had to know what's going on in the Crows coaching box as well, but they had no one back inside 50 and Jetta was allowed to do what he's been doing all year.

**JD** and sometimes you haven't got time to get a message out there.

**PR** But that's where you need your on-field leaders to make a call

Exactly

**AH** They break again, hurried kick into the 50, charging out hard for it Reid did well, kept it in front. Gave Bolton the opportunity to do that, tough for Kieran Jack in the clinches. Sloane finds a way for the Crows,

**JD** Oh the ruckmen are chasing it!

**AH** Oh, look at this! Its slow motion stuff on Saturday night footy. One left it behind.

Oh it's a throw (*laughs*)

And Jacobs threw it.

**AH** He thinks he handballed it, but that is a really bad turnover, because they were away then the Crows

**JD** One fumbled, and one threw it.

**AH** We love our ruckmen. Its part of what makes up the game, so many different shapes and sizes. Parker (*laugh*) duck, long down to full forward, Reid flew, oh it's still anyone's here. This is terrific stuff as they combine deep McKay, Cullinan, along the line

**JD** It's a clever kick

**AH** It didn't quite go out, Wright kept it alive because he saw that help was at hand. Now was that on the full, it wasn't, it was touched, came almost off the boot of young Jarryd Lyons, who was pretty impressive on debut last week, the 19 year old.

**LP** From Sandringham

**PR** It's a great game Huddo, sometimes you see games where you think oh geez nobody wants to win this game, they're making so many mistakes. This is the opposite, both teams are playing well and really want to win this game, and are trying their absolute best to be able to do that.

**AH** for the moment, it's being played on Sydney's terms. But Adelaide have shown this ability to be resilient all night, they've kicked plenty on the counter and might get a chance to do it here, although you can see, the extra body is with the Swans, as they work their way by hand through the middle this

time. O'Keefe to Roberts-Thompson. Took too long. Had to kick in haste in the end. The damage is minimalised with, oh I thought it was a good tackle but the umpire disagreed, and now they're off again. Jacobs, Riley, down along the line to Paul Pleaseya

**JD** Gee Taylor Walkers run down on Lewis Roberts-Johnson was important. It was a good chase.

**AH** Mmm. Johncock was deep. Rutten stayed off him. And laid a good tackle. Tippett got it out. And now it is out.

**JD** Let's have a look at Taylor Walker, he was chasing Ryan O'Keefe and he kept going. That's what you want to see from your forwards, the second effort.

**AH** Oh, its good stuff. 7 and a half to go. Roberts-Thompson knocks it clear, look at those numbers, Thompson they can't hem him in this, back with the flight, Madner didn't get it done, Johncock just might, he just might! No! Saving the day is Nick Smith.

**JD** Nick Smith

**AH** And there's a goal in it.

**JD** Kurt Tippett's had one kick for one goal, and that was a snap from the pocket. He doesn't look like taking a contested mark,

**AH** Nah. Malceski. It's a long way home from there, but they start to crank it up with a bit of handball and a bit of run. Up to the wing, big ball to be won. Rutten didn't try and mark it, let's see what happens next. He goes again, the big man, he's on the ground. The big battle truck. Rutten, he's in there, and they back out the back. Kennedy, sorry, uh Jack got it in the hands of McGlynn, with a bounce, with a little bit too much on it and that's easy fodder for Brent Riley who takes the grab. 6 and a half to go now. Its tense stuff

**PR** And Tippett's number 2 in contested marks behind Travis Cloke, Jase, but you're right, he hasn't looked like touching it tonight. He's the one who really needs to clunk a big mark to really give the Crows the chance to get this game over the line

**AH** Down here is where the squeeze starts to be applied, Hannebery got pushed off it. Now which way's it going?

**JD** Yeah

**AH** Oh no! He pointed the wrong way. He's done that a couple of time tonight.

**JD** Well he actually got pushed into Hannebery there

**AH** Correct

**LP** I reckon Sam Reid pushed in (??)

**AH** He did, he did, I reckon Smith should of got the free kick, it's on a sharp line to the top of the square. Good angle work by Talia, but uh didn't know what, that kick has gone a mile in the air. Parker, Jetta, has he still got another trick or two to show us tonight. Sloanee, and now they can come away Callinan again, kept it low. Tippett can't catch anything tonight, but uh they're almost away. Smith's kick, straight for McVeigh. Dealed it off nicely. Oh, Malceski, that's deep, that'd make any defender nervous. As it hits the turf, it's McKay.

**JD** Gotta run it.

**AH** Yep, first to his feet. Now he's got nothing at all ahead.

**JD** This is where the elite athletes come into it that can run and McKay's one of those.

**AH** It's like a relay, passing the baton through the middle here, except not going full steam ahead, and that's gone. That is gone with a capital G. And they're off and running now. Jetta, he'll think about backing himself, oh he went long and it's wide and it's ugly.

**JD** Shanked it.

**PR** You mentioned about the elite athletes too, but this is where the good thinkers come in Jase.

**JD** Yep

**PR** You know, the composure. Everyone's tired, there's 5 minutes to go, someone's just gotta take control of the game. Just slow it down. Jetta just needed to take that and just control the tempo and the same thing for Henderson over there, he didn't have much to go to but at that particular stage, you've gotta remain calm and make a good decision.

**JD** Still plenty of time on the clock. And that is just inches inside the boundary line (*booing*)

**AH** Young Smith with the kick and Dangerfield the mark. Every kick, every mark, every handball. All under scrutiny. Malceski in front, Jacobs made him earn it, and he comes spinning-spinning out and we're ready to go again on the wing.

**JD** It's a big job for Sam Jacobs too because Shaun McKernan's been subbed out of the game, so he's not getting that rest now, he's shouldering the ruck load and he's looking very tired.

**AH** Inside the last 5 minutes. Roberts-Thompson with the run of the ruck, tapped it down Paul Pleaseya. Gained more height than territory. Now that mark paid. I'm not sure that it actually travelled more than about 10 m of actual distance. But Sloane again,

**JD** Lyons has just come onto the ground and he's in the square, he's in the centre square all on his own, if they can find him.

**AH** Not taking the risk, I guess, they've got to, Sydney that need to come up to a goal as we get up to 4 minutes to go

**JD** They need another score

**PR** I don't mind that kick though. Not much on that though, you mentioned Lyons it was a really risky kick to go to him. He's two kicks away. So just take a stoppage.

**AH** So they're happy to let Lewis Roberts-Thompson run at the moment in the ruck. Seaby's on the bench.

**JD** I think what they would love the Crows is at least another point and then play this sort of game, you know, where it's just stoppage in their half of the ground.

**AH** Tense moments for Brenton Sanderson, just young in his coaching career. This will be a real triumph for him if he can get the Crows home tonight.

**JD** And this is where Sydney are so good at getting the ball from the clearances and just making the play, and here they go again.

**AH** Seaby and Bolton are stuck on the bench at the moment, down there, trying to get on the ground, they can't. That's touched off the boot, Hannebery went around it, but time and space were on his side. McVeigh as they orchestrate a move forward. Reid, plenty of Crows to deal with, there's a mighty big spike back to the wing. But it falls the Swans way, Bird gets them deep, Jetta, almost but not quite this time, Everitt trying to push onto it, and Jetta again, still he comes, O'Keefe looking for a free, oh, Petrenko trying to do the right thing, its line ball, its on the full, and they can wind up some more.

**PR** I tell you it was a great spoil by Petrenko

**JD** Wasn't it

**LP** Now they can't go long here, coz the numbers have all got back, they need a presented target.

**JD** And Lewis Roberts-Thompson's pushed down there. Everyone's down there.

**AH** These are frantic moments deep in the game. They need a goal the Swans, McGlynn lines up, top of the square, and it's over and out, but the damage, the danger, I should say, well it's on the screen with Dangerfield, but it's ever present as far as the Crows are concerned.

**PR** As this is where you know, Crows need their senior players to get to the right spots in these defensive stoppages.

**AH** Ooh, Jacobs. If someone can get a boot in, and that's Parker

**JD** And that's an important point for Sydney.

**AH** So they're under a goal, 5 points. Now what will the kick-in see? Will they go down the middle here, you suspect not.

**JD** Well, one of the issues here for Adelaide is the mindset. Are they trying to hang on? If they can score again, they'll probably win, but if they try to hang on, it's a long time to hold forward for 3 minutes.

**PR** And the Swans have done really well here, one on one, there's no free players so they're forcing the Crows to kick the ball down the line.

**AH** Which they do. Henderson's ball takes them to half back. Dangerfield. Important ride that one Callinan says slow down everyone.

**PR** To be honest, you need to go quick.

**JD** Yeah

**LP** Correct.

**AH** Well he does now. Petrenko

Gotta find a way to score.

**PR** There's 2.44 to go. So, there's no way known you can chip around for that long.

**AH** Well now he's told to move it which he does. He kicks to a one on three. It would be a good time for Tippett to take one. He didn't. Mattner here's the spillage, here's Sloane it's over, he's happy with that. Down to 2. 27 It's a long way from Sydney's forward line right now.

**JD** I reckon the Crows are nervous though, 5 points, you get that feeling you could get robbed. Sydney have got no one,

**PR** no one in their forward 50.

**AH** Dangerfield. A score here will mean the Crows probably won't lose. Was that out on the full.

**JD** No. gee he would have loved to have swung that in for a point.

**PR** Yeah, he would have too.

**AH** But



Plenty of time,

It's still deep, deep, deep in the heart of Adelaide territory. 2.16 now.

**PR** Adelaide have got Ruten loose behind the footy now,

And he's gotta drop back like he is now. He's gotta be the last player.

**AH** Parker, delicate operation here in the middle. These are big balls to be won, it could go anywhere, Bolton, he's earned himself a free, Sydney look at them spread. He's gotta go back behind the mark as they go to all points of the compass. Hannebery leads hard one way, Jack goes with him for support, the closing was from young Lyons, but it was too late and away goes Hannebery. Deep. They're coming from everywhere. Its Crows, its Jetta, oh he's been a star all night! Oh, he's missed.

**JD** Oh boy, that would have brought the roof down. That was it, there and then.

Still got plenty of time, still a minute and a half but that was a golden opportunity.

And that's the case where you've got to trust your loose man, because Ruten was free by himself, but Jetta's man flew as well. So all of a sudden you had three up and Jetta on the ground. If you've got one there, let him take control of the ball.

**AH** Jaensch give is all he can. Doesn't get a mark. Again it heads in the Jetta direction. Thompson, is that a free? No, now it is

**JD** That'll be in the back. Surely.

Gee that was a late call.

**JD** They can, they've manned up well Sydney. They're one on one everywhere the Swans.

Well really, if you can't chip it now you've just gotta go down the line to a ruckman. And try and get it,

**AH** Dangerfield. Oh, he's a star.

**JD** They've got to go long down the line again, they've got to keep it close to the boundary line

Yep. You can't open up and you can't have everyone running forward like this either Jase, because the swan's forward line's very very open.

**AH** Oh, Wright that was such a big one and he gets it long and it bounces in, its stays in, Sloane, somehow it hugs the line.

You don't want to get a point here,

**AH** Sloane! What about this! What about this! It's not a point, it's a goal!

**JD** They're gunna review this I reckon

They're going to review it. See, it, he's called - Now did he say it hit the post?

**JD** I don't think Johncock reacted like he kicked a goal, and they're setting up for a zone, I think it hit the post. Unless it clearly says otherwise, this will be a point.

This is a huge, a huge break for the Swans. They only way they're gunna win this game is if it's a point

**JD** Here we go. Does it touch the padding?

Yes, it does



That's a great decision by the umpire, he thought it hit the padding, and it does,

**AH** It skinned the pads, it skinned it, and so,

**JD** Gee that's a bad miss by Johncock, that would have sewn the game up

Yep

**AH** We're left with 5 points the difference between sides 30 seconds on the clock. It's all or nothing for the Swans. It's Kennedy as they crash in but it's the Crows, young Lyons gets them deep on what a time for a one hander.

**JD** Still got time.

**AH** 24 seconds. Has to go back, oh, he decides to handball. Interesting. Gave it to Malceski, he gets it quickly and long Reed, they come from 3 deep and young Lyons in the heart of it in the heart of it Riley, this is stirring stuff from the Crows, great stuff too though from the Swans

SIREN

**AH** it's an Adelaide victory what a win for the Adelaide Crows, what a victory for Brenton Sanderson, and his young Adelaide Crows team and look what it means for them

## 2012.7 Carlton v Greater Western Sydney

6 May 2012 Etihad Stadium (28 213) 110-43 FOX FOOTY

Anthony Hudson, Jason Dunstall, Danny Frawley, David King

**AH** so let's see where the hunger lies early in this last quarter. GWS able to get it forward, Ward was lurking thereabout with a bit of intent but it's Simpson that beats them to it. Gets it out to Armfield, or onto the boot was all he was trying to achieve. Big Hanson against Power, terrific mismatch in size. Interesting decision by Power to probably try to find the boundary line and it might not pay off because Walker got himself into the clear. He's trying to adjust the kick, just perfect for Thornton and he got it right

**DF** Oh, it was a perfect kick, absolute perfect kick. Nothing Hobbs could do there, he, he was brave, and he got the front position but the kick was too good. That's what you need, just kick the ball long and strong to a contest, to the younger body and 8 times out of 10 you're gonna come out on top.

**AH** So Brett Thornton who's 28 years of age, 185 games and I guess he knows that he's gotta keep performing well if he's going to be playing for this team come September. And who knows, maybe even for the, in the grand final. He's going to valuable at both ends of the ground, he's playing his role at the moment

**DF** I think you're going to find that Brett Thornton will finish his career as that third tall forward, Huddo

**JB** he's he's been squeezed out of the back line

**DF** He has he's gotta make it as a forward now. He's kicked three today. Well Lachie Henderson, yeah, Lachie Henderson's obviously taken his spot down back, you've got Jamison, Tower, Dyson, Rowe. Laidler when he's fit. So Brett Thornton's best opportunity is to kick his two or three and really do some defensive pressure down in the forward line. You've got Jarrad Waites sitting in the grandstand, you've got Andrew Walker, obviously Betts and Garlett a walk up start, so he needs to complete, and compete well.

**JD** Well a good cheer from the Carlton crowd when that goal had been kicked. Josh Bootsma on for his first run and he goes deep into defence.

**AH** his dad played 163 WAFL games for South Freo and 23 AFL games for Fremantle. Coniglio generating some more footy for Greene coming off the wing. And nice kick too, well placed, sliding mark for Palmer. Couple of leads. He decides to go for one of them... never really going to happen there for Hampton. With Bower and Scotland, should say uh Robinson collaborating. Now Dyson had to wheel his way back onto the left, he's walking a fine line with the boundary line. Walker, for Eddie Betts. He could sense that someone was coming and that someone was Kennedy, but Betts, with uh some deft little moves gets another nice manoeuvre forward for Andrew Walker who delays the handball, gave it eventually to Simpson, he's got Thornton with him. Garlett sneaks into the pocket, Simpson sets it up, won't be easy for Garlett, two to combat, mark not completed by Jar uh Hombsch. Luke Power screaming for something

**DF** Thought it might have been too high or in his back, but good pressure there from Carlton to hold the ball in. Well done Hombsch

**AH** and he gets somewhat wearily to his feet. Advantage. Taken, by Shiel.

**JB** Not much to kick to so they've gotta run it.

**AH** And run it they do. Bugg pokes it out to Sumner, now Joseph's going to get there, tries to paddle for his own advantage and was able stay upright and he can send Carlton forward. Again Thornton is the avenue of attack, oh surely that was a free or a mark

**DF** I think it was a pretty good body spoil Huddo

**AH** okay (*booing*)

**DF** I'd like to have a look, to Moore, if his eyes weren't on the ball, it's a free kick, now let's have a look at his eyes

**AH** he did turn, you're right

**DF**Nah, well done,

**JD** he got the ball

**AH** Terrific spoil, good call there from the umpire. I did think Thornton grabbed it in the end but I guess you're saying he touched it cleanly. Simpson handballs to Murphy, no way out from there, McDonald's been very diligent in his task this afternoon.

**JD** Let's have a look and see if he brings the ball all the way down, because if he takes it at the second grab, but no, the ball hits the deck.

**DF** It's a good call by the umpire.

**AH** And again it just shows how the skills that Moore has as a defender.

**DF** That's the difficult body skills or spoil for the defender, running with the flight of the ball and having to turn your body and more importantly the eyes, because your eyes are on Thornton, it's a free kick every day of the week.

**JB** The thing to discuss in the next ten minutes boys will be the loose man because Carlton certainly have Jamison in the back of the square here and you feel they will just hold possession better.

**AH** Scotland winds it in in towards the square, there's a free against Walker I think or is it, not it is that way I think that might be 50 (*booing*)

**DF** Again, it's a magnificent use of the body from Hombsch. It takes a proposition. That is a very good place to play. Have a look at this,

**JD** Yeah, good decision too

**DF** Yeah, great decision from the umpire. The the clear to that he engaged in the body work on Walker, because the last thing that he wanted to do was have no touch and feel on Walker because the next minute he'll be standing on his ear.

**AH** Hobbs, Russell, gotta go against Davis. And go he does. Murphy. Gibbs. And you sense Walker was making his move. Traffic everywhere, Eddie doesn't mind some traffic, how about that for a neat trick!

**DF** Oh that's team football. Great play. Looked inboard, that was the key. That's team football. Got an excuse to do the, you know the trick to kick along the ground, the bouncing ball and bend it back, but to look inboard and see Kade Simpson whose trying to work into the game, he's had the 16 disposals, Kade, he's had one goal one.

**AH** So the margin stands at 31 as Kade Simpson tries to pop through their second of the term and he does that. So the margin out to a healthy 37 points now

**DF** Well they just haven't found the ball at all GSW they've only had the 7 disposals, at start of this quarter. Carlton have dominated the players David King alluded to. They've got the 21 disposals, it's been their possession, their holding possessions, so if they get that extra player, they'll be just content in finding any free player til they get a shot at goal. Gee that's great, great vision and skill from Betts. That's fantastic. Fantastic play. Simpson's really started this last quarter well. He's been pretty quiet the first three quarters. Had the 5 disposals already and a goal in this quarter.

**AH** Kreuzer up against Giles. Bad timing from Scotland gets it to Murphy. Suddenly the Blues start to click and run, Thornton. And that was perfect for Garlett. They had a man in the pocket and he decides to go that way. Oh, well done, withstood a fair bit there, did Kade Simpson

**DF** Good courage from Bugg, but it was a very good mark. Quick ball movement, they're running hard now Carlton. They know they need to finish this game off full of running. Terrific grab.

**JD** Oh, I could lip read that. Not attractive footy, he said.

**AH** That's a skill I didn't know you had Jase. Here's the kick from Simpson. Oh, that won't improve the mood of the coach any more.

**DK** I don't think you can call that a skill from Jason if he got it badly wrong, like he did.

**JD** (*laughs*) I had to uh edit a little bit Kingy.

**DK** Yep

**DF** And Moore

**DK** What do you do if you're Gold, uh, GWS here boys? What do you do? Do you worry about the score at the defensive end, or do you still need to keep scoring? What are you trying to achieve?

**DF** Take the game on, Kingy, take the game on, the game's out of reach now, but you just need to get some fluency in your style, like they did in the second quarter. Taking the game on. Don't be afraid to make a mistake.

**AH** Oh well that's what they're doing right at the moment. James McDonald has sacrificed his normal amount of possessions today with his defensive role. High ball back to the wing. Simpson stands in front of Reid. Stood his ground brilliantly.

**DF** He got everywhere in this quarter. This will be disposal number 7

**JD** Well I think the most important thing for GWS is to learn to put in a 4 quarter effort. They need to get maturity in their fitness, they don't have the number of pre seasons that the oppositions have under their belt, so the efforts going to tell, but they've got to learn to maintain it longer and longer week after week

**AH** Gibbs is the long target, he's gone for Lucas instead. Kreuzer arrives late. Lucas is there. Calls for more. Now Duigan should have this one covered, and he does, for a few extra centimetres. And in to Ellard, but still you'd think this would be beyond him. Kreuzer on top of the square. Giles has got back. Gibbs is there, so they're going to wind around and find a different angle.

**DF** He'll end up going back to Jamison.

**AH** Which he does.

**DF** And this is where GWS need to man up. Force Carlton to kick to a contest because it'll be a long quarter for them otherwise they'll just end up chasing the man in the mark, chasing the ball around. If they at least get a one on one it'll force Carlton to kick to a contest.

**AH** So he angles the kick Russell into the pocket, oh, he almost got there Hanson. Oh what about that for a big man! Oh! He has come a long way! He has come a long way! In game 50 what about that!

**DF** That was a magnificent grab. He played on on instinct. I think he marked the ball Jase,

**JD** Nah, no, there were different hands in between, you'll find that the ball, he actually has to steal the ball back here,

**DF** yep

**JD** It gets into the hands of Sam Reid then he grabs it back, just wheeled it round and kicked the goal with consummate ease the big fella.

**DF** Talk about a mismatch in height as well, look at that, giving away about 30 centimetres.

**JD** That's playing tall isn't it?

**AH** He's out to 44 now.

**DF** Big pat on the back there from Matty Capuano the ruck coach for Carlton

**AH** And Robbie Warnock was of course supposed to come in and he could have been able to stake his claim, but he's going to miss 2 or 3 weeks with a hamstring. He's gonna have a lot of work to do if he's gonna get back into this Carlton team. Hanson's become another dimension for them up forward. Shiel turns instantly onto the left

**DF** They've only had the ball in their forward 50 once GWS this quarter and I reckon it was about 48 metres in like 2 metres inside so it wasn't deep inside their forward 50

**AH** This is hard going for them as well, Davis

**DF** I think it's been a lot to do about Carlton's intensity too this quarter. Probably not a lot GWS can do, Carlton have really lifted their intensity.

**AH** Tyson. Shorts one to McDonald. Just trying to own the footy here for a minute or two. It's dangerous, but effective enough

**DF** But they've lost their overlap running. I mean have a look at a lot of the GWS players behind the ball. They're stagnant, they're stationary, they're on their heels.

**AH** Yep Toby Greene, who was dynamic in the third quarter.

**DF** Not a lot of movement in front of the ball either

**AH** Giles used his body well and could have earned himself a free but umpire said no. Wobbly kick from Devon Smith. Hampton worked out of it, still might fall his way, Jamison, good tackle from Scully, here's Hampton, would have been outrageous if he' kick the goal from there, Jamison on the last line, literally, on the last line of defence. He's gonna have Simpson in his sights here

**JD** Great kick

**AH** Now can go inboard to Bower whose demanding to in the centre, which gives him options both ways from here

**JD** Lot of tired players now, so there's a lot more space going forward. This is wide open for the Blues

**AH** Crowd calling for Bootsma. And here he is Josh Bootsma, wearing Craig Bradley's famous number 21. Kicks to half forward, Garlett, and its ends with a bit of rebound off half back for Power.

**DK** Do you think he'll get the boos like Kreuzer does when he gets it, lads?

**JD** Seems to be traditional with names like that, doesn't it?

**AH** Coniglio slides into the mark at half forward.

**JD** Paul Roos used to get it. Luke Breust gets it at Hawthorn. Matty Kreuzer, and now they've got two at Carlton, and Val Perovich

**AH** Oh woof!

**JD** Old woofs.

**JD** (*laughing*) he was one of the greats, big Val.

**AH** Back it goes into the maze, it's taken a while this build up but it gets there to Palmer. A couple of options on the lead, just b uh, little bit too much there

**JD** You can't kick it that high.

**DF** Not to Scully, he needs the ball to grass

**AH** Simpson and now Mr Walker can go for a bit of a run.

**JD** They have got an extra defender back, GWS.

**AH** So Andrew Walker will need some reinforcements, perhaps from the side, no he goes down the line to Eddie, Betts, so nimble on his feet, catch me if you can, here's Garlett! Not quite.

**DF** That was extremely well done from Phil Davis,

**JD** Yep, kept his feet,

**AH** and through to Scully.

**DF** Been quiet Tom Scully, only the 12 disposals, and Armfield's done a (*sic*) outstanding job on him today.

**AH** that's not a bad ball, Reid, forced to spoil, here's Bootsma!

**DF** Well there's oh look at that. Crowd love him. But there's the impact with Setanta O'Hailpin off the ground no contest in the forward half for GWS

**AH** Scotland, decked after he kicked it. They didn't need that. Free to Eddie on the 50. He might play on here, there's a vacant goal square Eddie, have a look! Nah, the moment's passed now, Phil Davis back guarding the space, and Walker

**DF** But just to illustrate the loss of Setanta, it was just the impact that he was making its been in there 4 times GWS and its come back with interest straight into Carlton's forward 50. This ability to some pressure on, Callum Wardy will love that

**JD** It's an amazing thing that just happened, Spud, Andrew Walker went and made the mark where he wanted to kick the ball from. Do you know where he made the mark? On the 50 metre line. Why do you need to make the mark there? There's a big thick red line! (*laughing*)

**DF** Repetition my friend.

**JD** Oh, I found it fascinating, (*laughing*)

**AH** Whatever works for you, he kicked from

**JD** And he didn't kick from anywhere near it

**AH** And he missed it by 2 metres, so now you're happy

**JD** (*laughs*) just the whole procedure was amusing.

**DF** Well he's not amused at the moment. He should have nailed that.

**JD** Been a good player today though Andrew Walker. 19 possessions just kicked 1 goal 2. Be disappointed if he doesn't have 3 goals next to his name.

**AH** Davis. Ever so carefully, now Shiel. Power made the running there, got away from Hobbs but Giles was able to take it. Scully. That's oh, I thought that was high contact. It's close as well

**DF** Really upped the ante Carlton in this quarter with contested possessions, it was even to three quarter time, they've had 20 to GWSs 12 this quarter.

**AH** Robinson, he'll take on anyone, to no avail that time. Simpson decided to handball which was interesting. Murphy angles the kick, Eddie tries to spoil but Power is too good, and here's Shiel and now they've got a bit of a chance here

**JD** Murdered the kick

**AH** Yeah, too high again, coming through from Tyson but it ends up with Reid who gives it to Smith.

**DF** that's better. A great tackle from Russell. A little bit of a side step from Gibbs, gee, there's some tired boys out there. Lucas

**JD** Yeah, I think GWS boys are just starting to run out of gas

**DF** Well if you're looking for run Scully's getting double teamed now he's got Lucas on him, so you're not going to a lot of run from Tom Scully, double teamed in the tagging process today.

**AH** Not a heap of run coming from Carlton either. They've made a little bit of a meal of this. Gibbs in the end did well because he could see that Bower was coming, to give some back up and Bower's given them some bounce, some run through the middle, Thornton guides it for Joseph, the little give. Scotland's on here inboard but Hanson smells another opportunity for a goal and the crowd'll love it as he lands a big boomer! (*Broad smile from player – lovely*) (*Crowd roar*)

**DF** 3 goals to the big fella. Beautifully called Huddo, it's a magnificent build up for Carlton it's just been the intent. Russell started it with that magnificent tackle in the defensive 50 for GWS. And they've answered. Kruez is off the ground, Warnock being a late he was gunna be a late inclusion did his hamstring on Thursday so Hanson saying well, my spot is still here. Someone needs to get it, Kruez is a walk up start, so it's between Hanson and Warnock, and he's kicked another 3 today, 13 disposals, 5 marks. It's a great return.

**AH** So 6 52 on the clock now. Greene. They work their way back. Power. Gibbs. A nudge and a wink and a little poke out for Murphy who's right on top now. Bugg, who gets some help from Gibbs who's prepared to work all the way back to Bower. Now he can go to Bootsma, the crowd want that (*booing*) but he can spy Joseph who might give to Bootsma, who backs back and here he is, and he's forced to handball, gets another possession.

**DF** Listen to the crowd!

**AH** Oh, its fantastic stuff. High ball for Walker Thornton stays, oh he didn't stay down and Mitchell Robinson went straight into the turf (*booing*)



**JD** Phil Davis went straight into the turf. How's the day for the co-captain, Phil Davis. He started as a key forward. At different stages during the match he had to go into the ruck for a short time. Now he's back at full back he has done it all.

**DF** The first game had a bigger impact that Josh Bootsma, for the crowd, I'm not talking about kicks marks handballs

**JD** He's a crowd favourite isn't he?

**DF** Already I think we need to get in early Jase.

**AH** Here he is again.

**DF** Listen to the crowd. This is fantastic

**AH** What a thrill for him Fantastic stuff.

**DF** He's a good kick too,

**AH** Here's Walker, and Robinson. Oh, Oh, don't oh, went through threaded the needle, the eye of the needle

**DF** He's a prodigious kick, Josh Bootsma.

**JD** This could be the best 5 possession 3 vote game you've ever seen for Bootsma

**AH** What you think with the blond hair he might have grabbed the attention of the umpire Kingy?

**DK** Just late game, late in game umpires can be swayed, (*laughing*) we know that, late in games.

**JD** You idiot. Well its funny, because normally for a first gamer the supporters say oh let's have a look at his first game, see what he's like. They've just adopted him as a cult figure before he's even touched the footy. (*laughing*)

**AH** So Greene, oh, and there's Garlett sneaking in, and Eddie Betts. The crowd have been willing him on all day

**DF** With 14 inside 50s to 5 at the moment

**AH** Eddie Betts has not kicked a goal in his milestone match yet. Game number 150. Surely, this will go through for Eddie. No. Trying too hard. And the margin 54

**DF** Well they're being smacked around the ball. 28 contested possessions to 16, using the ball extremely well too Carlton at 74%. You know what it is, it's just the tiredness of the young bodies. Their kicking effectiveness has gone down to 59 this quarter.

**AH** Kreuzer to try and work this one back down. Ellard, well done

**JD** Yeah, that's a big tackle from Jonathan Giles.

**AH** He can barely move I reckon.

**JD** Well every week is a big test for them. But they'll look upon next week as the one they've gotta win. They'll say we're playing well enough to be riding that and win it. Brisbane Lions, they'll say they can be competitive against them as well, then a couple of toughies against the Bombers and the Cats.

**AH** Armfield back for Scotland. A give to Kreuzer. Armfield again. Robinson. Duigan. Betts. Walker. Now Eddie, Garlett. Ooh. Nuh



**DF** Kade Simpson's lifted his work rate this quarter. He's had the 12 disposals in this quarter. Very quiet early in the game.

**AH** So Greene, takes it back out to the city wing. Palmer's got himself into the clear. Going back with the flight, Tuohy,

**DF** He knows one way to play, Zach Tuohy and that's tough and straight at the ball.

**AH** Kreuzer. Up and under from Smith. Bower versus Hampton. Door just ajar for them here, but no, it's quickly closed. Carlton are everywhere.

**DF** Well they've just got that release player out the back, its either Jamison, Gibbs, Scotland.

**JD** No spare down the back now either

**AH** Hanson rids himself of the defender Moore, goes short to Walker. They'll no doubt be trying to orchestrate the ball down to Eddie Betts here, somehow see if they can get the ball down to him

**DF** Phil Davis is on Walker here, he's spent. Spent most of the first half in the forward half he's had to play in the ruck and now he's on one of the quickest players in the AFL, Andrew Walker.

**AH** Did he mark the spot again Jase or no

*(laughing)*

**AH** Didn't look. Andrew Walker, his second game for the season

**JD** He deserves another goal, he's played well today Andrew Walker.

**AH** Kicks it right for the 50. It's a chance, it's there. Just. Just got home

**DF** Well he needed that. He had another shot from a similar angle about 5 minutes ago, it's a pretty good return Andrew Walker, played his first game for the club last week 2 goals 2, 20 disposals. Just too big, too strong, too mobile in the end. It's the weight with numbers, especially GWS we talk about their too strong bodies off the ground through, through injury,

**AH** So some smiles in this last term. Carlton's total now 14 goals 20 to 6 7 43. Here's Giles, good follow up work. Hurried kick forward from Bugg. Oh there's a free kick.

**DF** Well they just need a score, just to get a little bit of, just to finish off the game with a little bit of confidence, because their first three quarters have been really competitive

**JD** Not the longest kick in the game, Chris Palmer,

**DF** No he's not.

**JD** But he'll kick from just inside 50 so he should make the distance.

**AH** He's 23 years of age, Rhys Palmer of course from Fremantle. It looks ugly, oh, the result, its going to be nothing. Well not yet anyway. Kreuzer, and the Blues maybe get an opportunity to break off half back, if it bounces their way. Thornton ensures that it does, Ellard, I think he kicked it to the trainer up there at half forward, he saw the blue jumper. Now Eddie Betts, a minute 15 and about a hundred meters to try and overcome, and uh, both of them too much, and he can break here, Kennedy, Oh look at Jamison, make the run in, some tired bodies left behind in his wake, to Murphy, still have eddie, oh, not a good kick. Thornton's going to come in over the top of Davis, which he does skilfully.

**DF** Players inboard then for Murphy

**AH** Davis, Palmer, here's Bootsma, and he's got it.

*(laughing)*

**AH** And finds Kreuzer too, that gets a little tick. Where's Eddie? Eddie's up on the 50. Looks pretty tired. There's 30 seconds to go. There's not much for him to kick to. Mark for Thornton, here's Bootsma again, high ball into the pocket, it goes out on the full. So it looks like we're gunna end with a Carlton victory of I guess around 61 points.

**JD** Still, I guess a percentage booster of sorts, but not the sort of performance I think, that Brett Rattan was hoping for and it must have been a tough week for Brett Rattan thinking well everybody's going to be looking at our attitude this week, what kind of performance are we going to deliver.

**AH** oh, there's still a chance here maybe for Eddie Betts and his 150<sup>th</sup>. Scotland, Garlett, he's going to go on his own with a bounce, and one more for the road for the Blues. They've kicked 6 goals 6 to zip in the last quarter and they've got home by 67 points. And when people pick up the paper tomorrow they'll look and see "oh Carlton won easily we thought that would happen" but not truly reflective of the contest we've seen,

Yep

**JD** Well Luke Power *(laughing)* fumbled the ball and then fell over looking for it, I think that's a sign of tiredness too, because he's been excellent today and he's had the job on Jeff Garlett. And there's your – poetic justice I guess, you make an error and it's your man that punishes you

**DF** Well, he'll be disappointed because he had an opportunity to keep him goalless, which is a great 63 inside 50. Carlton next four they've got the Saints, Adelaide, Melbourne and Port.

**AH** Well Garlett and Betts haven't kicked a goal between them until the last three seconds to go

**JD** Gee they'd be favoured to win the next 4 too, the Blues they're in a good position.

SIREN

**AH** So the siren sounds, Carlton wins by 67 points. In the end it was a lesson for GWS but they've certainly earned the respect and *(laughs)* what a debut for Josh Bootsma. The crowd loved him.

## 2012.8 Port Adelaide v Richmond

6 May 2012 AAMI Stadium (18 522) 54-91 HSV7

Dennis Cometti, Tim Watson, Bruce McAvaney, Cameron Ling

**DC** Maric hooks it down behind, Tuck is battled hard, as good as any on baller they've had really. Coming away is Cassisi, down towards half forward. Umpire might have got in the road there, Rance, keen to get at the footy, well he got it Butcher, but arriving quickly was Boak with the outside of the boot. Falling to the ground, trying to feed it out there was Grigg, he got it from Morris, it comes towards Renouf. On his knees in that pack is Maric. Ball doesn't release

**TW** they're still 4 behind but you just get the feeling it's a critical stage of the game, for the Tigers, the first goal to Port Adelaide, at home crowd behind them

**DC** that was interesting. The non officiating umpire came over and had a word to Umpire McBernie before he bounced the ball. Not sure what it was about. Out of there Deledio got it from Martin, the high ball, just inside the centre square, off the ground by Edwards, now he's quick. Could have been held without it, Edwards, leads in the race, Trengove is going pretty well, ball soccered inside the 50 by Edwards. There's Cotchin amazing what a talking to can do, soccered forward again, and the ball goes out of bounds that time off the boot of King.

**TW** Look at that desperation there from Jake Cotchin

**BM** Jacobs tried to kick it into Riewoldt's foot there and tried to get it out of bounds on the full, didn't quite get what he wanted. He had some good stuff there by the Tiges. So Carlile, just wins the punch away, Edwards there with Logan and then Logan has to release it, Ebert, handball okay to Trengove and then Jacobs, gee, Dea got him a bit high, Deledio gets through and then hooks it back to centre half forward, McCarthy and Maric both miss it. Good tackle at the back there by Hartnell, Cotchin's handball okay Rodan sort of punched it forward a bit, Dea's handball, Maric side steps one and then off the side of the boot, Logan and Edwards, Grigg looking for a handball. Cassisi did well, back to Westhoff, Westhoff under pressure just bangs it as far, oh what a mark! Dea not paid now Rodan on the burst and

Oh

**BM** caught by Morris. Things are just going Port Adelaide's way a bit at the moment.

**DC** Rodan a centring kick, running onto the loose ball Ebert, tidy handpass but they've got a man to the outside. Broadbent gives the ball across to Hartlett, back to Broadbent, not beyond him, runs inside the 50 sets it up down towards Butcher, from behind came from McCarthy, finds it on the ground. Despairing lunge by Newman, Young's in trouble, taken down by Rance, could have got him high. Ooh, yeah, that was right, he held it a long time, but there was an arm right at the end of the tackle that strayed over his shoulder, knife's edge stuff, Conca working a little one two across half back. Maric more possessions in this game now than Deledio and Cotchin. Could have got money on that before the game. He's up to 17 the big guy. Here's King, he's on the wing. Tigers just need a goal and then you would think it's all over. As he kicks down towards half forward, Westhoff should mark and does.

**TW** Gee King should have gone short to Miller then,

**DC** Westhoff the short one to Cassisi. Margin 24 points early going final term on an overcast, bleak Sunday afternoon. Cassisi directly to Nahas, taken high. He'll get the free kick. So Nahas, yep saw what happened there

**BM** so Tigers no goal for 34 minutes. Nahas long ball, Cotchin a target, Westhoff getting back, Riewoldt, clever shark but the kick across not good, and oh Chapman, yes he does take the mark. Just thinking Cassisi a minute ago, god he tries hard but just that missed target, makes a difference, doesn't it. Surjan

**TW** Just a few holes just starting to appear here for Port Adelaide, but their disposal efficiency still letting them down

**BM** so Cornes, just uh poor disposal, and then Surjan has to play and runs it to the boundary line. So Port just turning it over a bit but they've got Richmond in the position where the Tigers are just so hard to penetrate at the moment.

**TW** I just wonder how much rain is actually falling out there at the moment. Lingy, you went out there at uh three quarter time, is it really greasy?

**CL** Ah, it is very greasy, Timmy. Its not heavy rain out here but it is quite slippery.

**DC** Foley inside the forward 50 then, Riewoldt go to contest, well done Cotchin a half chance, Nahas, Riewoldt and that's the one they needed, oh! Take that! Right as rain. (*Goal umpire flattened by the ball hitting him on the head*)

**BM** Gee Nahas again getting involved he's been good, yeah, nice stuff, Riewoldt's kicked 3 so he's building a pretty good days work in the end. I mean he's had a couple of chances to kick set shots and missed, but uh Nahas has been just terrific. But Richmond had all the numbers, when the ball went forward. Port have put some pressure on them in the midfield but the ball was able to get over the top. So back to 5 goals.

**TW** Well it is umpire appreciation week, I just wonder whether or not Jack actually read the memo that came out during the week (*laughing*) as

**DC** That's fair on the scone too

**TW** there's nothing appreciative about that, that's keeping your eye on the ball too, but he's okay, Riewoldt went up and after there as well just to make sure he was okay

**DC** would have been a good shot if he was wearing that camera,

**BM** yep. So he's kicked 3 Riewoldt, and and the Tigers get that really important opening goal so they get it back to 5. Let's see if that frees them up. Its like they've been intimidated sitting on this lead they've been frozen for half an hour. Houli with a couple of one twos and he kicks it to Reva, Trengove came across bravely, Nahas has been soo good

**DC** Oh,

**BM** but not that time. Tim, if you were doing best 3s on the ground, would Nahas be in it?

**TW** yeah, yeah you'd have Nahas in there. His work rate's been phenomenal.

**BM** Would you have Maric in there?

**TW** just about, Bruce,

**BM** I only gotta ask you one more question. Westhoff out wide

**DC** mark is taken by Don Cassisi along the boundary line, Ebert

**TW** he's been a great pick up Maric, hasn't he, for the Tigers. Well he's not the tallest ruckman going around but he's got a big ticker and he gets into the right spots and he opens up holes for the players at ground level, and he's been really intelligent about the way that he's performed this afternoon.

**DC** Hartlett, what? His kicking has he got a secret that we don't know, Tim? He's trying to do something different isn't he? Has he got a different technique, he's kicked about 4 of those along the ground

**TW** I reckon he's sprayed 5 of those off his boot today, that's why I was asking Lingy you know, about how slippery and wet it might be out there because there's a lot of players that are really struggling to possess the ball

**DC** offending feet. Houli's got the football meantime, it came from Rodan out of bounds on the full. Back to Batchelor, goes back towards the kick off line, taken by Newman, swings it to Rance. There's a man on the middle if Rance spots him, he decides to come out wide that's a nice kick to Grimes, Grimes at the interchange gates

**TW** that's a good kick

**DC** Morris has got it now and can take off, does. Morris earnest running through the centre square bounces off the chest of Miller low down, Morris kept coming though. Gave it to Edwards, across to Grigg. Grigg measures the kick down towards the pocket loose ball, Tigers stayed on their feet, Cotchin tries to knock it across, Nahas the beneficiary. He was taken down, was that on the full? May have been touched, might have been touched right on the line.

**BM** let's have a look

**TW** Umpire's saying he kicked it.

**BM** he did. So Tigers inside that 50. It's been the end where all the scoring's been done today. Cassisi brought down. Tuck with another clearance, Edwards quick kick, it was touched, Riewoldt knows that. Gang tackle, Trengove in pretty heavy traffic, oh Stewart under the pump, Trengove made it hard for him and Edwards comes in and doesn't quite get the angle, and it's a behind. But Richmond, well they've put a bit of space between themselves and Port right now.

**TW** They've lifted their work rate haven't they?

**BM** Yeah, for sure.

**TW** They really went to sleep in the third quarter but uh after a bit of a I would say a stern word or two from their coaches at three quarter time they've been up, doubled up the ante

**DC** lot more urgency and it was their big names that let them down in the third term you've got to say, certainly on the stat sheet, just didn't get the footy. Newman has battled manfully all day, taken across the line by Cornes. Young, receiving treatment. Started on the bench, shown some encouraging signs. Over the top Deledio thumps it goal ward, coming up the ground Nahas dives on top of it, needs to be careful now I think they'll ping him here. Yes, they do. Trengove plays on immediately, goes to Westhoff, to Jacobs, missed a lot of last season with glandular fever

**TW** what's he gunna do with this kick, Dennis?

**DC** uh I'm not sure. He was very precise with it, wasn't he? (*menu*) Had a problem as well. Coming up the ground, Pfeiffer, well done by Ebert. Westhoff just backs off a would be tackler, Rodan knocks it forward, well played Chaplin, with some time measures the kick, goes to Broadbent, he's forward of the wing, runners outside, lays it off. McCarthy, quiet afternoon, goes to Boak

**BM** Oh and Boak's kicked to the top of the goal square, Butcher's at the back, well done Morris but uh he was in the right spot and forced through

**TW** he's an energetic player, Morris, isn't he? An interesting player the way that he goes. Like he provides enormous run for Richmond off half back. He's not afraid to put himself in harm's way as well and uh I think he's had a really good afternoon.

**BM** he's incredibly brave Tim, I mean he just puts himself into the hot spot all the time. It's been a promising start to his career. Renouf just belting it back, Butcher's hands were good, Young running in and gets the goal. So Port Adelaide keep this match interesting.

**DC** Oh he's (??) shows some signs, Bruce, he's got a bit about him there's a lot to like, not much of him, very thin, but he's got speed and he can use the footy and that time was prepared to run. It was the running before he got the ball that was as encouraging as anything right there, so it's not over, but it's teetering on the brink. 24 points is still, in the context of Port's scoring, a long way back.

**TW** this is an attacking punch isn't it? Just watch this, there's from Renouf, I mean the ball travelled about 40 metres there, and just quick thinking by Butcher and Young who I think showed a little bit last week against Adelaide in the showdown.

**DC** Yep, Ebert out of the middle this time, lays it off to McCarthy, sends a man away on his left foot feigns a kick, Jacobs goes across towards McCarthy there, McCarthy getting busy in this term, in the last couple of minutes certainly. Morris finds Deledio.

**BM** Not sure why Jacobs didn't kick there. He's a left footer and a long kick, anything would have been handy up

**DC** you're right. Deledio short, Tuck swings it back to Deledio. Cotchin, Deledio, they went a round in the third quarter, down towards half forward, Riewoldt, well done. So Riewoldt is about 55 metres out. Don't think he'll get the distance here. King offers a lead. Bypasses that and goes to the pocket this man if he wanted to would get the distance. Martin, well what's that all about? Not 50 but he hadn't played on either. Not sure. Centring kick. Knocked away from Conca who then slipped over, that hurt him

**BM** and uh sure did. Now, Ebert down low that ball hasn't come out.

**TW** he's in trouble too, Conca

**DC** he hasn't moved Conca

**BM** yeah

**TW** did he get a knee in the head

**DC** it might have been, he might have landed on a boot, I'm not sure

**BM** yeah, right into the shin of Jacobs with his head, that would've, well, we know how much it's hurting him because he has not moved much at all

**DC** ooh

**BM** that could be a fractured cheek bone or something

**TW** oh, poor boy

**BM** that's rotten luck

**TW** yeah. There are so many injuries caused, aren't there in modern day football players in that slide. I know it's been a debate

**BM** did it happen, Tim I mean you played 25, uh 20 years ago, has it changed or not

**TW** yeah, I reckon there's more of the ballistic way the players are approaching the contest as opposed to when I played. I mean that's a long time ago now. It just seems to me there's less thought about the player's own safety when they go for those balls on the ground.

**BM** certainly a lot more tackling these days, a lot more tackling

**TW** I mean, I heard a statistic the other day about how much more tackling there is in the modern game, it's gone up like three fold in the last, I think it's about the last decade.

**BM** so just a lull now as Reece Conca going from the ground. What do you reckon Lingy, we've got enough time for a grand stand finish, but you think the Tigers are safe?

**CL** Oh I think the Tigers are safe, Bruce, yes, but it would be good to see Port Adelaide show a lot of fight. They did it in the third quarter, I think Matty Primus would be looking for, especially the young guys, to fight this one out right to the very end, even if they're going to lose the game

**BM** so there's Conca. High draft pick last year. And uh, he's such a promising young player, just 19 years of age, still, just one of a couple of teenagers out there for the Tigers and a boundary throw in. So a bit of a stalemate at the moment. Richmond in front by 4 goals. They led by as much as 47 points in this game

**DC** have to say Bruce, not a big crowd this afternoon, less than 20. Got a figure on it

**BM** about 18 thousand 250 I think

**DC** about. Ball comes out to Boak, it's disappointing that they've played like this for those people that have come a long because it could have been a springboard for some bigger crowds. I tell you what Bruce, they do miss Mark Williams and his family for home games, don't they (*laughing*)

**BM** Jenny's probably here, I'm not sure, but Steven would be here working for the ABC, his brother.

**DC** all the kids come?

**BM** yeah

**DC** how many kids were there?

**BM** 5 for Mark and Pauline, and that's it. Still, I can't speak for them, can I?

**DC** threw up inside the 50. Maric has played a wonderful game one of his best I'd suggest. He kicks it down towards the pocket and the ball goes across the line, taken there by Pfeiffer.

**BM** speaking of crowds-

**TW** no sorry, I was just going to say I don't think he's ever had this much footy, Maric. 19 touches, it might be a career high

**BM** well he averaged 10 for the Crows in the last couple of years, they were, I reckon they were as high as he got last year, Tim, 10.8 so this would be new territory, so we might get our man onto it, Josh as Morris. Speaking of crowds, 165 000 went to Churchill Downs today to see the derby. How's that for a crowd. An all time record for the Kentucky derby.

**DC** the Port fans are really depressed now, Bruce.

**BM** Bang to full forward. Pfeiffer couldn't quite get to it. Deledio in good hands, there by uh Boak and then Trengove, gee good hands. He's got a lotta guts, Dea, running back there, Rance loads it up, that's a neat kick by Rance, Surjan coming across. What about the defence from Port's point of view Tim, from the Trengove, the Carliles, the Chaplins, what do you think?



**TW** well the big guys from Richmond really haven't had a field day today I mean Riewoldt's been okay, and Miller and Vickery was taken off the ground, so I I think they've done okay actually.

**DC** it might be a concern for them, the form of Tyrone Vickery

**TW** mmm

**DC** doing well in there Martin, knocked it out initially, down goes Cotchin, strong tackle by Stewart, and the ball locked in there, so the umpire will ball it up, just on 9 minutes.

**TW** I wonder if he's got an injury of some kind, I mean when you see somebody whose form has just tapered off the way that his has you start to think that maybe there's something else going on.

**DC** Certainly fined down hasn't he, lost a bit of weight. Wide of the pack this is Ellis, goes with a long bomb but that's way off target, just sneaks in for a behind.

**BM** look at that Maric

**TW** sorry, I just was going to say that I know they've had a miserable quarter the Richmond side they've come off really tough weeks, disappointment against Geelong and the West Coast Eagles, and you know, going on the road like this, it's a pretty solid performance by the Tigers, even though they did go to sleep in that third quarter

**BM** and that handball off Ebert, now searching for it, slapped it back okay. Pfeiffer, Jacobs, now he's kicked it straight down the throat, of a good player today and not, did you get the Maric stat, Den, that you were looking for the fact that

**DC** he's the best, mm

**BM** so 19 his very best. Had a couple of 18s or 2 or 3 18s apparently so it's been a big day for him, coming back here. Morris good kick, wasn't it, gave Deledio the run and then Deledio just breaks away from a tired Jacobs and kicks to full forward and Riewoldt just slips his man Carlile. So this is about as, Riewoldt kicked 4 goals in the opening round against Carlton, and Deledio lovely kick, but it was a scrappy Riewoldt that day, I guess today Tim's been a bit scrappy too but its been a pretty good days work I reckon

**TW** In these conditions yeah I mean he ends up with 4 or 5 goals, it's been a good day

**BM** this is where he's just struggled a bit, I mean this looks a gimme dunnit, he's just been missing these a bit, nu not that time, so he's kicked 4 goals straight over that cap of the umpire. Four for Riewoldt

**DC** well if they can play him back into a bit of form as well, that'll be important for him. Certainly in the second half he's looked better, so four goals this afternoon, Coleman Medallist two years ago.

**TW** he looks a much better player when he plays deep in the forward line though don't you think?

**DC** yeah

**TW** early in the season I thought he was just getting lost right up in the fat part of the ground and he was losing the battles to the ball because he doesn't have great leg speed. This is just a great kick here from Deledio too, got a Powerful leg on him but that's just a beautiful kick on him to Riewoldt.

**DC** he's kicked all of the goals in the second half. Its only 3 but still, that's impressive in its way. Foley, sliding in was Tuck and I think he'll get a free kick, coming over the top was Chaplin.

**TW** there was another good tap down by Maric at the centre bounce.



**DC** talking about Churchill Downes too Bruce, I notice that Powder's got a horse in in the Underwood that's be a nice memory, wouldn't it? Part owner of a horse that lowered the colours of Black Caviar, maybe. Doesn't even provoke a response

**BM** no no I know the horse, I'm about to tell you something about it, but there's a goal

**DC** that was Conca

**BM** so good come back by Conca. We had him, well,

**TW** with a fractured something

**BM** yeah. Go the Knuckle's the horse Den, Go the Knuckle,

**DC** just wait a minute Bruce

**BM** oh okay

**DC** yeah, I want to hear that uh in full regalia. That was a nice snap by Conca.

**BM** look Richmond are finishing off pretty well aren't they, I mean they, they needed that because at three quarter time they would have been disappointed with their efforts.

**DC** just get the feeling he was a high draft pick from Perth in Western Australia, needs a run at it for form.

**BM** well Conca, we had him out of the game and maybe with a serious injury, this is a great comeback, a good goal

**TW** well it did look like a serious injury, so that is a great sign for Richmond also, Conca for him to come back onto the ground and snap one over his shoulder. He's going to be a fine player, Conca.

**BM** so the Tigers now putting that space between themselves and Port again. Their percentage is pretty good though Richmond, it was in the 90s before today. That horse is

No, the next four they've got Sydney, Richmond. They've got Essendon, and Hawthorn and Ht Kilda, gee

**TW** tough month

**BM** yes, it is. But you'd give them a chance in every one of those games, but uh they could win none or they could win four but gee they could get three of the four then they could mount something in the second half of this season. Reckon they're playing well enough to be on the fringe of the 8 Richmond. Oh, Go the Knuckle's the horse Denis

**DC** for the Pav?

**BM** Yeah, Matthew Pavlich will be running in the Goodwin Handicap against Black Caviar. he owns it in partnership with the chairman of the Adelaide footy club, Rob Chapman.

**DC** Not bad is he, the Pav

**BM** no, he's uh you've had a horse with him

**DC** yeah, came second actually that horse in a Adelaide Cup, Pav had a big day

**BM** so Hartlett's kick, and Rodan front spot boundary throw in. So what do you reckon Tim? Richmond, two and four?

**TW** I think they're better than a 2 and 4 side and I think they've got the ability to improve a lot throughout the course of the year. I like, I think they've really tightened up and they're a much better defensive side and they're more organised than they've been in the past too, so I think Hardwick has got them moving in the right direction

**BM** Cotchin's kick. Well percentage is always a pretty good guide Tim to how well a team is going and their percentage right now is over a hundred. So, the free to Martin,

**DC** probably what they need to do Tim, based on what we saw last week is find a modest priced tall defender in free agency. Not a bad player, but you know, a steady defender, who can sort of pick up big blokes

**TW** yeah

**DC** as the ball goes out of bounds on the other side. The problem they've got is with expansion they've been denied a lot of draft picks. If you look at some of the top boys at Gold Coast and Greater Western Sydney and you put 3 of them or you put 4 of them in this team because I think it was 15, 12<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> for Richmond, they would be knocking at the door now. Down goes Conca, feeds it out. Under pressure, Chaplin off the side of the boot,

**TW** I reckon the old thing is Dennis, in the last two weeks against Geelong and against the West Coast, and this will come with maturity,

**DC** yea

**TW** they've just gotta play the bigger moments in games better than what they've done as well. There's there Port Adelaide's next month of footy, Fremantle, North Melbourne, and the Suns and Carlton, so I mean, they're a chance to win at least a couple of those games.

**DC** Maric up in front. Grigg under pressure, hooks it down towards Riewoldt who's getting a taste for it, lurking at the back Nahas, well he got it through. He got them with his slower ball. He's kicked 3.

**BM** gees, he's had a good day Nahas, when it was a bit tired early, he made a big difference, didn't he?

**DC** they all reacted to the ball coming off at normal speed and he just scuffed it. Didn't he?

**BM** yep, and a bit of that slide helped him a bit with that rain. So Richmond have got back to where they were basically, you know, a 7 goal margin

**DC** I'll say it again, I just haven't seen Nahas play a bad game. Maybe it's just me, but I really like him

**TW** and they've really attacked the goal face too this afternoon, Richmond, they've actually kicked 6 goals from inside 15 metres so, and they've got some smart players. Look if you were playing around Jack Riewoldt then what you'd be doing you'd be camping yourself at his feet.

**BM** so Ebert takes it out of the centre just uh off Broadbent, back to Ebert, takes them on. Handball out, Cornes, looked in the back. Edwards Morris has been really strong, gets it to Dea, to Tuck and then Ellis Hartlett, Butcher up the ground now, Now what's he gonna do? He wobbles it into the 50 not a good kick. Taken by Houli. And then Houli goes back. Grimes, little kick forward. So the Tigers have got themselves back to almost the biggest lead of the day. Houli just brushes Rodan aside brushes Boak aside, gets to Maric, whose got himself into the 20s for the first time in his career, Logan underneath it takes the mark. Thinking of Port Adelaide, they've got to play Fremantle away and then North. They actually play the Gold Coast Suns away in 3 weeks time. Right now, I reckon

the Suns would start favourite at home against Port Adelaide, if you were framing a market, wouldn't you?

**DC** well they've been terrific the last two weeks minus a couple of their stars. Mark is taken there strongly by Renouf to Boak, now Broadbent, right on the 50 it was touched off the boot. Storming up the ground is Bennett, gathers, gets a handpass back to Broadbent, manages to get boot to ball but best position taken up by the Tigers in the defence and a string of handpasses finishes with Deledio. Deledio Greig, Martin, Houli who was involved back in the goal square, pops it out wide, Rance, another one of those searching runs. Slips over, forced to kick with his right boot, it was touched. Needs to go out of bounds as far as the Tigers are concerned but that'd be cruel. Gee Nahas got there quickly, gave away about 20 metres in the race to the footy and tackled Trengove down. Well done by the little guy.

**CL** I've really liked the game today of Shane Tuck boys, he's been just that hard body that Richmond have needed in the midfield and amazingly two years ago he was being written off as not playing any more and not gunna get a contract. He's been fantastic for them.

**BM** 27 disposals Lingy for Tuck, yeah, no he's been terrific. 146 games. His father played 426. It's hard to get your head around that these days.

**DC** and a hundred in the rezies. (*reserves*) That's the thing that knocks me out. (*laughing*)

**TW** That was a long apprenticeship, wasn't it?

**DC** that's a long career

**BM** did he double up

**TW** he didn't want to stop either, he was dirty when they called it a day.

**BM** So Shane's within 280 games of his father

**TW** (*laughing*) that's three careers,

**BM** anyway, it's Miller from the pocket, Miller from the pocket, and touched by Renouf

**DC** now Shane played over here, didn't he Bruce?

**BM** Tuck, yeah

**TW** West Adelaide,

**BM** yeah, which is Morris's old club too, there's a bit of a connection here. An full credit to him. I mean Lingy's spot on, he's been almost the missing link in the jigsaw saw puzzle, late for I mean, he just makes it a good midfield because

**TW** he complements the other stuff doesn't he

**BM** yeah

**TW** I mean Martin's got a big body too, Cotchin's a very good inside player and I think Foley's coming back to some real form.

**BM** Lingy, do you feel like Richmond could do something this year

**CL** oh Richmond are certainly going to do something this year. You were right earlier when you said they're a better team than a two and four team, I agree with that as well. They're not going to be up the real pointy end of the ladder, but I see over the next couple of years, with that type of midfield them being able to start challenging for the premiership within 2 or 3 years.

**DC** Cameron or Cam, there's another little comment that will find its way into the paper

Big statements today

Yeah,

**CL** I love the structure of their midfield now, hard bodies inside and really good skilful game breaking players on the outside of them

**DC** There's two of them. Takes a bit of arranging that, well done Cam, they've both had a kick or handpass as you were talking, when you look at these two sides, these are the two sides hardest hit by expansion, no question about that. They were bad when it was bad to be bad. And I reckon the cavalry's not coming in time for the Tigers, they might have to go down once more before they come up.

**BM** oh, don't say that Dennis

**DC** no I, I

**BM** they've made the finals twice in the last 30 years.

**TW** what do you mean down though?

**DC** well I I'm not sure that they can sort of, that these guys can hold it together. There's no cavalry, like normally there'd be 3 or 4 good recruits sitting on the list somewhere but they've been denied access to the draft and as a result they haven't got those top kids, but you imagine young Swallow in here, or Cameron, I mean they've been down languishing, it's a sad time for the Tigers. I hope they prove me wrong, because we need them up and about, there's a kick out of bounds on the full. Like the Tigers.

**BM** so Butch misses for the first time this year having a shot for goal, and what about Port Adelaide

**DC** Bruce

**BM** they've been down for the last 4 seasons, I mean the 07 grand final was a bit weird wasn't it. It came out of the blue for them, but nothing much since then so its been a bit of a depressing day for them to be truthful. Butcher there with Maric. It's a bit of a step back today, isn't it?

**TW** you see that with young, developing teams though they were good with their effort last week against Adelaide for pretty much four quarters. And you're going to get those inconsistent performances across you know, a quarters let alone a week.

**BM** so Foley back to Houli. Lingy did you play in that game on Cassisi's left foot goal won them the match at uh down at Geelong? As Logan's kicked back to about 50. Of course Geelong won by a record margin that year.

**CL** no, I didn't play in that one Bruce, I was sitting on the sidelines with uh Jimmy and Joel Selwood. We were resting up preparing for the finals, so blame the other boys on that one.

**BM** Cabe Jacobs. But not much has gone right for Port since then Lingy, has it. They've had four pretty ordinary years since that grand final. Kick inside. I think Lingy's resting again.

Ohh,

**BM** over the line and out of play. So Cam, just a word on Port Adelaide.

**CL** I think you're right, they have dropped off a bit that 2007 year that they had, they played above themselves, it was probably left over players from their premiership year the Chad Cornes and those guys who kept them up the top part of the ladder. Now it's in the rebuilding phase.

**TW** Gee, you don't want to get a bump like that with 47 seconds to go, do you?

**BM** no. Well Robbie Grey didn't have much luck late in the match, did he? That's a good kick by Boak. That's the impossible pocket and he's, well, hit the post. So, Richmond are going to have a good win in the end, its been a patchy match. I mean Richmond terrific second quarter Port dismal in that term, then they came back a bit and the Tigers have had a good last quarter. The rain really coming down now. Butcher breaks the tackle, and then on the left foot, centring ball, oh gee, courageous effort there by Broadbent, and Port might get the last goal of the match.

**DC** been disappointing. I mean I came here today Bruce, I don't know about you, but I thought it would be a real good game. I thought the Tigers would win, but I thought it would be a real good game. But it just hasn't risen to any heights at all apart from early in the game when the Tigers were on.

**BM** yep, no for sure I think everyone thought it would be a great contest two teams that have improved this year. Now Broadbent, can he get his second goal for the match? He does

**SIREN**

So that's it and Richmond have a good win away from home, in the end it was Richmond by 37 points over Port Adelaide.

## 2012.9 West Coast v North Melbourne

6 May 2012 Domain (37 202) 54-91 FOX FOOTY

Gerard Healy, Dwayne Russell, Jonathan Brown, Glen Jakovich

**GH** 13 point margin to start this final term. The undefeated West Coast Eagles trying to get the opening clearance to start this final term. But Swallow Aaron gives it to sub, Aaron Mullett just on for the Kangaroos to half forward. Off some hands. Brennan, in game one has been impressive at times. Ball knocked to the deck, Mullett again, that's a little wide, too wide for Wells. Ball in.

**DR** Classic case where the Kangaroos win the centre clearance but the Eagles always maintain their 6 defenders. The opposition often go the 7 defenders, and go with 5 forwards. So they've got the extra men in defence it doesn't matter if they lose the centre clearance, they still rebound it.

**GH** Kerr, Wells, Kerr, shakes him with strength. To Priddis, hands it up to the running Shepherd, the sub for the West Coast Eagles who's also fresh, unkind bounce for Darling, it's been that kind of day for him. Lindsey Thomas can't swoop at full pace, shoots it outward to Scott Selwood. Bouncing ball inside 50. Delaney comes with Quinten Lynch, in fact its Lycett, knocked out of hands to Gaff dragged down, couldn't get a boot on ball, and Firrito, from defence takes on Lycett. Cox should mop this up from the wing. Priddis. Back to half forward and Delaney takes the saving mark and everyone can take a breath. That was a hot minute to start this final quarter.

**DR** And that was a perfect case of what I'm saying about Lycett. He doesn't want to be a plodder, but he did have two gears again then, he thought oh hello, I can catch this bloke and he went up another gear. If he starts in that gear he's going to be a much better player, become a great player a lot earlier.

**GH** Thompson to the McIntosh Cox battle, Cox claims the mark. McIntosh accepts. Too good. Dean Cox. No Naitanui this afternoon if you've joined us late and no Goldstein for North Melbourne. Anthony, Wells, caught by the pants, Firrito, caught by Shuey, no prior opportunity though and the umpire should be telling him – that's ball

**DR** That's ball!

**JB** Gee that was tough.

**GH** He had no prior opportunity whatsoever. Priddis dances around Cunnington. Side kick inside 50. No one could get on the end of it.

**DR** And I reckon if you were Brad Scott you'd just be very wary of Luke Shuey. He's a real competitor, he's had a pretty average game but he knows there's 30 minutes for him to uh rectify that situation

**GH** Trying to work out under what rule that's holding the ball

**DR** That was not holding the ball,

**GH** Brian. Pedersen to Atley outside of the boot, a rolling ball and a race on. Wright will get there first, Rosa gets there second, Wright with a toe straight to Waters, flicks it back to Rosa. Handball untidy, Scott Selwood plays for a high free there doesn't get it, Masten beaten for it, Hart attack and well played by Patch Adams. The Kangaroos come up with it, Thomas to Anthony from 60, he goes long and strong, poor bounce, a behind

**JB** A test to lower the eyes, Dwayne, if he had of lowered the eyes, Petrie was certainly free.

**DR** Already the subs extra run has got him two possessions and involved in what should have been a goal. Here he is on the end of that one, right there.

**GH** Hurn. Shuey.

**DR** It's only going to come down to Gerard, the impact of the sub for both sides. Shepherd and Mullett, who can link up. Who can create some pressure with the fresh legs.

**GH** Scott Selwood to Masten, Darling wants it long, it's short to Hill instead. Good hands.

**DR** Gee he's got good hands

**GH** Hard up against the boundary line. Hard to believe this is the same Hill that played for the Western Bulldogs for 4 years. Into the gutter he moves, 12 points the margin as it stands. Push the lead out to 3 goals. The crowd silent. You could hear a pin drop. Gives it some air. Behind.

**DR** Another 3 months of practice and he'll be banging all of those home from that spot Jacko.

**GJ** Oh definitely. I'm surprised that he missed it actually because I've been watching them down here training, both the Dockers and the Eagles and I mean they very rarely miss from that pocket

**DR** It is still the vortex pocket

**GJ** Yes, it is still the vortex pocket,

**GH** Edwards pushed out of that marking contest and will take the free and Mackenzie gets up a little sore. Hasn't been a big day at the office for Aaron Edwards. And he goes backwards to go forwards. Oh no! Darling about to swoop on this, Pedersen needs to rush a behind, Darling takes it to the line, that'll do for the West Coast, in fact, he was told to play on, and now it might be ball

**DR** He was over that, he dragged it in,

**GH** That was holding the ball. He dragged it in, hasn't had a good couple of minutes the umpires (*booing*)

**DR** If you've got the ball in your hands and you're slammed into the post, is that out of bounds?

**GH** Uh, no, the ball itself has to touch the post. So high again, and again they pull a high free by shaking the tackle up. Hams, been a strange couple of minutes to open this final term. Ashton Hams, for a 3 goal lead. He's going for the banana. He bends it and bends it well. Dazzling. Straight through the middle and they lead by 19

**DR** Well it's a long way home from here Johnno, for the Kangaroos, but I still get the feeling like Jacko that they're not out of this game, even with a 19 point deficit.

**GJ** We've seen a coupla times the Kangaroos, in the third quarter, they've been challenged and they've been resilient, and one thing is they'll hit hard at the contest but they've just gotta be more productive, going their forward 50, as we saw their last entry they've just turned it over. That ball, is that out.

**GH** No

**DR** No

**DR** Comes down to the centre clearance here for the Kangaroos. Spoke about it during the third quarter Gerard, that they have been pushed wide with their clearances. They need to get a couple clear and get direct inside forward 50.

**GH** From a slap down, kick out of mid-air Priddis gets to half forward, Hams tried to track it, tried to grab it at full pace and Quinten Lynch dragged down, by Firrito, they're getting the breaks right now, the West Coast Eagles, and this becomes a huge kick. Neither team has lead by more than 20 points



this afternoon. Right now it's at 19 and that's the biggest lead of the game. Quinten Lynch has a 4 goal lead in his hands.

**DR** He also has had a pretty quiet afternoon, hasn't got near the ball, just 2 kicks, 2 handballs, but this is a big one.

**GH** The big Q can't nail it on cue

**JB** Well that's 5 goals 10 from stoppages today for West Coast Eagles. Kangaroos haven't scored from a stoppage. As we see there on screen it's been all turnovers for the Kangaroos that counter attack footy, the Eagles have also got a few goals that way, but plenty of scores from stoppages today.

**GH** Their forward press working well at the moment, Thompson can't jump at that, Hill was into his back. Umpire says that was okay Kerr, can't mark that

**DR** That's a get out of jail card for the Kangaroos.

**GH** Hacked clear. Daniel Kerr would mark that ninety nine times out of a hundred, especially in that situation when you could put a team to the sword. And we'll get a ball in on the wing.

**GJ** Gee it was a fantastic kick by Shannon Hurn. He is having some kind of a game to be able to thread that through that traffic. Daniel Kerr just had to finish it off.

**GH** Gee another break for the West Coast. Godfrey against McIntosh, who shakes his head in dismay

**DR** Oh, oh

**GH** Harvey's got a couple to beat and he beats them both!

**DR** (*laughing*) wow

**GH** Boomer Harvey to inspire them, to Macmillan. Petrie's at half forward, needs to be a good kick and it is. Petrie got an arm slap, Harper collects, there's no one in the square, Wells is feeding for it

**DR** Smart kick

**GH** He goes for Pedersen instead. He needs to get the skates on, Masten comes at him, Hurn comes on him, Adams on 50 feeds it back to Bastinac, he's down, he's hurt, Wells, pocket, can't mark it, and the ball rolls out of play.

**DR** Well the Eagles continue to give North Melbourne chances but the Kangaroos at the moment just incapable of hurting them on the scoreboard.

**GH** Adams getting up, but he got up slowly, forward pocket, North Melbourne. Petrie, McIntosh, both go up, Cunningham who's kicked 3 taken to the line by Butler. Everybody takes another breath. We thought from the outset it might go down to the wire, right now it stands at 20 points the margin. Harvey. Gathered. Shuffled out. Harvey again. To Mullett, dragged down, didn't really have it. Umpire lets them go. Darling, didn't really handball it, umpire lets them go. Hams shoots it up, Brennan hacks it out wide, and Lynch about to pounce on the run, he's got Hill in the one on one inside 50,

**DR** Oh brilliant chase

**GH** he couldn't get it to him, that's a fantastic tackle Firrito.

**DR** I think they've got to roll the dice here, Johnno, the Kangaroos, get McIntosh into the goal square, get Petrie the ruck give them some run, they're not winning stoppages, or they're not winning or



getting goals from stoppages they've got nothing to lose and perhaps everything to gain. Pedersen even in the ruck.

**JB** Pedersen, yeah, I was just going to say, get him up the ground, get him running around and try and spread from a contest for at least 5 to 10 minutes.

**GH** Glass to Masten to Hill, on the run. Good hands again, and driven after the mark. Darling's inside 50 calling for it, Hill sees him now, and hits him lace out but he drops it. Mullett, back towards the wing, to Cunnington, flies and marks.

**DR** He's having a good game Cunnington. Just a real concern there, just looking at the Kangaroos, they weren't pushing down defensively there Johnno, they were basically saying its over to you defenders, its uh one on one and see how you go.

**JB** Well they've got 5 walking through the middle of the ground at the moment.

**DR** Good pluck from McIntosh. You sense that North Melbourne believe in themselves right now. Ton of time left in this. Wright floats it long, Anthony can he get there? He can, but he can't complete the mark. Adams, he's been spectacular all afternoon, not quite here.

**GH** I sense that their uh petrol tickets are right on empty at this stage Dwayne. They need a goal to give them some run from somewhere, some encouragement to keep on busting a gut.

**GJ** And Gerard, I sense West Coast petrol tickets are even more spent because they are just hanging over, arched over they're just really spent at the minute. And the Kangaroos if they can get one goal here, its gunna make it very interesting.

**JB** And that goes to West Coast have dropped 2 inside forward 50 Kerr and Darling and Kangaroos have done the same with Wells and now Anthony

**GH** Hurn, Lycett was there, and now McIntosh. Gathers just a Bastinac, he's still got a little left in the tank McIntosh, Firrito feeds it wide, well worked, little chip kick was okay although Edwards beaten for it by Hurn. And the ex-West Coast Eagle, Aaron Edwards, who played 4 games for this club many a moon ago, has been beaten hands down in this one. Attacked well by Cunnington, Kerr just as lively and just as strong, and feeds it wide to Shuey who can get and go. Firrito tries to shut him down, he shuffles it out, Firrito well played, he had 4 to beat there, couldn't quiet pull it off. Shuey, to Rosa to Scott Selwood, Darling wants it long, it's in his direction in fact, Hill's going to get there first, Hill and Darling both there. Darling shepherds, Hill kicks across the face. Well, that's a win for the West Coast, keep in their zone.

**GJ** That was a lazy kick there from Josh Hill, should have done a lot better there

**GH** Lazy or petrol ticket spent kind of kick, jacko?

**GJ** Bit of both I think but uh you got an opportunity like that, the Eagles just leaving the door open for the Kangaroos right at the minute.

**GH** Back in the play. Petrie doing the ruck work, Lynch! Takes it out of the air!

**DR** Again!

**GH** And misses. That was a moment, he kicks that, it's a completely different feel here at Patterson Stadium and Glass may have a hand injury, Adam Selwood already off for the game been subbed out and Glass who's been spectacular and needs that fist. Thompson long McIntosh needs to go, he's up, out of play.

**DR** You just sense a Daniel Wells break through through the middle of the ground, run and carry, could really open this up for the Kangaroos.

**GH** He's got 5 blokes to get through if he does make it. Good luck. Petrie. McIntosh is still in the ruck. Lynch, Feeds it out Wells. On cue, Jacko, handballs back to go forward, long kick from Atley, West Coast with the numbers, good fist from Pedersen, knocked it down to make a contest, Swallow gets there but falls, coming hard Brennan the other way, still alive Swallow gets it back to Macmillan, he's got Lindsay Thomas, he needs to get the skates on to get there, it bounces kindly, Ward is right there with him, could have tackled through, keeps it in,

**JB** Well done

**DR** Absolutely brilliant play from defence. They had the extra man the Eagles but uh they still won the ball back. Waters has had a blinder, Jacko

**GJ** Oh he certainly has in the second half, 11 possessions he had in that third quarter, Gerard.

**GH** Hurn to Masten, long to Lycett!!

**GJ** Straight through his hands.

**GH** In game two wasn't equal to the moment. Scott Thompson to Harvey, flicks it up.

**DR** Just gotta somehow find the next goal, the Kangaroos.

**GH** Bastinac. Harper. And now Edwards. One on ones ahead. Just depends on which one he picks. He picks Swallow. Harper, no free. Butler was right with him. Selwood, Shuey, Hams, and he can get and go. Hills calling for it long, he's got the short in Darling, uses the body, rucks it, will go for home, floats it up, Hill in position, one A marks. And that could be 50, won't matter. He'll kick it from the top of the square.

**DR** Once again, the extra player in defence for the Eagles, established this counter attack forward. And brilliant work from Shuey, he's having a great last quarter, sets it up.

**GH** And it might not be over, but they've got their 4 and they're in front right now, 26 points the lead.

**DR** Josh Hill 4 goals 1 for the day. And he's been able to set up his game on the back of some good work defensively that you picked up earlier Gerard, that you picked up in the first quarter, got himself going into the game and has been able to capitalise going forward in the game with some good work pushing in behind the defence, which he loves to do. And kick some goals.

**GH** A disappointed Brad Scott. It's all or nothing now. 8 minutes and counting. McIntosh down to Bastinac who hasn't given it up. Pedersen on the run. Waters again gets a fist in, Pedersen should pounce, Rosa right with him, worries him out of it. Can they lift it another gear the West Coast. Paddles that wide off the boot. Umpire lets him get away with it, ball in,

**DR** Another player attempting a chest mark and Waters must be rubbing his hands, his fists together and saying how dumb is that.

**GH** (*laughing*) Free kick off the boil against Bastinac. Kerr's ball. So it'll come forward. Kerr thinks he has to take it where he is but he'll get an extra 15 meters and give it to Dean Cox. Clock will stop while they work that out. Glass, oh with each passing second it gets tougher for North Melbourne and with each passing minute West Coast get closer to making it 6 from 6 to start 2012. Waters, again using the ball well by foot. Back inboard. They are the number one team for using the ball by foot this year. It's hard to believe they were the worst in the comp two years ago. Shepherd, from 50, he's gotta fresh leg came on as sub and he's thinking about it but seconds off the clock almost as important as a score right now. Gives it a right, its long. It's there, and the West Coast Eagles are home.

**DR** Good fresh legs just got the extra distance

**JB** There's the impact from the sub so often you see the substitute come on and get on the scoreboard, and more often than not kick a goal as well. That's a big shot at goal, outside 50.

**GH** Spot on Johnno, that's what you want your sub to do. Come on and kill the game off for you. The ball up, Swallow, Cunningham, he's played the game of his life again, to half forward shepherd, kicked a goal at one end, trying to plug the hole at the other, Brennan gets it up. Ziebell, almost went high and then driven. From 50 he might have a shot. Jack Ziebell. Big game for him next week, his 50<sup>th</sup>, big game for North Melbourne next week, the Bulldogs at Etihad stadium. They will be outside the 8 tonight. North Melbourne having starting this round 7<sup>th</sup> on the ladder.

**GJ** It'll be a packed Etihad Stadium for Essendon and West Coast, that's a beauty.

**GH** That's a massive game as well. In fact they're all getting more and more important by the week.

*(There is booing as the Kangaroo player lines up for goal)*

**GH** Zeible from outside 50 gives it a run, gets some shoe on it, and it's through. To give them faint hope, they need six in 6 minutes. *(Booing)*

**DR** Yeah Johnno, you throw the dice. Surely at this stage and maybe maybe you've gotta put a Daniel Wells one out at full forward. You do something, and just see whether they can somehow sneak another couple of goals in a hurry.

**JB** They'll be searching Daniel Wells is in the forward line and pushing up towards the back of the square.

**DR** You've got Thomas one out of the square. Hasn't had a big day. Had plenty of numbers, Lindsay Thomas with 20 possessions but as far as goals are concerned, just the one, and they've only had the 3 multiple goal scorers with Cunningham the number one with 3.

**GH** McIntosh again sets it up Petrie again can't find it, Priddis does, gets the handball up to Harvey, still trying to inspire them. Can he hit a chest, he takes on Cox, runs around him, Lindsay Thomas thought about him as the target, ignores that and the mark taken at half forward. I mentioned 6 in 6 minutes. They've already got one, this is for number two. Pedersen from 50.

**JB** Just needs to hurry it along a little bit.

**DR** Just going to be interesting, just the wash up on this game for the Kangaroos. Just one goal between Petrie and Aaron Edwards, just how they see themselves going forward (*can barely hear the commentary over the booing, seriously, Eagles fans carry on like morons*) because they just haven't been able to generate enough goals against this this press

**GH** Keeps it low and its wide.

**DR** They've constantly played one down in defence the Eagles by virtue of the fact that the Kangaroos have pushed one extra up, but they've maintained their half a dozen

**GH** Hurn down the middle to Priddis, West Coast should get Naitanui back next week, Schofield back in a couple of weeks, or the week after this, after his suspension.

**JB** Well Gerard you called for Goldstein to play this week. That didn't eventuate. You'd think that next week he'd be a given to come back in.

**DR** Well they've got a big uh 4 or 5 weeks coming up the Kangaroos, as most sides have to be honest, there's a lot of good sides in the competition.

**GH** To Masten who looks up, he's got runners aplenty, Cox will do, full forward, manhandled and he'll get the free

**JB** And part of the reason he will come back in next week is because they haven't had a score from a stoppage today, unlike the Eagles that have had 16 scoring shots from stoppages

**DR** Has to go and get his own ball Dean Cox.

**GH** He's had one all day, hasn't he? (*laughing*)

**DR** Well he got the three Brownlow votes against North Melbourne last time these two teams met in a four point win by the West Coast, round one here last year, he's the one they have to stop. They could've double teamed him by playing Goldstein. They elected not to. Clock starts rolling again. They've had them down and virtually out for a couple of minutes now the West Coast, but there's your kill shot it'll be 6 from 6 for the West Coast in 2012.

**GH** Yeah, this a momentous victory for the West Coast because it just outlines depth, they've got good players playing really well, but they've also giving lots of players some experience in big games and this one was a big game, the Kangaroos set this one up uh, as one as where they took a finals approach into this one. They knew they had an opportunity to knock off one of the top end sides and yet the West Coast with half a dozen top line talents out, they've given them, in the finish, have given them a fair old spanking.

**DR** Yeah North Melbourne, only Scott McMahon who has hives, and was in a bad way for a while we were told a week ago, he's the only player unavailable today for North Melbourne. Full list to choose from. West Coast

**JB** What is hives, Dwayne?

**DR** I think it's the inflammation of joints, inflammation that sometimes you need to be hospitalised to get rid of.

**JB** right

**DR** Atley, back down the middle. Sounds like it might be something rather insignificant, but I'm told it can be a lot worse than it sounds. Wright, poor to the square half forward, a short pass inside 50 and Pedersen knows time is of the essence, takes off and drills it.

**JB** Well, they continue to fight on, the Kangaroos. And that's just their nature, that's just the way they have always played their footy. And I think it's important as well, especially to try and take something in, to take something out of the game and finish off well, not get blown away on the scoreboard here at Subiaco, because as you mentioned Dwayne, it is a big game against the Western Bulldogs next weekend. They've also got Port Adelaide, Brisbane and Hawthorn next month of footy.

**GH** For the record, the West Coast Eagles, no Kennedy, no Josh Schofield, le cras out for the year, but Embley should come back late in the year, nick Naitanui should be back next week, and Croski the other man that they're missing. 114 to 89. Strength but they are at full capacity points wise, 6 from 6 for the West Coast and Petrie takes a rare contested mark.

**DR** Yeah, hasn't been enough of them for the Kangaroos, contested marks inside their forward 50

**GH** Off some hands and a free kick to North Melbourne. Crowd a little disappointed with that (*booing*) the clock stops and now will start again. Aaron Edwards to line up. Virtually a 5 kick game with inside 3 minutes left. And it hasn't been a big day at the office for Aaron Edwards, but he is a sharp shooter, he's Mister Automatic.

**DR** Yes, it's been too few for Aaron Edwards today. He just hasn't been near the footy, or been able to get much supply out towards him. His opponent has done really well, this game has been (??) opportunities, and for a first game he's going to get a major tick from his coaching staff and I think even the old man would be pretty happy.

**GH** I think so (*laughs*)

**JB** I think he'd be disappointed he conceded a goal in the end.

**GH** Yeah. And Edwards a goal. He's had a couple of years on the list, Jacob Brennan, before making his debut this afternoon, he's too old for a NAB Rising Star nomination at 22.

**DR** Which is disappointing because on this performance he'd have to be in line and you can just imagine, Michael his dad, taking him home and just analysing how that one got away.

**GH** A push in the back for Priddis, Shuey, tries to break his way free, he's jumped on umpire gives him a break and we'll get a ball up. Let's have a look at the Eagles next four we've been talking about games to come, Essendon at Etihad and a couple of games here, St Kilda and Fremantle and the Brisbane Lions at the Gabba.

**DR** Who's going to stop them, the West Coast in this kind of form? Shepherd pumps one wide, Wright, Anthony, but to the Kangaroos credit, they have not given up, they have played this one right to the line. Hurn has been passable.

**JB** Back to form Hurn, needed to create some run. And his teammates looked after him at the start of this match, the first half, giving him the ball at

**GH** Yeah

**JB** Every opportunity up to 10 or so handball receives for the game, which is, shows he's running, but shows his teammates have certainly helped him out today.

**GH** Gaff to half forward, polony has done a good job on Lycett. Daniel Kerr still making his presence felt.

**DR** And considering the A Graders that are out you mentioned LeCras and Kennedy, major players for the Eagles in the forward line still to have 34 shots on goal, is a fantastic effort

**JB** It is

**GH** Priddis, to Waters, backing back Shuey, and no one came at him to try and make a contest. Mullett didn't really think it was his ball to win and Shuey will have a crack at them as well.

**DR** Well Josh Hill did enough off the ball then to protect his team mate and just took the run away from Mullett so he couldn't get there in the end to create to spoil.

**GH** Kicked one goal two today, Luke Shuey, chance for his second. A full house here got their money's worth this afternoon. A tight contest, and it was a contest most of the afternoon but we're going to see a West coast Eagle win

**DR** And he's delivered on that last quarter Luke Shuey, with 11 possessions and a goal. Priddis has continued, uh I tell you what's going to be the final interest point today and that is who gets the Jakovich medal and I have the feeling that Jacko might be focusing on this team in the stripes and I think he needs to swinging over and seeing who he might come up with

**GJ** He needs to change his thought process there for sure I think Scotty Selwood's been outstanding all day

**GH** Big Cox hasn't been too bad, The headline in Perth tomorrow could be that Glen Jakovich jumped off them at three quarter time and said that they weren't good enough to win it

**GJ** I just love the Kangaroos body language and I still like the Kangaroos this year I think they're going to be a much improved side and they will make the 8

**GH** I tell you what John Worsfold will be pleased with his 12 separate goal kickers, today when Collingwood were at their best for so many years, they had 10 plus goal kickers every week.

**DR** I think he'd also be happy with how many blokes can take competitive marks inside the forward 50.

**GH** Shannon Hurn is he in calculation for the medal today Jacko?

**GJ** Yeah, there's a couple there

**GH** (*laughing*) not giving anything away until the final siren. Umpire says that's ball. Jacko's never awarded a backman a medal over the journey.

**JB** Well whoever he goes to interview after the siren, you can guarantee that's the man

**GH** Petrie can't get a run and jump (*illegible*) Seconds remaining. Butler goes back to go forward, mop up the remaining seconds. Brennan who we've told you has been good. To Waters who's been exceptional, to Glass who leads them brilliantly. And drives this wide as the Eagles chant rings around Patterson Stadium. McKenzie back into the line-up, one of their 5 changes today

SIREN

**GH** But right now the West Coast Eagles are unbeatable. They're 6 from 6. They're outright top of the AFL ladder, the only unbeaten team in the competition after 6 rounds.

## 2017.1 GWS v Western Bulldogs

28 April 2017 UNSW Canberra Oval () 75-73

Brian Taylor, Bruce McAvaney, Cameron Ling, Wayne Carey

**WC** Clearly the umpires have thought that he's been treading a fine line and they're actually watching him. Tonight. So that's a, well he owes his team a goal now though

**CL** He sure does. And he might not be playing next week

**WC** Really unusual comments from an umpire saying that we've been watching you now for a couple of weeks

**BT** Having said all of that I have absolutely no problem with that. Ground level footy here to be won, Dogs by 5 points. So, dangerous tackle against Mumford. Libba's a little shaken by it too, here. Let's have a look at it

**WC** He's been aggressive all night.

**BM** Gee.

**BT** Gee, I don't know whether that is dangerous. Is it? I mean, it. Sure, it's injured him and put him in an awkward position, but is it illegal?

**WC** He hasn't - no, it's not illegal. He hasn't lifted him. He's nah,

**CL** He hasn't lifted and twisted him,

**WC** No, he's he's not in any trouble there. I think he's he's not in any trouble there. You can see Libba though, it can be dangerous though if your arms are pinned. And you can see there

**BT** His head hit the ground first though boys, what about that

**WC** Dep-

**CL** Well

**BT** Have a look at the head,

**WC** Yeah, I know, it's a, that's a tough one

**BT** That's probably the issue we've got here,

**WC** Yeah, that's a, that's a tough one, Libba's in trouble here, so

**MR** And guys, the problem out there is we do have the turf wickets which are always that much harder than the rest of the ground. So, you can see why Libba's groggy.

**BM** So what do you think Lingy? what do you think about that? Do you think Mummy's in trouble or not?

**CL** No, I think Libba was trying to fight the tackle, and that's why Mummy ended up having to tackle him to ground. Didn't sling him, didn't dump him. I don't have a problem with that one.

Unfortunately, it's Shane Mumford 115 kilos landing on top of you, that's why Libba's the way he is.

**BM** all right



**BT** Well, right, yep, well explained there Lingy. As Bontempelli takes the mark. Very nice hands indeed. So, this to start the last quarter and give the Dogs a double-digit lead would be very, very handy indeed. Bontempelli has been quite brilliant at times tonight.

**CL** Gee that's a good mark, it was a clever mark in the end, wasn't it?

**BT** Libba recovers, Doctor Gary Zimmerman there with him and probably concerned maybe about the concussion here with the head hitting the ground. Has two, Bontempelli. There he is stepping to the plate. And that's as straight as it gets. Kicks his third. So, three to Bontempelli. I'm not sure with the 20 minutes that the doctors would like, to see Liberatore, that we are going to see him again tonight

**BM** You're right, BT you're spot on

**BT** Jakey Lansburger over the back, Gary Zimmerman in front

**BM** So Libba here, with the uh

**BT** and the doctors are asking him certain questions. Just find out - Jake Lansburger at the back, Gary Zimmerman sitting down - just asking him, just trying to get a feel of what his awareness is like I reckon, Bruce

**BM** So a match where the incidents just grow by the ten-minute block, don't they, as the Dogs stretch their lead out to 11 points. Now the Giants have got to come again. Shiel gets it from Ward. And Shiel measures, Johnson went early, gave away the free kick. Oh no, does he get a free kick? Okay the push was on Stevie J

**CL** Yeah he's paid it for a block in the marking contest

**BM** And goes short to Patton.

**WC** Was a great kick that Stevie J. Patton feigned to go back to the goal square, just simply turned, Stevie J just put it to the space. Clever little kick.

**BM** And he was probably outside his range there, Johnson, wasn't he

**WC** Yeah, just slightly

**BT** And Cordy the defender had no idea it was coming

**BM** Patton's been brilliant from set shots himself this year, coming in to tonight 7 goals straight. And the Giants are four one tonight from set shots. He's pushed it across the face and they miss a big chance. They have been big in last quarters, the Giants. Their last month has been quite remarkable. Have a look at that score line for the Giants. 41 scoring shots to 10 in the last terms over the last month

**BT** That is big. That is big. So, can we expect to see that replicated again here today? The form says so. So, it's just lost its way ever so slightly, the greatness of this game with those couple of incidents, and it's just in a holding pattern at the moment and ready to explode again. The Dogs by just ten. Boyd caught with the short throw in. Now the umpires asked him to throw it in again. The umpires are trying in the perfect world to throw it in about 18 meters. And the players have been told to expect that.

**WC** Just about zero down there, I reckon the umpire's hands'd be frozen, so give him a bit of leeway

**BT** He's turning sideways and slinging it in, uh, Duck. Smith. Bontempelli, with the crippling tackle again



**BM** We're gonna try and find out BT too, the situation with Libba, just whether he will be able to come back with the time remaining in this match tonight, we will be putting a chase on that

**BT** Oh I reckon, yeah, I just reckon that regardless of any rulings, I just reckon the doctors would be very, very reluctant to do that.

**BM** yeah

**BT** Anyway, let's not second guess them. Scully around the corner, high footy, up went Greene, couldn't hold the mark, Cordy now, he was trying to give it to Suckling, he wasn't aware what was happening though. Smith went and got it, he's tackled not by one but by two.

**CL** Gee they've tackled well tonight, the Dogs. Numbers aren't through the roof, or anything crazy like that, only 57 tackles, only, but they've stuck the big ones

**BM** And you know Lingy, its weird that they've done them a lot. They've made that last man standing tackle as they come again the Giants to the pocket and Roberts lets it go out of play.

**CL** Exactly right Bruce, the important ones where the Giants players have had momentum and you think oh they're going to break that tackle, they've just stuck them.

**BM** Win, lose or draw, you feel like the Dogs have taken a step forward in this year when they're defending a premiership, don't you? This has certainly been their best performance for the season. Williams. Kelly. Haynes. Good tackle by Daniel. Back it goes. Wilson loads it up, gets it to, ooh about 35, 40 meters and big Mummy. Big bad Mummy.

**CL** Hasn't kicked a goal yet this year big Shano, and he would love this

**WC** He was the only one that really, really wanted that footy, didn't he? As soon as it left the boot he said I'm going to compete for this footy

**BM** Can he kick it Lingy, you know him pretty well? You were at the Cats with him

**CL** Oh, don't know about the distance here, I reckon this is just on it. I wouldn't have my house on it let's put it that way, Bruce.

**BM** Okay, he's wound himself up, he's wound himself up and uh well, in a city where there's a big house not far from us, isn't there, he does miss

**BT** About a kilometre as the clow flies, Bruce

**BM** I knew you'd come in BT with something parliamentary. There's Roberts

**BT** Wait until we have a look at those back benches and front benches they've got down on the ground there, here's Daniel

**BM** They're getting worse there BT just keep calling the footy

**BT** watch out Daniel's going to attack the left wing here Bruce as distinct from the right, they're all there. Little ball wide here. Easton Wood now. In the back half. So, no team able to move the ball fluently here in the final quarter, so far, so tight has it been. Frued with a little stumpy ball. Jong's got to do it all but Haynes in front. Has also been a very tidy player today. Finds Shaw on the run, he's able to run the full journey. A little low bullet to Patton, too far out for even he to score I would have thought. But he'll go long to the top of the square. Toby Greene calling for it. Cameron is short. I would like to see Cameron a bit longer at 50 meters against Easton Wood

**CL** Yeah, he went too early then BT

**BT** Before the umpire called it

**CL** Yeah, he pre-empted the umpire. And you'll see him just go about half a second before the umpire had called play on. And it was there, it was a technical one, but it was there

**BT** That was a huge call, because that goes from Patton probably couldn't kick it to Patton probably will kick it. There he is, 5 meters out needs to get a good drop on the boot here, Patton. Big kick. They're down 9. To get them within three and to electrify this game Patton has to be successful here. No problems, Giants within 3. Patton kicks the goal, his second of the night

**BM** Just another list, oh add to the list of the talking points after the match because Wood was very aware of what the umpire was doing, and Patton was taking his time, he was trying to, trying to wait, wait, and mm, well, he's jumped the gun by what, a moment

**CL** Yeah, half a second. It was there. A technical one but it was there,

**BM** have a look

**CL** Here it is here, watch Easton Wood, umpire hasn't called it yet, hasn't called it yet

**BT** Yes, he has

**CL** No, no he said move it on

**BT** oh, move it on

**CL** and then that's when Easton Wood went and then play ons called after that

**BT** Yeah, well done

**BM** So we're back within a kick. Mumford. Dalhouse gets it out. Belts it forward. Dogs haven't really been forward. Gee Haynes has been good, hasn't he? Haynes and Kennedy down back. We talked about the defenders for the uh for the Dogs tonight, well the Giants as well - Tomlinson's kick. Well done Williams, he just wrapped Stevie J up. McLean's handball. Williams again. And a boundary throw in.

**MR** That's what the Dogs don't want in this last quarter, any intercept marks at half back for the Giants. They're the best team in the comp at converting an intercept into a score. They must force it to ground that small forward line.

**BM** And Matthew, we're just looking at Libba there, it looks like he's gone for the night?

**MR** I, I would be shocked if Libba came back on, Bruce

**BM** Yep, yep, no. Absolutely. Quick kick forward from Dale. Good tackle from Picken. Ward was so clever but he threw it in the end. And Duck, just in a word, do you want to change your tip back to the Giants

**WC** Well the Bulldogs are in front, oh, look, it's. it's a toss of the coin, it really is. This, it's just to-ing and fro-ing. Right now, big Mummy, well he's still trying to exert his physical influence

**BT** You're like a front bar door, Duck, the way you're swinging at the moment. In they go.

**BM** I reckon he'll swing at me if I ask him again, so I'm not going to do it. He's uh, looking a little annoyed

*(laughing)*

**BT** Oh boy, we've got a ripper here. Mumford, little hands out. Scully, there's one of the guys Bruce spoke about that's been good. Haynes very, very good. Lobb. Over the top on that occasion went Williams. Kept alive here, by Dale. Suckling now with the big left slipper, send it around the corner.

High ball. It goes towards Picken, almost marked it. Collected a couple of players, Murphy as well, so they keep it alive here. Well done in the end by Kennedy. Wow. Kennedy is going to chase his own footy here, will he go again? Did well not to go out deliberately. Well done to him. Daniel. Little handball. Got it inside to Smith. His kick was smothered by Greene. Wilson wants it back from Greene, not going to get it goes deep. Here's Stevie J, dropped a real easy mark. Adams comes through. Now Fletcher Roberts. Some easy ball to be won by the Dogs here.

**BM** Gee such a lovely kick from Greene wasn't it, he caressed it to Stevie J and he couldn't quite hang on. Williams has gotta go here, this is uh Bailey Williams, has to hold his feet here, he does okay, he holds it in, Lobb gets in as well. He's in trouble now, Williams! Smith. And that one smothered again. And a boundary throw in. And I reckon the game's back on track BT, you talked about that lull for four, five, six minutes with all the other things going on, now we're back on track.

**BT** Yeah the intensity's back up to where it was, Bruce. And here we go again. Boyd, clever little tap Macrae was there, didn't want to take possession. Intelligent stuff. Now on to McLean. Long boot here. Looking for Bontempelli. Did well there Williams got in amongst it. Little handball comes back here, on that occasion from Smith they go inside 50 again and Haynes,

**WC** That's his 8<sup>th</sup> mark, BT

**BT** Just been absolutely fantastic, the two blond bombers on half back, Kennedy and Haynes

**WC** Yeah Kennedy's taken 5. Haynes 8 marks

**BM** They've been beauties haven't they? Oh, what a mark by Kennedy, young Kennedy, this is the other one. That's an absolute ripper. To Adam Kennedy. Kicks down the line. Patton again marking, they're looking dangerous here, the Giants. You feel like they're finding their rhythm here. So, Patton short, that's okay. Kelly, now he's a good kick

**MR** That's a good look at it there. See Lobb going back, they just want to drop it in there I reckon

**BM** Gee Patton's been busy in the last quarter. Has he got the distance Paddy, do you rec - Richo, has he got it from here or not?

**MR** I think he'd have the distance it's just whether you can get the accuracy when your swinging through the ball more with your right leg there

**BT** Heavy atmospheric conditions tonight, Bruce

**BM** So top of the square or go for goal, what do you reckon

**BT** Go for goal, absolutely.

**CL** His eyes are darting though

**BT** Tough kick

**BM** Struck it well, struck it well. Hit it hard, hit it home. He's kicked three. What a giant kick. Oh, what a monster goal. Gee, Duck, you can hang your hat on a kick like that when you're a big forward can't you?

**WC** You're a real weapon, aren't you, when you can when you can take contested marks like he can and then kick from that distance and kick accurately from that distance, you are a weapon. That's exactly what you are

**BM** And he's imposing himself on this last quarter. Suddenly he's the most important player on the ground I reckon.

**WC** Well, when you can kick goals from that distance and take a pack marks like he has tonight, you are a real weapon and that's exactly what he has been tonight

**BT** Well the last 8 goals come in twos first of all two to the Dogs, then two to the Giants, two to the Dogs and now two to the Giants again. Your two and up you two, out of the middle we go. Dahlhaus almost has the clean clearance now GWS as a result are going to go forward off the boot of Lobb. So they're back in front by three points here, the danger is Cameron. Clever knock down to Johnson. Got tackled high, but I think Cameron's got the free first. Now on the run, no problems. The set shot here will really test him he has four tonight already.

**WC** He'll run around to the left BT.

**BT** yep

**WC** Obviously he's a left footer but he'll try to get that little bit of extra distance, so

**BT** bit of leverage, a bit of momentum

**WC** yeah, exactly, he'll run around on the arc. He's got plenty of room to his left. So the Dogs have allowed him that room

**BT** This to put the cat among the pigeons for sure, Jeremy Cameron.

**WC** There he is

**BT** There he is, got the shepherd but he yanked it and tugged it and pulled it and put it out of bounds in the end

**WC** He just rushed it a little bit in the end. Oh, there's the free kick, that was there

**BM** So, Adams bangs it as far as he can. Woods a good mark and he takes a beauty. He has played so well tonight. Kick into the middle. Dahlhaus. One thing we know about the Dogs; they'll keep on coming. They have scrapped so many close matches, under Luke Beveridge they're 7 and one in games decided by under a goal. They find a way, generally. Tomlinson. Greene, oh that's interesting.

**WC** That umpire really giving Toby a lecture tonight.

**BM** So, Greene, where's this 50-meter going to? It's a, it's a long

**CL** It's a good fifty

**BM** I reckon

**BT** oh boy

**WC** Well, he's gunna have to kick this a good 56, 57 meters, I don't think Toby's got that sort of distance in him, has he?

**BT** He's a thinker. Now you're just wondering what's going through his mind. He won't want to waste the kick, he'll want to either find somebody or, or score the goal. How does he work his way through it? Has he got the length?

**WC** I think he thinks he has

**BM** The adrenalin will be flowing high he's had a big night in more ways than one. Gee he's hammered it. He had the length all right.

**BT** I thought his head was going to wobble off

**CL** This is what Umpire Shaun Ryan had a go at him for, to say come with me, let's get on with it,

you've got the 50, you've got the ball, don't get the reversal. There's been a bit of chat between Umpire Shaun Ryan and Toby Greene tonight

**BT** Giants by 4. Mark is paid to Williams and he straight away gets on the bike and finds Greene again

**WC** Well you said he owes them a goal, Lingy, he's had a good couple of minutes

**CL** He's got that sort of personality too, doesn't he?

**WC** Oh, he's cheeky,

**CL** Crucial last quarters, he wants the ball in his hands

**WC** oh, no doubt

**CL** He sees himself as a match winner, and he is

**WC** Well, he's an all-Australian last year and he's heading that way again this year

**BT** So Greene. Little bit more angle than perhaps Patton had. Oh, no, about the same, probably. Kick on the way. It needs to go left to right. It's coming, coming now. Got it, beautifully directed kick from Greene. Three goals. Giants by 10 points. So, Greene, knew exactly what his kick was doing, the little left to right taper

**BM** So you've got ten, ten goals out of Greene, Patton and Cameron.

**BT** hmm

**WC** It's a dangerous forward line

**CL** So potent

**WC** Well

**BT** As soon as he realised it was bending left to right, Duck

**WC** yeah, look, the old lean. He knew he'd kicked it. This is a massive gain in the context. But this is where the Bulldogs, they keep coming the Bulldogs, they don't care whether its 10 points, 12 or 16 they will just continue to come

**BM** Well they're going to have to Duck, aren't they, because the Giants have got all the momentum.

And how good were Greene and Patton from the pocket a moment ago, Greene really rising to the occasion. Kicks to full forward. Big fly from Cameron, so. Handball inboard by Hopper. Kennedy held up, Bontempelli, has he got a little bit more magic in him? He's kicked equal career highs. Dahlhaus is a bit wounded here.

**WC** In the prelim last year, Bruce, they got away GWS by 14 I reckon in the last quarter and

**BM** yep

**WC** and the Dogs kept coming.

**BM** and remember, all this playing out with Liberatore unable to go back on the ground. So. Bontempelli's kick to centre wing. Haynes over the top nearly his ninth mark. Ward didn't get it far, oh, Suckling had a bad airy, he has to get it back. Johannisen we haven't seen much of his since half time. Hopper swings it out and a boundary throw in

**CL** And just on that Libba point, it shows how far the game has come. We just have a quick look at Luke Dahlhaus there hurting his hand and wrist in that attempted smother. Go back 10 years, Libba'd go back on the ground, this game's in the balance, it's a huge game. Libba would go back and take the field. Great to see the doctors now have the players' best interests at heart - don't let him back on.

**BT** This is the 7<sup>th</sup> successive inside 50 for GWS as Murphy defends Greene. Have a look at Dahlhaus hand again

**WC** Yeah, that's the wrist there

**BT** Looks more wrist. So having that examined just on the bench there at the moment. You get the feeling that he still will probably come back on. Boundary throw in here right now. Mumford. Suckling tries to clear it. Daniel with the responsibility. Did as good as he could do. McLean had no other alternative. Spills to Williams he goes back inside for yet another entry. Patton the intended target this time. Adams did well. Suckling happy to see it over. So the Giants have it locked at their end of the ground. They look like the only ones capable of scoring in the last couple of minutes

**BM** Had six scoring shots to one, BT, in the last quarter, 3 3 to a goal. We showed the graphic earlier, what their last month has been like in final terms. Daniel, Picken. Roberts. Murphy, takes a chance, oh, he runs away from a youngster. He runs away from a first year-er and a beautiful kick, and gives Dunkley a real chance here, sets it up, what's he doing, is he going for goal, not sure what he was doing really. It was half and half, a nothing in the end

**CL** it was a nothing kick, wasn't it? What about Rob Murphy there? Just his legs. Knowing he's still got the wheels to get away from an 18-year-old kid and tried to set up something for the Dogs but Dunkley just wasted it

**BT** He did he didn't need to go, there was no Dog potential there Haynes, here, looked like he got collected here,

**WC** Oh, that - Just about did the splits, BT

**CL** Yeah I reckon he might have hurt his groin doing those splits there, Duck, Ow,

**BT** That was either a strain or a cramp, which one, looks like

**WC** Look at this,

**ALL** Oooh,

**BT** Held the groin straight away

**BM** gee

**BT** Oh. Ouch.

**MR** I think I just saw him mouth I'm right, I'm okay. So let's hope he is, because he's played really well tonight

**BT** Walking a little funny, Richo

**MR** yeah, he's not walking great at the moment, BT, but,

**BT** John Wayne

**MR** I think he thinks he's okay.

**BT** Boy. Wilson. As Haynes comes off the ground. His twin will replace him in Kennedy. Ball down the line here. Looking for the big fella Mumford. Boyd was there. Mumford applying another one of

those, he almost laid Suckling down then, he was so careful the way he did it, big Mummy, that's now a big daddy. Here's Kennedy, high footy, looking for Cameron. Cameron held off the ball brilliantly by Wood. Marcus Adams out the back. Here they go, they can reload here. Bailey Dale in the middle of the ground, gotta mark it and he does. Scully holds him up magnificently. Got Hunter on the outside. Jong up the middle, Jong the short way home, long ball, here goes Stringer, got to get over the top, will be difficult for him. Did well with the spoil in the end and Corr just keeps it alive, or does he? So, this gives the Dogs a chance to trap it in for a while, Bruce

**BM** They haven't had one for a long time and you're right with Stringer. He made a massive effort to make a 50 50 out of something that was really an 80 20 and creates a stoppage here. Mumford and Boyd. He's been big Mumford, but Boyd's been combative. Wins that one. And then belts the ball forward. Shull. Hunting it down and then hunted down himself. Stringer gets a good tackle on there, not quite rewarded. Dunkley, Lin Jong, gets it to Macrae, great tackling by the Giants, they hold it in, they hold it in. Clay Smith tries to get it out, squeezes it, and they're out the Giants. Mummy got it out to Ward and Ward to Shiel on the wrong side for him but he keeps it in. Big fly came from the back by Kennedy. Oh brilliant Devon Smith, little toe poke forward, doesn't get reloaded. Murphy, Daniel, back to Johannisen to load it up.

**BT** And they reload and go again and they've got the rocket launcher here in Easton Wood. Stopped, propped, probably should have kept going. Now hoists the ball high Bontempelli's there. All the big names. They fly. No winner in the air. Kennedy put his head over the footy. Won it. And very much an opportunity here for Stringer. Gets rid of one, left foot snap, Stringer, will he deliver? Its bending! He has! He back he just goaled!

**BM** oh (*laughing*)

**BT** What about that?! From Jake Stringer, he's kicked three. (*laughing*) Stringer has got three and Adams in trouble as well, crowd tonight 14 thousand and 48. Not a record but a big crowd.

**CL** (*laughing*) oh

**BT** So the Dogs back within 3 points of the Giants through the ability of this man here

**WC** well this is just, that's just brute strength from a stoppage, to to win the footy and then burst away like that, and then have the composure to kick it on your left foot, that's an absolute ripper.

**BM** Could something this good get any better? Well we just saw it happen a moment ago didn't we, as now the Giants go again. Johanneson, going forward, kicking the ball off the ground. Dunkley, Dahlhaus had to release. Williams and Daniel. Johannisen going hard again. Well played Matthew Kennedy, Bontempelli. Macrae a left footer. Belting it back to centre half forward. Gee Boyd was clever there, Stringer couldn't quite, the troops are getting back. Smith put the tackle on Corr. Tomlinson, Tomlinson, still Tomlinson hooking back, good kick to Lobb, oh, too tall for him in the end. Lobb going with one hand. Back to Dahlhaus, Dahlhaus keeping it in. 40 meters from goal, four Dogs went up for the one ball. Squeezed out, mark taken and Hopper, a youngster says let's catch our breath for a moment

**BT** and that's exactly what he said. Look. They are all out on their feet at the moment, both sides, as Patton free kick will go to the Dogs. Thank you. Easton Wood has got the footy. Three minutes and twenty seconds remaining in this one. Giants by 3 points. Easton Wood unloads. Long ball. Boyd getting back. Stringer at the back. Boyd got both hands on it, couldn't reel it in. Umpire says go again. Tomlinson really didn't want it to come out, McLean did want it to come out. Daniel got his head planted into the ground. High footy. Lobb flies. Spoiled there Fletcher Roberts. Johannisen went. Had the ball smothered. Hopper's there. Beautiful handball. Patton didn't panic, got it to Kelly. What



about this?! He's a real thoroughbred. Got around one, two, funny little kick, gotta be deliberate I reckon. Umpire gives him the benefit of the doubt. Said it was a ricochet

**BM** Well, it wasn't

**CL** Dunno if that was a ricochet at all there

**BM** No ricochet there, it was just straight for the boundary line. That's probably the only deliberate we've seen tonight.

**CL** That's back in the good old days, just hit the boundary

**BM** Ward and Bontempelli. And Shiell. Matthew Kennedy. Bontempelli, puts the pressure on, Johannisen, that is a good kick to get it inside 50. Free kick Boyd. Hey Duck, you wrote an article about him today

**WC** Just have a look, yeah, little push there, free kick's there. Well he's been spasmodic this year; he's been big in some big moments though. None bigger than this.

**BM** Can he do a Patton?

**WC** Yep, back him in from here

**BM** This, to put the Dogs in front. Nup. It is a shake, but it's still in play. It's 15 meters out and a ball up.

**WC** Oh

**CL** Not even close, not even close, just absolutely lost it

**WC** look at that ball drop

**BM** Almost missed it.

**WC** Just caught the inside of his book

**BT** Just caught it, Duck. One 43 remaining. 20 meters out from the Dog's goal. They're down by 3 points. Macrae, Picken, we know he's not going to give up. Clever knock on there by Dunkley. Here comes McLean. Had a ping – missed. So this is going to give dangerous possession to the Giants. 2-point margin now. 1 27 remaining.

**BM** So the Great Western comes down to this, the new rivalry in AFL. Shaw as far as he can. They wanted that cop out mark, the one that's got them out of jail for so long. Picken puts a great tackle on Smith and a ball up.

**CL** There'll be a lot of numbers around this footy. Tom Liberatore he, unfortunately not involved in this, most of this last quarter after getting concussion, lots of numbers coming to it, the Dogs have set up through the corridor.

**BM** Mumford won the tap. Ward kept it in, he had to. Picken searching. Can't quite get it away. Matthew Kennedy. If it goes out it will be interesting. What does the umpire do here? It's a big call. Dogs bring it back in. They need the mark. Mummy doesn't take it. Dunkley. Releases McLean. McLean to centre half forward. Bontempelli, could he? He doesn't quite that time, Boyd, doesn't quite, Daniel's in there. The Giants are hanging on, the ball squeezing out. Smith can't quite, Lin Jong can't quite. Macrae got a high tackle, it was almost history repeated. He doesn't get the free kick, Shiells out, and the Giants might be out

**BT** Here they go



**CL** They might be safe

**BT** They can hold the ball, there's under 30 seconds remaining. The Giants are two up, they can't go back too far because if they make a mistake back here, they're going to give the Dogs time to win it. 13 seconds and counting

**BM** aah

**BT** and a 50-meter penalty.

**CL** And you know what, I reckon he took a step off his mark there, I think he should have been called to play on, BT. And I think it was Clay Smith who read that and he's the one who's given away the 50. And I reckon he stepped off his mark.

**BT** That has robbed the Dogs of any chance of winning. 10 seconds to go, it will take a couple of seconds to kick it. It will go almost out of bounds now, so GWS are gunna get this one. The Dogs got last year, the Giants won this year, and aren't they excited!

## 2017.2 Hawthorn v St Kilda

29 April 2017 University of Tasmania Stadium () 55-130

Alastair Lynch, Jonathan Brown, Dwayne Russell

**DR** If you've just tuned in, yes that score is correct. 68 points the margin. Stevens, Minchington. Webster, missed his target this time, dragged it in according to the umpire. Hodge. To Mitchell. Who hasn't had as big an impact this afternoon. Gunston. Roughead stalking, he doesn't go up in the end, Rough, stays down. Hartung, can't get through the brick wall. Puopolo. A rare shot from him. Play on. Montagne. To Geary. Did well the captain, just inside the boundary was Steele. And all their recruits have done pretty well. Jack Steele, Jake Carlisle, Nathan Brown's done well. Burgoyne, uncharacteristic fumble, but this is an uncharacteristic Hawthorn. Hartford goes back. Gibson.

**AL** They're still looking to go forward on the 45 but there's no options

**DR** 50-meter penalty, so that'll bring Caeden Brand to the other side of the centre square.

**JB** Been impressed by St Kilda's organisation beyond the footy, Lynchie

**AL** Yep

**JB** Been a lot of, you can always tell, when there's a lot of finger pointing there you can tell the vocal direction between each other, between the teammates is at a really a really high level.

**DR** Roughead! Good grab. Held it long enough.

**AL** That took a genuinely good mark with a lot of players around, I think from the St Kilda point of view they'd be disappointed but a first-class mark by Jarred Roughead, which is the quality of ball all day, just going inside forward 50, and the skipper just had to pluck one in amongst three other players.

**DR** Lowest score Hawthorn's ever kicked against the Saints, 5 goals 5 back in the '50s. We've got 4 goals 6 night now after a one goal third quarter. Carlisle. Montagne. Talk about the ageing Hawks, the oldest team in the comp but Saints old players still playing pretty well. Montagne getting plenty of it, Riewoldt getting plenty of it, Membry, inside to Ross, and he puts the jets on, looks at the old man Hodge, goes to the old man Riewoldt.

**AL** Gee. It's a beautifully weighted kick

**DR** Play on. Puts it out in front of Bruest. Gibson did well, held his ground. Roughead, all the way back from the back pocket, beaten by Gretchen, centring kick, hit a good spot. Hodge. Missed Howe. Ross. Got his handball away. Steven. McAvoy got it down, Puopolo, everything they do under siege. Touched play on, so Sicily about to be under siege here. Smith arched his back, oh! Gone, Webster, had a sensation afternoon at the office

**JB** Yeah, been terrific Jimmy Webster, coming up for his 2third disposal, been able to free, free himself up off half back Dwayne but quite often been able to push into that forward half and set up some forward 50s.

**DR** Oh, ho, bang! Geary. He had his arm held. Oh, gone. Holding the ball. Langford.

**AL** So 50 meters from this ball St Kilda have got the extra players, so they have to go short as in this instance. Once again not a lot of movement forward of the ball.

**DR** Hodge. Roughead. About to kick it to where he'd like to be. He goes wide in the end to Gibson. Pokes it to the pocket, and he turns it over. Roberton. Flicked it somehow. Steele. Hawks have the numbers here. Good fist from Gresham. Hodge. Burgoyne. Hardwick. Smith (*laughing*) Howe. Takes off, runs inside 50 and he bends it back. Kicks his first for the year Daniel Howe

**JB** Yeah, nice finish there by Daniel Howe, he was out there what, for what seemed like an eternity. He's in the shadow so maybe the Hawthorn players couldn't see him but finally, they were able to recognise where Howe was, see they mucked around with it here, there's nothing worse when you're in the clear and your teammates can't see you, but finally they got him, it's a good finish.

**AL** That's hard work, hard build up from Hawthorn.

**JB** The organisation from St Kilda behind the ball has been first rate

**AL** Have a look here Brownie, and see the live ladder, Hawthorn at, in 16<sup>th</sup> position, and the twist, remember, to this result is St Kilda have got Hawthorn's first draft pick next year, which, as the ladder sits at the moment, is pick three, so that's a massive result, so get the four points and you force Hawthorn down the ladder.

**DR** And that's a double whammy there, ball back inside 50 for the Hawks. Geary. Sinclair. Webster. Membry. Brilliant ball use. Almost out-Hawthorning Hawthorn with their ball use this afternoon.

**JB** And the other thing we forget, uh, just today, the reason uh Hawthorn's got their have uh have got Hawthorn's first pick is because of the Jaeger O'Meara trade. Jaeger O'Meara's only had 8 disposals. So, it's been a dog of a day for him.

**DR** Hartung takes off but he turns it over. Geary out (*illegible*) too there,

Bruest and Gunston almost gave up on that

**AL** Geary read the cues from the kicker and dropped off in front of Bruest. You're right they just switched off, conceded

**DR** You don't see Hawthorn just concede. And we, although, we did see them concede in the Gold Coast a couple of weeks ago and we just thought that was an anomaly. Oh, maybe last week was the anomaly, they've lost every other game outside of last week. Maybe the first four weeks were the true form. Stolen back by Hodge. To Burgoyne who arches his back. To Smith. Gunston chip. Roughead. Trying to wallpaper over a few of these cracks in the last 13 minutes of this game

**AL** Been a tough day for all of the Hawthorn players. Jarred Roughead, has had the 14 disposals, coming up for his first goal of the game.

**DR** Three goal game last week. And that's the tale of the day for the Hawks, nothing's gone right. But you've got to take your hat off to Alan Richardson and his Saints. It's his 4<sup>th</sup> season as coach, Alan Richardson, 18<sup>th</sup> his first year, 14<sup>th</sup> his second year, we know they finished 9<sup>th</sup> last year just outside the 8 and they are a-climbing right now. Good attack from Bruest. Down to Bourgoyne. (*Illegible*) won and Bruest takes the mark.

**AL** Once again, we saw in the second term just a couple of signs from Hawthorn that maybe they can turn the ball over in their forward 50 but they haven't had the quality ball going inside. That was a low hard kick to a dangerous position, which gave Bruest the opportunity

**DR** For their 6<sup>th</sup> of the afternoon.

**AL** Hawthorn fans in the crowd are pretty quiet, I think they're stunned. They've been treated uh they've been spoiled over the years. Here's the turnover, a bomb kick so that's a win from the defensive point of view from the Hawthorn forwards. Forced the low kick and then the dart. Straight in low, hard, from Burgoyne. Burgoyne was one of the players this time last year who stood up in the last quarter and snatched the victory away from St Kilda. He's playing a role and just sarlva, salvaging some pride in this last term

**DR** In the restart. Roughead in the ruck now. Gilbert almost, O'Meara almost. Geary did well, body on the line. Beelined it. Steele got it from Weller. Gave it to Newns and they run on. Three of them could have raffled it then. Weller. Stolen. Roughead. Gibson and Shiells looked at each other. Sheills back to Rough. He fumbles it, back to Sheills. To Brand. And he kicks it out on the full. This is bizarre to see Hawthorn playing this badly.

**JB** Yeah, they've been pushed backwards all day Dwayne, and St Kilda have really have organised themselves a long way behind the football but the guys that are in the vicinity of the Hawthorn players,

St Kilda players have rushed forward, got into the face of the Hawthorn players and really forced them to kick back a lot today Lynchie, Hawthorn have been known for that 45 kick, but it's an attacking kick, today's has been a lot of back kicks, sideways kicks, just no forward momentum at all.

**DR** Gee, sat that on Carlisle. Gunstan with a good fist. Carlisle still gets it from Newns, he's caught, he dropped it. Got away with it. Acres. There's no one for Hawthorn behind Robertson. They're all in front of Robertson. Every Hawthorn player. Riewoldt.

**JB** He was screaming. He was out on his own for ages.

**DR** Weller. (*laughing*) Too quick for his own feet – he was like a little (*illegible*) Jack Steven, took off and his legs didn't go. Burton goes back, little one two with Gibson. O'Meara. They are the most scored against team in the AFL this year, Hawthorn, they're conceding on average 115 points per game. And right now, they've conceded 97 with half a quarter left. So, it's no surprise. Great grab Acres

**AL** Oh, it's far too easy. Acres just stood there, took an easy mark, runs through a lot of Hawthorn players.

**DR** look at it. Jack Steven worked hard. Even though he didn't get the ball on the wing he created some space because Roughead had to chase him. Over the head of Acres. Langford.

**JB** What I've really liked is the fact is uh Alan Richardson put it on his St Kilda midfielders last week and he was quite public about it, Lynchie. See him down there, he'd be so proud of them, they way they've responded, because a lot of them in double figures, contested possessions, Stevens had the 31, but a lot of other players have had plenty of disposals, but they've helped with the tackle count as well. They've responded in fantastic fashion from heavy criticism from Alan.

**AL** Oh look at this run. Josh Bruest forward of the ball is going to be on the end of this.

**DR** Good call Lynchie, he was in space, he worked hard to keep feeding into that space and Newns hit him lace out

**AL** That's what we've seen here live, just the work rate off the ball to find space or to create space for themselves.

**DR** That kick was meant for Steven, picked up by Weller, he knows where they are here and he accentuates the pain for Hawthorn

**AL** yeah, first class, as you said, the pass going in to the corridor and missed the intended target, but there was an overlap of St Kilda players, they were lining up. Bruest got that mark with work rate. Have a look at the St Kilda players lining up on the outside, take your pick in the end. Identical to the second quarter. Good conversion.

**JB** Have a look at this, so pre-game they had their full team meeting, Alan Richardson and the St Kilda players, then most of the players left, he kept the leadership group back there, see some of the

names, Reiwoldt's in there, Jack Stevens, Josh Breust. He asked for a bit more effort from his leaders today, to come out, lead from the front. There's the captain Jarryn Geary. They've done that fantastically well today and he's obviously very happy with his performance. Leigh Montagne another senior player has been outstanding today on half back flank. He's organised really well behind the ball. He'd be rapt I reckon with his team's performance, especially from his leaders

**DR** Webster and Puopolo. Webster doesn't give away the free. Puopolo lays the tackle. Gilbert. But the cavalry comes back to help out. Sinclair. To Billings, did well, got rid of his man, got the Sherrin, gave to Steven

**AL** Very well

**DR** Frawley waits. Ben Stratton. Caeden Brand. Heads to O'Brien, he sits it on him. Membry. He missed it. That's an ugly kick as well. Sicily, thumped out by Carlisle.

You boys spoke about uh the, first round draft pick for next year. Little bit of cheek from the Saints with their banner. It read: Our Jacks will be nimble, our Jacks will be quick, Saints say thanks for the first round pick. And absolutely they're getting that and it's going to be a low one at this stage.

*(Laughing)*

**DR** a few PR departments around Australia are working hard on banners at the moment

**AL** They are *(laughs)*

**DR** Trying to outdo each other

**AL** That's a good one

**DR** Sheills, O'Meara, the man we've been speaking about a bit, n the reason why they've got that first-round pick, Burton puts that into the clouds and its either a mark or on the full.

**JB** All of a sudden O'Meara's under pressure coming to the Hawthorn Footy club, especially the way the Hawks are going at the moment

**DR** Ross blasts that. Bruest can he get up? Acres. Membry. Building. Bruest. Oh, he's gone.

**AL** oh! He's hit the post! *(laughing)*

**DR** There's one for the low lights reel. That's going to get replayed for ever.

Especially as you were going to your notes to pump him up

**JB** Dwayne already had the fingers up, the fingers up for four goals!

*(Laughing)*

**DR** God almighty. *(laughing)* Well his first three goals were from closer than that, he was too far out for that one. Unbelievable. Howe in the meantime, straight through Sicily. Advantage paid. Burgoyne just off the bench!

**AL** A strong mark from Membry too,

**DR** Was it ever. He said sorry mate! He's that kind of player *(laughing)* Shaun Burgoyne felt bad about creeping off the interchange bench and stalking

**JB** He's been good today, Membry.

**DR** He's a little bit sore from that one as well.

**JB** 17 disposals, 2 goals, His marking's been strong, Lynchie

**AL** Yeah and presents up for the ball. The mobility of their forward half was good. They've got a big forward line but they've very mobile.

**DR** Montagne long. Fist from O'Brien, just to get it out, here we go again.

**AL** You were looking at your notes when this happened, Dwayne, call it. Oh, ooh!

**JB** Cameron Ling had a shot early in his career – it nearly matches it

**AL** Look at his face! He's grinning then flushed it off the ankle.

**DR** (*Laughing*) Mitchel. O'Meara. Montagne. Not quite, stays in. Puopolo. Sheills. Carlisle leads his man in the race for it. Newns. Montagne. Brown. Geary. Must enjoy captaining this team. Riewoldt still essentially a leader of this club but handed over the captaincy pre-season, and has been a great combo these leaders of this club this afternoon again. There is Riewoldt on cue. Stevens couldn't get it to him. Minchington and Burgoyne did well. Ball.

**JB** And I think Nick Riewoldt would be really enjoying uh the fact that he doesn't have that extra responsibility, it's mainly the extra responsibility around the club from Monday to Friday.

**AL** yep

**JB** He'll continue to play as captain on the weekends, but uh, won't have to go to as many meetings, Lynchie.

**DR** Bruest in a good spot! He's not going to kick it from here after missing that last one, is he?

**AL** He's a certainty to kick it from here after that one. Well you can be certain he's not going to dish it off. (*laughing*) He had that one already pencilled in the book. Then again, nice ball movement, through the corridor then inside 50.

**JB** pretty good from this part of the ground, all grounds.

**AL** Kick from 50 meters

**DR** we mentioned earlier he's got there, probably no need to tell you he's got three one. It don't look good. Got three two. (*laughing*)

**JB** He's worked pretty hard today, only had the 9 disposals, he's jumped at the footy at least today Lynchie, just, still a question mark at the moment just completing the mark, seems to be going for the marks, seems to be going for his marks a bit flat handed at the moment

**AL** Yep

**JB** Just wrap those hands around the ball.

**AL** Oh, turnover,

**DR** and Gershan, from 15 meters out gets his second.

**AL** Five minutes to go in the last term and they're still very much switched on with their defensive structures, in the zone, waiting for the kick out, they're on their toes, waiting for the kick out and that was nicely done there, a short pass, Gibson flat footed,

**DR** yep

**AL** didn't have the awareness that Gershan was behind him, Gresham lightning off the mark. Sniffed out a goal. And here's the banner. Our Jacks will be nimble; our Jacks will be quick, the Saints say thanks for the first round pick. Very, very nice.

**DR** That hurts if you're a Hawthorn supporter.

**AL** Got the first pick, just gets better and better.

**DR** Starting to see a few of them leave the ground now, the Hawks supporters, they don't want to watch any more of this

**AL** They're not used to this.

**JB** Nah

**AL** Might be a scramble for the opposition theme song in the, in the box

**DR** Saints biggest win here back when they were playing some games here by 65 points over the Dogs, back in 2003, it was a 65 point win. They're up by 68 now. Acres. Hand off. Steele wide. Burgoyne thumps away from Billings.

**JB** There was a controversial game here years ago, wasn't there,

**AL** Freo

**JB** between Freo and St Kilda, where, what happened there?

**AL** Sirengate

**JB** Sirengate. That's right.

**AL** The result was decided two days later.

**DR** 1-11 to 43. The new St Kilda. The 2016 version was pretty good, only must missed the finals. 2017 version threatening to be better Hodge with a torp. Sicily front spot. Newns did pretty well. Robertson flips it up.

**JB** He's been fantastic, Robertson.

**DR** Montagne. Gilbert. Acres. And the run still continues. They haven't run out of juice this afternoon. Gilbert. Ross. Early leap Stratton. Greshan held his ground pretty well. Weller.

**AL** Oh,

**DR** on his own, Bruest,

**AL** Another one

**DR** And hands it over instead. Riewoldt.

**AL** How can you have that much space? Absolute luxury. You've got two 6 foot 4, 6 foot 5 forwards, by themselves.

**JB** Well, they've been the beneficiary a couple of times today Lynchie, Nick Riewoldt and Josh Bruest, just forward of the play with no Hawthorn player around them, so... James Frawley just gets caught, caught ball watching, stands there and watches the ball and his man Josh Bruest sneaks out the back

**AL** And makes no impact whatsoever there, and ends up 20 meters away from your opponent, and Nick Riewoldt gets the handball over the top.



**JB** Still I know you play in a zoning system but, most clubs play in a zoning system, but as defenders you still need to have an awareness of where your direct opponent is,

**AL** If you're going to go forward to the contest, you've gotta impact the contest. Far too easy.

**DR** Riewoldt's got 4. If you've just joined us this afternoon, he kicked his 700<sup>th</sup> this afternoon, he's had a fantastic afternoon in the state that he was born in. Smith. Unfamiliar territory for Hawthorn down here. And their run of 19 wins in a row is over. And there's a Saint's chant ringing around the oval here in Launceston. Big players fly. Long knocked it down. Robertson again, didn't want to waste it. Riewoldt's got three to beat. Steven. Gee he read that well handball into space. Coby Stevens, to Acres, flicks it back to Coby. Weller. Newns.

**AL** Oh, they're out here on the far side. *(laughing)*

**DR** Oh my goodness, they're not done yet, the Saints, they want to twist the knife a little further.

**AL** Take your pick forward

**DR** Greshan, spears it to the goal line. Time enough to fumble it. Go back. Pick it up, kick the goal and ram it home even further.

**AL** Might have been a strategic fumble with the fumble, he didn't have time to get the handball over the top. So, Membry just that one through, an aggressive kick across the half back line I think it was from Newns. Hit the target. And uh, Gresham into Membry, and here's the aggressive kick, elevated 45 to 50 meters and just the hard running, forward running St Kilda midfielders, they're not just forward running, though, they've worked hard all day. Defensively, very well drilled and uh, nice little fumble from Tim Membry. He secured that one very nicely. He's had a good day. 3 goals 2.

**JB** Good percentage booster, see St Kilda now go above West Coast on percentage terms, West Coast still to play of course. That's handy. If you can get the big percentage boosters uh early on in the season Lynchie, make a big difference to your final position later on in the year.

**DR** Well you've mentioned they've had two 86 point smashings, Hawthorn this year, if this is a goal from this foray forward it will be 86, its 80 right now. It's been another thumping. If you come down here to play Hawthorn, you're lucky if you get away with a win, but a percentage booster - impossible to believe. Hartung back to Frawley. Three minutes left of an enjoyable afternoon if you're a Saints fan, of this horror show if you're a Hawk fan.

**AL** Still working. No easy uncontested marks on the way out. Great defence.

**DR** Hodge.

**JB** He set up the ball really well here

**AL** and all day they've protected the corridor as well

**JB** yeah

**AL** so, trying to stop that kick. Maybe on that occasion high risk, forced to the far side once again

**JB** Still going. Good handovers there, man on the mark hand it over. Jack Billings comes in from the side

**DR** And Hartung sees it roll out.

**JB** That's what's created all the turnovers, Lynchie, today, so your turnover differential, is about 10 goals, so St Kilda scored 14 goals 10 from turnovers, Hawthorn only 4 4. Now, Hawthorn for the best part of 5 or 6 years have been the best turnover team



**AL** yep

**JB** in terms of turnover differential and scoring from that source. So uh, that's been the disappointing part of the year for them, but really made them pay today, St Kilda.

**DR** Hodge, big fist from three deep. Flicked out the back. Again the Saints still hassling their way to it.

Steven, unselfish centring kick. Hodge tried to trap it. Left it for Burgoin. Frawley.

**AL** And that's the thing. Even when they've had the spare behind the ball in previous seasons, Hawthorn put enough pressure on to make it a dump kick and then they load off half back. That's been the case with St Kilda today

**DR** Roughead had the reach. Gilbert gets back on Bruest. Sicily got hands on it. Is he beyond his range?

**JB** Should have just kicked it straight away

**DR** 50-meter penalty, so it'll be a gimme from the goal line

**AL** Might have been against Jake Carlisle; he actually went into that protected zone. It's something they've looked at this last few weeks. I think they dropped off for a few weeks. See Carlisle just gets a little bit close? Yeah, as uh, as Sicily came out, almost ran into the back of him, oh with a couple of meters

**JB** We spoke to the umpires before the game, Dwayne, so he's been able to put it through, Sicily. Uh, spoke to the umpires before the game. They way they judge that rule, pretty much, if the player runs in from behind if it's in the sequence of the play they normally allow that to happen, to take the man on the mark. But if there's a delay before the players enters from, enters from behind, past the player that's got the ball, they'll quite often will pay the 50-meter penalty, that is the cue they use, so that was definitely, there was definitely a delay before Carlisle came into the picture.

**AL** (*Laughing*) Saints supporters are up and going here in Tassie and just having a little bit of a chat with the cheer squad of Hawthorn (*laughing*) with a warm local beer

**DR** To use an X Box term, he's duel wielding down there, with a beer in either hand (*laughing*)

**JB** He might of wrote the banner, did he?

**AL** He might wear another beer shortly too

**DR** Back inside, little flick on, Riewoldt. Bruest has got a couple to beat. Hodge. Gee it spins on its end. Kicked it through.

**AL** (*Illegible*) Just saying, he might have got a whack across the chops.

**DR** Saint Kilda fans deserve some enjoyment. It's been a long drought for the Saints.

**AL** Oh, here we go.

**DR** Carlisle. Dances his way inside 50. Jack Carlisle kicks his first goal as a Saint,

**AL** Yeah, very good. He's been pretty good today, taken a couple of good grabs, played his role, had plenty of support from the midfield, but that was an elevated kick, have a look at this kick out from Burgoyne, elevated above Jarred Roughead, really hard, and Carlisle takes an easy mark, just ducks around one player and slots it through from close to 50 meters and just caps off a massive day for St Kilda. They've had 35 scoring shots to Hawthorn's 14. The lead now 81 points.

**DR** Speaking of players who deserve a bit of joy. Jake Carlisle one of those who missed all of last year, the Essendon players, the banned Bombers. He also copped himself a two-game internal suspension for a video. But all is forgiven now. 35 seconds left. 130 to 49. Burton drives it long. Brown attacked it hard. Carlisle tried to shovel a handball through traffic. (*Laughs*) One last free for the Hawks. They're going to get a goal after the siren to silence.

**AL** Silence who? (*laughs*) it's been a uh great day for the St Kilda Footy club.

**JB** 8 players over 25 disposals for the Sainters, it's a huge day.

**DR** Definitely a changing of the guard. After 19 wins in a row here in Launceston, the Hawks go down. And the new age Saints are a sight to behold.

## 2017.3 Carlton v Sydney

29 April 2017 MCG () 97-78 Fox Footy

Sandy Roberts, Paul Roos, Brenton Speed, Cameron Mooney, Brad Johnson

**SR** Can they come back and break through for their first win of the year? A big final quarter coming up. Reid up against Kreuzer. Pushed by Aladdin as he goes in for it, so too does Reid as he tries to paddle it out with his right hand. Gibbs almost handed that to a teammate. Now Kreuzer tumbling a wobbly punt down towards the half forward line. First goal absolutely vital. Curnow onto the left boot, not a lot of distance but plenty of height. Mills got a fist to it, pushed towards the boundary line. Grundy lumbers after it and the ball spins over the line. Carlton players asking the question, negative says the umpire.

**PR** Interesting too, Sandy that Reid started in the ruck with Clint Sinclair forward so obviously John Longmire feels Sinclair's more likely to uh to kick a goal at the moment.

**SR** Yeah, well he had a couple of opportunities, didn't he, in the third term, we'll see what transpires now. Buddy's locking this one up. Five goals to two in that third term. Carlton's way. Never discount Sydney. Reid through heavy traffic to Jones. Had it, regained it and now tumbled a punt up towards the 50, Papley's giving away plenty of height, Hannebery, clever handpass for Jack. If it sits he's in business. It does sit. He's not in business yet. He's not in business, claim. Ripping tackle. And Carlton come away.

**BS** Alex Silvagni the hero.

**SR** What a day, what a day has Alex had. Copped one before the bounce from Buddy, said you're going to have a rotten afternoon and Alex has said well try this on. Carlton go forward once again, through Fisher, now Gibbs, centring ball from Bryce Gibbs. Kreuzer lumbers after it, he needs assistance came Billie Smedts but he couldn't get there in time. Newman is there for Sydney. Grimly defending. Finds 45 meters down towards the wing. Kept in by guess who, Docherty. Knocked up getting kicks today. Carlton surging forward once again, in towards the pocket, and pushed over the line... deliberate says the umpire. Boy!

**BJ** Geeze a big opportunity today for this little guy Brandon Jack, and that little fumble cost him

**PR** It killed him didn't it, I tell you what Silvagni's seriously quick I didn't realise Johnno how quick he is

**BJ** That's right

**BS** So, Simpson. Sets it up for Casbault to attack and the man in front, Cripps, big strong mark, for the man in game number 50. This young superstar of the Carlton Football Club with a chance to extend their lead from almost directly in front

**PR** That's a seriously good mark, isn't it?

**BJ** He stands at 195 centimeters so if he gets this part of his game right, he's gonna be good. He needs to get the second part right as well, Roosey, just kicking it through the big sticks because one through from this point, any ground around the wo - Australia.

**BS** His first shot of the afternoon, he's got this one home. Patrick Cripps with an inspirational goal in his milestone game.

**PR** Yeah, that's the old uh, you can see Silvagni, I's just saying I didn't realise actually how quick Silvagni was. I mean we all know how Buddy Franklin moves he gobbled him up there. I mean it wasn't a super kick but the ability to get to a contest today by Silvagni has been absolutely fantastic,

so it's been a significant in for him, you see at the top left of the screen. Again, closing speed, nice spoil and he's really done that all day. Well done.

**SR** Carlton out to 15-point lead. Kreuzer again, up against Reid. Kreuzer wants Gibbs, doesn't find him.

**BS** Cripps in the ruck.

**PR** Yeah, see

**SR** Cripps in the ruck. Curnow out of the air. Gains valuable meterage. Mills comes over the top, runs into Parker. Kennedy there as well. An attempted soccer off the ground by Curnow, doesn't go very far. Graham wanted it, didn't get it. I think it was an attempt to get it to him but in so doing Curnow threw it. Grundy feeling the pinch. As Zack Jones is away for Sydney.

**BS** Buddy providing the shepherd, running alongside, and Jones can take a second bounce, he wants teammates to make their move and Sinclair does, out the back, he wants one over the top, brought down in front, Sinclair will latch onto this, well he's a little too slow trying to wind up and Silvagni got there again, playing his first game for the club he supported as a boy after all that time with the Freo Dockers and he's loving life on the G.

**PR** he gets back quick again Silvagni, there, two twice, he gets back to the marking contest and he gets down to the ground ball.

**BS** Sinclair wins it down, Hannebery there again trying to turn away from his man. Hooks it back with discipline top of the square. Great mark Silvagni

*(laughing)*

**BJ** Might be just having the game of his life here, I think guys. It's been an unbelievable performance by Alex Silvagni

**DK** Freo supporters watching going what did we do, and now Brendan Bolton's going why didn't we play him earlier in the year.

*(laughing)*

**BS** He only just worked his way back into the Dockers team for the last five rounds of last season. Had to wait for his first game for the Blues, until now, round six. Wright gets there. Good clean pick up. He's a clean player. Back to Marchbank. Now Cripps. Kicked the last goal, now playing at half back. This guy's been outstanding - since half time. Ed Curnow goes all the way back. Fans don't really appreciate that too often. Risky kick but Plowman got there and Docherty so confident in his foot skills *(oh yes)* and there's a 50 meter penalty here.

**BJ** Papley again, two today.

Mmm

**BS** How far's the umpire going to take him, maybe 45.

**BJ** yeah

**BS** I think Plowman was thinking he might get a shot on the end of that. And he chips it to Weitering who is out there, with that same strapping. Won't be able to go the journey, you wouldn't think. Is it time for the barrel, Johnno

**BJ** Aw, I'd like to see it, I really would

**PR** This is barrel time,

**BJ** This is

**PR** I don't mind that

**BJ** Yeah, right here, This distance out here

**BS** Off the lame left leg hows it gunna go

**PR** Don't know if he's got the power in that plant leg, guys,

**BS** Shaping for the drop punt. Weitering. Oh, it was awkward.

**BS** They get there by the hands of Kreuzer (*cooing*) And he's going to kick it from directly in front.

**BJ** Not bad he can't touch his toes. Wonder how he feels to be honest with you. (*laughing*)

**PR** Well remember we talked about if Weitering had the distance you can see that plant leg. You could see it collapse under the weight but what a great mark from the big man Kreuzer and God they love him down there

**BS** You know when he's got his mitts on it, don't you, when the crowd, it just, it sounds like they're booing but they're paying homage to this man who got the three Brownlow votes last time the Blues beat the Swans. That was 2011. They're gunna look good things here, if he steers this one home. They lead by 21.

**PR** Yeah, love it when the ruckman pushes forward, it really put pressure, here's Weitering, and you see the left leg just collapses, and as the ball comes forward, I think its Nick Newman that got caught on Kreuzer, so there's the danger, you've got Casboults up there, you've got Kreuzer up there, and you get a mismatch and really you get a no contest. It's almost an uncontested mark by Kreuzer. So well done pushing forward, helping Weitering out and kicking a crucial goal for the Blues.

**SR** Let's quickly go down to the boundary, Moons

**CM** Yes, Sandy, we just got a quick little update here from the club, just reads it out. Gary is awake and talking and has full range of movement. But is having scans as a precaution. We'll update further post match but looks like he's okay which is a huge relief

**SR** Great news, great news. Cripps and Murphy trying to send Carlton into attack. It's being repelled as we speak. Its wide on the wing at the moment. There's that man of the moment once again, Silvagni. Oh, he loses it this time to Jack. Goes with the left foot high, in towards half forward. Well done and fisted down by Fisher. Not out of the danger zone yet, Sydney desperate for the next goal. Pushing clear. Carlton do really well. Petrevski-Seton gets the hand pass away. An opportunity now for Fisher again. They're inside 50 Carlton which way is it going to bounce? Gibbs is there, he's gotta beat a couple, can't do so. And the steadying influence of Jones will see the ball come back towards centre wing. And the kick had to be good for Newman. Curnow steals it. Carlton back into attack once again. Kick's going to be any better this time for Weitering? He lumbers after it, he's running okay, he's got a problem now

**PR** It's a great kick

**SR** tried it, well it is, because I didn't see that other player there. He might get a goal, they're going to! Curnow Charlie, Charlie Curnow has done it for the Blues.

**BJ** And Weitering knew exactly what he was doing there, Sandy, he took his time, thought the dribble kick was going to come out, he could see a Sydney player in the goal square, identified that if he just split the middle, he had Wright all by himself to be able to set the handball up to Curnow. We watch

here, he takes his time, he's having a good look. He sees him there, bends it back, brilliant kick. And Wright was able to show composure, step around. Great team goal by the Blues.

**SR** That's an amazing checkside isn't it,

**PR** yep

**SR** Amazing

**PR** Really smart player, he summed it up absolutely beautifully, didn't he and uh really poor tackle there from Laidler though.

**BS** Yeah, you get footy smarts with a number one pick and you get that in spades with Weitering who's out there on one leg and doing enough. And another free kick. That time Sinclair pinned. Graham just chipping it. And good contest made by Laidler. Just got the handball away in the nick of time, Smith left it behind. Good pressure from Carlton. They sense four points.

**BJ** All the young players jumping on board at the moment, Fisher, Williamson's been very good, Petrevski-Seton getting up from the bottom of the pack. Charlie Curnow.

**BS** And Casboul v Sinclair. Bought down by the Swans ruckman and again Carlton hitting the pack hard. Trying to burst out of there. Cunningham holds on, this will do for Carlton right now

**PR** Murphy just got hammered without the ball then. He got body slammed and didn't even have the football

**BJ** He did! (*laughing*)

**BS** They go at it again, and again Sinclair gets a hand to it, out the back Petrevski-Seton, trying to chip it came off the outside of the boot. Plowman goes in, good gather at ground level from Docherty, out the back from Rowe, and Simpson spots a man. Marchbank in space. The former GWS Giant, he and Plowman both part of that back 6 today against the Swans. Docherty yet another kick for him, 24 of them today. Cripps ignored the lead of Graham to pick up the youngster, Petrevski-Seton. They wanted him to go down the corridor for Simpson perhaps. He finds Gibbs, all alone on centre wing. They can afford to be slow and methodical right now. They want to close this one out. They're a long way from home, four and a half goals the margin. Where are the Swans going to find that point scoring at the moment? One for Casboul to rise for, no contest, he couldn't make it stick that time. They want holding the ball the Blues fans, and they're going to get it.

**PR** They've got it, they've got it.

**SR** Took them on.

**PR** Yeah, that's a fair free kick they tried to fend off. You ask where are the Swans are going to get their goals from. I just can't see it because Buddy's basically playing between the arcs as an extra midfielder, so the only way I can see them doing it is if Buddy gets back inside forward 50.

**SR** Blood rule, so there'll be a moment as Luke Parker comes from the ground. I think Carlton only needs one more goal and we can start talking about a match next week, Carlton v Collingwood. Going into a slight breeze, so back pedalling. Here's White. To Docherty. Possession number th, disposal number 35. Speaking of 35 there's Curnow. (*Laughing*)

**BS** That'll make Spud's numbers

**CM** A bit of numerology there, Sandy

**BJ** Yeah, Moons, (*laughing*)

**SR** Just for you Moons. Buddy and Gibbs over the line, throw in in the right forward pocket.

**CM** Just quickly down here, as well guys, with Carlton Billy Smedts on the bike at the moment with a right quad strapped heavily. Rolled his ankle then got hit on the quad as well, so he's just doing some laps trying to keep warm

**SR** Kreuzer and Sinclair again. Kennedy, tried his heart out as always. Rowe from the back gets an effective spoil on Haywood but Haywood is the first to recover. Well done by the young man, a quieter game by him today. Newman goes in towards the middle, now an opportunity for Sydney to look towards Rose. Beaten for numbers here but not talent, did really well the young man, dribbles a kick in towards goal. And it spins away to the right and through for one behind.

**PR** Once again Sandy, you can't speak highly enough of Docherty and Simpson they get, they work so hard back, and every time Swans have broken through the middle they've looked up and they've seen a Docherty or a Simpson there and it hasn't been an easy entry for them.

**BS** Classy kick out from Williamson, finds Plowman in the long sleeves, the other Giant. And Casboulton on the long searching lead, And the kick right where he wanted it. A great performance from Casboulton today. A real presence. The Swans have known he's around. Two goals two for the big man and he gives it for Kreuzer to attack. Reid wins that contest on centre wing. Midway through the final quarter. Headaches for John Longmire. No one saw this. O and 6 on the horizon for the Swans. First game at the G since last year's grand final. And they're bottom of the ladder. And no way off and out of the cellar right now it appears. Jack gets in there. Heeney at ground level, again, not a great kick in but it worked out just fine for Haywood. He's shown his ability to finish, he'll be able to kick from about 49. He's not mucking around either he knows the clock is against his team. He goes back and kicks it beautifully. Haywood gives the Swans a sniff.

**BJ** Plenty to like with Haywood, gents, I think he's got ah you know, just a bright upside, we've seen plenty so far in the games that he has played this year, and he's got genuine speed, he's excellent over head as well. And uh capitalised there, and understood the uh the moment of the game needed to get back, get things done, twenty points down with 9 and a half to go, so, not out of it yet, the Sydney Swans

**BS** There was an article written on Haywood today about the recruiter Kinnear Beatson who kept him honest. He says you're not fit enough so he hired a personal trainer to get ready for the draft and worked his way into the Swans starting team.

**SR** And now has two goals to his name, Brenton as we go back in the middle. Sydney need the next one. Carlton would love the next one. Cripps couldn't handle it. Williamson pokes it wide. Buddy applying plenty of pressure. The Blues are away. Excellent play. Simpson up towards uh the half forward line. In trouble was Mills. A cry of ball goes up. Cunningham goes to ground. Carlton free kick.

**PR** That was unbelievable play by Simpson through the middle of the ground. Just, in traffic, got out of traffic. Was going to handball, didn't handball, ran with the ball, kicked it, it was just fantastic play by Simpson

**BJ** What about Billy Smedts though, he hasn't been that good in front of goal today, and now he's (*Laughing*) now he's limping, he's got the big corky, he's won the free kick

**SR** It's like beware the injured golfer Johnno—

**BJ** (*laughing*) yes, that's it!



**SR** he might just kick it, he's directly in front. They're the walking wounded, both of these sides. A stuttering approach, a stuttering approach but he gets the goal, the quick answer comes from Billie Smedts.

**BJ** Brendon Bolton will be happy with their forwards today though, Roosey, because moreso yes, they've done well in an attacking nature but defensively, you know, they've been excellent, plus 5 in in forward half tackles, plus 17 in contested possessions in that area, so locking it in. We've seen some poor tackles but over all, uh they've been quite competitive in this area which has put them in this position

**PR** Yeah, absolutely you're seeing some real glimpses of their talent down there, and their speed. Their, their ability to get across and hunt the football has been good in their forward 50

**SR** And they've shared it around, ten individual goal kickers for the Blues.

**BS** And they got around him, as well, for his first goal for the club, Billy Smedts. The former Cat. A very handy one. 8 minutes to go in the final term. Kreuzer, gets down low. Its palmed out by the Swans though and Hewitt hooks it up-field. Papley trying to get there. Out the back goes Plowman, and Docherty left foot, up and under, allowed Marchbank to attack it. Williamson off hands. And Hannebery collides with Plowman, Papley found a bit of space, he asked for a runner to come towards him. A scrubby old kick in towards Rose. Docherty with hands and out of there by Rowe. They've defended really well as a group today. The Blues. Rowe and Silvagni has been the headline act. Good contest Simpson against Parker there. Not easy to get the better of Parker inside forward 50. He did on that occasion. Swans need a goal again. There's Buddy. He's attacking this one, and improvised. Parker. Soccers it out of mid air. A miracle goal from the Swans and they're still alive.

**PR** Gee whiz.

**BJ** Where did that one come from Roosey?

**PR** I'm not sure, I'd need to look at that again. Here it is. A stoppage. Who's on Luke Parker, he's on the side there, just nudge underneath.

**SR** Oh,

**PR** Oh well, there's not much you can do about that. That's one you just tip your hat, Sandy and say well, I think that's a little bit too good

**BJ** Sometimes you just close your eyes, throw your boot at it and anything can happen.

**BS** Wow. Critical, a critical goal though, wasn't it?

**SR** Yep. So, a really interesting situation Luke Parker jags his first. 20 points and 7 minutes to go so there's plenty of time. Murphy gave it to Kreuzer who tries to get it to Cripps. Had it and then lost it. But not before he tried to paddle it forward. Hewitt for a moment. Parker again, gives the handpass away. Heeney now through the middle, spears the pass, here he comes again, Silvagni, being Alex, who's had a wonderful time in defence today. Locked up at half forward for Sydney. Hannebery gets it out with a swift handpass. Not clear though, Williamson, well done. Poked it wide to accommodate Gibbs. Will give it to Simpson. Wants to get back onto his left foot and he does so now. Back to White. And that umpire could well have been talking to the entire Carlton team there – hold, White's away. Plenty of distance, going up towards Casboul territory. He was there but out positioned. And so, a stoppage on the outer wing.

**BJ** Good work, they're into Mills again, into his ear there, all day.

**SR** Been a target hasn't he



**BJ** Matty Wright has been in his back pocket, and they've been physical and they're just trying to get into his head at times

**SR** They've done a good job Johnno.

**BJ** Yeah definitely

**SR** 14 disposals. So it's going against Carlton there for holding it too long. Sydney desperately trying to regain this ball but they haven't got it at the moment. Simpson's with it. To the outer side he goes, the juggling mark, not taken by Mills. Pushed over the line. Just has his nose rubbed in it once more for the afternoon.

**BS** Convincing winner of the Rising Star last year, but they're letting him know about it this afternoon.

*(laughing)*

**SR** Kreuzer. Ah, it's high. So, Sydney again,

**PR** Well the problem they've got down back too now Sandy is Heath Grundy's off, so they've got a very young back line for uh Sydney

**SR** Murphy short to Graham. Back to Gibbs. Quite content with 5 and a half minutes remaining just to shovel it around, share it around that's what they continue to do. The margin is 20 points.

Cooooo *(laughing)*

**SR** You can guess who's got it, Kreuzer. Can put this game beyond doubt with a goal here.

**BJ** gotta love that, don't you, the fact that the crowd pick it up early and identify that Matty Kreuzer is in best position to take the mark

**SR** He's only got to be in the vicinity Johnno, they love him.

**BJ** For him as well though, he'd know, I must be clear here *(laughing)* this is

**SR** Telepathy. But a big big kick. An angle that's not too severe and a distance that's eminently gettable. From 42 meters, the sealer, and he gets it. Kreuzer gets his second. Carlton are home.

**PR** He got a great block from Curnow too. He pushed forward and as I said before I love Kreuzer pushing forward, puts some pressure on, got a great block. And there's the Swan's coaching group now and they're in serious trouble at zero and six. And there's their next four games: Lions, North Melbourne, St Kilda, Hawthorn and then the bye. Um, Rampe's in the back right there with the arm brace on. And they've got some serious problems.

**BJ** They could win those games though

**PR** Yeah, they could. They could, not based on today's performance.

**BJ** No

**BS** Where do you think they're at, Roosey, the Swans?

**PR** Well I think this was a really critical game for them, there's no question about it. I think they are a team that can run the table. They can win you know, six, seven, eight games in a row, but you're really looking at the way they're playing at the moment um is certainly not the standard. They're, they're losing contested ball again to a young team. 134 128. Normally they're relentless in tackles, uh you know, they're getting beaten in tackles as well. So, you know, they're just not playing great football. And that's taking nothing away from Carlton, who have been terrific.

**BS** Most would write them off and say they can't make the finals 0 and 6 but you're still giving them that chance.

**PR** Look, they, they have shown they're a fighting team, they they will keep battling away. But you're going to have to win, what have we got? 16 games to go. You're gonna have to win

**BJ** 13 of 16

**PR** A minimum 12 I was going to say, so they'd probably 13 of 16

**BJ** Yeah. Coming in with poor percentage as well, from that position, that's going to make it more difficult

**PR** And that's, that's probably 13 Johnno, you're right, you're probably 13 because of their percentage.

**BS** Simpson, what a second half he has had. Only Docherty's had more possessions than Simpson, he gets another one out the back from Cripps and picks up Murphy. And going into today when we saw Tippett as a late out and Naismith injured currently, we thought Kreuzer might be able to dominate and he's got on the scoreboard as well late

**PR** Yeah, his second half Kreuzer has been really good, 8, I think he's had 8 possessions and two goals in the second half, and we saw Rampe too, boy, Rampe is a really important player because what we've seen with Docherty and Simpson, 38 possession and 30 possessions. But they're experienced down there, their organised. Rampe's an organiser and gets that back 6 really well organised

**BS** But chains, in the SCG, outside the SCG where the players go for their run, got 'im.

**PR** Yeah, I ran into him last week I was up in Sydney doing the game, and I ran into uh to Dane Rampe, you can see in the back corner, and I know where those chains are and I know exactly what happened. So, when your luck's out in footy, it's out.

**SR** How many meters did he have to go?

**PR** Not very far

**BS** He wouldn't win the hurdles.

**PR** I said gee, you wouldn't want to talk to John Longmire after you broke your arm on the, but It's just one of those freak things, really.

**SR** here's Buddy

**BS** All Australian from last year, a massive loss

**PR** Yeah, It's a big out, it's a big out.

**SR** Papley, into the pocket and the mark taken by Callum Sinclair. Kicked a goal in the first quarter, had a couple of opportunities for more. But with two minutes and forty seven seconds remaining, Carlton are going to score their second win of the season. Sinclair, slow steady deliberate approach to the far side for one behind.

**PR** I think the other thing on Carlton, it just shows you, you can't always play the kids. We spoke about it before the game, Johnno, about bringing experienced players in, the only way you can teach your kids is having a balance of experienced players. This notion, oh keep playing them, keep playing them, it actually doesn't work. You bring in Silvagni, um, Curnow's been terrific today.

**BJ** Graham and Smedts.

**PR** Graham comes in, Smedts comes in. And I think that's the challenge for Brendan Bolton on screen is just to make sure he gets that mix right

**BJ** Because the younger blokes as we've seen jump on board, so we've seen Petrevski-Seton and Curnow and these younger guys jump on board of what the senior guys have done with today's game.

**BS** There were 7 teenagers last week, they've scaled it back to 5 tonight

**PR** Yep

**BS** and they've got the result

**SR** They're going to get the result

*(Laughing)*

**SR** Playing inspired football in this second half particularly. Cripps couldn't take it, Zack Jones can for Sydney. Pumps it over the head of Hannebery. Now, Papley's got a free kick. He's 47 meters from goal. And Tommy, you've put it out of bounds on the full

**BJ** He's gotta nail that. He's had a coupla snap shots today that you'd think he'd put through as well. So be disappointed with his game, Tommy Papley.

**SR** Oh, he's had 15 disposals today, the last two weeks he's been averaging 7. So,

**BJ** Doubled that

**SR** Slight improvement.

**BJ** but he's had four shots at goal for one goal. Two out of bounds on the full.

**SR** Not a good return, Johnno. That's for sure. To the outer side, Reid led in one direction, Graham the other, they meet and lock it up. As we have a look at Carlton's weeks to come. Of course, the big one, Collingwood, well that could draw 85 thousand here next week at the MCG.

**BJ** Hope so

**SR** Then St Kilda, no easy job and then Fremantle. So, three tough games but they're all tough nowadays, let's face it.

**PR** I think too Sandy, it's just those wins along the way. This is an important win for them. You know, who knows how many games they're going to win. But they've got young players, they've got balance and you get a little win along the way, that keeps the club up, that keeps the club happy. The four games, while they're relevant, its more relevant about celebrating this win and keeping this group really positive.

**SR** Just think of it as a stepping stone

**PR** absolutely

**SR** Yeah, yep. Inside 50 for Sydney but perhaps only momentarily. Weitering again can hardly walk. It's going to be interesting to see how he comes up, or if he comes up for next week's in battle against Collingwood. Sam Rowe. Can go over the top to Cripps advantage paid so Rowe goes to Simpson, if he likes. He does.

**PR** I think also Sandy, the Swans have blooded, to their credit, they've blooded a lot of young players. Even their grand final year last year, what we're perhaps seeing. I think what we're seeing is a bit of a dip. Mills is having a tough season so far, Papley's been injured you've talked about. And they've still got a lot of young players on their, on the field today

**SR** No doubt about that. Sinclair gives the pass away. Inside 50 once again. Well done by Simpson. But stolen, and this time. He doesn't show a lot of emotion, Tommy Papley, because he knows the scoreboard all too well. He gets the goal.

**BJ** He got that one. Yeah, which is good play, from Tom Papley. I remember talking to, we spoke to John Longmire before the game. We spoke about that weeks ago, about how young they are. It's certainly not an out for John Longmire but I think he understands, and the club would understand where they are at, zero six not good enough but the fact of the matter is they are a changing side, an evolving side once again.

**BS** Well what a day for Docherty, he's had 39 touches today. He leads the ranking points. Final seconds in this amazing result that's going to send shock waves around the comp. Carlton, building for the future, playing so many young kids. They've upstaged the Swans here, at the G. The first meeting of these teams at this venue since the mid-eighties. Carlton fans have waited a long time to see a win against the Swans at this venue. And that's a live ladder, they'll be thirteenth, the Swannies will be in the cellar. Hannebery gets it, for Newman. Right through the middle goes Cunningham, looking for one more consolation goal. Would have been fitting if Silvagni took the mark and finished with it. Carlton get it out of defensive 50 and Casboults does. The future is bright for the Blues. They upset the Swans.

## 2017.4 Brisbane v Port Adelaide

29 April 2017 Gabba () 67-150

Anthony Hudson, Jason Dunstall, Brian Lake, Danny Frawley

**BL** Massive game, but what you need for Brisbane Lions now is little wins, they've gotta come away wining this quarter.

**JD** Thanks, Brian.

**AH** What do you think they can achieve, this quarter, Brisbane?

**JD** They'll try and win the quarter,

**DF** yeah

**JD** I thought apart from the first quarter they actually haven't been bad, second quarter they were okay, it didn't reflect on the scoreboard, more competitive that third term. Now they need to bring it home. Really work hard.

**AH** Powell-Pepper runs into Lester

**JD** But this is the quarter they'll probably find hardest as well

**AH** There was a couple of patches of play where we saw players legs, some of the youngsters...

**JD** Yeah, young legs, young bodies gotta really stick fat now in the last quarter

**AH** Ebert latches on the footy's underneath and now it's out. Berry, probably had his best quarter in the third, might have earned a free kick here.

**DF** I know the defence for Brisbane will sleep well. There's been 51 inside 50s already for Port

**AH** Berry's had 14 disposals in the game, so that's quite promising. Been a quiet day for McCluggage, he's just had the 4. And there's Close

**BL** Boys you just talk about some of these young players out on their legs. I did notice something different. You can have fast tracks and slow tracks. We've had issues with the ground here about a month ago. The grass is a lot thicker than normal, a lot spongier, so I expect that, no doubt that would take a little bit more out of the guys' legs.

**AH** Thanks Brian, here's Rockliff, wouldn't mind having another go at that one. Beams. Almost picked up by Ollie Wines. That might have been high, no, it's not high, oh, it was high It was high the non-controlling umpire saw what we saw against Keys. Free kick to Pollack.

**DF** Brian obviously hasn't seen the uh Moorabbin grounds of old, Chief, if he reckons this was spongy

**JD** (*laughing*) just the 15 possessions for Pollack. We mentioned Keys done a pretty good job

**AH** Stand your ground Brian. Don't be intimidated by these blokes. Here's a nice little kick into the 50

**DF** Yeah, good hit.

**AH** and Amon takes the grab, and Hartlett, who can do so much damage

**DF** He's a lively type, Carl Amon.

**AH** yep

**DF** He's just uh, his work rate, still finding his way, what's this, game number 28

**AH** 7 games in his first year 15 games in his second and every game so far this year

**DF** Yeah, yep

**AH** Needs to make sure he converts his opportunities

**DF** that's right

**AH** And that's what he's done

**DF** and he's kicked the six goals, averaging a goal a game. So if he can just get in there and get the bag of two or three. Hard tonight of course when you've got Impey and Gray kicking seven between them and big Charlie, three. But, I like his work rate. He's just ah, his ball use is really good, his tackling pressure's good. He probably creates a few more goals than what we've highlighted

**AH** Yes,

**DF** But he's hit the scoreboard tonight, which is great

**AH** So, Carl Amon joins the list of Port Adelaide goal kickers which is ever growing, only a handful of their defenders, pretty much everyone else has at least scored

**JD** Oh, he hasn't paid a dangerous tackle

**DF** That was a good tackle, from uh Rockliff

**JD** It was a terrific tackle, because he was weaving and ducking and trying to break out of there, Sam Powell-Pepper.

**DF** well have a look, he's

**JD** He changes direction, he's running, he's trying to get out of there. How is that a dangerous tackle? He hasn't slung him, he hasn't thrown him onto his head

**AH** It's a mistake. I think that's the best we can say.

**JD** And unfortunately you don't need those mistakes when you're having a dirty day as it is

**DF** That's right. Geeze a good kick

**AH** Close had to stretch. He's gotta wait.

**DF** He's gotta hold up now

**AH** Don't panic

**DF** Wait until Shakey gets down there.

**AH** Great penetration on the kick from Cutler, as you said, Spud. Give him a chance

**JD** Little chip kick down the line, didn't take it

**AH** Back to Cutler

**JD** And that was terrific work rate from Port because they got all their players back in the defensive 50 before Brisbane were able to get forwards down there

**DF** And Jase, that's

**JD** (*illegible*) to Cleary

**DF** Oh sorry, I thought he marked it

**AH** Lyuns scurries in to get it and now they're all moving. Out of defence, through the traffic, Wines again, Powell-Pepper, to Westoff. Aggressive kick and uh, something that Dixon didn't look particularly interested in

**DF** Oh, you can't - Look at Robbie Grey

**AH** handed it straight back

**DF** You can't defend that

**AH** Wingard into the goal square, and Robbie Gray just able to keep it in to ensure another goal for Port. And that's four for Robbie.

**DF** Well 58% by foot.

**JD** He, he intercepted it well McStay. He wanted to hit Stefan Martin in the middle of the ground, but he missed the target. As soon as you do that in that part of the ground you're going to get punished. I wonder if this was uh a couple of bob each way, do I pass it to him or do I kick it over his head and hope it bounces through for a goal before he gets it. Lucky Graham was able to get it before it it bounced through for a behind

**DF** I think he was happy to give it to him. He's happy in the mid field at the moment, he's kicked four, he stay in the midfield. They're assembling a very dangerous forward line there, aren't they? A lot of people talk about other teams forward halves. If Charlie Dixon keeps presenting the way he is and the half forwards keep kicking goals. Gee they're hard to defend them all

**JD** I think Adelaide are the ones that get spoken about the most but this is looking pretty dangerous too.

**AH** McLuggae can't take it. Port have talked about how Robbie Gray, the plans were to play him as a midfielder again

**DF** yep

**AH** but he had the restricted injury in the pre-season

**JD** Yep

**AH** In the JLT. He Started as a forward and just been so damaging

**DF** What's this 9 goals in two weeks now. 5 last week or 4 5

**AH** 14 for the year before today so that's 18 in six weeks

**DF** that's a goal

**AH** What about that for a left foot snap

**DF** Bit of a celebration there, From Robbo. That's his second goal. He's worked pretty hard. He's he's actually tried to generate a bit of life in, in a game they know they're going to get beat in. And I think he's a really good example for all the youngsters, um. Both hands in the air. That's probably not the match winning goal you wouldn't have thought

**JD** Bit of Brett Lee when he took a fifth wicket for 145 against India

**DF** but the point I'm trying to make is he's trying to make it happen for his young team mates

**AH** Not quite the chain saw but still uh

**DF** no

**AH** a good celebration there from Mitch Robinson. 20 goals 14 134 to 8 goals 15 53 at the Gabba

**DF** He does bring enthusiasm to his young teammates though, I, I, I do admire that

**AH** Yeah, he was terrific last week. Just kept them in the game against the Dogs for a long time. Oh, that hurt, Sam Gray the victim, gets up and knows he, he's not going to move for a little while with any great meaning. Wingard fires it low for Charlie Dixon

**DF** He's uh moved extremely well tonight. I know that uh the ball's been coming in a lot and you are under siege when you get 55 opportunities but just his work rate. I know that the leads out of the goal square, it's been his 70 80 meter leads as well. So he's played up the ground a lot, it's his 6<sup>th</sup> mark inside the forward 50

**AH** Shooting for his fourth, and I reckon he's got that one, on line, so that's a bag of four for Charlie. And as much as we can talk about the pressure and all the other things that he needs to bring, if Port are to be anything more, I mean

**DF** yep

**AH** I'm sure they can make finals without him kicking a lot of goals but to actually go more than that and be a top four contender he needs to be a source of goals, Spud.

**DF** no he does Huddo, and uh Jase, you're probably well equipped being the power forward, with what it means to have a go to player under pressure, so, and I'm, I'm with you Huddo. I think he needs to, I know Ken said his work rate has been great but when you start accumulating a few goals, gee it adds the pressure when you're a key defender on a player such as him. But he's, the way he's moved tonight has been outstanding.

**AH** Berry. Taken down. Cutler. Rich. Been quiet in this quarter after having plenty of it for the first three.

Euston with a big tackle.

**JD** Oh

**AH** McCluggage has found it pretty hard so far tonight

**JD** Yeah. Been a tough one for Hugh McCluggage, the highly rated youngster, just the four possessions, but he's going to have days and nights like these

**AH** He had 15 last week so had a better go at it that time. There's Amon. Put himself in the firing line. Decent tackle from Berry. Just picks it up and suddenly he's bolting away Wingard

**DF** Outstanding kick

Robbie Gray

**AH** Connection was terrific wasn't it.

**DF** Well you had 2 Brisbane players back so Robbie Gray was smart enough to get on one side of the two, had a split second to see where Gray was, kicked to his advantage. People say gee he's gone wide but he had to because the extra for Brisbane was in the goal square

**AH** So Robbie for his fifth goal.



**DF** Just shooting practice at the moment, isn't it? Gee, how, how's the speed of Wingard out of that clearance though. Gee he's a talent. As I said, he's the x-factor in the midfield

**AH** 28 disposals for Chad Wingard

**DF** Yeah. 11 contested balls, 6 clearances.

**AH** and, he was able to rack up some of those numbers at times in his career, but often he hasn't been able to get anywhere near that. So, see what he finishes up with. Clearly won the one on one

**JD** Did well to keep it in front, didn't he? Hipwood was looking for it over the back

**AH** Towards full forward, the late leaper there was Robbie Grey but he couldn't climb over Clay Beams

**JD** No one to kick to here

**AH** You could see that written all over him

**JD** that was the only option, the short ball.

**DF** How have you found Rockliff's game tonight Jase?

**JD** He's worked hard. He hasn't quite had the impact we've seen on other occasions. He's chalked up 20 possessions, hasn't always hit the target, but he's getting there, he's working hard, that's all he's got to do.

**BL** Just with that boys, with Rockliff, he's only spent 75% of the game on the ground

**JD** and you know what Brian, it doesn't hurt to manage players because as hard as it is for the youngsters to be exposed to this week after week, it's just as difficult for the experienced players to have to carry the load week after week

**BL** and that's what it is. Gives that second-tier mid fielders a little bit more time, in there, expose it and that's what they've done in the second half

Stoppages a little bit more and some of the guys have been exposed but it's a good learning curve for them.

**JD** Yeah, Berry's played a lot of time in the midfield tonight,  
Rockliff

**JD** Be a lot better off for it

Rocky's only had the three clearances and that's something where he has been

**JD** Well he set a record over the past couple of weeks, Huddo, 53 clearances

**DF** He's been berry good Berry.

**JD** Yeah, That's a great one, Spud

**AH** Hard to know how to continue after that, isn't it? 88 points the margin. Hobbes. Getting a bit dizzy, Amon. Pollock. Emerging and keeping it low

**DF** Gets it up the ground again

**JD** I think what Port have gotta do, understand that games like these they need to fill their boots

**DF** Yeah, that's right

**JD** because percentage could be everything. Top four, top six, you name it, end of the year, big wins, they count for plenty.

**AH** Beams. They find a way forward. Harwood. Here is Rockliff, you know he'll run all day so often gets lots of the ball late in the game.

**DF** Oh well done, Jonas

**AH** Little chop off. Here's Powell-Pepper. Broadbent. And now Young. Crowd of just over 13 thousand here tonight at the Gabba.

**DF** That's what's impressed me with Port uh in this game is their ability to change speed. They've always been renowned for that team that loves to go run and gun but they've been composed on occasion as well, which they've had change this year

**AH** Little build up for Broadbent, challenging Robbie Gray with two Lions in hot pursuit. Robbie can have a crack off the left. Oh,

**JD** hit the post,

**AH** so that will be 4 4 I think for Robbie Gray now after 5 4 last week.

**JD** See what he does, he creates scoring opportunities. Now if he ever has a day out where he kicks everything straight, he's going to kick a huge bag at some stage.

**AH** Beams,

**JD** That's the old 'get it out of there as quick as you can and as far as you can' kick

**AH** slight fumble from Young just opened the door. And Berry getting a kick out of there. McCluggage

**DF** Got nowhere to go.

**AH** Oh. He just put a target on Robertson.

**JD** Well, he had no other options unfortunately because there are only two or three Port players ahead.

**DF** Look at Rowan Impey.

**AH** Now this is Sam Gray. Impey. Protection on the inside. Just bounce, bounce, bounce, kick, goal.

**DF** It's just the gut running with uh an extra four or five pre-seasons in your legs, it's just as simple as that. It's fatigue makes cowards of everyone. And these young Brisbane players unfortunately haven't had the pre-season, the gut running that the Port players, they're now in their, the major of their list are in the prime of their career so it's on the turnovers where they can really hurt you and get back. And we've said time and time again when, when Port have had a chance to go forward it's been Port's running back

**AH** Only 7 players haven't scored for Port today

**JD** we've spoken a lot about some of the big numbers, as we take look at the premiership predictor - Port are right in the zone. We've spoken about big numbers that the Adelaide forward line has kicked and the Adelaide team has kicked. They're running up a big total tonight Port Adelaide, 148 on the board now and still plenty of time left on the clock

**AH** and that shows, not only are they scoring well but they're restricting the opposition to stay in that premiership quadrant

**JD** they're going to rack up a serious score tonight, at this rate

**AH** Had two games where they really restricted the opposition in Carlton and Fremantle. Zorko! Gets it all together. They appeal for touched.

**JD** It will be team ed anyway, as a matter of course

**AH** Margin back to 89 points. Dane Zorko one of his quietest games. Still 18 disposals and a goal.

**JD** They don't look overly confident of this one being called back, the Port players. They're going back to position. Normally if there was a definitive touch on it they'd be uh getting ready for the kick out. Turns him well there. Now he's claiming it, Hartlett. But I'm... don't know if we're going to see a finger bend back. None of those views are going to help us.

**AH** All clear. The margin at 89 points is restored. Rider with the follow up. He was handcuffed there effectively. Powell-Pepper shows him how

**JD** Gee, he can break tackles, can't he?

**AH** Yep, Euston. Driving ball. Impey looks most likely

**DF** Stay down young fella

**AH** Oh, he was committed for the flight. Dixon. Harris Andrews. Rich. They was closing, his trusty left gets it out

**DF** Gee, they've taken some intercept marks today

**JD** He leant on him with the body there, hasn't used the hands or the arms.

**DF** really well

**AH** Shakey has just has not taken a mark tonight four disposals. Sam Gray. Flies. Gardner. Rich. The opportunity. Wading through was Harris Andrews. Robinson and Robertson trying to collaborate again. Out for Keys. And here's Martin in the middle.

**DF** This is where Port field extremely well they've got boundary side of their direct teammates, well, opponents, sorry they've just, the half forwards haven't been able to get out past the Port defence at all tonight

**JD** I tell you what Ben Keys worked really hard there, but the kick from Stefan Martin was atrocious gave him no hope he had to fight one against three

**AH** Which he tried in vain to do.

**JD** Yeah, look I reckon he stuck to his guns tonight, young Ben Keys. Spent most of the night against young Jarred Pollack. Certainly stopped him running amok. Done a very good job.

**BL** It's a good point, what you said before Spud, about how Port are able to cover that boundary side and not allowing the outlets. On the flip side, Brisbane are just allowing them too much they're taking corridor side allowing Port to, to lead to that boundary side and they keep hittin' them up, hittin' them up constantly

**JD** Oh, there's an aggressive kick. And it's a good one.

**AH** Mission accomplished as Amon takes the mark. A bit of an underground one, look at the strength on Ollie. But

**JD** That kick's not going back

**DF** A little ambitious that one

**AH** So the margin 89. We've got just under 8 minutes remaining. Not quite the all of 13 thousand 638 fans still remaining. Harris Andrews. Glorious day in Brisbane, plenty of ah things to do. Great day to be watching the footy. McCluggage. And out wide. Here's Dane Beams. Dane Beams, his 18<sup>th</sup> disposal only.

**JD** Yeah been quiet

**AH** Mm

**JD** they've been dominated the middle of the ground

**AH** 36 disposals last week.

**JD** and again. The number of times they've made connection, those two, kicks intended for each other. Good understanding between them

**AH** He's had a good day, Clay Beams. 21 disposals.

**DF** Well they use the ball well here. They've got the extras laterally.

**AH** Robertson's too, he's been a, well, I was about to say been a pretty good player today. Certainly tried hard. Taylor. Ooh, keep it away from Charlie for only so long. Dixon shovels it out

**DF** Beautiful kick from Charlie Dixon there, the big fella

**AH** Ollie wants to give. Pollack we know he's a beautiful long left foot kick when he's up and running. Clips the post

**BL** Spud, just a question without notice, uh Harris Andrews, a uh another key defender like us, uh how have you seen his game? he's probably played a little bit differently if he played a little bit higher. Do you think that suits him or do you think he's better suited to that key forward, really deep.

**DF** No, it's interesting, Lakey, because McStay, I, I thought Harris Andrews would have played on Charlie Dixon most of the night, but it's been McStay. So, yeah, they're probably trying to release Harris a little bit and just give him a breather instead of just playing on the big power forwards every week, and as you know, mentally, that can hurt you

**BL** Mentally, and probably just give him something a little bit different.

**AH** here's Hugh McCluggage

**JD** Oh, made a hash of that. Dane Zorko was down in the goal square on his own. He could have chipped it as soon as he got it but he tried to get back inside. More comfortable on his right boot Hugh McCluggage and look in the end, he should have kicked a goal basically. But Dane Zorko will feel rather aggrieved that he was down in the goal square on his own and they couldn't get the ball to him

**AH** We saw Ben Keys getting another couple of possessions in that chain, and that's a career high 24 disposals for him. 18 was his previous best

**JD** I reckon he's been a real positive. For the Lions tonight Ben Keys, and the role that he's played as well.

**AH** Game 19. He was a late inclusion last week. Amon. And there's Daniel Rich, making an impromptu visit to the Port interchange bench. 25 disposals, 1 mark, 1 tackle for Daniel Rich

**JD** Jarred Pollack, Ben Key's opponent has had the 18 possessions. Normally chalks up quite a few more than that, he's often been on the end of kicking goals, hasn't kicked goals tonight either

**AH** Pittard. Fired out the handball. Bit too sharp for Carl Amon. Appeal for out on the full. 89 points the difference. Last 5 minutes of this game from the Gabba. Lester. Pittard. Just stood off Zorko. Lester again gets thrust forward in an Impey tackle.

**JD** Did well to get a boot on it

**AH** It's over the line and out of bounds. So, what bracket would you put Port Adelaide in now, boys? Just the one below the top teams, or...

**JD** Yeah, at the moment.

**AH** Other than that?

**JD** No, at the moment. I think they're top six at the moment

**DF** They're going to be extremely hard to beat at home, aren't they I know they play Adelaide

**JD** They've already had a win in Sydney so their away record isn't too bad either

**AH** They've already played against Adelaide and GWS

**DF** They're going to be somewhere between 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> for mine, Huddo, I reckon, Port.

**AH** Powell-Pepper in the build up. Hartlett. And there's Mitch Robertson again whole hearted as he goes up to take the mark, or free kick

**DF** They just seem to have, like all good teams, a harder edge to em than the last couple of years. A bit like that. They're making players earn it. So, he's, he's marked the ball, but he's really made him earn it. And think, you've got pressure on for spots and that's what Ken wants. But event that, Broadbent there, that, nearly a free kick, I thought that was a tunnel. You can see there, they're just at the opposition ferociously. You know you've got Powell-Pepper. You've got Ollie Wines. They've got some really good unconditional tough players in the midfield there, their skipper Boak as well

**JD** He's still in a bit of pain Mitch Robertson after landing on the tail bone. That does hurt

**DF** and then they've got the sheer class match winners of Wingard, Robbie Gray, and the big power forward of Charlie Dixon, so the ingredients they've got Huddo is, is definitely a finals team. To be reckoned with

**AH** all right, lets have a look at the live ladder and where they sit right now

**JD** Look at their percentage

**DF** Yeah. Well, their percentage has gone up 14 so they've got the highest percentage in the competition now.

**JD** That is invaluable, that high percentage early

**DF** yeah, so if they keep that percentage up they could be top four material.

**AH** Wingard. Just tried to edge the ball forward. Lester to Beams. Worked their way back before going forward. Three minutes 40 remaining. 22 goals to 9 on the night. Here's Robertson, a West Australian. He's had 24 disposals. Lewis Taylor

**JD** He's found plenty of it, Lewis Taylor, possession number 24. He's kicked a goal, could have had two or three

**AH** Cleary. Hang onto that one. And instead it's going to be Adelaide surging again. Amon. Sharp ball into the pocket. Dixon. Needs to be kind to him.

**JD** You know it's interesting looking at a player like Lewis Taylor we spoke about he creates options and opportunities but he also is involved in a lot of turnovers. And he has to learn to run as hard back defensively as he does when he thinks he can get on the end of the footy. It's a big challenge for him to add those strings to his bow

**AH** Three players for Port Adelaide with 4 goals, tonight. As the ball's cleared out of there. Dixon, Gray and Impey fitting that category

**DF** And again, you, you think finals or against the top teams when you play. When you've got three guys like that Huddo, and probably two in Gray and Dixon, and throw Wingard down there if Boaks in, it's very hard for a defence to double, triple team players

**AH** Trengove's kicked 3 goals as well. Here's Pittard, just sorting through where to go next. Amon. Squeezes it into the pocket. Impey looking for a last hoorah maybe, come up with a 5-goal bag.

**JD** I think it's going to go to Carl Amon,

**AH** Yeah

**JD** but he's a left footer, he probably doesn't want it there

**BL** boys you probably tell with only two and a half minutes to go Robbie Gray, Westoff and Jake Hobbs just came back in the side and Paddy Rider on the bench

**AH** Wingard with the set up, but Dixon spoil sport Mitch Robinson

**JD** That was just as bad Wingard. Another left footer. It was either Wingard or Amon they're both left footers from there

**DF** Yeah, Hobbes is off the ground now, so they'll, they won't bring him back on. His first game back for a while

**AH** Yeah. Let's see if they can launch another one. Broadbent, we know he's a powerful kick. Its going to end with Hartlett, well he is not shy when he can launch, but its Charlie Dixon fills the frame, takes the mark, and he'll go back looking to become the leading goal kicker

**JD** His opponent Daniel McCade nowhere in sight. 10 or 15 meters away and he's looking around, suggesting

**AH** He's running away actually

**JD** he should have been - Get away from the mark

**DF** He's had a long night

**BL** Problem is, they've played like this all game the Brisbane Lions. They've been like Jayco caravans, they've just hung back, hung behind and let Port lead up constantly. They're number one side in the competition for hitting lead ups for

**DF** Yeah, good call, Lakey

**AH** Dixon for five, he'll be disappointed in that

**JD** I tell you what it is, its his 16<sup>th</sup> score involvement tonight which is the most of any player in a match this season

**DF** Yeah, he's been outstanding. Be out of him and Wingard for B.O.G. on this, I would have thought

**AH** Rich, he's a good kick. Thumper. Louie Taylor looking to create off the back of it. Beams eases onto the right book. A minute 30 remaining. Here's Close. He's got Zorko in the square. Set up. He doesn't get a run up at it, and Ebert did.

**DF** There's the difference, you've have three or four Port players actually going to go for that ball. And that, that's experience too, mind you. So, trust

**JD** I don't know if they're going to call it back, but Hipwood needed to go back and compete for that. But the kick was a poor one. If it was meant for Zorko it had to be a much lower trajectory to get there quicker before the Port players could get back

**AH** Ollie wines about to have his 20<sup>th</sup> disposal, hasn't been as dominant today, hasn't needed to be

**DF** Port Adelaide have got West Coast next week, at uh at home, so you nearly pencil that one in as well

**AH** Giving them that one already, are you?

**DF** At home, they're going to be extremely hard to beat, Huddo

**JD** Whoops there's an error. A little strong for Jonas

**JD** Good tackle

**AH** Well done by Robinson and let's see if he can convert, Cutler

**JD** Well done

**AH** Yep. Skids it through for a late one for Brisbane

**DF** Again, I really like the way Chris Fagin coaches these lads. He doesn't worry about the scoreboard. I've seen coaches in the past when you get a run on such as Port, you put three or four extra players behind the ball. And he's, he's teaching them to play good contested footy and, and finals type footy. It's just going to take a little bit longer. They've got a lot of youngsters there. They've got Sydney, actually next week, Brisbane, at uh the SCG, so that's an interesting game

**JD** Really good to see Tommy Cutler after he kicked the goal, turn straight around and get back to Mitch Robinson for the tackle. He's had 28 touches Tommy Cutler, the most of the Brisbane Lions

**DF** Yeah, best player.

**AH** Rider. Another tap down. Rockliff. Late possession. Oh. Close. Got a little buffeting. And he might get a free

**DF** Yeah, shepherding off the ball.

**AH** yeah

**DF** Against Broadbent. Hurt him too

**JD** Just taken the wind out of him

**DF** Yeah, 30 more inside 50s tonight, Port

**AH** Well, that helps. 84 points is the margin on the siren. Trying to get consecutive goals here, Brisbane, just to reduce that a fraction. So, a little sore of body, Michael Close. Has to get the mind on the job. Looking for his second goal of the night and Brisbane's 11<sup>th</sup>. And that's never likely to be a major, they have to settle for a behind, which means it's an 83-point victory at the Gabba



## 2017.5 North Melbourne v Gold Coast

29 April 2017 Etihad Stadium () 107-94

Basil Zempilas, Matthew Richardson, Luke Darcy, Cameron Ling.

**CL** The North Melbourne crowd, as small as it is right now getting behind this last quarter

**LD** Who wins, Lingy?

**CL** I think I'm giving North Melbourne the nod, JUST, it should be a thrilling finish.

**MR** Yeah, I'm going to back the team at home

**LD** okay, so

**MR** Going to have to put a little bit of a clamp on Ablett though

**LD** He's had 16 clearances which is a career high and we've still got a quarter to go, I'm not sure if that one counts for him.

**MR** Oh, Robbie Tarrant slipped over then, he was right on Peter Wright

**LD** decides to go short to Lynch

**MR** He can kick these Darce, we saw Johnny Patton nail one of these last night to put his time in front

**LD** Almost an identical style of kick from Patton wasn't it on Friday night footy. Which was a massive moment for the GWS. And Lynch he's got his sights firmly set on a big start to the final quarter for the Suns. A stuttering approach initially, just across the face. Oh, Witts in front, and a good look at the mark off hands and a boundary throw in.

**BZ** He'll be disappointed with that I reckon Richo, he had a lead, it sat nicely, it was in the hands for a moment.

**MR** It got in there. And as a big man, you need to, you really do need to mark those

**BZ** So, Suns, at the right end for them. Can they get the first one and heap the pressure on? Vickers-Willis just got it out. Mullet ends up with the football and well done. Garner's got the ball on the defensive 50. There's his look down the ground, it was a tough kick, Mason Wood the meat in the sandwich there and Shaw just happy to roll the ball over the line.

**MR** The dominance of Ablett, he's had a quarter of his team's contested possessions, a quarter – one player. He's had half of their clearances, one player. That's a pretty dominant display

**LD** See Dumont now. Real shut down role. Higgins, On, and he's chopped it off, Ablett. Higgins got hold of the jumper, to Miller, not a great kick and McMillan read that one with ease. Long ball. In front Garner loves to fly Harbrow does his best work in these situations normally, Garner ripped it out of his hands though, Woods kick, searching for Brown, but Lesley, the young defender read it well

**BZ** Playing in front, so that's what's ahead of him. Might come sideways, he's got Shaw but just the safe option down the line, Witts outnumbered and Garner, gee he's good in the air Richo, really clean hands

**MR** Very good, took that huge mark last week, Baz, over in Perth

**BZ** Here's Brown, Lesley, worked his way in front. Ke;pt coming, Lesley. Mason Wood was there to make it a contest. In the end kept the ball alive that was well done and Hrovat ends up with it from McMillan.



**MR** Gotta keep being brave, North, this is good to see them going through the corridor.

**BZ** Vickers Willis takes it on. Harbrow and Brown. Well there's a mismatch. Ball is still alive here, and Gibson taken over the line by Sexton and in it will come. North Melbourne leading by 7 points. No change to the score as we had it at three quarter time.

**MR** I don't think I really need to say anything – that tells you everything that you need to know about his game tonight. Dumont is really putting some time in now

**LD** Brown took it clean out of the ruck, one step kick, was a good effort from the ruckman but he couldn't get it anywhere near on line. You're just seeing Ablett, he's just trying to get to Cunnington. He spent an enormous amount of his 294-game career being tagged, Ablett, so it won't be any surprise to him. Now Jack Martin. Lynch wants it in the corridor. He's pushed way up he ground, Jack, has Tomy Lynch. Wanted the ball from Martin. Come inboard to Harbrow. Always got something aggressive in his mind, Harbrow. This is good play from the Suns trying to take back a bit of the corridor. Martin, prepared to go the one on one Hrovat and well done Sexton, the kick was well weighted in the end. Wright's got a one on one further afield. Martin. Good run down behind tackle attempt from Cain Turner. Picked up by Wright, squeezes it out to Matera. Back to Ablett, disposal number 39 for the champ. Lynch, Thompson's been really good tonight. And the Kangaroos will get clear

**BZ** Thompson did really well there, kept running, Darce. Hrovat and Hrovat coughed it up. They weren't quite sure where the next one was and no surprise, Gary Ablett in the area. So, 39 disposals, 23 of them kicks, 16 handballs.

**LD** Lingy, any chance that's going to happen? Can you find a way to get your man back to Geelong?

**CL** (*laughing*) Darce, I promise you I didn't give that guy that jumper and that sign. It wasn't me.

**BZ** And over the line again, so they all catch a breath here

**MR** That uh would be a scary proposition if you went into the centre bounce and you had Ablett, Selwood, and Dangerfield. Imagine that. You'd just pack up and go home, I reckon

**BZ** He's just one off the big four zero. Well done by Witts, knocks it forward. Barlow, Mullett. Barlow maybe being held on to, now being tackled from in front bny Higgins. Miller pushing off, Cunnington. Played that well. Kept the ball alive for North. Down the line Hrovat. Brilliantly done. Now the run of McDonald. Needed to get away from Shaw. Did so. Brown with a mismatch. And marks. He's got players streaming back. He decides to go with one of them, Gibson. And it wasn't clever. Lemons got in the road. Not out of danger yet though. Vickers Willis ball on the ground for Miller. Hrovat comes again. Umpire says holding the ball. Well done Gold Coast.

**LD** And they are out there the Suns, Lyons streaming forward he didn't see Marley Williams, Marley got him, he got it back though Lyons. Now there's men out everywhere. Lyons had options and he's taken the shot and they are absolutely furious. It was Wright I think on his own, good tackle back there initially but, wow

**MR** Well done Marley Williams though, he Hunts down the opposition, he just put enough doubt in there and it may have been what mucked all that up

**LD** In fairness, Lyons probably just should have just kicked a goal, Basil, but if you miss and you've got options out... That's a golden opportunity

**BZ** So, it is a one goal game. 15.20 left on the clock. It's been close all night. Cunnington at the bottom of that pack. And it won't come out, we'll go again.

**MR** A quarter of the way through this last quarter though and north haven't conceded a goal, they haven't scored either. But it's just an arm wrestle now, who can get the first goal

**BZ** There's disposal number 40 for Gary Ablett it was too slick for most of his teammates. Saard. Zeibel. Great tackle.

**MR** Gotta keep going quick, going through the corridor now, North.

**BZ** So Ziebell, quickly, pops it up into the middle and Higgins is just held up again. Now a short one, McMillan

**LD** Brown. On a good lead through the middle of the ground. It goes in that direction. Well done Lesley, effected the spoil without infringing. Bose back there. Lesley's kick smothered by Turner, Turner crashes in hard, its gone up a notch, this game. Lesley back in there, Lyons is well over the top, trying to spin out of trouble. Harm. Brown. Picked up by Mason Wood. Matera back in defence.

**MR** Oh, he's thrown it, has he?

**LD** Oh.

**MR** I reckon he had time. He might have panicked a little bit there, shovelling that out the back.

**LD** Let's have a look here, Richo, umpire in great position

**BZ** Oh. That's a handball. I think

**MR** No, I think he got a handball on that

**LD** Unless, Richo, he thought it was an open hand.

**MR** Yeah, we'd need another slow look at that, to be certain

**LD** Either way, it's a big call and a big moment for Ben Brown. Three goals two on the night. Jobe, early on tonight decided he was the man that needed to stand up. Should kick it from here. And it was perfect off the boot. Four goals Ben Brown, equal career high. Margin out to 12 points and a good steady goal for the Kangaroos.

**MR** That's the one they needed. The first goal of the last quarter might erase a bit of doubt. Put the foot down now.

**BZ** We'll have a look at it in a moment, Richo.

**MR** Yeah, we will

**BZ** It looked a tough call didn't it, on Brandon Matera. It looked a really tough call and Gold Coast were out, its gifted a goal to North.

**CL** Here it is here, Matera, you see, whether it's an open hand or a fist, I think it's a fist. The umpire has made it from the top of your screen there, behind Brandon Matera, he's pretty much guessing whether it's an open hand or a fist there, he could not have seen what made contact with the footy there, so I don't like the umpires just assuming that's an open hand there

**BZ** Although Richo, from that last replay it looked like maybe the ball had bobbed away from the platform hand, be that as it may, it's a goal from Beaumont coming forward. North doing all the attacking now, well done Joyce, that was brilliant to Harbrow met the footy hard. Out towards Fiorini. He knew he had one of the toughest customers bearing down on him, Ziebell. He stood tall. Plays on quickly. Barlow. Gets in the road of the big man Wright. That was a poor mistake. And now Ziebell's away.

**DL** Lack of communication on the mark too allowed north Melbourne to surge forward. Good opportunity for Brown. Too strong. Too good. And a good contested mark. He had Lesley covered.

**MR** Well this is the night we sensed he'd have because there's no Rory Thompson who's a great one on one defender. There's no Stephen May. Who was almost an All Australian calculation last year. This is a career best if he kicks it Darce. I think.

**LD** Yeah, it will be indeed, Richo. For Ben Brown, 11 goals 6 coming in to tonight. That familiar run up. Big moment in the game this. And Ben Brown kicks five goals and the Kangaroos are out to an 18-point lead. Career best figures for Ben Brown. All of a sudden, a long way home for the Gold Coast Suns.

**BZ** Did we make our mind up Darce, on the handball, the previous poor call?

**LD** I think there was a fist on it, and I think Lingy is right, we can't guess. It might have looked like a throw from behind, but. He got it wrong, I think, the umpire.

**MR** Yeah, he was in trouble, the moment he had his back turned, Jack Lesley. He was in prime position Brown.

**BZ** And Barlow and Wright, how costly that lack of communication on half forward. Ziebell, who's been terrific in this last term. Here's Simpkin popping it up again, to Brown. Tall man Lesley got in there, got the fist away. Now Turner. Got it to Wood. Oh, Goldstein, wouldn't this be something. He's hooked it back too far on the left and out of bounds on the full. North Melbourne's lead 18 points. A tick under 12 minutes remaining.

**LD** Saw a good look at the running power of Todd Goldstein, he's a really good aerobic athlete. Now big Witts just really struggling to keep up with him at the moment. Garner too good at the one on one. Got rid of Achee, Archee effected the smother. Cunningham's handball wanted Ziebell. Ziebell ducked the head and now he's got an issue, strong enough to get it back to Cunningham, in a dangerous position. Soccered forward by Achee picked up by McDonald. McMillan pops it in a dangerous position. Harbrow stand underneath that one, well done. Great courage. Martin tackled, and tackled well by Turner. Good umpiring decision that one. Ducked the head.

**BZ** How good from Harbrow there Darce, so difficult.

**LD** Yeah, great courage.

**BZ** Smallest man in the contest and went back and filled that gap. Gary Ablett's given away a free kick. Anderson, the recipient. He's done everything right tonight, Gary Ablett, it almost doesn't seem fair

**MR** Yeah, he got a bit frustrated, pulled the jumper down. Correct decision. There's probably two free kicks in there actually.

**BZ** Jet Anderson in his first game for the year. Played ten last year for North, including the elimination final against Adelaide. Ten in two seasons with Hawthorn prior to that. One the biggest kicks for him as a Kangaroo. They're out by 4 goals. And now they're going to take some stopping, North. Goal umpire didn't get the all clear, got it eventually. 24 points. Ten and a half minutes to play.

**MR** Monkey's off the back, I think Bas,

**BZ** Feels that way, doesn't it?

**MR** They're playing with freedom now. I think they think they've got his game under control. Its amazing how you loosen up. You're not tense in the mind, or the body, you just play with that freedom for the whole last quarter now.

**LD** So, unanswered goals to North Melbourne, to start this final quarter. Three unanswered goals and... It's been a fairly long time coming. A victory for the Kangaroos in 2017. Lesley did well there

**MR** that lack of communication between Wright and Barlow

**LD** Oh, yeah

**MR** They're a goal down, it could be vital.

**LD** Good hands from Lonergan. Had the runner past in Hall. Look at Saard. He just puts the head down. I love watching him go.

**MR** that's terrific

**LD** Takes a bounce, kick looking for Ablett, was really clever, what can the little champ do. Gave it back to Fiorini. Fiorini through the corridor. And they won't lie down, the Suns. Achee. An opportunity just to keep them within striking range.

**MR** Yeah, gotta get back, kick this. Everything's gotta be pretty perfect for them for now. Ablett, the only thing he hasn't done tonight is kick a goal. Looks like he's gone forward for a little spell, Everything's gotta be right now, if the Suns are going to pinch this game. Almost has to be perfect from here on in.

**LD** Dropped the NFL for a couple of weeks, kicked 5 goals for his return match against the Adelaide Crows and Achee sneaks it home and keeps the Suns within striking range. Callum Achee. He's had some quiet patches in the game, but he looks dangerous at times forward, Richo, he kicked five last week and it's a big goal

**MR** It is. He's only a young player, some positive signs though. They've got players out obviously, the Suns. Just has hurt them in the end I think down back, in particular without two key tall

**CL** North Melbourne have managed to play some good footy this last quarter on the back of their clearances. 8 to 2 Jack Ziebell has been very important. Now Jed Anderson has got the job on Gary Ablett. Dumont couldn't quite do it. Anderson on Ablett

**BZ** 18 points the margin. Goals have been scored quickly in this game, it's not over yet. Garner, Hall, Ablett. If the Gold Coast Suns can kick the next goal still plenty of time left, it would be a 12-point margin. Concede the next one though and it will be very difficult. Barlow runs onto the footy. Gibson, had a hold of him. Soccered back towards Higgins. Handball for Mullet. Did it well. Got around Lonigan. Tough one to control down on the ground, but they controlled it well. Turner, Simpkin, Garner kept going. Ablett got him. Got his disposal away Ziebell. Soccered it away from himself. Matera now fell on top of the football, then back on his feet, well done, Simpkin kept it alive, running out hard Achee. Peter Wright pops the kick up into the middle of the ground. Lyons can go, he does, away they go through Lemon. Hall missed it. Coming again, Hall

**LD** So, an opportunity here for hall. One on one with Lynch. He hasn't had too many opportunities. Well done Thompson, he's had a big night. And so, appealing for the free kick but he has been really strong tonight, Scotty Thompson.

**CL** He had a fair argument here, I reckon, Scotty Thompson. Tom Lynch when he went to ground just held... oh, maybe not quite enough. Well played by both but Scotty Thompson certainly wanted that free kick and could have been given it.

**MR** I reckon you nearly give Thompson the points, he's kicked 3 Lynch, but Thompson's been good in some key battles.

**LD** Just the 9 disposals for Lynch.

**MR** Ablett, had the, I know we've talked a lot about his game but he's had the most tackles on the ground as well

**LD** This man was taken with pick ten in last year's draft, Jack Bose, just his sixth game. Awkward looking kick. Now the numbers with Dumont. Gibson. Marley Williams great link up handball. Lemons streaking forward. Will get it over the top, he gets it over Lemon to Zeibel. Runner out wide is Hanson, will it sit for the big man, all the way, brilliant play North Melbourne. He's kicked six and the kangaroos will win their first game. 24-point margin and that was brilliant transition football. And they will not get done tonight, north Melbourne.

**MR** No, absolutely brilliant. We'll have a look at it here. The shank. The shank kick which can sometimes work out going into your forward line. It didn't and it was just North Melbourne players out the whole way down the ground. They had the extra number, the overlap. Ben Brown. He could have put that into the top deck. He sort of half held off on it. Kicked six.

**BZ** Massive roar here around Etihad stadium. Kangaroos closing in on their first win of the season. Ablett gives the ball to Hall. Big fly, Thompson terrific fist, floating down Dumont and he spilt the football. So back to Hall who's been really busy in the last few minutes. High ball, Sexton up in front, maybe should have stayed down. There's still a chance here. Ablett, done everything but kick a goal, now he's kicked a goal as well. Well done Gaz. What a night. 43 disposals. One goal one. Gets it from Lonigan. 18 points. 7 minutes on the clock. Game not over yet.

**MR** It's not Baz, because it's a free-flowing game and you can score quickly. It's been wide open all night this game if you win it around the clearance you can really get chains happening and score.

**LD** So, look at that, 21 times he's got 40 plus disposals. The next best is Greg Williams, and in 17 of those games, Richo, he's kicked goals as well to go with his 40, phenomenal

**MR** I know it's the era of a higher possession games, he still, I mean Diesel Williams didn't play in games that had 500 touches in them, 450, but, not taking anything away from Ablett

**LD** Oh, might have gone too early with the Kangaroos being home, here comes Lyons, that kick not great, he wanted Sexton. Atley in the way. And here is the runner Goldstein he's just got too much in the tank for Witts at the moment. And now, he wanted to go by hand. He telegraphed that, a little too obviously, (*laughing*) in comes Achee, pretty happy to get a ball up here as Goldstein puts his hand up and says sorry about that one.

**BZ** Gee how different this game could be. That Lyons entry not the best, the Lyons shot on goal early in the term when they had all the numbers, the Wright and Barlow mix up and the Bose kick a moment ago, but still they're alive. North Melbourne now, Gibson. Good tackle. That was very good work from Martin. Not rewarded. Six minutes ten left on the clock. North Melbourne by 18 points. Well, they are not done yet, the Gold Coast Suns.

**LD** Nice ruck work from Witts, got it down to Martin, now Matera, Harley Williams has been his opponent all night and unfortunately from a Kangaroos point of view, off his shin and out of bounds on the full.

**MR** I guess the difference is North have had more rotation, more players contributing through the middle of the ground

**LD** Lyons had some opportunities as Basil just said. Dispossessed. Couldn't get boot to ball. In comes Ablett. Back to Lyons again. Hall, put a little move on, ran into Gibson from behind.

**MR** Late whistle

**LD** Crunching tackle too, and he's sore, Hall. Ablett trying to get him up, let's have a look. Just didn't sense the heat coming from behind and Gibson absolutely nailed him.

**BZ** Hanson drifts to the front of the pack.

**MR** This has been a good move too, Hansen going forward

**BZ** Brown's on here, Shaw needs to go and he did go. And how lucky was that, Peter Wright marks. The kick out of mid-air, so just over five minutes remaining, 18 points still, there is time for the Gold Coast Suns. Chasing down. Ablett not quite the clearing kick, McMillan just got away in time and Dumont's clearing kick to Hansen. Not the first time we've seen Hansen used. Down the line he goes. Wood. Good mark. Joyce. Was there, then Joyce got something on the handball, intended for Brown and Lesley worries him over the line. It's still alive but getting harder by the second.

**LD** Just can't understand the option to handball there, Brad Scott. So, under five minutes remaining. 18-point lead to North Melbourne. Will take some serious beating from here. Harbrow, still working hard. Been a good selection for the Gold Coast Suns. Here comes McDonald. Did well, spreads the handball got it through to Mason Wood. Jesse Joyce back there, peter wright's gotta bend over and pick it up the big man. Looking for number ten draft pick from last year, and he's tackled over the line, Jack Bose.

**BZ** There's Bose, in defence tonight. Bose restrictor. 4 26 left on the clock. Next goal for North Melbourne and there is not any hope, next goal at the other end and you just never know. Here's Shaw, to keep it alive. Now they're out numbered here, the Suns. McMillan gets back and marks on Barlow. Plays on quickly, here's Turner, just pops it over the top too much and Lemons takes the mark and goes, now Barlow, if they think their way through here they might be in. Sexton. Handball over Ziebell. Tough one for Fiorini, bounced nicely, here's Miller, looks up, does he hit the target, Lynch maybe pulled down, no free and its alive for North Melbourne, Vickers Willis across to Gibson, now Thompson, are they out now Darce?

**LD** Yeah well done again Scotty Thompson, inside Tom Lynch's head tonight. Defended superbly Higgins, and Saad compete and a boundary throw in so time becoming the big factor. Adam Saad. Such a busy player. Ablett being manhandled at the clearance. Matera's hands looked good to Harbrow. Fiorini, back to Ablett. Disposal number 44. Lynch, despite kicking three a pretty quiet night. Thompson got him again. Trying to tackle Scotty just hasn't been his go. He's down Lynch, he's going to be up and okay but they're out again here. Wood. For the sealer from 50, unloads towards the goal square, which way will it bounce? Through for a minor score. So, 19-point lead. 2.56 on the clock. And safe to say Basil, North will win tonight.

**BZ** 4 goals, 3 minutes Darce. Lesley's long kick. Tough one for Bose. Ablett, Mullet, may be the unlikely man to seal - Oh, terrific mark Hvorat. Great mark at full stretch. 40 meters out, almost directly in front, plays on quickly and a short ball has been marked by Luke McDonald. Clock continues to run so North Melbourne it's been such a tough start to this season for them. I think everybody in the competition recognising they're better than their results suggest. And finally, round six it will be win number one for North Melbourne. Luke McDonald. A behind. 20 points.

**MR** They deserve this North Melbourne. Better team since half time.

**LD** Saad, in characteristic fashion, long and down the middle. Free kick (illegible) to Saad. Advantage has been paid. Bose in his first season, dripping it towards the goal square, will it bounce through, it will, and Jack Bose kicks his second goal of his short AFL career. And the margin back to 14 points, minute 42 (*laughing*)

**MR** What's Leigh Matthews rule?



**BZ** Well

**MR** A goal a minute is it

**BZ** Well we were outside that a moment ago and now we're kind of back inside it

**MR** No, it's impossible, it's impossible

**LD** They've been impressive the Suns. They've had moments where they looked like they were going to go past North Melbourne, but they haven't given up away from home and the young man in his sixth game of AFL football, Jack Bose, well done.

**MR** I reckon Witts had a real advantage early in the ruck with his hit outs to advantage. But we know Goldstein's an endurance beast and he's just worn Witts down in the middle, he's eventually probably, I wouldn't say got on top in the hit outs, but just around the ground he's just had more influence and been one of the reasons North have overcome the Suns in this second half.

**BZ** The look on Brad Scott's face, a moment ago. He's not resting yet. Three goals in two minutes? Is it possible? Gary Ablett can make anything happen. Another one out of the middle. That's disposal number 45. Quickly onto Achee. Inside 50. Mark taken by Matera, now there's really no time to waste. But he has to go back and steady down, he can't relax. Nor can he. A minute and ten seconds left on the clock. If he kicks the goal here, it will be 8 points. Not bending back enough. Darce, can I say it? Is that it now?

**LD** You can, Basil, and you'll be right. (*Laughing*) Brad Scott still not happy.

**MR** He's not relaxing. That's six clearances to big Goldie, of his own. So, he's had a pretty good night.

**LD** So, Mullet, for Brown. Career best night for Ben Brown. Six goals. He stood up when they needed him tonight the big fella.

**MR** Well, they did. They needed to find a match winner inside forward 50 and Ben Brown's been that man tonight. Worked hard. Keeps presenting and if you keep presenting to enough contests like he does, eventually you get the reward.

**LD** Suns will welcome back Sam Day at some stage, David Swallow rested tonight. Richitelli out of the side, Rory Thomson the defender. There's enough talent in this Gold Coast team to win games and win them consistently eventually. As Lesley was dispossessed. Squeezing it out in the Harbrow direction, clean pick up from him, Saad a little don't argue, back to Took Miller. And they're still coming, Gold Coast

**BZ** Martin with the footy, just forward of the wing, well done by the big man. Big man, big heart. Keeps it alive Todd Goldstein. Well done. And then handballs to Mullett. Clock winding down, so after ten losses in a row, including the first five of this year, finally North Melbourne are winners again.

## 2017.6 West Coast v Fremantle

29 April 2017 Domain Stadium () 103-62

Adam Paplia, Dermott Brereton, Matthew Pavlich, Ben Dixon

**AP** It's a game that certainly divides the state and the Eagles hold the advantage as we head into the final quarter of Derby 45. And now we will restart. Back in the middle after a crooked bounce. Adam Sandilands, been a tough night for his team, not celebrating that personal milestone tonight of game number 250. After the restart, Yeo in there, and a free kick's going to come back to Shuey. He was just held a bit too long off the ball by Fyfe. Shuey wants to go and he kicks it in the Kennedy direction again, Logue, right there with Kennedy, sees it over the line. Josh Kennedy with six goals, so far, make that five sorry, missed that last shot at goal. Five goals for Kennedy so far in the game, he's combined so brilliantly with Luke Shuey at times tonight. Leading up

**MP** Derm, it's this time in games when it looks as though (*laughing*) it's a real grind battle. It's a grind for Fremantle right now um it's about digging in and making sure that uh the scoreboard doesn't dictate your effort in this last quarter. Because while they were poor in the first two weeks, they're able to turn it around pretty quickly and you can use momentum in last quarters, so they'll be out there, definitely.

**DB** yep

**MP** You see Michael Walters has gone on ball, we've got a few different players in different positions, they want to make sure they finish this game well

**AP** There is Walters winning it away from the stoppage, kicking it out into the path of Weller. McCarthy out to meet it. Dockers clear it out okay in the end. The kick was a good one up for Mundy. Open forward line for Fremantle, Crosier with that leaping ability

**DB** That tunnelled a bit there

**AP** yeah, just getting underneath him. Daris, trying to go underneath Mundy.

**BD** That's the beau, that's the beauty about Fremantle, in this last quarter 44 points, but they can take the game on they did last it week, got the result against North. It's a bigger margin, but the same principles apply. Take the game on like they did, open side and test West Coast in their defensive half

**AP** Redden set up Priddis with the handball. Dumott, was clever to get it out to Gaff who sends the ball up the wing and out of play

**DB** Ben, just that last clearance and I noticed it happened in the third quarter, the Eagles still keep at least a couple on the outside of the, of the, the congestion of a, a clearance. And the Dockers have been able to get more inside and then are able to break past to out, to the outs, to the extremities of the clearance

**BD** They've done it all night, uh to be frank, Dermott. In the third quarter it was evident. Aaron Sandilands hit to the defensive side and it was four Eagles players to one Docker. So they've definitely set up outside, uh, they've wanted the inside ball all night, Fremantle. But I think its time to turn those tables.

**AP** Here with a looping handball up from McCarthy. It hasn't been clean going forward in this passage of play for Fremantle. Priddis on his knees trying to get it out. Langdon dispossessed. Gaff had it for a moment, Walters went in hard, Butler's got him.



**MP** See Michael Walters, in that tackle there, looks like he's gone on ball this last quarter, he's only had the ten touches so Garrick Ibbotson's also going forward, David Mundy is playing forward this last quarter, so some personnel change around the ball.

**AP** Michael Walters spent a lot more time in the midfield last sason.

**MP** Mmm

**AP** Missing out on a few personnel through there.

**DB** Pressed up as a high half forward, most of the – has he, has he have the tank, he's in his hundredth game, he's obviously, you know, match hardened and AFL hardened, but has he got the tank?

**MP** Yeah, he's got a big tank.

**DB** Gee, you'd want to run him through there, good then, I know he's valuable up forward because of his talent

**AP** Once he's got the handball through there to Neale. Reddin trying to slap it it clear. Neale going in again. Shovelled it out in the direction of Brad Hill, Shuey causing some problems in there and it will be locked up again. Just on Michael Walters, Matthew, a remarkable story from him. 100<sup>th</sup> game tonight. Banished from the club in 2012 for poor fitness standards but he's worked himself back and now finds himself in the leadership group

**MP** Yes, it's a great story about perseverance, persistence and really I guess, the hard message being delivered and then someone responding

**AP** Robuck hard of the ball at that contest. Barris back with courage. McGubbin trying to use his strength. Fremantle a chance here. McCarthy to Ibbotson. Grey in the pocket. Touched off his boot, actually knocked down. McGubbin, Mitchell. Dangerous handball just in the corridor. Wellingham just has to put it on the boot and clear it away. Bounce will be important here. It goes boundary side before Yeo got there, and there is Yeo just picking himself up, you see him just on the right there, with Fyfe, oh an arm swinging back

**DB** Ah, that's if someone's tackling you you're allowed to shrug them off, he didn't look at him,

**AP** He hurt his left arm too Dermott,

**DB** Yeah, there's no spite in it. Somebody's tackling him while he's not actually playing the ball, you're allowed to try and shrug them off

**AP** Oh, into the pocket McGubbin throwing himself at it. Grey, bursting his way through. Just couldn't find a teammate in support. And Josh Hill out of defence, no, intercepted by Neale.

**DB** That's what you were talking about Ben Dixon, before the game, you were talking about repeat entries, pressuring the ball so it lives in Fremantle's forward line

**BD** Yeah, and that's exactly where the spot was. In the pocket. If you have to kick in the pocket you're going to concede an out of bounds and a stoppage. They're quite good at scores from stoppages, but its predictable for your forward line. And also when West Coast get possession you can pocket them, like Hill did there, he's got no way out and then if you outnumber them on the exit side you're gunna get your opportunities.

**DB** I think hes gone back for the Michael holden run up

**AP** He has been a goal kicker this season and that is a nice finish if its got the legs, it does, the run up got it just over the line and neale kicks the goal.

**MP** Has gone forward a fair bit this year, he had three lots of surgery in the off season and meant that he's probably played slightly less minutes in the midfield so far this year, but goal kicking four against Melbourne it was and another one tonight. Important player for the Dockers. It's a nice finish for Lachie Neale

**AP** Seventh goal this season for Neale

**DB** About that kick by Josh Hill, he had a 4 v 2 to hit in favour of his team and he put it down Lachie's throat.

**AP** You see the dominance from Sandilands in the middle. Smashing that one forward again, but Gaff was the first to arrive. He controls the kick now to Yeo. Seems okay after that incident a few moments ago which is a good sign. Mutimer. He's just going to send it Kennedy direction. Dockers have plenty of numbers but off hands, Shuey was just waiting out the back, it landed in his lap but couldn't help himself to the goal

**MP** What happened in the third quarter is Fremantle kick a goal, then West Coast would kick a goal. Fremantle, if they want to win this quarter we'll see a great contest there and Shuey just missed his opportunity in front of goal. If they can just string a couple together Fremantle, anything can happen.

**DB** Well, Lee Spurr was very fortunate he missed that, he just got absorbed into that marking contest

**AP** Blocked off the ball by Walters on Yeo so West Coast are going to get the free kick

**DB** Another good game tonight by Elliott Yeo

**AP** Just pleading his case

**DB** You gotta at least look at the ball.

**AP** And stop him jumping at the football. Into the pocket, off the hands of Kennedy, go after it again at ground level. Le Cras in there. Wrapped up by Ibbitson. (*illegible*) players

**DB** You see in this situation they're all right. They're having a real go, the Dockers, they're on the spread.

**AP** back, Blakely has to be good with the kick. Was an excellent pinpoint pass in the end to Mundy No margin for errors there.

**DB** Once again we see the Dockers win the ball on the inside of the pack and then just break to the outside, whereas the Eagles tend to have one or two ball winners and then handball to the outside players in space

**AP** Bradley Hill wants to switch. Weller.

**DB** Somebody's got to come up

**AP** Trying to direct the traffic, was asking for someone to lead at him and in the end the kick didn't have the distance and Yeo chops it off

**MP** There's a few fremantle players in the middle of the ground there that just really have to dig in and work really hard to the outer side. The ball was switched quickly and they needed to be charging out the open side.

**AP** West Coast back the other way. Shuey and Kennedy. That combination working again. That time both players with plenty of space, and Kennedy will go back for number six.

**MP** And what happens when you move the ball out the open side quickly and unfortunately its is turned over like Fremantle did on that occasion, it opens up everything back on the inside.

**AP** Yep

**MP** Your defence is disorganised, you haven't got time to get you settled, and what it means is, you can go quickly. Luke Shuey again with the connection, might be a couple of coffees he's owed this week.

**AP** (*laughing*) Might be a coffee machine in the end. As Kennedy, directly in front steers it through. He has got 6.

**DB** Once again the interception by Elliott Yeo and pretty easy spot up here. You still got to get it there. Tom Sheridan screaming for coverage there. Don't know who he was yelling at, they were all going to be at sea once that ball got turned over.

**MP** Had a big night, Josh Kennedy, Griffin Logue's gone to him in this quarter. Just a bit of a change up there, see Jeremy Gubbin, taken 8 intercept marks tonight, he's looking for a record

**AP** Sandilands knocking it down. Sheed, in the middle. Reddin. Now Mastens, kicking for space, wide at half forward. Fremantle will get there first. Spurr had to wait for it to bounce, shares it with Logue. It goes the distance, but might work out okay, Tucker taken high

**DB** ugly tumble punt wasn't it

**AP** Hmm

**DB** It worked

**AP** It didn't look like he was looking for a target, but it did land with Tucker.

**DB** hard to grab though

**AP** here's Ballick. That's a dangerous kick back, Strong hands from Hughes

**DB** He has a good set of hands. Little things like that you notice about, you know, young players you can refer to them later, you know the kid's got a really solid pair of mitts.

**AP** Hughes gets it back from Blakely. Now Langdon to Sheridan. Kicks low. Mccarthy trying to keep it in front of him and umpire waiting for it to spill out, which it does. Mundy. Got it to Fyfe. Fremantle loading up some numbers, Weller, long towards the top of the square. Out the back. Ballick was waiting back. He read it the best, he dribbled it and it just rolled over the line. We might have to get confirmation. It didn't make great contact Harley Ballick

**MP** What it was, a fantastic contest from Aaron Sandilands

**AP** Knocked it on, didn't he?

**MP** he worked incredibly hard. About 10 or 15 meters back from the flight, just got a finger in there, um, created a spill and Harley Ballick, it looks as though it might be a goal

**DB** Former AFL player, Leigh Fisher, going upstairs for this one, and rightly so, it's pretty close, but if the umpire thinks its – should be a goal.

**AP** So. the goal stands for Harley Bollick.

**MP** Yes, great effort by the big Docker's ruckman. You see here, as the ball gets kicked in by Lachy Weller. You can't see the work he does prior, but just that. Just enough. He actually worked about 20 or 30 meters out from goal, worked right hard back to the goal square.

**DB** And in a sprint that might as well be a 200 for him

**MP** (*laughing*) correct

**DM** That 20-meter sprint for Aaron Sandilands it has knocked him around, he's on the bench.

**AP** He's on the bench

**MP** It only took him 6 steps

**DB** Very true

**AP** So Johnson into the ruck, allows West Coast to get the clearance. Mitchell setting it up and the kick going long, big intercept mark by Spurr, switched to Langdon, puts him under a bit of pressure. Chips it up to Blakely

**MP** Blakely's had a fair night he's up to 27 disposals, started on Luke Shuey and actually did a fantastic job. I think that match up may have been broken as the game went away from Fremantle, but had a good night.

**AP** Fyfe will get the free kick but McCarthy tried to take it so that'll have to come back

**DB** I can understand why he tried to take it, get it forward. Gareth Ibbotson's been moved to the forward line.

**AP** So this is where Fremantle have just gotta be patient. Slow play. And West Coast pushed everyone down in that forward half. So if they can go around the arc like we spoke about in the first half. Just bide your time and spread the zone. Switch it back here to centre half back, to Hanely.

**MP** He's created a couple of pockets through the middle Nathan Hughes just actually ran, probably the wrong pattern then but Lachie Weller on this outer side

**DB** Hanely didn't trust himself to take on a lead kick then

**MP** yeah

**AP** Good mark there by Butler. Outsized by David Mundy I think he got to the front and took it in one hand.

**MP** Yeah, that's great work by Sandiland. Probably not the kick he was hoping for but still, great mark

**AP** Butler up for Darling. Reddin waiting down, got he arms clear. Priddis, Gaff, Shuey, back to Gaff, now retreat all the way back to Butler, where this possession chain started. Shepherd. Switch for Yeo. Possession number 29 for Elliott Yeo who's had a big night. Hearn and now Shuey. Spins and sends it inside 50 and well read in the end by Sheridan. And the Dockers can try and come out of defence again, a dangerous kick, Langdon able to knock it down but Shuey hits it with pace and (*illegible*) was pushed as he kicked it. Good pressure by Langdon and Fremantle able get possession back

**MP** You see, Luke Shuey, as we alluded to before. Connor Blakey went to him early probably outdid him, but he's up to a good amount of possessions now 24 possessions and believe, it or not he's had 4 goal assists and they've all gone to Josh Kennedy tonight

**AP** And the kicking efficiency for Fremantle has been 78 % in this quarter. (*illegible*) Tackle there by McGubbin. It means a free kick. West Coast now lining up through the middle, Marsten, for Mitchell. Shepherd, runs his distance. Another driving kick, Vardy was there. Hughes in front then tackles Kennedy, spills to Giles. He's got one arm clear then the second, Darling off the step. That kick's wide. Shuey in the pocket, Sheridan there as well. The ball's still alive, stays in. Good evasiveness from Harley Ballick and Spurr back to him.

**DB** That last long ball that went in Evan Hughes was really brave running back with that, with the flight of that, that kick.

**AP** Neale long out of defence in the Sandilands direction and the big man is up and taking a strong mark

**DB** Now he has to go sideways there was nothing ahead. Gotta be wise here as Ben Dixon says. Just possess the footy.

**AP** (*illegible*) building. Johnson. Back for Neale, got the overlap now, Tucker. From the wing, that kick was touched but it might work out okay. Grey. Putting it down for Kirsten. Awkwardly just putting it on the boot. Shepherd will be back first. Here's support, but Masten spills it. West Coast still back there, it's a slippery footy. Priddis, Shepherd, goes to the line, Masten keeps it alive and Priddis clears the danger. Tucker trying to leap over the top of Wellingham. Yeo slapped it back in and eventually McGubbin sees it over.

**DB** Just kind of mistimed that jump, went for the screamer and the proposed sit man had moved away

**AP** Sandilands front position again, he has dominated in the ruck tonight as all season

**DB** They've roved him really well though the Eagles have kicked off a lot of his, his taps

**AP** Wellingham, to the wing, looking for Darling. Priddis, over the line. Matthew Pavlich, how have you found watching Derby 45? You played 34 straight derbies before tonight. You didn't miss one since you made your debut. Played all of them between Derby 11 and Derby 44 and the last time Fremantle played without you - July 18, 1989.

**MP** Thanks for making me sound really old. Um, have I enjoyed it? Well, its been its good to come to the footy to watch it. Um, obviously West Coast have been dominant so it hasn't probably been the game that some people thought, coming into it. Um, players like Jeremy Yeo and Jeremy McGubbin have been outstanding. And what I what has been the case tonight it's a little bit what they're doing here, they've been able to get so many uncontested footy, so much of it. They've dominated. They're up to 265 uncontested possessions to Fremantle's 200. And equally they're in the contest, 136 to 117 contested possessions, we talked about that pre-game Derm. If they're to match Fremantle in the contest, the pressure, the hit around the ball, they'd probably be able to slice them on the outside with the ball and that's what they've done tonight

**AB** I remember one of your first Derbys, there was a few cut lunches thrown, Pav, I remember

**MP** yeah, I was trying to get in to Michael Gardner. It was my second derby ever, but uh, I was copping them more than anything. The demolition derby, it was a big one.

**AP** ah, it's been a great rivalry along the journey. West Coast just with their noses in front in the overall standings. That's a poor kick by Crosier. West Coast dominated those early battles,

**MP** Yep

**AP** Before Fremantle really hit back

**MP** Yeah, I think it's been 2015 prior to tonight, since, did well

**AP** Kennedy on the lead. The locals were up there with him

**MP** Yeah, he did well.

**AP** Mutimer, Logue keeps it in. Sheridan. Neale with a high kick. McCarthy just thrown out of the way too early by Bucks.

**MP** Griffin Logue did really well on that contest against Kennedy. What happened? Kennedy came back to him, checked him, bench pressed him away and got a 2 meter break then got on the lead and Logue closed it down

**AP** Hill. Long, back there. Fremantle, Shephard dropped the mark, Mundy can gather, he's looking for a handball, Kirsten can try and snap his third goal. He made the angle harder on himself in the end.

**MP** Ah, its probably the gripe of the old player, the ex player, they think well why didn't he just kick a drop punt? From right around the corner. Its just the way of the modern day player, they prefer to go the snap but he did make it a much harder angle as you well and truly discussed in your call there Paps.

**DB** See Sammy has turned his head before he marked that to have a look at the landscape.

**AP** twenty-fourth th disposal from Mitchell. Good shepherd on the mark there from Shuey. Oh, that's a four meter pass

**MP** A penalty, 50 meters against mazu, you feel a little hard done by

**DB** You can understand, You can understand. In all honesty, what, that kick went 9 meters, forget the 15, it didn't get ten.

**MP** Here we go

**DB** Have a look at it here,

**MP** That's 7 meters

Yeah (*laughing*)

**AP** Its turned into 57 after the penalty. Sheed goes now through the middle of the ground, McGubbin back from Mitchell, about to be crunched, taken to ground hard, effected the kick. Crosier intercepts. Hughes.

**DB** Now, they've got to score here, they've got the numbers, they've got the run, they've allowed slow ball movement here and the Eagles have already flooded back. So that's not great though, Ben Dixon, that's not great

**BD** Not at all, and especially from a turn over, off half back you know everyone's pushing hard from West Coast. They had the opportunity as you mentioned, they were all forward of the ball, so they've got to move it way quicker than they did.

**DB** That's, that's when you slingshot, you just have to go at express pace

**AP** A long kick Fremantle, Fyfe is down there with Mundy. It's knocked out the back. McGubbin, wanted to go straight past Langdon and decides to do so. Priddis. He drops the mark but he's got four runners in support. Mitchell, Gaff and now to Masten. Long to Kennedy who almost wasn't ready for the ball to hit him, Logue there with him again. Kennedy had to go hard. Good contest late in this game. Sheridan is equal to it as well

The ball's dragged back in under Logue by Le Cras

**DB** yeah, Le Cras was so shifty then, wasn't he? You spotted it too, Le Cras was hovering over the top of Griffin Logue and he pulled it underneath Logue and then appealed for holding the ball. Wonder what the true ruling on that should be

**AP** I think the best result is a ball up, which is what we've got. Giles. Was he going against Lachie Neil then in the ruck



**DB** He was. You won't see that again in a lifetime

**AP** Big mismatch there. Neale working hard at ground level. Fyfe, tackled strongly by Priddis, the crowd want the free kick and they're going to get it. And there's a bit going on as well and there'll be a 50 meter penalty. Neale and Sheed. Neale certainly unhappy with something.

**DB** yeah, tempers lost in that exchange.

**AP** It has threatened to spill over a couple of times tonight. There has been a bit of niggles between the two teams as you'd expect in the local rivalry. But Neale was certainly fired up.

**DB** He can get a bit firey Lachy Neale for (*laughing*) for someone who is such a relatively mild mannered and really nice young man. A charming young fella. He is.

**AP** Priddis takes the reward in the end. He was the man who made the tackle initially. And he kicks a goal.

**MP** Had a pretty good night Matt Priddis. Been his usual industrial, industrious self around the ball. Won lots of the contest, we see here that the free kick, another great tackle paid for holding the ball, and the 50 meter was given afterwards, I think against Lachy Neale but we're not entirely sure. Don Sheed going in there to give Fyfe a little push and then Lachy didn't appreciate it which I think is fair enough in some ways, stand up for your mate

**AP** And Matt Priddis broke the all-time AFL tackling record last week breaking through the 1500 mark barrier.

**DB** Did he?

**AP** Yes, went past Lenny Hayes, and played 72 fewer games than Hayes to reach that mark. He's been a tackling machine right through his career.

**MP** I love the fact Matt Priddis had to work so hard to get into the game because what it meant is that his approach, his professionalism, his way he's gone about his footy

**AP** You're talking about his sport, not tonight's game

**MP** Correct, sorry, yeah, to get into the game. He came off the rookie list, year after year at Subiaco playing good footy as you see a great tackle from Elliott Yeo.

**AP** Certainly targeting Fyfe on that tackle. Sends it out of bounds on the full

**MP** It's a good story of perseverance, it you know, when things don't necessarily go your way, you're not drafted as a young player, he was drafted a bit older and he's just been such a professional player. It's great that, to see those sorts of guys rewarded with longevity of a career after taking so long to get there

**AP** 8 top 5 best and fairest finishes for Matthew Priddis in 10 years

**MP** It's a great effort, isn't it when you get somebody off your rookie list who's played, tonight, game 225.

**AP** Of course, the Brownlow medal in 2014. Giles (*illegible*) out the back. Mitchell. Masten. Shuey, back to the run of Masten, now has Butler, in support, but didn't have much ahead so must have turned defensively. Few groans from the crowd as they retreat, but might get the overlap here. Nope Sheed will have to go back to Wellingham. Over 40,000 in the building tonight. Perfect evening for football. Eagles fans will be enjoying what they're seeing. Fremantle fans won't feel too hard done by after the three great wins they've had in recent weeks. Neale, Wine and Kirsten and he wants to get it and go.

**MP** Fyfe ahead.

**AP** No chasing him. Fyfe is excellent in the air, and he juggles it once, twice, no couldn't hang on, Fremantle still a chance. Crosier crafty aaround the goals. Gone too wide.

**MP** Geeze, you would have paid, you would have put all money on Nathan Fyfe taking this mark, he'd beaten Wellingham it was,

**AP** and then they get behind him.

**MP** Mmm

**AP** So, 19 disposals for Fyfe tonight, hasn't been his night in derby 45. Langdon the best for Fremantle, with 31 touches, Blakely's had 29 so a couple of younger players leading the way for the Dockers. Neale, crunched by Shuey in the tackle.

**MP** We saw Nathan Fyfe's comments during the week saying, that you know, he was still building he wasn't anywhere near his best form yet. Still coming back to some genuine fitness after his broken leg.

**AP** Sheridan just off the instep a little, and it skids its way through for a behind

**DB** So, in these final five minutes, Nathan Fyfe has gone forward, probably just having a look, Ross has a look, at you know, this last five, six, seven minutes. Experiment. What happens if I do such and such, so he's thrown Fyfe forward, see how it stretches the Eagles defence. They've coped with it pretty well so far

**AP** Mitchell, makes it tough for Darling and Johnson over the top.

**DB** He's gotta give that, he's gotta give that to Blakely over the top. Normally encroached over it. Just over the top of that, Blakely's just between the centre square and the arc. He has to give that one automatic - look, if Sam Mitchell, he's never going to take that mark, but if Sam Mitchell has the ball there its an automatic handball to Blakely where he was, and the ball drives in over the pack. Gotta think automatically sometimes

**AP** That's the third 50 meter penalty we've seen tonight, players encroaching

**DB** They've all been there. That one was definitely there though I reckon. The first one was touch and go, yeah, touch and go but that one was definitely there.

**AP** So, Michael Johnson, he kicked a great goal last week and he slots this one through here. Great goal for Freo.

**DB** I reckon. I reckon, who was the officiating umpire there, it might have been, I think it was Leigh Fisher,

**AP** No Geoff

**DB** Geoff Dalglish it was. He only gave him 40. It wasn't a 50 anyway. It was quite a shallow, or shy, 50 meter penalty

**AP** He didn't need the full distance, was able to kick the goal. Its been a good return by Michael Johnson.

**MP** It has been a good return, he didn't start the year that well, along with many of his teammates, but he's gone into the ruck as we see him here and he's been able to re-find some form.

**AP** And Mundy with a clearance sending it forward looking for Walters. McGubbin (*illegible*) able to tap it down for Gaff. Butler, Yeo. (*illegible*) kick, too much on it for Shuey. Out the back Priddis. And



now Vardy laying a strong tackle on Mundy. Ball still alive. Priddis keeps it moving forward. Giles knocked it back. Le Cras he already kicked a great goal tonight now he tries the soccer skills. Not this time

**DB** Giles with a shifty little tap with the back of the hand there, trying to put it into the path of Mark Le Cras.

**AP** Now Le Cras might be able to poach a goal, the soccer skills work this time. Bad mistake out of defence

**DB** Big smile

**AP** It isn't the first time we've seen from Fremantle this season but Mark Le Cras couldn't believe his luck.

**DB** Big smile by Mark le Cras, he knows he won't get too many more easier than that

**AP** Tom Sheridan, it was Sheridan I think

**MP** Good work on the mark though, isn't it, staying active, keep moving and get a chance to have a shot at goal. Good work.

**DB** A lot of youngsters kick into the man on the mark, they just don't think that people are that willing to work hard on the mark. But Tom Sheridan's been around a while, he's played 60 plus games, should have been awake up to that, tried to bite off too much.

**AP** Fremantle out of the middle. And Blakely. A long kick and Ibbotson on the end of it

**DB** Anything in Garrick Ibbotson going forward for the last 40 minutes of this game

**MP** Well at various times last year when the Fremantle Dockers weren't playing that well he actually went forward and played that more mobile running, such a gifted athlete, played that more mobile forward, maybe seeing what it's like when the chips were down in some ways.

**AP** Ibbotsons shot on goal, (*illegible*) wide, just a behind

**MP** I think what would disappoint Ross Lyon and the coaching staff the most tonight is the fact that West Coast have just been able to dictate the terms with the ball in hand. They've just been able to get so much uncontested footy, they haven't been able to press up on them as much, um, they've been a lot of trailing leads. Um, a bit like this here. They haven't been able to stop that and get a repeat inside fifty. The inside fiftys are almost even, they're 51 52 apiece so its not necessarily that they haven't got the ball inside their forward half, it's that they ahven't been able to stop West Coast between the arcs, move the ball how they like.

**DB** Well, they haven't been disgraced in the second half, they're actually four points ahead in the second half, they just couldn't cope with the way McGubbin was picking off everything they kicked forward inside fifty in the first half. And their game fell down, they were adrift by 45 points down at half time and that was the margin.

**AP** Mitchell with the ball in his hands, the former Hawk playing in his first derby. Fremantle's winning run comes to an end. The Eagles bounce back with a dominant display in Derby 45.

## 2017.7 Essendon v Melbourne

30 April 2017 Etihad Stadium () 74 112

Anthony Hudson, Jason Dunstall, Cameron Mooney, Brad Johnson

**AH** As we head into this final term on Fox Footy 12 9 81 50 6 12 48. Centre bounce and Watson, McGrath to Merrett. Can he put them into a better place? Fantasia v Jetta. And he got good assistance. Tyson, Kennedy-Harris, McGrath knew he was going to wear one and tried to paddle it into a better position to get some play on and run going.

**JD** Well they got what they wanted to start with, the first clearance out of the middle of the ground. Jobe Watson on the centre square, hasn't been in for too many of them today

**AH** Let's see what sort of energy levels they've got.

**JD** got a spare here

**AH** Hooker for Gleeson. Bellchambers about to leap against four demons. McDonald had a second crack at the spoil and was well directed to Salem and Welsham and Oliver. As they work it back further. Hibbert. Oh, I don't think that was where it was meant to go

**JD** No way, a 2 meter kick!

**AH** Frost just took the initiative and said I'll take it. Salem back to frost. Pederson. Growing in confidence he was senior emergency a couple of weeks ago, so on the radar for them. Hannan on the left. Watts.

**JD** Yep

**AH** Yup. He was just able to

**CM** McGrath's in a little bit of trouble down here guys, he went for that spoil and ran straight into the fence. In the hands of the doctors, looks, he's shaking them off. Looks to be okay. Looks, hit, hit him on top of the head but cleaned up the fence in a big way. Just see here on the replay. That's a bit nasty

**JD** Oh absolutely, thank goodness he's up and about

**AH** So Jack Watts, already with 3 goals. This to take Melbourne out to a 39 point advantage. And he's done it off a couple of steps.

**BJ** Looked after his teammates as well and took the full thirty, he had a couple of glimpses up at the scoreboard to see where his time was at. There's McGrath, he's up now, after colliding with the fence. And here's Jack Watts just stands, good body early, protecting the drop zone. Perfect technique from Jack Watts

**JD** Yeah, say he's had a fair day when you look at the numbers. 17 possessions. Four goals one, eight score involvements. A very good afternoon's work.

**AH** Reconvene in the middle. Ruckmen neutralised each other but Oliver was ready to pounce. Viney pushed out towards the wing. Pederson swings it back.

**JD** Good vision because that's where they had numbers

**AH** Had McDonald, had Jones, ooh

**JD** His kicking lets him down, he's, he's had a mountain of possessions Tom McDonald, had 23 possessions, he's kicked a goal, but his ball use has really lets him down.

**AH** Goddard out for a flying hooker. In goes Hibbert. In a bit of pain as well, Karl Hooker. Hibbert getting adventurous. Going the old KB handball out in front of himself. Hepple. Watts and they crushed him. Oliver, for Watts again. He's got prior possession then there's some help. Petracca kept it going, Bugg, a fumble, a little chip kick, top of the goal square, and Hannan's going to roll one though and Melbourne are streaking away.

**BJ** Great vision in the end from Bugg, it was uh contested in there and the Melbourne player was able to pop out the back, was it Hannan that did that, so involved in the contest here, He ducks out, Essendon keep watching the ball, and in the end (*laughing*) he's just sitting there all by himself.

**AH** Yeah once Mitch Brown didn't hang on to that difficult mark it meant trouble. Paid the price when it's his opponent that ends up with the goal

**BJ** He's enjoying his own work on the scoreboard there as well, Huddo.

**JD** Christian Petrako involved again, a good ground ball get, hasn't had a lot of it, just 9 possessions, he's played virtually permanently forward, kicked the three goals, been involved in a few.

**AH** Pederson, and now Watson. Hooker, bit of imagination with the handball but Jetta was up to the task. Frost, oh that was a precarious kick and now its Collier, ignores Zaharakis instead. Ambitiously tried to kick it back from Bellchambers. Oliver. 23 disposals for Clayton Oliver. Having an outstanding second season. Jones just testing out the foot skills there. Getting more and more confident the Ds, Jetta, Lewis. His 25<sup>th</sup> disposal. Tyson. Not that time for Hannan. It will be a great bonus for Melbourne if they can get through this last quarter and preserve this sort of lead and not have to expend too much energy for next week

**BJ** Hmmm that's it

**JD** Conversely though I mean if the effort takes it's toll on Essendon. Even though they've both short rests. I mean Bombers have had three quarters of a day less, they could it into a route the Ds

**AH** Yeah, they could

**JD** They've just come off an 8 goal third quarter, kick another 6 or 7 in this term they could make it a real percentage booster, and that's what the Bombers have got to avoid.

**AH** Particularly for Melbourne who are behind the 8 ball in their wins and losses so percentage could become very important as the season progresses. Daniher sore. An ankle maybe? Maybe just jar. Hepple ran around which mean the kick was going to do back. Hurley, for Merrett. Who's had another huge production of disposals, his 26. Parish, told to go longer at the last moment. Green tried to nudge his way to the front, but he's interfered with, Nev Jetta in his 100<sup>th</sup> game

**JD** Turned into a quality small defender, Neville Jetta, hasn't he? He took great body position there, held it with strength. Made life very difficult for Josh Green

**AH** Demons unhurried right now. Frost though decides to go for a bit of a trot. As they just make slow but good progress along that cit-city wing. Viney takes it back, from Oliver, puts it onto the chest of Hannan. Garlett darts into the pocket. He had a couple of yards, McNeice

**BJ** They have a chance at the moment. Essendon are just like caravans at the moment just trailing in around behind their direct opponents

**JD** Yeah, yeah, almost circling the wagons

**BJ** yeah no real urgency in closing it up,

**JD** it's almost certain

**BJ** just hoping that Melbourne might turn it over by foot

**JD** Yeah, not a lot of run in the legs at the moment

**AH** Merrett carves a kick for Collier but too strong. Vince meets it front on. Will go back to Jones here put it at his feet but he's adapted nicely, Oliver, generally likes to handball rather than kick but made the right choice that time. Jayden Hunt. Pederson coming at him. He loves to run and gun but so does the man chasing him, almost a step too many. McKenna, under siege.

**JD** Got some serious speed McDonald-Tipungwuti,

**AH** Yeah

**JD** because he was in full flight, Jayden Hunt and he's quick.

**AH** He's probably one of the few that could put him under any sort of duress. Bellchambers, Merrett again, Oh

**JD** Oh gee that was lucky

**AH** Bellchambers, for Joe Daniher. Aggressive kick, Jones is able to shut it down and then flip it out for Pederson, if he'd just been able to be clean they were away to goal. Jones instead here's the little inside out handball, Oh, all came apart for McNeice

**JD** Oh, gee whiz, just picked him out.

**AH** You'd think that was perfectly designed

**JD** They should score here the Bombers

**AH** Goddard, see if they can get the stepping stones,

On the inside McDonald-Tipungwuti, but

**JD** Didn't look

**AH** He didn't see him. As you said Probably looking would have helped.

**AH** Hooker, back to Green, puts his own little show on in the pocket. He lost, he lost faith in himself. He'd just about seen off the tackle and then he rushed the kick. So well done Forest for his persistence. And here's Jayden Hunt, that last line. Grim faced Bomber fans in the background as he goes for his distance and maybe then some. Up to the wing for Bellchambers, Pederson with the double fist. Timely. Gets it over the line and out of bounds.

**JD** I reckon he's been a good contributor, Cam Pederson, as he comes off for a spell. Had 17 possessions, he's kicked a goal, he's worked hard, he's bullocked. Done some inside work, three clearances of his own. I think they'd be pretty pleased with the effort of him coming in.

**AH** Nathan Jones. Possession 23. Had a little bit of a quiet patch mid match, but he's led strongly at the start and the finish. Bugg. Goddard. Been one of the Bombers best. 26 disposals for Brendan Goddard. Second highest career possessions on average. Which is quite amazing, really. Played 15 years and this is his second highest.

**JD** Hmm

**AH** Neil Bullen. Watts. Jones, Neil Bullen again on the outside. Merrett was ready to wrap him up and now he's ready to kick the ball into the middle because they were lining up, the Bombers. Drifting though Brown and now Fantasia. Trying to strut his stuff out wide. Collier. The goal's obtainable from there, we're about to find out – they are

**JD** gee, good finish

**AH** Some good connection, both with the pass and the goal.

**BJ** Yeah good run Huddo, with Brendan Goddard, is it, did you say earlier, Huddo, that his contested possession is up

**AH** They're up

**BJ** is right up, so there, that attributes to him being able to win a lot more ball, rather than just being that link up player that we know he tries to do regularly

**AH** Career high 12 contested possession

**BJ** Yeah so there you go, that compliments, he's got the mix of inside outside work. He's around the contest much more and winning more ball in the contest so good on Brendan Collier for changing things up in his own game and well done to Collier, that was a great running goal

**JD** he's a capable goal kicker and a good finisher, but unfortunately we just haven't seen enough of it from, In particular the Bombers but also the Ds in the first half.

**AH** Daniher in the ruck down to Parish, crowded out pretty smartly. Bernie Vince getting further out towards the wing, Jack Watts. Looking for something on this side. Hibbert. Arching the back. Just seeing off the significant danger presented.

**JD** They just keep taking on the wrong player though, that's the problem.

**AH** Yeah

**JD** They're the best chasers going around.

**AH** Oscar McDonald sends it sky high. McKenna and then Merrett. There's Viney. Merrett wrestled it back. Good play. Goddard. D. Daniher. They start to spread. Watson, delicate little pass. Fantasia skims it back for Merrett on the bounce. He went with it. To Zaharakis. And now Bellchambers should mark this one unimpeded. And kick the Bombers second goal in a couple of minutes.

**BJ** They've got the transition right in the last couple of plays, Essendon they've been clean with the ball off half back. Been able to spot up and once they got the ball back into the middle, it was the Merrett kick to Zaharakis which really set this up.

**AH** First scoring shot for the day for Tom Bellchambers. And history says he'll put it through. And it repeats. Trims the margin to 33. Johnno?

**BJ** Yeah, well here's the transition once again, from uh from deep 50 for the Bombers. And, and that's what you ask for, Jason, in some ways, you know, it was going to go either way. Melbourne were either going to blow this out or the Bombers were going to stick their heels in and get themselves running. And that's the kick back in there, from Merrett, and it opened things right up because of that kick

**JD** Unfortunately for the Bombers they haven't had enough chains today where four or five targets have been hit to connect.

**BJ** Yet, that's it

**JD** Geeze they double the hit outs of Cam Pederson from 30 to 15

**AH** Add another. Watson. Butting heads in there with Clayton Oliver. And he wins again. Tyson inside 50. This is where Garlett does his best stuff. Bagley well aware of that. Petracca great hands.

Jones, Oliver. Terrific handiwork, needs the foot to do the finishing from Tyson, he couldn't. D. about to be tackled, realised it. McNeice, oh, straight back over the line

**JD** Well I think he was terrified about a deliberate rushed behind because his teammate handballed it straight back to him as though he wanted him to run it over. He thought he needed to clear it from there

**AH** Won't be particularly easy this one, for Jordon Lewis.

**JD** He'll go the banana

**BJ** Oh,

**AH** Oh,

**JD** He's threaded the needle

**AH** Oh, it's a goal! 26 disposals and now a goal, for the 4 time premierships Hawk who's now a Demon.

**JD** Interesting the way he held the ball there, maybe just a little bit of a tilt on the ball to try to get it to swing the way he needed to. Look at the way he's holding the ball there, a little bit of an angle, a fantastic kick, might have heard something from over the fence and said it wasn't a bad kick was it?

**BJ** Maybe they reminded him how he ran into the post earlier on in the game (*laughing*)

**AH** I think he'll be looking forward at looking at that during the week as well and showing a few. 99 to 60. Bellchambers, Parish. There's Oliver. Out again. Tyson. Oh. Two Bombers couldn't quite get their act together and they're gonna get away through McNiece. Chips it for Brown.

**JD** Zack Merrett leading the way 30 possessions ahead of Clayton Oliver with 28, Goddard 27, Lewis and Tyson 26

**AH** make it 27 to Tyson, to full forward. Hurley in command back there. Bit of a difference between the way Merrett and Oliver go about it, Jase

**JD** Yeah,

**AH** Oliver 7 kicks 21 handballs, Merrett 22 kicks 8 handballs.

**JD** yep. And both have had 4 clearances, 4 or 5 tackles

**AH** Pederson to really hurt them, Garlett, and just escapes. 100 up for Melbourne. 15 10 100 plays 8 12 60 at Etihad Stadium. A 40-point margin.

**JD** Oh,

**AH** Oh Daniher. Nimble little kick. Green. Zaharakis. Striding into the 50. Had the bounce, got balanced, and sprayed it.

**JD** Little toe poke from Joe.

**AH** McDonald, down the line, Patraha tries to get there with Hurley, Hunt, Kennedy-Harris with the jumping handball. Oliver cleared, helped clear the path for Bugg and now Jones, its great combination by the Ds, let down by that kick from Salem. Pederson not giving up neither is Petracca. But Hepple won the day. Hurley, a bit like a statue as he kicked that.

**JD** Ooh,

**AH** little fend off, not sure the umpire had full faith in uh Bernie Vince, Green and gone overboard here, ooh, please kick it, he does. Deserves some reward for all his efforts. McDonald-Tipungwuti puts through his first goal.

**JD** It's been good to see the Bombers actually fight it out because they looked so leg weary after that third quarter would they have the effort to continue on. Is there a fend here or a high knock, he gets – oh!

**AH** Oh he gets the second one maybe

**JD** It's the second one, yeah, almost like a little backhand, not too much in it though. Good decision from Josh Green just to chip it over to McDonald-Tipungwuti.

**BJ** You're right Huddo, he did deserve that goal. He, some of his chase downs, he's the one who hasn't stopped trying in this last quarter when Melbourne try to expose and run away with leg speed he's the one been chasing them down consistently.

**AH** Unfair advantage. (*laughing*) You could hear the umpire reluctantly saying I'll have it.

**JD** He tapped it from well inside the circle though

**BJ** He did, didn't he?

**AH** It was too clear a disadvantage. Merrett. Goddard. Oh, big rise from Garlett, Lewis just (*illegible*) a try.

**JD** Little bit worse for wear, Josh Green. Neville Jetta taking or attempting a hanger on him. Might have copped it in the back of the head

**AH** McDonald. Lewis. Jack Watts will get there, but not before it creeps over the boundary line, oh, he throws it to someone in the crowd (*laughing*)

**JD** Oh there it is knee right on the back of the head

**AH** And then came down on it for good measure

**JD** Trouble is they were all queuing up

**BJ** Tommy spoiled his own teammate who was about to take mark of the day

**AH** In his hundredth game.

**BJ** Yeah

**AH** No sense of occasion there, Tommy. Come on! Bagley short for Goddard. Three goals one apiece in this final term. Hooker. Strong grab. Bit of pain to go with it. Lewis summed it up nicely, was hoping it would get to Oliver instead its McKenna. And McDonald-Tipungwuti working in tandem. McKenna straight into McDonald. Holding the man.

**JD** Wow. Didn't he take the tackler on?

**AH** I guess once he determines he didn't have prior, doesn't pay the free for that, and he pays it the other way. Bugg tunnelled it almost through. Back into play in haste and then Vince, certainly not in any hurry, presses pause. Just easing the way out. 15 10 100 to 9 14 68. Hibbert. Back to Frost. both teams in self-preservation mode now I think. (*laughing*) Jetta. A few openings and Garlett is all the way back in the square, back backing towards goal. Still getting there. Petracca. Yes. Takes the mark. Maybe he'll just hook around



**JD** Yeah just take his time. Go back. He's hit the set shots pretty well today. He's kicked three, Christian Petracca. Hasn't had a lot of the ball, he's played a good forwards game, he's been involved in a lot of the scores, has put defensive pressure on and been very strong at the contest. Possession number 11 coming up.

**AH** So, can he hit it sweet? He can. Highly skilled young man. Big smiles for Demon fans. Four goals. Melbourne's lead extended to 38 points

**JD** We know what he's capable of Johnno, but he's played a very efficient forwards game hasn't he, Christian Petracca.

**BJ** Yeah he has. Because, look at times uh, Michael Hurley's been able to take some uh intercept marks on him, but look, he's tried to position himself as best as he possibly can to restrict the influence of Hurley at times and then obviously get on the scoreboard himself. so

**JD** 11 possessions and four goals.

**BJ** It's a good game. And also this man here, Cam Pedeson well he has to fight the fight, and he has today against Tom Bellchambers but the next three weeks in particular don't get any easier for this man on *screen (laughing)* when he comes up against McEvoy, Jacobs and then probably Toddy Goldstein in combination with Ben Brown at times. So, that's uh, big challenges ahead for ruck, for uh Melbourne in terms of uh their ruck set ups.

**AH** Its worked okay today.

**BJ** it has

**AH** Here's Garlett, got a little bit overexcited with the handball. It still might be able to find a path forward. Forging it with handballs initially. Tyson and then the release kick will come from McDonald. It's not a pretty picture.

**JD** (*laughing*) he has kicked a couple of floaters today.

**AH** Hepple. They close on in, and finds Collier. Oh, he doesn't mark it but he does get in

**JD** oooh

**AH** infringed. Maybe one of the reasons Petracca's played so deep today is, he, he was carrying a bit of a knee issue, so that might be part of the reason. Oh, Green's come up with a little bit of pain.

**BJ** He's copped a few whacks today, Josh Green (*laughing*)

**AH** Yeah. 12 disposals. Hasn't hit the scoreboard after kicking three on Anzac day. Hepple one way and then the other and back again. Brown a little sore. Yeah, quite a bit sore

**JD** Yeah he is.

**AH** His left leg and he's gone down. Just off the screen, as Bellchambers takes the mark. Took 7 marks today, Tommy Bellchambers. Some pace shown by McKenna and Hooker, in fairly unexcited fashion puts through a goal.

**BJ** Well, good free ball again. And that's been the highlight for Essendon in this final quarter, getting the ball back into some dangerous spots. They've kicked some easy goals, so far (*illegible*) wait for the tackle, but good play once again from the Bombers who haven't given up on this game.

**AH** Two goals for Cale Hooker, Connor McKenna, 21 disposals.

**BJ** He's had a fair crack today, McKenna



**AH** And there's Mitch Brown with what looked like a pretty serious ankle injury. This is extremely frustrating with 2 minutes 20 remaining in the game. Lewis and Oliver and then Jones. Viney wouldn't let it pass. No advantage. Neil Bullen. 29<sup>th</sup> disposal coming up for Nathan Jones. He and Viney both leading them strongly today even though Viney's only got 19 disposals, had a big third quarter. Daniher looked most likely but Hannan's going to kick a goal. That's three for Mitch Hannan who started the season really well in round one and then just couldn't quite back that up, after a week back in Casey, he's been excellent today

**JD** Well, he's competed, he's worked hard, he he makes a contest here in the pack, Hasn't had a huge impact on it but He keeps his feet and stays in the play

**BJ** and this is where Mitch Brown gets injured

**JD** Oh yeah

**BJ** So Jordan Lewis coming off the spoil, his leg just gets caught underneath

**JD** Just fell on the right foot and ankle didn't he

**BJ** Yep. He reached for it straight away

**JD** Let's hope there's nothing seriously wrong

**BJ** He has had his injury issues throughout his career, Mitch Brown,

**AH** This will be Melbourne's first win against Essendon here since round 12, 2006. Haven't had a great love for his ground, it's fair to say, the D's. In terms of wins and losses and haven't played Essendon that many times here, but still nice to chalk up these little mini milestones along the way in their progression to becoming a much better team. Do you think they're finals bound, Johnno?

**BJ** Well I th, they're going to be in that mix. I can't see them jumping up and being a real threat, at this stage in terms of a premiership this year, or a top four, but I think they'll uh they'll be in that mix of you know, 6 through to 12

**AH** okay

**BJ** I haven't seen enough today too many turnovers, they're a level below the top top sides, with their skill level at the minute.

**JD** Yeah, there's no doubt they are, but I think they have the potential to be a different proposition if you put Hogan and Gawn back in the line-up.

**AH** obviously, that won't happen for a while with Gawn

**JD** No

**AH** we're not quite sure when we'll see Jesse Hogan. We're passing our best to Jesse and the Hogan family, the tragic loss of his father during the week. Melbourne 38 points in advance of the Bombers. A crowd of 44 thousand an Essendon home game. A lot of them are going to walk away disappointed. They would have been delighted with Anzac Day. But Essendon haven't been able to back it up, the Demons in the second half have

SIREN

And they stay very much in the mix in season 2017, looking for that breakthrough finals appearance.

## 2017.8 Geelong v Collingwood

30 April 2017. MCG. () 78 -107

Brian Taylor, Hamish McLaughlin, Leigh Matthews, Andrew Welsh

**BT** Start of the last quarter. What have the Cats got? We know they've been impressive in the last quarters this year, but this is gonna be have to be the best of them all so far. And it's a fast-starting Cats. Parfitt mongrels it inside 50. Lyndon Dunn with the spoil. Motlop's going to arrive, he's very very creative. Got the handball through. Nice work there from Menagola. Got it back again. So, they're alive here, the Cats Tuohy had great awareness to get the handball out the back but Crisp got on the end of it, a surging powerful run, the kick not quite what he wanted to Moore.

**HM** Well, the umpire called it on. Blew the whistle. Lonergan stops, so too did the Pies initially. Stewart tries to help out. In arrives Broomhead, Lonergan is about to tackle whoever is about the place. Smart ball from Duncan; works it to the wing. Inside the handball comes. Intercepted by Goldsack, tackle is on from Duncan, little give, ends up with Wells, thought about going inside. Works wide, feeds the handball back, Greenwood, inside 50. Treloar will kick from just inside 50.

**LM** Typical of the day, Collingwood have always got the extra jumper there, the extra teammate there in the contest. There was a, mark wasn't paid but they've got the extra player on the ground to get the first possession, a lot of touches before the ball got to Treloar but that first possession was critical.

**HM** so Black stands on the mark. The tall defender Treloar just on 50. Kept it in. Now, it is still to be one it is. And a fascinating 20 minutes ahead against North the Cats trailed by 25, Melbourne 3, St Kilda 5, so this is a big deficit 6 goals or so in arrears, 20 minutes to play. A weary Collingwood but showing no signs at the moment. Well done over the top to Menagola, Parfitt, back it goes to Menagola. Now a quick one to the wing, a couple of one on ones, they come together as a foursome, collide. Dangerfield. He's been quietish, started the term with 16, Selwood with 12, Guthrie to Duncan.

**BT** So, Duncan, from the wing but Collingwood so quick getting back in that transition defence. Long ball, they're all one on ones there, they fly early

**LM** Gees, he's making a habit of that, Tom Hawkins. I mean, so, he's got, he got, he took a mark a couple of weeks ago where he jumped early, pushed forward with his knee and was allowed to get away with it. I think that one was just a uh, a really early jump and an unreasonable attempt

**BT** They're all collapsing underneath him.

**LM** (*laughing*) they've gotta do that

**HM** I think, I'm not a great lip reader but I think he said it looked to block, to the umpire

**BT** Come on Tommy. Taylor Adams wants to go boundary here. Asking Fasolo to offer something here. I'm sure that was meant for Wells, but he got on the end of it through the midfielder Smith, encouraging the kid Greenwood to run. And he does. And he does. Got rid of it to Sidebottom. Treloar now will have to do it on his left boot. Didn't get enough on it, well done here for the Pies, they've got the numbers standing up. Good tackle by Mackie, real good tackle by Mackie, because Collingwood were on big time there.

**LM** He used Treloar but Sidebottom is such a good left foot kick I don't know why, he had plenty of space to have a shot from 35 meters

**HM** So, the Pies attacking. They lead by 35. Grundy, Smith, wrap each other up, Grundy wins the strength battle. Cox in front of Henderson. Murdoch feeds off the scraps. Menagola to Makey. To the outside. It spirals and spins and bounces. Two Pies lead the chase

**BT** Parfitt! Ah, he's done a hamstring Parfitt

**HM** Parfitt's done the hamstring, reached for it

**BT** He knew he had to go flat out, and he just cascaded down on his knees

**HM** Meanwhile the Pies with the football. Sidebottom, Lyndon Dunn, gives an option, he's ignored, through hands, still a chance. Who's next, Moore in the line-up, to Broomhead, onto the left boot, didn't make connection, Elliott knows where the goals are, so too Treloar, Feeds it back, Fasolo, its gunna land short

**BT** Boy, Parfitt, he knew he was the only one that could get there to stop the Pies, he went absolutely flat out, look at this, three Collingwood players.

**LM** that is a real, oh, a real bad one,

**BT** And oh, down he goes, Parfitt and the classic hamstring. Taylor Adams now. Can go back inside to Hoskin-Elliott, sets him up so he's running forward. Intelligent start, passing Parfitt there, they've called for the stretcher for him. Now Treloar's got it, Treloar tries to turn Smith inside out. Goes for home and I think he may have it, he has! Treloar's kicked a big time goal. So, 41 points now. They did call the stretcher and it did enter the ground but it won't be required

**LM** Helped a little bit when you're, when you're a man down on the field so its 18 versus 17. Well Parfitt is uh hobbling from the field. I love the way Treloar knew it was Zac Smith on the mark, so back to speed to come back inside. Left hamstring

**BT** Bang! I've been shot.

**HM** So, the Pies now, the last 3 of the third term, first of the last, the last four of the match and 7 of the last 9. Parfitt, he is done, you'd think, for a month or so

**LM** Collingwood playing the seventh defender, Geelong. So, you've got 5 on 5 in the Collingwood forward. Now Harry Taylor's dropped back.

**BT** I wonder why they didn't take him off the other side of the ground they were a man down for two minutes. And then the umpires were waiting, why? I think because the stretcher had actually entered the arena, that must be the reason. So, the teenager done. Blicavs out of the middle. A hurried ball to half forward. Motlop not quite the first time, might get it the second. Gets himself out of trouble, handballs back, Grundy intercepts it, gives it off to Adam. Crisp works his way back inside. Fabulous handball to Treloar. Full stretch Duncan, couldn't stop him. Fasolo front spot, tries to work some more magic. Henderson was good. Ducked his head, worked through traffic. Stewart to Murdoch, a fumble. Fasolo, little kick, up, under, around, offline.

**LM** Gotta say, it's just inspiring to be honest, the Collingwood work rate. I mean we know they played 5 days ago but the effort they're putting to the game. There's certainly no look that Collingwood are going to uh, going to be fading soon

**BT** Toohey goes straight down the hi-diddle diddle here, opportunity Motlop, Cockatoo, just a little bit flat the Cats fans as a result of Parfitt going down. Henderson now back inside to Toohey. 42 down here. The Cats to Duncan. Got Horlin-Smith on. Over-kicked it there. Jeremy Howe comes screaming through, the little chiseller to Moore. Tried to mark from behind did Lonergan. The two on one there Collingwood's way. Taylor ripped it away, gave it to Stewart. Beautiful kick Stewart. Duncan takes

the mark. Will go back for the set shot goal. Gee whiz, things happening in this game. So, Duncan now, from about 35 meters out, not a lot of angle to speak of, virtually no wind here today. It will be a true kick. And that is a straight kick. He kicks the goal for the Cats. So, Duncan trims it back to 36.

**LM** Always interested when that happens. They're 7 goals behind now they're 6 goals behind, Duncan kicks the goal. But there's not overt enthusiasm and life in the Geelong group. So, what happens next after that goal always is critical when you get a bit of injection

**HM** There's the two coaches.

**BT** So, Leigh I just want to ask a question of you and Welshy, can the Cats get up from this position 36 points with 13 and a half?

**LM** They can but with long odds, long odds. Collingwood actually have put too much into this team to have any look of a team that's going to uh, stop at the last minute.

**BT** Welshy?

**AW** Yeh, I think the Pies are doing enough, uh the Cats are starting to get their hands on the ball, but they're stopped as they go forward.

**HM** Selwood fires it inside, chance here out the back. Dangerfield, Shade, Shade, Dangerfield, Dangerfield's got 'im.

**BT** I'm going to ask you again, boys, I'm going to ask you again if this is a goal

**LM** It's a bad run there, isn't it? Shade, but he did it well. He would have rushed the behind, but you've gotta have eyes in the back of your head a little bit you gotta be aware that someone might be chasing you, so he uh, blew it.

**HM** Dangerfield's first goal of the afternoon, here they come. Back to back goals for the Cats. Duncan gets his first of the afternoon. Dangerfield gets his first of the afternoon. Forty-two points trimmed to 30. Still plenty of time. The best finishing team in the league, a tired Collingwood side that has been simply superb this afternoon.

**BT** I'm going to ask you again, Leigh and Welshy, can the Cats get home from here?

**LM** Well, yes, they can yes, but they won't, I don't think they will. No.

**BT** Welshy?

**AW** That's why I stopped, BT. They're a big chance here, the Cats. I reckon they might be able to pull in the margin here, they've done it in previous weeks,

**BT** Can they get back? 30 closing, and a clearance to go with it. I'm going to wait a couple more minutes and ask you again. And Selwood goes forward. Long ball. Cockatoo claims the mark, gee I reckon he got hands to it, umpire says no. Well if he did, it should have been a mark, umpire.

**HM** He corrected himself. 12.5 minutes to play, five goal ball game. Selwood starting to get industrious. Chance, Menagola round the body. Who's at home from a Cats point of view? Couple of fists arrive. Pendlebury, Hoskin-Elliott. Blicavs caught between two Pies. Hasn't this game changed in the last two minutes?

**LM** It has, I mean clearly the game was alive when it looked like it was insurmountable but Collingwood now have to make sure now they don't go into their shells they've still gotta kick another goal or two

**HM** Horlin-Smith

**All** (*Laughing*)

**HM** Horlin-Smith

**LM** Let's have a look at this one, Horlin-Smith first to the footy. He fell on his back, I mean, fifty-fifty, sometimes you get pinged, sometimes you wouldn't.

**HM** He was a last term hero against the Kangaroos. The margin was 42 points. Horlin-Smith. He's hit it long, he's hit the post

**BT** 29 points. Shade. Down the line. So, all of the signs are that Collingwood are just trying to steady the ship here at the moment and stop this run. For the Cats. Treloar. Wells, Pendlebury, Broomhead. The swiftness of handballs was absolutely fantastic. Now Crisp looking for Fasolo. Got under the footy a little bit. Bews. Has gotta go back. Enormous pressure, confronted there by Elliot, now Toohey, likes to go up the middle. Horlin-Smith goes long and deep. Looking for Dangerfield. Lyndon Dunn defended studiously and did well.

**HM** Varco now heavily iced on that right thigh. They had kicked 7 of the last 9. The last 2 to the Cats. Duncan and Dangerfield. Guthrie, desperate to keep it in. Horlin-Smith just hit the post moments ago. Long ball off the left. Hawkins on the left. Time to make a big statement.

**LM** That was the big body. He had the back position he was able to use his body to force Shade off balance. That's a strong mark, a really good one on one mark.

**HM** Collingwood have put a line through Varco, the Cats have put a line through Parfitt. 42 points has become 29. Hawkins – is he the man for the moment? It's just drifting late.

**BT** Boy, coupla misses. Cats having all the fun. Leigh getting out of his chair and just lifting to just ease the pressure.

(*laughing*)

**LM** Well, there's plenty of tension on, I mean Collingwood have deserved where they are in the game but clearly Geelong aren't just going to let them, let 'em have it from this point onwards.

**BT** There's Crisp. Toohey, almost, Treloar, good handball, Wells, in traffic, such a good thinker. Not sure that was his best but he did well to get it to Treloar. Got the left footer on the outside. Crisp also misses. So, 9 and a half remain. Collingwood by 29. we know it's a 5-day break and we know that Geelong have had an impressive last quarter just about every week this year.

**HM** Hawkins and Goldsack. Hawkins won the battle initially. Took his eyes off it. Time to get it to Mackie. To Motlop,

**BT** brilliant

**HM** to Mackie and now to Darcy Lamb, what can he do? Will he own the moment?

**LM** I think there might have been a big shove from Tom Hawkins. He's been doing a lot of shoving today

**BT** oh yeah (*laughing*)

**LM** but the umpires have given a fair bit of leniency.

**HM** Lang's got one one for the afternoon. He'll hit it from just on 50. Just under 9 minutes to play. Five goals needed. Well the youngster from Colac's put it wide too. Three behinds in a row for the Cats.

**BT** Their last three shet, set shots have all been to that position right. Selwood waits to get back on.

**AW** Collingwood in the first three quarters dominated the clearances, the Cats have got on top in that area in this quarter. 9 to zero in favour of Geelong

**BT** This will be a Harry Taylor free kick, I think. So, it's going to be

**LM** On the way down.

**BT** Pounded back inside 50 here. Toohey, now has to get it long. That's a good straightening kick, to a good position (*laughs*), up they fly. Every spare defender for Collingwood was there.

**LM** There was no one going to be the third up marker, were they? There's a lot of fists reaching up at the footy

**HM** The difference between those two coaches, 8 and a quarter minutes, for Scott not long enough, for Bucks too long. Grundy won the tap, Horlin-Smith got hold of the football

**LM** That was interesting. We spoke to Chris Scott who spoke to the umpire about Blicavs. Blicavs got a long way away from Grundy

**BT** Almost side on

**LM** usually the umpires try to set them up from a couple of meters away but he just tried to run from 10 meters away

**HM** Well Grundy tried to take it out of the air, Taylor Adams didn't get too much distance on it, Horlin-Smith went to ground. Plenty of tension. 8 minutes to play, 28 points the margin. Next one for the Cats makes it really interesting. The pies through Sidebottom almost had it. Menagola. Works it to full forward. Bews doubles back. Another minor score.

**BT** All these scores are important, Hame, they all add up. Gee, you can just feel people squeezing on their seat at the moment, you're just not sure. The game is in, just in the balance, right here and right now. Two on one against Cox. Geelong, doing well there, Phillips around the corner. Blicavs tried to keep it rolling forward. Out the back door here's Chris Byurgane. He's told to go back. Risky handball to Cox, did well, the big fella. Taylor Adams, little low one to the left boot of Pendlebury. He goes long. Fasolo gets there, over the back now to Lonergan, he's under more pressure, Mackie will be under pressure as well. That was a great decision by Mackie not to take possession

**HM** Wiley customer, isn't he? Knew that if he took it he'd be taken to ground. Smith, rag dolled a little. Pendlebury. Find the handball inside. Hoskin Elliot from 60. It's a long kick it might just skid on through, so still 5 goals is a huge task

**LM** Is that where they're going to have to reposition quickly, Collingwood, because they're going to have an attacking kick out here to make sure Geelong can't get over the top.

**BT** They're on, Leigh.

**LM** yep

**BT** Selwood's out here as well if Henderson get it, had a little bit of a fumble, otherwise they were on. Whoever that Collingwood player was there. It was Hoskin-Elliott. Did really well. Really well to hold them up and now Moore uses the body wonderfully. Goes deep. Look at this! Cox has been left alone, he plays on, he's gone, he's gone! Oh boy, when you're new to the game you probably just gotta park your feet and say I'll go for the set shot. Mason Cox run down!

**HM** Meanwhile Moore on the outer side. Intercepts but gives the nall up Henderson. Last roll of the dice stuff for the Cats. Everything needs to go perfectly from here. Hawkins and Dunn two strong



men on the outer side. Dunn wins the battle taken into touch. Hawkins and Dunn have been against each other all day. Cox, just got a little

**BT** But Cox. He's throwing it in!

*(laughing)*

**BT** A basketball pass.

**LM** Knew what he was trying to do, but yeah, the decision to have the set shot, a kick for the open goal, I guess the decision becomes a good one.

**BT** Another game came into his mind then; it was the previous one though.

**HM** Grundy, Adams, Hoskin Elliot, Wells, Treloar, Wells again. Just cruises on the outer side, coupla bounces, pulls the kick inside and

**LM** look at that kick!

**HM** Darcy Moore can just soak up some of the clock

**LM** Don't you want it in the right hands? Pendlebury, when the ball's in his hand, Collingwood usually get it and Wells is another one of that category and he ran. Fatigue setting in, fought, thought there's someone in the hole and just dropped it on Wells' head.

**HM** Didn't get flustered, Daniel wells a man that has been around and done a lot. 15<sup>th</sup> season of football Darcy Moore.

**LM** Always think a 50 meter kick tests him, he looks, always looks like he doesn't kick hard through the footy. See what he does this time

**HM** 21-year-old looking for his third.

**LM** Oh, that was good.

**HM** it's long

**LM** Didn't kick it but he kicked through it. He kicked firmly.

**BT** Yeah, got hold of that one. So, they just have to go now the Cats, there's no more messing around. They have just gotta bite the bullet and launch an all on assault. Can't be too picky. This one to Dangerfield. This is the sort of thing they're relying on, some creativity. Grundy read that really well. Have a look at this, Mason Cox over the top of Mackie. One hander, almost, Taylor, steady out of defence to Henderson. Collingwood have got every avenue out covered here, this is forcing Geelong wider and wider. Mackie says enough of that. I'm going to rocket one inside. And try and get some run like this going. Stewart's gotta keep going down the middle. You don't need to go sideways now. Here's Lonergan, he understands the situation, drilling ball to Smith. And Smith marks. Too far out to score. Little ball over the top. Blicavs now. From 40 meters. 4 minutes. You sense probably not enough time. They have been coming the entire quarter. They kicked two goals to one. I think they've missed 3 or 4. Set shots that is. Blicavs nails this one. No problems at all. Umpire didn't even move. So, we're back to 23 points.

**LM** This is where the centre square, this centre square is critical. They've just been into attack. Collingwood just haven't been quite able to get that answering goal to break the Geelong momentum

**HM** Well on your theory Leigh, the Cats are a chance by 35 seconds

**LM** *(Laughing)* that was my coaching box theory when I sorta relaxed when I thought we were probably going to win. So, four goals in three and a half minutes. Collingwood should hold on as long

as nothing if nothing, as long as Geelong don't have too much heroics and as long as Collingwood don't make too many mistakes.

**HM** Pies have kicked 7 of 9 in this match. The last three to the Cats. Duncan. Dangerfield. Blicavs. Chance for the pies. Combined. Handball after handball. Ends up with Philips. Doesn't get rushed. Doesn't just blast away. Elliott.

**LM** That's a good kick

**HM** This is an important moment. So, the clock just continues to tick away. Into the pocket. Might just float out of bounds. No. Oh Fasolo hands on.

**LM** Just about got it.

**HM** Umpire says throw it back in, So deep into Collingwood's forward line. Almost a really ordinary outcome there, Fasolo running into the security guards. Grundy, little give inside. Chance for Adams. Feeds it back. Pendlebury, off a step. Cox. Lonergan. They have been so impressive Collingwood today. Short break, tired bodies, Reed rested, Varco off. And they lead this one by 23 and they will take the points home.

**BT** Treloar has had 11 possessions in this last quarter. He had 14 for the first three. He's been outstanding. Little snap at goal there. Was a miss by Grundy. So Lonagan back into play quickly. If they'd kicked all of their set shots, which most teams probably don't I guess as a general rule, you always miss one or two. They may well have been in the Hunt. Here's Dangerfield takes on Philips, little bit of zigging and zagging. Nurses it over the top to Tom Hawkins. And he face plants himself.

**HM** So, the Cats will suffer their first loss. They won't kick a ton as they've done in the first five rounds, but Collingwood, Leigh, have kicked more points than goals again.

**LM** Well, they've had four rushed through in fact, so off the boot its 14 13. So at least they got a bit over fifty percent (*laughing*)

**HM** What a significant afternoon for Collingwood. They continue to run all round the ground. This time Adams to Wells. Running into space. The pair that have done plenty this afternoon. Greenwood this time leads Selwood. Selwood arrives late. Forces the issue. And the Cats end up with the football. Toohey inside. Little one from Smith, dangerous ball.

**LM** Geez he's good Pendlebury. He just keeps getting to the contest after contest. Has he covered some ground.

**HM** Horlin-Smith to Stewart and a little one to Motlop.

**BT** 31 touches Pendlebury, Leigh, going at 86% by foot. Motlop inside 50 here, Hawkins. Gee Shade might have just got him in the back on the finishing part of the attempted mark here, time ticking down, close to a minute now. Stewart, little bit of a knock when he banged his head on the turf earlier in the game. Dangerfield. Guthrie took him on. And it was out of bounds prior to that. So, the Cats are going to suffer their first defeat of the year. They play Gold Coast at Metricon stadium next week and Collingwood, of course, have got Carlton, back here at the MCG. So, we're still not sure about the Cats. we know they've won five straight. You can only win the games put in front of you but they haven't really beaten one top 8 contender as form suggests so far this year, and guess what, with Gold Coast and Essendon to come we're probably not going to find out for a couple more weeks, Hame.

**HM** Yeah, it's interesting, what a competitive season. As we said earlier, the Pies record against the Cats in recent times has been excellent and under Nathan Buckley they've won 6 of 8 against Collingwood. It has been an awesome display from the side that has been under pressure. So much written about the coach, the skipper coming off a such an ordinary performance. But how good is



sport? Off a 5-day break, the Pies will do what very few thought they would, or could. They've come to the MCG and they've beaten the unbeaten Cats. And they'll leave with the four points.

## 2017.9 Adelaide v Richmond

30 April 2017 Adelaide Oval () 140-64

Dwayne Russell, David King, Gerard Healy, Mark Ricciuto

**DR** For this ball up Nankervis and Jacobs. Jacobs up early, down to Douglas. Jacobs gets the clearance didn't need any help but they have the extra defender so they have less forwards. Asbury takes the mark. Vlastuin, Conca, back to Vlastuin, again a fumble, that forces them back to Rance. Blasted to Costagna. Knocked away from him, Lynch got there put his head down. Sloane another possession. Atkins in the middle looks up he's got options aplenty, Laird's one of them, he faked to go to him, goes to Otten instead. Walker wants it long. Eddie Betts wants it long. It's in Eddie's direction. Went up

Oh!

**GH** Walker. Hands it out in the Cameron direction. Vlastuin got there, outstanding tackle. Not rewarded by the umpire, Cameron had him. That's gotta be gone as well, well second time lucky Charlie.

**PR** great effort by Charlie Cameron as you said Dwayne, two efforts. Eddie Betts flew and then hit (*laughing*) Special comments from Mark Ricciuto, on landing

**MR** (*Laughing*) he's gunna knock himself out

**DR** Called him the apprentice earlier on, Charlie Cameron. Whether he's got an all Australian season left in him. The fans love him. And he just gets better every week.

Well he's carrying that very famous number with great aplomb at this stage Roo, and he just keeps on getting better and better he's another one of the organic improvers. And here's Eddie taking the air and hitting the ground.

(*laughing*)

AA Oh, that would have hurt, right on the buttocks

Oh, he's funny to watch

AA And then the ball is picked up and then it is dismissed. One tackle, two tackles, well deserved. DR Now Charlie Cameron would have been uh watching all the attention being uh placed on the man he's now on, Dan Rioli about uh forward pressure, and yet he's the one who's actually presented it so much uh right throughout the day

GH Well, he blasted through the middle again but the handball just missed him. He's still here the Fremantle man, he turns inside. Sloan gets it from Jacobs, great smother Nankervis. Good attack by both Nankervis and Cameron (*laughs*)

DR Well its really good effort, uh, you smother the ball, you do the tackle, you're still involved in the game mentally and physically. 19 goals the Crows have kicked against the best defence in the AFL coming in. The Tigers who have been keeping teams to 75 points on average a game. They've got 125 on the board right now and this best attack in the AFL has kicked 22 goals, 15, 16, 24 and 23 in the first five weeks of the season and are on track to kick 20 plus again today.

**GH** Well Rory Atkins has been just sitting there waiting for the sweep for the last two stoppages and finally he got it

**DR** Oh oh, dropped mark. Lynch spins around, party time.

**GH** Yeah he was just sweating on that, uh the blond headed Rory Atkins. He was just doing it really well. You can just see him at the back of this pack. He's not there yet, he's just waiting. This is the second time in a row for the stoppage and there he is, he just pops out the back, he's allowed to set it up, it wasn't his best kick but that one made up for the flaw.

**MR** Fair take by Tom Lynch

**GH** Ripper, wasn't it?

**MR** Said Tommy Lynch, he averages 21 disposals, well he's had 21 again today and he's kicked three goals to go with it. There's the contested possessions, 9 to one in this last quarter. We've highlighted that. The least Richmond could do is try and match him in contested possessions.

**DR** Butler did well he broke through but Adelaide Crows have the numbers back. Cotchin flies to make a contest. Too many back there, good tackle on Laird. Cotchin scrambles it, on the full. That's the beauty of maybe starting with the extra defender running through the square. You've got the extra defender there if you need it, you may get the clearance, you've also got the attacking guy if you win it. Jacobs. Laird. To Smith. Asbury. Riewoldt who's stuck on 499. Thumped away. McKay, Laird, there they run again. Sloan. Jenkins. Jacobs. Douglas. Otten the target he's been the go to. Brians. Otten tried to flick on to Cameron. Brians got there. Fed it to Morris. Out of jail for the time being. Ellis to Morris. Needed to hit a target. Got Caddy.

**MR** He's had the 8 touches Caddy.

**DR** Yeah, most of those in the opening term. Martin. Rioli. Markov. Ellis to Eddie, he's shut down. Wing tackle, he got a kick.

**DK** Not sure about you boys upstairs, I'm excited to see what the Crows can do in this last quarter. You just get the feeling that they're going to go on with this and make it an 8 to 12 goal term.

**MR** Jacobs up to 21 disposals as well he hasn't had the twenties too many times, the Big Sauce

**DR** He's got forward well though hasn't he, he really has presented as another option.

**MR** He's actually been a link up player

**GH** Yeah, he's no slouch. Nankervis has been in outstanding form this season. Asbury chase down. Pressure on the kick. Markov three to beat. Made a contest. Matt Crouch, Talia. Messing around now. Talia, Matt Crouch. Laird shut down. Riewoldt, good chase.

**MR** Big Jack

**GH** Inspirational chase from a leader.

**MR** It's getting a bit cold up there in full forward, probly.

**GH** Turns it over. Lever. Rare mistake from him. Oh, he still stripped it. Mackay. Hassled by Cotchin.

Did well. Options around for the handball. Went for Ellis. Oh, there you go. Prestia hassled out.

**MR** Prestia's been disappointing again, Gerard. 13 disposals, 38% by foot

**GH** Yeah, he's got plenty of mates today, Roo, its uh been a big step back for a lot of these Tiger players.

**DR** There's Prestia on cue, spins it to full forward. Good attack, Talia. Got front spot. Smith, and look at the run to the open side. Milera got there quickly.

**GH** That's brilliant kicking, that's absolutely superb. Good shot in the end.

**DR** Play on advantage here. Kelly, so the mark wasn't paid the free kick was paid. Walker forward of the ball. Edged Rance under it.

**GH** Illegally according to the umpire. A push. And then almost 50. *(laughing)* Didn't know the free kick was given.

**DR**oh oh

**DR** Shull. McIntosh, gee it's a tumbler.

Got a good bounce luckily

Spears it to Cotchin

Oh, gee

Oh, Jake

Gotta lotta ear there. Lever. Got him. Play on. Douglas, Smith, Cotchin's up. Matt Crouch with a spear. Space in the middle. Jacobs has been the run and carry man. Brad Crouch has started it. To MacKay and back to MacKay. Being shut down, pokes the pass, Eddie, just beyond his range probably although there's space for him to run.

**MR** might sell the punt

Oh, Hampton out wide on his lonesome

Well, he was a little bit stiff was Hampton. He was in the goal square for two or three minutes with his hand in the air but but eventually he's put his hand up and Eddie after considering all the outcomes thought well, there's plenty of time for my uh big goal, the 500<sup>th</sup>

you mentioned he was waiting, well he's been on the Crows list for two years now, this is the second season. Didn't play a game last year, Curtly Hampton, hoh! he's played every game this year and misses, across the face

**MR** Took most of last year to get, to get his body right and that could have been dangerous for both players if uh,

I suspect Danny Frawley might have a very good look at that at some stage tonight  
*(Laughing)*

**JD** He loves an ear massage

Touched, play on the call. High. Play on. McIntosh slams it on the boot. Adelaide have a two on one. And Smith, one of the two

**DK** Haven't handled this plus one for the Crows behind the ball very well the Tiges, their, their desire to kick it long has just seen them defend almost immediately

And no alternative game style, Kingy

**DK** No they haven't changed the mode at all

But they've given it to them every time David, which I think is quite interesting. They've been the ones that have elected to have the spinner come off the back. I know uh um Charlie Cameron has done it a couple of times. There's always been 7 defenders for Richmond.

Douglas tried to fend off and handball. Got it to Brad Crouch, Ellis, hunted down by Miller and to Grigg. Crunch. Conker caught by Smith. Gone. Adelaide about to go forward again and they are stalking a big number of goals in this. He blasts it wide. Walker down there. Rance got a hand on it. Sloan. He's a superstar. He might be the best player in the comp right now.

Well he's certainly in uh form to challengers for that mantle.

**MR** Martin's odds come in early in the season but uh I don't know where Rory is in the Brownlow markets but he'd have to be close to be favourite.

Yeah, it's a well-constructed kick this one, around the corner, with a boomerang. And once again what we're seeing is this whole notion of the extra man. If the ball is coming in that quickly it doesn't matter how many players you've got down there, they will go round it, they will go over it, and Rory Sloan you can see again, just putting together a super game.

That's not a list of the top 5 Adelaide Crows in the ranking's points, that's the top five for the game, it's just that it's all Adelaide Crows.

Martin, two on one. One on three

Again, that long kick.

Yeah, surely they're going to wake up to that.

it's a bit late now. (*laughing*) Lever. Every other team in the comp is watching this in the whole football world was ready to watch this game. The top two teams in the comp the two undefeated teams in the comp going head to head in round 6 for the first time since 1981

**MR** Other teams will definitely take out that if you can match 'em or beat 'em in contested possessions and put pressure on them (*laughing*) in your forward line then you're a chance, coz that's right, what the Tigers did early

Miller a good use. McKay puts the jets on. Eddie's in his pocket. Vlastuin feeds back. Eddie's up. Dumped away

Yeah, too often the midfielder with the ball has elected to take the easy option and that's just the long bomb. And the long bomb's just given them nothing. They're outnumbered. It's not going to

anybody's advantage and it's going straight back over the head. So, there's plenty of learnings from this ah particular outing, as I'm sure Damien Hardwick knew would come down the track. Ah, you put 5 wins together you know that it's not going to go ah on and on and on with a young group. Short to Rioli. He's got nothing there, he has to wait. And the handball smothered. Knocked to ground. Brown jumps in. Rioli did well. Great hassle.

Well done.

Inspirational. Got it to Lambert. To Houli, he had Rioli running, Rioli still running hard. He's ignored. He goes long. Markov.

**GH** That was good work, that was the time for the long kick. He kicked it to his advantage. Great work from Dan Rioli, to set it all up. It was a very nice kick around the corner from uh Houli to the advantage of his young team mate

**MR** Bit of a curl on the end of that mo there, Gerard

**GH** Very Gepps Cross. And he's got a couple and he is also eligible for the NAB rising star. Love the curly mo.

Cc We spoke about the competition watching, Roo, they'll also be watching the powerful performance of the Adelaide Crows and trying to just pick out one way, two ways, three ways of trying to uh, unsettle what's a very well drilled and talented operation at the present time. Clearly the starting point will be, well the Tigers did it in the first quarter.

That's right

Pressure

Cc You've gotta beat the contested ball. If we can get the contested ball, get it into their back line, they're vulnerable, they're vulnerable to pressure

**MR** There's nothin new about that though, is there, I mean, that's the same with every side, if you're capable of doing it, you've just gotta do it for more than one quarter

Cc Jacobs against Grigg. So, he let him palm it down. And they were ready for it the Adelaide Crows. They knew he wasn't going to go. Gave it to Brad Crouch. Astbury cuts it off. Otten got hands on it. Vlastuin, jammed in the lift doors. There you go. Markov sprays it. Hampton, thumps it. Walker, in a good spot.

*(Laughing)*

Oh, *(laughs)* Did it so easily. That was beautiful. It was kicked to his advantage. He had to have a sit. But he planted the leg on Alex Rance and just had him done cold

**MR** That's their 20<sup>th</sup> mark inside the forward 50 today. The best in the competition, they've flexed their muscles today.

A little too easy, that's for number six.

**MR** Just have a look at uh how Vlastuin gets rid of the ball here

Oh, yeah. (*Laughing*) Back hand forward

Good mark Houli. They're trying to stop the rot here the Tigers, finish off with a respectable last few minutes of this contest. Riewoldt. Nice float. He's got Rioli running hard for him. Puts it out wide to Prestia, sits it on his head, Laird, nearly, disappointed with himself there. Tough day at the office for Jack Riewoldt. Coupla goals. He's on 499. He's had more marks inside 50 this year than any other player in the comp, but it's been a pretty lean afternoon for that this afternoon. Laird again. To one on ones. Josh Jenkins is back. Hands it back. Extra man forward. Oh, he got told to go, Martin's got him and that's gotta be ball

**MR** Or was it play on Paul, because he took too long, or... he didn't go around his mark We'll have a look at that. Martin's hurt himself in the tackle process. Riewoldt stands under that. Thumped away. Good attack Mackay, splendid tackle by Cotchin. Dragged it down. Stole it from him, Jacobs. Matt Crouch, Brad Crouch, the brothers are fitting together like Lego at the moment. Costagna had it, lost it, Cochin the side step, bangs it wide. Rioli can't get there, Kelly does.

**MR** Good effort by young Jake Kelly, he got absolutely smashed twice in that first quarter

Yeah

**DK** Rory Sloan's come from the field I think his days done he's just put some ice on that left knee that was giving him trouble in the third term, so he will sit the rest of the night out.

Crows have North Melbourne next week as I mentioned the Tigers have Western Bulldogs next Saturday night. Lever. He's doing well Jake Kelly, Roo, worked his way into the senior side and uh the challenge for him is to obviously hold his spot. Couldn't get a game last year. Had a few injury issues. Like coming off a season where he didn't play any footy, he's been outstanding this year. Only missed the one game with an eye injury. Jacobs back. There he is on cue. Kelly. Laird, another touch. Lever. Charlie Cameron, he's got players out the back, he's trying to, slice it to Walker, Rance cut it off. Prestia. He sits it on Lambert. Good enough through. Houli crumbed it. Tap back superb by McIntosh. Houli. Lambert. McIntosh. Rioli if he's good enough. Did well

That was a nice kick it was a brilliant mark, protected the uh area with his back. Bit of advice from the locals

Well, the locals think he went around a little. Sometimes in the midfield you take that sideways step you get told to play on. If you're sneaking around lining up for goal you get some benefit of the doubt. To the boos.

**MR** Kick. Ooh.

It started to uh move right to left

**MR** yeah

Then it started to go the other way.

Some wrapped in ice, some in cotton wool for next week.

Lynch. Brought it to ground. Milera. Just behind Douglas. Had to go back and mop it up. Charlie's gone. Caught. Back to Douglas. Costagna wing tackled. No prior. Ball up.

This will be the Adelaide Crows best-ever season start in the club's 27-year history. 6 and zero after 6. Made a massive statement. Cameron to Douglas. Rolls it through a couple. Oh, McIntosh had it but fumbled it. Rance under some pressure now. Heads wide. Good grab Cotchin, takes off to the midfield. Got a few one on ones ahead. Took on Lynch. McIntosh. Good run from behind. Few of the Crows players cooked at the moment.

Both teams content to hear the siren. One of those players cooked is Jake Kelly. Did well there, got it out.

Roo, do you see Riley O'Brien getting a run just to uh give him some exposure at a top level? It's a long season, Sauce has been uh soldiering on in this position for a long long time

**MR** Yeah I think last year uh Adelaide only played 29 players and didn't really get an opportunity to uh to give some of the younger players a go. But, if they can get themselves in a position where they've got a bit of space in the top four well then I think they will manage a few players a little bit better than they did last year when they perhaps had,

Oh, outstanding Brad Crouch, Sorry roo

**MR** No, four or five players injured come September. I think you've got to get to September fit and firing we all know that.

Matt Crouch. Milera a great smother, Costagna goes back. Lambert got it from Nankervis. Kicks it long inside 50. Markov.

**MR** oh well done

Pshh, Not held long enough.

**MR** Looked a mark, didn't it?

Grigg gets it out. Short, all the way from full back. First goal of the year for Jayden Short. And he did it uh with a fair bit of aplomb too. There it is, it was touched I think uh Roo, on the way through

**MR** Slightly touched, was it?

And you could argue whether or not he held it long enough. But a smart kick from Riewoldt, Shaun Griggs is having a fantastic season, like most of his teammates tonight, not one of his best and here is the next month for the Tigers

**MR** Ooh, yeah certainly a couple of those look pretty tough. But, what would they be happy with there, boys, Two? Maybe Three? Three, they'd be very happy.

In theory, they face the toughest assignment in footy, today. The Adelaide Crows at the Adelaide Oval, the number one scoring team in the comp. Nankervis wide. One hiccup. Still a lot to believe about Richmond. Brown, to Atkins, to Lever. So, Matt Crouch 37 possessions, Sloan 33, Laird 32. They're the players in the 30s for Adelaide. Jacobs, just wiped his hands, got them nice and clean and then, grasped it like a vice.

**MR** Well this is his equal career best. I think, 25 disposals, Sam Jacobs.



**GH** As I mentioned earlier. Never been all Australian, I'm sure he's been in the equation a couple of times

**MR** Came very close one year, Gerard, didn't he?

**GH** He must have, Roo, you've been there for a long time,

Was Gerard on the selection committee that year, Roo, was he?

**GH** I reckon I might have thumped the desk

Its alright. There's always that unlucky third player, I sure that he was it that year, Gerard. McKay, long. Walker one, not the second. Flicked out to McIntosh. Nowhere to go. Eddie Betts was stalking him. Eddie still stalking him. Prestia, back to McIntosh. They've worked it well, the kick, there's that chaos ball, it might work. Riewoldt hands it over. Should have gone for home, there was no one ahead of him. Brown. Slaps it away and again they've got so many waiting. Kelly, backing in. Lift doors closed on Brown. Back to Kelly, back to Laird. Mackay, Milera. Wanted to go quickly. Great delivery to Otten. Loose man's created. Atkins. Jenkins.

**MR** Eddie is free forward if they can get it that far.

Otten. Too wide, although, he paid the mark. Back inside. Hampton squeezes it inside 50 to Cameron. You'd think Charlie'll look for Eddie. No. ignored him. McKay. Eddie running to his pocket. McKay looks to handball over the top. Laird. Lynch. Ignored Eddie. (*laughing*) One 23 left. It's been a masterclass by Adelaide today the number one scoring team in the comp. 21 goals, the most they've kicked this year in a game is 24. So not far away from their biggest score of the year against the number one defence in the comp coming in.

And there's the next four for Adelaide. I mentioned North Melbourne next week, then Melbourne, Brisbane, Fremantle. And Don Pyke's second season as coach, 6<sup>th</sup> last year, a disappointing 6<sup>th</sup> really. They were 2<sup>nd</sup> on the ladder after 22 rounds and then lost round 23 and dropped to fifth. Nankervis.

**GH** It was a big loss that one, to the West Coast Eagles.

**DR** Yeah, essentially they were the second-best team in the comp for the home and away season, bar that week and as you mentioned Gerard, massive cost. Riewoldt. Unselfish. Butler. Unselfish. Gee they've messed this up. Unbelievable. The big wrap around tackle by Brown. He wrapped him up like a big grandmother hug. He wasn't getting out of that. And they hold it up for a ball up Pretty sore is Rioli and there's another lesson to be learnt there for the Tigers among the plethora of others. Can't take it for granted, you can't play mickey mouse football at any stage.

**MR** Was that the grandmother hugging you or you hugging the grandmother, Dwayne?

**DR** Ah, either way. (*laughing*) We all love our grandmothers. I'll see mine tonight after the game. 27 seconds left and counting - 140 to 64 been an outstanding afternoon and evening for the Adelaide Crow fans that have piled in here. 51 thousand plus in one of the great arenas of Australian sport. Otten makes a contest, free kick. The siren should sound

SIREN

They've made a statement the Adelaide Crows, they're not just top of the AFL ladder, they're top by a mile. They're the only undefeated team in the comp with the biggest percentage in the comp. And after 6 rounds, they are the team to beat.

## Appendices

### Appendix 2

1. Lists and Tables

## Contents

Recorded games accessed.....	4
1968 VFL Season.....	4
1970 VFL Season.....	4
1972 VFL Season.....	4
1973 VFL Season.....	4
1981 VFL Season.....	5
1982 VFL Season.....	5
1986 VFL Season.....	5
1987 VFL Season.....	5
1992 AFL Season.....	5
1993 AFL Season.....	6
1994 AFL Season.....	6
1995 AFL Season.....	6
1996 AFL Season.....	6
1997 AFL Season.....	7
1998 AFL Season.....	8
1999 AFL Season.....	8
2000 AFL Season.....	9
2001 AFL Season.....	9
2002 AFL Season.....	9
2003 AFL Season.....	10
2004 AFL Season.....	10
2005 AFL Season.....	11
2006 AFL Season.....	11
2007 AFL Season.....	11
2008 AFL Season.....	12
2009 AFL Season.....	12
2010 AFL Season.....	13
2011 AFL Season.....	13
2012 AFL Season.....	13

---

2013 AFL Season.....	15
2014 AFL Season.....	17
2015 AFL Season.....	18
2016 AFL Season.....	20
2017 AFL Season.....	22
2018 AFL Season.....	26
Body Word Frequency Per Decade.....	27
Word Frequency Per Decade .....	28
Commentators present in transcribed quarters.....	35
List of commentators in all recorded games accessed .....	38

## Recorded games accessed

Legend:

NAA (Series and control numbers are NAA references), Archive Recording, Private Collection DVD – viewed final quarter only

Television, AFL DVD – viewed full four quarter games

### 1968 VFL Season

19680928 Carlton v Essendon. VFL. 7. Commentators: Michael Williamson, Ted Whitten, Alan 'Butch' Gale. AFL DVD.

### 1970 VFL Season

19700926 Carlton v Collingwood. VFL. 7. Commentators: Michael Williamson, Ted Whitten, Alan 'Butch' Gale. AFL DVD.

### 1972 VFL Season

19721007 Richmond v Carlton. VFL. Channel 7. Commentators: Michael Williamson, Bob Skilton, Ron Barassi. AFL DVD.

### 1973 VFL Season

19730421 Fitzroy v North Melbourne. VFL. ABC. Commentators: Dick Mason, Thorold Merrett. NAA.

19730423 Hawthorn v Essendon. VFL. ABC. Commentators: Thorold Merrett, Dick Mason. NAA.

19730519 Footscray v St Kilda. VFL. ABC. Commentators: Dick Mason, Peter Ewin. NAA (Series B533 Control #1522077).

19730526 Hawthorn v Richmond. VFL. ABC. Commentators: Dick Mason, Peter Ewin. NAA (Series B522, Control # 1522089).

19730609 Hawthorn v Collingwood. VFL. ABC. Commentators: Thorold Merrett, Dick Mason. NAA.

19730616 Melbourne v North Melbourne. VFL. ABC. Commentators: Ken Daikin, Doug Haywood. NAA (series B522, Control # 1522093).

19730714 Carlton v Melbourne. VFL. ABC. Commentators: Dick Mason, Thorold Merrett. NAA (Series B5154, Control # 1088801).

19730804 North Melbourne v Essendon. VFL. ABC. Commentators: Dick Mason, Thorold Merrett. NAA (Series C475, Control #1013083).

19730825 Collingwood v Hawthorn. VFL. ABC. Commentators: Peter Ewin, Thorold Merrett. NAA (Series B522, Control # 1472437).

19730825 St Kilda v North Melbourne. VFL. ABC. Commentators: Ken Daikin, Doug Heywood. NAA (Series B522, Control # 1472471).

19730901 Footscray v Richmond. VFL. ABC. Commentators: Dick Mason. NAA (Series B522, Control # 1472428).

19730901 Essendon v Collingwood. VFL. ABC. Commentators: Thorold Merrett, Peter Ewin. NAA (Series B522).

19730901 Richmond v Carlton. VFL. ABC. Commentators: Thorold Merrett, Peter Ewin. NAA (Series B522, Control #1472418).

19730901 Collingwood v Carlton. VFL. ABC. Commentators: Thorold Merrett, Peter Ewin. NAA (Series B522, Control #1472449).

19730901 Essendon v Collingwood. VFL. ABC. Commentators: Thorold Merrett, Peter Ewin. NAA (Series B522, Control #1472424).

19730901 Footscray v Richmond. VFL. ABC. Commentator: Dick Mason. NAA (Series B522, Control #1472428).

19730901 St Kilda v Carlton. VFL. ABC. Commentators: Ken Daikin, Doug Haywood. NAA.

#### 1981 VFL Season

19810926 Carlton v Collingwood. VFL. Channel 7. Commentators: Peter Landy, Bob Skilton, Lou Richards. AFL DVD.

#### 1982 VFL Season

19820501 Collingwood v Fitzroy. VFL. 7. Commentators: Bob Skilton, Jack Edwards. Private collection DVD.

19820501 Essendon v South Melbourne. VFL. Channel 7. Commentators: Lou Richards, Peter McKenna. Private collection DVD.

#### 1986 VFL Season

19860906 Fitzroy v Essendon. VFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Peter Landy, Lou Richards, Bob Skilton. Television.

#### 1987 VFL Season

19870501 Sydney v Carlton. VFL. Commentators: Tim Lane, Doug Heywood, Kevin Bartlett. Private collection DVD.

19870502 Collingwood v Brisbane. VFL. ABC. Commentators: Geoff Leak, Dick Mason. Private collection DVD.

19870502 Essendon v Geelong. VFL. ABC. Commentators: Ian Robertson, Peter Landy. Private collection DVD.

19870502 West Coast v North Melbourne. VFL. ABC. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Peter McKenna. Private collection DVD.

#### 1992 AFL Season

19920426 Adelaide v Brisbane. AFL. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Bernie Quinlan, Drew Morphet, Max Stephens. Private collection DVD.

19920426 Geelong v Fitzroy. AFL. Commentators: Sandy Roberts, Peter McKenna. Private collection DVD.

19920426 Richmond v West Coast Eagles. AFL. Commentators: Peter Landy, Ian Robertson, Don Scott. Private collection DVD.

19920424 Sydney v North Melbourne. AFL. Commentators: Bruce McAvaney, Peter McKenna, Gerard Healy. Private collection DVD.

### 1993 AFL Season

19930501 Geelong v Essendon. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Peter Landy, Gerard Healy, Ian Robertson, Bernie Quinlan. Television.

19930904 Essendon v Carlton. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Sandy Roberts, Ian Robertson, Ross Glendinning. Television.

19930918 Essendon v Adelaide. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Ian Robertson, Bruce McAvaney, Bernie Quinlan. Television.

19930925 Essendon v Carlton. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Sandy Roberts, Ian Robertson, Gerard Healy, Bernie Quinlan. Television.

### 1994 AFL Season

19940508 Sydney v St Kilda. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Peter Landy, Peter McKenna, Neil Cordy, Ross Glendinning. Television.

19940910 Geelong v Footscray. AFL. HSV7. Commentators: Gerard Healy, Sandy Roberts, Peter Landy, Robert DiPierdomenico. Fox Footy. Television.

19940911 West Coast Eagles v Collingwood. AFL. HSV7. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Ian Robertson. Fox Footy. Television.

19940924 North Melbourne v Geelong. AFL. HSV7. 24. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Gerard Healy, Terry Wheeler, Neil Kerley. Fox Footy. Television.

### 1995 AFL Season

19950425 Collingwood v Essendon. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Drew Morphet, Peter McKenna, Terry Wheeler. Television.

19950514 Richmond v Essendon. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Bruce McAvaney, Ian Robertson, Ross Glendinning. Television.

19950928 Essendon v Hawthorn. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Peter Landy, Lou Richards, Bob Skilton. Television.

19950930 Carlton v Geelong. HSV7. Commentators: Sandy Roberts, Ian Robertson, Malcolm Blight. AFL DVD.

### 1996 AFL Season

19960503 Sydney v Essendon. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Bruce McAvaney, Ian Robertson, Leigh Matthews. Television.



- 19960518 Fitzroy v Fremantle. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Terry Wheeler, John Russo. Television.
- 19960706 Hawthorn v Collingwood. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Bruce McAvaney, Ian Robertson, Gerard Healy. Television.
- 19960713 Geelong v Hawthorn. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Drew Morphett, Malcolm Blight, Don Scott. Television.
- 19960722 Western Australia v Victoria. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Lou Richards, Ian Laurie. Television.
- 19960831 Melbourne v Hawthorn. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Peter Landy, Ian Robertson. Television.

### 1997 AFL Season

- 19970420 Adelaide v Port Adelaide. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Peter McKenna, Leigh Matthews, Neil Kerley. Television.
- 19970427 Adelaide v Brisbane Bears. AFL. HSV7. Commentators: Sandy Roberts, Ross Glendinning, Ian Robertson. Fox Footy. Television.
- 19970502 West Coast v Bulldogs. AFL. HSV7. Commentators: Tim Watson, Bruce McAvaney, Ian Robertson. AFL Archive recording.
- 19970503 Collingwood v Adelaide. AFL. HSV7. Commentators: Peter Landy, Neil Kerley, Leigh Matthews. AFL Archive recording.
- 19970503 Essendon v Brisbane. AFL. HSV7. Commentators: Drew Morphett, Terry Wheeler, Ross Glendinning. AFL Archive recording.
- 19970503 Geelong v Fremantle. AFL. HSV7. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Don Scott, Robert DiPierdomenico. AFL Archive recording.
- 19970503 Hawthorn v North Melbourne. AFL. HSV7. Commentators: Kevin Bartlett, Leigh Matthews, Sandy Roberts. AFL Archive recording.
- 19970504 Port Adelaide v Richmond. AFL. HSV7. Commentators: Terry Wheeler, Ross Glendinning. AFL Archive recording.
- 19970504 St Kilda v Melbourne. AFL. HSV7. Commentators: Dermott Brereton, Craig Kelly, Drew Morphett, Mark Harvey. AFL Archive recording.
- 19970504 Sydney v Carlton. AFL. HSV7. Commentators: Gerard Healy, Bruce McAvaney, Sandy Roberts. AFL Archive recording.
- 19970510 Geelong v Sydney. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Peter Landy, Ian Robertson, Don Scott, Robert DiPierdomenico. Television.
- 19970606 Collingwood v Richmond. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Bruce McAvaney, Sandy Roberts, Tim Watson, Craig Kelly, Peter Donegan. Television.
- 19970704 Adelaide v West Coast Eagles. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Sandy Roberts, Dennis Cometti, Ross Glendinning, Kevin Bartlett. Television.

19970712 Melbourne v Carlton. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dermott Brereton, John Longmire, Craig Kelly, Peter Donegan. Television.

19970809 Carlton v Collingwood. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Peter Landy, Ian Robertson, Don Scott, Robert DiPierdomenico. Television.

19970913 Adelaide v Geelong. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Peter Landy, Sandy Roberts, Terry Wheeler, Gerard Healy. Television.

19970913 North Melbourne v West Coast Eagles. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Bruce McAvaney, Dennis Cometti, Ross Glendinning, Ian Robertson, Adrian Barich. Television.

19970920 Western Bulldogs v Adelaide. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Sandy Roberts, Drew Morphet, Kevin Bartlett, Terry Wheeler, Neil Kerley. Television.

19970927 St Kilda v Adelaide. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Bruce McAvaney, Dennis Cometti, Sandy Roberts, Leigh Matthews, Neil Kerley, Russell Morris. Television.

### 1998 AFL Season

19980503 North Melbourne v Adelaide. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Kevin Bartlett, John Worsfold, Neil Kerley. Television.

19980503 West Coast Eagles v St Kilda. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Gerard Healy, Drew Morphet, Ross Glendinning. Television.

19980508 Collingwood v Sydney. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Sandy Roberts, Leigh Matthews, Robert DiPierdomenico. Television.

19980517 Melbourne v Collingwood. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Sandy Roberts, Leigh Matthews, Mick McGuane, John Russo. Television.

19980529 West Coast Eagles v Western Bulldogs. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Bruce McAvaney, Ian Robertson, Tim Watson. Television.

19980531 Collingwood v Fremantle. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Bruce McAvaney, Ian Robertson, Tim Watson. Television.

19980719 Essendon v Richmond. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Kevin Bartlett, Mick McGuane. Television.

19980905 Sydney v St Kilda. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Sandy Roberts, Bruce McAvaney, Robert DiPierdomenico, Gerard Healy, Doug Hawkins. Television.

19980926 North Melbourne v Adelaide. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Bruce McAvaney, Dennis Cometti, Sandy Roberts, Tim Watson, Leigh Matthews, Neil Kerley. Television.

### 1999 AFL Season

19990425 Essendon v Collingwood. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Gerard Healy, Kevin Bartlett. Television.

19990509 Geelong v Fremantle. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Peter Landy, Terry Wheeler. Television.

19990627 Fremantle v Richmond. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Terry Wheeler, John Worsfold. Television.

19990718 West Coast Eagles v Fremantle. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, John Worsfold, Adrian Barich. Television.

19990719 Western Bulldogs v Adelaide. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Drew Morphett, Ian Robertson, Kevin Bartlett, Neil Kerley. Television.

19990724 Essendon v North Melbourne. Jim Stynes, Paul Couch, Drew Morphett, Terry Wheeler. Television.

19990918 Carlton v Essendon. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Gerard Healy, Drew Morphett, Sandy Roberts, Richard Osborne, John Worsfold. Television.

## 2000 AFL Season

20000728 Essendon v Western Bulldogs. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Bruce McAvaney, Dermott Brereton, Robert DiPierdomenico, Jason Dunstall. Television.

20000521 Sydney v Brisbane Lions. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Bruce McAvaney, Tony Lockett, Paul Roos, Nick McArdle. Television.

## 2001 AFL Season

20010715 Collingwood v Brisbane Lions. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Anthony Hudson, Malcolm Blight, Stephen Quartermain, Gerard Whatley. Television.

20010722 Essendon v North Melbourne. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Anthony Hudson, Doug Hawkins, Craig Hutchinson. Television.

20010729 Carlton v Hawthorn. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Sandy Roberts, Tony Shaw, Steve Silvagni, Doug Hawkins. Television.

20010812 Essendon v Sydney. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Anthony Hudson, Kevin Bartlett. Television.

20010929 Essendon v Brisbane Lions. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Sandy Roberts, Bruce McAvaney, Jason Dunstall, Richard Osborne. Television.

## 2002 AFL Season

20020328 Port Adelaide v North Melbourne. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Anthony Hudson, Mark Aiston, Chris McDermott, Francis Leach. Television.

20020406 Collingwood v West Coast Eagles. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Matthew Campbell, Ian Robertson, Francis Leach. Television.

20020503 St Kilda v Collingwood. AFL. Channel 9. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Dermott Brereton, Gary Lyon, Peter Larkin. AFL Archive recording.

20020504 Brisbane v Geelong. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Ian Robertson, Malcolm Blight, Bill McDonald. AFL Archive recording.

20020504. Carlton v Western Bulldogs. AFL. Channel 10. Commentators: Steve Quartermain, Robert Walls. AFL Archive recording.
- 20020504 Fremantle v Essendon. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Tim Gossage, Matthew Campbell, Lachlan Reid. AFL Archive recording.
- 20020504 North Melbourne v Hawthorn. AFL. Channel 10. Commentators: Peter Daicos, Anthony Hudson. AFL Archive recording.
- 20020505 Port Adelaide v West Coast. AFL. HSV7. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Kevin Bartlett, Russell Greene, Rod Jameson. AFL Archive recording.
- 20020505 Richmond v Adelaide. AFL. Channel 9. Commentators: Brian Taylor, James Brayshaw, Michael Roberts, Gary Lyon. AFL Archive recording.
- 20020505 Sydney v Melbourne. AFL. Channel 9. Commentators: Dermott Brereton, Gerard Healy, Anthony Mithen, Dwayne Russell. AFL Archive recording.
- 20020518 Collingwood v Brisbane Bears. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Anthony Hudson, Malcolm Blight. Television.
20020705. Carlton v Richmond. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Eddie McGuire, Dermott Brereton, Dr Peter Larkin. Television.
- 20020728 Geelong v Adelaide. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dwayne Russell, Dermott Brereton, Gerard Healy, Anthony Mithen. Television.
- 20020921 Collingwood v Adelaide. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Bruce McAvaney, Dennis Cometti, Leigh Matthews, Tim Watson, Matthew Richardson. Television.

### 2003 AFL Season

- 20030406 Hawthorn v West Coast Eagles. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Dwayne Russell, Dermott Brereton, Anthony Mithen. Television.
- 20030510 Adelaide v Collingwood. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Tim Lane, Robert Walls. Television.
- 20030615 Brisbane Lions v West Coast Eagles. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Gerard Healey, Dermott Brereton, Anthony Mithen. Television.
- 20030628 Port Adelaide v Sydney Swans. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Tim Lane, Stephen Quartermain, Anthony Hudson, Christie Malthouse. Television.
- 20030726 Brisbane Lions v Port Adelaide. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Terry Wallace, Chris McDermott. Television.

### 2004 AFL Season

- 20040605 Hawthorn v Essendon. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Anthony Hudson, Andrew Maher, Stephen Silvagni, Michael Christian. Television.
- 20040917 Port Adelaide v St Kilda. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Anthony Hudson, Mick Malthouse, Stephen Silvagni. Television.

## 2005 AFL Season

- 20050403 Collingwood v Adelaide. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Brian Taylor, James Brayshaw, Gary Lyon. Television.
- 20050409 Brisbane v Sydney Swans. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Stephen Quartermain, Robert Walls, Tim Lane, Luke Darcy, Brad McEwan. Television.
- 20050909 Sydney Swans v Geelong. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Anthony Hudson, Malcolm Blight, Stephen Silvagni, Michael Christian. Television.
- 20050916 St Kilda v Sydney Swans. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Anthony Hudson, Robert Walls, Tim Lane, Stephen Silvagni. Television.
- 20050924 Sydney Swans v West Coast Eagles. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Stephen Quartermain, Robert Walls, Tim Lane, Stephen Silvagni, Neil Cordy, Tim Gossage. Television.

## 2006 AFL Season

- 20060430 Hawthorn v Essendon. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Brian Taylor, Gary Lyon, James Brayshaw. Television.
- 22060603 Geelong v West Coast Eagles. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Stephen Quartermain, Anthony Mithen, Stephen Silvagni. Television.
- 20060909 West Coast Eagles v Sydney Swans. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Stephen Quartermain, Robert Walls, Tim Lane, Luke Darcy. Television.
- 20060930 West Coast Eagles v Sydney Swans. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Anthony Hudson, Malcolm Blight, Stephen Quartermain, Robert Walls, Neil Cordy, Tim Gossage. Television.

## 2007 AFL Season

- 20070504 St Kilda v Carlton. AFL. HSV7. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Bruce McAvaney, David Schwartz, Tim Watson. AFL Archive recording.
- 20070505 Essendon v Hawthorn. AFL. HSV7. Commentators: Stephen Quartermain. AFL Archive recording.
- 20070505 West Coast v Western Bulldogs. AFL. HSV7. Commentators: Unidentified. Archive recording.
- 20070505 Adelaide v Collingwood. AFL. Channel 10. 05 Commentators: Malcolm Blight, Robert Walls, Anthony Hudson, Tim Watson, Corey Wingard. AFL Archive recording.
- 20070505 North Melbourne v Sydney. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Gerard Healy, Jason Dunstall. AFL Archive recording.
- 20070506 Brisbane v Fremantle. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Alastair Lynch, David King. AFL Archive recording.

20070506 Melbourne v Port Adelaide. AFL. HSV7. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Tim Watson, Bruce McAvaney, Ricky Olarenshaw, David Schwartz. AFL Archive recording.

20070506 Richmond v Geelong. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Gerard Healy, Danny Frawley, Quentin Hull. AFL Archive recording.

20070630 Geelong v Sydney Swans. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Tim Lane, Malcolm Blight, Luke Darcy, Michael Christian, Corey Wingard. Television.

20070721 West Coast Eagles v Sydney Swans. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Tim Lane, Malcolm Blight, Anthony Hudson, Michael Christian. Television.

20070908 Hawthorn v Adelaide. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Tim Lane, Malcolm Blight, Luke Darcy, Michael Christian, Andrew Maher. Television.

20070909 Geelong v North Melbourne. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Bruce McAvaney, Tim Watson, Ricky Olarenshaw. Television.

20070914 West Coast Eagles v Collingwood. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Bruce McAvaney, Tim Watson. Television.

20070921 Geelong v Collingwood. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Bruce McAvaney, Tim Watson. Television.

## 2008 AFL Season

20080406 Adelaide v Port Adelaide. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Alastair Lynch, Gerard Healy, Dwayne Russell, Leigh Colbert. Television.

20080809 Sydney v Fremantle. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dwayne Russell, Alastair Lynch, Jason Dunstall, Leigh Colbert. Television.

20080817 Richmond v Hawthorn. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Alastair Lynch, Gerard Healy, Leigh Colbert, Liam Pickering. Television.

20080907 Geelong v St Kilda. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Bruce McAvaney, Tim Watson, Leigh Matthews, Ricky Olarenshaw. Television.

20080927 Geelong v Hawthorn. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Bruce McAvaney, Leigh Matthews, Tim Watson, Ricky Olarenshaw. Television.

## 2009 AFL Season

20090425 Collingwood v Essendon. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Stephen Quartermain, Robert Walls, Luke Darcy, Mark Howard. Television.

20090531 Adelaide v Hawthorn. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dwayne Russell, Alastair Lynch, Rohan Smith, Danny Frawley. Television.

20090614 Adelaide v North Melbourne. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Sandy Roberts, Neil Kerley, Gerard Healy. Television.

20090627 West Coast v Hawthorn. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Tim Lane, Stephen Quartermain. Television.

20090705 St Kilda v Geelong. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Bruce McAvaney, Leigh Matthews, Tim Watson. Television.

20090725 Geelong v Hawthorn. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Malcolm Blight, Kelly Underwood, Luke Darcy, Tim Lane. Television.

20090905 Brisbane Lions v Carlton. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Stephen Quartermain, Robert Walls, Tim Lane. Television.

20090912 Collingwood v Adelaide. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Anthony Hudson, Stephen Quartermain, Robert Walls. Television.

20090918 St Kilda v Western Bulldogs. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Bruce McAvaney, Leigh Matthews, Tim Watson. Television.

20090926 St Kilda v Geelong. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Stephen Quartermain, Robert Walls, Tim Lane, Luke Darcy, Malcolm Blight. Television.

## 2010 AFL Season

20100403 West Coast v Port Adelaide. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Alastair Lynch, Glen Jakovich, Matthew Campbell, Rohan Smith. Television.

20100515 Western Bulldogs v Sydney Swans. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Anthony Hudson, Matthew Lloyd, Kelly Underwood, Mark Howard. Television.

20100704 Richmond v Sydney. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Bruce McAvaney, Matthew Richardson, Tim Watson, David Schwarz. Television.

20100917 Collingwood v Geelong. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Bruce McAvaney, Leigh Matthews, Tom Harley, Matthew Richardson, Tim Watson. Television.

20101002 Collingwood v St Kilda. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Bruce McAvaney, Leigh Matthews, Tom Harley, Matthew Richardson, Tim Watson. Television.

## 2011 AFL Season

20110507 Richmond v Fremantle. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Jason Dunstall, Glen Jakovich, Mark Ricciuto, Wayne Schwass. Television.

20110514 Brisbane Lions v Essendon. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Bruce McAvaney, Sandy Roberts, Gerard Healy. Television.

20111001 Collingwood v Geelong. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Anthony Hudson, Stephen Quartermain, Luke Darcy, Andy Maher, Mark Howard. Television.

## 2012 AFL Season

20120331 North Melbourne v Essendon. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dwayne Russell, Eddie McGuire, Paul Roos, Dermott Brereton, David King. Television.

20120401 Port Adelaide v St Kilda. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Anthony Hudson, Gerard Healy, Brad Johnson, Glen Jakovich. Television.



- 20120402 Western Bulldogs v West Coast Eagles. AFL Fox Footy. Commentators: Jason Dunstall, Danny Frawley, Dwayne Russell, Rodney Eade, David King. Television.
- 20120414 Gold Coast v Essendon. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Brian Taylor, Matthew Richardson, Luke Darcy, Cameron Ling. Television.
- 20120425 Collingwood v Essendon. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Bruce McAvaney, Leigh Matthews. Television.
- 20120429 Adelaide v Port Adelaide. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dwayne Russell, Gerard Healy, Glen Jakovich, Brad Johnson. Television.
- 20120504 Western Bulldogs v Collingwood. AFL. HSV7. Commentators: Bruce McAvaney, Dennis Cometti, Leigh Matthews, Matthew Richardson. AFL Archive recording.
- 20120505 Essendon v Brisbane. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Eddie McGuire, Dermott Brereton, Dwayne Russell, David King. AFL Archive recording.
- 20120505 Geelong v Melbourne. AFL. HSV7. Commentators: Basil Zempilas, Mick Malthouse, Hamish McLaughlin, Tom Harley. AFL Archive recording.
- 20120505 Gold Coast v Fremantle. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Alastair Lynch, Tony Shaw, Matthew Campbell, Leigh Colbert. AFL Archive recording.
- 20120505 Gold Coast v Fremantle. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Alastair Lynch, Tony Shaw, Matthew Campbell, Leigh Colbert. Television.
- 20120505 St Kilda v Hawthorn. AFL. HSV7. Commentators: Brian Taylor, Matthew Richardson, Luke Darcy, Cameron Ling. AFL Archive recording.
- 20120505 St Kilda v Hawthorn. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Brian Taylor, Matthew Richardson, Luke Darcy, Cameron Ling. Television.
- 20120505 Sydney v Adelaide. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Anthony Hudson, Jason Dunstall, Liam Pickering. AFL Archive recording.
- 20120506 Carlton v Greater Western Sydney. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Anthony Hudson, Jason Dunstall, David King. AFL Archive recording.
- 20120506 Carlton v Greater Western Sydney. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Anthony Hudson, Jason Dunstall, David King. Television.
- 20120506 West Coast v North Melbourne. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Gerard Healy, Dwayne Russell, Jonathan Brown. Television.
- 20120506 West Coast v North Melbourne. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Gerard Healy, Dwayne Russell, Jonathan Brown. AFL Archive recording.
- 20120506 Port Adelaide v Richmond. AFL. HSV7. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Tim Watson, Bruce McAvaney, Cameron Ling. AFL Archive recording.
- 20120506 Port Adelaide v Richmond. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Tim Watson, Bruce McAvaney, Cameron Ling. Television.



- 20120518 Collingwood v Geelong. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Bruce McAvaney, Leigh Matthews, Matthew Richardson, Tom Hurley. Television.
- 20120526 Richmond v Hawthorn. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Basil Zempilas, Mick Malthouse, Hamish McLaughlin, Brett Kirk. Television
- 20120601 St Kilda v Richmond. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Bruce McAvaney, Dennis Cometti, Leigh Matthews, Matthew Richardson, Tom Harley. Television.
- 20120602 Essendon v Melbourne. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Brian Taylor, Luke Darcy, Matthew Richardson, Cameron Ling. Television.
- 20120616 Gold Coast v North Melbourne. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Alastair Lynch, Dermott Brereton, Anthony Hudson, Leigh Colbert. Television.
- 20120622 Sydney Swans v Geelong. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Hamish McLaughlin, Tim Watson, Brett Kirk. Television.
- 20120701 St Kilda v North Melbourne. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Anthony Hudson, Eddie McGuire, Jason Dunstall, Gerard Healy, David King, Rodney Eade. Television.
- 20120701 Geelong v Port Adelaide. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dwayne Russell, Danny Frawley, Alastair Lynch, Liam Pickering. Television.
- 20120803 Hawthorn v Geelong. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Basil Zempilas, Dennis Cometti, Tom Harley, Leigh Matthews, Matthew Richardson. Television.
- 20120805 Carlton v Sydney Swans. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Bruce McAvaney, Dennis Cometti, Leigh Matthews, Brett Kirk, Tom Harley. Television.
- 20120812 Richmond v Western Bulldogs. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Hamish McLaughlin, Cameron Ling, Tim Watson. Television.
- 20120914 Adelaide v Fremantle. Fox Footy. Commentators: Bruce McAvaney, Dennis Cometti, Leigh Matthews, Matthew Richardson, Tom Harley. Television.
- 20120825 Sydney v Hawthorn. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dwayne Russell, Jason Dunstall, Paul Roos, David King. Television.
- 20120929 Hawthorn v Sydney. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Bruce McAvaney, Leigh Matthews, Matthew Richardson, Tim Watson, Mick Malthouse, Tom Harley. Television.

## 2013 AFL Season

- 20130330 Gold Coast v St Kilda. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Brian Taylor, Matthew Richardson, Luke Darcy, Cameron Ling. Television.
- 20130331 Greater Western Sydney v Sydney. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Anthony Hudson, Paul Roos, Cameron Mooney. Television.
- 20130331 Melbourne v Port Adelaide. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dwayne Russell, Jason Dunstall, Danny Frawley, David King, Barry Hall. Television.
- 20130406 Essendon v Melbourne. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Brian Taylor, Matthew Richardson, Luke Darcy, Cameron Ling. Television.

- 20130412 Fremantle v Essendon. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Leigh Matthews, Basil Zempilas, Cameron Ling. Television.
- 20130419 Sydney v Geelong. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Bruce McAvaney, Leigh Matthews, Cameron Ling, Tom Harley. Television.
- 20130427 Greater Western Sydney v Gold Coast. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Brad Johnson, Matthew Campbell, Leigh Colbert, Tony Shaw. Television.
- 20130428 Hawthorn v North Melbourne. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Anthony Hudson, Gerard Healy, Danny Frawley, David King. Television.
- 20130518 Sydney v Fremantle. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dwayne Russell, Jason Dunstall, David King, Paul Roos. Television.
- 20130519 Adelaide v St Kilda. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Bruce McAvaney, Matthew Richardson, Leigh Matthews, Tom Harley, Michael O’Laughlin. Television.
- 20130524 Collingwood v Sydney. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Anthony Hudson, Barry Hall, Brad Johnson, Gerard Healy. Television.
- 20130601 Sydney v Essendon. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Anthony Hudson, Jason Dunstall, David King, Paul Roos. Television.
- 20130607 Essendon v Carlton. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Bruce McAvaney, Dennis Cometti, Tom Harley, Tim Watson, Leigh Matthews, Nick Maxwell. Television.
- 20130616 Essendon v Gold Coast Suns. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Brian Taylor, Matthew Richardson, Luke Darcy, Cameron Ling. Television.
- 20130623 Brisbane Lions v Geelong. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Anthony Hudson, Gerard Healy, Brad Johnson, Cameron Mooney. Television.
- 20130627 West Coast v Essendon. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Brian Taylor, Luke Darcy, Cameron Ling, Matthew Richardson. Television.
- 20130712 Collingwood v Adelaide. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Matthew Richardson, Leigh Matthews, Bruce McAvaney, Tom Harley. Television.
- 20130720 Gold Coast v Collingwood. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Alastair Lynch, Barry Hall, Jason Dunstall, Dwayne Russell. Television.
- 20130721 Adelaide v Geelong. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Bruce McAvaney, Cameron Ling, Tim Watson. Television.
- 20130721 West Coast v Sydney. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Anthony Hudson, Cameron Mooney, David King, Brad Johnson, Gerard Healy. Television.
- 20130721 Richmond v Fremantle. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: David King, Eddie Maguire, Jason Dunstall, Dwayne Russell. Television.
- 20130805 Greater Western Sydney v Richmond. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Tim Watson, Bruce McAvaney, Tom Harley. Television.
- 20130811 Adelaide v North Melbourne. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Bruce McAvaney, Cameron Ling, Tim Watson. Television.

20130831 Port Adelaide v Carlton. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Gerard Healy, Jason Dunstall, David King, Dwayne Russell. Television.

20130928 Hawthorn v Geelong. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Bruce McAvaney, Matthew Richardson, Leigh Matthews, Tom Harley. Television.

## 2014 AFL Season

20140320 Geelong v Adelaide. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Anthony Hudson, Eddie McGuire, Gerard Healy, Brad Johnson, Cameron Mooney. Television.

20140321 North Melbourne v Essendon. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Bruce McAvaney, Leigh Matthews, Tom Harley, Wayne Carey, Tim Watson. Television.

20140330 Western Bulldogs v North Melbourne. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Sandy Roberts, Danny Frawley, Anthony Hudson, Jason Dunstall, Cameron Mooney. Television.

20140404 Hawthorn v Fremantle. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Bruce McAvaney, Cameron Ling, Matthew Richardson, Tom Harley, Wayne Carey. Television.

20140406 North Melbourne v Port Adelaide. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Gerard Healy, Jason Dunstall, Sandy Roberts, Dwayne Russell, David King. Television.

20140413 Sydney v North Melbourne. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dwayne Russell, Jason Dunstall, Danny Frawley, David King. Television.

20140419 Collingwood v North Melbourne. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Anthony Hudson, David King, Dermott Brereton, Jason Dunstall. Television

20140509 Sydney Swans v Hawthorn. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Bruce McAvaney, Leigh Matthews, Matthew Richardson, Tom Harley, Wayne Carey. Television.

20140510 Port Adelaide v Fremantle. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Anthony Hudson, Cameron Mooney, Dermott Brereton, Mark Ricciuto. Television.

20140511 West Coast Eagles v Greater Western Sydney. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dwayne Russell, Danny Frawley, Barry Hall, Brad Johnson. Television.

20140523 Geelong v North Melbourne. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Bruce McAvaney, Wayne Carey, Leigh Matthews, Matthew Richardson. Television.

20140524 Greater Western Sydney v Richmond. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dwayne Russell, Jason Dunstall, Barry Hall, Jonathan Brown. Television

20140614 West Coast v Gold Coast. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dwayne Russell, Jason Dunstall, Barry Hall, Jonathan Brown. Television.

20140622 Melbourne v North Melbourne. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Sandy Roberts, Anthony Hudson, Jason Dunstall, Gerard Healy, David King. Television.

- 20140712 North Melbourne v St Kilda. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Anthony Hudson, Dermott Brereton, Tony Shaw, Cameron Mooney. Television.
- 20140718 Carlton v North Melbourne. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Bruce McAvaney, Leigh Matthews, Tom Harley, Wayne Carey. Television.
- 20140810 Greater Western Sydney v North Melbourne. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Basil Zempilas, Tim Watson, Hamish McLaughlin, Andrew Welsh. Television.
- 20140816 Adelaide v Richmond. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Brian Taylor, Matthew Richardson, Luke Darcy, Cameron Ling. Television.
- 20140817 North Melbourne v Western Bulldogs. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Sandy Roberts, Anthony Hudson, Jason Dunstall, Barry Hall, Danny Frawley. Television.
- 20140823 North Melbourne v Adelaide. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Basil Zempilas, Tim Watson, Hamish McLaughlin, Jude Bolton. Television.
- 20140830 Sydney v Richmond. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Anthony Hudson, Jason Dunstall, David King, Alastair Lynch. Television.
- 20140830 North Melbourne v Melbourne. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Tony Shaw, Brad Johnson, Matthew Campbell, Barry Hall. Television.
- 20140831 Adelaide v St Kilda. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Basil Zempilas, Bruce McAvaney, Tom Harley, Andrew Welsh. Television.
- 20140927 Sydney v Hawthorn. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Bruce McAvaney, Leigh Matthews, Tom Harley. Television

## 2015 AFL Season

- 20150404 Brisbane v Collingwood. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Luke Darcy, Brian Taylor, Cameron Ling, Matthew Richardson. Television.
- 20150405 Adelaide v North Melbourne. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Bruce McAvaney, Leigh Matthews, Basil Zempilas, Jude Bolton, Mark Soderstrom. Television.
- 20150411 Port Adelaide v Sydney. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Brian Taylor, Luke Darcy, Cameron Ling, Matthew Richardson. Television.
- 20150418 North Melbourne v Port Adelaide. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Luke Darcy, Brian Taylor, Cameron Ling, Matthew Richardson. Television.
- 20150418 Brisbane Lions v Richmond. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dermott Brereton, Cameron Mooney, David King, Mark Ricciuto. Television.
- 20150425 Port Adelaide v Hawthorn. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Luke Darcy, Brian Taylor, Cameron Ling, Matthew Richardson. Television.
- 20150502 North Melbourne v Hawthorn. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Luke Darcy, Brian Taylor, Cameron Ling, Matthew Richardson. Television.
- 20150503 Adelaide v Port Adelaide. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Gerard Healy, Jason Dunstall, Dwayne Russell, Mark Ricciuto. Television.

- 20150509 Melbourne v Sydney. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Luke Darcy, Brian Taylor, Cameron Ling, Matthew Richardson. Television.
- 20150516 Sydney v Geelong. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Luke Darcy, Brian Taylor, Cameron Ling, Matthew Richardson. Television.
- 20150517 Richmond v Collingwood. AFL. Fox Footy. Dennis Cometti, Leigh Matthews, Hamish McLaughlin, Nick Maxwell. Television.
- 20150523 Hawthorn v Sydney. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Luke Darcy, Brian Taylor, Cameron Ling, Matthew Richardson. Television.
- 20150531 Richmond v Essendon. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Luke Darcy, Brian Taylor, Cameron Ling, Matthew Richardson. Television.
- 20150605 Fremantle v Richmond. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Matthew Richardson, Basil Zempilas, Cameron Ling, Wayne Carey. Television.
- 20150606 Essendon v Geelong. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Luke Darcy, Brian Taylor, Cameron Ling, Matthew Richardson. Television.
- 20150607 North Melbourne v West Coast Eagles. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Leigh Matthews, Luke Darcy, Andrew Welsh. Television.
- 20150608 Melbourne v Collingwood. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Bruce McAvaney, Andrew Welsh, Hamish McLaughlin, Tim Watson, Nick Maxwell. Television.
- 20150612 Port Adelaide v Geelong. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Cameron Ling, Bruce McAvaney, Tim Watson, Dennis Cometti. Television.
- 20150613 North Melbourne v Sydney. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Luke Darcy, Brian Taylor, Cameron Ling, Matthew Richardson. Television.
- 20150614 Collingwood v Greater Western Sydney. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Dwayne Russell, Jason Dunstall, Danny Frawley, Cameron Mooney. Television.
- 20150618 Adelaide v Hawthorn. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Bruce McAvaney, Wayne Carey, Matthew Richardson, Leigh Matthews, Hamish McLaughlin. Television.
- 20150620 Western Bulldogs v Brisbane Lions. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Luke Darcy, Brian Taylor, Cameron Ling, Matthew Richardson. Television.
- 20150625 Fremantle v Collingwood. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Matthew Richardson, Luke Darcy, Basil Zempilas, Dennis Cometti. Television.
- 20150626 Sydney v Richmond. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Bruce McAvaney, Dennis Cometti, Cameron Ling, Wayne Carey, Matthew Richardson. Television.
- 20150627 St Kilda v Western Bulldogs. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Brian Taylor, Cameron Ling, Luke Darcy, Matthew Richardson. Television.
- 20150717 North Melbourne v Essendon. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Bruce McAvaney, Dennis Cometti, Wayne Carey, Cameron Ling, Matthew Richardson. Television.

- 20150718 Sydney v Hawthorn. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Luke Darcy, Brian Taylor, Cameron Ling, Matthew Richardson. Television.
- 20150719 Port Adelaide v Adelaide. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Basil Zempilas, Bruce McAvaney, Leigh Matthews, Nick Maxwell, Mark Soderstrom. Television.
- 20150725 Greater Western Sydney v Geelong. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Basil Zempilas, Tim Watson, Hamish McLachlan, Andrew Welsh. Television.
- 20150726 West Coast Eagles v Sydney. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Dwayne Russell, Gerard Healy, Jonathan Brown, David King. Television.
- 20150731 Hawthorn v Richmond. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Bruce McAvaney, Dennis Cometti, Cameron Ling, Matthew Richards, Wayne Carey. Television.
- 20150802 Essendon v Western Bulldogs. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Luke Darcy, Brian Taylor, Cameron Ling, Matthew Richardson. Television.
- 20150807 Adelaide v Richmond. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Bruce McAvaney, Dennis Cometti, Cameron Ling, Matthew Richards, Wayne Carey. Television.
- 20150808 Collingwood v Carlton. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Hamish McLaughlin, Dennis Cometti, Tim Watson, Andrew Welsh. Television.
- 20150808 West Coast Eagles v Hawthorn. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Brian Taylor, Cameron Ling, Matthew Richards. Television.
- 20150809 Greater Western Sydney v Essendon. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Leigh Matthews, Brad Sewell, Jason Bennett. Television.
- 20150815 Geelong v Hawthorn. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Brian Taylor, Cameron Ling, Matthew Richards. Television.
- 20150822 Collingwood v Richmond. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Hamish McLaughlin, Basil Zempilas, Tim Watson, Andrew Welsh. Television.
- 20150823 West Coast v Western Bulldogs. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Anthony Hudson, Dermott Brereton, Gerard Healy, Cameron Mooney. Television.
- 20150911 West Coast v Hawthorn. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Bruce McAvaney, Cameron Ling, Matthew Richardson, Wayne Carey, Basil Zempilas. Television.
- 20150918 Hawthorn v Adelaide. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Bruce McAvaney, Cameron Ling, Matthew Richardson, Wayne Carey. Television.

## 2016 AFL Season

- 20160410 North Melbourne v Melbourne. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Anthony Hudson, Gerard Healy, Ben Dixon, Brad Johnson. Television.
- 20160416 Brisbane Lions v Gold Coast. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Jason Dunstall, Jonathan Brown, Adam Papalia, Cameron Mooney. Television.
- 20160424 Melbourne v Richmond. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Basil Zempilas, Luke Darcy, Wayne Carey, Hamish McLaughlin, Tim Watson. Television.

- 20160507 Western Bulldogs v Adelaide. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Luke Darcy, Brian Taylor, Cameron Ling, Matthew Richardson. Television.
- 20160507 Gold Coast v Melbourne. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Alastair Lynch, Jonathan Brown, Barry Hall, Brett Phillips, Matt Granland. Television
- 20160520 Hawthorn v Sydney. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Bruce McAvaney, Cameron Ling, Wayne Carey. Television.
- 20160521 Fremantle v Richmond. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Cameron Ling, Brian Taylor, Matthew Richardson, Luke Darcy. Television.
- 20160522 Greater Western Sydney v Western Bulldogs. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Basil Zempilas, Leigh Matthews, Dennis Cometti, Jude Bolton. Television
- 20160611 Brisbane Lions v Fremantle. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Jonathan Brown, Alastair Lynch, Barry Hall, Anthony Hudson. Television.
- 20160611 Port Adelaide v Western Bulldogs. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dwayne Russell, Mark Riciutto, Jason Dunstall, Cameron Moon. Television
- 20160611 West Coast v Adelaide. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dermott Brereton, Brad Johnson, Ben Dixon, Adam Papalia. Television.
- 20160612 Greater Western Sydney v Sydney. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Anthony Hudson, Gerard Healy, Alastair Lynch. Television.
- 20160613 Melbourne v Collingwood. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Brian Taylor, Cameron Ling, Tim Watson, Hamish McLaughlin. Television.
- 20160617 North Melbourne v Hawthorn. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Tim Watson, Cameron Ling, Brad Sewell, Bruce McAvaney. Television.
- 20160619 Essendon v Greater Western Giants. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Sandy Roberts, Dwayne Russell, Alastair Lynch, Jonathan Brown, David King. Television.
- 20160619 Sydney v Melbourne. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Dermott Brereton, Barry Hall, Anthony Hudson, Tony Shaw. Television.
- 20160623 Adelaide v North Melbourne. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Bruce McAvaney, Leigh Matthews, Hamish McLaughlin, Jude Bolton. Television.
- 20160624 Collingwood v Fremantle. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Cameron Ling, Bruce McAvaney, Wayne Carey, Matthew Richardson. Television.
- 20160625 Greater Western Sydney v Carlton. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Jason Dunstall, Anthony Hudson, Barry Hall. Television.
- 20160625 St Kilda v Geelong. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Brian Taylor, Matthew Richardson, Cameron Ling, Luke Darcy. Television.
- 20160626 Hawthorn v Gold Coast. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Dwayne Russell, Gerard Healey, Alastair Lynch, Ben Dixon. Television.
- 20160630 West Coast v Essendon. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Basil Zempilas, Tim Watson, Peter Bell. Television.

- 20160701 Port Adelaide v Richmond. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Wayne Carey, Bruce McAvaney, Cameron Ling, Matthew Richardson. Television.
- 20160702 Sydney v Western Bulldogs. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Dwayne Russell, Jason Dunstall, Barry Hall, Gerard Healey. Television.
- 20160706 Port Adelaide v Hawthorn. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Hamish McLaughlin, Bruce McAvaney, Cameron Ling, Wayne Carey, Mark Soderstrom. Television.
- 20160708 Geelong v Sydney. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Bruce McAvaney, Dennis Cometti, Cameron Ling, Jude Bolton. Television.
- 20160709 Western Bulldogs v Richmond. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Brian Taylor, Cameron Ling, Matthew Richardson, Luke Darcy. Television.
- 20160714 Sydney v Hawthorn. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Brian Taylor, Bruce McAvaney, Luke Darcy. Television.
- 20160715 Fremantle v Geelong. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Matthew Richardson, Basil Zempilas, Cameron Ling, Wayne Carey. Television.
- 20160716 Adelaide v Collingwood. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Brian Taylor, Matthew Richardson, Luke Darcy, Cameron Ling. Television.
- 20160716 Port Adelaide v North Melbourne. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Dwayne Russell, David King, Brad Johnson, Barry Hall. Television.
- 20160717 Carlton v West Coast. AFL. Sevenmate. Commentators: Sandy Roberts, Jason Dunstall, Barry Hall, Jonathan Brown, Anthony Hudson. Television.
- 20160723 Geelong v Adelaide. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Brian Taylor, Cameron Ling, Matthew Richardson, Luke Darcy. Television.
- 20160806 Adelaide v Brisbane Lions. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dermott Brereton, Adam Papalia, Mark Ricciuto, Barry Hall. Television.
- 20160806 Melbourne v Hawthorn. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dwayne Russell, Jonathan Brown, Brad Johnson, David King. Television.
- 20160923 Geelong v Sydney. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dennis Cometti, Bruce McAvaney, Matthew Richardson, Cameron Ling, Wayne Carey. Television.

## 2017 AFL Season

- 20170317 Collingwood v Western Bulldogs. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Brian Taylor, Bruce McAvaney, Cameron Ling, Wayne Carey, Andrew Welsh. Television.
- 20170326 Fremantle v Geelong. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Anthony Hudson, Gerard Healy, David King, Matthew Pavlich. Television.
- 20170326 Adelaide v Greater Western Sydney. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Bruce McAvaney Brian Taylor, Leigh Matthews, Mark Soderstrom. Television.
- 20170414 North Melbourne v Western Bulldogs. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Bruce McAvaney, Cameron Ling, Brian Taylor, Tim Watson, Wayne Carey. Television.



- 20170428 Greater Western Sydney v Western Bulldogs. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Brian Taylor, Bruce McAvaney, Cameron Ling, Wayne Carey. Television.
- 20170429 Hawthorn v St Kilda. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Alastair Lynch, Jonathan Brown, Dwayne Russell. Television.
- 20170429 Carlton v Sydney. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Sandy Roberts, Paul Roos, Brenton Speed, Cameron Mooney, Brad Johnson. Television.
- 20170429 Brisbane Lions v Port Adelaide. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Anthony Hudson, Jason Dunstall, Brian Lake, Danny Frawley. Television.
- 20170429 North Melbourne v Gold Coast. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Basil Zempilas, Matthew Richardson, Luke Darcy. Television.
- 20170429 West Coast v Fremantle. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dermott Brereton, Matthew Pavlich, Ben Dixon. Television.
- 20170430 Essendon v Melbourne. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Anthony Hudson, Jason Dunstall, Cameron Mooney, Brad Johnson. Television.
- 20170430 Geelong v Collingwood. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Brian Taylor, Hamish McLaughlin, Leigh Matthews, Andrew Welsh. Television.
- 20170430 Adelaide v Richmond. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dwayne Russell, David King, Mark Riciutto, Gerard Healy. Television.
- 20170608 Sydney v Western Bulldogs. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Hamish McLaughlin, Luke Darcy, Jude Bolton. Matthew Richardson. Television.
- 20170608 Melbourne v Collingwood. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Brian Taylor, Tim Watson, Hamish McLaughlin, Brad Sewell. Television.
- 20170615 West Coast v Geelong. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Basil Zempilas, Brian Taylor, Cameron Ling, Peter Bell. Television.
- 20170616 North Melbourne v St Kilda. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Bruce McAvaney, Cameron Ling, Brian Taylor, Wayne Carey, Tim Watson. Television.
- 20170622 Adelaide v Hawthorn. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Bruce McAvaney, Hamish McLaughlin, Wayne Carey, Mark Soderstrom. Television.
- 20170623 Sydney v Essendon. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Brian Taylor, Bruce McAvaney, Wayne Carey, Cameron Ling, Daisy Pearce. Television.
- 20170624 West Coast v Melbourne. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Matthew Richardson, Luke Darcy, Basil Zempilas, Peter Bell. Television.
- 20170625 Richmond v Carlton. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Brian Taylor, Hamish McLaughlin, Leigh Matthews, Jimmy Bartel, Luke Hodge. Television.
- 20170630 Sydney v Western Bulldogs AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Hamish McLaughlin, Luke Darcy, Jude Bolton. Matthew Richardson. Television.
- 20170701 Western Bulldogs v West Coast. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Sandy Roberts, Dwayne Russell, Cameron Mooney, Paul Roos, Dermott Brereton. Television.

- 20170701 Gold Coast v North Melbourne. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Jonathan Brown, Alastair Lynch, Nick dal Santo, Brenton Speed. Television.
- 20170701 Greater Western Sydney v Geelong. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Matthew Richardson, Basil Zempilas, Brad Sewell, Jason Bennett. Television.
- 20170702 Essendon v Brisbane Lions. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Anthony Hudson, Gerard Healy, Brad Johnson, Cameron Mooney. Television.
- 20170702 Hawthorn v Collingwood. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Brian Taylor, Leigh Matthews, Bruce McAvaney, Nick Maxwell. Television.
- 20170702 Fremantle v St Kilda. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dwayne Russell, Dermott Brereton, Matthew Pavlich, Ben Dixon. Television.
- 20170707 Adelaide v Western Bulldogs. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Brian Taylor, Wayne Carey, Cameron Ling, Mark Soderstrom, Bruce McAvaney. Television.
- 20170708 Hawthorn v Greater Western Sydney. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Adam Papalia, Alastair Lynch, Dermott Brereton, Nick Dal Santo. Television.
- 20170708 Sydney v Gold Coast. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Brenton Speed, Jason Dunstall, David King, Ben Dixon. Television.
- 20170708 St Kilda v Richmond. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Basil Zempilas, Matthew Richardson, Cameron Ling, Jason Bennett. Television.
- 20170709 West Coast v Port Adelaide. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dwayne Russell, Brad Johnson, Matthew Pavlich, Ben Dixon. Television.
- 20170714 St Kilda v Essendon. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Bruce McAvaney, Brian Taylor, Tim Watson, Cameron Ling. Television.
- 20170715 Greater Western Sydney v Sydney. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Anthony Hudson, Paul Roos, Dermott Brereton, Ben Dixon. Television.
- 20170715 Geelong v Hawthorn. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Sandy Roberts, Jonathan Brown, Brad Johnson, Eddie McGuire, David King. Television.
- 20170715 Port Adelaide v North Melbourne. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Jason Dunstall, Adam Papalia, Brian Lake, Tony Shaw. Television.
- 20170716 Fremantle v West Coast. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Anthony Hudson, Brad Johnson, Matthew Pavlich, David King. Television.
- 20170716 Richmond v Brisbane Lions. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Jason Dunstall, Dermott Brereton, Cameron Mooney, Dwayne Russell. Television.
- 20170716 Carlton v Western Bulldogs. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Hamish McLaughlin, Brian Taylor, Leigh Matthews, Luke Hodge, Andrew Welsh. Television.
- 20170717 Essendon v North Melbourne. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Eddie McGuire, Jonathan Brown, Nick dal Santo, Mark Riciutto. Television.
- 20170722 Western Bulldogs v Gold Coast. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Paul Roos, Dermott Brereton, Ben Dixon, Alastair Lynch. Television.

- 20170722 Sydney v St Kilda. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Luke Darcy, Matthew Richardson, Jude Bolton, Jason Bennett. Television.
- 20170723 Collingwood v West Coast. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Hamish McLaughlin, Brian Taylor, Leigh Matthews, Daisy Pearce. Television.
- 20170723 Richmond v Greater Western Sydney. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Anthony Hudson, Jonathan Brown, Gerard Healy, David King. Television.
- 20170728 Hawthorn v Sydney. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Brian Taylor, Wayne Carey, Bruce McAvaney, Cameron Ling, Matthew Richardson. Television.
- 20170729 Greater Western Sydney v Fremantle. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dwayne Russell, Brad Johnson, Brian Lake. Television.
- 20170730 West Coast v Brisbane. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Adam Papalia, Matthew Pavlich, Dermott Brereton, Ben Dixon. Television.
- 20170804 Geelong v Sydney. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Bruce McAvaney, Wayne Carey, Hamish McLaughlin, Matthew Richardson. Television.
- 20170805 Brisbane v Western Bulldogs. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dwayne Russell, Alastair Lynch, Jonathan Brown, Nick dal Santo. Television.
- 21070805 Fremantle v Gold Coast. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Adam Papalia, Dermott Brereton, Matthew Pavlich, David King. Television.
- 20170806 Adelaide v Port Adelaide. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dwayne Russell, Gerard Healy, Mark Riciutto, David King. Television.
- 20170811 Western Bulldogs v Greater Western Sydney. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Brian Taylor, Bruce McAvaney, Wayne Carey, Cameron Ling, Tim Watson. Television.
- 20170819 Western Bulldogs v Port Adelaide. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dwayne Russell, Jonathan Brown, Danny Frawley, Cameron Mooney. Television.
- 20170826 Hawthorn v Western Bulldogs. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Brian Taylor, Bruce McAvaney, Wayne Carey, Cameron Ling, Tim Watson. Television.
- 20170826 Collingwood v Melbourne. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Sandy Roberts, Anthony Hudson, Jonathan Brown, Brad Johnstone, David King. Television.
- 20170827 West Coast v Adelaide. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Anthony Hudson, Gerard Healy, David King, Matthew Pavlich. Television.
- 20170909 Port Adelaide v West Coast. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Basil Zempilas, Matthew Richardson, Luke Darcy, Mark Soderstrom. Television.
- 20170922 Adelaide v Geelong. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Bruce McAvaney, Cameron Ling, Wayne Carey. Television.
- 20170923 Richmond v Greater Western Sydney. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Hamish McLaughlin, Cameron Ling, Matthew Richardson, Basil Zempilas. Television.

20170930 Adelaide v Richmond. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Brian Taylor, Bruce McAvaney, Matthew Richardson, Cameron Ling, Wayne Carey, Tim Watson. Television.

## 2018 AFL Season

20180318 West Coast v Sydney. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Dwayne Russell, Jonathan Brown, Adam Papalia, David King, Matthew Pavlich, Sarah Jones. Television.

20180318 Adelaide v Richmond. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Bruce McAvaney Wayne Carey, Cameron Ling, Hamish McLaughlin. Television.

20180322 Richmond v Carlton. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Brian Taylor, Bruce McAvaney, Matthew Richardson, Cameron Ling, Daisy Pearce. Television.

20180324 Essendon v Adelaide. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Bruce McAvaney, Brian Taylor, Wayne Carey, Cameron Ling, Matthew Richardson. Television.

20180330 North Melbourne v St Kilda. AFL. Fox Footy. Commentators: Brian Taylor, Bruce McAvaney, Cameron Ling, Wayne Carey, Matthew Richardson. Television.

## Body Word Frequency Per Decade

Word	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	Total
ankle	-	2	5	4	10	21
arm	-	2	6	15	13	36
body/bodies	4	2	29	40	42	117
calf	-	-	-	2	-	2
cheek	-	-	-	-	1	1
chest	11	6	8	8	9	42
ear/s	2	1	1	3	2	9
elbow	3	-	1	-	-	4
eyes	8	9	7	17	18	59
fingers	2	6	7	3	7	32
fist	5	11	9	18	23	66
foot	32	19	20	17	21	109
groin	-	-	-	3	5	8
hamstring	-	-	-	9	6	15
head	19	15	8	31	26	99
hip/s	3	-	5	6	4	18
jaw	1	-	-	-	-	1
knee	7	3	10	15	20	55
left foot	52	16	44	19	17	148
leg	-	5	15	14	24	58
lip	2	-	1	2	2	7
muscle	-	-	1	1	2	4
neck	3	2	-	2	-	7
nose	-	1	-	-	2	3
right foot	6	3	7	2	3	21
shin	2	1	16	12	5	36
shoulder	21	1	16	12	5	55
thigh	1	-	1	4	2	8
toe	6	1	6	9	6	28

## Word Frequency Per Decade

Word	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	Total
ability	1	-	2	15	14	32
alive	-	1	1	15	23	40
allow	34	6	11	13	17	81
appeal	5	1	2	4	4	16
article	-	-	-	-	2	2
attempt	16	6	7	12	9	50
attention		2	3	6	2	13
attitude	-	-	1	-	1	2
aware	-	-	3	2	9	14
awareness	-	-	-	2	7	9
awesome	-	-	-	2	1	3
battle	29	2	1	3	1	36
beaut/iful/ifully/y	70	18	18	41	27	174
behind	166	49	92	89	84	480
bench	1	7	28	32	16	84
best	41	10	26	57	60	194
big	160	57	68	119	190	594
big fella	-	1	-	-	8	9
big fellow	19	9	4	1	-	33
blind	1	-	3	3	2	9
bloke	-	-	8	18	20	46
boot	182	23	34	37	51	327
bounce	93	57	76	84	48	358
boy	22	2	18	41	30	113
brave	1	-	-	10	5	16
breeze	29	1	15	1	2	48
brilliant	50	24	10	18	25	127
bump/ed	15	2	-	3	3	23
call	106	19	37	60	52	274
can he	-	5	7	24	14	50
centre half	129	31	39	25	8	232
chance	237	76	55	70	57	182
charge	3	3	5	6	1	18
choice	-	-	-	-	2	2
clash	9	2	1	3	1	16
clean	1	-	-	-	14	15
clearance	-	-	2	15	41	58
clever	39	14	11	20	16	100

coach	11	1	17	20	24	73
concede	-	1	-	15	11	27
concern	-	-	4	6	10	20
concussion	-	-	-	-	2	2
condition (all weather related)	4	2	13	4	2	25
confidence	1	8	10	12	9	40
contest/ed/ing	13	9	33	74	108	237
contribute	1	-	2	5	3	11
control	12	3	25	23	15	78
courage	16	3	6	6	8	39
creat/e/ive	4	-	-	-	19	23
create	-	1	4	13	17	35
crowd	74	21	35	32	41	203
danc	3	1	9	8	2	23
dead	2	5	2	2	2	13
decide	12	9	5	17	17	60
decision	25	7	15	19	16	82
defend	30	4	7	16	37	94
defense	12	-	-	-	-	12
deliberate	2	1	2	4	8	17
did	26	27	47	107	126	333
didn't	30	16	49	80	129	304
die	4	-	4	2	-	10
disappoint	8	5	18	15	21	67
disposal	2	8	5	31	70	116
doctor	-	-	2	2	7	11
doesn't	37	21	31	33	49	171
dominat	3	3	3	4	9	22
don't want	1	-	3	4	11	19
draft	-	-	-	6	13	19
effort	17	3	28	25	38	111
entr/y/ies	-	-	-	2	6	8
error	1	1	6	4	5	17
example	3	1	-	4	4	12
exceptional	-	-	1	-	2	3
expect	2	1	6	12	10	31
experience	4	3	9	8	9	33
extra time	5	-	-	-	-	5
eyes	3	8	4	9	-	24
fabulous	2	-	7	1	1	11
fans	11	11	11	14	23	70

fantastic	14	1	21	15	33	84
fatigue	-	-	-	1	2	3
feel	5	3	11	13	31	63
fella	-	3	3	4	10	20
fellow	45	13	9	5	-	72
fence	2	-	2	-	4	8
find out	-	-	-	-	5	5
fit	-	2	5	6	6	19
focus	-	-	1	5	3	9
footy	1	2	21	73	98	195
freak	1	1	-	2	1	5
free	275	82	112	167	107	743
funny	-	2	3	2	6	13
game	176	64	169	266	314	989
goal	494	212	398	539	466	2109
good call	-	-	2	3	5	10
grab	44	21	25	16	32	138
grandstand	10	3	1	-	1	15
great	154	40	72	98	132	496
ground	231	80	177	166	162	789
had	166	53	133	268	347	967
happy	4	10	24	32	25	95
hard	38	30	84	118	70	340
hard work	-	1	1	2	3	7
has	402	122	242	331	329	1426
hate	1	-	-	2	1	4
he	661	353	541	759	1068	3382
heart	6	2	6	6	8	28
heavy	8	1	7	3	5	24
hero	2	-	3	-	3	8
hit	23	12	28	51	79	193
hobble	1	-	1	1	1	4
hurt	14	7	10	13	15	59
I like	1	-	2	3	6	12
if	44	30	82	145	384	685
illegal	-	-	2	4	5	11
imagine	2	1	4	2	6	15
impres	2	-	9	8	11	30
improv	7	3	8	9	7	34
injur/e/ed/ies/y	11	4	19	22	24	80
inside 50	-	1	16	57	52	126



instrumental	-	-	1	3	-	4
intelligent	4	1	2	-	2	9
is	565	147	330	379	454	1875
judge/d/s/ment	6	4	-	1	2	13
kick	1098	385	687	818	677	3665
kid	-	-	3	9	13	25
know/s/n/ing	39	15	34	101	156	345
lad	1	-	1	1	4	7
last time	1	-	1	3	3	8
leader	-	1	5	1	8	15
leadership	-	1	-	1	2	4
legal	-	-	1	3	1	4
like	44	27	79	115	172	437
limit	1	-	-	-	1	2
limp	3	3	5	3	2	16
look	54	24	50	104	131	363
looked	30	17	15	15	41	118
looking	90	48	47	61	69	315
looks	43	11	36	36	31	157
loose man	1	3	4	4	7	19
lose	18	2	18	8	-	46
love/d/s/ly	18	24	8	29	47	126
lumber	1	1	-	1	3	6
magic	-	-	1	1	4	6
magnificent	36	1	12	3	8	50
make	41	18	36	72	71	238
man	176	41	90	104	170	581
manhandle	3	-	-	-	2	5
match	33	15	40	52	41	181
mental	-	-	-	-	4	4
mind	4	3	6	9	11	33
mindset	-	-	1	-	1	2
minute	269	103	96	134	102	704
miserable	-	1	-	-	1	2
misjudge	4	1	-	2	-	7
mistake	15	6	13	3	12	49
moment	40	18	60	69	126	313
must	27	12	22	8	13	82
need	26	15	44	84	123	292
next time	-	-	-	-	1	1
now	306	113	216	445	356	1436

odd	2	2	4	4	6	18
on top	13	3	10	8	12	46
opportunity	16	9	19	16	34	94
opposition	-	-	-	13	12	25
option	2	1	16	31	23	60
outstanding	3	-	-	7	21	31
paid	26	7	16	22	19	90
pain	2	1	5	4	-	12
pay	6	8	5	9	8	36
penalty	37	12	3	1	11	64
play/s	213	79	111	145	103	651
player	226	87	139	212	237	901
pocket	85	28	46	47	47	253
point	369	119	159	175	164	986
position	58	36	31	27	35	187
possession	22	19	46	101	96	284
post	10	9	19	35	17	90
pressure	29	22	39	90	49	229
protect	1	1	1	7	7	17
punch	46	22	25	23	15	131
push	75	18	24	48	51	216
read	9	-	4	24	32	69
record	14	-	10	31	9	64
recruit/s/ed	4	-	1	6	3	14
remain/s/ing	6	-	25	20	27	78
result	12	8	6	12	19	57
ripper	-	-	-	-	5	5
role model	-	-	-	-	-	0
rooms	-	-	3	-	2	5
rotation	-	-	-	1	2	3
rule	3	5	5	14	7	34
scoreboard	24	5	3	16	16	64
season	12	7	27	49	57	152
second	78	23	63	89	104	357
see	38	43	53	87	135	356
seeing	1	1	1	6	8	17
seen	9	5	12	25	37	88
sees	2	4	2	4	7	19
selfish/un	2	-	-	3	4	9
set shot	-	-	1	4	11	16
sharp	1	1	1	2	4	9

shoving	8	2	6	4	2	22
shut	1	-	-	2	5	8
skill	4	1	98	-	16	119
small	7	3	4	7	8	29
smallest man	1	1	-	-	1	3
smother	35	9	17	11	17	89
soft	-	-	2	1	1	4
spoil	16	10	20	20	28	94
square	34	38	39	-	2	113
stab	1	-	-	1	-	2
star	8	-	-	3	3	14
stat/s/ician	5	-	6	11	6	28
stolen	1	1	-	2	4	8
stoppage	-	-	-	2	23	25
strange	3	-	1	4	2	10
strong/est	16	11	13	31	36	106
super	2	-	2	4	2	10
superb	3	6	1	3	4	17
superstar	-	-	-	5	3	8
support	1	3	5	10	1	20
supporters	14	2	10	13	8	47
talent	-	1	4	4	12	21
tall	60	4	27	16	17	124
target	5	17	17	53	29	121
teammate/ team mate	9	6	15	14	23	67
tension	-	-	-	-	2	2
terrible	-	3	7	7	2	19
terrific	1	3	26	30	36	96
test	-	2	2	4	10	18
the psychological moment	4	-	-	-	-	4
them	85	50	88	136	186	545
then	40	26	76	98	136	376
they	303	153	470	730	1034	2690
think	107	71	126	175	255	734
third man	-	-	-	-	3	3
thought	27	27	29	45	45	173
throw	92	37	80	56	47	312
thump	52	4	17	19	14	106
time	258	92	157	239	220	966
time off	8	-	-	-	-	8
time on	10	9	8		2	29

tired	5	4	6	15	15	45
too good	-	1	3	-	7	11
trainer	6	4	6	3	2	21
treatment	-	1	1	-	1	3
trouble	77	12	21	26	24	160
try	33	21	38	64	28	184
turn over	-	-	-	1	-	1
umpire	197	84	74	87	95	537
unhappy	-	-	-	-	1	1
unusual	2	1	4	3	1	11
us	-	-	2	9	12	23
veteran	5	1	4	2	-	12
vision	-	-	1	9	8	18
watch	6	7	10	17	12	52
watches	-	-	1	2	4	7
watching	2	5	5	14	20	46
weak	-	-	-	-	1	1
weakness	1	-	-	1		2
weapon	-	-	-	-	3	3
weather	-	1	5	-	2	8
week	6	1	45	77	122	251
weird	-	-	-	1	2	3
wet	-	2	8	-	1	11
what's going on	4	1	1	-	1	7
what's happening	3	1	-	3	1	8
when	54	24	77	106	119	380
while	8	4	11	13	12	48
will	253	80	103	156	144	736
will he	7	-	4	3	4	18
win/s	37	21	47	56	91	252
wind	6	-	6	2	2	16
wing	202	65	124	128	95	614
wizard	-	-	-	4	3	7
work	9	9	28	65	68	179
work ethic	-	-	-	1	1	2
worry	2	-	2	5	3	12
you	70	47	184	285	452	1038
young man	-	-	1	7	8	16
youngster	3	2	7	3	12	27
youth	-	-	-	2	-	2

## Commentators present in transcribed quarters

This list names each commentator and special reports provider, including boundary riders, in each game transcribed. There are 80 separate voices in total. They are listed according to the date of their first appearance in the transcripts, which does not necessarily correspond with the beginning date of individual television careers, many of which never materialised. Those who are professional commentators have their names in bold font, those who have transitioned from playing to calling are identified in the ‘ex-player’ column, and those (the majority) who have appeared only to provide expert comments are identified in the ‘special’ column. The number of appearances indicates how often they have been present within the transcribed games only.

Name	first appeared	appearances	ex-player	special
<b>Dick Mason</b>	1973	9		
Thorold Merrett	1973	10	*	
<b>Peter Ewin</b>	1973	7		
<b>Ken Daikin</b>	1973	4		
Doug Heywood	1973	6	*	
<b>Peter Landy</b>	1982	4		
Lou Richards	1982	1	*	
Bob Skilton	1982	1	*	
Jack Edwards	1982	1	*	
Peter McKenna	1982	4	*	
<b>Tim Lane</b>	1987	1		
Kevin Bartlett	1987	3	*	
Geoff Leek	1987	1		*
Ian Robertson	1987	4	*	
<b>Drew Morphett</b>	1987	3		
<b>Dennis Cometti</b>	1987	10		
Bernie Quinlan	1992	1		*
Max Stephens	1992	1		*
<b>Sandy Roberts</b>	1992	4		
Don Scott	1992	2		*
<b>Bruce McAvaney</b>	1992	8		
Gerard Healy	1992	7	*	
Ross Glendinning	1993	9		*
Robert DiPierdomenico	1994	7		*
Terry Wheeler	1994	10		*
Leigh Matthews	1997	4		*
Neil Kurley	1997	1		*
Tim Watson	1997	6		*
Dermott Brereton	1997	29		*
Craig Kelly	1997	1		*

Mark Harvey	1997	1		*
Gary Lyon	2002	2		*
Peter Larkin (Dr)	2002	1		*
Malcolm Blight	2002	2		*
Bill McDonald	2002	1		*
Robert Walls	2002	2		*
<b>Tim Gossage</b>	2002	1		
Matthew Campbell	2002	2		*
Lachlan Reid	2002	1		*
Peter Daicos	2002	1		*
<b>Anthony Hudson</b>	2002	6		
Russell Greene	2002	1		*
Rod Jameson	2002	1		*
Brian Taylor	2002	4	*	
James Brayshaw	2002	1		*
Michael Roberts	2002	1		*
Anthony Mithen	2002	1		*
Dwayne Russell	2002	5	*	
David Schwartz	2007	2		*
Corey Wingard	2007	1		*
Jason Dunstall	2007	5	*	
Alastair Lynch	2007	2	*	
David King	2007	3		*
Ricky Olarenshaw	2007	1		*
David Schwartz	2007	2		*
Danny Frawley	2007	3		*
Quentin Hull	2007	1		*
Glen Jakovich	2012	1		*
Brad Johnson	2012	3		*
Matthew Richardson	2012	3		*
<b>Eddie McGuire</b>	2012	1		
<b>Basil Zempilas</b>	2012	2		
Mick Malthouse	2012	1		*
<b>Hamish McLaughlin</b>	2012	2		
Tom Harley	2012	2		*
Tony Shaw	2012	1		*
Leigh Colbert	2012	1		*
Luke Darcy	2012	2	*	
Cameron Ling	2012	4		*
Liam Pickering	2012	1		*
Jonathan Brown	2012	2		*

Wayne Carey	2017	36		*
Paul Roos	2017	10		*
<b>Brenton Speed</b>	2017	3		
Cameron Mooney	2017	17		*
Brian Lake	2017	3		*
Matthew Pavlich	2017	9		*
Ben Dixon	2017	10		*
Andrew Welsh	2017	10		*
Mark Ricciuto	2017	5		*

## List of commentators in all recorded games accessed

This list names each commentator and special reports provider, including boundary riders, in each game watched (325 in total). They are listed according to the date of their first appearance in the recordings, which does not necessarily correspond with the beginning date of individual television careers, many of which never materialised. The Total Calls column shows the number of times each commentator has appeared in the listed broadcasts accessed for research. Those who are professional commentators have their names in bold font. All but three of the remaining names are ex-players who have transitioned from playing to calling or (the majority) making special comments. The three italicised names are exclusively special comments providers – Dr Peter Larkin, reporting on injuries from the boundary, Christie Malthouse, a journalist and Sarah Jones, a sports media personality. Daisy Pearce has played professionally in the fledgling WAFL.

Name	First Appeared	Total Calls
<b>Michael Williamson</b>	1968	3
Ted Whitten	1968	2
Alan 'Butch' Gale	1968	2
Bob Skilton	1972	5
Ron Barassi	1972	1
<b>Dick Mason</b>	1973	9
Thorold Merrett	1973	7
<b>Peter Ewin</b>	1973	3
<b>Ken Daikin</b>	1973	2
Doug Heywood	1973	3
<b>Peter Landy</b>	1981	13
Lou Richards	1981	5
Jack Edwards	1982	1
Peter McKenna	1982	7
<b>Tim Lane</b>	1987	13
Kevin Bartlett	1987	9
Geoff Leek	1987	1
Ian Robertson	1987	20
<b>Drew Morphett</b>	1987	9
<b>Dennis Cometti</b>	1987	91
Bernie Quinlan	1992	4
Max Stephens	1992	1
<b>Sandy Roberts</b>	1992	33
Don Scott	1992	5
<b>Bruce McAvaney</b>	1992	101
Gerard Healy	1992	49
Ross Glendinning	1993	9
Neil Cordy	1994	3
Robert DiPierdomenico	1994	7
Terry Wheeler	1994	10



Neil Kerley	1994	7
Malcolm Blight	1994	13
Leigh Matthews	1996	51
John Russo	1996	1
Ian Laurie	1996	1
Tim Watson	1997	50
Dermott Brereton	1997	30
Craig Kelly	1997	4
Mark Harvey	1997	1
Peter Donegan	1997	1
John Longmire	1997	1
Adrian Barich	1997	2
Russell Morris	1997	1
John Worsfold	1998	4
Mick McGuane	1998	2
John Russo	1998	2
Doug Hawkins	1998	3
Richard Osborne	1999	2
Jason Dunstall	2000	42
Nick McArdle	2000	1
Tony Lockett	2000	1
Paul Roos	2000	10
<b>Anthony Hudson</b>	2001	55
<b>Stephen Quartermain</b>	2001	14
<b>Gerard Whately</b>	2001	1
Craig Hutchinson	2001	1
Tony Shaw	2001	8
Steve Silvagni	2001	8
Mark Aiston	2002	1
Chris McDermott	2002	2
Francis Leach	2002	2
Matthew Campbell	2002	7
Gary Lyon	2002	4
<i>Peter Larkin (Dr)</i>	2002	2
Robert Walls	2002	12
<b>Tim Gossage</b>	2002	3
Peter Daicos	2002	1
Russell Greene	2002	1
Lachlan Reid	2002	1
Bill McDonald	2002	1
Rod Jameson	2002	1

Brian Taylor	2002	71
James Brayshaw	2002	3
Michael Roberts	2002	1
Anthony Mithen	2002	4
Dwayne Russell	2002	48
<b>Eddie McGuire</b>	2002	6
Matthew Richardson	2002	99
<i>Christie Malthouse</i>	2003	1
Terry Wallace	2003	1
Andrew Maher	2004	2
Michael Christian	2004	5
Mick Malthouse	2004	4
Luke Darcy	2005	66
Brad McEwan	2005	1
David Schwartz	2007	3
Corey Wingard	2007	2
Alastair Lynch	2007	22
David King	2007	38
Ricky Olarensaw	2007	3
Danny Frawley	2007	14
Quentin Hull	2007	1
Leigh Colbert	2008	7
Liam Pickering	2008	3
Mark Howard	2009	3
Rohan Smith	2009	2
<b>Kelly Underwood</b>	2009	2
Glen Jakovich	2010	4
Matthew Lloyd	2010	1
Tom Harley	2010	21
Mark Ricciuto	2011	12
Wayne Schwass	2011	1
Rodney Eade	2012	2
Cameron Ling	2012	94
Brad Johnson	2012	21
<b>Basil Zempilas</b>	2012	30
<b>Hamish McLaughlin</b>	2012	32
Jonathan Brown	2012	21
Brett Kirk	2012	3
Cameron Mooney	2013	20
Michael O'Laughlin	2013	1
Nick Maxwell	2013	8

Barry Hall	2013	16
Jude Bolton	2014	9
Wayne Carey	2014	42
Andrew Welsh	2014	14
Mark Soderstrom	2015	9
Jason Bennett	2015	4
Brad Sewell	2015	4
Ben Dixon	2016	10
Adam Papalia	2016	8
Brett Phillips	2016	1
Matt Granland	2016	1
Peter Bell	2016	3
Matthew Pavlich	2017	9
<b>Brenton Speed</b>	2017	3
Brian Lake	2017	3
Daisy Pearce	2017	3
Jimmy Bartell	2017	1
Luke Hodge	2017	2
Nick dal Santo	2017	4
Sarah Jones	2018	1