

Docker



Official Magazine of Fremantle Football Club www.fremantlefc.com.au Edition 3, September 2008 \$3.95 inc GST



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TEAM STORE

End of Season Sale

**Fremantle
AND
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50% off
selected
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A new Team Store is now open at Subiaco Oval, located at Gate 13 on Roberts Road.

Opening hours for the Team Store at Subiaco Oval:

Monday-Friday: 9.00am-5.00pm Every Saturday: 9.00am-1.00pm

Opening hours for the Team Store at Fremantle Oval:

Monday-Friday: 9.00am-5.00pm Closed Saturday

This offer is available until 31 October 2008. Keep an eye on www.fremantlefc.com.au for future offers.

16

We Salute You
Jeff Farmer

22

Our Rising Star
Rhys Palmer was rewarded for his stellar season, named the 2008 NAB AFL Rising Star

38

Triumph and tragedy – an AFL journey

The path to cracking the AFL can be a tough road to hoe

46

Kidzone

The fun place for kids – just for the kids

- 4 Hero Poster**
Luke McPharlin
- 5 Introducing new CEO, Steve Rosich**
- 6 Purple News**
News from around the club
- 8 We Salute You**
Shaun McManus
- 10 We Salute You**
Peter Bell
- 12 Round by Round**
All the stats from rounds 15-22
- 16 We Salute You**
Jeff Farmer
- 18 We Salute You**
Heath Black
- 20 Season statistics**
All the stats for the season
- 21 Milestones**
Rounds 15-22
- 22 Our Rising Star**
Rhys Palmer was rewarded for his stellar season, named the 2008 NAB AFL Rising Star
- 24 2008 State of Origin**
- 25 Peter Bell/
Shaun McManus**
Your pull-out reversible hero poster
- 29 In 1998...**
Docker goes back into the archives to look at season 1998
- 29 For the Diary**
Club Events
- 30 We Salute You**
Mark Johnson
- 32 We Salute You**
Luke Webster
- 34 A Word From Our Sponsors**
- 36 Strategic Partners**
- 37 Member News**
- 38 Triumph and tragedy – an AFL journey**
The path to cracking the AFL can be a tough road to hoe
- 40 Member Rewards**
Great deals exclusive to club members
- 44 Hero Poster**
Ryan Crowley
- 45 Community Goals**
Your club in the community through Community Goals
- 46 KidZone**
Just for kids
- 48 Hero Poster**
Roger Hayden
- 49 Community Development Programme**
Fremantle delivering key initiatives to the WA community and abroad

FREMANTLE FOOTBALL CLUB LTD
Docker – Official Magazine of the Fremantle Football Club. Edition 3, September 2008

Parry Street, Fremantle WA 6160
P.O. Box 381, Fremantle WA 6959
Administration:
T (08) 9433 7000 F (08) 9433 7001
Membership: T (08) 9433 7111
Marketing: F (08) 9433 7002
fremantlefc@fremantlefc.com.au
www.fremantlefc.com.au

A Product of the Fremantle Football Club Communications Department. Writers: Katie Mitchinson, Andrew Bousfield & Luke Morfesse.
Email: media@fremantlefc.com.au

Design & Production
Scout Creative
1 Wing Court
Maylands WA 6051
T (08) 9371 8257
scout@scoutcreative.com.au
www.scoutcreative.com.au

Printing
Lamb Print
9 Robertson Street
Perth WA 6000
T (08) 9427 3500

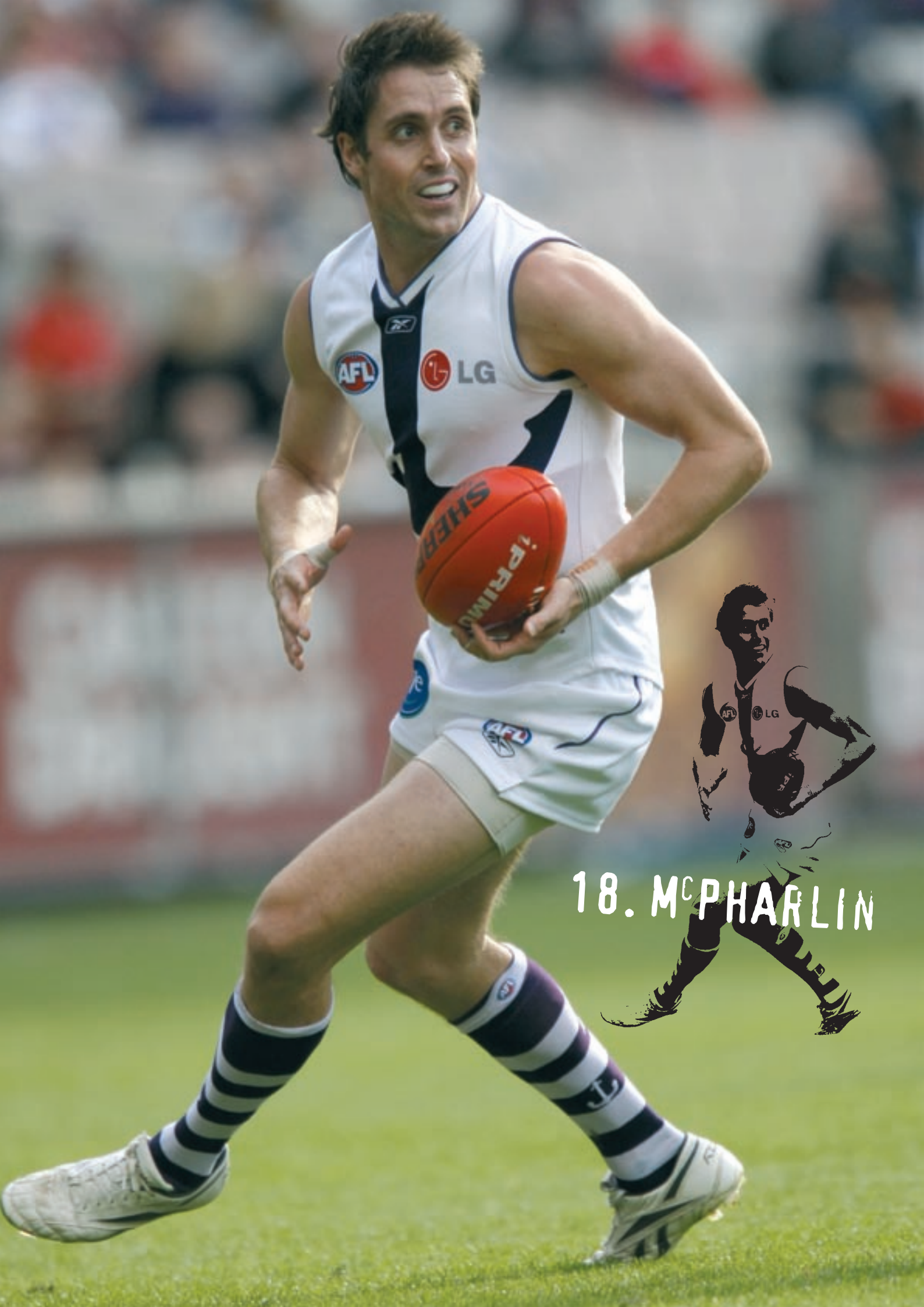
Inserts And Flysheet Advertising

Communications Department, Fremantle Football Club

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Photography: AFL Photos and Fremantle Football Club

Back Cover photo: Daniel Wilkins Photography 0433 410 818



18. McPHARLIN

Introducing new CEO, Steve Rosich

I AM VERY excited to accept the responsibility of being only the third Chief Executive Officer in Fremantle's 14-year history.

I am proud of our club and what we have achieved off-field through the support of our members, and I am relishing the challenge of achieving our aim of sustained on-field success.

Important to that aim is reinvigorating our playing list via the National Draft, where we will have six or more selections later this year. This focus has resulted in a significant number of retirements during and at the completion of season 2008.

As you will see elsewhere in this edition of *Docker*, we pay tribute to the seven players who have called an end to their football careers this season. We will also be saluting the retired players at the Doig Medal Presentation Dinner on Saturday 4 October in the Burswood Grand Ballroom.

I would also like to personally acknowledge the significant contribution made to the club in their collective 841 games for Fremantle by Shaun McManus, Peter Bell, Jeff Farmer, Heath Black, Matthew Carr, Luke Webster and Mark Johnson.

Since being appointed CEO on 25 July, I have been working closely with Senior Coach Mark Harvey and Chris Bond, whom I recently appointed as General Manager of Football Operations.

We are striving to ensure that we have the best structures, staff and resources in place to prepare for the influx of new young players and provide the entire playing group with the first class environment required to achieve sustained on-field success.

Unfortunately, we have not been at the required levels in these areas to date.

Our focus will result in a number of changes in staff and resources across several areas, including coaching, player development, sports science, medical operations and player welfare.

Like everyone associated with the club, I share in your disappointment of not meeting expectations for on-field results in 2008. However, I do take some confidence out of securing four wins from our last seven games and we can all take heart from the development of our young players.

The willingness of the coaching staff to give our younger players increased opportunities this season has seen the emergence of Rhys Palmer (20 games in 2008), Garrick Ibbotson (19), Chris Mayne (17), Clayton Hinkley (5) and the continued improvement of players such as Byron Schammer, Paul Duffield and Marcus Drum.



Rhys Palmer's outstanding arrival on the AFL scene saw him cap off his stellar debut season by winning the NAB AFL Rising Star Award and being named the AFL Players Association Best First Year Player.

The continued strength, skill and consistency displayed by our more experienced (but still young) leaders in Matthew Pavlich, Luke McPharlin, Aaron Sandilands, Michael Johnson, Ryan Crowley and Roger Hayden ensures that our younger and developing players will have plenty of support in 2009.

Our focus continues to be on building a club that can support a talented playing group and achieve our aim of sustained on-field success. Of course, such success is not possible without the support of our proud, loyal and passionate members.

Fremantle's home games, which were sold out regularly in 2008, were attended by a vibrant and passionate crowd that created a fantastic environment for our players.

This sets us apart from other clubs in the competition.

In the meantime, I hope you enjoy your football "off-season", while everyone here at the Fremantle Football Club continues to look towards the challenges and opportunities of the 2009 season with great anticipation.

We can't wait!

Steve Rosich, Chief Executive Officer



Senior Coach Mark Harvey
and General Manager
of Football Operations
Chris Bond



2008 Member Elections

NOMINATIONS WILL be sought in early October for one of the two member-elected representatives on the Board of Directors of the Fremantle Football Club. Each of the club's two member-elected Board representatives are appointed for a two-year term. David Garic's term expires on 30 November 2008. Ben Allan is the second of the two member-elected representatives, and his term expires in 2009.

The ballot will once again be conducted by an independent body and will be conducted in both on-line and postal format. Eligible club members will receive all information on the election directly from the independent body managing the ballot process. The club will have no other role in the ballot other than to supply the current names and postal addresses of voting club members as at 30 September 2008.

It is therefore important that the club has every member's current postal address. If your postal details have changed during the last twelve months please notify the club in writing before 30 September 2008.

Full details of the election procedures and important dates will be posted on the club's website, www.fremantlefc.com.au.

Voting is only open to eligible club members that are fully paid up as at 30 September 2008. It is important that members retain their 2008 Membership Card as the membership number may be required in order to complete the voting procedures.

The 2008 Members Meeting will be held in late November 2008 and members will be posted a Notice of Meeting. This is the annual meeting

for members at which the results of the 2008 elections will be announced for the member elected representative to the Board of Directors of the Fremantle Football Club. Members are encouraged to visit the club's website where election and Members Meeting details will be regularly updated.

As in any election, members may only vote once, whether members choose to vote through the Internet or by post. All members will be provided with detailed voting instructions for both methods of voting to ensure all votes received are valid.

Please note that a Voting Club Member does not include Associate Members or any member under the age of 18.

CPA acknowledges Jeff Farmer



AS PART of the celebrations for Cerebral Palsy Awareness Week which ran in August, the association presented Community Excellence Awards to a number of local individuals, businesses and service providers to acknowledge their outstanding support for people with CP and Jeff Farmer was one of the recipients.

Jeff was nominated by Ian Hett, an avid Fremantle supporter and CP sufferer, for 'going the extra mile' for a person with CP.

"I've been associated with the Cerebral Palsy charity for a long time, which is where I met Ian," Jeff said.

"Two years ago we had a wheelie

challenge at Fremantle Oval and Ian and a few other guys were there for the day and it was a fantastic morning. Myself and Groves (Antoni Grover) were able to get into some of the motorised wheelchairs and have a bit of a race around Fremantle Oval with the guys. They certainly showed us a thing or two.

"I always say you treat people the way you'd like to be treated. These guys are no different. They've been dealt a very tough hand but you see the way they go about life and the excitement, happiness and the joy that they show and it is a privilege to be associated with them, as well as an honour to be the recipient of an award like this." 🍷



Pavlich and Palmer rewarded

MATTHEW PAVLICH and Rhys Palmer were rewarded for their outstanding efforts in Season 2008 when they took out the Midland Brick Fremantle player of the year prize, which was run by Channel Ten's The Western Front. Shaun McManus was on hand to present the winners' cheques to Matthew and Rhys who tied for the honour which saw the players receive \$5000 each from

Midland Brick's General Manager Tom Guthrie.

It was the second accolade in as many days for Rhys Palmer, who had just flown in from Melbourne after receiving the prestigious NAB AFL Rising Star award the night before. Congratulations to Rhys and Matthew and thanks must also go to Midland Brick and The Western Front for their support in season 2008. 🍷

Rhys rated number one

RHYS PALMER claimed his second revered award in as many weeks in September when he was named the AFL Players' Association Best First Year Player.

The award came less than a week after his outstanding debut season was acknowledged by being named the 2008 NAB AFL Rising Star, winning the Ron Evans Medal ahead of Hawthorn's Cyril Rioli, Richmond's Trent Cotchin and Melbourne's Cale Morton.

The always hotly contested AFLPA Best First Year Player award recognises the difficulties that first year players must overcome. Palmer picked up 252 votes to win from Rioli (167) and Cotchin (80).

The AFLPA awards are highly regarded by the players because they are the only awards voted on by the players themselves.



THANKS TO ME Bank, FREMANTLE TV (FTV) showcased plenty of behind the scenes action in season 2008.

Des 'DJ' Headland hosted the high-rating shows like ANSWER THIS, FREQ CONFIDENTIAL & DJ ON THE PROWL where the players were thrown under the spotlight for FTV viewers to enjoy.

FTV highlights included coverage of the AFL Community Camp in Albany, UP CLOSE with Kevin Sheedy and interviews with past players for the club's 300th game.

FTV also brought viewers the "exclusive story of the year" when Des Headland brought us MOBILE DJ from his hospital bed immediately following his knee surgery, thanks to BigPond.

Thanks to all FTV viewers for tuning in, we look forward bringing you an action packed line up on FTV in 2009 – stay tuned! 🍷

8 and 32 – Our heroes

Own your own piece of Shaun McManus and Peter Bell memorabilia.

See the hero posters in the centre of the magazine and contact the Team Store on (08) 9433 7192 for more details on how you can own this special piece of memorabilia.



Art for kids sake

Matthew Pavlich showed off his artistic flair at an art workshop with the children at Princess Margaret Hospital recently when he put brush to canvas for the Starlight Celebrity Portraiture Prize competition.

THE ART workshops are being held for the adolescent patients, which are run to encourage young patients to discover their artistic talents and showcase their creativity.

The patients have the opportunity to paint the portraits of ten WA celebrities including our very own Matthew Pavlich and Chris Tarrant, or the likes of Rove McManus and Channel 9 weather presenter Angela Tsun, with all art pieces entered into the 'Youth Portraiture Awards' which raises money for the Starlight Children's Foundation.

With a bit of help from the children during the workshops, Matthew painted singer John Butler (and the results speak for themselves!) before he made a special visit to the Starlight Express Room where the Captains dressed him in feathers!

Congratulations to everyone involved with the 'Youth Portraiture Awards' competition. All the children's artwork is to be commended and Matthew's masterpiece also fetched a great result for Starlight. ☺



Pavlich – the Best in the West

CLUB CAPTAIN Matthew Pavlich was named *The West Australian* Newspapers Footballer of the Year earlier this month.

Matthew finished the vote count with 33 votes to claim the win by the barest of margins over West Coast ruckman Dean Cox. 2008 NAB AFL Rising Star Rhys Palmer rounded out the top three with 21 votes.

Votes were cast 3,2,1 by *The West Australian's* football reporters following each match involving Fremantle and West Coast throughout the 2008 Toyota AFL Season.



Photo courtesy of The West Australian

Sandilands hits 646 for asthma

THE 'HELP Aaron Knock-Out Asthma' campaign, run through the Asthma Foundation of WA, saw Aaron Sandilands finish the 2008 season with 646 hit-outs!

The campaign fundraised just over \$50,000 for the Asthma Foundation of WA thanks to the support of major partner Rick Hart who ran a promotion where customers had to guess the number of hit-outs Aaron would make in season 2008. Congratulations to Ms Terri Hutt from Harvey who won with a guess of 645... just one off! Terri wins a trip for two to Broome, staying at Moonlight Bay Suites.

Asthma Foundation of WA CEO John Gummer (pictured with Aaron) said "We are very grateful that a sporting identity as recognisable as Aaron Sandilands has fronted this initiative. The funds and awareness raised through campaigns such as this help the Asthma Foundation to deliver services and programs to support the 240,000 Western Australians living with asthma". ☺



THE PERTH ROYAL Show is in town from 27 September until 4 October at the Claremont Showgrounds, so don't miss your opportunity to get your hands on the ever-popular Fremantle Showbag!

Great value at just \$18 the Fremantle Showbag will be available from the Fremantle Team Store van, which will be located on Mitchell Ave, just inside the Gate 5 entrance at the Claremont Showgrounds.

So head to the Royal Show and make sure you get in fast as the Fremantle Showbags are sure to sell out quickly! All the latest Fremantle merchandise will also be available to purchase.



Team Store NOW at Subiaco Oval

ALL SUPPORTERS are encouraged to visit the Team Store at Subiaco Oval which is located at Gate 13 on Roberts Road.

Members and supporters are invited to come down and save at the end of season sale with up to 50% discount offered on selected items.

The new Team Store will be open Monday to Saturday and has the full range of Fremantle merchandise including official Reebok on-field apparel, accessories, glassware, footballs, shorts, socks, jumpers and memorabilia in stock.

Please note, the club's Team Store located at Fremantle Oval will continue to trade as normal and is also having an end of season sale.

Opening hours for the Team Store at Subiaco Oval:

Monday-Friday: 9.00am-5.00pm

Every Saturday: 9.00am-1.00pm

Opening hours for the Team Store at Fremantle Oval:

Monday-Friday: 9.00am-5.00pm

Roll up, roll up for a Fremantle Showbag

SHAUN McMANUS

Round 18 saw the curtain come down on the career of the 'heart and soul' of the Fremantle Football Club when veteran and inaugural squad member Shaun McManus announced his retirement after 228 AFL matches.



Shaun McManus fact file

Date of Birth	09/02/1976
Nickname	Macca
Height	181cm
Weight	81kg
Games for FFC	228
Finals Games	4
Goals for FFC	95
Debut for FFC	1995
Recruited From	East Fremantle
WAFL Club	East Fremantle

PLAYING HONOURS

AFL Rising Star nominee	1995
Fremantle Co-Captain	2000-01
WA State of Origin team	1995, 2003
Fremantle FC Best Clubman	2002

CAREER STATISTICS

Kicks	2282
Handballs	1506
Marks	923
Goals	95
Tackles	564

THE DECISION to end his career following Carlton Mid Derby XXVIII, the 22nd Derby he appeared in, brought to a close a career that stretched back 14 seasons to 1995 when he played his first match against Footscray in Round 5 of the club's AFL debut year.

Shaun's opportunity to savour his final match for Fremantle started well before the ball had been bounced on Sunday 3 August. Team mates from years gone by were invited into the changerooms before the match to witness Shaun's last pre-game routine before forming a guard of honour and applauding him as he made his way up the players' race and onto Subiaco Oval where he was met by his partner Meegan and sons Lachlan, Cooper and Oliver as well as an appreciative Fremantle home crowd determined to ensure Shaun's entry to the arena was as rapturous as possible.

Fremantle claimed the four premiership points over West Coast on the day, recording a 17.14 (116) to 12.11 (83) victory and its 10th Carlton Mid Derby win. But the day will forever belong to Fremantle's favourite son, whose 21 possessions each received a rousing ovation from the 42,096 strong home crowd.

FAIRYTALE FINISH

After the match, Shaun said his send off game could not have been scripted any better.

"It was a fairytale. Earlier in the week I asked the boys for a special effort for me and they came through, they really did," Shaun said.

Arguably the most popular player amongst Fremantle's proud, loyal and passionate supporter base, Shaun took an emotional lap of honour after the game, running the Subiaco Oval boundary with his son and teammates.

"It meant the world to me," he said.

"The supporters came out in droves, they have always been behind me through thick and thin and I really appreciated them staying until the end. It was just a great moment.

"I think that I've really, really given my heart and soul to this club and I'm not sure that anyone before me has. I know I've really, really put myself into this club. I've let everybody know

what type of person I am and I've let them into my life."

Shaun's career was one built on courage, passion, commitment, sheer hard work and a steely resolve to overcome adversity.

Two career threatening anterior cruciate ligament injuries and the reconstructive surgery that followed had the gritty midfielder questioning his future in 1997 and 1998, as did his stretch with East Fremantle in the WAFL in 2005.

But when it would have been all too easy to give it away, Shaun put his head down and did what he has always done best, working his way back into Fremantle's starting 22.

He entered 2007 on the back of arguably his best season in the AFL, playing a key role in the club's push to the Preliminary Final in 2006.

Shaun was one of just five players to play in each of Fremantle's 22 matches in 2007, more than justifying the club's offer for him to play on in 2008 to become the club's longest serving player with 14 years service at Fremantle.

FREO THROUGH AND THROUGH

Club Captain Matthew Pavlich said the 32-year-old father of three embodied all that is Fremantle.

"When you think Shaun McManus, you think Fremantle," he said.

"Shaun is a passionate, hard working professional who places enormous value on mateship, loyalty and integrity.

"When I first arrived at the club nine years ago, Shaun was someone who really embraced me and all the Eastern States players as much as the West Australian players."

Acknowledging his return to the game after two knee reconstructions, Matthew said Shaun's leadership, determination and tenacity were inspirational.

"Shaun has always played the game with a ferocity that few other players have matched," he said.

Senior coach Mark Harvey said Shaun's desire to compete, ability to win the contested ball and ferocious tackling always impressed at the selection table.

"On the field, Shaun is one of those guys who never gives up, no matter what the circumstances," he said.

"Off the field he's the type of person who helps build and maintain a football club because he revels in and promotes camaraderie.

"Shaun is probably the most passionate guy I've seen when it comes to the Fremantle Football Club.

"When they write the history of Fremantle, Shaun will be chapter one."

Chief executive officer Steve Rosich said Shaun's courage, determination and commitment to the Fremantle Football Club could not be over stated.

"There isn't a player who has connected with Fremantle members and supporters more so than Shaun McManus," he said.

"We are proud that Shaun has played such an integral part in our first 14 years as an AFL club, and we look forward to maintaining an association with Shaun that goes well beyond his playing career." 📺



**“When they write the
history of Fremantle,
Shaun will be chapter one.”**
—Mark Harvey

PETER BELL

Peter Bell's brilliant career saw him establish himself as arguably the finest player to wear the club's jumper and one of the greatest players ever produced in WA.

SADLY FOR THE Fremantle faithful, Peter brought down the curtain on a stellar 286-game career after Round 14 this season, his last outing against Essendon and he finished in style with 20 disposals and amassing a career high 11 tackles.

Since his debut for Fremantle in Round 1, 1995 he has gone on to forge a career that has delivered success at both a personal and team level.

A dual premierships player with the Kangaroos in 1996 and 1999, Peter returned to Fremantle in 2001 and captained the club from 2002 to 2006.

During his 13-year career, the 32-year-old twice won All-Australian selection and is a three time winner of Fremantle's best and fairest award the Doig Medal.

A former president of the AFL Players Association, Peter is a life member of both the Fremantle Football Club and the AFL.

A DIFFICULT DECISION

Peter said hanging up the boots was a difficult decision given how much he loves football and the club but would walk away with plenty of fond memories.

"The premierships at the Kangaroos are pretty special as that's what you play footy for, winning our first final here at Fremantle, and I guess just the mateship and the laughs as it's a terrific environment to be a part of for such a long period of time and that's what you remember," Peter said.

A very humble individual, Peter was quite coy about how he'd like to be remembered by the football world.

"Well, I'm not dead (laughs)! I guess I'd like to think people will remember my time in football as someone who gave everything he had and I can honestly say I think I have done that."

Mark Harvey said that Peter had battled hardship to forge an outstanding AFL career.

"Knowing where he has come from and what he has gone through as a footballer, you can't help but be full of admiration for what he has achieved," Mark said.

"He's probably the best player I've seen think through a game and finish up what I call undressing the opposition. He was sensational at that.

"He brought everything to the table. I don't see that in a lot of players."

GREATEST EVER PLAYER

Matthew Pavlich, who took over the captaincy from Peter, said there was no doubt that the triple Doig Medal winner is Fremantle's greatest ever player.

"He's our most decorated player, a fantastic leader and a champion person," Matthew said.

"Peter took over as a captain of the club when it was at its lowest point and took us into a preliminary final."



Describing him as strong willed and strong minded, Matthew said Peter was held in the highest regard by everyone at the club and by Fremantle's loyal and passionate supporters.

"In almost every game I played in it was alongside Peter Bell and that was an enormous privilege and I certainly noticed not having him run out alongside me in the second half of the season," he said.

"You just knew that every week he would perform, no matter what the circumstances."

Born in Korea and adopted by his parents Jo and Kevin and raised in Kojonup, Peter's career is arguably one of football's greatest ever stories.

He has an abundance of achievements in life both on and off the football field. Peter qualified as a lawyer while playing football at the highest level and is a dual premierships player.

He is hugely popular with supporters and players alike, as he was an inspirational leader of the Fremantle Football Club.

In an indication of the consistent footballer that he was, between 1999 and 2006, along with his three Doig medals, he also finished in the top two in the club's fairest and best award on three occasions and finished third in 2007.

Despite standing only 175cm in stature, Peter made such a big impact in the game. Peter's football and athletic ability were sometimes under-rated but he combined consistency, enormous courage and great leadership to be a genuine champion of the game and of the Fremantle Football Club. 🏆

Peter Bell fact file

Date of Birth	01/03/1976
Nickname	Belly
Height	175cm
Weight	85kg
Games for FFC	163
Games for other clubs	123
AFL Games Total	286
Finals Games	16
Goals for FFC	130
AFL Goals Total	250

PLAYING HONOURS

AFL Rising Star Nominee 1996
Kangaroos Premierships sides 1996, 1999
Kangaroos Pre-Season Premierships side 1998
International Rules series 1999
All-Australian 1999, 2003
Kangaroos Best & Fairest winner 2000
Kangaroos Best & Fairest runner-up 1999
Fremantle Doig Medal 2001, 2003, 2004
Fremantle Doig Medal Runner-up 2002, 2005, 2006
Fremantle Captain 2002-2006
WA State of Origin 2002 (vice captain), 2003 (captain), 2004 (captain), 2005, 2006 (captain), 2007
AFL Life Member (2007)
Fremantle Football Club 150 Games and Life Membership (2007)
Games record for most games played by a Western Australian in the VFL/AFL (2008)

CAREER STATISTICS

Kicks	3818 (2209 Fremantle, 1609 Kangaroos)
Handballs	2703 (1721 Fremantle, 982 Kangaroos)
Marks	1090 (715 Fremantle, 375 Kangaroos)
Goals	As listed above
Tackles	700 (477 Fremantle, 223 Kangaroos)





“He’s our most decorated player,
a fantastic leader and
a champion person.”
—Matthew Pavlich

Round by Round

ROUND 15 v GEELONG

Saturday 12 July 2008, Skilled Stadium, 12.10pm

Fremantle	2.1	2.4	5.7	6.8	(44)
Geelong	4.2	7.7	13.10	18.10	(118)

Goals: Tarrant 3

Kicks: Pavlich 16

Handballs: Mi Johnson 14

Disposals: Palmer 22

Marks: Tarrant 9

Tackles: Crowley, Dodd, Palmer, Peake 4

Crowd: 21,286



ROUND 16 v MELBOURNE

Sunday 20 July 2008, Subiaco Oval, 2.40pm

Fremantle	0.2	5.9	11.15	16.18	(114)
Melbourne	5.1	6.3	7.5	10.8	(68)

Goals: Pavlich 5

Kicks: Schammer 16

Handballs: Pavlich 14

Disposals: Pavlich 28

Marks: Pavlich 9

Tackles: Mi Johnson 7

Crowd: 31,638

Milestone:

Matthew Pavlich most consecutive games

Round 15 2001-Round 16 2008: 160

consecutive games



ROUND 17 v PORT ADELAIDE

Sunday 27 July 2008, AAMI Stadium, 11.10am

Fremantle	6.3	8.6	15.9	20.9	(129)
Port Adelaide	0.3	6.5	11.6	15.11	(101)

Goals: Ma Johnson 3

Kicks: Crowley 20

Handballs: Palmer 18

Disposals: Palmer 31

Marks: Crowley, Mi Johnson 8

Tackles: Schammer 7

Crowd: 19,072

Milestones:

Byron Schammer 100 AFL/FFC games

Most goalkickers in a game – 16 (Carr, Crowley, Grover, Head, Ibbotson, Ma Johnson, Mayne, McManus, McPharlin, Mundy, Murphy, Palmer, Peake, Sandilands, Tarrant, Thornton)



ROUND 18 v WEST COAST

Sunday 3 August 2008, Subiaco Oval, 2.40pm

Fremantle	9.2	13.5	17.10	17.14	(116)
West Coast	4.1	6.6	10.7	12.11	(83)

Goals: McPharlin 5

Kicks: Pavlich 17

Handballs: Peake, Carr 12

Disposals: Schammer 24

Marks: McManus 10

Tackles: Schammer 8

Crowd: 42,096

Milestones:

228 FFC/AFL Games – Shaun McManus

(2nd on FFC's games record list 1995-2008)

Equal best first quarter 9.2 (56)



Round by Round

ROUND 19 v SYDNEY

Saturday 9 August 2008, SCG, 7.10pm

Fremantle	3.5	8.8	10.13	15.18	(108)
Sydney	2.4	7.6	13.8	17.10	(112)

Goals: Bradley 3

Kicks: Pavlich 22

Handballs: Palmer 12

Disposals: Pavlich 27

Marks: Tarrant, Pavlich 9

Tackles: Mundy 9

Crowd: 20,846



ROUND 20 v ST KILDA

Sunday 17 August 2008, Subiaco Oval, 2.40pm

Fremantle	4.3	7.4	8.11	9.15	(69)
St Kilda	3.5	6.6	13.9	17.10	(112)

Goals: Pavlich, Campbell 3

Kicks: Palmer 17

Handballs: Grover 15

Disposals: Palmer 30

Marks: Palmer 9

Tackles: Duffield 6

Crowd: 34,014



ROUND 21 v RICHMOND

Saturday 23 August 2008, MCG, 12.10pm

Fremantle	5.1	10.3	13.5	15.8	(98)
Richmond	3.6	8.8	11.12	15.15	(105)

Goals: Ma Johnson 3

Kicks: Duffield, Hayden 18

Handballs: Duffield 10

Disposals: Hayden 25

Marks: Hayden 12

Tackles: Thornton, Hayden 5

Crowd: 24,881

Milestone: Mark Johnson 100 AFL goals



ROUND 22 v COLLINGWOOD

Friday 29 August 2008, Subiaco Oval, 6.40pm

Fremantle	5.0	7.1	9.7	12.8	(80)
Collingwood	1.4	4.5	6.6	8.8	(56)

Goals: Farmer, Bradley 3

Kicks: Palmer 18

Handballs: Mayne 12

Disposals: Palmer 27

Marks: McPharlin 11

Tackles: Carr 8

Crowd: 35,106

Milestones: Des Headland 100 FFC games

Jeff Farmer 483 career goals – the most of any Indigenous player in VFL/AFL history





“ Jeff has always played an exciting brand of football and been a favourite of members and supporters since he joined Fremantle... ”
—Steve Rosich

JEFF FARMER



Jeff “The Wizard” Farmer has called to an end one of the most entertaining and brilliant careers. His record of 483 career goals is the most kicked by an Indigenous player in the history of the VFL/AFL, while his tally of 224 goals for Fremantle ranks him second in the club’s all time goal kicking records.

ADORED BY faithful fans as ‘the Wiz’, Jeff made a name for himself throughout his 14 year career as a dangerous goal sneak capable of executing freakishly accurate displays in front of goal.

Born and bred in Tambellup, Jeff burst onto the AFL scene with Melbourne in 1995 and he played seven games in his debut season before earning a Rising Star nomination the following year when he added a further 19 matches to his tally and was named as one of the finalists for Goal of the Year.

He booted 47 goals in 1998 as the Demons rose from the wooden spoon to a Preliminary Final and took out the Goal of the Year for a length-of-the-field run against Hawthorn.

PRODIGIOUS TALENT

Jeff finished runner-up in Mark of the Year voting for his leap over Garry Lyon in the final round of the season and represented Australia in the inaugural International Rules series later that year.

He gave the AFL world a reminder of his prodigious talent in 2006. His 55 goals were the most he had kicked in a season since coming to Fremantle at the end of 2001, and the most since his All-Australian season of 2000 when he booted 76 for the year.

Jeff’s goal kicking exploits were a big factor behind Fremantle’s rise to its first ever preliminary final in 2006.

Senior Coach Mark Harvey said it was always

a difficult time for player to call an end to their career.

“Jeff has made a great contribution to the game throughout his career and has been one of those players who people come to watch at the footy,” he said.

Chief Executive Officer Steve Rosich also praised Jeff’s contribution to Fremantle and the game.

“Jeff has always played an exciting brand of football and been a favourite of members and supporters since he joined Fremantle in 2002.”

“The club looks forward to assisting Jeff with his transition from full-time football to the next stage of his career.

“We will work with Jeff and his management to provide an opportunity for Fremantle members and supporters to acknowledge Jeff’s career.”

CHILDHOOD DREAM

Always the gentleman, Jeff Farmer was gracious in departure, thanking both his former clubs, Fremantle and Melbourne for the opportunity to play at the highest level, his team mates for the camaraderie they provided and the loyalty and support of his many fans.

“I am grateful and feel privileged to have played for so long at the highest level of the game,” Jeff said.

“I’d like to thank both the Fremantle and Melbourne football clubs for the opportunities they have given me to fulfil my childhood dream.

Jeff Farmer fact file

Date of Birth	24/06/1977
Nickname	Wiz
Height	175cm
Weight	78kg
Games for FFC	131
Games for other clubs	118
AFL Games Total	249
Finals Games	10
Goals for FFC	224
AFL Goals Total	483
Debut for FFC	2002
Recruited From	Melbourne
WAFL Club	South Fremantle

PLAYING HONOURS

AFL Rising Star nominee 1996

International Rules series 1998

All-Australian 2000

Melbourne leading goalkicker 1997 (equal), 1998 and 2000

WA State of Origin team 2005, 2006

The most goals kicked by an Indigenous player in VFL/AFL history – 483

CAREER STATISTICS

Kicks	1988 (1106 Fremantle, 882 Melbourne)
Handballs	888 (471 Fremantle, 417 Melbourne)
Marks	728 (432 Fremantle, 296 Melbourne)
Goals	As listed above
Tackles	399 (262 Fremantle, 137 Melbourne)



“It is something that I will sorely miss but having said that I’m looking forward to the next phase of my life.

“I will always take a great interest in Fremantle and wish everyone at the club all the very best for the future,” he said.

From the day he pulled on a Fremantle jumper until his last game in round 22, Jeff provided Fremantle supporters with incredible moments of excitement, and his crowd-pleasing antics will be remembered for a long time to come. 📍

HEATH BLACK

Rugged Fremantle defender Heath Black officially announced his retirement from football in August after 192 AFL games.

THE FATHER of two played 138 matches for Fremantle and 54 for St Kilda between 1997 and 2008.

A skilful and damaging left footer, Heath's tenacity and ability to break the lines saw him forge a career as one of Fremantle's most reliable sweeping defenders following his return to the Club in 2005 after three seasons with the Saints.

He officially ended his career after 11 seasons in the game, admitting injuries had finally taken their toll.

"Once I reached the decision, the realisation was quite overwhelming," Heath said.

Heath said one of the things he would miss most in retirement was the camaraderie.

"The camaraderie and those times at training and at the club when you are just hanging with your mates, that's what I'll miss most," he said.

Taken with Fremantle's first selection (no. 12 overall) in the 1996 National Draft, Heath played 15 games in his debut season and earned an AFL Rising Star nomination before injuries kept him to just one game in 1998.

After finishing runner-up to Peter Bell in the 2001 Doig Medal, Heath headed back to Victoria to play with St Kilda. He spent three seasons at Moorabbin, playing finals football in his last year. He sought to be traded back to Fremantle at the end of 2004 and had his wish granted.

He played every game in his first season back at Fremantle, leading the team for most kicks, and in 2006 he played 24 out of a possible 25 games to help steer the club into the finals for the second time, including a Preliminary Final. His ball winning ability that year saw him rank as the club's second leading disposal getter.

Season 2007 had a delayed start due to injury but once he hit the field for Fremantle he picked up where he left off, effectively driving the ball forward from half back with his trade mark, precise left foot kicks. His endeavours around the club and off the field earned him the 2007 Best Clubman Award.

Fremantle chief executive Steve Rosich said knowing when to retire was always a difficult decision for a player.

"It is never an easy decision for any player to reach," he said.

"It is important to acknowledge the contribution that Heath has made to the Fremantle Football Club and the sacrifices he had made as a footballer during his time at the club." ©



Heath Black fact file

Date of Birth	28/05/1979
Nickname	Blacky
Height	178cm
Weight	82kg
Games for FFC	138
Games for other clubs	54
AFL Games Total	192
Finals Games	5
Goals for FFC	61
AFL Goals Total	80
Debut for FFC	1997
Recruited From	St Kilda
WAFL Club	South Fremantle

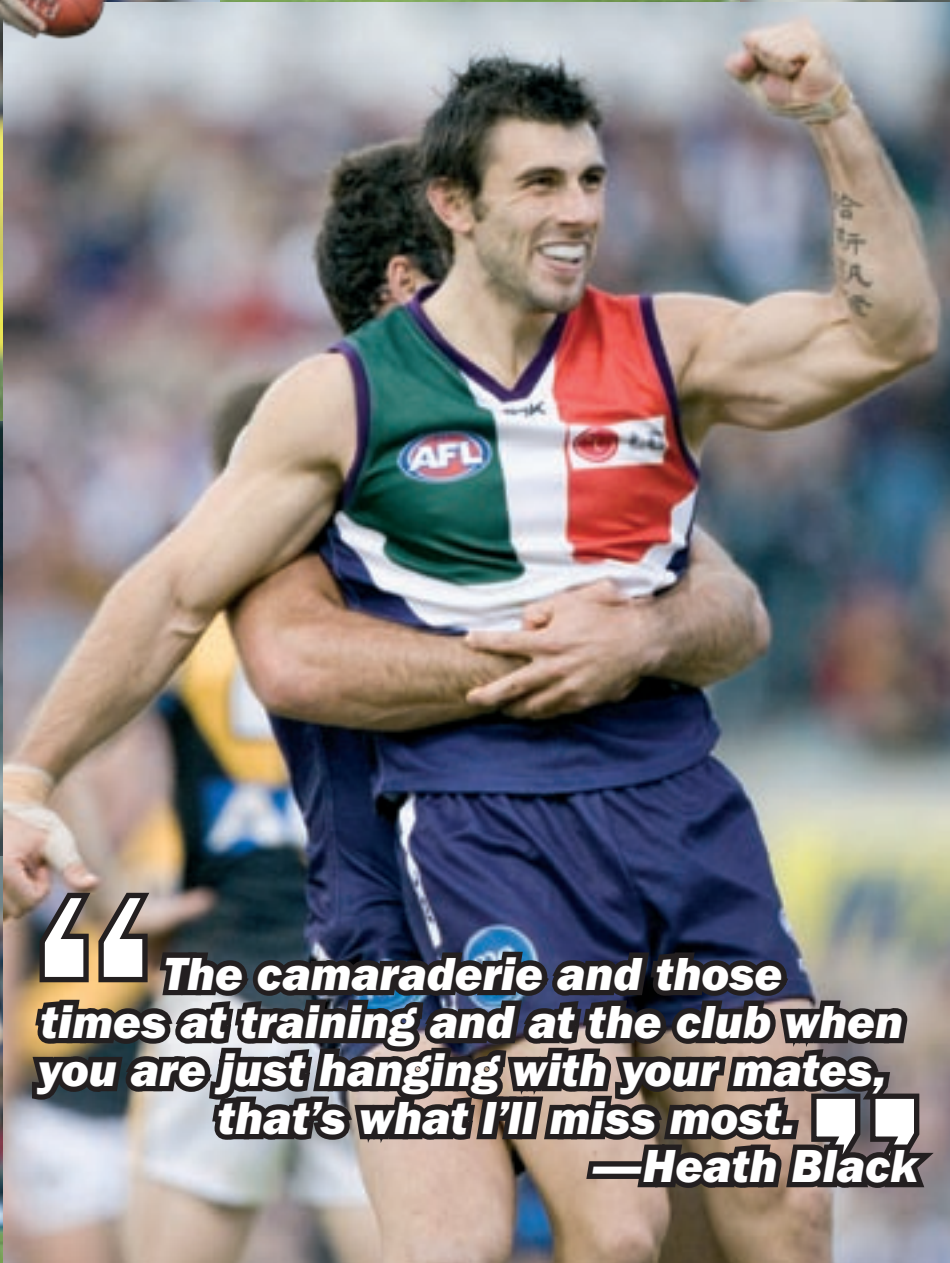
PLAYING HONOURS

Runner-Up Doig Medal 2001
Best Clubman 2007
AFL Rising Star nominee 1997
International Rules series 2005
South Fremantle premiership team 1997

CAREER STATISTICS

Kicks	2406 (1779 Fremantle, 627 St Kilda)
Handballs	1316 (952 Fremantle, 364 St Kilda)
Marks	811 (601 Fremantle, 210 St Kilda)
Goals	As listed above
Tackles	368 (239 Fremantle, 129 St Kilda)





“The camaraderie and those times at training and at the club when you are just hanging with your mates, that’s what I’ll miss most.”
—Heath Black



Season Statistics

STATISTICS AFTER ROUND 22

Ladder Position: 14th
 Ave Winning Margin: 33 pts
 Ave Losing Margin: 20.69 pts
 Ave Score For: 90.36 pts
 Ave Score Against: 96.4 pts

PLAYED ALL 22 GAMES

Ryan Crowley David Mundy
 Aaron Sandilands

THE TOP 5'S

Goals	Total	Avg Per Game
Matthew Pavlich	67	3.52 (19 games)
Chris Tarrant	23	1.43 (16 games)
Jeff Farmer	23	1.15 (20 games)
Luke McPharlin	21	1.05 (20 games)
Kepler Bradley	12	1.33 (9 games)

Disposals	Total	Avg Per Game
Rhys Palmer	462	23.1 (20 games)
Byron Schammer	386	18.4 (21 games)
Michael Johnson	376	18.8 (20 games)
David Mundy	373	16.9 (22 games)
Ryan Crowley	350	15.9 (22 games)

Kicks	Total	Avg Per Game
Rhys Palmer	270	13.5 (20 games)
Matthew Pavlich	263	13.8 (19 games)
Ryan Crowley	216	9.8 (22 games)
David Mundy	209	9.5 (22 games)
Jeff Farmer	206	10.3 (20 games)

Handballs	Total	Avg Per Game
Aaron Sandilands	208	9.4 (22 games)
Rhys Palmer	192	9.6 (20 games)
Byron Schammer	185	8.8 (21 games)
Michael Johnson	172	8.6 (20 games)
David Mundy	164	7.4 (22 games)

Tackles	Total	Avg Per Game
Byron Schammer	88	4.2 (21 games)
Josh Carr	84	4.6 (18 games)
Ryan Crowley	77	3.5 (22 games)
David Mundy	63	2.9 (22 games)
Garrick Ibbotson	49	2.6 (19 games)

Marks	Total	Avg Per Game
Luke McPharlin	142	7.1 (20 games)
Matthew Pavlich	138	7.3 (19 games)
Michael Johnson	125	6.2 (20 games)
Ryan Crowley	106	4.8 (22 games)
David Mundy	106	4.8 (22 games)

Hitouts	Total	Avg Per Game
Aaron Sandilands	646	29.4 (22 games)
Robert Warnock	74	8.2 (9 games)
Kepler Bradley	25	2.8 (9 games)

Frees for	Total	Avg Per Game
Rhys Palmer	34	1.7 (20 games)
Ryan Crowley	32	1.4 (22 games)
Aaron Sandilands	29	1.3 (22 games)
Garrick Ibbotson	28	1.5 (19 games)
Matthew Pavlich	25	1.3 (19 games)

PREMIERSHIP LADDER 2008

	P	W	D	L	F	A	%	Pts
Geelong	22	21	0	1	2672	1651	161.8	84
Hawthorn	22	17	0	5	2434	1846	131.8	68
Western Bulldogs	22	15	1	6	2506	2112	118.7	62
St Kilda	22	13	0	9	2126	1923	110.6	52
Adelaide	22	13	0	9	2017	1838	109.7	52
Sydney	22	12	1	9	2095	1863	112.4	50
North Melbourne	22	12	1	9	2121	2187	97	50
Collingwood	22	12	0	10	2267	2038	111.2	48
Richmond	22	11	1	10	2228	2288	97.4	46
Brisbane	22	10	0	12	2156	2200	98	40
Carlton	22	10	0	12	2217	2354	94.2	40
Essendon	22	8	0	14	2130	2608	81.7	32
Port Adelaide	22	7	0	15	2118	2208	95.9	28
Fremantle	22	6	0	16	1988	2121	93.7	24
West Coast	22	4	0	18	1670	2535	65.9	16
Melbourne	22	3	0	19	1629	2602	62.6	12

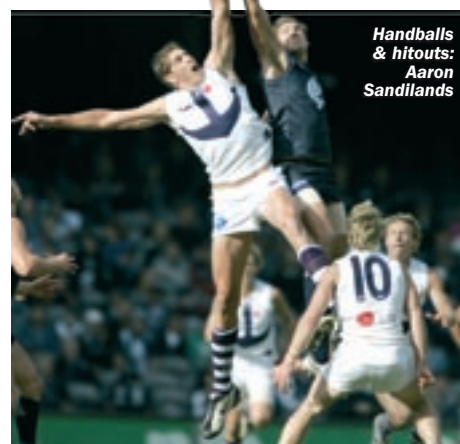


MILESTONES (FROM ROUNDS 15 TO 22)

Byron Schammer – 100 AFL/FFC Games, Round 17 v Port Adelaide, 27 July 2008
 Shaun McManus – 228 AFL/FFC Games, Round 18 v West Coast, 3 August 2008 (2nd on FFC's games record list 1995-2008)
 Mark Johnson – 100 AFL Goals, Round 21 v Richmond, 23 August 2008
 Des Headland – 100 FFC Games, Round 22 v Collingwood, 29 August 2008

FIRSTS

1st AFL Goal – Brock O'Brien, Round 16 v Melbourne, 20 July 2008 at Subiaco Oval



CLUB RECORDS (FROM ROUNDS 15 TO 22)

Matthew Pavlich most consecutive matches for Fremantle Football Club (160 – Round 15, 2001 to Round 16, 2008)

Most individual goal kickers in a match (16 – Carr, Crowley, Grover, Head, Ibbotson, Ma Johnson, Mayne, McManus, McPharlin, Mundy, Murphy, Palmer, Peake, Sandilands, Tarrant, Thornton) Round 17 v Port Adelaide, 27 July 2008

Equal Most Points Scored in a First Quarter – 56, Round 18 v West Coast, 3 August 2008 at Subiaco Oval

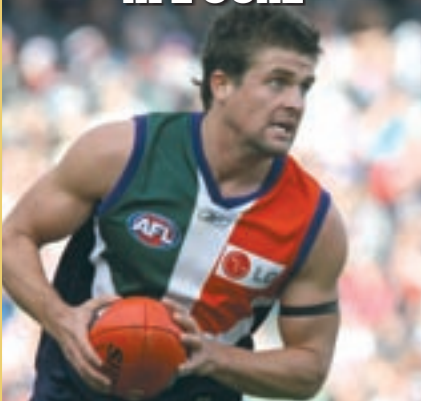
Jeff Farmer 483 career goals – the most of any Indigenous player in VFL/AFL history, Round 22 v Collingwood, 29 August 2008 at Subiaco Oval

160
CONSECUTIVE GAMES



Matthew Pavlich
Round 16 v Melbourne,
20 July 2008 at Subiaco Oval
Most consecutive games played for FFC:
Round 15 2001-Round 16 2008

FIRST
AFL GOAL



Brock O'Brien
Round 16 v Melbourne,
20 July 2008 at Subiaco Oval

100
AFL/FFC GAMES



Byron Schammer
Round 17 v Port Adelaide,
27 July 2008 at AAMI Stadium

Milestones

16
MOST GOALKICKERS
IN A GAME



Carr, Crowley, Grover, Head,
Ibbotson, Ma Johnson, Mayne,
McManus, McPharlin, Mundy,
Murphy, Palmer, Peake,
Sandilands, Tarrant, Thornton
Round 17 v Port Adelaide,
27 July 2008 at AAMI Stadium

228
FFC/AFL GAMES



Shaun McManus
Round 18 v West Coast,
3 August 2008 at Subiaco Oval
2nd on FFC's games record list 1995-2008

100
AFL GOALS



Mark Johnson
Round 21 v Richmond,
23 August 2008 at the MCG

100
FFC GAMES



Des Headland
Round 22 v Collingwood,
29 August 2008 at Subiaco Oval

483rd
AFL GOAL



Jeff Farmer
Round 22 v Collingwood,
29 August 2008 at Subiaco Oval
483 career goals - the most of any
Indigenous player in VFL/AFL history



Rhys Palmer with 2007 NAB AFL Rising Star winner Joel Sellwood

Our Rising Star

Dynamic midfielder Rhys Palmer was rewarded for his brilliant debut season, named the 2008 NAB AFL Rising Star.

RHYS' OUTSTANDING arrival onto the AFL scene saw him finish Season 2008 as Fremantle's leading possession getter with 462 touches – four more than the record of 458 Nathan Buckley set in 1993 when he claimed the honour. He was Fremantle's No. 1 for uncontested possessions and No. 2 for contested possessions, clearances and inside-50s. Couple with that his ability to read the play, run all day, good decision making and deal with the close attention of the league's best taggers and you have a clear cut champion in the making.

The on-baller played 20 of a possible 22 matches in 2008 and was quickly thrust to the front line of Fremantle's midfield ranks following the unavailability of Paul Hasleby and Des Headland and the retirements of Matthew Carr, Peter Bell and Shaun McManus.

Fremantle's star recruit was humbled by the recognition with the 19-year-old admitting that he never expected to cap his season off with any accolades.

"Before the season, it wasn't about how many games I was going to play; I just wanted to really learn and develop my game and if I could play five games, I would be really happy."

WORK HARDER

Looking ahead, Rhys said his focus would be to improve his physical presence, which will be high on the agenda come October when he starts his second gruelling pre-season.

"I really want to get bigger and stronger and faster, so I'll work hard over the pre-season and hopefully next year we can really make something happen."

He said focusing on his role and a continued commitment to his preparations and contribution was how he countered tight-checking opponents, but Rhys knows he has to work even harder next year to improve.

"Backing up next year will all happen over summer for me. You've got to work hard, get into the gym and out on the track to get as fit and strong as possible to be prepared for next season," Rhys said.





Rhys Palmer with parents Dawn and Colin, and sister Brooke



"My whole game needs improving, but my kicking is one thing I need to work on over summer and hopefully I can become a really damaging kicker."

BARKING ORDERS

Mark Harvey was proud to see Rhys receive the award and has marvelled at the burden he wanted to shoulder all season.

"It's been a credit to Rhys that he has been able to sustain what he has done all year and to deal with a lot of other things that first year players don't usually have to," Mark said.

"He has brought it upon himself in many ways to get involved in the game more than I normally see from first year players. That includes barking orders at stoppages as a first year player and to his credit he backs that up with how he plays. We are very happy with what Rhys has done in his first year and hopefully there's more to come."

Taken by Fremantle with its first selection (No. 7 overall) in the 2007 National Draft, Rhys was identified by Fremantle's recruiting staff as the best player available to be drafted last November – a view shared by many football critics around the country following

his stellar performances in the NAB AFL U18 Championships last year. The East Fremantle product averaged 32 disposals and three goals per game for WA at the U18 Carnival, which ensured his selection in the U18 All-Australian team.

In a season that delivered limited team success, Rhys' output, work rate and fearlessness gives the Fremantle faithful reason to celebrate and look towards Season 2009 brimming with confidence in the Club's youth stocks. 🏆



Fab five make State side

FREMANTLE HAD five of its players named in the WA State of Origin team for Season 2008.

Michael Johnson and Aaron Sandilands earned their third selection in as many seasons, with Michael being named on a half-back flank and Aaron as the resting ruckman in the forward pocket.

Luke McPharlin became Fremantle's second most successful State of Origin product by earning his fourth selection in five years. The swingman was named at centre-half back. Classy defender Roger Hayden earned his

second selection in as many years, named in a back pocket.

In his debut AFL season, young gun Rhys Palmer was deemed to be amongst WA's finest 22 players, earning a place on the bench.

Player Development Coach Steve Malaxos said the group's selection reflected their fine seasons.

"Considering we only won six games, five players is a pretty good result for the Fremantle Football Club," Steve said.

"A couple of guys went close to selection like Antoni Grover and Garrick Ibbotson and Peter Bell, had he continued playing, probably would have made the side as well.

"It was a very good effort for Rhys to make the team and his selection is thoroughly deserved. There was not too much debate as to whether he should have made the team or not.

"He was very consistent for us throughout the year. His damaging ability saw him get the opposition's best tagger each week and he still played well."



2008 WA STATE OF ORIGIN SIDE

B: Roger Hayden (Frem), Darren Glass (WCE), Paddy Ryder (Ess)

HB: Michael Johnson (Frem), Luke McPharlin (Frem), Ryan Hargrave (WB)

C: Andrew Embley (WCE), Simon Black (Captain - Bris), Joel Corey (Geel)

HF: Tarkyn Lockyer (Coll), Quentin Lynch (WCE), Paul Medhurst (Coll)

F: Leon Davis (Coll), Lance Franklin (Haw), Aaron Sandilands (Frem)

Foll: Dean Cox (WCE), Daniel Kerr (WCE), Dominic Cassisi (Port)

Int: Rhys Palmer (Frem), Nathan van Berlo (Adel), Chance Bateman (Haw), Daniel Wells (NM)

Coach: Dean Laidley (NM)

Umpire: Brett Rosebury

FREMANTLE'S STATE OF ORIGIN SELECTIONS (SINCE INCEPTION IN 2002)

6 - Peter Bell (2002 Vice Captain, 2003-2004 Captain, 2005, 2006 Captain, 2007)

4 - Luke McPharlin (2004, 2005, 2007, 2008)

3 - Shane Parker (2002, 2004, 2006)
Paul Hasleby (2002, 2003, 2004)
Michael Johnson (2006, 2007, 2008)
Aaron Sandilands (2006, 2007, 2008)

2 - Matthew Carr (2002, 2003)
Justin Longmuir (2002, 2004)
Paul Medhurst (2002, 2003, 2004)
Robert Haddrill (2003, 2004)
Jeff Farmer (2005, 2006)
Josh Carr (2006, 2007)
Roger Hayden (2007, 2008)

1 - Graham Polak (2003)
Shaun McManus (2003)
Steven Dodd (2006)
Des Headland (2006)
Antoni Grover (2007)
Rhys Palmer (2008)



WE SALUTE
YOU


POWERADE.



POWERADE

WE SALUTE
YOU

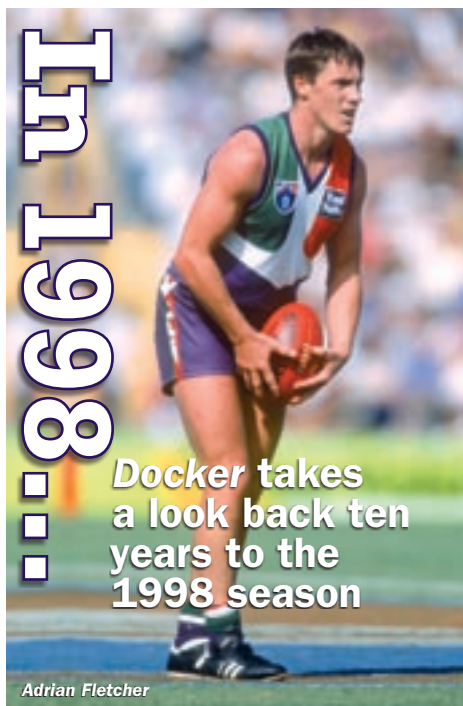


McMIANUS SHAUN

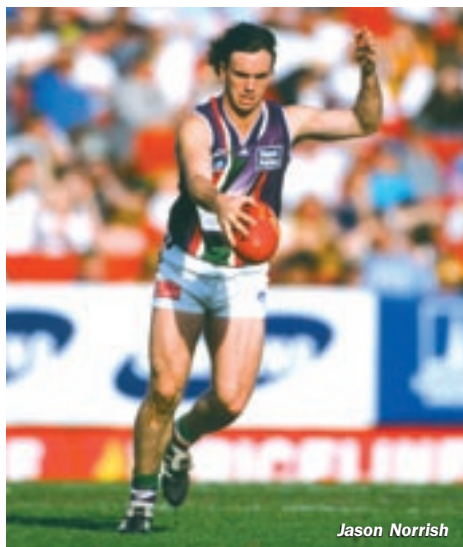


A photograph of several soccer players in white uniforms with blue accents, running on a green field. The players are wearing white socks with blue stripes and blue cleats. The name "PETER BELL" is overlaid in large, bold, blue letters with a white outline.

PETER BELL



Adrian Fletcher



Jason Norrish

After enjoying its most successful season to date in 1997, the club entered the 1998 season full of confidence to end the year in the final eight – a feat they fell just two points and percentage short of achieving in 1997.

IT WASN'T to be though and, in many ways, the 1998 season represented the end of an era at the Fremantle Football Club, all be it a short one.

Three of the key figures in the club's establishment ended their tenures with Fremantle at the end of the 1998 season. Inaugural coach Gerard Neesham's four year posting at the helm ended and inaugural club Chairman Ross Kelly stood down from his position.

Inaugural Club Captain Ben Allen announced his plans to move on from Fremantle after the 1998 season. Allan, who returned to WA from Hawthorn to captain Fremantle, had his playing career cut short at the end of 1997 but he remained with the club for the 1998 season as a valued member of the coaching group.

In an incredible outcome in the club's best and fairest award, just two votes separated winner Jason Norrish, runner up Adrian Fletcher and third placed Craig Callaghan. Fremantle's current General Manager – List Development Chris Bond came fourth and Shane Parker fifth.

Brad Dodd won the Beacon Award as Fremantle's best new talent and Norrish and Bond shared the best clubman honour.

For the second year running Craig Callaghan was the club's leading possession getter with 433, averaging nearly 20 touches per match. Ruckman Matthew Burton had a monumental 448 hit outs from just 20 matches and Clive Waterhouse lead the goal kicking with 30 goals.

Changes to the playing group at the end of the season included Scott Chisholm traded to Melbourne, Garry Dhurrkay traded to the Kangaroos and Kingsley Hunter traded to the Western Bulldogs. Coming into the Fremantle line up for the 1999 season was high flyer Tony Modra from Adelaide, Brad Wira from the Western Bulldogs for his second chance with the club and Ashley Prescott from Richmond.

However the most significant newcomer to the club was coach Damian Drum.

Other off field developments saw South Fremantle become Fremantle's host club in the

Westar Competition as well as confirmation that new club rooms and training facilities at Fremantle Oval would be built to further cement the Fremantle Football Club in the harbour city.

There were four more inductees into the Fremantle Football Club Hall of Legends – Frank Jenkins, Jim Conway, Brian Ciccotosto and Doug Green. 🏆



For the Diary

For full details on these and other club events, please visit the Members or Events sections of the club's website at www.fremantlefc.com.au.

Doig Medal Presentation Dinner SATURDAY 4 OCTOBER 2008

The Fremantle Football Club will host the gala event of the year, the 2008 Doig Medal Presentation Dinner at the Burswood Grand Ballroom on Saturday 4 October.

Being named Fremantle's Best and Fairest player is the most prestigious award our players can receive during their career at the club. It recognises consistent performance and contribution to the team during the AFL home and away season.

The Doig Medal honours the deep football heritage of Fremantle, represented by the many members of the Doig family who have represented either the East or South Fremantle Football clubs since the beginning of the last century.

The Fremantle Football Club extends an invitation for you to be there to see who will take out the honour in 2008 as well as farewell our retiring players, including Peter Bell, Shaun McManus and Jeff Farmer.

Your ticket price includes a three course meal, beverages and entertainment.

Please see the flysheet that came with this magazine for further information or to place a booking please contact Fremantle's Events Department on **9433 7146**.



Toyota International Rules Series

FRIDAY 24 OCTOBER 2008

Australia v Ireland at Subiaco Oval

Tickets still available through Ticketmaster – **1300 135 915**



Junior Members Christmas Party

SUNDAY 30 NOVEMBER 2008

Junior members and their families are invited to the 2008 Junior Members Christmas Party. More details will be posted out to members and will be available on fremantlefc.com.au soon!



“Mark has always had an amazing will to win and a great depth of character.”
—Mark Harvey

MARK JOHNSON

Mark Johnson may have only been at the Fremantle Football Club for one short year but the positive impact he had on the club, in the final year of his career, will not be quickly forgotten.

EVERYONE WOULD describe Mark Johnson as a first-rate individual who made an immediate impact on all at the club when he arrived late last year. He had a team-first approach and infectious passion for the game that inspired those around him to work harder.

With a career spanning 10 years and 200-plus games, including a premiership, you'd expect nothing less from a champion of his ilk.

Renowned for his fearless attack on the ball and unwavering work ethic, Mark shaped a career as an ardent in and under ball winner, prepared to put his body on the line to gain possession.

Mark Harvey said the former Essendon midfielder found a niche at Fremantle, regardless of where he was required to play.

"Mark has always had an amazing will to win and a great depth of character," he said.

"He's always had the ability to play well in big matches and do big jobs on the best small forwards going round but then be able to go forward and kick goals."

The Senior Coach said the club's younger players had learnt a lot from the veteran of 194 games with Essendon and 14 with Fremantle.

"They've learnt a lot from Mark about how to prepare mentally and physically for a game and how to keep your body in immaculate condition," he said.

"One of the things that struck me about him is his ability to throw himself into a contest, which would then leave you wondering where he had come from or how he had got there."

After a rewarding year at Fremantle, Mark Johnson believes his career now has closure

after a disappointing end at his previous club Essendon.

"At the end of last year it didn't seem quite right to finish my career but at the end of this year I'm very comfortable with it and it seems like the right time," Mark said.

"I've really enjoyed getting over here and becoming part of Fremantle. I've enjoyed meeting Pav (Matthew Pavlich), seeing Spider (Aaron Sandilands) grow over the year, as well as (Rhys) Palmer, Ibbo (Garrick Ibbotson) and Clayton Hinkley, who I came over here with.

"The club is in really good shape and I'm happy to be leaving at this time."

POSITIVE IMPACT

As for his future, Johnson will head back to Melbourne with some intention of coaching at any level.

"Coaching is something I'm definitely looking at," he said.

"I believe coaching is about getting the best out of a person and I love doing that. Not for any real benefit to myself but I love seeing people get the best out of what they have.

"I know I got the most out of myself and I don't think that anyone can doubt that I didn't give the game all that I had to give."

Fremantle Chief Executive Officer Steve Rosich praised Mark for the positive impact right across the Club during his time at Fremantle.

"Mark has been a real asset to the Fremantle Football Club on and off the field during his time with us and we wish him all the very best in his life after football," he said. 🍌

Mark Johnson fact file

Date of Birth	23/05/1978
Nickname	Johnno
Height	180cm
Weight	82kg
Games for FFC	14
Games for other clubs	194
AFL Games Total	208
Goals for FFC	8
AFL Goals Total	100

PLAYING HONOURS

AFL Premiership with Essendon 2000

Essendon Best and Fairest 2002

CAREER STATISTICS

Kicks	2061 (88 Fremantle, 1973 Essendon)
Handballs	1186 (60 Fremantle, 1126 Essendon)
Marks	841 (35 Fremantle, 806 Essendon)
Goals	As listed above
Tackles	568 (31 Fremantle, 537 Essendon)



LUKE WEBSTER



Luke Webster fact file

Date of Birth	25/05/1982
Nickname	Webby, Nicki, Webdog
Height	186cm
Weight	91kg
Games for FFC	33
Finals Games	3
Goals for FFC	7
Debut for FFC	2003
Recruited From	East Perth
WAFL Club	East Perth

PLAYING HONOURS

Fremantle FC WAFL Recognition Award 2003
Fremantle FC Best Clubman 2006

CAREER STATISTICS

Kicks	230
Handballs	138
Marks	132
Goals	As listed above
Tackles	70

In no uncertain terms, Luke Webster's reel of highlights in his 33 game AFL career with Fremantle holds as many memorable moments as players who have reached triple figures in their career games count.

THE 26-YEAR-OLD was amongst Fremantle's best players in its historic first final against Essendon in 2003 as well lining up in the club's semi-final and preliminary final in 2006.

He was also the reason Shaun McManus got to celebrate his 200th AFL match with a win in Round 5, 2007. In a low scoring, rain affected affair at Subiaco Oval against Adelaide, Luke snapped the match winning point late in the game to ensure Fremantle scraped home by the barest of margins to give Shaun a fairytale result in his milestone match.

SELFLESS CLUBMAN

A popular and respected member of the Fremantle playing group, Luke took out the Best Clubman award in 2006. His commitment to the Club is what absolved him of any disappointment associated with stepping away from Fremantle when he announced his intentions in August after six seasons with Fremantle. Ever the selfless clubman, Luke stepped away to allow the club's exciting up and coming young guns the opportunity develop further and reach the highest level quicker to help the club begin its quest for sustained success.

"I've had great times at the club and the Fremantle Football Club has been supportive of me throughout the years, particularly during the various setbacks I've had in my career," he said.

"My journey at the Fremantle footy club has been terrific, I've cherished every moment and I'm very thankful for all the support they have given me over the years."

Luke's run of crippling knee injuries saw him undergo surgery on four different occasions to repair ligament damage over the course of his career. His most recent knee injury came on 5 April this year playing for East Perth in the WAFL when he ruptured his left anterior cruciate ligament. But instead of heading down the tried and tested path of reconstruction surgery to repair the damaged ligament, Luke opted for the road less travelled in a bid to return to the field much sooner than what reconstructive surgery allowed. Luke underwent revolutionary Ligament Augmentation Replacement Surgery (LARS). The surgery involved replacing the damaged ligament with an industrial strength polyester fibre ligament and allowed him to return to the field just 91 days after the operation.

NEXT GENERATION

Luke said his battle with knee injuries had an influence over his plans to step away from Fremantle, but the key reason was to provide the next generation of Fremantle players room to grow.

"It has been a contributing factor in that I haven't been able to get out on the park but it's more that I feel that the club is going in a different direction with the young players

coming through and I don't want to be in their way," Luke said.

But it will not be the injuries that Luke will focus on in years to come, preferring to look back with fondness on the moments that he played in helping shape the history of the Fremantle Football Club.

"Most of those 33 games were pretty important and I feel that in stepping down my time has been productive," he said.

"Although there were a lot of lows, the highs of playing in three of the four finals that the club has played in make up for that and I can say that I've done everything right to get to the high points.

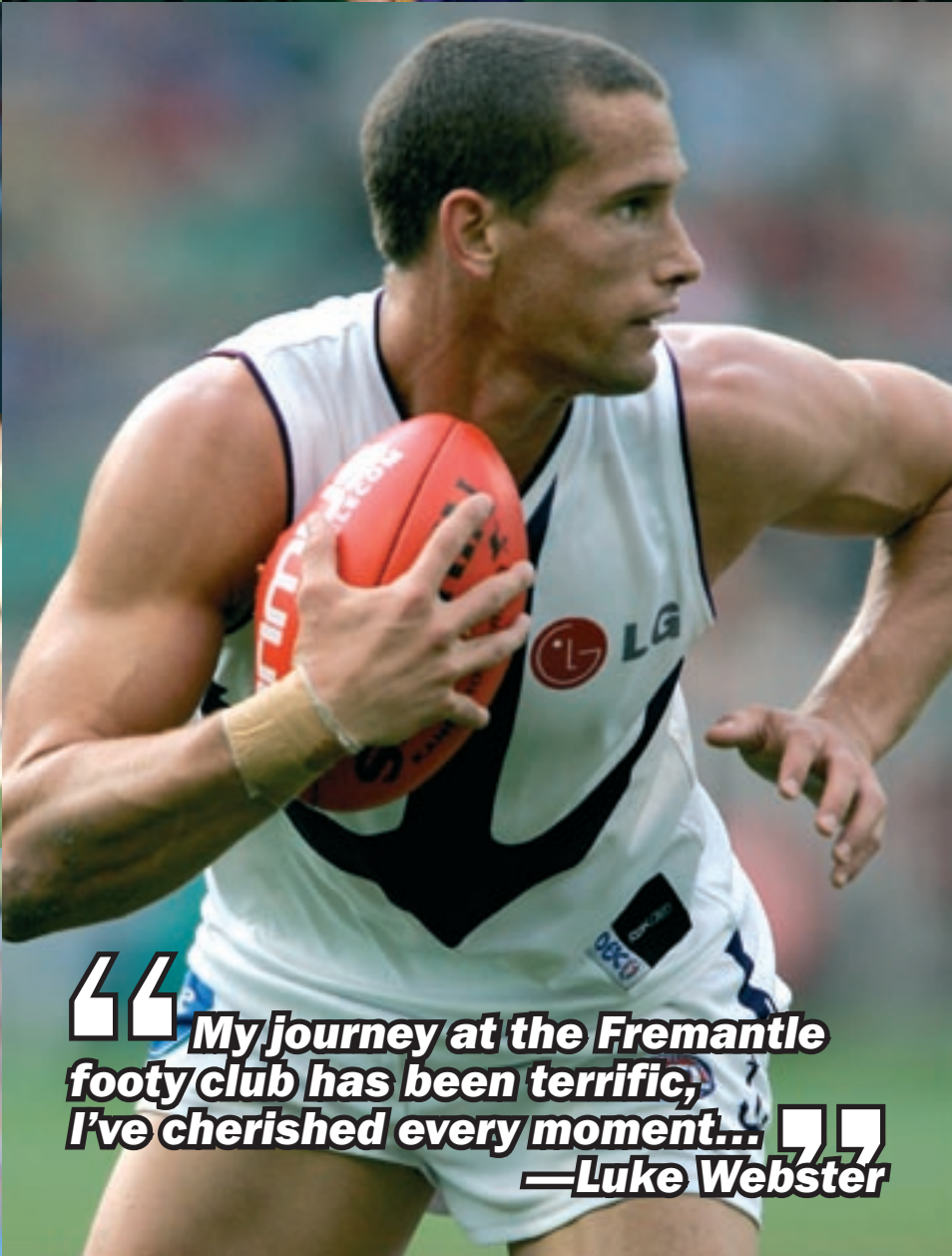
"In my first game we had a close win over Brisbane and I started on Nigel Lappin, and then moved onto Simon Black and Michael Voss. I was in awe of them and it was one of the highest points of my career, along with the finals I was lucky enough to play in."

MENTAL TOUGHNESS

Senior Coach Mark Harvey gave a glowing endorsement of Luke's resolve as a player and person.

"To see him fight back through four reconstructions, it will certainly hold him in good stead for life after football... he'd never carried himself like a guy who'd been through that," he said.

"Luke's been a pleasure to work with from a coaching aspect because you didn't have to ride him about preparation or mental toughness because he already had it." 🗣️



“My journey at the Fremantle footy club has been terrific, I’ve cherished every moment...”
—Luke Webster

Life's Good for Fremantle

Fremantle announced in July that LG Electronics had re-signed as the club's major sponsor.

AS PART of the new agreement, Fremantle would also be seeking a complementary partner as a joint major sponsor and the club looks forward to making that announcement in the near future.

LG Electronics Corporate Marketing Manager Mark Nesci praised Fremantle for the service and support the club had provided for the past three years.

"We have worked very closely with the Fremantle Football Club to ensure that LG Electronics' highly successful association with

the club continues as a joint major sponsor in season 2009," Mr Nesci said.



"This will allow the Fremantle Football Club to secure another commercial partner to experience the great benefits that we have found comes from a sponsor association with Fremantle, and the AFL.

"LG would like to thank the Fremantle Football Club and its fans for the support they have provided LG, and we look forward to sharing in the club's future success."

Star For A Day

CONGRATULATIONS TO Amanda Cowie, the lucky winner of the Gemmill Homes "Star For A Day" competition. Amanda enjoyed the Freo v St Kilda clash with seven guests in a fully catered corporate box, after filling in the entry coupon from *The West Australian* and entering it at the Beachhaven display, in Yanchep.

Amanda, her family, neighbours and daughter's friend were picked up from their house and dropped at Subiaco Oval for a purple carpet arrival. At half time they were paid a special visit by Ryley Dunn and Josh Head and also received an exclusive tour of the changerooms. The kids were delighted with the limousine ride, and thrilled to watch a live game, as they don't often get the chance.

Amanda was alerted to the competition by her neighbours, who know what huge Fremantle fans the Cowie family are.



The Carlton Mid Derby \$100,000 Super Sweep!

ROUND 18 SAW Fremantle defeat cross town rivals West Coast to win Carlton Mid Derby XXVIII 17.14 (116) to 12.11 (83).

Fremantle got the jump on West Coast, with Josh Carr posting the first goal of the match with less than two minutes on the clock.

Fremantle was proud to see Matthew Pavlich win the Ross Glendinning medal in both games and look forward to continued support of the Carlton Mid Derby from all at Foster's Australia.

Foster's Sponsorship Executive Chris Woodrow commented that, "As the official beer behind football in WA, Carlton Mid has been with the local Derby since 2001 and loves to see the local teams battle it out".

He added that "Carlton Mid would like to congratulate Fremantle on a great win and all winners who registered Josh Carr and Matthew Pavlich in this year's Carlton Mid Derby Supersweep".

Winners shared in the massive cash prize of \$100,000.

A win for everyone with Members Equity Bank!

Fremantle ended their 2008 season with Members Equity Bank's massive cash and prize giveaway.

MANY LUCKY Fremantle fans left the Fremantle v Collingwood game with plenty of chances to win prizes ranging from high interest ME Online Savings Accounts worth up to \$100, Coles Gift Cards and lots of Fremantle merchandise. All Fremantle fans had to do was pick up a unique code from one of the Members Equity Bank staff before or after the game and then head online with their unique code to redeem their prizes.

It was a great evening for all with Melvin the Members Equity Bank mascot making an appearance before the game and at half time. At half time, one lucky supporter was presented with a match ball by Melvin, that had been autographed by Matthew Pavlich and Mark Harvey.

For more information about Members Equity Bank visit:
www.membersequitybank.com.au



Trip of a Lifetime

It was billed as the Trip of a Lifetime and according to competition winner Josh Bassett, it was!

CHANNEL 9, in conjunction with *The West Australian* newspaper, teamed up with Fremantle during July and August to give one lucky supporter the opportunity to write the message on the team's run through banner at Peter Bell's farewell game vs St Kilda at Subiaco Oval.

Thousands of entries were received with ten finalists announced during National Nine News with Greg Pearce and Dixie Marshall. Avid Fremantle fan Josh Bassett came out the winner with the following message – "We Salute Belly, You are one of the greats, This one's for you, It's game on Saints!"

The prize was a trip for two travelling with the team to the Sydney Swans game at the SCG. Josh's best friend Leo made the trip and the pair had a ball. Along with attending the game the pair got to meet the star of Channel 9's "Underbelly" Les Hill as well as meeting the team during the trip.

"I had the time of my life," Bassett said

"Everyone at Fremantle was really good to us, especially Mark Harvey. He always seemed to have time to stop and chat and make us feel really welcome," he added.



Josh and friend with his winning banner

The West Australian

Channel 9's Marketing and Promotions manager Mhairi Wheeler was thrilled with the response to the competition so look out in 2009 for another "Trip of a Lifetime with the Fremantle Football Club."



THE DRUG AND Alcohol Office, working with Healthway and Sports Medicine Australia, provided 11 lucky local sports clubs with the fantastic opportunity of a Fremantle player appearance as a treat for being a part of the Healthway Healthy Club Sponsorship programme. The Program provides an incentive for sporting clubs to identify and address a range of issues that have the potential to improve the health and safety of their members and supporters.

Clubs had the opportunity to individually tailor the appearance to best suit the club. The players were involved in a number of different activities such as leading a warm up session, devising skills drills to test club members and responding to all manner of inquisitive questions from inspired junior and senior players.

The likes of Byron Schammer, Ryan Crowley, Brett Peake and Ryan Murphy, took the opportunity to speak on the benefits of nutrition, injury prevention and finding the right balance of relaxation and dedication to become a successful sports person. They reminded the audience that it was OK to have a drink, but to keep it under control.

integrated
first choice for people

Rhys has it in the 'Palmer of his hand'

INTEGRATED KNOW how important it is to recruit the right people. That is why they are proud to sponsor the Fremantle Recruit of the Year Award.

Votes cast by Fremantle coaching staff determined the Recruit of the Year. Voting was based on the weekly performances of each of the club's 2008 recruits, either Rookie or Senior.

Integrated is proud to announce Fremantle's Recruit of the Year 2008 is Rhys Palmer, who took the honours with 73 votes from Chris Maine (60 votes) and Keppler Bradley (57 votes).

Following an outstanding performance against Collingwood in round 22, Rhys overtook Nathan Buckley's 1993 record of 458 possessions to become the highest disposal getter for a first year player in the history of the AFL with 462. He showed an amazing ability to win the hard ball, picking up 15 contested possessions against Sydney in round 19 and capped off an outstanding year to win the 2008 award.

Integrated is proud to wave the flag and get right behind these fantastic players. We know that on the football field, just like in the workplace, hard work should be rewarded.

If you think there is more to be achieved in your career, call Integrated today and find out what we can do for you.

Integrated – Proud sponsor of the Fremantle Recruit of the Year.

Call 13 STAFF today

Top Marks for Chalice Bridge

Chalice Bridge Estate was rated as a 5 Star winery in James Halliday's 2009 Australian Wine Companion putting them in the top 12.5% of Australian wineries.

CHALICE BRIDGE was recently a part of the "Dinner with the Dockers" at the newly refurbished Drummoyne Sports Club, (home to the Balmain Dockers, a partner club of Fremantle) in NSW.

Chalice Bridge's award winning Margaret River fine wines were served, along with a sumptuous three course meal for the 220 AFL fans that had come to enjoy a great night out.

MC for the night was Gary Shannon, from 96fm, and a panel of experts consisting of CEO Steve Rosich, Peter German and Dean Solomon. The panel provided the guests with insight on the eve of the Swans game, along with some quality

commentary on the state of our great game.

Chalice Bridge consultant winemaker Bob Cartwright also featured in an interview on the night, providing attendees with a rare view into the intricacies of winemaking and a further insight into Chalice Bridge Estate and its wines.

From all accounts it was a successful night enjoyed by all, and Chalice Bridge looks forward to furthering its association with the Balmain Dockers into the future. Don't forget to visit the Chalice Bridge website, www.chalicebridge.com.au for all the latest news, awards and reviews, along with further details on its success in James Halliday's latest 2009 Australian Wine Companion.





LEADING INTO the AFL's International Cup a group of gifted South African players were keen to show off their skills at Fremantle Oval on Monday 11 August, 2008.

Arriving in Australia two weeks prior to their team mates, the group trained and played with the Swan Districts Football Club. The improvement of their skills and aerobic ability aimed to enhance the South African national team's chance of winning the round robin competition held in Melbourne and Warrnambool, Victoria.

The Fremantle Football Club invited Bayanda Sobetwa (18), Steven Matshane (20), Steven Malinga (26), Thabiso Phakedi (18), Tshepiso Mogapi (17) to the club's headquarters where they were able to have a kick to kick with Des Hedland, Byron Schammer and Scott Thornton, meet Matthew Pavlich and Mark Harvey and gain an insight to life at an AFL club.

Four of the talented youngsters were from the North West Province, Fremantle's aligned province in South Africa while Bayanda Sobetwa hails from Cape Town.

International Cup results

The International Cup allows teams from all over the world to compete against each other in a formal setting from late August through to early September 2008.

The South African Lions had a large contingent of players, staff and officials from Fremantle's aligned province, the North West, competing in the International Cup.

The South African team posted a very comfortable win against debutante China in the opening match of the tournament. The final score was South Africa 20.26.146, with China unable to score.

The Lions then went on to defeat Denmark and the USA, but lost to Papua New Guinea in the first round of play offs. South Africa played Ireland in the final and defeated them by one point to finish third in the competition.

Fremantle is one of four AFL clubs allocated game development regions within South Africa, with the club's North West Province currently having approximately 3,500 registered participants of Australian Rules football. The junior participation programme, FootyWild (South African equivalent to Auskick), enjoys enormous support within South Africa.

The Fremantle Football Club, in partnership with Nkwe Platinum, Continental Capital and Air Mauritius are helping develop football in South Africa. ☺

This card does a lot more than get you a seat at the footy...



Your 2008 Membership Card is still available for exclusive benefits at any of our proud Member Rewards partners



Jesse joins HBA team

THE CLUB'S number one junior ticket holder, Jesse Dart, recently assisted the club's health insurance sponsor, HBA, to make an advertisement that is currently being aired on Channel 9 and Network 10.

The ad consists of Jesse Dart telling Fremantle ruckman, Aaron Sandilands, what he should do to ensure that the team is successful – keep an eye out for it over the next few weeks or watch the DVD that came with this magazine!

Join selected HBA Hospital plus Extras cover before 30 September 2008 to receive a \$100 Fremantle Football Club merchandise voucher. Call **131 243** for more information.

Big win for Oakajee Port and Rail

THE FREMANTLE Football Club would like to congratulate Oakajee Port and Rail (OPR) on being selected as the preferred proponent for the new multi-billion dollar Oakajee Port project, in Western Australia's mid west.

OPR now has the task of designing and building a port and rail system that will allow iron ore to be shipped from Geraldton, all over the world.

OPR formed a strategic partnership with the club in March 2008 and allowed the club to assist in promoting their bid and OPR's commitment to the local community. ☺





Thank you to all our proud, loyal and passionate members and supporters in 2008.

It was wonderful to see your support throughout the year at Subiaco Oval and it is often said that we have the best members in the AFL competition.

As the season has drawn to an end, we would like to acknowledge your passion and support in making Fremantle one of the top three ranked clubs in membership in the AFL in 2008.

We thank every member who supported the club during the year, from those who came to games, those that travelled interstate to follow the team, and to those who cheered on from their lounge room.

We are hope you are already looking forward to the 2009 season with the rise of young players such as Rhys Palmer, Garrick Ibbotson and Chris Mayne.

Kind regards

David Pitts

General Manager Business Operations

2009 MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

All 2008 members will be sent a Priority Renewal Membership Form and membership brochure during October. Members will have up until 30 November to return their membership forms to the club to ensure that they retain their same seats for the 2009 season. Members who do not receive their renewal by mid November will need to contact the Membership Team on **9433 7111**. If you have moved house during 2008 please make sure that you let the club know in writing or via email, membership@fremantlefc.com.au so that your Priority Renewal Membership Form reaches you in time.

DON'T FORGET THE 30 NOVEMBER DEADLINE FOR PRIORITY RENEWAL.

In 2008 Subiaco Oval was almost at membership capacity with only a limited number of single seats available. As such seat move requests for 2009 may not be able to be accommodated. All membership forms are processed in the order in which they are received (within each category) so we encourage members to return their forms as soon as possible.

Membership Forms will be processed in the following order of priority:

- Renewing members without any changes
- Renewing members requesting a change of seat
- Renewing members wishing to upgrade to a seated membership
- New members

RAFFLE

The Club's Annual Community Development Programme Raffle is well under way. Don't forget to return your raffle books to the club by 29 September to be in the running to win a range of fantastic prizes including a Mazda 2 Neo Hatch and much more.

The early bird draw was drawn on the 1 August. The winner, Mary Dodd, was the lucky recipient of a framed jumper signed by Jeff Farmer.

COMPETITION WINNERS – ONLINE AND IVR RENEWAL

By simply renewing a 2008 membership either online or over the automated phone system members went in the draw to win a Signed and Framed Team guernsey. The three lucky winners were:

Mr Kenneth Cooper, Mr Tim Elson & Ms Wendy Hall (pictured at top).

This fantastic competition will be running again in 2009 so if you do not want to make any changes to your current membership simply have your 2009 Priority Renewal Membership Form handy and log on to the website



at www.fremantlefc.com.au and click on 2009 Renewal or call the interactive voice line and follow the prompts.

NEW MEMBERS FUNCTION

A New Members Function was held on Monday 28 July at South Fremantle to welcome the new members to the club. Members enjoyed cocktail food and were entertained by Dean Solomon and Chris Bond as well as Rick Hart.

The new members competition was also drawn prior to the function with prize winners being presented a 2008 a Signed and Framed Team guernsey: Miss Renee Sayers, Mr Sam Davis & Mr Thomas McCarthy.

If you have friends wishing to join the club in 2009 please forward their name and address through to the Membership Team at membership@fremantlefc.com.au or phone on **(08) 9433 7111** and they will be forwarded a prospect pack in mid November.

JUNIOR MEMBERS

The first Junior Movie for the year was held on Sunday 27 July at Hoyts – Queensgate Cinemas. Those that braved the torrential down pour to make it to the movies were entertained with College Road Trip. This was a light hearted movie for the kids.

The second Junior Movie, Space Chimps was held on Sunday 21 September at Hoyts and was a sell out.

The Junior Christmas party will be held on Sunday 30 November

– details will be posted to junior members soon. This is a great event for our younger supporters where they will have a chance to interact with players and coaching staff.

SIRENS MOVIE NIGHT

The final event on the Sirens calendar for the 2008 season was a movie night where Siren's were invited to see a pre-screening of Baby Mamma. The movie was a great laugh and all the girls that attended had a great night.

AWAY GAME FUNCTION

It was great to see so many members attend the away game function held on Saturday 23 August at Subiaco Oval. More than 250 members attended the function, filling the Bill Walker Room with an array of purple passion. Members watched the Round 21 game against Richmond on the big screen, along with ongoing commentary from our MC of the day Dean Clairs.

Half time entertainment included a question and answer session with some of our new up and coming players Josh Head and Andrew Foster, followed by a quick handball competition amongst members. A DJ also kept those in attendance entertained following the match.

MEMBERSHIP DEPARTMENT CONTACT INFORMATION

Membership Services:
(08) 9433 7111 or 1300 88 20 77

Membership Services Fax:
(08) 9433 7002

General Enquiries:
(08) 9433 7000

Membership Mailing Address:
Fremantle FC Membership
PO Box 381, FREMANTLE WA 6959

Email:
membership@fremantlefc.com.au

Office Address:
Fremantle Oval, Parry Street
FREMANTLE WA 6160

Web Address:
www.fremantlefc.com.au



BUMPER WAFL CROWDS IN 2008

The WAFL experienced its greatest crowds since 1997 this season, with an increase of 4422 on last year's attendances over the course of 23 rounds of the home-and-away season.

A total of 179,452 fans headed to a regular season WAFL game in one of the closest seasons in recent times, with six teams still in the running to make the top four only weeks out from the finals series.

"Crowds were sitting on the edge of their seats in the final rounds of the year with so many teams

in the race for this year's finals," said West Australian Football Commission Director of Football Grant Dorrington.

"This season the WAFL competition was one of the closest in many years and apart from a well-disciplined Subiaco team losing just one game for the year, the rest of the teams were fighting it out for a taste of finals action.

"Our clubs have done a mountain of work trying to connect to their local communities and it has resulted in their community getting behind them."

Back in 1997 184,646 people were treated to a finals series that resulted in South Fremantle beating arch-rivals East Fremantle by just six points in the WAFL grand final.

Over the past five years there has been a steady rise in WAFL crowds as fans continue to get treated to quality football that all of the family can enjoy.

A total of 25,025 people went through the gates during last year's finals and with the preliminary final being held away from Subiaco Oval this year, it was expected that crowd figure would again soar.

The preliminary final was held at Arena Joondalup – only the third venue to host a WAFL preliminary final since the Page System was introduced in 1931. The last time a preliminary final was held away from Subiaco Oval was in 1934 at Perth Oval.

The first and second semi-finals were held at Fremantle Oval and Medibank Stadium with 9918 people attending those games.

For the results from the WAFL finals series and information on other West Australian Football Commission programs, log onto www.wafootball.com.au

Triumph and tragedy in AFL journey

Five young Fremantle players addressed guests at the club's apprentice graduation dinner and revealed how at times the path to cracking the AFL can be a tough road to hoe.

EVERY FOOTBALLER who makes it to the game's elite level has a story about their AFL journey. Without exception the stories include the crucial roles played by their parents along the way.

Overcoming hardships or coping with tragedy invariably arise and there's usually room for a bit of humour, too.

Five young Fremantle players gave insights into their AFL journey at the club's apprentice graduation dinner on Wednesday, 13 August.

The five players – Rhys Palmer, Chris Mayne, Clayton Hinkley, Brent Connelly and Luke Pratt – had just completed a 23-week nationally recognised course.

For successfully completing the course, which is sanctioned by the AFL Players' Association and run by Victoria University, each player was awarded a Level III Certificate in Sport and Recreation.

The course – broken down into weekly two-and-a-half hour sessions which the players attended on their day off – covered a vast array of topics including core values, first aid, defensive driving, media, nutrition, finance, IT skills, public speaking, cross cultural awareness, the AFL's respect and responsibility policy, game development and sport and the law.

IMPACT OF TRAGEDY

But one of the most touching moments of the night came during Brent Connelly's speech.

The rookie ruckman, who was recruited from Gippsland Power and selected by Fremantle with its first selection (No. 6 overall) in the 2007 NAB AFL Rookie Draft, revealed one of the "toughest things" he's had to deal with happened in his last year at school.

At the time, Brent was living in Churchill, about 158kms from Melbourne, and going to school in Traralgon.

"I made a lot of close mates, who I still keep in touch with and love catching up with when I go home," said the 19-year-old.

"One of the toughest things I had to go through occurred in Year 12 when in the space of 12 months I lost two close mates in car accidents.

"What made it tougher was the fact that neither of them was speeding or drink driving... they were both just freak accidents that should never have happened."

Brent said being from the country such tragedies usually impact on everyone in one way or another.

"From then on I always reminded myself how lucky I am and when I do have a bad day or a bad game I think of those two boys and their families and realise the position I'm in isn't that bad," he said.

Brent's father Rod was a policeman in the area for 34 years until recently and now works



“For me the boys are a really important part of my life because it gives me the chance to get away from football and be a normal 19-year-old kid.”
—Rhys Palmer

for the Gippsland Power Football Club and Football Victoria.

"I would have to say that dad, and my mum Bronwyn have had the biggest influence on my life and football career to date," he said.

"They always put myself and my brother first and did everything they could for me to be happy and succeed at whatever I chose to do.

"Dad played country footy, and he would be the first to admit he was never going to kick 'snaggers' on the MCG.

"But he loved the game and has always offered support and the odd bit of advice to me when he thought I might need it."

FATHER FIGURE

Brent also told a story that brought a smile to the faces of the 2008 coaching staff who just happened to be in the room on graduation night.

It had to do with the fact that Brent's dad is a longstanding member of the MCG.

"I was lucky as a youngster because he would always take me to the football on a Saturday or a Sunday," he said.



"Between the ages of seven and 12, I was lucky enough to watch a lot of AFL games and saw the likes of Mark Harvey, Chris Bond, Dean Wallis, Peter German and Earl Spalding run around in their prime.

"It's funny how things work out."

HARDSHIPS

Chris Mayne, who played 17 games this season and was unlucky not to receive a NAB Rising Star nomination in 2008, spoke of "living the dream that I have had since I was a little boy".

But first the 20-year-old took the graduation dinner audience back to the day he came into the world and how he was born with a cleft lip and palate.

It is a genetic disorder causing a gap in the upper lip and palate, and, according to Chris, "affects more babies than you would think".

For six months Chris wore a special hood and strap which helped pulled the gap together ahead of his first operation.

This was followed by more surgery, speech therapy, dental therapy, dental work and, finally when he was 12-years-old, a bone graft from his hip into his gum to enable adult teeth to emerge followed by more visits to the dentist.

Not that any of the above fazed Chris.

If anything it probably contributed to the young man he is today.

"Although it caused numerous visits to hospital, dentists and doctor, I don't think it affected anything I ever did in life," he said.

"Maybe it was a lesson in life's little hardships that you have to overcome."

Another 'little hardship' emerged in his teenage years when Chris had to make the choice between cricket and football.

As well as being a member of the Belmont Bombers JFC, Chris played cricket for Belmont and later the Perth Cricket Club, including outings with its 'A' grade side.

LIFE'S OBSTACLES

Chris also played U15 and U17 State cricket, where he was vice captain of both sides and later went on to make the U19 State squad, which was about the same time he was starting senior football at Perth.

"This was when it became obvious that I had to choose which sport to follow because I was training and playing seven days a week," Chris said.

"The workload, I think, contributed to my first year of colts football being a non-event. I developed osteitis pubis and could only play three games at the end of the season."



Chris described it as “another of life’s obstacles to overcome”.

“The thing that helped during this time was the extra work in the gym,” he said.

“I never missed a session, so I could get back and play.

“It was hard to watch my team mates playing when I couldn’t but I was still part of the team and my mates kept me involved and my spirits up during that long time out of the game.”

After talking it over with his parents, Chris decided to give cricket away and devote all his attention to football.

“It was hard to do but it was the right choice,” he said.

SPORTING DREAM

Chris also recalled the drama of draft day when he initially thought he was going to South Australia, until a phone call from his manager came through and reassured him that he would be “staying home”.

“But more importantly going to Fremantle,” Chris said.

“I was stoked... it also stopped any tears from mum. It was also a realisation that I would be training, and hopefully, playing with one of my childhood idols in Peter Bell.

“He and Wayne Carey were who I tried to play like, and I even had one of Belly’s jumpers from his days at North Melbourne.”

Chris also recalled the day that the club’s Player Welfare Manager Lee Walker accompanied by Josh Carr and Luke Webster dropped in for a chat with Chris and his family.

“I couldn’t stop smiling,” he said.

“The first step in my sporting dream had happened.”

Not long after that, Chris’ dad “had a few quiet words” with his son.

“He always has a chat about things and has been a massive impact on my life and a great role model,” Chris said.



“He is someone I need to talk to about footy and life and helps and supports me with everything I do in my life.”

Chris has set and achieved many goals in his sporting career and continues to make and reassess them.

Being drafted by Fremantle was a ‘major’ goal, he said.

“I have achieved another by playing an AFL game and kicking a few goals,” Chris said.

With his trademark humility, Chris told his fellow development squad members and other guests at the apprentice graduation dinner that it was time to evaluate and reassess where he’s at and what his future goals will be.

“Most of them will involve my football club... it is my second family,” he said.

“The amount that I have learnt in one season from the coaches, staff and players has been amazing and I am sure this will continue for the years to come.”

RIISING STAR

Like his fellow development course graduates, Rhys Palmer, whose outstanding debut season saw him win the 2008 NAB AFL Rising Star award and be named the AFL Players Association Best First Year Player, also paid tribute to the role of his parents.

“They have done everything for me and sacrificed a lot to help me become an AFL footballer,” he said.

Rhys, who represented the State as a junior in three sports, including baseball, karate and footy, said his “toughest moment” in life so far was on the eve of the State U16 football carnival.

“Being such an important carnival for young boys looking to be drafted (in the AFL), I was training way to much,” he said.

Rhys found himself in the same boat as Chris Mayne – struck down by the footballer’s curse osteitis pubis, or as it is better known OP.

“My body broke down with OP,” Rhys said.

“I tried to play through the carnival but only managed two games and a total of five possessions.”

Convinced that no one would “rate” him, Rhys thought his “AFL dream was over”.

“But I used this carnival to drive me because I felt I had a point to prove that I could play footy.

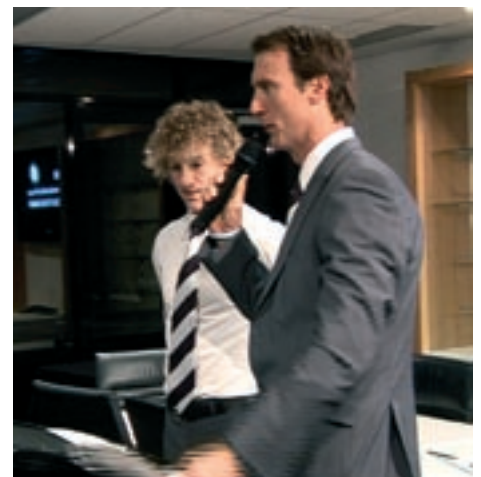
“Even today looking back on that carnival it taught me so much... from how to look after my body, plus it gave me a real passion to succeed and get to the top level.”

Away from football, Rhys has a bunch of school mates whose ongoing friendship he values enormously.

“We’re all really close and we always try to get away to Augusta or Boyup Brook, where we do a lot of skiing and motor bike riding,” he said.

“But most of all just to chill together.

“For me the boys are a really important part of my life because it gives me the chance to get away from football and be a normal 19-year-old kid.”



“One of the toughest things I had to go through occurred in Year 12 when in the space of 12 months I lost two close mates in car accidents.”

—Brent Connelly

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redkite
Supporting children through cancer
Ambassador 2007-2008



15. CROWLEY



Heart
Foundation

redkite
Supporting children through cancer

Charity partnerships extended

IN 2004, through Fremantle's charity policy, the club established an aligned charity programme which gives two chosen charities the opportunity to become charity partners of the club.

The charity partnerships aim to promote greater understanding and increasing community awareness of these organisations and their services to the Western Australian community.

Seasons 2007-2008 saw Redkite and The Heart Foundation of WA join Fremantle as the charity partners and enjoy the benefits that the club's charity policy delivers. These benefits include having access to player Ambassadors for the length of the partnership, access to the club's communication vehicles and Fremantle's support for their charitable and fundraising activities.

Redkite support children and their families through their journey with cancer by providing emotional support, financial assistance and educational services. Fremantle's partnership has not only given Redkite overwhelming brand awareness in WA, it has seen some significant donations made to the organisation. Also, Fremantle's coaches sponsor, Marine and Civil, has subsequently taken on Redkite as its charity of choice which as seen children and families dealing with childhood cancer benefit greatly from a generous donation.

The Heart Foundation saves lives and improves health through funding world-class cardiovascular research, guidelines for health professionals, informing the public and assisting people with cardiovascular disease. As a charity, the Heart Foundation relies on donations and gifts in wills to continue its lifesaving research, education and health promotion work.

Through Fremantle's partnership with the Heart Foundation, the club has also encouraged the Rick Hart Group to undertake sponsorship of the Heart Foundation's Jump Rope for Heart Program this year and again in 2009 which involves tens of thousands school children across WA. This programme helps students improve their cardiovascular health and fitness, learn about the importance of heart health and provide them with the opportunity to do something worthwhile for the community by fundraising for heart research.

With both partnerships delivering beyond expectation, the Fremantle Football Club is excited to be extending the partnership for a third and final year. This extension will allow us to continue to build on the strong foundations that have been established over the past two seasons. At the end of the 2009 season the club will search for two replacement charities.

The charity partnerships have provided the club an avenue to establish some life-long friendships within the community and the club looks forward to continuing the partnerships with Redkite and the Heart Foundation of WA in season 2009.👁



WHILST FREMANTLE'S four point defeat in Round 19 saw Sydney walk away with the inaugural Redkite Cup, there was also another close encounter fought out to celebrate Redkite's 25th Birthday on the SCG.

Redkite's Celebrity Game saw Merrick Watts captain the white team (Fremantle socks) to victory over the red team (Sydney socks) captained by Adam Spencer in another tightly contested encounter.

Watts' white team's accuracy in front of goal was the difference in the match, as they defeated the red team 2.1 (13) to 1.4 (10) in the ten minute charity bout.

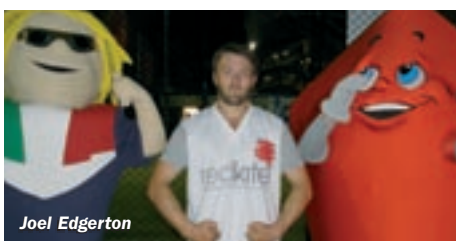
Johnny 'The Doc' Docker also played his part in the Redkite Celebrity Game against a formidable opponent in Humphrey B Bear.

The red team lead early, dominating possession and keeping the ball in their forward 50, yet they failed to convert many of their chances. The white team sprung into action in the second half, and a goal to actor Joel Edgerton gave them the edge they needed take the game.

It was a fantastic curtain raiser to the main game. The celebrities who were involved, including Andrew O'Keefe, Chas Licciardello, Dr Chris Brown, Les Hill and Jon Sivewright, should be congratulated on doing their bit for Redkite.



Underbelly's Les Hill and Jon Sivewright of Home & Away



Joel Edgerton

Thanks must also go to Andrew O'Keefe and Les Hill for being special guests at Fremantle's corporate function held in the Churchill Room at the SCG on Saturday evening.

Redkite is Fremantle's aligned charity and the club proudly supported the annual Redkite Celebrity match which aims to raise money to support West Australian children and their families dealing with cancer by providing emotional guidance, financial relief and educational services. To learn more about Redkite visit www.redkite.org.au.👁

World record announcement pending!

TO CELEBRATE the Heart Foundation's Jump Rope for Heart Program turning 25, school children across Australia took part in a mass skipping event in an attempt to break a Guinness World Record.

The Jump Rope for Heart Program in Australia's aim is to beat the current record held by the United Kingdom of 7,632 people skipping at the same time in various locations across the country, for three minutes with only a 10 second break and the 'jump off' took place across the country at 9.30am (WST) on 9 May.

With an official total of 29,614 successful skippers taking part across Australia for the Guinness World Record attempt, the results are still being assessed by the Guinness office but the expectation is that the world record

will be smashed... and an announcement is expected in the next four weeks!

In Western Australia more than 4,000 students across the state participated to beat the current world record. The school with the highest number of skippers was Esperance Primary School, with 329 skippers. South Padbury Primary School had the highest number in the metropolitan area with 203 skippers.

Antoni Grover, Chris Tarrant, Dean Solomon, Brett Peake and Marcus Drum also got behind the attempt by joining in the 'jump off' with the students at Phoenix Primary School in Spearwood.

Fremantle, along with Rick Hart, are proud supporters of the Heart Foundation's Jump Rope for Heart Guinness World Record Attempt and congratulate all schools and students who participated in the World Record Jump Off.





Hi Kids and welcome to KidZone !!

This is your last chance for the year to put your knowledge of the Fremantle Football Club to use to help you win some great **KidZone** prize packs!

Simply try solving the questions and games in this edition of the *Docker* and email the club with your answers and contact details to go in the running to win some fantastic prizes!

You can also enter **KidZone** competitions on the club's website – www.fremantlefc.com.au/kidzone. Each month you will have the chance to win a signed photograph of your favourite player by entering the 'Who am I?' and 'Which Footy is it?' competitions online.

On behalf of the players I want to thank all of our junior members for the support they have given us this season. We all really appreciate the support we get from our youngest members and we are very much looking forward to it continuing next season.

Go Freo!

Chris Tarrant



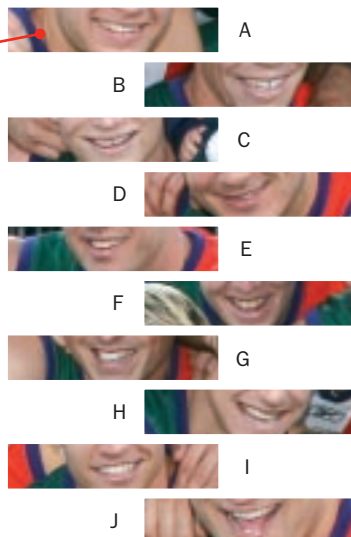
All Smiles

It's winning smiles all round! We couldn't help but smile after the 33 point win over West Coast in the 28th Carlton Mid Derby. How well do you know the players? See if you can reveal who is smiling in the *All Smiles* competition. Match the names with the smiles...

I have done the first one for you.

Players to match:

- 1) Paul Duffield
- 2) Ryan Crowley
- 3) Chris Mayne
- 4) Luke McPharlin
- 5) Chris Tarrant
- 6) Matthew Pavlich
- 7) Byron Schammer
- 8) Rhys Palmer
- 9) Ryan Murphy
- 10) Kepler Bradley



How did you go? Email your answer along with your name and contact details to competitions@fremantlefc.com.au to go into the draw for your chance to win a **KidZone** prize pack!

Team Trivia

Answer the following questions about Fremantle, add the answers together and the total of the answers should equal **1224**. Use the *Docker* and fremantlefc.com.au to find the answers. Good luck!

- 1 How many AFL games did Shaun McManus play for Fremantle? ?
- 2 How many AFL clubs did Mark Johnson play for? ?
- 3 In what round did Byron Schammer play his 100th AFL game? ?
- 4 How many Fremantle players made the WA State of Origin team this year? ?
- 5 How many goals did Fremantle kick in Round 16 against Melbourne? ?
- 6 What round did Brock O'Brien kick his first AFL goal? ?
- 7 How many possessions did Rhys Palmer collect in Season 2008? ?
- 8 How many more games does Chris Tarrant need to play to reach 200 AFL games? ?
- 9 How many hit outs did Matthew Burton have in 1998? (clue: turn to page 29) ?
- 10 How many points did we beat Port Adelaide by in Round 17? ?

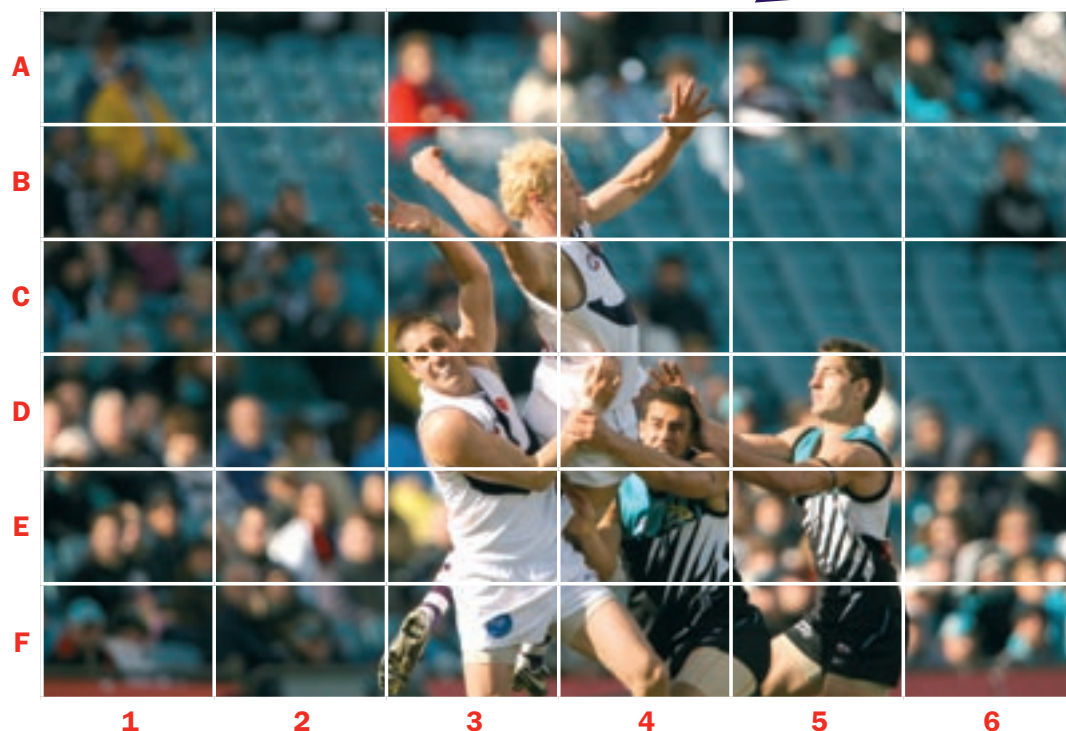
Total:

1224

Email your answers along with your name and contact details to competitions@fremantlefc.com.au to go in the draw for your chance to win a **KidZone** Prize Pack!



Can you spot where the ball should be? Use the grid to spot the ball and email your answer along with your name and contact details to competitions@fremantlefc.com.au and go into the draw to win a Prize Pack. Good luck!



What if..?

Every kid dreams of playing AFL footy when they are growing up. But just in case you don't make it to AFL level you need to have a back up plan – just like Fremantle players had when they were growing up.

I asked some of my Fremantle team mates, “What if you hadn’t been drafted? What would you be?”

Here are their answers:

Andrew Foster: **Electrician**

Clayton Hinkley: **Builder**

Aaron Sandilands: **Lawnmower man**

Chris Mayne: **Phys Ed teacher**Byron Schammer: **Financial planner**

Michael Johnson: **Professional golfer**

Daniel Gilmore: **Chiropractor**

Rhys Palmer: **Baseball player**

Steven Dodd: **Electrician**

Ryan Crowley: **Soccer player**

Brett Peake: Politician

Kepler Bradley: **Plumber**

Marcus Drum: **Cricketer**

Des Headland: **Cabinet maker**

Garrick Ibbotson: **Electrician**



Answers from *Docker* Edition 2, 2008

Spot the Difference Competition



Team Trivia

How many points did we beat North Melbourne by in Round 12? **53**

How many hit outs has Aaron Sandilands had so far this season? **437**

What Round did Kepler Bradley debut for Fremantle? **8**

How many goals did Matthew Pavlich kick against St Kilda in Round 13? **5**

How old is Mark Harvey? **43**

What Round do we play
Richmond at the MCG? **21**

What date in October is the Doig Medal Presentation Dinner? **4**

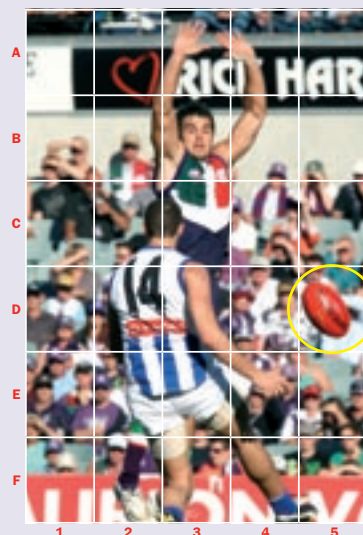
How many players are in the photo on the front cover of Docker? **8**

How many dollars were raised at this year's Starlight Purple Haze Game? **40,621**

How many knee operations has Luke Webster had? **4**

Total = 41.204

Spot the Ball – D5





43. HAYDEN

2008 a milestone year for Fremantle's communities

Fremantle's commitment to the community reached new heights in 2008 with Fremantle players making in excess of 590 appearances at various Community Development Programme (CDP) events and activities as well as having more than 180 schools from around Western Australia take part in at least one CDP activity.

FREMANTLE PLAYERS dedicated countless hours to attending and participating in the various Fremantle Oval based CDP activities as well as heading to numerous junior football clubs to conduct training sessions, charity events, primary school visits and external community events to name just a few.

"As professional footballers the players are already heavily committed to preparing themselves for matches each week so to see their level of enthusiasm and dedication to help the club's CDP reach new heights, not only with regard to increasing the number of schools who take part in the activities, but also with the quality of the sessions is fantastic," Community Development Manager David Crute said.

"With regard to Fremantle's Community Development Programme, 2008 was a watershed year for the Club. We introduced a range of new programmes which required more of the players' time and their attitude towards their involvement and participation was highly commendable."

Leading the charge in the increased demand for positions in Fremantle's CDP in 2008 was

the innovative Freo Factor programme that made its debut this year.

Now Freo Factor is one of the most popular programmes within Fremantle's CDP. It is a school-based programme designed to utilise Fremantle's resources and player expertise to assist students to make informed decisions for a responsible, healthy and active lifestyle.

Freo Factor is one of two new programmes that was introduced to the CDP in 2008 and David said it was one of the most popular programmes amongst schools that wished to take part in the CDP this year.

"We knew Freo Factor was going to be in high demand because it is a programme that addresses a variety of themes like leadership, bullying, having a healthy lifestyle, goal setting and social responsibility," he said.

"It is also pleasing to see the students enjoying themselves while they improve their kicking and handpassing with the assistance of Fremantle's younger players. It is really encouraging for the Fremantle Football Club."

Joining Freo Factor as a new initiative in the CDP this year is Freo Fast Ball. The Freo

Fremantle Football Club Community Development Programme

in partnership with



Fast Ball competition is a new and exciting team handballing event for primary schools throughout WA.

Freo Fast Ball encourages enjoyable team competition while at the same time promoting school spirit and participation in sport. The competition involves a team of six students handballing a football through a zigzag formation in the quickest possible time.

The Freo Factor and Freo Fast Ball programmes join the ever popular Johnny 'the Doc' Docker Motor Skills, Freo Kwik Kick, Freo Long Bomb, Welcome to the AFL and the School Holiday programmes for 2008. Freo Kwik Kick, Freo Long Bomb and Freo Fast Ball make up the Skills4Schools programme.

The club's CDP is proudly supported by Platinum Level sponsor Alinta. Alinta has a long standing relationship with Fremantle and is committed to investing time and resources to continue to develop the CDP with the club as well as aiming to teach children life skills and values using Australian Rules Football as an educational tool.

For further information on Fremantle's Community Development Programme or to apply to have your school be a part of the CDP in 2009 visit the Community section of the club's website www.fremantlefc.com.au or contact the Community Development Department on (08) 9433 7110.



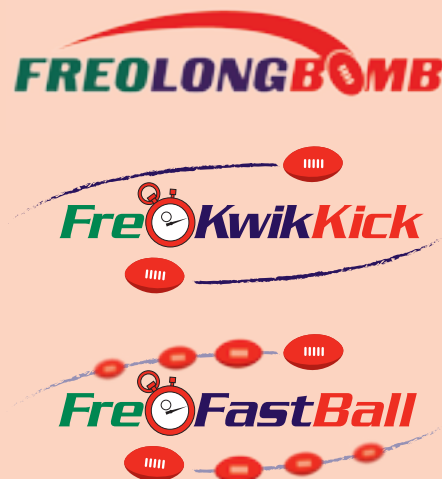
New date set for Skills4Schools Grand Finals

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT staff have confirmed that Friday 3 October is the new date when the Skills4Schools Grand Finals will be held at Fremantle Oval.

The club was forced to cancel the July holidays date for the event at short notice when a freak storm hit the coast, causing hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of damage to buildings and housing in Fremantle and nearby suburbs. Fremantle cancelled the event as it was not prepared to jeopardise the safety of the participating children by holding the event that day.

The Skills4Schools Grand Finals are the final events for 2008 for Freo Fast Ball, Freo Kwik Kick and Freo Long Bomb.

For further details about Skills4Schools visit the Community section on www.fremantlefc.com.au.



Bristol bolsters Fremantle's Partner Clubs list

FREMANTLE'S NEWEST edition to its Partner Club programme, the Bristol Dockers completed their first season in the Great Britain Australian Football League as an official Fremantle Partner Club in 2008.

Recording three wins from six matches and finishing a respectable fifth on the AFL Great Britain ladder in their division, their debut season as a Fremantle Partner Club was deemed a success. More than half of the Dockers line up was UK born and bred and, for some, had their introduction to Australian Rules football just weeks out from their first season match on 10 May.



Partner Club, the Bristol Dockers in action against Nottingham



Clem Connor addresses his charges


"The team has been in reasonable form this season, however, we came unstuck a few times when we were short of personnel," Bristol spokesman Clem Connor said.

"The team fared well against the stronger London teams, which are comprised entirely of ex-pat players in our division. The players have all been in good spirits despite a few heavy losses and have all enjoyed the season at the Dockers both on and off the field.

"The guys all send a big thanks again to the Fremantle Football Club for the jumpers and shorts. It was really appreciated by all of us and although our skills need a fair bit of work, at least this season, we looked like footballers when we ran out onto the field!"

The Bristol Dockers are one of Fremantle's six internationally based partner clubs. The Hamburg Dockers (Germany) have been a partner club since 2004 while the Cincinnati Dockers (USA), Dublin Dockers (Ireland), Hartlepool Dockers (England) and Edinburgh Dockers (Scotland) are also helping to spread the purple passion internationally.

For further information on Fremantle's Partner Club programme, visit the Community section at www.fremantlefc.com.au or contact the Community Development Department on **9433 7110**.

The Fremantle Football Club Partner Club programme is proudly supported by Members Equity Bank. 

FREMANTLE FOOTBALL CLUB PARTNER CLUBS AND SCHOOLS


Dalyellup JFC, WA; Ellenbrook JFC, WA; Secret Harbour JFC, WA; Murchison Football Association, WA; Templestowe FC, VIC; Doncaster Heights JFC, VIC; Templestowe Park PS Auskick Centre, VIC; Donvale Auskick Centre, VIC; Burnie Dockers FC, TAS; Balmain Dockers FC, NSW; North Ryde Dockers FC, NSW; Cincinnati Dockers, USA; Hamburg Dockers, GERMANY; Dublin Dockers, IRELAND; Secret Harbour PS, WA; Ellenbrook PS, WA; Clifton Hills PS, WA; Arbor Grove PS, WA; Bicton PS, WA; St Thomas PS, WA; Balgo Community School, WA; Fremantle PS, WA; Southern Districts Junior Football Association, WA; Comet Bay PS, WA; Comet Bay College, WA; Ocean Forrest College, WA; Forrestfield PS, WA; Posseidon PS, WA; Coolamon PS, WA; St Helenas Catholic PS, WA; Christ the King School, WA; Madang Avenue PS, NSW; Peter Moyses Anglican School, WA; Pinjarra Senior High School, WA; St Andrews Cathedral Grammar, NSW

Alinta rewards CDP participants

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT Programme participants Lorenzo Fogliani, Daniel Flynn and Hayley Pettit were the lucky winners in Fremantle's 2008 CDP Competition thanks to proud Platinum Level Sponsor Alinta.

Lorenzo, Daniel and Hayley's names were drawn from more than 500 entries from school children around WA who had participated in one or more of Fremantle's Community Development Programmes this year and filled in an online survey at www.fremantlefc.com.au to provide feedback on their experiences with the club's CDP.

Lorenzo's first prize saw him pick up a signed and framed 2008 Fremantle guernsey and \$1500 for his primary school while Daniel also claimed a signed and framed Fremantle guernsey and \$1000 for his primary school. Hayley was the lucky recipient of a \$250 Fremantle team store voucher.

Fremantle Football Club and proud CDP sponsor Alinta wish to thank everyone who entered the 2008 CDP Competition. 

Community Development Manager David Crute with CDP Competition winner Lorenzo Fogliani



David Crute with second place winner Daniel Flynn

Freo hailed in New South Wales

MORE THAN 200 of Fremantle's most passionate junior supporters from New South Wales based Partner Clubs the Balmain Dockers and North Ryde Dockers got a special visit from Fremantle's playing squad the day after Fremantle's Round 19 clash against the Sydney Swans.

Lead by club Captain Matthew Pavlich, the Fremantle team put the North Ryde and Balmain juniors through their paces in a short and sharp Auskick Super Clinic before signing autographs and fielding questions from the excited audience.

As official Partner Clubs of Fremantle, both Balmain and North Ryde wear the Fremantle playing strip, with the jumpers being proudly sponsored by Fremantle's Gold Level Sponsor Members Equity Bank.



Club Captain Matthew Pavlich meets Balmain junior Marshall Lee

Rhys Palmer and Harry Hughes



Home heads to home of football as AFL Ambassador winner

EATON PRIMARY School teacher Perry Home won a trip for two to the AFL Grand Final thanks to Fremantle Football Club Platinum Level Sponsor Alinta after being named the West Australian Football Commission and Alinta's 2008 AFL School Ambassador of the Year.

Perry emerged from a list of worthy nominees to win the prize at a function at Subiaco Oval in August.

In his second year as AFL School Ambassador, Perry took his role to a new level that even he will have difficulty in replicating.

He boosted Eaton Primary's football involvement by signing his school up for each of Fremantle's three Community Development Programme Skills4Schools programmes – Freo Fast Ball, Freo Kwik Kick and Freo Long Bomb – all of which he ran at Eaton Primary in his role as AFL School Ambassador.

Fremantle's Community Development Manager David Crute congratulated Perry for taking out the award.

"Perry's commitment to growing the number of students participating in football at Eaton Primary is fantastic," David said.

"Fremantle is proud to have been involved with Perry through Eaton Primary's participation in the Skills4Schools programmes and we wish him a fantastic trip to Melbourne to enjoy the biggest day on the AFL calendar."

Nicole Hughes, from Beeliar Primary School, was the winner of the Primary School category, while Stephen Thomson, from Fremantle Football Club Partner School Comet Bay College in Mandurah, was the winner of the Secondary School category.

Comet Bay College is the newest secondary school in the Peel District and has just been approved by the education department to have an Approved Specialist Program for Football in 2009. Mr Thomson has played a significant role in the set up and ongoing achievements of this new school. He heads up and has enjoyed great success with an academic based football programme that uses football as a motivation for students to excel at their nominated subjects. There have been significant improvements in the grades of those students within the programme.

Comet Bay College compete in the Smarter Than Smoking Cup in the Peel Region and, as an official Partner School of Fremantle, wear the Fremantle Football Club playing strip in their matches.

In June, David Crute, Roger Hayden and Steven Dodd headed to Comet Bay College to present a new set of jumpers for its year 10 team as well as to view the renovated gymnasium and changerooms that had been decorated to reflect Comet Bay's relationship with Fremantle. The walls of the rooms are now adorned with Fremantle logos as well as the carpets, furniture and equipment all adding to the 'Freo feel' with purple, white, red and green throughout the buildings.

Alinta General Manager Retail Sales, Ralph Bates said it was great to have an opportunity to acknowledge the fantastic contribution of some exceptional teachers through the Alinta 2008 AFL School Ambassador of the Year Awards.

"It is through the support of teachers such as Perry, Nicole and Stephen that children can



Alinta's 2008 AFL School Ambassador of the Year, Perry Home, with Alinta General Manager Retail Sales, Ralph Bates

continue to develop skills and values through Australian Rules football," he said.

The AFL School Ambassador Program, now in its fifth year, aims to reward teachers who strongly promote football in their school and community and enhance educational outcomes for their students.

The programme has been a huge success and there are now more than 750 AFL School Ambassadors across WA.

Fremantle Football Club's Community Development Programme is proudly supported by Platinum Level sponsor Alinta. Alinta has a long standing relationship with Fremantle and is committed to investing time and resources to continue to develop the CDP with the Club as well as aiming to teach children life skills and values using Australian Rules Football as an educational tool.

For further information on Fremantle's Community Development Programme visit the Community section of the club's website www.fremantlefc.com.au.



Alinta's Ralph Bates with Stephen Thomson, Perry Home and Nicole Hughes



Subway Challenge 2008

FREMANTLE'S SEASON long search to find which player in the Fremantle Football Club Youth League, proudly supported by Subway Restaurants, had the longest kick came to an end prior to the Club's Round 22 clash against Collingwood at Subiaco Oval on Friday 29 August.

The 2008 Subway Challenge saw representatives from each of the nine WAFL districts head to Subiaco Oval to see which of the 17-year-olds had the biggest kick in the business.

Subiaco District representative and Kingsley Junior Football Club player Kurt Parolo was able to snatch victory with the final kick of the competition, launching his football a massive 66 metres.

Kurt's massive effort saw him win an LG plasma TV plus a signed Fremantle Football Club guernsey. As an added bonus the Kingsley JFC also received the same prizes as a result of Kurt's fantastic effort.



CDP Programme Manager Wade Spilcker interviews Subway Challenge winner Kurt Parolo after he claimed victory

