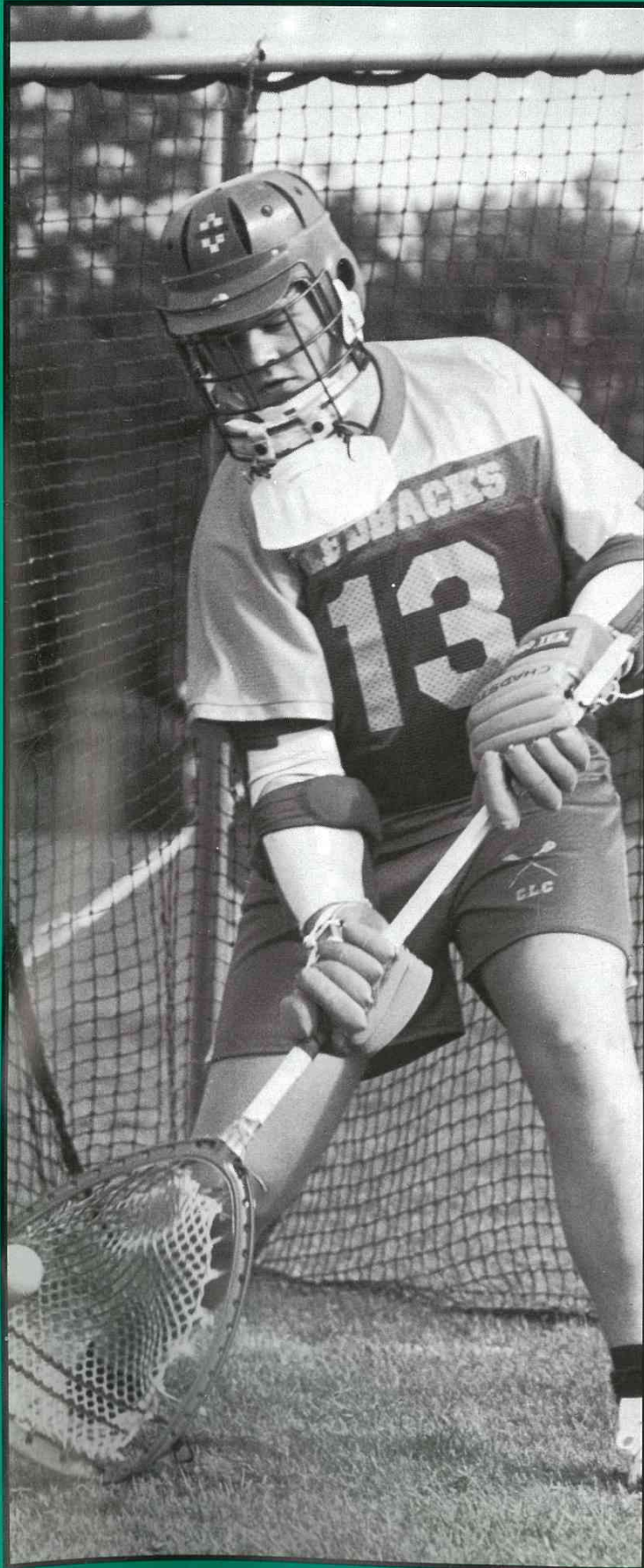


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# Contents

*Photos Lloyd Holmes*

## **KIDS - FUTURE STARS AND THE FUTURE OF OUR SPORT**

Poor old goalies sometimes get a hard time from their team, but they play a crucial and integral role in the game. Goalies are the linchpin of the defence line, and their organisation, communication and skills frequently can mean the difference between winning and losing.

The front cover this issue acknowledges juniors, and in particular junior goalkeepers. Newcomer to lacrosse, Chadstone's Under 15 Goalkeeper *William Treadwell (13)*, is put through his paces by Coach Jorge Menidis in the warm-up for his first game of lacrosse. William, who heard about lacrosse from his cousins who play for Victoria's Eltham Lacrosse Club, is looking forward to his first season of lacrosse. The other player on the front cover is Footscray's Under 16 Goalie *Nicole Muscat*. This is only her second year in the team. *Nicole* made some great saves in the first game of the season against Williamstown.



# Editorial

One should never start off with an apology. However, we acknowledge the last edition was late in coming out. There is no need for excuses, just facts. For those critics out there who have no idea how the magazine is produced and the amount of time put into it, here are the facts :

- Contributors do not meet the deadline. In fact as of the last cut off there was not enough material for the magazine. On this basis should we not publish the May edition? It means we have to go out and produce our own articles.
- Cost. Everything is done on a voluntary basis and we rely on the generosity of people in the printing industry to print the magazine at cost. This of course means fitting it in when they can. We would be happy to move to a full commercial operation but we don't think the Associations could or need to bear that sort of cost.
- Time. Sure we have an early cut off in the preceding month. This is supposed to allow us time (our own) to layout the magazine. If you keep in mind the first point you start to see the problem. The layout of the magazine takes approximately 30 - 40 hours. Printing can take up to 2 weeks depending on the printers work load. To save on costs we do ALL the courier work ourselves. That means taking the material to the printers and doing the running around for them. Once printed it means driving miles to pick up 2500+ magazines and loading them into our own vehicles. Then we envelope the magazines, label them, ensure they are in the correct order for Australia Post and deliver them for posting. Total time spent on the magazine ..... about 130 hours.

The options we have with the magazine is to go commercial (at a huge cost), accept that the magazine might be late or cease production of the magazine. Personally I would go for the second option.

The magazine is for lacrosse articles of interest, not a means to cut down Association mail outs. Simply, if Associations need to get information to their members they should post it to them, themselves.

Remember the magazine is to promote information about lacrosse, be it stories, photos, letters etc It is being used to spread the **good** word about lacrosse. Therefore articles need to be interesting to capture the imagination of readers. Administrative articles, whilst sometimes necessary, should be kept to a minimum. The younger players are only interested in the stories and photos.

We will endeavour, as always, to meet our deadlines but without going the extra step to a full commercial magazine we will continue to have the occasional delays and hiccups.

*Keith Chamberlain*

**The Lacrosse Player,  
13 Willesden Rd,  
Oakleigh, Vic, 3166**

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NSW	Matthew Duryea	(02) 437 5809

## Closing Dates for articles : Jun 8, Aug 8, Oct 8

Opinions expressed in this magazine are made by the author and do not necessarily represent those of the Editorial Staff.

As we progress with the magazine it is encouraging that so many people wish to contribute articles. Whilst we do our best to print all articles preference is usually given to articles that are topical. We do not discard any articles but keep them for future editions. Please note however, articles not submitted on diskette have very little chance of being entered. This is due to the large amount of typing time these articles take. We do not have a large typing pool readily available so those who send articles on diskette will certainly get preference. What format you say? Pretty well any of the MS-DOS based applications can be catered for but text is probably the safest. If you wish anything returned please ensure you include a self addressed and stamped envelope of the appropriate size. Please also note the cut off dates. These will be adhered to strictly.

## Magazine Sponsors

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## Letters to the Editor

I want to thank you very much for the prompt reply after the World Games. I am sorry I did not reply sooner but since our departure, my team finished the Box lacrosse season at home by winning the President's Cup (Canadian Senior B Championship), I have helped create and coach a Division II at Brock University, become the Division I Co-ordinator for Ontario University Field Lacrosse Association and have most recently been hired as a marketing co-ordinator for a company that is the exclusive distributor of STX products in Canada. As you can probably attest, to work in Lacrosse surroundings, is like not really working!

Recently, as I was reading about the "Australian Fans" in a recent issue of "Lacrosse Magazine" I found myself remembering a specific family; a very charming and beautiful mother and her three daughters who volunteered to watch my booth while I ran in to catch a glimpse of the games. Although I do not remember the family name I hope that you know to whom I am referring. Please thank them for their kind consideration. It was the first time I had ever seen Lacrosse played at International Level.

Also, I have just received the latest copy of "The Lacrosse Player". I was impressed by the first issue but now my impressions have been superseded by amazement! That a relatively small population of Lacrosse enthusiasts could produce such a high quality magazine is honourable! It is no wonder that you beat us in Manchester!

As a representative of the University Field League I would also like to put out an invitation to all of your similar teams to drop me a line if they want to "come on over and play"; men and women. Our season begins Sept. and ends in November. The teams in Ontario are always looking for some friendly competition and a few laughs afterwards.

Steve S. Debus  
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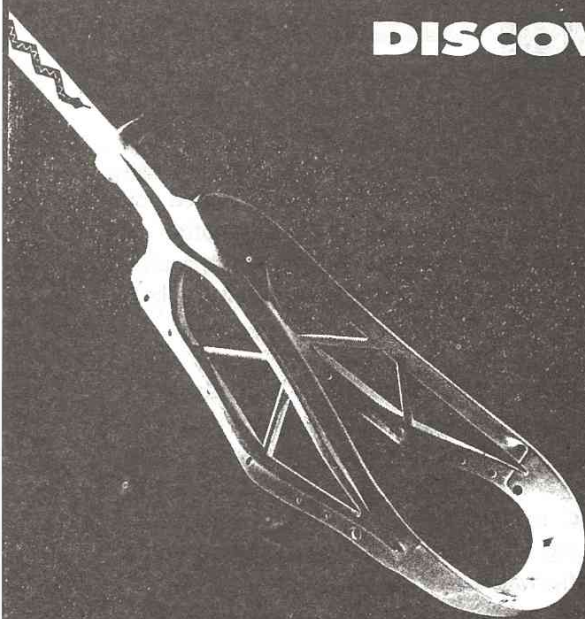
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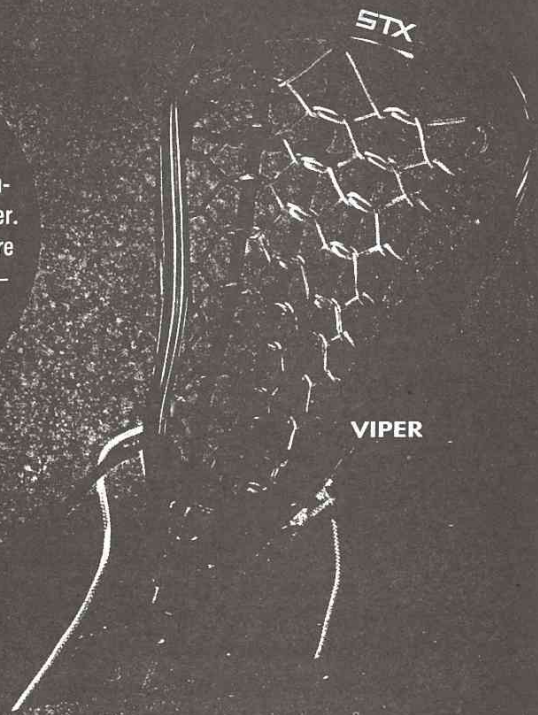


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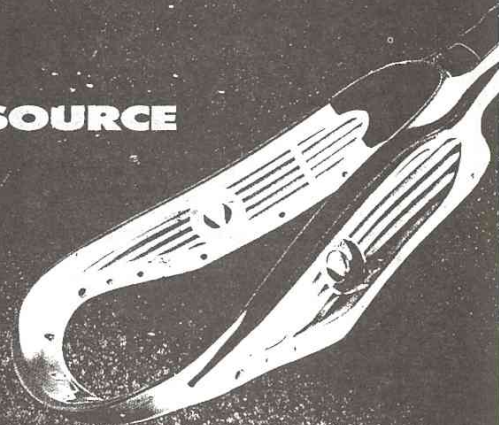
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# Drugs in Sport

by Dennis Mulroney

*The use of drugs in sport to enhance performance is seen by the majority of Australians as cheating. While we all watch major world events, like the Olympics, and relate the drugs in sport issue to the high profile athletes and events, how many of us consider lacrosse?*

Did you know that lacrosse players were tested by the Australian Sports Drug Agency at the last four National Championships?

The issue of performance enhancing drugs in lacrosse is important to both the Australian Lacrosse Council and the Australian Womens Lacrosse Council. We want to see fair and healthy competitions and to keep our sport "clean". The Australian Sports Commission, who want to see ALL Australian sport stay "clean", places conditions on the funding we receive. One of them is a doping policy that meets their guidelines.

*'Doping' is the deliberate or inadvertent (accidental) use by athletes of banned substances or methods that may enhance performance.*

'Doping' is the deliberate or inadvertent (accidental) use by athletes of banned substances or methods that may enhance performance.

## The Penalties are severe!!!

If you use a banned substance or refuse to provide a sample: You will be suspended for a minimum of two (2) years for a first offence; and a life ban for a second offence. A lesser sanction can only be applied if the use was for a specific therapeutic purpose or inadvertent use in an over the counter medication.

You need to know:-

That lacrosse players at any National or International event may be subjected to a random drug test!

At this time the following classes of banned drugs are tested for:

Stimulants - pseudoephedrine, amphetamine  
Narcotic Analgesics - diamorphine, methadone  
Diuretics - acetazolamide, dichlorphenamine  
Anabolic Steroids - testosterone, nandrolone  
Peptide Hormones and Analogues  
(and cold and flu tablets have things like pseudoephedrine in them!)

That any player representing Australia, or receiving funding from the Commonwealth or State Governments may also be subject to out-of-competition testing!

This can happen anywhere/any time and the tests are for:

Anabolic Steroids  
Diuretics & masking agents

That common over the counter preparations like sudafed, demazin, codral and panadol cold and flu tablets contain substances banned for competition!

That treatment of injuries or medical conditions (like asthma) can often require medication that contain banned or restricted substances.

If you need a medication: check with your doctor to try and find one that does not contain banned or restricted substances.

You or your doctor can call the ASDA Drugs in Sport Hotline (008 020 506 free call Mon.to Fri. 9.00am to 5.00pm EST) for advice on alternatives. If there is no alternative, tell the A.L.C. Competitions Director of the details before the competition.

Inadvertent doping (usually through 'over the counter' medications) is our immediate problem. ASDA have developed a Drugs in Sport Handbook to give you listings of permitted drugs. It is your responsibility to check the Handbook or ring the Hotline to avoid an inadvertent positive drug test. There is a Sports Drugs Education Unit in your State and your Lacrosse Association will have information for you, USE IT!

Dennis Mulroney





# Great Moments in Refereeing

Ah, you've found the ground, now where's the change room? Yep, here it is. Now I'll just get into the gear..... I know I put them in. .... Has anybody got a spare pair of shorts, preferably white!

No worries I've got my trustee whistle.... It might be old but it works great... Funny I could have sworn

the pea was in it yesterday. Perhaps it will still work. No way!

How about a big guy defending behind goals. The lively attack player was darting about on a muddy day as if there wasn't 100mm of slush. In slo-mo the big guy slipped and went down. About 8 on the Richter scale declared the attack player as the big guy hit the turf. And the game played on .....

## Australian Under 19 Womens Team

After months of hard work and two previous training camps the Australian Women's Under 19 Lacrosse Team was announced at the third training camp held in Adelaide on Sunday 1st April. Congratulations to the sixteen team members and four alternates. A special mention to the squad members who didn't make the final cut, you did a great job girls and should be very proud of making it as far as you did.

The hard work now begins with the last training camp in Adelaide May 12-14th, before coming to Melbourne to compete as a team at Senior National Championships being played July 9-15.

### TEAM

Trisha Adams            Captain  
 Chelsea Morley        Vice Captain  
 Jenni Adams  
 Sarah Aston  
 Leah Barnden  
 Tanya Broom  
 Lauri Carroll  
 Sue Anne Comeadow  
 Fiona Graham  
 Jodie Huppatz  
 Mehgan Mollison  
 Kellie Morley  
 Jillian Pearson  
 Felicity Porter  
 Emma Rennie  
 Melissa Williams

South Australia  
 Victoria  
 South Australia  
 South Australia  
 South Australia  
 Western Australia  
 Victoria  
 Victoria  
 Victoria  
 South Australia  
 Victoria  
 Western Australia  
 South Australia  
 Victoria  
 South Australia  
 South Australia

### ALTERNATES

Natasha Harpham  
 Sarah Lambshed  
 Jenny Roy  
 Stacey Williams

South Australia  
 South Australia  
 Western Australia  
 Victoria

### OFFICIALS

Cathy Flett            Coach  
 Leanne Trainor        Assistant Coach  
 Sue Gandy            Manageress  
 Karen Spreadborough    Physiotherapist

South Australia  
 Victoria  
 Victoria  
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# An Australian Dream or Simply Reality?

*Lacrosse scholarships can offer the best of both worlds: top tuition and competition for up to four years and at the end of it all, a sound academic qualification.*

John Hocknull of College Prospects of America offers a practice guide for those wanting a lacrosse scholarship to America.

College Prospects of America (CPOA) offices receive dozens of letters each week asking about sports scholarships to America, and sometimes youngsters are disappointed that they cannot be given an instant answer about the kind of college that will accept them and the financial aid that they may receive. Unfortunately, it is not that easy.

CPOA now has an Australian office which will provide some of the answers.

Just as there is a vast difference between the quality of Australia's academic elite and the local further education colleges that may barely require Year 12 level the same can be said of the American colleges. There are some places that would not even look at any Australian student who would not expect a University place here, and there are others (especially the junior colleges) that will take a youngster with virtually no qualifications. American courses are nearly all of

four years duration and consist of one general "core" year and three years of specialisation in a major and a minor subject. Student athletes are not limited to any specific field of study, and in general, there is much more flexibility than is available in Australian higher education. At the end of the degree course, the American-trained graduate will be pretty much on a par with their Australian counterpart.

CPOA is a recruiting service. They are not agents and do not offer the scholarships themselves. They are the Australian and New Zealand branch of America's largest such company which has contacts with thousands of coaches in virtually all of the colleges and an excellent reputation for fair unbiased recruiting. Their clients are our students, not the colleges, as they receive no financial remuneration for "placing" students at certain colleges.

They communicate with the prospective client and his or her parents, explain as much as possible about the American collegiate system and the scholarship process, and if they decide to use the services of CPOA, they put together an indepth profile, backed by school certificates, press clippings, coaches' recommendations, etc.

These are logged at their Head Office in Ohio and the profiles are distributed to as many colleges as a student's grades and sporting ability warrant.

Once the colleges start to reply they provide information about each college to the student; costs before a scholarship, courses available, academic reputation, level of sport, etc. to enable the student to decide which colleges to pursue.

The fee they currently charge is \$900 although the fluctuations in the US dollar and the Australian dollar can affect this figure. Since the value of a full scholarship can be as much as US\$15,000 - \$20,000 a year, the fee is a relatively small amount overall.

John Hocknull is the Australian and New Zealand Manager for CPOA. He has had a great deal of involvement in Education in Australia in Public Relations Marketing and as a professional Fundraiser advising schools on Development in Education.

For further information, make contact with:

John Hocknull  
College Prospects of America  
(Australasia)  
PO Box 1  
Beaudesert, QLD 4285  
Phone/Fax (075) 446 400

## ***Journalists Wanted !!!***

The Lacrosse Player is looking for enthusiastic young (or even older) journalists to help make our magazine more interesting. Anyone who is interested in pursuing a career in this area can get experience through this magazine, helping future prospects for a career, while at the same time helping make our magazine more interesting and dynamic. You will note that there is a lot more material from Victoria than from other States - this is NOT our aim, which is for a truly *National* magazine. So we are looking particularly for articles (along with clear, interesting photos) from writers in other States, which will provide a more balanced content. .... Why not give it a go!



# AWLC Activities

The Australian Women's Lacrosse Council have moved into the 20th century with the implementation of a new infrastructure which includes both a Board of Management and a National Council.

The nine Directors taking their place on the inaugural Board are as follows:

President:	Ms Fiona Clark (WA)
Director of Finance:	Mrs Fran Maunton (WA)
Secretary:	Ms Fiona Clark
Director of Elite Development:	Ms Janet Maitland (SA)
Director of Development:	Ms Kylie Taylor (SA)
Director of Special Events & Competition:	Ms Sue Gandy (Vic)
Director of Officiating:	Mrs Janet Jackson (Vic)
Director of Coaching:	Ms Wendy Piltz (SA)
Director of Marketing and Promotion:	Ms Shelley Maher (Vic)

The AWLC National Council consists of 1 representative from each State Association. These people along with a more in depth explanation and introduction to the Board of Management will be included in the next issue of the Lacrosse Player.

As is evident from this edition, there is much happening at an Australian level for women's lacrosse. The 1995 AWLC look forward to a successful and productive year with the new streamlined organisational structure enabling us to respond more effectively and efficiently to the ever expanding demands of our sport.

With many new initiatives being established, I am interested to hear from anyone with a creative design background who would be keen on assisting me on specific projects.

*Director of Marketing and Promotion  
Shelley Maher*

## An Enthusiastic Start to 1995?

Junior competition started Season 1995, and future hopefuls for Clubs, States and National competitions turn out in droves. Well that's what we'd all like to see, a very healthy start to 1995 with new players, new teams, new coaches ... and new junior referees.

We certainly see the enthusiasm, the drive and the commitment in many Clubs, but there is an urgent need to attract more juniors into lacrosse. The Lacrosse Player is trying to help that cause by providing as much publicity as we can for those juniors, and the front cover this issue reflects this commitment. Looking back over past issues, readers would have also have observed the extensive coverage given the sort of lacrosse activities around on Saturday mornings, and for interstate and international junior events. It's all about participation, for everyone concerned.

### Watch This Space

Events which will be highlighted this year include the National Junior Titles, Under 19 tours, and (with the helpful input from junior commentators around the country) a commentary of what is happening in local competitions. Under 17 boys State Titles will be held in Melbourne 9th to 15th July this year (see National Title Article), and the Under 15 boys State Carnival will be held in the October school holidays (watch the next Lacrosse Player for details).

So ..... if someone asks you to help out with juniors on a Saturday morning, or for training during the week, go for it. You'll be surprised at what it can return to you. Better still, go to your Club and offer to help out. Whether it is for helping out on transporting players, for scoring and timekeeping, coaching or even refereeing, your help will always be welcomed.



# National Titles

## 9th to 15th July 1995

### A Gala Event for All

*The Men's and Women's National titles will be held in Melbourne in July this year, and organisers are planning this to be a major event not to be missed. The setting for the event will be Trinity Grammar (Bulleen Road, Bulleen) looks really well suited for the National series. There will be five grounds to accommodate Men's and Women's Tournaments, Championships and special events, Masters, Under 17 Boys and a host of other activities.*

We hear on the grapevine that at least one Men's State Association has already decided on a different approach to National Title selection, deciding to invite players at the outset, gain the commitment from those who would like to participate, and then get on with the preparations.

### **Over 20 Teams participating - great for promotion of the sport**

There are expected to be over 20 teams participating this year, including visiting American Teams. Western Australia, Victoria, Queensland, New South Wales, South Australia and (hopefully) Tasmania will all be represented. The Under 19 Australian Mens and Womens Teams will also partake in the series. Word has it that there will be 500 visiting US College athletes in town during the Championships, many of whom will be participating in the tournaments.

The carnival atmosphere of national title, boosted by visiting teams from overseas, and some "specialist" teams, will be a great boost for the sport. It provides the opportunity for our juniors to mix with players from outside Australia - who knows, some of these kids could be playing against them in future World Series.

### **Debate on International Eligibility for National Championships**

There's been a fair amount of lively discussion about the eligibility of visiting Internationals to participate in the National Championships over the years. The relevant

ALC By-Laws on this matter follow :

- No player shall be eligible to compete in Australian Championships unless he was registered with the State Association which he is selected to represent at the commencement of the current season. The number of overseas players to represent any State shall be a maximum of two.
- A player must be an Australian Citizen or have permanent resident status or have been granted temporary resident status.

*This is the major National Lacrosse Event in Australia this year, so put it in your diaries now. For those of you who need recreation leave to get time off, put in for recreation leave from your employer now!!! Don't miss out.*

The guidelines which appear to have been used in the past require an international player to have participated in State competitions for the season before the Championships, however the position on this is unclear.

Visiting international teams participate in the tournament competition, but not the National Titles.

### **Some highlights being planned**

It's early days yet, but some of the highlights being planned are the ALC "Fellows" dinner, a Final Celebration Dinner at the Caulfield Racecourse (on Saturday evening, 15th July). and a night game.

### **Put the event in Diary now !!!**

This is the major National Lacrosse Event in Australia this year, so put it in your diaries now. For those of you who need recreation leave to get time off, put in for recreation leave from your employer now!!! Don't miss out.

### **More Information ?**

If you need more information contact Jorge Menidis on (03) 569 9655. Jorge would be interested to hear from anyone who can help out with the championship, those who may be running events during the series. Co-ordinated publicity can improve the success of this event.



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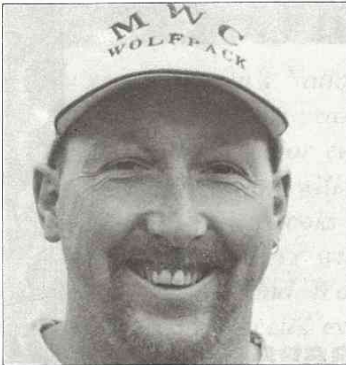
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# International Arrivals

Photos I. Loyd Holmes

Seems to be a continuing attraction for Americans, and the odd Canadian and English player to come and play and experience Australia. Following is our research on some who have ventured forth to Victoria.



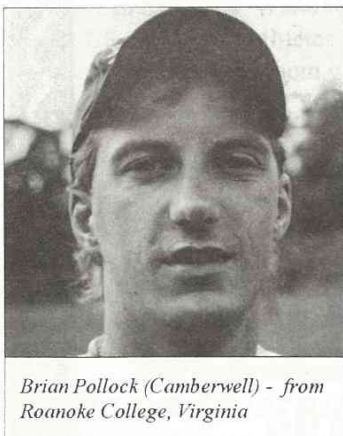
Chris Baker (Malvern) - now a "permanent" Aussie

**Chris Baker**, now a permanent "Aussie", is back with Malvern in Victoria. From all accounts Chris is already showing the influence he can have on close games (e.g. Camberwell game, second round). Many people don't realise it was Footscray's Greg Mollison who first brought Chris to Australia through box lacrosse, which Chris played in Vancouver.

Since then he has played with MCC before transferring to Malvern. Chris played for Canada in the World Series, Perth 1990. Chris is married to Janet Campbell, Malvern Coach Gary Campbell's sister. There's no bias in the coaching selections though! Chris helps out with boy's Under 17 training at Malvern, and on Sundays his attention is taken up with helping Dennis Trainor coach the Caulfield Women's Lacrosse Team.

Chadstone have three imports, who will also help with Chadstone junior coaching :

- **Christopher Dizon** from Boulder, Colorado - Chris is a defenceman who has played Div 1 with Michigan State.
- **Perry Mannington**, a face-off and attack player from Alberta, who has represented Alberta in the Nationals.
- **Todd Robin** (due in May) - an attack player from Amherst College, US.



Brian Pollock (Camberwell) - from Roanoke College, Virginia

Camberwell has one import, **Brian Pollock**, from Roanoke College, Virginia. Brian arrived a few weeks after the start of the season. Camberwell's Adam Jackson has been studying and playing lacrosse at Roanoke College, now joined by Jason Davenport. These two have been instrumental in bringing Pollock to Australia.

Brian has played opposite US star midfielder Charlie Lockwood, from Syracuse, who is now playing for Eltham. Apart from his playing experience Brian has extensive coaching experience which will be utilised by Camberwell.

Altona have **Andrew Firman** from Brown College, Rhode Island (see separate article on Andrew, Page 12). Andrew is a "long

stick" defenceman who even tries out in the centre - the long stick gets a bit "caught up" though.

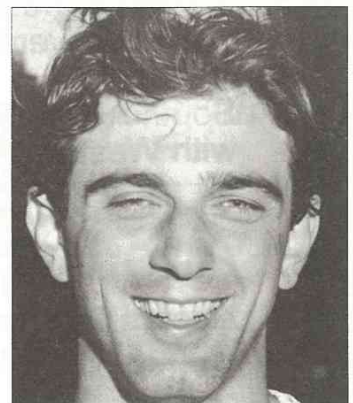
Surrey Park has an English Player **Rick Cotgrieve** in this years line-up. Rick has played in four touring English teams and, like Altona's import Andy Firman, has been a junior development officer in the UK along with depth in coaching skills. Rick was junior development officer in the Stockport area (the centre of lacrosse in the UK), and is out here looking for more diverse experience.



Rick Cotgrieve (Surrey Park) - from the UK - great to have a Pom here!

Eltham have attracted 23 year old **Charlie Lockwood** (see photo's on page 30) who played in the last World Series for the US. Charlie is four tie all American, and was Rookie of the Year in the East Coast MILL. He is no doubt one of the most talented US players to have been attracted to play in Australia. The calibre of such a player will help Eltham, which is suffering from injuries in the start of the '95 Victorian Titles. One of Charlie's team mates from the World Series, **Ryan Wade**, is believed to have gone to Subiaco in WA this year. Rumour-file has it also that **Mark Millon** may also be taking the field in WA.

Footscray has **Greg Goles** from Mt St Mary's College, Emmitsburg, Maryland. Greg captained the College's lacrosse and soccer teams in his senior year, and heard about Footscray from the brother of US player Geoff Schroll who played for Footscray in 1990. Greg is sport's development officer for Footscray, and is running a school based programme in the Yarraville District area. This will become a Saturday morning competition at Footscray in the 2nd and 3rd terms this year. This type of activity provides a great source of players for lacrosse - great to see the imports helping develop lacrosse in Australia.



Greg Goles (Footscray) - from Maryland

Most of those who come have a great time, and have helped club coaching, both at the junior and senior level. They help in Club recruiting programs, providing more depth for the local teams and also making great contact points for players when they travel overseas. While there has been much debate about the use of imports through the years, there is no doubt these people are helping the development and promotion of our sport in Australia.



# Personality Profile - Visiting American Andy Firman

by Lloyd Homes

Andy Firman hails from Canton, New York State in the Northern US (just near the Canadian Border). He played lacrosse for Brown College, Rhode Island. What he has done since then though sets some examples of the range of experience which, given the initiative, one can achieve in a short space of time in lacrosse.

Andy is a qualified Civil Engineer who decided to "do something of diverse interest" with his life before settling down in his career, and he is doing just that. The following outlines some of those experiences related to lacrosse which he has done since finishing College in 1993.

## *UK Junior Development (and Senior participation)*

A Junior Development Officer job in Manchester kicked off Andy's UK lacrosse experience. In this role he travelled around schools in the area publicising lacrosse, organising school sport and recruiting, typically visiting 4 to 5 schools a day.

His lacrosse involvement then extended to weekends when he coached juniors and played for seniors at the Heaton Mersey Club.

## *Coaching newer European Lacrosseurs*

He'd heard about lacrosse in Czechoslovakia, and decided to find a contact and see if could help them with lacrosse development there, and of course do some travelling at the

same time. The Czech's were happy to billet him while there, so he coached one of the four teams in their competition. There are four teams there, three in Prague and one at Plzen. He helped coach the Czech team which participated in the World Games at Manchester.

During his stay in Europe he also ran some coaching clinics in Germany for the teams there. There is one team from Berlin, and one from Munich.

## *Foray into "Down-Under"*

Having satisfied his thirst for Europe he then turned his attention to "down under", and in 1995 is helping out with the Altona Club. The skills he has in junior development will be put to good use in helping out Victorian Junior lacrosse, with his focus on Altona. As part of this activity he will be coaching Altona's Under 15's, and also helping Graeme "Snoz" McKinnon with State League coaching.

## *Other Interests*

Apart from lacrosse Andy loves travelling, and is an avid mountain climber.

## *Say Hello*

..... So if you see Andy (or any other international visitors) at any of the games (junior or senior) go up and make yourself known to him. He's very personable, and would look forward to a chat. These sorts of contacts can be invaluable if you get to travel overseas in the future.

Photo Redproduced by Lloyd Holmes

Do you recognise the team and any of the Players in this photo?

Need a clue?

It was taken in 1962.

If you are having problems turn to page 26.





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# Buying Lacrosse Equipment 1938 Style

The cost of buying gear for playing women's lacrosse has certainly changed since 1938, as the advertisements which appeared in the English Hockey and Field Lacrosse Magazine at the time show. For those who may be having trouble relating to the currency quoted at the time, the units are English shillings and pence. Hattersley's Varsity No.1 Special Crosses at 17/6 refers

to 17 shillings and 6 pence (12 pence = 1 shilling). If you were to convert that to cents at that time that would equate to around \$1.75

..... Costs have changed a lot since that time, but then so have values!

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Published by the Victorian Lacrosse Association, 10, St. James's Place, London, W.1  
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## A Manual on Lacrosse Circa 1925

The picture left is the front cover of a manual about lacrosse that was put out by the Victorian Lacrosse Association in about 1925. Notice no helmet but gloves were still used way back then! It is still an ideal winter sport - even summer, spring and autumn.



# ALC TAKES STAND ON RULES

*A significant change in the refereeing of Rule 71 relating to Slashing was announced prior to the season by the Australian Lacrosse Council. It's caused plenty of hot debate around the clubrooms with plaudits from some and criticism from others. The Lacrosse Player talked with ALC President, Doug Fox to find out what was behind the change*

## **THE LACROSSE PLAYER : Why was the slashing rule changed ?**

**DOUG FOX:** Actually there has been no change at all in the rules. What has changed is that we have enforced a literal rather than liberal interpretation of the rule. Last season the liberal interpretation used in the United States was trialled here. This allowed defenders to check both the gloved hand and the arm of the attacker if the hand was holding the stick. This resulted in some ugly horizontal checking on the forearm, elbow and even the upper arm. Rule 71 of the International Lacrosse Rules is quite clear:

"A player shall not strike any part of the body of an opponent, other than the gloved hand holding the stick, in an attempt to dislodge the ball from his opponent's crosse.... For the purpose of this rule, mere contact is not a strike. The contact must be a definite blow, and not merely a brush."

So there is no rule change, we've instructed referees to follow the International Rules, not the U.S. interpretation.

## **T.L.P: But it does come across as a major change. Why did ALC feel this was needed ?**

**D.F.** To protect players, protect the image of the game and shift the emphasis for defenders from physical intimidation to skill.

Being deliberately whacked on the arm is obviously not pleasant even if you are wearing padding. In the ALC's view, the way defenders and coaches have been taking liberties with the slashing interpretation used last season was not a positive image for the game. If we condone deliberate hitting on the body then, so far as the media, public and parents of new players are concerned, we re-inforce the image of lacrosse being a violent sport.

The ALC is serious about doing its' job to get the lacrosse "product" right so that the game can be promoted to a wider, and hopefully, growing audience. We want to see skilful play rewarded and there's nothing skilful about whacking an opponent on the arm.

## **T.L.P. Isn't it the job of the Referees Association to be the guardians of the playing rules ?**

**D.F.** No, the referees implement the rules and work to achieve consistency throughout Australia. It is the ALC's job to decide what the rules will be. Obviously the referees have a very important contribution to make in the framing of rules because they study, analyse and work with the rules more than anyone else. But in the final analysis the nature and health of the game in Australia, as reflected in the playing rules, are the responsibility of the ALC - the buck stops with the ALC Directors !

## **T.L.P. What do you think about the criticism of some players who feel that the change is penalizing the defender and handing too much advantage to the attacker ?**

**D.F.** We knew there would be some initial grizzles about this change of interpretation. When you take away something that people have had they will always react, even if what they had was wrong.

Of course the less skilled and more violent coaches and players will complain about this change. The smart ones and skilled ones have already accepted that the ALC means business and are getting on with it.

Look, when a sport legalizes and promotes the deliberate hitting of an opponent with what could be regarded as a dangerous weapon, then it's lost the plot. We don't need that. We have asked the coaches and players to go back to the drawing board and re-focus on technique and skill, not thuggery. Last year the use of the US interpretation promoted a situation in which an average player could defend one on one against a good running dodger simply by belting his arm until he gave up the ball.

Now we are asking for a re-assessment in favour of skill. This is a great opportunity for innovation.



Wouldn't it be exciting for Australian lacrosse if we had a revolution in defence like the one which John Butkiewicz caused when he introduced the clamp into face-off play. That was an outstanding piece of innovation which elevated the game. It didn't come by chance. It came because John is a keen student of the game and goes to extraordinary detail to create a competitive advantage for himself and his team.

There's a message there for the slouches who are crying out that the ALC has taken away their main defence tool and given the advantage to the attackers. Go and find some extra foot speed, some better body positioning, some quicker and more innovative stick checking and some better team sliding. I would much rather watch a Brad Skepper bewildering his opponent with lightning stick checks than drag him down a level in class by allowing him to rely on belting his opponents elbow - anyone can do that !

***T.L.P. It has been suggested that the change may damage the chances of Australian teams in international competition. How do you respond to that ?***

**D.F.** On the contrary, if we are to have any hope of closing the gap between Australian and US skill levels, then we will never do it by allowing our defenders to rely on whacking arms. We need some real skill upgrade, some coaching which gets to the detail and players interested in experimenting. Our national team coaches and players are our most skilful - We have full confidence that they are able to adjust and prepare for whatever they will meet in international competition.

In the meantime we have a sport to run and promote in Australia. Sometimes our elite players forget that the game is not being run for them alone. Much of the problem with slashing last season was not at the State League level. In the lower divisions and in junior grades, the hitting on arms and horizontal hitting into the body was giving the sport a thug image and leading to unnecessary animosity. We all know the cycle of poorer skills, less experienced referees, tempers flaring,

retaliations and players and spectators becoming malicious. ALC is not prepared to risk that simply because responsible controls were not there in the first place.

***T.L.P. Is there going to be more rule changes ?***

**D.F.** Let me say again, we have not changed the rules, just corrected what we believe has been an irresponsible interpretation.

Yes, there may be further changes coming up. The ALC Directors went through an interesting exercise in February when they were looking at the issue of defining and positioning the lacrosse "product" so that the sport has a chance to become more visible and popular. We did some brainstorming on what we **DO WANT** and what we **DON'T WANT** in the game. The table shows the list we came up with.

<b>DO WANT</b>	<b>DON'T WANT</b>
<i>Top athletic skills</i>	<i>Violence/ thuggery</i>
<i>Speed</i>	<i>Cheap hits</i>
<i>Constant action</i>	<i>Slow play</i>
<i>Spectacular action</i>	<i>Constant stoppages</i>
<i>Strong and fair physical contests</i>	<i>Animosity to officials</i>
<i>Safe game</i>	<i>Congested face-offs</i>
<i>Spirit of sportsmanship</i>	<i>Wild checking</i>
<i>Culture of fair play</i>	<i>Ugly/abusive spectators</i>
<i>Professional presentation</i>	<i>Poor presentation</i>
<i>- venues</i>	<i>Over- refereeing</i>
<i>- teams</i>	<i>Players and officials who don't respect the game</i>
<i>- coaches</i>	<i>Fighting</i>
<i>- officials</i>	
<i>More visible ball</i>	
<i>Simplicity of rules</i>	
<i>Marketable product</i>	

The ALC Directors agreed that some of the **DON'T WANTS** such as hitting on the body, violence and hostility needed action. We have taken that with the slashing rule. There are other things in the **DO WANTS** that are more jazzing up the game and we intend to get input from State Associations, clubs, players and officials before working on them. Above all we will be working to ensure that the game is exciting and safe and that it can be brought out into the public spotlight which we all know it deserves. If we get some debate and criticism along the way, then that is healthy.



# RULES AS A MATCH TACTIC

by John Harris

Quite often the articles which referees prepare for *The Lacrosse Player* have as their focus, the clarification of a rule which appears not to be well understood. At other times, an attempt is made to make reading about rules little less boring than reading the rule book. The 'what if' strategy becomes a useful ploy particularly if players can mentally relate to the situation being described.

On only few occasions is there an attempt to assist players to work out what might be a better playing tactic in a given situation - of course using rules as a backdrop. One reason for this might be that referees are advising players how to 'play the rules', another might be that coaches (as tacticians) see this as their role. Throwing caution to the wind (which reminds me of throwing a yellow flag on a gusty day) a few examples might be useful. But first some facts:

- most penalties are for technical fouls (either possession of the ball is awarded or a 30 second man down penalty is given)
- if the ball is loose, and team A is (by superior ability) is almost certain to get the ball, then action taken by team B to create a technical foul will:
  - result in an outcome which was going to happen anyway,
  - attract no time penalty
  - probably slow the game down.

Suppose (and this often happens) a really strong centreman wins a faceoff 95% of the time. Might it be possible for one of the opposing midfielders to break the zone at a centre face off, or a defence man to cross the end restraining line before possession is called, and thus cause play to be stopped and the ball be awarded to the team who was going to get it anyway?

The positives to this tactic are:

- Slowing play which is a fast break is always a good tactic.
- Causing a pause in concentration of the stronger team is again a good tactic.
- Creating a diversion is helpful.

The negatives could be:

- Tried more than twice or three times, any action becomes a predictable event - the tactic would then lose much of its value.
- The rules also allow for stiffer penalties for repeated technical offences.

You should be able to run through other plus's and minus's

## POSITIONING ON AN AWARDED POSSESSION

On a slightly more sophisticated level, is it effective to be challenging a player who has been given possession of the ball in (for example) an out of bounds call when players have to be

separated by five metres? (If the guy with the ball can't get rid of it before you cover five metres from a standing start he deserves to go down!!). Perhaps covering other parts of the field would be more helpful. Two players have to be dramatically different in talent to lose or obtain possession in such instances.

Really the tactic ought to be one of variation. Have players (ball possessors) been challenged every time or have they been unchallenged? It will be obvious that challenging and not challenging in a random fashion has more 'shock value' than being predictable.

## GOALCREASE AND THE GOALKEEPER

Nothing sharpens a goalkeeper more than having a few hungry attackers trying to pick up the loose crease ball. Sure, goals are thrown by obtaining possession, and the spectacle of the grab out of the goal crease and the quick shot is a real crowd pleaser. If you can con the goalie into being slower (by not challenging) for a while though then when you change strategy, you are potentially creating a surprise element. Besides, relatively few goals are scored from the grab out of the goal crease - in every sense such goals are opportunistic!

## SETTING A NEW STRING

Some coaches are very good at having their teams delay start of play when they wish to set a new defence (or attack) string. Others don't seem to worry.

## FAST VERSUS SLOW BREAK

In a non-rule dependent situation, the fast break and slow clear are simply variations which test the capacity of the other team to react with an

effective defence. Players usually do this according to pre-considered plans.

What probably needs to be done is for groups of players (or whole teams) to work out coordinated strategies of chaos - that is, not being predictable for a range of situations. As always the focus would have to be:

- at the centre (where possession is all important)
- at the goal crease (where the quick goal is always on)
- at transition plays (where possession can be lost)
- when play has stopped

There must be many other situations.

*Really the tactic ought to be one of variation. Have players (ball possessors) been challenged every time or have they been unchallenged? It will be obvious that challenging and not challenging in a random fashion has more 'shock value' than being predictable.*



# Under 19 Men's World Championships Japan 1996 ..... On Target

Preparations for the Australian assault on the Under 19 Men's World Championships to be held in Japan in 1996 are on target with a touring party of players and officials heading off to the USA on May 13 for a series of games against US College Teams. The schedule is very busy :

Sun May 14 - Arrive Washington DC  
Mon May 15 - Match vs St Paul's School  
Wed May 17 - Match vs McDonna High School  
Fri May 19 - Match vs MIAA All Stars  
Sat May 20 - Attend NCAA Playoffs  
Sun May 21 - Travel to Connecticut  
Mon May 22 - Match vs Local High School  
Tue May 23 - Match vs Local High School  
Wed May 24 - Match vs Wilton School  
Thur May 25 - Travel to Baltimore  
Fri May 26 - Match vs MD All Stars  
Sat May 27 - Attend NCAA Championships  
Sun May 28 - Match vs (to be finalised)  
Mon May 29 - Attend NCAA Championships  
Tue May 30 - Depart USA for Australia

With local competitions beginning the workload increases for everyone, however, the players, coaching and management staff are continuing towards their primary goal of success in the US, and then ultimately in Japan 1996.

## Support

Parental support for the World Championship Campaign has been terrific. Parents with boys involved in both the USA tour and/or in line for the World Series in Japan have developed support groups in each of Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia to raise money for their individual State representatives.

Activities ranging from car washes to chocolate drives, from film nights to giant gambling and auction nights have been arranged, and continue to be organised to raise \$500 per player per trip. All in the lacrosse community should keep their eyes and ears open for ways they can help, as these young men represent a big part of the future of lacrosse in Australia.

If you want to find out more about the activities within your State you can contact :

Victoria - Reg Bugeja (03) 885 8227  
South Australia - Andy Erskine (08) 298 3798  
Western Australia - Geoff Taylor (09) 279 3528

## Sponsorship

Assistance for this touring party has been limited to date. However, we have had good support from many sponsors.

We will be posting a full list of sponsors in the next issue of Lacrosse Player, but at this time we officially thank Simmons Beds.

Such generous support is very important so, again, if you think you can help out in similar ways, contact the Australian Manager Peter Voigt on (03) 329 0146 (Bus).

## Monster Car Raffle

The major fund raising effort for the U19's Men's Team is an Australia-Wide raffle for a Mitsubishi Lancer GL. Only 1000 tickets are being sold at a cost of \$50 each, or weekly payments of \$5 per week.

In addition to the chance of a car, the tickets also provide the opportunity to win any number of 20 FREE TICKETS being drawn weekly up to the final draw date of June 11th, as well as entrance for 2 to the draw night itself to be held simultaneously in Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia, with food and drinks provided.

For more details please contact any of the U19 squad members you may know, or one of the following :

- Victoria Bruce Freeman (03) 569 1419 (AH)
- South Australia Andy Erskine (08) 298 3798 (AH)
- Western Australia Geoff Taylor (09) 279 3528 (AH)

## The Next Stage

Following their return from the US the Australian U19 Squad will further their development through the National Senior Championships to be held in Melbourne July 9 to 15. The Squad for the National Tournament are :

### Team

Peter Buettner (WA), Nick Begeja (Vic), Mark Cleveland (Vic), Matthew Cody (Vic), Eric Dixon (Vic), Richard Feleppa (SA), Anthony Feleppa (SA), Tim Fry (Vic), Lucien Hoare (Vic), Peter Inge (SA), Scott McKinnon (Vic), Richard Newall (Vic), Brad Pallant (SA), Sam Perham (SA), Travis Roost (WA), Brad Ross (Vic) - Co-Captain, Jonathon Sheidow (SA) - Co-Captain, Robbie Stark (Vic), Nathan Stiglich (Vic), Mark Taylor (WA), John Tokarua (Vic), Dean Turner (WA), Ben Waite (Vic), Andrew Whitbourn (Vic), Mark Witty (SA).

### Alternates

Brad Blunt (Vic), Damien Cliff (Vic), Luke Colautti (Vic), Ross Morgans (Vic), Brad Williams (Vic).





## First Annual N.S.W. Juniors Coaching Clinic

*Though the skies were grey, an overcast day proved that sunshine isn't the only thing that can heat up a summer's day. The first annual Hot Shot Lacrosse Camp was under way, and more than 20 junior Lacrosse players from the Sydney area were romping around the field having a ball (pun intended)!*

Coming on the heels of a second successful season with the Sydney schools program, the camp was an opportunity for new and experienced junior players to get a greater exposure to the game, develop their skills, and more importantly, have fun. And while the players were outside playing ball, their parents met with the camp organiser in the clubhouse, where they had a chance to enjoy some coffee and cake (courtesy of the sponsor Lamington Land) and discuss the junior development program's plans for 1995.

Held over a course of two days, the participants were coached on all aspects of the game by the like of Wayne Hann - NSW State Men's Coach, Jamie Buchanan - 1994 Australian World Cup Representative, Neil Bates - 1994 NSW Best and Most Fair, and Jeff Portelli - 1994 Mosman Mens Coach.

Each day began with stretching and various drills that stressed fundamental skills. The players were then divided into groups to allow for greater individual instructions by the coaches. Full field games were played at the close of both training sessions, and video taping provided the opportunity the players and coaches to review and discuss the days' sessions.

After working hard with the local schools these past two years to get a solid junior program in place, Matt Duryea, National Development Officer, realised it was time to take the junior game in NSW to the next level.

"A lot of these kids", said Duryea, looking across the playfield, "have never seen a senior game. In fact, since the game played in the school program is Modcrosse, this is the first opportunity these kids have ever had to put on all the gear and have a full on game. We've got an incredible amount of knowledge in the coaches we have here, and it was a stroke of good fortune to have

Jamie available. Hopefully, with the instruction, videos, and actual game time, they will get an idea of where they can take their game."

Jamie, for one, proclaimed the camp a great success. "Watching play on the first day, you could see how new this was to a lot of the players. But it was amazing how far the kids had come by the second day. The improvement in some of the fundamentals, such as ground balls, and feeding a cutter was remarkable. And the players who showed up are keen on the game. I would think that NSW is on its way to putting together a solid under-15's team for the national's this year."

Coaches' Hann and Bates agreed with the assessment. Noting that NSW senior teams have already benefited from the youth development program, Wayne commented, "We stressed to each of the kids that not only are they on their way to playing lacrosse at senior level in NSW, but they can aim for playing on state under-15 team. In addition, with Lacrosse in NSW growing the way it is, their goal should be to one day represent Australia in the World Championships, like Jamie over there. And, after seeing these kids out there these past two days, I believe we will."

*Jeff Portelli*

## Playing Lacrosse in Front of 70,000 Spectators

The adrenalin was pumping. The band was playing. The cheerleaders were cheering. What a thrill.

Where else but Sydney could you get a crowd of 70,000 to watch Lacrosse.

70,000 to watch NSW Lacrosse! You better believe it. On April 1st (no not an April Fools joke) seven NSW lacrosse players participated in the Royal Easter Parade. Neil Bates and Matthew Duryea along with five 14 year old boys marched(?), played catch, through the streets of Sydney.

Yes, it was a thrill. There was no denying the excitement as we lined up between a Polo Club and the Fox Hunt Club. The horses were going crazy as we played catch (and chase). Once the organisers realised Lacrosse was not Polocrosse they moved us in front of the Polo Club and behind the St. George Cheer-leaders.

After an hour wait, finally it was our turn to start our parade. We turned the first corner to see people everywhere, the adrenalin was at full speed. We were catching and throwing amazingly well, especially considering two of the kids were so new to lacrosse they had to borrow sticks. As we walked we could hear the crowd talking - lacrosse, lacrosse, lacrosse in pace with our progress.

The 45 minute route seemed to take only seconds. While the whole event was a blur, you couldn't miss the television cameras or the 2 old ladies screaming and embracing each other as they were so excited to see lacrosse.

Just another day of Lacrosse in Sydney.

*Mathew Duryea*





## 1995 Season

*April 8 saw the first round of the 1995 lacrosse season under way with an increase in the number of teams playing in W.A. In the senior grades Division 1 has the same 5 teams and Division 2 has the same 6 teams as last season. In Division 3 a team from Subiaco has come in to cover the loss of Nollamara which has no teams involved in 1995.*

*In the Under 17 competition teams from Bayswater and Wanneroo are additions to the 1994 roster while Phoenix have not been able to resurrect the team which failed to complete the 1994 season so a net gain of 1 team results. Wanneroo have a second Under 15 team to increase that competition to 6 teams while the Under 13's retain the same 5 teams.*

## 'Break a leg'

East Fremantle senior player Andrew Tailor had worked hard preparing for the 1995 season having not played for a few years. The first game of 1995 brought an unwelcome break - in his leg which will keep him off the field for a while longer. Best wishes to Andrew for a complete and speedy recovery. The injury to Andrew did not stop his father, Bob Tailor, from playing in the first Masters game for the season on April 9. Bob was organizer of the Australian team which competed in the 1994 World Grand Masters competition in Manchester and brought home the Walking Stick trophy.

Masters games are played at 12 noon before each Division 1 Sunday game. Several new players like Gary Kennedy and Barry Press joined the 'old stagers'(or is that staggers?) in an enjoyable game which requires no referees - and no scorers as every game is a draw.

## Rule Changes

Several changes to W.A.L.A. Rules provide more control over individual players involvement in different grades which will make for a more 'honest' result in terms of results of games and numbers of players involved. In summary the changes provide for a) a senior player may play in only one game in any one fixture - last season a player could play for Division 3 then again on the same day or fixture for Division 1 or 2.

b) a senior player may not play in Division 2 or 3 if he played the preceding week or fixture in Division 1 and the Division

1 team has a bye - last season the Division 2 and 3 teams playing teams from the Club with the Division 1 bye were facing Division 1 players for those games.

c) senior players must play 7 games in seniors to qualify to play in the finals. The player qualifies for the grade (or a higher grade) where most qualifying round games were played - last season only 3 games were required to qualify.

d) senior players cannot compete in a lower level final once they have played in a finals game - last season a player could play in a Division 1 final then play in a Division 2 or 3 final if available and qualified.

e) junior players must play 5 games to qualify to play in a final and may return to play in a lower grade final if they are available and qualified for that grade.

## W.A.L.A. Directors

In addition to Directors advised in the previous edition Roger Smith is Director of Finance and Ron Smith is Director of Senior Lacrosse.

## W.A. Lacrosse Foundation

With 26 of the 30 Mod-crosse kits already hired out the W.A. Lacrosse Foundation has gone out to tender for the supply of an additional 10 kits of Mod-crosse equipment to ensure that no team is unable to compete because of equipment problems.

The Foundation is also providing, at no cost, to each Club a score-board to assist in upgrading the quality of presentation of games.

Each Club has also been offered a large banner for display at their grounds for a heavily subsidized cost of \$100.

## Healthway Sponsorships

Healthway is the W.A. organization which promotes a healthy lifestyle through the use of funds from cigarette taxes. Healthway will generally support groups (including lacrosse Clubs) which develop programs or projects which increase youth participation, improve the quality of sport for the community and which adopt and maintain smoke free policies and other health promotion initiatives in their venues. Clubs must be incorporated and items such as equipment purchase or interstate tours do not qualify. W.A. Clubs interested in applying for a grant should contact Healthways, P.O. Box 1284, West Perth W.A. 6872 for an Application Form.

## 1998 Australian Team

Congratulations to John Denic on his appointment as Coach of the 1998 Australian Team. John becomes the first Australian Coach to be re-appointed to the position for senior teams. (1996 Under 19 team Coach Graeme Ross was re-appointed after his successful 1992 performance) John will be working with Australian Team Executive Director Alan (Barney) Frederick with whom he has previously worked when Barney was Manager of the 1994 Australian Team.



## Bayswater News

While the Division 1 Coaching position is not finalised the first game for 1995 produced a win over Phoenix with 11 players included in the team who were not in the team at the end of the 1994 season.

## Kuljak News

Long serving members Eric Biddle and Luke Pitsikas were honoured with Life Memberships at the recent A.G.M.

## Australian Under 19 Squad from W.A.

Australian Under 19 Team Assistant Manager Geoff Taylor has been active in organizing several fundraising activities to assist Team members touring U.S.A. in May. Following a successful Quiz Night a Dinner and Giant Auction was held at the Greenwood Hotel on April 8. With plenty of donated goods auctioned off at bargain prices the dinner and auction was enjoyed by a gathering of some 140 people and was successful in boosting the funds for W.A. team members.

## Sports Programs

There are many programs for sports which are conducted at both National and State level by agencies other than the National or State sports organizations. The Australian Institute of Sport and the Aussie Sports programs at the National level and State Institutes of Sport at State level are perhaps some prominent examples.

Some of these programs are basically a funding mechanism such as the Australian Athlete Scholarship Scheme (AASS) for which lacrosse (men's) qualified by winning the silver medal at the 1994 World Lacrosse Championships. This program provided a scholarship of \$200 per month for 26 lacrosse athletes but has been subject to review. No advice has yet been received about how (or whether) the scheme will operate after 30 June 1995.

An important task for lacrosse administrators is to continually monitor the various programs at both national and state levels to ensure that lacrosse is considered for inclusion in those programs for which it is eligible. It is also pertinent to challenge state and national agencies which control these programs about why lacrosse may not be eligible for inclusion. Many programs are restricted to Olympic sports or include other specific eligibility criteria which excludes lacrosse and other similar sports from being involved.

A relatively new program is Talent Search which is designed to assist Olympic sports identify talented athletes and prepare them for participation in the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games and beyond.

Despite assurances from politicians that non - Olympic sports will not be disadvantaged by the Australian success in winning

the rights to conduct the year 2000 Olympic Games, many programs are designed specifically for the benefit of Olympic sports.

Lacrosse administrators must not only keep themselves informed about existing and new programs but also keep pressure on agencies at National and State level to provide the same opportunities for lacrosse athletes, as non - Olympic sport athletes, as are provided for those sports which are included in the Olympic Games.

## About Equipment

The availability of equipment has been a significant factor in the history of lacrosse in Australia. Earlier this century problems were experienced in the supply of the then wooden hickory sticks from North America and this contributed to the disappearance of the game from some parts of Australia. Efforts to produce an Australian wooden stick did not achieve great success.

The advent of plastic/aluminium sticks eliminated the dependence on hickory and provided the potential for local stick production as the technical expertise was available in Australia. However the stick design was protected by patent and the manufacturers argued that the size of the Australian market did not justify production in Australia. That patent has now expired and it is possible to produce an Australian lacrosse stick. Advertising in the previous edition of 'The Lacrosse Player' tells me that a stick is being produced in Australia and will be available soon. Lacrosse sticks have been produced by a manufacturer in the Czech Republic since 1992 at least.

However the most significant costs are now in protective equipment such as helmets, gloves, armpads etc. and there appears to be little interest in local manufacture.

It is not only the absence of local manufacture which has been a problem but more particularly the methods for distribution of the equipment. Not so long ago equipment was only available through a State distributor who sometimes had nominated 'agents' in most clubs for players to deal with. This

was expanded to the use of a small number of sports stores which sold lacrosse equipment. One supplier has now turned to mail order supply of equipment. In one State the lacrosse Associations (men's and women's) operate a Lacrosse Shop. Several new distributors have entered the Australian market in the last few years.

But with all these developments the availability of lacrosse equipment in Australia is still a problem and is not

supporting the development of lacrosse in Australia. As a coach of a junior team it is very frustrating to have players coming to training the week before the season starts and reporting that they could not buy equipment because 'it is on the ocean' or some other excuse which reflects poorly on the game as it does on the suppliers.

New players do want to be able to go to their local sports store and choose the equipment that best suits them - in the same way that they choose their shoes or football or hockey or basketball gear. Seeing the equipment on display in sports stores contributes to the level of awareness of the game and familiarizes people to the sport.

The manufacturer or distributor who can find a more effective way to distribute lacrosse equipment in Australia will not only benefit the game but will also build a stronger business.

*The availability of equipment has been a significant factor in the history of lacrosse in Australia.*



# VIC NEWS

## Great Start to '95

*The Victorian Season got underway with it's (now traditional) opening round for State League held at the one location, and the draw selected on the basis of ranking at the end of 1995. This had the effect of providing a great venue for everyone to "get together" for the start of the new season, and to provide for an even competition for the start of the new year.*

And so it was at Footscray for the opening round on the 1st April, and the results for most matches were close, even though a number of sides had some significant changes to their line-ups. Last year's grand final "re-run" between Malvern and Williamstown saw Malvern run out winners by a 3 goal margin. Williamstown have had some significant changes this year, and are having to use some of their younger players to fill the places -



*Camberwell's Tim Holmes cradles the ball past Surrey Park's James Mogans.*

*Photo Lloyd Holmes*

one of the notables leaving Williamstown is Charlie Zaraffa, who has joined Altona to give them a boost for 1995. Williamstown's Mark Butler we hear is in Albury with work, and won't be on the circuit this year (playing football for Manangatang's 3rd Division

side?). Cliff Jennings has retired. Malvern is awaiting the return of Adrian Skepper after an absence of two years touring the world and playing Club lacrosse in Baltimore. Many "commentators" are tipping Malvern to be the side to beat this year. There aren't a lot of changes from last year, and Malvern are building on the "team" approach, a "winner" last year.

Camberwell has lost Jason Davenport who has gone to study and play lacrosse in the US, joining his long time mate Adam Jackson. Adam, who returns to Australia around July this year, is currently recovering from a knee reconstruction. Camberwell has also lost hard hitting defenceman Matt Roberts who has "gone North" for work. American Brian Pollock played his first game



*Camberwell's George Weisse, on his knees, looks to see if he's scored - attacking him are from left Brett Sexton, Cam McLachlan, and (from the rear) Cam Sheppard. Keeping an eye on the progress is referee Arnold Porter.*

*Photo Lloyd Holmes*

for Camberwell against MCC in the third round, giving some extra depth in the young side which coach Graeme Ross is tipping to be a side to look out for in the finals this year.

Scotty Oldfield is back with Caulfield after tripping around Queensland. Rumour file has it that Chris Brown will also be returning to Caulfield. Shane Hellings is back after taking a year off for studies. It's a hard road for Caulfield though.

Eltham's coach Bill Stahmer is not giving much away on his expectations this year, other than to say he will "...give us an idea around half way through the season". Dogged with injuries (Ben Fleming - cruciate ligament; Cameron Barr-Kemp - shoulder; Mark Cleveland - knee) and the retirement (is this true?) of Craig Wearne, Stahmer is disappointed with the start to the season, but it's early in the season. The addition of star US centre player Charlie Lockwood is sure to give Eltham a great boost this year.

Chadstone, with three imports this year, are looking forward to good year. They are hoping the imports will help develop the youth in their side, and give them the strength to be a competitive side at the State League level.



Visiting American Greg Goles is giving Footscray a badly needed boost around the midfield. Footscray have a few years to go before juniors from the under 15 ranks can provide the youth they need to be a force of the future.

MCC also hope to consolidate this year. Like Caulfield and Footscray they still have spurts of play, demonstrating they can be very competitive against the top sides.

Many rumours were, as usual, floating around at the start of the season, but as usual most did not eventuate. Some did though!

Lacrosse '95 in Victoria started off with cold and wintry conditions for the two opening rounds. Is this an omen for this winter?

## Coaching

Not many new coaches in State League this year - The main change sees Fergus Stewart, after 5 years at Surrey Park, passing over the reins to Jeff Robertson. Jeff



Photo Lloyd Holmes

Eric Jenney (assistant coach - Surrey Park) from Boston - Setting a new trend in Coaching attire.

started lacrosse at Latrobe University (yes, there used to be a team from Latrobe University), and then went onto Melbourne University. He joined Surrey around 1979, played for Victoria on many occasions, and for Australia in 1984. He played State League until 1992. The hard hitting play of Robertson may not be missed

by some forwards in the competition. Robertson has coached junior lacrosse, but his transition to Seniors is a new challenge. American Eric Jenney is assisting Jeff. Eric set a formidable standard for others in the opening round, if for no other reason than his dress style. The dapper dress style (complete with waistcoat), raised many eyebrows with its debut with Surrey at the opening round at Footscray. Is to be a future trend for lacrosse coaches?

During Fergus's 5 years with Surrey, they had four grand final appearances, and one flag. This was the memorable final against Williamstown in 1993 when Surrey came back from an 8 goal deficit at three quarter time to steal the flag in a last ditch stand. He may be seen on the field during the year, although maybe not in State League.

Caulfield has a coaching change with Andrew Whittington taking over from Clive Sheppard. Andrew has a tough task ahead of him, and will need a lot of support from players.

Andrew Firman will assist Graeme "Snoz" MacKinnon in coaching Altona (See article on Andrew on Page 12). McKinnon is optimistic that his side will improve progressively through the season, so keep an eye on Altona.

## Box Lacrosse - Summer Competition

This competition unfortunately ended in a wash-out for the grand final. Unfortunately also we have not received a commentary on the season - perhaps next year. A lot of effort went into the preparation for this series, which was held at Altona Lacrosse Club. Grandstands were provided, great music at intervals, and commentary during the play of the game.

## Indoor Lacrosse - Drawcard For New (and Old) Players

*Indoor lacrosse is played in Melbourne and Adelaide, and who knows where else. It's not field lacrosse, but it's attracting a following, and looks like growing. To find out what attracts new players Lloyd Holmes visited the Melbourne Indoor Lacrosse League (MILL) to ferret out "what's the attraction".*

Melbourne Uni Team player Amanda Benson says "Melbourne University, with it's high turnover of players, traditionally have a bit of a problem getting things underway for the start of the season. So we decided it would be a good thing to enter a team in



MILL and get new players going here. The intensity of the game gets things moving. It's non contact so it doesn't put many of the girls off. It's not intimidating, and it's a lot of fun".

Lucy Clark (from Scotland), a new recruit to Melbourne University, had never played lacrosse before but "had seen it played at a lot of prep schools in Edinburgh when I was there last year", and 'thought it looked a lot of fun". When Lucy first started playing indoor she found it "so fast", but it was "a bit scary at first".

Alison Ovst was studying physical education at University of South Australia when she first heard about lacrosse. "Wendy Piltz (remember that name from the last issue of The Lacrosse Player") was a lecturer there, and there were a few of us who got into the sport through her. It was part of the course there, and a few of us started playing on Saturdays. Wendy was a real inspiration there! I really only played for a few months, and had an injury. When I came to Victoria I had no idea I would be playing lacrosse here. I was reading the "Progress Press" (local newspaper in the Camberwell area), and noticed a story about Brad Ross and his involvement with the Australian Under 19 Squad. I saw the lacrosse stick, and got quite excited when I read that his sister played indoor lacrosse. There was a number at the end of the article which I rang to find out where indoor lacrosse was played ..... and here I am! It's great fun. I teach physical education at Luther College in Croydon, and I'm making sure Sof-crosse stays in the curriculum there. [POSTSCRIPT - IT JUST GOES TO SHOW - SOME PUBLICITY DOES HELP RECRUIT FOR THE SPORT].

Jeremy Aughie heard about indoor through his sister, who's husband (Travis Stowe, who used to play field lacrosse until the mid 80's) put together a team of rank amateurs to play indoor lacrosse. "I'd only seen about 10 minutes of outdoor lacrosse before, many years ago, and I was a rugby player then. The idea of the indoor, non-body contact, version appealed to me, and I decided to give it a go. The things that appeal to me are the speed and the small court - someone who has the ability to turn on a burst of high speed can get a lot out of it. I like the Team aspect of the sport, and it's been around 12 years since I last participated in a team sport. There aren't many team sports where a player can continue participating in when they get a little older. The closest thing for me in touch rugby, but that's outdoors, whereas here it's

indoors, at a convenient time, and it's great fun. Being able to play in a mixed gender team also adds another dimension to the sport. There are few sports where men and women can compete at the same place, and at the same or higher level. Many of the women players have much greater skills than the men".

John Barlow (aged 43 years) had never played lacrosse until last year, although his children had. I read about the indoor competition in the "The Lacrosse Player" and decided to come down and have a look. It looked fun, so we decided to have a go. That was two (MILL) seasons ago, around September 1994. "I used to play squash twice a week, but lacrosse has now taken over one of those nights. There aren't many avenues for players in their 40's to join a team sport. One of the main thoughts in our minds when we entered a team two seasons ago was to involve juniors. This formed a 'bridge' between the 'field' seasons, keeping the kids participating in the sport, and it builds up their confidence in the sport. At Chadstone we tend to lose players between seasons, and this can help keep the players in the sport. That's another great thing about indoor lacrosse - you can mix up all ages in the one team".

## ..... And around the traps

Observed at the opening round of State League in Victoria were Don Riddington (represented Australia in



From Left: Don Riddington, Ken Reid, Bob Pettit

1976, and MCC player), Ken Read (who needs no introduction) and Bob Pettit (looking much fitter, after recovering from some heart attacks late last year). Peter Stiglich we hear is also making a great recovery after his car accident - great to see him around the Lacrosse circuit again.

Photo Lloyd Holmes



## Rememberence

Margaret Boyd passed away suddenly and peacefully on 21st November 1993. Maggie was well known in the Lacrosse fraternity. She was a teacher and Coach of Lacrosse and ran Lacrosse/Hockey Coaching Camps in the USA for many years. She visited Australia in 1969 on a Coaching Tour of Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia. She was a driving force behind a visit by "The British Pioneers" (coaches and players from the Home Countries) and a US Team which played the first International Women's matches in Australia following her Coaching Tour.

Margaret was the instigator in the formation of the International Federation of Women's Lacrosse Associations and became their first President. She was awarded an M.B.E. for her work in Lacrosse in 1989 which was presented at the 20th Anniversary Celebrations of IFWLA during the 1993 World Cup.

## Out of Retirement!

Mr. Sandy Grant came out of retirement and put VWLA Accredited Umpires through their first fitness test at Caulfield Park on Monday, 10th April, 1995. The session was conducted in rather cool, windy conditions with a soggy field surface and it consisted of a warm up lap, stretches, 4 x 10m shuttles, 50m sprint, 200m run, 50m sprint, 200m run, 2400m run, warm down and stretches, followed by 2 minutes of sit ups and 1 minute of push ups. All attendees enjoyed the session (when it ended!) and are looking forward to the next two sessions to be held during the season.

## VWLA

### Executive Officers 1995

**President:** Mrs Margaret Cobern  
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Greensborough 3088  
Ph: 434 6575

**Vice Presidents:**  
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8 Masefield Avenue  
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**Secretary:** Ms Shelley Maher  
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East Malvern 3145  
Ph: 571 9989

**Treasurer:** Gail Sedgeway  
13 Maclean Street  
Williamstown 3016  
Ph: 396 1957

**Record Secretary** Anne Kingston  
19 Elizabeth Street  
Newport 3015  
Ph: 3919520

# WANTED

## U13 Development Officer

The VWLA are seeking the services of an enthusiastic, highly motivated individual to act as the Development Officer for the U13 Girls competition in 1995. This is a part time, paid, position. A duty statement can be obtained from

VWLA Hon Secretary  
Ms Shelley Maher  
Ph 571 9989



## Mystery Photo

The Team shown on Page 12 was the first winners of National Women's Lacrosse in Australia following its demise in the late 30's. The winners were Victoria who defeated South Australia in Adelaide 10 goals to 7 in 1962.

**Back Row :** J. Smith, G Minniece, Y.Buchanan, R.Lyle

**Middle Row :** Mrs O.Taylor, Mrs R. Yuille (Vice-President), N. McPherson, N. Speakman, J.Shaw, Mrs J.Titter, Mrs L.Rolley (Vice-President)

**Front Row :** D. Harwood, Mrs M. Cleggett (Captain), Mrs J. Parker (President), D.Greer (Vice-Captain), M.Grant, A. Noulty, A Bates

## Malvern Lacrosse Club Inc.

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## Like Father, Like Son!



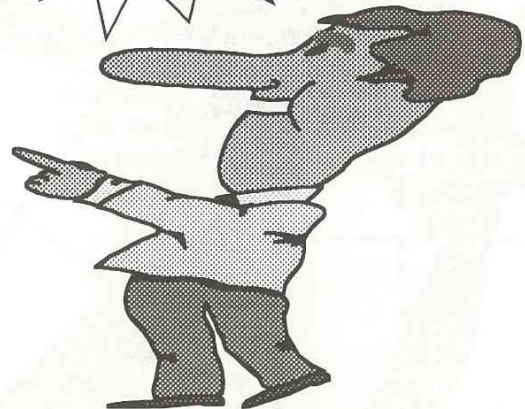
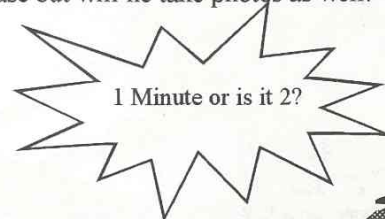
How many times do we see father/son or mother/daughter or relatives in the same team? More often than most people realise.

*Caught at work, or is it play, Lloyd (left) and Adam resting between quarters in a Summer League Game.*

However here's one for the records!

Adam Holmes is following in his father's (Lloyd) footsteps after having problems with his knees whilst playing. Rather than give away lacrosse Adam has decided to take up the challenge and become a ref. Lloyd, who takes nearly all of the photos seen in the magazine and writes many articles, has refereed over 200

games. Of course starting out with a few years advantage over his dad, Adam should be able to achieve this milestone with ease but will he take photos as well!



## Mervyn Davies Clocks up 300

Mervyn Davies from Footscray, who was featured in the November 1994 edition of The Lacrosse Player sporting new referee gear (black shorts), clocked up his 300th game of lacrosse at Footscray on Saturday 29th April 1995. A very dedicated Club man, Mervyn is a real identity around lacrosse. Congratulations, we look forward to covering the 400th game!

## Keen on travelling to Perth in October ?

The VWLA are seeking **Coaches** for the **U16 and U21 State Teams** for this period and are keen to hear from any interested persons. All applications should be forwarded to

VWLA Hon Secretary

Ms Shelley Maher, 8/80 Darling Road, East Malvern 3145



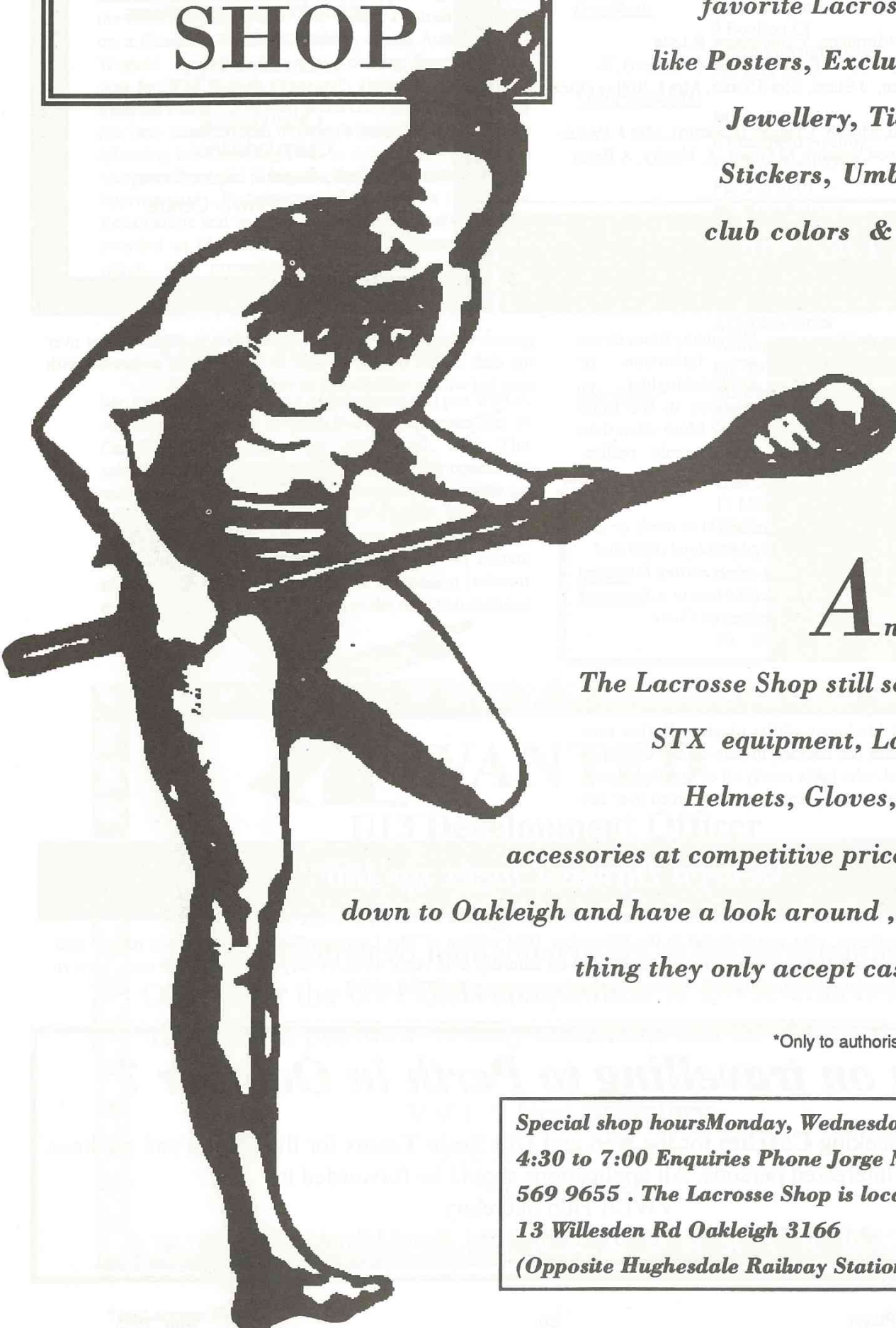
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# Kids at Play..... The Lacrosse Way

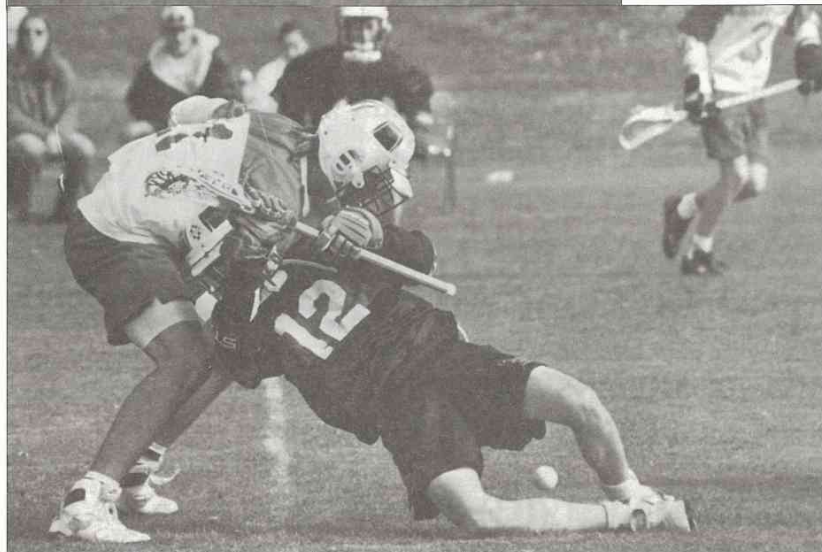


Tim Stark (Caulfield) races away from Camberwell's Anthony Collins, Rob Proctor and Tristen Dolling in the Under 15 game on April 12.



Opening Round Under 16's Footscray v Williamstown - Footscray showed a lot of determination, but went down by one goal when the final whistle blew. It would have been their first win in the Under 16 competition.

Photos Lloyd Holmes



The ball slips away from Malvern's Nick Moran and the Surrey Park player at the centre face off in the Under 15 clash on April 21 at Menzies Reserve.



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# Victorian Summer League “Winners” - 1995

In the last issue of *The Lacrosse Player* a brief article appeared about the Victorian Summer League played at Monash University over the summer break. Below is a picture of the winning team. Better late than never!



Rear: Darren Gibson, David Spreadborough, Matthew Ingham, Duncan Russel, Scott Garnsworthy, Richie Turner, Jason Turner, Andy Hogg, Rick Cotgrieve, Ritchie Toomey, Cameron Toomey  
Front: Paul Cook, Cam McLachlan, George (from Japan), Damien Orr

## Charlie Lockwood - USA Team 1994



Charlie Lockwood - USA Team  
Member World Series Manchester  
1994

*Charlie Lockwood* arrived two days before playing in his first Australian State League game for Eltham against Chadstone on April 22. Chatting to him we found that he thought the ground conditions would be hard to get used to but looked forward to the challenge that lay ahead. Of course after only two days he did not really have any impressions of Australia so maybe we'll catch up with him later in the season to see how he is going.

He remembered the tough game against Australia in the mud and slush after a thunderstorm and related that he could see where the Australian Team had its foundation for playing in such conditions.



Charlie in his first game in Australia against Chadstone at Eltham Park

Whilst the grass may be greener, the mud is certainly heavier here than in the USA. Welcome to Lacroz!



## Start Shooting, Vic Season is Open

By Clare Kingston

*For all you animal rights activists don't worry, the only shooting I'm talking about is goals! The Victorian Women's Lacrosse season was opened on a perfect Autumn day by Joyce Parker.*

The first round of the season was hosted by the Altona Lacrosse Club, with everything running smoothly. We started off with two games before the opening ceremony for all those early risers. We then moved onto the official part of the day with the opening ceremony. Badges were presented to players and officials of the 1994 Victorian representative sides and the Victorian representatives in the 1995 U/19 Australian team. To all those who made the U/19 Australian team I'd like to say a great big WELL DONE!!! Back to the opening ceremony. We were graced with a few words from the V.W.L.A. Patron Joyce Parker. It was great to see her there and to have her declare the season officially open. It was also good to see a few of the

lost sheep return to the flock. Notably the return of Mr. Sandy Grant to help with the development of umpiring and a few other players who had strayed.

With the return of a few players and the development of others it looks like the competition is getting better. I must say a few of those up and coming juniors have been taking their improvement pills because they made me take a second look. Keep up the good work. The nine games after the opening ceremony provided us with some good lacrosse with all players throwing themselves back into another season. For most people I've spoken to they felt like they had been throwing themselves around, at least that's what their muscles told them. Maybe our muscles are telling us to make sure we not only warm up but also warm down. May our muscles rest in peace and not pain!. At the end of the day with half the teams victorious and the other half coming second ( there weren't any draws); a successful start to the 1995 lacrosse season was ensured.



*Line-up to start the 1995 Women's Season at Altona's Paisley Park - Williamstown (left), Caulfield (right) and guess who in the centre..... the officials of course!*

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S/Light 2 - (Mesh).....	59.00
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Twinefinder - (Mesh)...	52.00
Trad. Strung.....Add	6.50

### Modified Lacrosse:

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Trad. Strung.....Add	7.50

### WOMENS

Brine Cup - (Trad).....	\$ 65.50
Netfinder - (Trad).....	65.50
S/Light 2 - (Trad).....	65.50
Magic - MX (Trad).....	74.00
OSZ - (Trad).....NEW	81.00
Edge - (Trad).....NEW	110.00

All Prices Include Handles...  
MD Includes Defence Handle

## LACROSSE HANDLES

32" Alum. Attack.....	\$ 21.00
32" Aircraft Alloy.....	41.00
32" Graphite Attack.....	38.50
32" Hickory Attack.....	33.50
40" Alum. Goalie.....	24.00
58" Alum. Defence.....	33.50
58" Aircraft Alloy.....	62.00
58" Hickory Defence....	41.00

## STRINGING KITS

MPK - Mesh Kit.....	\$ 18.00
TPK - Trad. Kit.....	19.50
MPKG - Goalie Kit.....	27.50

## LACROSSE BALLS

LBW - White Ball.....	\$ 4.00
LBO - Orange Ball.....	4.00
LBY - Yellow Ball.....	4.00
KUSEL - Match Ball....	5.50
WB - Modified Ball.....	3.50

## LACROSSE SHOES

Iroquois - Low Cut.....	\$ 85.00
Mohawk - Mid Cut.....	90.00
Navaho - High Cut.....	95.00

## LACROSSE HELMETS

### SPORT HELMETS

SHU - Snr. Ultralight....	\$120.00
SHUY - Youth Size.....	120.00
SHUB - Boys Helmet....	110.00
SHUW - Womens.....	110.00
SH1 Standard Model...	90.00
Standard Chin Strap....	12.00
Deluxe Chin Strap.....	17.00
Helmet Decals.....each	0.50

### COOPER

HM600S - Junior.....	\$ 95.00
SCOTT ASPEN	
SAHM100 - Junior.....	\$ 90.00

## GOALIE BODY PADS

BP3 - Jnr. Body Pad....	\$ 45.00
BP4 - Yth Body Pad....	47.00
BP7 - Snr. Body Pad....	49.50
GBP - Deluxe Pad.....	78.00
TPP - Throat Protect....	9.50
BP12 - Womens.....	214.50

## LACROSSE GLOVES

L10 - Boys Gloves.....	\$ 49.50
L25 - Youths Gloves....	63.00
L35 - Mens Gloves.....	86.00
L33 - Mens.....NEW	87.00
L30 - Mens Gloves.....	88.50
UFG750 Snr. Gloves....	67.50
UFG650 Jnr. Gloves....	53.50
WA35 Wrist Attach....	12.00
WLG - Womens.....	32.50
WSG2 Womens Dlx....	42.00

## LACROSSE ARM PADS

LAP4 - Clip-on Pads....	\$ 73.00
LAPL - Long Foam.....	23.50
LAPS - Short Foam.....	20.00
LAPM - Jnr. Foam.....	22.00
SAG2 - Snr. Pro Pad....	45.50
SAG2J - Jnr Pro Pad....	42.00

## SHOULDER PADS

SP9 - Vinyl Dipped.....	\$ 47.00
SP9 - Cloth Covered....	41.00
FP1 - Flex Pivot.....	62.50
FP2 - Flex Pivot Dlx....	75.50
FP1J - Flex Pivot Jnr...	57.50
SP4J - Junior Model....	46.00
SP4R - Reg. Model.....	47.00
SP4L - Large Model....	48.50
SP35J - Junior Model...	46.50
SP35R - Reg. Model....	48.00
SP35L - Large Model...	49.00

## LACROSSE RIB PADS

RPL - Senior Rib Pad...	\$ 36.00
RPS - Junior Rib Pad....	31.50

## LACROSSE BAGS

CTB - Large Canvas....	\$ 70.00
CIB X/Large Canvas...	85.00

All prices plus freight & handling charges if applicable, for shipment anywhere in Australia.  
Freight charges average \$8.00 for all Interstate orders and \$5.00 for deliveries in Melbourne.  
Small orders can be posted for \$1.80 or \$2.80 per parcel. Phone or Mail Order available.

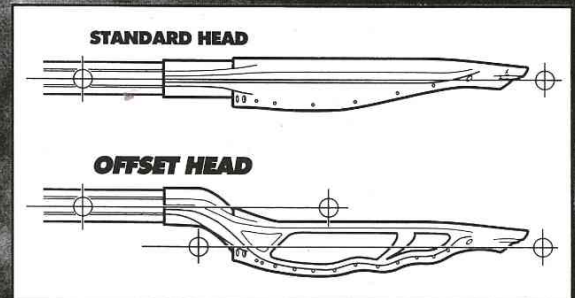
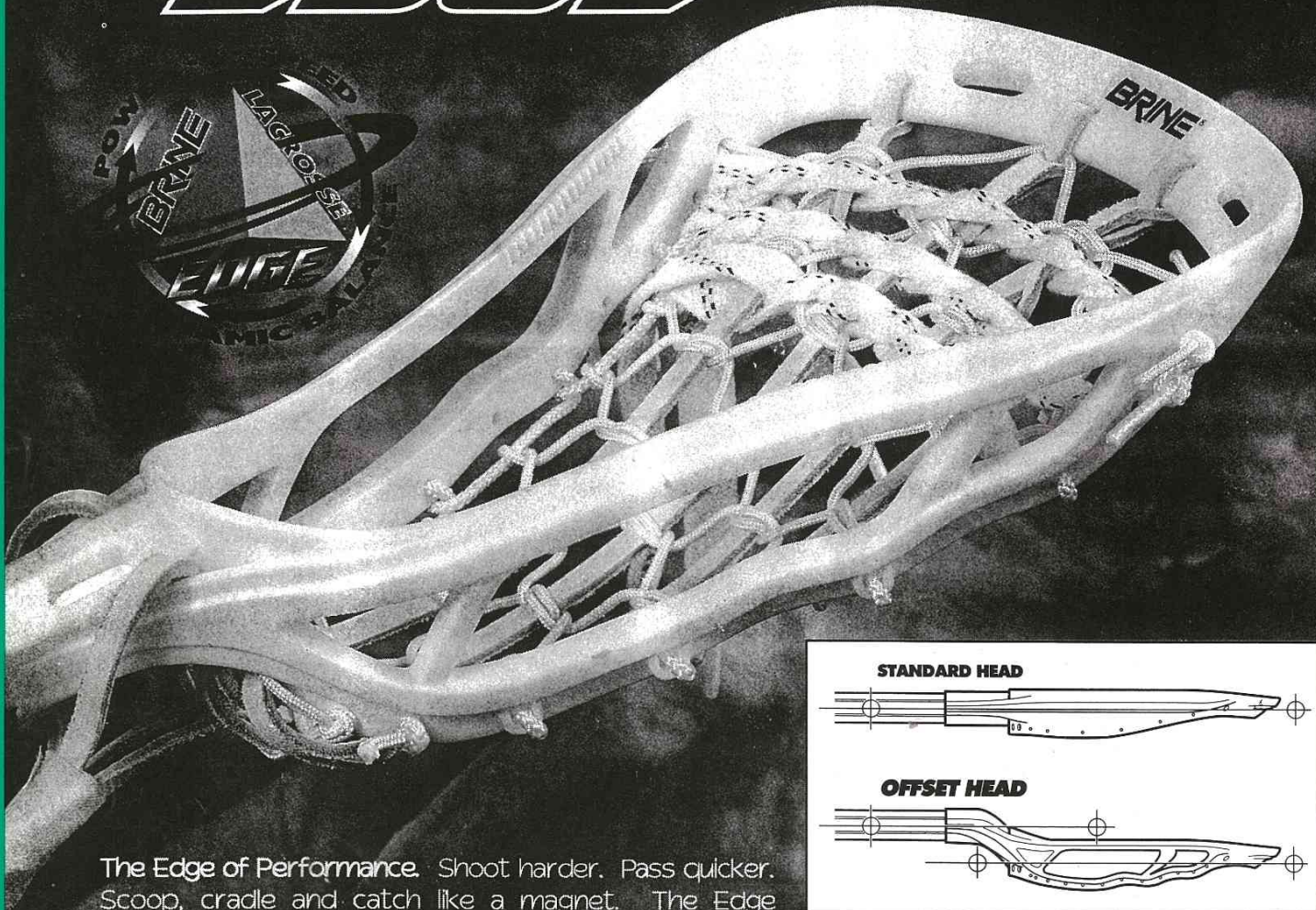
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