

# 1975 Newspaper Articles

## Sunday's Match of the Day FRANKSTON PRESTON

**FRANKSTON:** Papoutsakis, Knott, Adams, High, Eadie, Lewis, McKay, Shanks, Buchanan, Clamp, Campbell.

**PRESTON:** Economides, Trajkowski, Stamos, Harrison, Blacker, Fox, Presilski, Grannon, Mihailovic, McIntyre, Katevski.

Frankston City had a good crowd at the Seaford Reserve for this attractive fixture against promotion-seeking Preston. Both teams had won their first-round matches, Frankston 3-0 against a lethargic Fern Tree Gully and Preston 3-2 against Albion Rovers. I must confess that I made my way to Seaford under the impression that Preston would be able easily to account for Frankston, remembering that they won the corresponding fixture last season 5-2;

The first half passed uneventfully enough, with

Preston playing seemingly well within themselves, and weaving pretty patterns, and to all but the staunch Frankston supporters it seemed but a matter of time before Preston asserted themselves.

However, after the restart, it was Frankston who asserted themselves and slowly but surely began to get on top. Preston were still weaving their pretty patterns but Frankston were repelling their attacks with increasing ease, in fact they were pressuring the Preston defence and the cracks were beginning to show. Then 10 minutes into the second half it happened Graham Clamp who was having a good game, put Billy Buchanan away with a great pass and the blonde centre banged the ball away with great glee. I thought the goal was contributed to by Economides' failure to come off his line, but it was well-taken, nevertheless. Ten minutes later, the wandering Clamp, this time on the left flank, found Shanks unmarked in the box and Ian hooked the ball into the net. Preston protested that the goal was offside and Shanks was offside when he scored, but not when the ball was passed to him, the Preston defenders stepped forward a split-second too late. The linesman who had a clear view of the incident had no hesitation in pointing to the spot.

This second goal knocked

the stuffing out of Preston and even the 75 minute dismissal of Billy Lewis for a wild kick at Mihailovic brought them no respite, for the Frankston Ten handled Preston's powder-puff attack with consummate ease, and Papatsoukas was disturbed from his reverie only once, by Billy McIntyre, who characteristically, was refusing the lie down.

As the sky darkened and disillusioned Macedonians began to wend their way from the ground, a speculative lob by Cele Presilski was kindly nodded home by Bobby Adams for a Preston consolation prize, but he was clearly disinclined to repeat the performance, and Preston were equally clearly incapable of scoring themselves, so the game ended in a famous Frankston victory.

This result, I feel, has thrown the First Division championship wide open and has already made it a much more interesting tussle than last season's. After two rounds I'm at a loss to find a favorite, and that's good. Frankston have the makings of a really good side, with the return of David High there is an air of authority at the back, and they have found that rare commodity, a good striker. Preston's is a more complicated story. There is so much good football there, and yet it all leads to nothing and they seem determined to fiddle while Macedonia burns.

METROPOLITAN						
DIVISION ONE						
	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Frankston City	1	1	0	0	3	0
St Albans	1	1	0	0	2	0
Keilor City	1	1	0	0	1	0
Waverley City	1	1	0	0	3	1
Preston	1	1	0	0	3	2
Altona City	1	0	1	0	0	0
Essendon Lions	1	0	1	0	0	0
Albion Rovers	1	0	0	1	2	3
Western Suburbs	1	0	0	1	1	3
Keilor	1	0	0	1	0	1
Green Gully	1	0	0	1	0	2
Ferntree Gully	1	0	0	1	0	3

choice I'd say Preston.

Frankston City are going great guns at the moment and I don't think the depleted St. Albans will be able to hold them out. Western Suburbs v. Essendon Lions has draw written all over it, it depends on who scores first I think.

## SOUTH THIRDS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Waverley A	4	3	1	0	16	2	7
Doveton	4	3	1	0	11	7	7
Clayton	4	2	0	2	14	11	4
Frankston City	3	1	0	2	12	4	2
Frankston Pines	2	1	0	1	4	5	2
Portsea OCS	2	0	0	2	1	6	0
Monash Uni A	3	0	0	3	4	27	0

It would appear the title race lies fairly and squarely between these two now. Altona City are at home to Western Suburbs on Sunday and should win, whilst Keilor City have hard opponents in Preston.

Preston, not as good as expected, will nevertheless be trying hard to improve their standing, but are having player trouble at the moment, which causes me to lean towards Keilor City. Frankston City, disappointed at the loss of 2 points to Green Gully, will no doubt beat Keilor, whose form is dismal and Lions should account for Ferntree Gully. Hot and cold Albion, who can score and concede goals apparently with more facility than any other team, will have their work cut out with Green Gully, who have emerged as the dark horses.

One interesting statistic came out from the weekend's results in that Altona, still undefeated, conceded their first away goal at Ferntree Gully. It was a black day generally for home sides, only four out of twenty-four managing to win and the Fourth Division results, in particular, highlighted the evenness of Metropolitan Soccer; there were five draws and one away win there.

Frankston's Championship hopes took a severe dent at Green Gully, and

they now have to look for a win at Altona when they visit there on 28th June, if they are to remain in contention. From a season that seemed to promise so much by way of a close championship tussle, the First Division has lapsed into a two-horse race remarkably quickly and the whole League, I feel, is the poorer for it.

The most disappointing aspect of having only one club promoted is that the team or teams in third place soon lose interest. What applies to the top of the table would seem to apply to the bottom too, where Keilor seem determined to prove that they never deserved State League status in the first place.

The next club up the ladder, Ferntree Gully, has had a change of coach, Alan Stenhouse, the former Hakoah stalwart taking over the reins there. I wish him every success, for I know he has a battle on his hands.

### ★ ★ ★ SECOND DIVISION

Box Hill's win over Brighton was a very important one for them since all four top clubs won, and all away from home too. Suddenly, this has opened up a gap for Princes Park, fifth on the ladder, are now five points behind the leaders Box Hill, who have a three

## GRAHAM BEATS CANCER

**FORMER George Cross and Frankston City striker Graham Baulk has recovered from the killer disease, he contracted some months ago.**

Graham had an identical case history to that of football league star Peter Crimmins of Hawthorn, and became good friends with the champion Hawk rover during treatment for lung cancer.

Graham Baulk, now 28, played at Watford in the English Third Division, before migrating and joining George Cross in the mid sixties. He had seven or eight games in the Champion George Cross team of that time and scored 22 goals for the reserve side. Graham also top scored two years running for First Division club Frankston City whom he joined with close friend Brian Finch also from George Cross in 1968.

Describing Peter Crimmins as a "gutsy little fellow", Graham, looking trim and fit, gives heart to any that similar unfortunate circumstances may befall. Friends and fans of Graham Baulk will be pleased to hear he is fully recovered.

...the most spectacular part of our game is

# METRO MATCH OF THE DAY

By LES SHORROCK

## GULLY TOSS FRANKSTON

Green Gully 1, Frankston City 0.

**THE weather, cold and blustery with threatening rain clouds scudding overhead, was in marked contrast to last week's, and Green Gully's Supremo, Lew Straface, wisely switched the Reserve games to another ground.**

There was a stiff wind blowing across the pitch as Green Gully, first to settle down, went into attack and swarmed around the Frankston goal and ex-Sunshine stalwart, Albie Seenan, crashed in a shot that looked a goal all the way until Billy Papoutsakis somehow tapped.

A great save and a great save. Frankston down and Billy Buchanan showed that he was going to be a handful with a good try that went inches wide.

Play was scrappy but exciting as both defences found it difficult to judge a swirling breeze. Borg in the Gully goal was busier than Papoutsakis, but most of his work was done cleaning up balls that were either too long or too high for the Frankston front men. Franz Berens was handling Billy Buchanan well too.

Still, play was even, but scrappy, with plenty of mistakes being made. One by Norrie Campbell let in Green Gully, but the

Meechan and Manny Spiteri, and straight away at the other end Marion Lopatic took a free kick which came to nought.

Two minutes from the interval, Gully should have gone ahead. A Dave McCurry long throw caught the Frankston defence in two minds and a nippy Ray Langdale darted in to hit an angle of post and bar with Papoutsakis nowhere. H.T. 0-0.

### SECOND HALF

The second half opened with a flurry and Frankston attacked through Graham Clamp after a good clearance from Papoutsakis. This proved a false alarm though and the game lapsed into mediocrity, the wind got colder and the clubrooms became more crowded.

The well chilled faithful few had begun to resign themselves to the second goalless draw at the Gully, in succession, when the game woke up with a bang

Frankston goalkeeper.

He went to collect a hopeful ball from Gully that was going over the line. As Manny Spiteri dashed in to challenge him, Papoutsakis used his elbow to fend him off, and referee Tuffield, who incidentally had a good game, had no hesitation in pointing to the spot. Albie Seenan, mindful of the slippery pitch, carefully planted the ball in the corner and the whole of Green Gully celebrated.

They had the ball in the net again 10 minutes later, but it was blatantly off-side and Tuffield said so. With time running out fast, Frankston City made a last desperate onslaught and for what must have seemed like hours for the anxious Gully supporters, the ball bobbed about in their six-yard box, finally being headed off the line by the tireless McCurry, and the game was over.

It was a difficult game to summarise. Frankston, when I have seen them at

football, and have always appeared competent and workmanlike, but at the Gully they seemed knocked out of their stride and unable to recover their poise. Gully, on the other hand, played the ideal game for their home environment, and as I said last week, they are hard to beat there.

Dave McCurry and Hammy McMeechan have worked wonders for them, along with Joe Wilson the coach. Dave McCurry, besides taking all the throw-ins and most of the free kicks, seems to be playing simultaneously in the back four, the mid-field and the forward line. Maybe there are three of him... I'll bet Lew Straface wishes there were!

**GREEN GULLY:** Borg, (Mick), Wolcziecki, T., Borg, (Mario), Muscat, A., Berens, F., McMeechan, H., Howard, P., McCurry D., Seenan, A., Spiteri, M., Langdale, R., SUBS: Segl, A., Clark, M.

**FRANKSTON CITY:** Papoutsakis, W., Knott, R., Adams R., High, D., Campbell, N., Lopatic, M., Merrick, W., Shanks, I., Irvine, J., Buchanan, W., Clamp, G., SUB: Murray, S.



# IT FINISHED ON BALL SQUARE

FRANKSTON C. 0 v. ALBION ROVERS 0

**FRANKSTON CITY:** Burgess N. Knott, R. Adams, R. High, D. Schang, J. Logan, M. Merrick, E. Lewis, W. Irvine, J. Buchanan, W. Campbell, M. Sillis, Watson, G. and Murray W.  
**ALBION ROVERS:** Blasby, P. Cree, W. Deparis, J. Rae, W. Donnelly, H. Cross, D. Lenders, A. D'Silva, M. Francisco, D. Watson, M. McMinnee, J. SUGGS, Fagan, M. Emin

**THIS was a very vital match for both sides, as the loser would be facing an anxious weeks in the cellar, and due to recent events neither could have faced the game with great confidence.**

Frankston are in the middle of a horror trot, having played nine games (eight League and one Cup) without a win, and Albion Rovers for their part having lost their last four games. In addition to that the Committee dismissed coach Bobby McLachlan on Wednesday.

With several first team players unavailable through injury or other commitments the Rovers team ran on to the field could have been epitomised as 'something old, something new, something borrowed, and feeling blue'.

Albion had recalled Billy Cree who had hung them up — fortunately he hadn't nailed them up, and had David Prentice, on loan from Melbourne, making his first appearance.

Prentice who came to Melbourne from St Mirren, had an exceedingly unfortunate start here, breaking his leg in his first game.

It was a bleak Seaforth-type day, as Frankston won the toss and Albion kicked off against a slight breeze. In my notebook I wrote "early play very scrappy", but truth to tell, that summed up the first half.

However, I was busily engaged working out Frankston's line up, because they follow the modern trend of giving the players the same numbers to wear all the season, which might help with the

angling every time he set off, and it was noticeable that it was often left to Frankston's fastest player, Johnny Irvine, to catch him.

Lenders lacked support however, as the inexperienced Watson and D'Silva couldn't always read his moves. One good run by him and a neat triangular movement with Prentice and McMinnee, saw the latter shoot wide.

The crowd had doubled now, as the Westgate Bridge workers had knocked off, and Steve Walker and Andy Savage had arrived too. Donnelly decided to live things up with a big thumping ball down the middle, and young Nick Burgess had to be quick to beat Micky D'Silva to the ball.

Albion replaced Mick D'Silva with Mick Emin and Frankston's Gary Watson came on for Ernie Merrick, but still neither side looked like breaking the deadlock.

The next flutter of excitement was caused when Billy Cree gave away a free kick close in, but Cree made amends by heading off the line with Blasby beaten. Gary Watson nearly made a name for himself by reaching an almost impossible cross, but his off-balance header went wide.

The game slowly ground its way to its inevitable finish and I spent the last 15 minutes admiring the impeccable refereeing of Bob Henderson from Scotland.

After the game I was able to talk to him at some length and get his impressions of the game here.

He said he had never met the columnist who quoted him last week as saying that the Altona-Preston game was as good as Scottish Second Division, and in any case I found him unwilling to draw comparisons, although he said he was greatly surprised by the standard of the game last week at Altona. He was extremely diplomatic about the game he had just refereed.

He is a First-Class cricket umpire too, and 'stood' last year in the Scotland v. Northern Ireland game. I asked him about his most controversial decision and he told me that it came in a Scottish county match. The bowler, seeing the batsman advancing out of his crease, stopped short in his run up and threw the ball over the batsman's head to the wicket-keeper, who promptly ran him out.

Son Bob was signalling no-ball with one arm and giving the batsman out with the other. It caused an uproar, but he was right 'well, he!

Well, back to Soccer. Albion Rovers got a valuable point because

# METRO MATCH OF THE DAY



A FLYING header by Box Hill's Don Brownlie over Croydon's Johnny Bedford, against a backdrop of banner waving, chanting supporters in a packed stand.

# METROPOLITAN LEAGUE REVIEW

By POTTER

**FIRST DIVISION**  
LAST weekend's results cast a little more light on the Championships, and Kellor City will probably come to bitterly regret their 2-1 defeat at the hands of Western Suburbs.

Preston, thanks to a big win over doomed Kellor Australia are now on top, by a point from Altona, whose goal average however, is the better. With six games to go, anyone of the top three could be champions, and this week's Collier Street clash between Preston and Green Gully could be decisive.

If this should end in a draw on Sunday, Altona would have a great chance of going back on to as this week they face St Albans, a relegation candidate. Down at the wrong end of the business, Kellor, certainties for relegation, will be accompanied by either St Albans or Fernree Gully, as both Frankston and Albion Rovers gained a very valuable point on Saturday.

**PRESTON'S** remaining games are: — Green Gully (H), Kellor City (H), Western Suburbs (A), Essendon Lions (A), Altona (H), and Waverley C. (A). ALTONA'S last six are: — St Albans (H), Western Suburbs (A), Kellor Austria (A), Fernree Gully (H), Preston (A), Albion R. (A).

**GREEN GULLY'S** six are: — Preston (A), Albion (H), Essendon Lions (H), Frankston C. (A), Waverley C. (H), Kellor City (H).  
On paper, Green Gully

will appear to have the easiest run home as they play four home games, and I think their chances hinge on a good result this week. As Altona City and Preston both play Western Suburbs, and away at that, it would seem as though Western Suburbs holds the key to the League. Altona City have four away games in their last six, but since their away record is much better than their home record, they shouldn't worry too much about it.

**THIRD DIVISION**  
Last week's results did nothing to settle the intriguing question of who goes up in this Division, since all the top four won a game. This week Heideberg and Doveton would seem to have the easier tasks, being at home, whilst Bell Park have a danger game at Prahran, and Ringswood United, who, they should win, although it won't be easy. Essendon City would now seem to have no chance of escaping relegation along with Caulfield City.

**FOURTH DIVISION**  
Ballarat's defeat at home by Doncaster has set them

a hard task to achieve second place, and Doncaster would appear to be home and hosed with an easy home fixture against Corio coming up this week. Broadmeadows go to Clayton where they should win and there will be a bitter battle at Moorabbin where Ballarat are the visitors.

**PROVISIONAL LEAGUE**  
Morwell Falcons beat Fawkner last week in a thrilling game to go two points clear at the top of the table. It looks now as though the title is theirs, but they won't be taking this week's game at Wertheim lightly, I'm sure.

**FOURTH DIVISION**  
Ballarat's defeat at home by Doncaster has set them

their two vital matches must be the Green Gully and Altona matches at home, but they won't take Eastern Suburbs or Essendon Lions lightly. All in all, an absorbing struggle, and one which I feel won't be settled until the last kick on September 4th.

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