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A fitting finale

Zebras and Cats set to cap off a super season.



Welcome football fans to the 2006 TRUenergy VFL Grand Final, the final act in one of the competition's most compelling seasons.

Today, Sandringham shoots for a hat-trick of premierships, a feat accomplished only 10 times in the 129-year history of the VFA/VFL.

Ironically, one of the clubs to achieve three successive Grand Final triumphs is Geelong, which completed a three-peat twice – from 1878 to 1880 and 1882 to 1884 – whilst Port Melbourne was the modern VFA trendsetter from 1980 to 1982.

Sandringham will also be playing to honour the memory of president Gary Gilchrist, who sadly passed away during the season. It would have been a special day for Gary, a Geelong supporter in the AFL, but a passionate Zebra man.

The Cats hold a 2-1 advantage in head-to-head meetings this season, but one of those was by one point. The scene is set for an epic Grand Final.

This year has been a season of

records, individual highlights and the dawn of a new era for the Casey Scorpions.

Frankston's Aaron Edwards dominated like few before him to become the first full-forward to win the J.J. Liston Trophy and the Jim 'Frosty' Miller Medal in the same season. To cap off a stellar season, Edwards was named in the VFL Team of the Year.

The Casey Scorpions, formerly known as Springvale, unveiled Casey Fields, their new home ground, boasting a magnificent playing arena as well as fabulous facilities.

It is a major step forward in the club's development, as it taps into one of the fastest growth corridors in Victoria.

Certainly, the Scorpions' evolution serves as encouragement to other clubs to explore all available options as suburban Melbourne sprawls well past its historic boundaries.

The move also highlights how communities and TRUenergy VFL clubs can link together to develop resources and a common vision.

Congratulations to umpire Shane Mason, Frankston's Daniel Clarke, North Ballarat's Nathan Saunders and Sandringham's Nick Sautner on achieving VFL life membership.

Football Victoria also acknowledges the career of Werribee captain Travis Robertson, a triple best and fairest winner and Victorian captain, who announced his retirement recently.

As the standard of the TRUenergy VFL continues to spiral upwards, Victorian fans have embraced the competition in record numbers over the 2006 finals series.

Congratulations to stand-alone club Frankston, whose commitment to its cause was rewarded this season with its highest finish since the revamped competition.

Many thanks to TRUenergy, our No. 1 sponsor for the past five years, for its continued support. We look forward to extending the partnership into the future.

Have a great TRUenergy VFL Grand Final day.

Ken Gannon,
CEO Football Victoria



RECORD

GRAND FINAL SEPTEMBER 24, 2006

COVER: Geelong coach Leigh Tudor and captain James Byrne will face off against Sandringham counterparts Mark Williams and Chad Liddell in today's TRUenergy VFL Grand Final.

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UP, UP AND A JAY

Jay Neagle grabs the TRUenergy VFL Mark of the Year.

Eighteen-year-old Jay Neagle has won the 2006 TRUenergy VFL Mark of the Year. Neagle, a father-son selection for Essendon in the 2005 AFL Draft, pulled down his screamer playing for the Bendigo Bombers against Tasmania in round seven (right). Four other marks were in contention for the honour, with Neagle's effort selected via a vote on the TRUenergy website.

The lucky voter in this year's TRUenergy Mark of the Year was Brenton Peake.



**Jay Neagle Bendigo Bombers
Round 7**



**Ben Atkin Tasmania
Round 2**



**Josh Kennedy Northern Bullants
Round 11**



**Aaron Edwards Frankston
Round 17**



**Cameron Hunter Box Hill Hawks
Round 6**



**David Pitt Port Melbourne
Round 9**

SHERRIN SUPER KICK

The following four finalists will take part in the Sherrin Super Kick at the TRUenergy VFL Grand Final:

Name	School
Daniel McKerracher	Caroline Springs College
Dean Woodhead	Drouin College
Ben Birthisel	Benalla College
Shaun McKernan	Gladstone Park SC

Results from preliminary final weekend:

Shaun McKernan (Gladstone Park SC)	54.6m
Nicholas Suban (St Patrick's College)	53.4m
Matthew Cunningham (Vermont SC)	50.7m

Edwards reaches for the stars

Former Eagle looks for second shot at the big time.

Aaron Edwards, the first player in the VFA/VFL to win the Jim 'Frosty' Miller Medal and the J.J. Liston Trophy in the same season, may be lost to the TRUenergy VFL next year.

Edwards has confirmed that one AFL club – the Kangaroos – has already spoken to him, and that number is likely to increase significantly in the weeks leading up to the AFL Draft.

The 22-year-old, who dominated the VFL like few have in recent seasons, will also play in the VFL Under-23 North v South match in AFL Grand Final week.

Frankston coach Brett Lovett expects that Edwards will be given the opportunity to re-launch the AFL career that stalled on four games after he was de-listed by the West Coast Eagles at the end of 2005.

Edwards is hopeful that another AFL club will give him a chance to prove he can play at the elite level.

"I think I have something to offer an AFL club," Edwards said. "Brett helped me by playing me forward, after I played centre half-back with my team in the WAFL last year.

"I want to play at the highest level, so hopefully someone will give me that opportunity. Now, it is just a waiting game."



Edwards was surprised, yet honoured to win the Liston Trophy.

Lovett believes Edwards, 184 cm and 93 kg, can be a third marking forward for an AFL club.

"He has the ability to take a contested mark and beat an opponent one-on-one," Lovett said. "Aaron leads very hard at the ball, has very good hands and upper and lower body strength."

Edwards was presented the J.J. Liston Trophy by 2005 winner Paul Johnson, a teammate from their days at the Dandenong Stingrays, the West Coast Eagles and the WAFL.

While he would love to still be at an AFL club, Edwards said he was happy to come home to Victoria and play for Frankston.

Lovett heard that Edwards had returned home and was eager to play in the TRUenergy VFL, and asked Frankston's Stewart Kemperman, a friend of Edwards from their days at the Stingrays, to sound him out.

"He was kicking goals when he played with the Stingrays, and although he played back in the west, we decided to play him forward," Lovett said.

Edwards was more than happy to sign with Frankston, which had a number of players he knew from his days in the TAC Cup.

"I've really enjoyed it down there, I've enjoyed the year and the club won a final," Edwards said.

"No one wants to get delisted. I didn't know where I sat with the Eagles and I was on holiday when I found out. I probably took advantage of a couple of things, like being away from your parents and doing whatever you want.

"I probably didn't take all of the best options, and in the end I realised that and the Eagles got rid of me.

"Football is my number one thing, that's what I wanted to be good at, so I gave it a massive crack.

"In the end I just wanted to play good football again. I came to Frankston under Brett Lovett to enjoy my football and become better."

I want to play at the highest level, so hopefully someone will give me that opportunity. Now, it is just a waiting game.

Adding a Liston Trophy to his 'Frosty' Miller Medal and VFL Team of the Year honours hadn't really been on his radar.

"I thought if I got an early vote I might go okay, because I knew I had a pretty good second half of the season," he said.

Edwards admitted there was little more he could ask for after one of the most dominant individual seasons for many years.

"At the start of the season, I just wanted to play consistent football," Edwards said. "I just wanted to get

better at all the little things, and Brett certainly helped me with that. As the end of the year came, the team started playing better and that helped my results."

Edwards focused on improving his goalkicking, and spent time before and after training having shots for goal. He ended up kicking 100 goals and 50 behinds for the season – an outstanding 66 per cent conversion rate.

Another aspect that Edwards worked on was his second efforts when the ball hit the deck in the forward 50.

"Early on in the year, if he didn't mark the ball or it didn't land lace out, he tended not to put in great second or third effort," Lovett said. "But as the year went on, his ability to lay tackles and work hard at keeping the ball in the forward line improved, which is very important in football these days," Lovett said.

"He reads the ball in flight earlier than a lot of players, and if it drops short or changes direction, he has the ability to pick that up quicker than his opponent.

"It is a big step up to the next level. He has to keep working on his all-round game. His kicking has been unbelievable, and now he has to work on his endurance and build up his motor a bit.

"All year, he showed the ability to be able to turn it on, but it was more towards the end of the year when we were playing good football that he really stepped it up.

"To kick 100 goals, I don't know whether that will be done too often at VFL or AFL level in the future. It is a terrific effort."



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Next generation steps up

The VFL Team of the Year is loaded with fresh faces in '06.

Season 2006 marked a generational change in the VFL Team of the Year.

For the first time since 2002, it did not include Sandringham captain Chad Liddell, Werribee counterpart Travis Robertson, Casey Scorpions skipper Steve Harrison or Tasmania's Ben Atkin. Selectors were left with just six players who had previously been selected.

Geelong captain James Byrne, Werribee's James Podsiadly and Salim Hassan, Northern Bullant Justin Crow and the Bendigo Bombers' Jordan Doering are the only returning members from the 2005 squad, while dual Sandringham premiership player David Gallagher returns from the 2004 team.

This meant that 16 players made their debut in the Team of the Year – the most debutants ever chosen.

Two players – the Casey Scorpions' Kyle Mathews and Coburg Tiger Jacob King – made their VFL debuts this season after stepping out of suburban football. North Ballarat's Matthew Sharkey played 15 games in the reserves last season, but he is now one of the first selected each week.

Sharkey is one of three 20-year-olds in the team. Scorpion David Biagi has the honour of being the youngest player in the team, three days ahead of teammate Mathews.

Daniel Harford is the father figure of the team at 29, with the average age just 23.8 years.

For the first time in memory, only one TRUenergy VFL captain – Geelong's James Byrne – was selected in the team. Last year there were seven.

For the first time in several years, there are no AFL rookies in the squad. While AFL-listed players are not eligible, AFL rookies can qualify, provided they have not been elevated and played an AFL game.

From last year's squad, both Michael Rix and Josh Gibson have debuted in the AFL, and it will be interesting to see who will make similar progress after 2006.

As always, there were several players unlucky to miss out.

Geelong's Jason Davenport was named as the Fothergill Round medallist, but could not break into the lineup. However, it should be noted that the Fothergill Round Medal is awarded for the most promising young player who has the potential to play in the AFL.

Selectors felt that Kyle Mathews had a better season than Davenport, but his AFL stocks may not be as high as Davenport's.

Sandringham's Peter Summers also enjoyed a great year, but it was felt that Werribee teammates James Allan and Salim Hassan offered more.

North Ballarat ruckman Orren Stephenson had a breakthrough year and Ashley Eames had a consistent first season with Frankston, but

Warren Carlyle stood tall for the Borough throughout the season.

Nick Sautner, chasing his seventh selection, was edged out by James Podsiadly as it was felt that Podsiadly provided more versatility.

The fact that there were so many tough calls emphasises that the TRUenergy VFL's depth has never been stronger.

Shaun Pollard



David Biagi (Casey Scorpions)

One of the most improved youngsters in the competition, who was able to shut out key opponents and provide the Scorpions with a springboard to attack, booting 14 goals.

Shaun Pollard (Frankston)

Developed into the premier full-back in the competition. Ultra consistent, reliable, and played the percentages to perfection as he nullified some of the competition's star full-forwards while providing drive from defence.

Andrew Biddlecombe (Sandringham)

Has slipped under the radar of many, but finally received the acknowledgement he was due with a splendid season in defence. The attacking tall defender was extremely effective in blanketing opponents and providing a link out of defence.

Daniel Harford (Northern Bullants)

The 'comeback kid' showed he had lost little after a year away from the game. A gifted, skilful and creative player who read the play superbly, racked up quality possessions and set up many of the Bullants' forward thrusts.

Justin Crow (Northern Bullants)

The two-time Team of the Year player enhanced his reputation this season as he again stood tall in defence for the Bullants. Was a major reason why the club restricted opposition teams to a miserly 10 goals per match.

Jordan Doering (Bendigo Bombers)

Gained his fourth successive and

fifth overall selection in the Team of the Year with another outstanding season. Athletic, attacking and aggressive half-back who remained a prolific possession winner and provided Bendigo with plenty of drive.

David Gallagher (Sandringham)

Tenacious, hard-running wingman whose fearless attack on the ball and speed were evidenced whenever he took the ground for the Zebras. Carries the ball through the lines and can chip in with goals at crucial times.

James Byrne (Geelong)

The 2006 captain of the Team of the Year is a regular Victorian representative whose leadership skills are respected by everyone at Skilled Stadium. Always uses the ball to advantage.

Kyle Mathews (Casey Scorpions)

Raw recruit from Ringwood in the Eastern Football League who had a stunning debut season for the Scorpions. What he lacked in size and strength he more than made up for in courage, character and commitment. Possesses speed and stamina and proved a real find for the Scorpions.

Tim Hazell (Port Melbourne)

The former Hawk enjoyed his best season with Port Melbourne. Versatile, and was particularly damaging when he drifted forward. Strong overhead, used the ball to advantage and provided a great role model for his young teammates.

Digby Morrell (Northern Bullants)

Extremely good in contested marking

situations, brought teammates into the game and capped off his season 48 goals. The former Kangaroos and Carlton big man was a key to the Bullants' success and an on-field leader.

Brett Geappen (Tasmania)

Played his 100th game for the Devils and again proved a high possession winner who was very good at stoppages. Provided plenty of opportunities for his teammates around goal.

James Podsiadly (Werribee)

Winner of the 2005 'Frosty' Miller Medal, Podsiadly once again proved to be the go-to guy for Werribee, finishing third in the VFL goalkicking with 67 goals. Very powerful in marking contests, and was able to fill a variety of roles.

Aaron Edwards (Frankston)

Was the superstar of the competition in his first year in the VFL, and became the first full-forward to win the J.J. Liston Trophy. Reached 100 goals in the finals and proved a very strong mark and deadly converter.

Salim Hassan (Werribee)

Despite injury, remained one of the most explosive players in the competition. Ability to run and carry the ball cut up opposition teams and he also took some thrilling marks. Second consecutive Team of the Year honours in just his second season in the VFL.

Warren Carlyle (Port Melbourne)

Former Coburg ruckman made an emphatic return from the WAFL,

emerging as the standout VFL ruckman. Very good at centre bounces and stoppages, and complimented his game with strong aerial work around the ground.

Brett Johnson (Williamstown)

The silky-smooth former Hawthorn and Carlton midfielder used the ball superbly in his first season for Williamstown and finished runner-up in J.J. Liston Trophy. Ball magnet who invariably found a teammate with his precise left foot.

James Allan (Werribee)

Emerging quality rover of the competition, whose season was cruelly ended after 12 games after leading the Liston Trophy count at that stage. Improved work rate led to plenty of possessions, and was able to burst away from opponents.

Jacob King (Coburg Tigers)

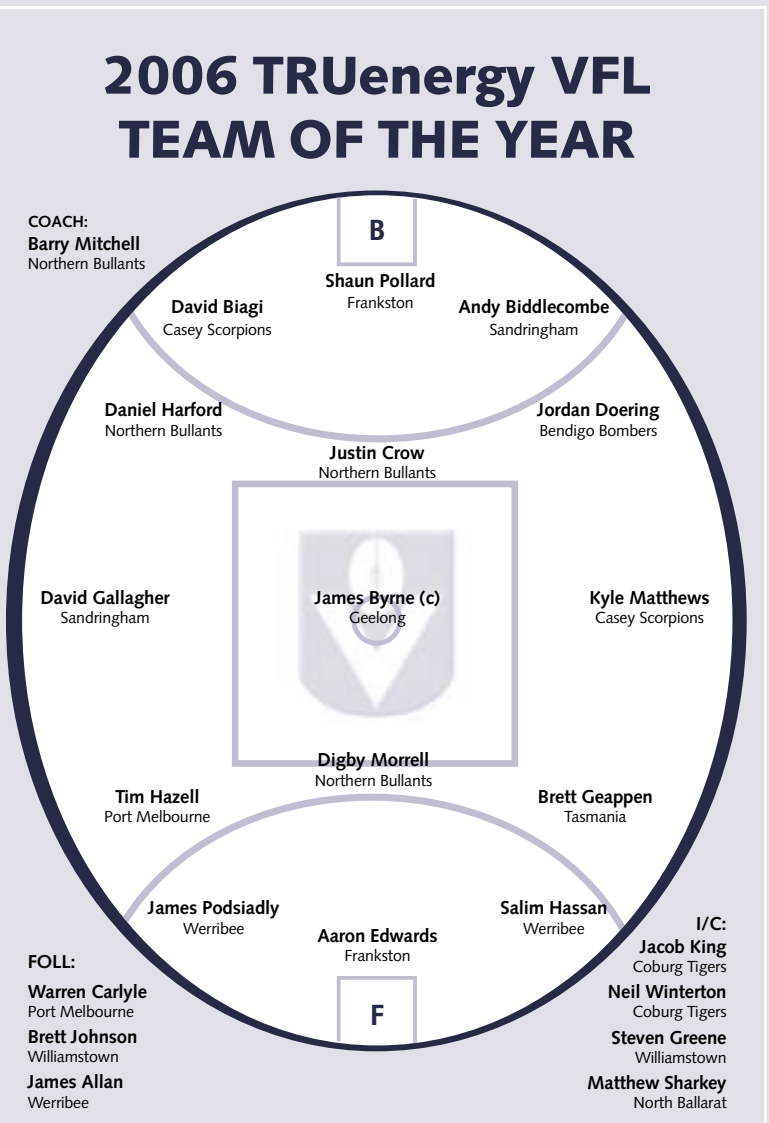
Tough, aggressive small man who created an immediate impression in his first season for the Coburg Tigers. Strong at the contest, not afraid to back himself and rarely wasted a possession.

Neil Winterton (Frankston)

Hard-working small man who reached 100 games for Frankston this season. Was used very effectively out of defence, where his fearless style and ability to run and deliver the ball to advantage resulted in his best year.

Matthew Sharkey (North Ballarat)

Much-improved player who went from struggling to get a senior game to being one of the first picked for North Ballarat. Fierceness at the



contest and versatility saw him provide a continual source of attack.

Steven Greene (Williamstown)

Former Hawthorn midfielder made an immediate impact in his first season with Williamstown. Great courage, work ethic and selflessness were on display each week for the Seagulls.

Barry Mitchell (Northern Bullants)

Under his astute guidance, the Northern Bullants lost just one game during the regular season to finish up four games clear on top of the VFL ladder. Mitchell was able to balance the weekly rotation of Carlton and Bullants players superbly.

VFL Record: Would you agree that 2006 has been a memorable season for all the right reasons?

Ken Gannon: Yes, I think the quality of the football has been exceptional, while the continued development of our clubs and the launch of the Casey Scorpions and Casey Fields have all been positives. Controversies have been virtually non-existent. We would have loved to play a state representative match, but under the rotational system it was our turn to have a bye. We look forward to playing West Australia next year. After a really entertaining first three weeks of the finals series, we now look to a great Grand Final to top off the year.

VFLR: Aaron Edwards won the Liston Trophy and 'Frosty' Miller Medal in his first VFL season – how significant is his achievement?

KG: Aaron demonstrated what we have been saying for a fair while now – that young players should have confidence that the TRUenergy VFL can provide them with the opportunity to develop to their potential. It was also very pleasing to see Aaron, as a former Dandenong Stingrays player, return to his home base and play with Frankston to build on the community links.

VFLR: Was it pleasing to see players like Michael Rix, Cameron Howat and Ben McGlynn, graduates from the TRUenergy VFL last season, debut in the AFL this year?

KG: There are so many examples now where players have graduated from the TRUenergy VFL as well-



Football Victoria CEO Ken Gannon



prepared, developed players and stepped into the AFL. Josh Mahoney, Ryan Ferguson, Brett Montgomery, Sam Mitchell, Aaron Davey, Dale Morris, Matthew Boyd – the list is growing.

VFLR: How does it feel to know that only five years ago, Lindsay Gilbee played for Werribee in the 2001 VFL Grand Final, and now he has been

named in the All-Australian team after a great season for the Western Bulldogs?

KG: The Werribee and Western Bulldogs partnership has been exceptional in bringing on all the young players who have played 30, 40 or 50 games in the TRUenergy VFL before marking their mark in the AFL. Lindsay Gilbee, Daniel Giansiracusa and Cameron Wight are examples

of players who spent several seasons in the VFL before stepping up to the AFL. It highlights the patience that sometimes needs to be displayed.

VFLR: Is there anything new that TRUenergy VFL fans can expect next season?

KG: I would like to see players continue to compete in the VFL for the right reasons – to develop themselves into better players and see where that takes them. Also, I would like to see an extension in the slow rise in crowds we have witnessed this season. It's to be hoped that the Grand Final draws a strong response from fans and we can build on that in 2007. We must move beyond the results of the AFL finals and whether Victorian-based clubs are playing in Melbourne to determine the success of our Grand Finals.

VFLR: Is the VFL comfortable with the existing open-ended AFL/VFL player mix during the home and away season?

KG: We have taken feedback from all of our clubs, and clubs don't want any further restriction on how they select their teams. Clubs are comfortable with a maximum of 12 AFL players and a minimum of 10 VFL players when an aligned club plays a stand-alone club during the season, just as they are with the 12/10 rule during the finals.

VFLR: Does the positive response from the two 'local' finals, coupled with a televised match from Port Melbourne in the first week of the finals make it a model for the



Gannon is pleased with the turnouts at VFL venues this season.

competition in the future?

KG: We want to evaluate the best fit for all of our games. This includes the Friday night game in Bendigo, which drew better than the finals at Frankston and Preston this year. However, we do want to take games to the people who have supported their club during the home and away season. All the various stakeholders – councils, sponsors, and volunteers – accept that the two games in the first weekend of the finals provide a great opportunity to repay and acknowledge their contribution to the TRUenergy VFL.

VFLR: Is there a concern that too many VFL players are heading away from the competition because the clubs cannot match the remuneration offered by interstate clubs?

KG: Yes, this is a concern clubs have expressed to our board, and we are considering strategies to combat that. We are exploring a strategy within our salary cap rules and clubs have

asked for the interstate transfer fees to be increased. There are plenty of examples to illustrate that the TRUenergy VFL provides players with the best chance to move to the elite level. If players really want a good chance, it is here in Victoria, so they don't need to chase it elsewhere.

VFLR: Is there a growing confidence that clubs are becoming stronger and more viable as the revamped competition ends its seventh season?

KG: Overall, the answer is yes, but on a club-to-club basis we are like any other competition, where the clubs that finish low on the ladder are considered to be vulnerable. Thankfully, in the TRUenergy VFL we have an increasing number of clubs with strong business structures, which makes them extremely viable into the future. Other clubs are not as strong, and we look to assist those clubs where we can, because we need all of our clubs, not less clubs.

History beckons for Zebras

Geelong stands in the way of historic three-peat.

All season, Sandringham has focused on giving itself a shot at VFL history. Now, six months after they unfurled the 2005 premiership flag, the Zebras have their date with destiny.

Sandringham won its way into a third successive Grand Final in emphatic fashion – with an 80-point defeat of the Northern Bullants, the team that stood atop the TRUenergy VFL ladder all season with just one home and away loss.

The Zebras have their sights firmly set on claiming a hat-trick of flags.

However, standing in the way of only the sixth three-peat in the past 100 years is Geelong, the nemesis this season of the Zebras.

While Sandringham emerged from the qualifying final with a 21-point win, Geelong will look back favourably on its two wins during the home and away season at the expense of the Zebras. Geelong will also draw confidence from its stirring preliminary final triumph against Williamstown.

If a chunk of VFA/VFL history is not great enough motivation, Sandringham will also have the spirit of president Gary Gilchrist, who sadly passed away during the season, to stir the emotions.

Cleary, Sandringham has finals, or more precisely, Grand Final experience in its favour. Nine of the Zebras' VFL contingent of 10 players have tasted Grand Final

success. Rookie Shane Valenti, who has played every game in his first season out of the TAC Cup, is the exception.

Full-forward Nick Sautner has played in four premierships and captain Chad Liddell has played in three, while Rod Crowe, Andy Biddlecombe, David Gallagher and Guy Rigoni have played in two. Ezra Poyas and Peter Summers played in last year's triumph, and Chris Lamb returns from the 2004 flag.

And then there's the Melbourne factor. Matthew Warnock has played in the past two Zebras' flags, Shannon Motlop, Chris Johnson and Alistair Nicholson all earned premiership medallions last year, while Ryan Ferguson and Daniel Bell were members of the 2004 flag.

Geelong too, can boast premiership experience, but nowhere near the same volume. Will Slade, Matthew McCarthy, Henry Playfair and Charlie Gardiner all played in the Cats' 2002 premiership, and several players have contested AFL finals.

While it was only three weeks ago that the clubs last met, the composition of both teams will be considerably different.

Sandringham coach Mark Williams has an embarrassment of riches.

Williams has four Melbourne players – Nathan Brown, Nick Smith, Nathan Jones and Daniel Bell – returning from the Demons' losing semi final against Fremantle last week to consider for selection.

Experienced Demon Paul



Guy Rigoni

Wheatley, who missed the qualifying final but played in the preliminary final, is also in the mix, while a place must be found for Andy Biddlecombe, who missed last week through injury.

Given he can only chose 12 Melbourne-listed players, Williams has some tough choices to make.

Geelong's Shannon Byrnes and Kane Tenace are ineligible, but coach Leigh Tudor will regain Matthew McCarthy from injury, and have the luxury of Nathan Ablett, Ryan Gamble and Brent Prissall as additions to the team that lost to Sandringham in the qualifying final.

Kent Kingsley (13 goals) and Ablett (eight) have enjoyed a very good final series, Gamble has added spice to the attack, and with McCarthy lurking deep in the forward line, the Cats will certainly test Sandringham's defence.

Williams is likely to use Nicholson, Ferguson and Lamb to combat Geelong's three key forwards, with Clint Bizzell and Biddlecombe in reserve.

As usual, the battle of the midfields will be pivotal to which attack gets the most opportunities.

Phillip Read tore up Geelong in the qualifying final, and Tudor may enlist Adam Cook, Mathew Stokes, captain James Byrne, Paul Koulouriotis or Tim Sheringham to shut him down this time around. Rigoni, a Norm Goss medallist in the 2004 Grand Final, also brings a wealth of football smarts.

If Brown and Jones play, it will further strengthen the Sandringham midfield rotation, which also

includes the much-improved Summers and the emerging Valenti.

One of the highlights will be a possible match-up between Gallagher and Fothergill Round medallist Jason Davenport.

Both players have speed to burn, and the spacious MC Labour Park will suit them ideally.

Meanwhile Poyas, fast on the lead, strong overhead and elusive, has been electrifying in both finals. Will Slade, so good in the preliminary final, may get first crack.

With seven goals, Nick Sautner played his best ever finals match against Geelong in the qualifying final. Sautner was quiet last week, and if the Cats can subdue him early, they may deflate his confidence. Matthew Spencer is likely to be given the task.

Nick Smith's return will strengthen Sandringham's attack and assist Shane Neaves in the ruck. Smith kicked two goals in the qualifying final and provides a great target.

Rod Crowe might sneak under some people's radar, but he is an experienced campaigner and can be damaging around goals.

Then there is Lynden Dunn, another talented young player with good hands, a strong work ethic and the ability to run and kick goals. Sam Hunt, another of the Cats' strong contributors last week, may take him.

Neaves, a Melbourne rookie,

has been a colossus all season and now takes on Mark Blake. Both young players have plenty of talent and their battle will be crucial to the outcome.

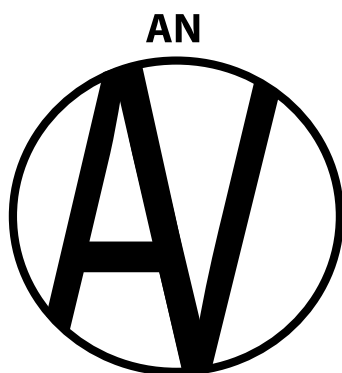
There are some enthralling match-ups in a game that promises to be an epic, but Sandringham, with destiny staring it in the face, should be able to etch its name into history.



Nathan Ablett



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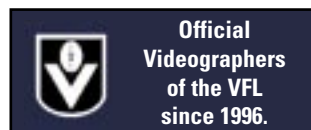


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PROGRESSIVE: 91



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Herald Sun

Geelong 14 Points

PROGRESSIVE: 83



Tony Leonard
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Sandringham 15 Points

PROGRESSIVE: 88



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3AW

Geelong 11 Points

PROGRESSIVE: 75



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Geelong 2 Points

PROGRESSIVE: 76



David Schwarz
SEN 1116

Sandringham 19 Points

PROGRESSIVE: 81



Paul Amy
Leader Newspapers

Sandringham 10 Points

PROGRESSIVE: 84



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Geelong

JAMES BYRNE (CAPTAIN)

2006 games: 21 (56 total); 2006 goals: 11 (38 total)
VFL-listed player. Geelong captain for the past three seasons, and 2005 club best and fairest. Named as captain and selected in centre for 2006 VFL Team of the Year. Wins contested ball, has good hands and vision and provides plenty of leadership.

NATHAN ABLETT

14 games (30); 24 goals (37)
Geelong-listed player. Athletic big man who was outstanding in the Cats' preliminary final win. Great pack mark, powerful kick, and good skills on both sides of the body.

NICK BATCHELOR

10 games (24); 9 goals (18)
Geelong-listed player. Missed 10 weeks after severely tearing his hamstring when chasing his dog and also suffered stress fractures in his foot. Hard-working midfielder who is a second-year rookie with the Cats.

MARK BLAKE

14 games (49); 6 goals (14)
Geelong-listed player. Maturing ruckman who saw time at AFL level this season. Continues to develop, but has played well during the finals series, and his duel with Shane Neaves will be crucial.

TIM CALLAN

15 games (53); 3 goals (11)
Geelong-listed player. Underrated defender who runs hard and straight. Courageous player who is prepared to back himself. One of the Cats' best in the preliminary final win, and provides plenty of experience in the back half.

ADAM COOK

17 games (63); 8 goals (30)
VFL-listed player. Fourth season on Geelong's VFL list.

Busy midfielder who was in the Cats' best last week.
Tireless worker who wins plenty of possessions.

JASON DAVENPORT

21 games (21); 20 goals (20)
VFL-listed player. Stunning debut season, in which he won the Fothergill Round Medal. Speedster who plays mainly on the wing, where his pace can break open a game.

RYAN GAMBLE

18 games (18); 16 goals (16)
Geelong-listed player. Drafted from Glenelg last year. Productive first season, which was rewarded with AFL games. Classy midfielder who has made an impact in both finals. Marks well and is dangerous around goal.

CHARLIE GARDINER

8 games (48); 17 goals (64)
Geelong-listed player. Member of Geelong's 2002 VFL premiership. Key forward who has spent plenty of time at AFL level. Adds a touch of class to the Cats' attack with his sure hands, ability to read the play and effective disposal.

TODD GRIMA

20 games (23); 11 goals (14)
Geelong-listed player. The Cats rookie missed only one match this season. Tall marking forward who made his presence felt against Williamstown in the preliminary final. Good endurance and skills.

SAM HUNT

16 games (91); 1 goal (15)
Geelong-listed player. Spent five seasons on Essendon's list before crossing to Geelong as a rookie. The stout defender has plenty of experience at VFL level, and is prepared to back himself everytime to provide run and carry from defence.

KENT KINGSLEY

11 games (37); 35 goals (95)

Geelong-listed player. Fell out of favour with the AFL Cats mid-season and played virtually the rest of the year in the VFL. Strong lead, good hands and knows how to kick goals.

PAUL KOULOURIOTIS

17 games (38); 7 goals (20)

Geelong-listed player. Former first round AFL Draft pick at Port Adelaide is now in his third year with the Cats. Prolific midfielder who has a big engine and runs all day.

MATTHEW MCCARTHY

12 games (63); 24 goals (118)

Geelong-listed player. Thwarted by injuries last season, McCarthy returns after missing the preliminary final with a shoulder problem. A member of Geelong's 2002 VFL premiership. High marking forward who has the ability to kick bags of goals.

STEPHEN OWEN

15 games (15), 3 goals (3)

Geelong-listed player. Another young Cat in his first year at Skilled Stadium. Came out of the North Ballarat Rebels TAC Cup program and is quick off the mark.

HENRY PLAYFAIR

11 games (46); 12 goals (33)

Geelong-listed player. Bounced between the VFL and AFL this season. Another tall option for the Cats in attack, although he did very well at centre half-back in the preliminary final. Possible choice to take Nick Smith, his good hands and versatility could prove vital.

BRENT PRISMALL

9 games (26); 9 goals (13)

Geelong-listed player. The AFL Cats' first pick in the 2004 draft. Recently turned 20 and has enjoyed a breakthrough season. Gained elevation to the AFL after consistent VFL form, and is a versatile player who gives the Cats plenty of options.

TIM SHERINGHAM

16 games (30); 0 goal (1)

Geelong-listed player. Second year on Geelong's rookie

list. Former Geelong Falcons graduate who hasn't missed many VFL games in the past two seasons. Can be used in a run-with role through the midfield or minding a small forward.

WILL SLADE

13 games (44); 0 goals (6)

Geelong-listed player. Member of Geelong's 2002 VFL premiership team. Plagued by osteitis pubis last season and downgraded to the rookie list. Now appears to have his career back on track and was inspirational last week against Williamstown. Aggressive defender who may get the all-important job on Zebras' match winner Ezra Poyas.

MATTHEW SPENCER

18 games (52); 0 goals (6)

Geelong-listed player. Third season with Geelong. Won the VFL squad's best and fairest last season. Tall, strong marking defender who is dependable and plays the percentages well. May be given the crucial job on Nick Sautner.

MATTHEW STOKES

12 games (12); 8 goals (8)

Geelong-listed player. Drafted from Woodville-West Torrens last year. Pint-sized midfielder, but shows fierce desire, commitment and courage. Broke into the Cat's AFL team mid-season and showed plenty. Good skills and pace make him a real livewire.

TRAVIS VARCOE

14 games (14); 8 goals (8)

Geelong-listed player. The Cats' first choice in last year's AFL Draft. Extremely talented teenager who is the youngest player, aged 18, in the Grand Final. Has silky smooth skills, lightning speed and is very elusive around goals.

TRENT WEST

21 games (21); 3 goals (3)

Geelong-listed player. Giant teenager who is in his first year at Geelong after coming through Gippsland Power's TAC Cup program. Played in Gippsland's premiership team. Developing ruckman who provides a good back-up to Mark Blake.



2006 TRU
GRAND

GEELONG

No.	Name	DOB	HT	WT	Previous clubs	G	B
5	Travis VARCOE *	10/04/88	179	71	Central District (SA)		
7	Tim CALLAN *	06/01/84	181	80	Geelong Falcons/St Josephs		
12	Trent WEST *	17/10/87	198	90	Gippsland Power/Wonthaggi		
14	Paul KOULOURIOTIS *	21/02/82	184	88	Port Adelaide/Calder Cannons		
15	Ryan GAMBLE *	23/09/87	184	75	Glenelg (SA)		
16	Charlie GARDINER *	01/03/83	190	89	Geelong Grammar/Sandringham Dragons		
17	Shannon BYRNES *	07/04/84	174	74	Murray Bushrangers/Shepparton		
18	Kent KINGSLEY *	26/09/78	193	95	Kangaroos/Woodville-West Torrens (SA)		
22	Henry PLAYFAIR *	22/01/83	198	98	NSW-ACT RAMS/North Shore (NSW)		
23	Nathan ABLETT *	13/12/85	195	95	Modewarre		
24	Mark BLAKE *	09/09/85	200	96	Geelong Falcons/South Barwon		
25	Matthew SPENCER *	17/01/85	193	95	Swan Districts (WA)		
26	Matthew McCARTHY *	14/12/81	198	105	Old Xaverians		
27	Mathew STOKES *	22/11/84	177	80	Woodville-West Torrens (SA)		
31	Stephen OWEN *	19/07/87	188	80	North Ballarat Rebels/North Ballarat		
32	Brent PRISMALL *	14/07/86	184	81	Western Jets/Werribee		
36	Todd GRIMA #	05/02/87	192	87	Tasmania (VFL)/Tassie Mariners		
37	Will SLADE #	24/10/83	182	83	Oakleigh Chargers/Scotch College		
38	Sam HUNT #	13/04/83	193	91	Essendon/Geelong Falcons		
41	Tim SHERINGHAM #	26/08/86	180	81	Geelong Falcons/Bell Park		
42	Nick BATCHELOR #	11/09/86	184	75	Norwood (SA)		
43	James BYRNE	23/04/78	184	87	South Fremantle (WA)/Glenelg (SA)/Adelaide		
47	Simon CLARKE	10/08/82	190	92	St Bernards		
49	Adam COOK	23/04/81	181	81	Leopold/Geelong Falcons		
50	Nick TRENFIELD	03/12/82	185	85	Mansfield/Murray Kangaroos		
51	Jay CHEEP	06/08/84	177	78	Coburg Tigers/Calder Cannons		
54	Robert CONDY	29/10/86	192	87	Newtown/Geelong Falcons		
55	Jason DAVENPORT	04/09/85	185	78	Nilma Darnum		
62	Ryan BUTLER	09/08/86	184	78	Nathalia/Murray Bushrangers		
64	Luke FORBES	26/02/83	180	78	St Josephs		

* AFL Geelong Listed Player # AFL Geelong Rookie

Field umpires: Jacob Mollison,
Heath Ryan, Shane Stewart
Emergency: Jason Armstrong

1/4 TIME

1/2 TIME

3/4 TIME

FULL TIME

energy VFL FINAL



CAPT. CHAD LIDDELL



COACH: MARK WILLIAMS



SANDRINGHAM

No.	Name	DOB	HT	WT	Previous clubs	G	B
1	Mark CORRIGAN	23/7/83	180	77	Old Haileybury		
5	Daniel CORP	7/2/86	183	81	Sandringham Dragons		
7	Shane VALENTI	29/1/87	176	80	Sandringham Dragons		
8	Rod CROWE	29/7/83	190	94	Kangaroos		
10	Peter SUMMERS	19/6/84	184	83	Essendon		
11	Nick SAUTNER	19/6/77	189	94	Northern Bullants		
12	Ezra POYAS	24/3/81	185	85	Melbourne		
16	Andy BIDDLECOMBE	16/6/82	188	89	Old Xaverians		
17	David GALLAGHER	5/8/80	183	87	Carlton		
20	Chris LAMB	11/3/81	194	97	Melbourne		
21	Daniel BELL *	13/4/85	186	88	Glenelg (SA)		
23	Paul WHEATLEY *	12/4/81	189	90	Northern Knights/North Heidelberg		
25	Nathan BROWN *	14/8/76	180	76	West Adelaide (SA)		
26	Nathan JONES *	20/1/88	179	85	Dandenong Stingrays/Mt Eliza		
28	Phillip READ *	20/10/79	180	83	West Coast Eagles/East Fremantle (WA)		
29	Chris JOHNSON *	25/1/86	189	86	East Fremantle (WA)		
31	Clint BIZZELL *	28/6/76	188	89	Geelong/Kedron Grange (Qld)		
32	Michael NEWTON *	27/4/87	193	90	Murray Bushrangers/Whorouly		
33	Chad LIDDELL	21/1/77	182	93	Collingwood		
35	Ryan FERGUSON *	29/9/81	195	91	Frankston		
36	Lynden DUNN *	14/5/87	192	93	Calder Cannons/Moonsee Valley		
37	Matthew WARNOCK #	3/4/84	192	92	Sandringham		
38	Daniel HUGHES #	10/12/86	186	82	Sandringham Dragons/Hampton Rovers		
43	Guy RIGONI	27/7/74	181	87	Melbourne		
44	Shannon MOTLOP *	18/8/78	182	88	North Adelaide (SA)/Wanderers (NT)		
45	Nicholas SMITH *	27/8/84	198	97	Norwood (SA)		
46	Alistair NICHOLSON *	4/3/78	197	100	Claremont (WA)		
47	Simon BUCKLEY *	18/4/87	189	81	Sandringham Dragons/St Pauls		
48	Jace BODE #	14/9/87	183	80	Sturt (SA)		
49	Shane NEAVES #	11/5/87	199	90	Calder Cannons/Wallan		

* AFL Melbourne Listed Player # AFL Melbourne Rookie

Boundary umpires: Mitchell LeFevre,
Chris Roberts, Gerard Large
Goal umpires: Bradley Letson, Andrew Clifton

1/4 TIME

1/2 TIME

3/4 TIME

FULL TIME



Sandringham

CHAD LIDDELL (CAPTAIN)

2006 games: 17 (130 total); 2006 goals: 9 (70 total)
Sandringham-listed player. Captain of the past two premierships and also played in the club's 2000 flag. Fearless player whose commitment, character and courage are inspirational.

DANIEL BELL

7 games (36); 1 goal (4)
Melbourne-listed player. Played in Sandringham's 2004 premiership and spent most of 2006 in the AFL. Comes off a solid performance against Fremantle's Jeff Farmer in last week's AFL semi-final.

ANDY BIDDLECOMBE

16 games (54); 0 goals (3)
Sandringham-listed player. Member of the Zebras' 2004 and 2005 premiership teams. Underrated defender who plays percentages well, is a strong mark, and provides run and carry out of defence. Named in the back pocket in the 2006 VFL Team of the Year.

CLINT BIZZELL

6 games (10); 1 goal (3)
Melbourne-listed player. Quality defender with more than 150 AFL games with Geelong and Melbourne. Broken leg interrupted his season, but showed his class in the preliminary final.

NATHAN BROWN

6 games (14); 4 goals (7)
Melbourne-listed player. Runner-up in the Demons' 2004 best and fairest and finished top-10 last season. Hard-working, dependable defender/midfielder, who racks up plenty of possessions and likes to break the lines with his run.

ROD CROWE

20 games (90); 18 goals (39)
Sandringham-listed player. Member of Zebras' 2004 and 2005 premierships. Named at centre half-back in 2005 VFL Team of the Year, also effective at centre half-forward.

LYNDEN DUNN

10 games (21); 22 goals (29)
Melbourne-listed player. Emerging talent who impressed up forward in the AFL this season. Attacks ball hard, leads quickly, has good hands and is dangerous near goals.

RYAN FERGUSON

10 games (54); 1 goal (20)
Melbourne-listed player. Member of Sandringham's 2004 premiership team. Split the season between AFL and VFL and also missed games with injury. Plays above his height, has good negating skills and is very strong one-on-one.

DAVID GALLAGHER

17 games (79); 16 goals (78)
Sandringham-listed player. Member of the Zebras' 2004 and 2005 premiership teams. A real dasher, whose courage and ability to win clearances and run the lines makes him invaluable. Named on a wing in the 2006 VFL Team of the Year.

DANNY HUGHES

16 games (20); 14 goals (16)
Melbourne-listed player. Young Demon rookie who has shown he has the ability to take the next step. Has a very good vertical leap, and is strong in the air and on the ground. Dangerous around goals.

CHRIS JOHNSON

9 games (40); 3 goals (25)
Melbourne-listed player. Member of last year's premiership team. Polished and versatile left footer who played at AFL level this season. Reads play well and uses the ball effectively.

NATHAN JONES

14 games (14); 5 goals (5)
Melbourne-listed player. Was the Demons' first-round draft pick last year, and broke into the AFL ranks after a string of consistent performances with Sandringham. Good at clearances, and works extremely hard.

CHRIS LAMB

20 games (98); 0 goals (9)

Sandringham-listed player. Member of Sandringham's 2004 premiership team who returned from overseas to play every game this season. Uncompromising tall defender who is strong in the air and uses the ball effectively.

SHANNON MOTLOP

18 games (67); 23 goals (50)

Melbourne-listed player. Member of Sandringham's premiership team last year. Explosive player with exquisite skills and is capable of manufacturing something out of nothing.

SHANE NEAVES

16 games (16); 2 goals (2)

Melbourne-listed player. Demon rookie who has created a huge impression in his first season out of the TAC Cup. Has rucked tirelessly all year against more experienced opposition, and regularly gives the Zebras' midfield first use of the ball.

ALISTAIR NICHOLSON

8 games (24); 1 goal (3)

Melbourne-listed player. Dour defender who played in Sandringham's 2005 premiership. Brings more than 100 AFL games' experience into the Zebras' back half. Not daunted by playing on quality forwards and relishes the big occasion.

EZRA POYAS

20 games (89); 26 goals (114)

Sandringham-listed player. Member of last year's premiership side and a former Richmond player and Liston Trophy winner. Has pace off the mark, safe hands, and good goal sense.

PHILLIP READ

15 games (20); 9 goals (11)

Melbourne-listed player. Former Eagle who has spent most of the season with Sandringham. Football smarts and ability to rack up possessions make him one of the Zebras' key players.

GUY RIGONI

15 games (50); 3 goals (21)

Sandringham-listed player. Member of the Zebras' 2004

and 2005 premierships. Won the Norm Goss Medal in '04 Grand Final, and stayed on as playing assistant coach when his career at Melbourne ended. Big-game player who provides great leadership.

NICK SAUTNER

20 games (192); 77 goals (613)

Sandringham-listed player. Played in 1997, 2000, 2004 and 2005 premierships with the Zebras. Six-time 'Frosty' Miller Medal winner. Kicked career goal No. 600 this season and booted seven against Geelong in the qualifying final.

NICK SMITH

19 games (56); 26 goals (54)

Melbourne-listed player. Played every game for Sandringham this year before receiving a call up to play with Melbourne in last week's AFL semi final against Fremantle. Improving big man who can either play forward or in the ruck.

PETER SUMMERS

20 games (64); 15 goals (34)

Sandringham-listed player. Premiership player from 2005 who joined the club after stints with Essendon and the Northern Bullants. Much-improved rover/midfielder who collects countless possessions.

SHANE VALENTI

20 games (20); 13 goals (13)

Sandringham-listed player. Dazzling debut season. Broke into the reigning premier's team in the season opener and has played every game. Clever mid-size player who has a turn of speed and silky skills.

MATTHEW WARNOCK

15 games (39); 0 goals (7)

Melbourne-listed player. Part of Sandringham's past two premierships. Another emerging talent whose dash and drive from defence has been crucial. Very reliable, strong in the air, and uses his body well.

PAUL WHEATLEY

8 games (28); 3 goals (25)

Melbourne-listed player. Played much of the year in the AFL. Prodigious kick, and has been damaging in his appearances for the Zebras. Versatile player, but best suited off a wing or half-back. Quality footballer.

Reserves Grand Final

11am Sunday September 24, MC Labour Park



Williamstown

COACH: ANTHONY EAMES
CAPTAIN: MATTHEW PEARCE

No.	Name	Goals	Behinds
4	Rayden TALLIS		
5	Matthew PEARCE		
8	Stephen BREWER		
9	Kane MCKENZIE		
11	Anthony CHIU		
12	Tristen WALKER *		
13	Luke THEODORE		
14	Ryan CRAWFORD		
17	Jackson BARLING		
21	Tom LANGLANDS		
24	Clinton PROCTOR		
25	Scott MEYER		
26	Murray BOYD		
27	David STRETTON		
40	Brent HALL *		
41	Alan TOOVEY #		
42	Liam PICKEN		
45	Shannon COX #		
46	Malcolm DOW		
47	Patrick ROSE		
48	Ben FOLEY		
49	Matthew GROSSMAN		
50	Adam COOK		
51	Lachlan MCGHIE		
52	Todd COOK		
55	Teaukura PAITI		
57	Brant DICKSON		
63	Byron BONNER		
68	Matthew CRAVINO		
70	Michael DARVELL		



Box Hill Hawks

COACH: KEVIN TIBALDI
CAPTAIN: PAUL JOLLEY

No.	Name	Goals	Behinds
4	Nick KANE		
5	Paul JOLLEY		
6	Brendan WEINERT		
7	Sam RUDOLPH		
8	Evan JOHNSON		
9	John HOLMES		
10	Josh WILSON		
11	Richard EVA		
15	Sam GIBSON		
18	Jason COOK		
19	Patrick HASSETT		
23	Stuart HILL		
24	Anthony MARGUCCIO		
27	Bradley KELLEHER		
30	Phillip CARSE		
40	Luke McENTEE #		
44	Marcus CROOK		
46	Dale BULL		
47	Alistair QUINN		
49	Adam COFF		
50	Michael STEWART		
51	Zac KELLY		
54	Tom POLLETT		
55	David MARCIUS		
57	Tim DOUGE		
59	Cameron PEDERSEN		
60	Stephen DANIHER		
61	Troy ARMSTRONG		
63	Peter AUGUSTIN		
65	Adrian TAPSCOTT		

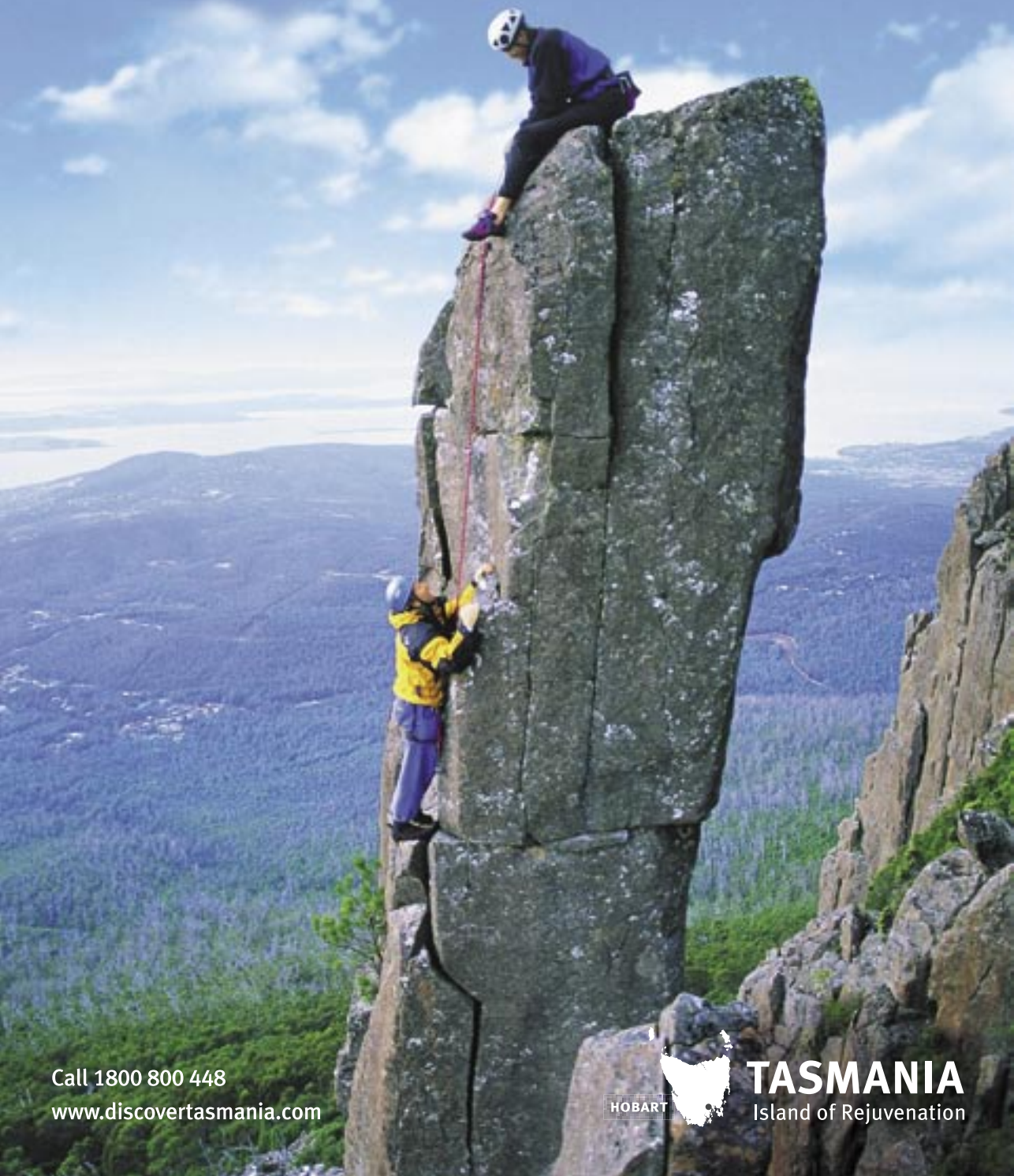
1/4 TIME		1/2 TIME		3/4 TIME		FULL TIME	
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Field umpires: Michael Jennings, Shane Mason, Andrew Mitchell

1/4 TIME		1/2 TIME		3/4 TIME		FULL TIME	
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Boundary umpires: David Lambourn, Michael Marantelli, Drew Kowalski
Goal umpires: Frank DiCosmo, Benjamin James

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TASMANIA
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1ST PRELIMINARY FINAL



GEELONG 17.13 (115)

defeated



WILLIAMSTOWN 12.16 (88)

Geelong advanced to its first TRUenergy VFL Grand Final in four years when it overcame a persistent Williamstown in last week's 1st preliminary final.

The Cats, well served by a resilient defence led by Will Slade and a potent multi-pronged attack of Nathan Ablett and Kent Kingsley, ran out 27-point winners before a healthy crowd at Port Melbourne.

Slade exemplified the courage, character and commitment of his teammates when he twice took morale-lifting marks at crucial stages. On both occasions, Slade showed scant regard for his own wellbeing as he backed into packs to clutch the marks.

While Slade solidified the Geelong defence, the Cats had match-winning forwards in Ablett and Kingsley, who combined to kick eight goals. Certainly, Williamstown's cause was not helped when it lost key defenders Jason Cloke and Tristen Walker.

Cloke was outstanding in the qualifying final when he shut down the Bullants' prime mover

Digby Morrell, while Walker's late withdrawal further depleted the Seagull's height in defence. The absentees were pivotal as Ablett proved a constant headache throughout the match.

Ablett's aerial strength was a definite highlight, as was his ability to use the ball effectively on either side of his body.

For the first time all season, the split between AFL and VFL players in the Williamstown team was even at 11-11.

Kingsley, quiet in the first half, sprung to life when the game needed to be won, with four second-half goals.

However, despite being depleted by the absence of Collingwood players Sean Rusling, Chris Egan and Harry O'Brien, Williamstown took the match right up to Geelong.

When Patrick Rose kicked his fourth goal at the nine-minute mark of the third quarter, Williamstown held a nine-point lead. Then in the space of nine minutes, Geelong seized

the ascendancy, kicking four unanswered goals to build a 15-point advantage.

Geelong, with captain James Byrne, Adam Cook and Paul Koulouriotis winning the ball at the stoppages, upped the ante. As desperate as they were, it was the point of no return for the Seagulls.

Unlike Geelong, Williamstown did not have a clear winner in attack apart from Rose, and this proved more and more telling the longer the match progressed.

Kingsley effectively sealed the match when he kicked the first two goals of the final term, and although Adam Iacobucci kept the Seagulls alive with a goal at the nine-minute mark of the last quarter, Geelong stood firm.

For the next 17 minutes, Williamstown threw everything it could at Geelong in a final bid to get back into the match. However, the Cats, with Slade, Sam Hunt, Tim Callan and Henry Playfair, repelling every Williamstown advance, held onto their advantage to move into the Grand Final.

Jason Davenport
booted two goals
in the preliminary
final last week.



Ezra Poyas was
a match winner for
the Zebras last week.



2ND PRELIMINARY FINAL



SANDRINGHAM 23.14 (152)

defeated



NORTHERN BULLANTS 10.12 (72)

Sandringham gained much more than a recruit midway through last season when Ezra Poyas literally walked in off the street and asked if he could play again. The reigning premiers secured a match winner, as the Northern Bullants, among others, have discovered.

Poyas provided numerous examples of why he won the 2001 J.J. Liston Trophy as he helped Sandringham into its third successive Grand Final and bundled the Bullants out of the preliminary final for the second successive year.

The former Richmond forward put on a clinic, racking up 20 possessions, 10 marks and five goals in a best-on-ground performance. Poyas kicked at least one goal in each of the quarters, provided a lively target, and capitalised on his opportunities as Sandringham waltzed to an 80-point victory.

It was the Zebras' highest score for the season and the largest score the Bullants had conceded all year. After keeping the opposition to an

average 10 goals per game during the regular season, the Bullants' game plan fell apart in the finals.

Apart from Poyas, Sandringham had many contributors as it effectively ended the preliminary final as a contest in the first quarter. After Callum Chambers kicked the opening goal for the Bullants at the three-minute mark of the first quarter, the minor premiers had to wait until the 27-minute mark of the term for Setanta O'hAilpin to kick their second, and then the 13-minute mark of the second stanza for their third through Digby Morrell.

During that period, Sandringham piled on nine goals, with Poyas, Rod Crowe, Clint Bizzell, captain Chad Liddell, Alistair Nicholson and David Gallagher setting the tone.

While Bullants coach Barry Mitchell implored his players for accountability and a greater purpose in their attack on the ball, his plea appeared to fall on deaf ears.

Sandringham stretched its lead to 47 points at half-time, and

there was to be little respite in the second half.

Although the Bullants, thanks to the hard-working Chambers, Luke Blackwell, Jordan Russell and Josh Houlihan, outscored Sandringham five goals to four, there was to be no comeback. Sandringham went on a goalkicking binge in the final term as it added eight goals to three.

Crowe added two majors to give him four for the match, with a host of others contributing, including Ryan Ferguson, who did a good job of negating the influence of Morrell. The Bullants' main man was held to just two goals, and was unable to exert the same influence he had during the home and away season.

With Morrell blanketed and Daniel Harford handcuffed after quarter time, the Bullants struggled to find any reliable targets in attack and dropped out of the finals in disappointing fashion.

For Sandringham, the opportunity for a slice of history moved one step closer.



Caples won four flags during his 14-year career with Springvale.

Caples reflects on epic career

Memories flood back for Scorpions champion.

Jason Caples is a legend not only of the Springvale Football Club, but also of the TRUenergy VFL.

During a career that stretched over 14 seasons, Caples racked up a list of achievements that most players would envy. Caples played in four premierships (1995, 1996, 1998 and 1999) with Springvale, captained the club for three years, gained VFL Team of the Year selection three times, won two best and fairests and represented the VFL.

He played in 231 games, two shy of teammate and Springvale games record holder Damian Carroll, placing him ninth in the VFA/VFL all-time games list.

Not surprisingly, Caples has many memories of his VFA/VFL career, which he shares today in the *VFL Record* Grand Final edition.

1990 Grand Final

I didn't play in the 1990 Grand Final, as I was playing in Springvale's reserves – I actually played two years in the reserves before I got my first game. The VFA Grand Final was pushed back a week because of the drawn match between Collingwood and West Coast. Springvale kicked the first goal of the last quarter to go up by 33 points. It was an eerie feeling to then watch it unfold. Williamstown got a goal from a free kick when the umpire said Phil Maylin deliberately took the ball

out of bounds, Ian Rickman kicked one from 70 metres, and Billy Swan, who wasn't what you would call a prodigious kick, put one through from the 50 metre line and somehow we lost.

First game, 1991

After two years in the reserves, I finally broke into the seniors and started on a half-forward flank. I played on Brett McTaggart (1988 Liston Trophy winner) who was a very good player. I found it pretty hard to get a kick and hurt my hamstring, so at least I didn't get dropped. My second game was against Williamstown later that year, and I played on Jack Aziz and did much better.

1993 preliminary final

It looked like we would hang on to beat Werribee at Moorabbin. In the dying seconds, the ball went flat, and with the new ball Jack Aziz had a shot for goal from about 50 metres out. It wasn't a good kick off the boot, and I thought I would be able to touch it, but it just floated through for a goal. As soon as we started playing again, the siren went. To my mind, there is no way Aziz kicks that goal with a damp, muddy ball.

1995 Grand Final

The first premiership success was really more of a relief, because we had such a good team. We lost



only one game for the season and were always going to win, although Sandringham, to their credit, hung in there.

1996 Grand Final

I thought we were always going to win even though it was close, but near the end of the match it suddenly dawned on me that, in fact, we might not win.

There was great deal of relief when Graeme Yeats kicked that goal from the boundary line to put us ahead, and then the siren sounded about 20 seconds later. I remember looking up at the scoreboard early in the last quarter and we were eight points down, and it seemed like only two minutes had passed when I next had a look, but it was the 25-minute mark and we were still behind. I thought, "That's it". Then, within seconds, we got the ball down there, and 'Yeater' marked near the goal post and kicked the goal that won us the flag.

Oops

Kevin O'Donnell, a close teammate whom I played more than 100 games with at Springvale, provided one of the more embarrassing moments I've seen. In a televised match against arch-rival Frankston in 1996, Kevin won the ball in the middle of the ground, charged out of the centre, had one bounce, then a second, and kept looking at me. I thought he might have wanted me to run towards him to give me a handball, but then he kicked it 50 metres past me. Only then did it dawn on him that he had kicked

it the wrong way. The Frankston players really gave it to him. Kevin, who always had this smile like the Joker in Batman, had a look on his face like, "What have I done?"

Look out for the seagull

In another televised game, this time against Port Melbourne, Danny Sexton took a mark within kicking distance, so he went back to line up. Part of his ritual was to take out his mouth guard and throw it to one side. Not long after this, a seagull swooped, gathered



My last game gave me a strange feeling, and I was pretty upset.



the mouth guard and left Danny protesting to the umpire that a seagull had pinched his mouth guard. I'm not sure what Danny thought the umpire could do about it, but everyone who saw it couldn't stop laughing.

1998 Grand Final

While I was fortunate enough to play in four Grand Finals, I think 1998 was the best in that we didn't expect to win. Everything fell our way. We played on momentum,

and that carried us to victory. We just defeated North Ballarat in the preliminary final, but Werribee had really smashed us in the second semi. During the national anthem, all the Springvale guys stood arm in arm staring at the Werribee players, and they didn't want to look at us and were fidgeting. I remember running into the huddle before the game and all the guys were really buoyed, and we all said they are really sh**ing themselves. It was a pretty even start, but in the second quarter I kicked two goals and everything just exploded for us and we won pretty easily in the end.

1999 Grand Final

We had another super team, just like '95. People always ask me which was the best of the four premierships teams. It's hard to answer, as they were all great teams. People forget we had guys like Martin Mellody, Brett Montgomery and Peter Baldwin in '95 – they were all pretty good players. I think maybe '99 was better, as we just had great depth.

Last game, round 20, 2004

It was a weird feeling. In 2004 I had a very good year, and in hindsight I should have played again in 2005. My last game gave me a strange feeling, and I was pretty upset. It was also Damian Carroll's last game. I had the realisation that my time at Springvale, which had been such a big part of my life, was over. I'd played for so long and loved the club so much – it was pretty upsetting.

TRUenergy VFL Media Awards

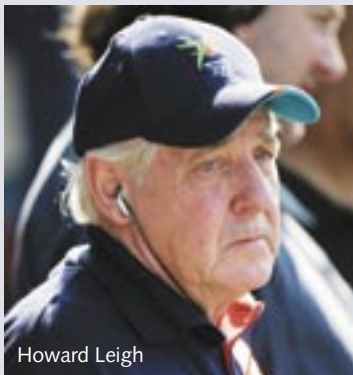
Howard Leigh and Leader recognised for outstanding efforts.

The tireless contribution of super scribe Howard Leigh has been recognised with the 2006 TRUenergy VFL Media Journalist Award.

Leigh has been a fixture at VFA/VFL matches for more than 30 years and currently writes for the *Sunday Herald Sun* and *Western Times*, covering Williamstown and Werribee matches, following stints at numerous publications across Melbourne.

Leigh's TRUenergy VFL media peer Steven Milne, who writes for Fairfax Community Newspapers, was glowing in his praise for the man known as 'Headline Howie'.

"Howard winning the award has made my day, because he is an old VFA man and has had a passion for



Howard Leigh

the competition since the 60s," Milne said "He's fearless and always asks the tough questions, but love him or hate him, everyone has a lot of respect for him."

Leader Community Newspapers' long-standing commitment to

the Victorian Football League has also been rewarded with the 2006 TRUenergy VFL Media Organisation Award.

Leader's positive and factual reporting has helped readers to associate with the TRUenergy VFL teams in their communities.

Sport editors David Turner, Sally-Anne Brandtmann and Paul Amy, who won the individual 2005 TRUenergy VFL Media Award, ensure the publications provide great coverage of the competition's metropolitan teams.

The Leader Group should also be recognised for its excellent coverage of community football and the TAC Cup competition across the city.



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TRUenergy community news

TRUenergy community football club achievement awards

A draw was held between the 19 clubs awarded the 2006 TRUenergy Football Victoria Community Club of the week during half-time of the VFL preliminary final last Saturday.

The winner for 2006 was the Bulleen Templestowe Amateur Football Club, which competes in the VAFA. The club will receive \$1000 worth of energy, courtesy of TRUenergy, following a presentation at today's 2006 TRUenergy VFL Grand Final.

Bulleen Templestowe AFC has raised in excess of \$80,000 for the Bone family, which tragically lost Sarah Bone, aged 30, with a malignant brain tumour. The Bone family name is synonymous with the club, and the money raised will assist Sarah's two young children and husband.

This is a perfect example of the wonderful community spirit that emanates from footy clubs, which can make a significant and positive difference in people's lives.

WEEKLY AUSKICK WINNERS

RND	REGION	WINNER
2	Dandenong	Carrum Patterson Lakes
3	Western	Darley
4	Oakleigh	Bellevue
5	Northern	Epping
6	Geelong	Bell Post Hill
7	Calder	Coburg
8	Sandringham	Coatsville
9	Wimmera	Marnoo
10	Sunraysia	Red Cliffs JFC
11	Western Country	Dunkeld
12	East Gippsland	Foster
13	Ballarat	Clunes
14	Latrobe	Korumburra/Bena
15	Eastern	Burwood East
16	Bendigo	Golden Square
17	Central Murray	Cohuna
18	Goulburn Murray	Girgarre
19	Hampden	Colac Mini League - South
20	North East Border	Glenrowan

TRUenergy VFL AFL Auskick bag of balls

Throughout the season, all of Victoria's 650-plus AFL Auskick clinics were in the weekly draw to win a TRUenergy bag of balls. Listed above are all of the lucky winners for 2006.

TRUenergy VFL club notes

Box Hill Hawks

The club's AFL Grand Final Breakfast will be held on Saturday, September 30, while the Box Hill Hawks' presentation night will be held at Albert by the Lake on Saturday, October 14. Please call (03) 9890 9442 for bookings.

Coburg Tigers

The Coburg Tigers best and fairest is on Saturday, October 14 from 7pm at Moonee Valley Racecourse. Please call Jennifer on (03) 9354 8228 for bookings.

Casey Scorpions

Presentation night will be held at the Cranbourne Golf Club on October 6, commencing at 7pm. Bookings essential. The winner of the 'Red, White and Blue' \$3000 draw will be drawn at midday on Sunday, October 8 at Casey Fields.

Sandringham

The Zebras' Golf Day is on October 20 at Spring Valley Golf Club. Individual tickets are \$140, the silver package is \$500 and gold package \$1000. Presentation

night is set for October 5 at the Bentleigh Club, Yawla Street, Bentleigh. For bookings, call (03) 9598 8629.

Northern Bullants

The Northern Bullants best and fairest evening will be held at the Darebin Arts Centre on October 13 from 7pm. The club has also organised an afternoon in the city at Crown Casino, including a Yarra cruise. Please call (03) 9470 2224 for bookings.



Action from a memorable 2006 TRUenergy VFL season.

A season for the ages

Records, honours and farewells highlight a stunning year.

Season 2006 boasts an ocean of highlights, but it will long be remembered as the year Aaron Edwards dominated like few ever before.

Edwards' debut season with Frankston, after being delisted by the West Coast Eagles with just

four AFL games to his name, was spectacular. The 22-year-old made a virtual clean sweep of all of the individual honours, winning the J.J. Liston Trophy, the Jim 'Frosty' Miller Medal and being named in the VFL Team of the Year.

As Football Victoria chairman

Bob Tregear noted in his speech at the Liston Trophy count, the competition has a long and proud history stretching over 129 years, but no one had ever accomplished what Edwards has achieved.

While there have been some outstanding performances by

some legendary names – Bob Pratt kicked 183 goals for Coburg in 1941; Ron Todd kicked 188 in 1945; Bob Bonnet and Fred Cook were both five-time leading goal kickers and bagged tons, and ‘Frosty’ Miller won the goalkicking six times, including a century – no full-forward had ever won the Liston Trophy.

No one, that is until Edwards came along in 2006. After finishing the home and away season with 88 goals, which included 64 after round 12, Edwards then kicked 12 goals in two finals to reach the magical hundred.

It was the first time a full-forward had reached a 100-goal mark since Shayne Smith kicked the ton in 1997. Before him, Jamie Shaw booted as century back in 1990.

Thanks largely to Edwards, Frankston reached the semi-finals, its best result since the competition was revamped in 2000.

Meanwhile, the Casey Scorpions were the envy of the league when they unveiled Casey Fields, a state-of-the-art ground with facilities to match.

Casey Fields took the TRUenergy VFL to a new level of professionalism, and in doing so tapped into a growth corridor of Victoria.

Nick Sautner is no stranger to racking up impressive numbers, and season 2006 was no different. Sautner, fitter than in recent years, finished second on the goalkicking ladder, but also reached two significant milestones.

With his 64th major of the season, Sautner reached the 600-



The Cats and the Bullants reach for the stars during 2006.

goal mark, and during the finals he moved past Prahran legend Kim Smith and into 13th place on the all-time VFA/VFL goalkicking list.

Sautner also played his 175th game during the season, which qualified him for VFL life membership.

This honour was shared this season with field umpire Shane

Mason, North Ballarat forward Nathan Saunders and Frankston ruckman Daniel Clarke.

Three games after achieving VFL life membership, Clarke took ownership of the games record at Frankston, formerly held by Liston medallist Peter Geddes.

Clarke ended the season three goals shy of adding the Frankston

goalkicking record to his CV.

Williamstown captain Brad Lloyd reached his 150th game, as did coach Brad Gotch, whose coaching days stretch back to the Dandenong Redlegs, Springvale and Collingwood's reserves.

Coaching can be a tough caper, as Mathew Armstrong, the inaugural coach of Tasmania discovered. Armstrong resigned as coach after the club's embarrassing loss to Frankston back in round 13.

However, he has much to reflect fondly on from his time with the Devils, coaching them to a 50-63 record and three finals appearances. Former Tasmanian player Brendan Bolton took the reins at the Devils for the remainder of the season.

The Northern Bullants ruled the roost like very few other teams in recent history, as they went through the home and away season losing just one match – against the Casey Scorpions by 17 points in round six.

An indication of the dominance of the Bullants can be gauged from the fact that their nearest rival, reigning premier Sandringham, won four fewer games.

It was the first time since Springvale in 1995 that a club had only lost one match during

the home and away season. The Northern Bullants also posted the biggest score for the season – 32.15 (207) – in round five to run out comfortable 146-point winners against the Box Hill Hawks.

Once again, graduates of the TRUenergy VFL continued to make a name for themselves in the AFL. Sam Mitchell, winner of the 2002 Liston Trophy, and Aaron Davey, winner of the 2003 Fothergill Round Medal, have forged distinguished careers at football's elite level.

Former Springvale player Brett Montgomery reached 200 AFL games, while Dale Morris, Josh Mahoney and Matthew Boyd continue to play good football at AFL level.

Joining the aforementioned players this season in the AFL was Michael Rix, whose journey to the top saw stopovers at Port Melbourne, the Box Hill Hawks, Coburg Tigers and Casey Scorpions.

Ben McGlynn and Cameron Howat, who both played last season with the Box Hill Hawks, made their respective AFL debuts with Hawthorn and Richmond.

As 2006 drew to a close, two

outstanding players also signalled their retirement.

Travis Robertson, the captain of Werribee for the past three seasons and a VFL representative captain, and Ben Atkin, one of the original members of Tasmania's expansion season, both announced their retirement.

Robertson won three best and fairest awards, captained Werribee into the 2005 Grand Final and finished his time at Chirnside Park just four games shy of David Lyons' club record.

Atkin played his 100th VFL game this year, capping a career that saw him secure the Frank Johnson Medal for being the best Victorian player in an interstate match and win the Devils' best and fairest award.

The competition and fans thank both players for their marvellous contribution and no doubt, wish them the best in their post-football lives.

All that needs to be added now to close the book on season 2006 is the name of the premier club and winner of the Norm Goss medal.

It will seal what has been a TRUenergy VFL season for the ages.

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TRUenergy VFL statistics

SENIORS

FINAL LADDER	P	W	L	D	F	A	%	PTS
Northern Bullants	18	17	1	0	1983	1113	178.17	68
Sandringham	18	13	5	0	1926	1505	127.97	52
Geelong	18	13	5	0	1784	1633	109.25	52
Williamstown	18	11	7	0	1690	1490	113.42	44
Frankston	18	10	8	0	1857	1575	117.90	40
Werribee	18	10	8	0	1900	1759	108.02	40
North Ballarat	18	9	9	0	1816	1757	103.36	36
Coburg Tigers	18	9	9	0	1623	1614	100.56	36
Tasmania	18	7	11	0	1754	1844	95.12	28
Box Hill Hawks	18	6	12	0	1609	2108	76.33	24
Casey Scorpions	18	5	13	0	1529	1862	82.12	20
Bendigo Bombers	18	4	14	0	1516	1991	76.14	16
Port Melbourne	18	3	15	0	1490	2226	66.94	12

2006 TRUenergy VFL GOALKICKERS PROGRESSIVE

Aaron Edwards	Frankston	100	(-)
Nicholas Sautner	Sandringham	77	(2)
James Podsiadly	Werribee	70	(-)
Digby Morrell	Northern Bullants	53	(2)
Brent LeCras	North Ballarat	44	(-)
Saverio Rocca	North Ballarat	44	(-)
Jade Rawlings	Tasmania	43	(-)
Matthew Little	Box Hill Hawks	35	(-)
Kent Kingsley	Geelong	35	(4)
Justin Sweeney	Casey Scorpions	33	(-)
Marcus Marigliani	Frankston	32	(-)
Matthew Smith	Port Melbourne	30	(-)
Andrew Williams	Williamstown	30	(1)
Dean Limbach	Coburg Tigers	30	(-)

2006 TRUenergy VFL CLUB CHAMPION

	Seniors	Reserves	TOTAL
1 Northern Bullants	136	44	180
2 Williamstown	88	72	160
3 Sandringham	104	38	142
4 Frankston	80	56	136
5 Geelong	104	0	104
6 Werribee	80	20	100
7 Coburg Tigers	72	26	98
8 North Ballarat	72	24	96
9 Box Hill Hawks	48	40	88
10 Casey Scorpions	40	28	68
11 Tasmania	56	0	56
12 Bendigo Bombers	32	20	52
13 Port Melbourne	24	28	52

SENIORS

2nd Preliminary Final

Sandringham	7.1	11.7	15.10	23.14	(152)
Northern Bullants	2.0	4.2	7.8	10.12	(72)

GOALS: Sandringham - Poyas 5, Crowe 4, Sautner 2, Gallagher 2, Dunn 2, Motlop 2, C. Johnson, Ferguson, Wheatley, C. Liddell, Godfrey, Valenti.

Northern Bullants - Morrell 2, Chambers 2, Sporn, B. Davies, Blackwell, Teague, S. O'hailpin, Crow.

BEST: Sandringham - Poyas, C. Liddell, Bizzell, Nicholson, Gallagher, Crowe.

Northern Bullants - Blackwell, J. Houlihan, Livingston, Russell, Chambers, Sporn.

1st Preliminary Final

Williamstown	3.7	8.9	11.12	12.16	(88)
Geelong	4.2	8.7	14.11	17.13	(115)

GOALS: Williamstown - Rose 4, Picken 2, Langlands, R. Cook, Williams, Nicholls, Stanley, Iacobucci.

Geelong - N. Ablett 4, Kingsley 4, Gardiner 2, Grima 2, Davenport 2, Prismall, Varcoe, Stokes.

BEST: Williamstown - Pendlebury, Iacobucci, Picken, Cox, Greene, Br. Johnson.

Geelong - N. Ablett, Slade, Gardiner, Playfair, Callan, Prismall.

RESERVES

Preliminary Final

Frankston	2.3	4.10	7.12	10.19	(79)
Box Hill Hawks	4.4	5.8	8.13	16.14	(110)

GOALS: Frankston - Morris 2, Dickson 2, Beasy 2, Taylor, Barrand, Matheson, Molan.

Box Hill Hawks - Marguccio 6, Pedersen 4, Hill 2, Johnson, Jolley, Gibson, Holmes.

BEST: Frankston - Taylor, Booth, Krakouer, Oliver, Rebeschini, Carpenter.

Box Hill Hawks - Jolley, Marguccio, Pollett, Eva, Hassett, Crook.

TAC CUP

1st Semi Final

North Ballarat Rebels	4.2	7.10	10.13	11.14	(80)
Northern Knights	1.3	4.4	8.7	15.9	(99)

GOALS: North Ballarat Rebels - M. Brown 5, Phelps 2, Adlington, Frawley, M. Tyler, Shippides.

Northern Knights - Cotchin 3, Colbert 3, Abela 2, Vasilevski, Kreuzer, Bongetti, Varsamakias, Totino, Veszpremi, Anderson.

BEST: North Ballarat Rebels - M. Brown, Clingan, Shippides, Cheney, Sewell, Hardy.

Northern Knights - Grimes, Anderson, Kreuzer, Cotchin, Vasilevski, Bransgrove.

2nd Semi Final

Geelong Falcons	2.3	4.3	8.8	11.10	(76)
Oakleigh Chargers	3.4	9.9	12.11	16.18	(114)

GOALS: Geelong Falcons - Hogan 2, A. Scott 2, Couch 2, Williams 2, Henderson, Boak, Staveniuter.

Oakleigh Chargers - Kelly 5, Ainger 3, Gray 3, Melhem 2, Goldstein, Reid, Batsanis.

BEST: Geelong Falcons - Couch, A. Scott, Chisholm, Hardy, Staveniuter, Boak.

Oakleigh Chargers - Goldstein, Gray, Ainger, Pickett, Batsanis, Kelly.

TRUenergy VFL fixture 2006

ROUND 1

FRIDAY 7TH APRIL

Tasmania 15.6 (96) vs Casey Scorpions 7.7 (49)

SATURDAY 8TH APRIL

Geelong 12.9 (81) vs North Ballarat 24.14 (158)

Williamstown 11.15 (81) vs Box Hill Hawks 5.20 (50)

Bendigo Bombers 12.10 (82) vs Werribee 22.20 (152)

SUNDAY 9TH APRIL

Sandringham 21.14 (140) vs Port Melbourne 10.11 (71)

Northern Bullants 15.13 (103) vs Coburg Tigers 10.16 (76)

BYE - Frankston

ROUND 2

SATURDAY 15TH APRIL

Geelong 14.11 (95) vs Coburg Tigers 12.13 (85)

North Ballarat 13.10 (88) vs Tasmania 11.18 (84)

Werribee 17.13 (115) vs Williamstown 20.8 (128)

SUNDAY 16TH APRIL

Port Melbourne 17.7 (109) vs Casey Scorpions 17.14 (116)

Frankston 18.15 (123) vs Bendigo Bombers 10.18 (78)

Box Hill Hawks 9.13 (67) vs Sandringham 16.8 (104)

BYE - Northern Bullants

ROUND 3

SATURDAY 22ND APRIL

Northern Bullants 12.12 (84) vs Williamstown 6.10 (46)

North Ballarat 23.10 (148) vs Bendigo 12.5 (77)

Tasmania 16.10 (106) vs Frankston 12.10 (82)

SUNDAY 23RD APRIL

Port Melbourne 17.8 (110) vs Geelong 16.10 (106)

Werribee 9.12 (66) vs Sandringham 12.13 (85)

TUESDAY 25TH APRIL (ANZAC DAY)

Coburg Tigers 20.20 (140) vs Box Hill 12.14 (86)

BYE - Casey Scorpions

ROUND 4

SATURDAY 29TH APRIL

Casey Scorpions 18.19 (127) vs Box Hill 11.19 (85)

Williamstown 21.14 (140) vs Port Melbourne 8.7 (55)

Tasmania 16.13 (109) vs Geelong 13.12 (90)

Bendigo Bombers 4.9 (33) vs Northern Bullants 11.9 (75)

SUNDAY 30TH APRIL

Coburg Tigers 11.14 (80) vs Werribee 10.9 (69)

Sandringham 11.15 (81) vs Frankston 15.12 (102)

BYE - North Ballarat

ROUND 5

SATURDAY 6TH MAY

Geelong 11.7 (73) vs Frankston 9.13 (67)

North Ballarat 13.9 (87) vs Casey Scorpions 10.14 (74)

Box Hill Hawks 8.13 (61) vs Northern Bullants 32.15 (207)

SUNDAY 7TH MAY

Coburg Tigers 12.15 (87) vs Bendigo Bombers 5.12 (42)

Tasmania 20.13 (133) vs Sandringham 22.8 (140)

BYE - Port Melbourne

BYE - Werribee

BYE - Williamstown

ROUND 6

SATURDAY 13TH MAY

Werribee 24.17 (161) vs Box Hill Hawks 15.8 (98)

SUNDAY 14TH MAY

Williamstown 14.8 (92) vs Coburg Tigers 10.14 (74)

Casey Scorpions 16.11 (107) vs Northern Bullants 13.12 (90)

Sandringham 19.13 (127) vs North Ballarat 13.2 (80)

Frankston 24.18 (162) vs Port Melbourne 8.7 (55)

BYE - Bendigo Bombers

BYE - Geelong

BYE - Tasmania

ROUND 7

SATURDAY 20TH MAY

Bendigo Bombers 22.2 (140) vs Tasmania 16.18 (114)

Port Melbourne 17.6 (108) vs Box Hill Hawks 26.13 (169)

Northern Bullants 8.11 (59) vs Frankston 6.6 (42)

SUNDAY 21ST MAY

Casey Scorpions 14.14 (98) vs Williamstown 9.12 (66)

Coburg Tigers 20.17 (137) vs North Ballarat 9.7 (61)

Werribee 17.8 (110) vs Geelong 25.16 (166)

BYE - Sandringham

ROUND 8

SATURDAY 27TH MAY

Box Hill Hawks 18.18 (126) vs North Ballarat 15.17 (107)

Werribee 17.10 (112) vs Casey Scorpions 15.14 (104)

Tasmania 10.9 (69) vs Northern Bullants 15.13 (103)

SUNDAY 28TH MAY

Geelong 18.9 (117) vs Sandringham 13.17 (95)

Port Melbourne 14.17 (101) vs Bendigo Bombers 17.14 (116)

Frankston 8.14 (62) vs Williamstown 12.7 (79)

BYE - Coburg Tigers

ROUND 9

SATURDAY 3RD JUNE

Port Melbourne 21.18 (144) vs Tasmania 14.13 (97)

Northern Bullants 20.8 (128) vs Werribee 10.13 (73)

SUNDAY 4TH JUNE

Sandringham 22.13 (145) vs Williamstown 16.18 (114)

Coburg Tigers 15.12 (102) vs Casey Scorpions 9.10 (64)

Bendigo Bombers 15.17 (107) vs Frankston 17.10 (112)

North Ballarat 15.6 (96) vs Geelong 19.11 (125)

BYE - Box Hill Hawks

ROUND 10

SATURDAY 10TH JUNE

Tasmania 7.8 (50) vs Werribee 17.21 (123)

SUNDAY 11TH JUNE

Williamstown 18.16 (124) vs Geelong 12.10 (82)

Casey Scorpions 13.12 (90) vs Sandringham 18.12 (120)

Frankston 14.14 (98) vs Coburg Tigers 18.13 (121)

North Ballarat 24.12 (156) vs Port Melbourne 5.7 (37)

MONDAY 12TH JUNE

Box Hill Hawks 13.9 (87) vs Bendigo Bombers 12.14 (86)

BYE - Northern Bullants

ROUND 11

SATURDAY 17TH JUNE

Northern Bullants 17.15 (117) vs North Ballarat 11.10 (76)

SUNDAY 18TH JUNE

Geelong 16.7 (103) vs Tasmania 13.19 (97)

Casey Scorpions 22.21 (153) vs Port Melbourne 8.9 (57)

SATURDAY 24TH JUNE

Sandringham 22.10 (142) vs Bendigo Bombers 17.11 (113)

SUNDAY 25TH JUNE

Box Hill Hawks 8.13 (61) vs Coburg Tigers 15.17 (107)

Williamstown 17.8 (110) vs Werribee 19.10 (124)

BYE - Frankston

ROUND 12

SATURDAY 1ST JULY

Werribee 14.15 (99) vs Coburg Tigers 13.11 (89)

SUNDAY 2ND JULY

Box Hill Hawks 9.7 (61) vs Williamstown 6.7 (43)

Sandringham 7.7 (49) vs Northern Bullants 7.10 (52)

Casey Scorpions 5.15 (45) vs Bendigo Bombers 9.17 (71)

Frankston 8.7 (55) vs Geelong 15.9 (99)

Tasmania 15.19 (109) vs North Ballarat 15.7 (97)

BYE - Port Melbourne

ROUND 13

SATURDAY 8TH JULY

Frankston 20.12 (132) vs Tasmania 11.7 (73)

SUNDAY 9TH JULY

Geelong 17.11 (113) vs Box Hill Hawks 10.9 (69)

Coburg Tigers 9.6 (60) vs Williamstown 18.14 (122)

Northern Bullants 15.10 (100) vs Casey Scorpions 7.10 (52)

Port Melbourne 8.9 (57) vs Sandringham 18.19 (127)

Bendigo Bombers 16.17 (113) vs North Ballarat 18.9 (117)

BYE - Werribee

ROUND 14

SATURDAY 15TH JULY

Williamstown 13.14 (92) vs Casey Scorpions 7.11 (53)

North Ballarat 3.11 (29) vs Sandringham 7.9 (51)

Northern Bullants 8.6 (54) vs Geelong 2.9 (21)

Tasmania 8.6 (54) vs Coburg Tigers 13.12 (90)

SUNDAY 16TH JULY

Box Hill Hawks 15.6 (96) vs Port Melbourne 17.9 (111)

Frankston 14.4 (88) vs Werribee 15.13 (103)

BYE - Bendigo Bombers

ROUND 15

SATURDAY 22ND JULY

Box Hill Hawks 16.12 (108) vs Werribee 13.25 (103)

Tasmania 19.15 (129) vs Casey Scorpions 8.6 (54)

North Ballarat 21.13 (139) vs Frankston 13.8 (86)

SUNDAY 23RD JULY

Bendigo Bombers 7.18 (60) vs Williamstown 9.11 (65)

Sandringham 21.11 (137) vs Coburg Tigers 12.5 (77)

Port Melbourne 6.8 (44) vs Northern Bullants 18.17 (125)

BYE - Geelong

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ROUND 16

SATURDAY 29TH JULY

Geelong 15.16 (106) vs Bendigo Bombers 10.19 (79)

Werribee 14.8 (82) vs Northern Bullants 17.16 (118)

SUNDAY 30TH JULY

Frankston 15.17 (107) vs Box Hill Hawks 13.10 (88)

Williamstown 10.14 (74) vs North Ballarat 16.11 (107)

Coburg Tigers 11.17 (83) vs Port Melbourne 11.12 (78)

BYE - Casey Scorpions

BYE - Sandringham

BYE - Tasmania

ROUND 17

SATURDAY 5TH AUGUST

Coburg Tigers 7.18 (60) vs Frankston 19.12 (126)

Port Melbourne 10.10 (70) vs Werribee 11.21 (87)

Tasmania 22.12 (144) vs Bendigo Bombers 12.9 (81)

SUNDAY 6TH AUGUST

Northern Bullants 28.13 (181) vs Box Hill Hawks 14.9 (93)

Williamstown 8.10 (58) vs Sandringham 18.6 (114)

Casey Scorpions 14.13 (97) vs Geelong 20.6 (126)

BYE - North Ballarat

ROUND 18

SATURDAY 12TH AUGUST

Port Melbourne 14.7 (91) vs Williamstown 17.15 (117)

North Ballarat 11.7 (73) vs Northern Bullants 18.9 (117)

SUNDAY 13TH AUGUST

Frankston 24.10 (154) vs Casey Scorpions 11.7 (73)

Bendigo Bombers 18.13 (121) vs Coburg Tigers 15.11 (101)

Werribee 19.13 (127) vs Tasmania 13.14 (92)

Sandringham 11.22 (88) vs Geelong 13.11 (89)

BYE - Box Hill Hawks

ROUND 19

SATURDAY 19TH AUGUST

Geelong 14.18 (102) vs Port Melbourne 13.6 (84)

Williamstown 21.13 (139) vs Tasmania 7.13 (55)

Northern Bullants 25.14 (164) vs Bendigo Bombers 8.4 (52)

North Ballarat 11.7 (73) vs Werribee 19.14 (128)

SUNDAY 20TH AUGUST

Box Hill Hawks 21.16 (142) vs Casey Scorpions 11.13 (79)

Frankston 19.11 (125) vs Sandringham 10.13 (73)

BYE - Coburg Tigers

ROUND 20

SATURDAY 26TH AUGUST

Geelong 14.6 (90) vs Werribee 8.8 (56)

Tasmania 21.17 (143) vs Box Hill Hawks 9.8 (62)

Coburg Tigers 7.12 (54) vs Northern Bullants 16.10 (106)

Port Melbourne 16.12 (108) vs Frankston 20.14 (134)

SUNDAY 27TH AUGUST

Bendigo Bombers 9.11 (65) vs Sandringham 16.12 (108)

Casey Scorpions 14.10 (94) vs North Ballarat 18.16 (124)

BYE - Williamstown

FINALS

SATURDAY 2 SEPTEMBER

1st QUALIFYING FINAL - Australian Motor Finance Oval, Preston

Northern Bullants 12.13 (85) v Williamstown 19.16 (130)

2nd QUALIFYING FINAL - TEAC Oval, Port Melbourne

Sandringham 20.16 (136) v Geelong 17.13 (115)

1st ELIMINATION FINAL - Frankston Oval, Frankston

Frankston 20.13 (133) v Coburg Tigers 13.4 (82)

SUNDAY 3 SEPTEMBER

2nd ELIMINATION FINAL - TEAC Oval, Port Melbourne

Werribee 16.12 (108) v North Ballarat 28.16 (

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