

SOCCER

COMP START TOUGH FOR 'BUDS

Last season's soccer champion club, Adamstown Rosebuds, face the toughest of tasks in the opening round of the Northern NSW premier-ship when its classy team travels out to Edgeworth on Sunday.

Heavy rain last night prevented the Adamstown players from any field training.

Instead, coach Bill Padlocks gave a tactical talk to the first grade squad and the players.

For the match against Edgeworth Eagles, volatile forward Kevin Lagerstrom is in serious doubt.

Lagerstrom came in for close attention in the BP semi-final against Toronto-Awaba last week, and he has been undergoing medical treatment for a leg injury.

He will have a stiff fitness check-up tomorrow before a final team is announced.

Versatile Trevor Smyth will return to the Rosebuds this week, but his position in the team will depend on Lagerstrom's fitness.

• By "Spot Kick"

Rugged John Clinton could find a place in centre defence after a period of suspension, taking over from the youthful Graham Walmsely, who goes back to reserve grade.

Adamstown secretary, John Fear, says the Rosebuds again have the club championship as their main target.

Adamstown has won this honour for the past 10 years and eight players from last season's under 16 team will be promoted to the third and reserve grade teams from the opening round.

Edgeworth, beaten but certainly not disgraced in the final of the BP pre-season competition, are intent on improving last year's beaten semi-final record.

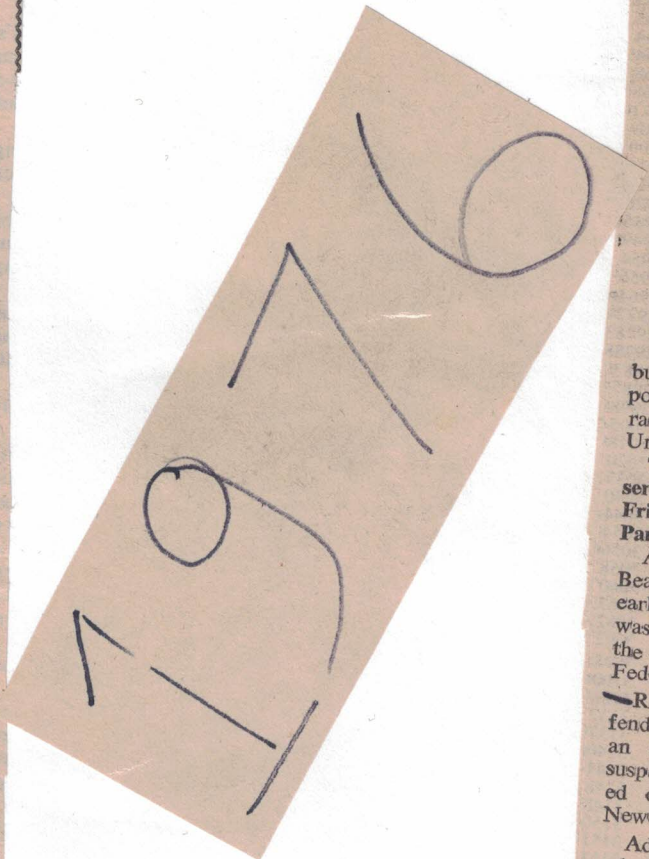
What a great pipeopener the Edgeworth v Adamstown clash looks like providing.

Originally set down for Adamstown Sports Ground, the match has been transferred to Edgeworth, as the Rosebud headquarters is still being used for cricket finals.

Peter Irving, player coach of Edgeworth, will certainly not mince words at training tonight following the "disappearance" of some highly rated players in the second half of the pre-season final on Wednesday night.

Irving will demand that an all out 90-minute effort be made for the side to hold any hopes of winning the premiership.

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WESTON HARD PRESSE

Weston were pressed to defeat division newcomers Maitland, 1-0 in a deferred BP Super cup tie at Quarry Field last night. A goal by John Bull gave Weston points while Cessnock ran riot over May United to win 7-1.

The round robin series will be continued Friday night at Weston Park.

An appeal by Weston Bears to be featured in an early match at 6.30 was upheld at a meeting of the Northern NSW Soccer Federation directors.

Rugged Adamstown defender, John Clinton, faces an automatic three month suspension after being ordered off the field against Newcastle Austral.

Adamstown found themselves behind on three occasions before snatching a late equalising goal to draw 3-3.

Hamilton Azzurri at Belmont-Swansea provided entertaining soccer in a 2-2 draw.

26-4-77

Bears on top as Rosebuds wilt

By Herald soccer writer NEIL JAMESON

Weston Bears emerged from the confusion of the early season as premierships-winning candidates following yesterday's 4-3 defeat of defending champions Adamstown Rosebuds at Adamstown Oval.

The excitement of two own goals, some tough physical clashes and a winning goal a minute from the end guaranteed that the large crowd did not go home disappointed from the Rothmans soccer fixture.

Gary Nesbitt, the Adamstown left fullback, had the misfortune to see his attempted clearance lob into his own goals in the 21st minute and 10 minutes later Derek Thompson suffered the same fate by deflecting the ball past his goalkeeper for the equaliser.

But Thompson made amends for the error by heading home a Peter Bobbins corner to put Weston back in front in the 34th minute.

J. B. Turnbull gave Weston a great start to the second half as he slipped through a flat-footed Adamstown defence to nod a lobbed pass over the head of the approaching goalkeeper, Brad Butler, in the 52nd minute.

Before Weston had the chance to consolidate the lead, Eric Burns pulled Adamstown back to 3-2 in the 55th minute. He raced through on the right to angle a chip shot over the head of substitute keeper, Robbie Lasance.

Weston's defensive command seemed certain to see them to a safe victory but when a point blank shot by Jim Foley was miraculously blocked by Lasance, Tony Wilson elegantly despatched the rebound into the net with an angled 18 metre drive in the 82nd minute.

In a torrid final 10 minutes during which play swept from end to end, both clubs might have been content to settle for a share of the

points. But J. B. Turnbull had the final word as he swept a 20 metre left foot shot past Butler little more than a minute before full time.

With seven goals being scored against two of the best defences in the North it would seem logical to rate the match as a victory for offensive players.

But a lion-hearted effort by Thompson and some nonsense industry by Adamstown's Trevor Smyth and John Clinton, playing his 200th game for the club, stood out in a tough encounter

Weston goalkeeper, Os-

sie Bellamy, who was replaced by Lasance early in the second half after receiving a hard knock to the head in the first, collapsed in the change room and was taken to Royal Newcastle Hospital in an unconscious condition.

He recovered consciousness at the hospital and a report from Weston club said that X-rays revealed a hair-line fracture to the top of the jaw, which could keep him out of soccer for a fortnight.

The Northern NSW representative trialists will play a match against Edgeworth at Edgeworth at 7.30 tomorrow night.

25-8-76

Cup replay set for W'gong

By Herald soccer writer NEIL JAMESON

Adamstown's crucial Rothmans Cup quarter final replay against Wollongong City will be played at Wollongong on Saturday.

The Rosebuds went very close to winning a semi-final berth in the prestigious tournament when they drew 1-1 with Wollongong at Adamstown last Sunday after 30 minutes of extra time.

The Newcastle premiers have a great home record but will have to call on all their fighting qualities to better the NSW first division side at Wollongong.

Adamstown sources said yesterday that promising young forward Jack Harrison could be given another chance to show his worth in the replay.

Harrison is likely to be named as the replacement for left winger Graham Jennings who will be unavailable because of under 16 Youth Championship commitments.

Jennings, who took a bad knock early in last Sunday's game, was replaced by Harrison in the second half.

Jim Foley also had to leave the field prematurely when the heat and extra playing time caught him short of match fitness because of a two week lay-off with a leg injury.

Foley appears to save his best football for crucial games and his "all-stops-out" attitude had an unsettling effect on the Wollongong midfield.

Sunday's game was played in typical cup-tie fashion and players from both sides had bruises to show for their efforts.

John Clinton, who was partly responsible for restricting Wollongong to one goal, was reported to be carrying an injury but would be fit to play.

Adamstown feel that they can create as many chances as on Sunday, though will win through to the semi-finals.

The replay means that Adamstown will be spending a lot of time on the football field between Saturday and the end of the season on September 26.

The Rosebuds already have a deferred match to play against Austral and a set down to play Cessnock next Sunday. With a semi-final berth assured in the Northern premierships, and the chance of a final for placing in the Cup, it could be a busy four weeks.

Rosebuds on way to grand slam

By Herald soccer writer NEIL JAMESON

Adamstown Rosebuds completed one of the most successful seasons in club history by winning the Rothmans soccer first and reserve grade grand finals and earning a replay in third grade.

The Rosebuds added the major titles to their first and reserve grade premiership wins by scoring a 3-0 win against Wallsend in the top grade and a 2-0 victory against Toronto-Awaba in the seconds.

The Rosebuds were winners of the club championship and the thirds will have the chance to score a rare scoop if they can do better than Sunday's 1-all draw with Wallsend in the replay at Macquarie Field at 7.30 tomorrow night.

With Adamstown almost certainly being one of the two Northern teams to play in the proposed Sydney-run State League, Sunday's grand finals could mean the end of an era in Newcastle soccer.

The State League will allow for only two grades for each club, a factor that leaves a question mark over the futures of Adamstown's talented third-grade youngsters.

with the possibility of the national league clubs scouting North for talent there

is the chance that some of Newcastle's name players may be offered the chance to join the bigger Sydney clubs.

One such player could be Joe Senkalski, scorer of two goals and the star of Adamstown's grand final win.

Any Sydney observers at the match must have been impressed by the young midfielder's role in Adamstown's attacking play.

He put Warwick Alexander in for a scoring chance in the seventh minute with a short cross from the right. When Alexander's awkward shot veered across the goalmouth, Senkalski took advantage of a flat-footed defence to score from eight metres.

He had a hand in the second after a clever interchange down the right with Peter Jaye put the winger in with a chance in the 37th minute.

Goalkeeper Lester Forrester foiled Jaye's first attempt but the ball ran free to Senkalski who squared a pass back across the box for Jaye to shoot into an empty goal.

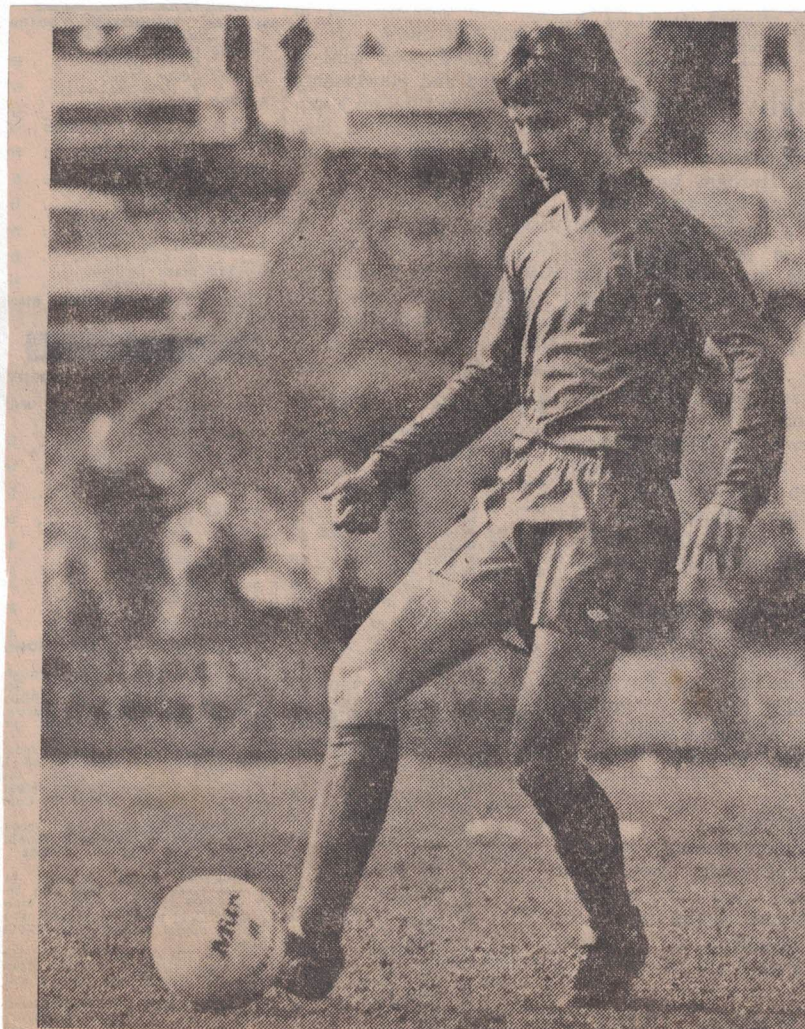
In the 53rd minute Senkalski finished off an Adamstown free kick by steering a 22-metre curving shot low into the left hand corner of the Wallsend goal.

Senkalski's role in the game was of supreme importance. His early goal in-

spired his side and the final goal completely demoralised Wallsend.

Rosebuds coach Bill Paddock, who steered the side to its second successive grand final win, confirmed after the match that it was his last season as a coach.

But Ray Lloyd, unquestionably "coach of the year" after bringing Wallsend from third last to the grand final, said that he would have a "good rest" in the off-season before making a decision about next season.



Brilliant young midfielder Joe Senkalski manoeuvres the ball toward Wallsend goalmouth in the Rothmans first grade grand final.

SOCCER

Lion-hearted defender John Clinton will take the field in his 200th first grade premiership appearance for Adamstown against Weston Bears on Anzac Day.

22.4.77

CLINTON REACHES 200 SENIORS

Clinton belongs to that now rare breed of players who have remained with the club right through his junior days from the under 10s and he is now in his ninth year in first grade.

His loyalty to the Rosebuds can be compared with his play — fiercely determined, refusing to admit defeat until the final whistle.

Before the kick off the Adamstown club will make a presentation to John Clinton, after he leads the team on to the field in the Rosebuds' most crucial clash of the season.

David Allomes has been brought in at outside left in place of Graham Jennings, with the rest of the team left intact.

The rivalry between Weston and Adamstown has been one of the highlights of local soccer in recent seasons.

Weston coach Max Luc-

• By "SPOT KICK"

chesi can point to the Bears' remarkable record of nine games without defeat this year.

Weston went through the BP Shield to beat Wallsend in convincing fashion in the final, and the Bears have recorded three consecutive wins in the Rothmans premiership series.

However, a nagging doubt persists about the fitness of Jack Turnbull in the Weston side.

Turnbull has been the revelation of the Weston team this season, having gained maturity and poise.

If he is ruled unfit in a late test, a serious gap appears in the side.

If Turnbull does not play his replacement could come from either teenage Marshall

Soper of Steve Kooseman, with some rearrangement to the lineup.

The match holds all the necessary ingredients for a classic encounter, with the experienced Weston backline in opposition to such incisive players as Kevin Lagerstrom and Jim Foley.

Ossie Bellamy will retain the goalkeeping spot for Weston, with Robert Lacey in reserve grade.

Weston are still waiting for a clearance from the Scottish Football Association for goalkeeper, Dave Mackie, formerly of Dundee and Millwall.

Mackie looked so capable in trial matches and is eagerly awaiting the opportunity to throw out a challenge in top grade.

At Speers Point tomorrow, Dave Baldwin takes over from Greg Geise in the Lake Macquarie goals against Edgeworth Eagles.

Geise has done remarkably well in his top grade appearances, but the greater experience of Baldwin has edged the youngster out for the time being.

Lakes conceded five goals to Wallsend last week and moves have been made at training this week to tighten this section of the side without losing the flair of goalscoring.

Peter Tredinnick had a light run at training, but his injured ankle still prevents him from kicking a ball.

His return to active soccer appears to be still two or three weeks away, his exuberant play being badly missed in the Lakes attack.

Edgeworth have not yet named their team, though it is definite that skipper-coach Peter Irving will resume.

Without Irving's presence on the field against Adamstown, the team adapted a rudderless course, indicating that the coach is needed on the field to cajole his players to greater activity.

In the other match tomorrow, Central Coast face up to the might of co-leaders Toronto Awaba United at Davistown.

Central Coast have yet to win a match this season, while Toronto have given notice of their championship aspirations with three wins.

Steel fence to keep fans out

SHEFFIELD, Yorkshire Friday (AAP). — Chester United and English FA Cup final at the Hillsborough ground of Sheffield Wednesday.

A team of welders worked flat out for fortnight to put up 3-metre (10ft) high galvanised steel fences, costing £6000 (\$A9300).

Club secretary England said today has not been put up to measure against Manchester fans, but is some we have had in mind about three years.

"People have been running on to the pitch. They have brought their own chairs. It is a measure which, unfortunately will be increasingly at grounds."

Soccer claims given boost

23.8.76

By Herald soccer writer NEIL JAMESON

Cardiff and Weston's semi-final chances were given a boost when both sides scored valuable wins in Rothmans premiership soccer matches yesterday.

Cardiff, with three games to play, moved to 24 points by defeating Toronto-Awaba 1-0 at Toronto.

There was a similar scoreline at Weston where the home side had a Jack Turnbull goal as evidence of a win against Edgeworth.

Cardiff's goal came after five minutes at Toronto when Dave Roskell picked up the ball inside his own half and beat two defenders on a 30-metre dribbling run. His pass found Paul Queenan who only had the goalkeeper to beat.

Toronto battled to stay in the game but Cardiff created far more chances and

could have won by a greater margin.

Cardiff are now on 24 points, Weston on 23 and Newcastle Austral, who did not play this weekend, in fifth place on 21.

Lake Macquarie's late season revival produced another comfortable win when Cessnock were outclassed 3-0 at Macquarie Field yesterday.

Lakes were in command almost from the kick-off and scored their first goal in the 14th minute. From a free kick on the left wing Peter Tredinnick flighted the ball across to Robert Versey on the right. Versey crossed it back to Barry Boslem who headed it into the goal.

Boslem was on target again with his head in the 39th minute by virtue of an interchange down the left wing between Adam Durkot and Tredinnick before Tredinnick cut a flighted pass infield.

Boslem and Tredinnick were involved in Lakes' third goal which came in

crossed from the right and Tredinnick fired home the shot.

Cessnock were lucky to escape so lightly with Lakes having only themselves to blame for a series of wasted chances that included a missed penalty by Durkot.

Maitland seemed assured of two points when leading West Wallsend 3-1 in the second half, but Westy stormed home to score three late goals in a seven-goal thriller at Johnston Park on Saturday.

The score was 1-all at halftime but Maitland made it 3-1 when Kevin Ellinor and Ken Boardman added to a goal by Steve Duma.

John Turnbull led a Westy fightback by scoring twice, including one from the penalty spot, to equalise. Peter Kemp grabbed the points for Westy with a late winning goal.

Adamstown and Wallsend, who were to play Newcastle Australian and Highfields Azzurri respectively, had their matches deferred because of Rothmans Cup

• AUSTRALIAN RULES STARTS ... PAGE 23

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SOCCER

GAME DISPLAY BY ROSEBUDS

• By 'Spot Kick'

One hundred and twenty minutes of cup tie soccer failed to produce a winner in the Adamstown and Wollongong City clash in the Rothman State Cup quarter final yesterday at Adamstown.

Standing out amid the tough, bruising 1-all encounter, was brilliant Wollongong City forward Phil O'Connor.

The skilful Englishman troubled the Rosebuds right defence in one of the most devastating displays of wing forward play seen in the north.

His deceptive change of pace, his ability to control the ball had normally re-

liable defender Darrell Evans in a constant dilemma.

O'Connor shot Wollongong to the front in the early minutes of play with a flashing header from a left wing cross.

Despite O'Connor's dominance on the left, the South Coast side failed to press home this advantage due to some sterling defensive work by Adamstown.

Before halftime Adamstown had equalised with an exciting goal.

A quick switch by Trevor Smyth out to diminutive winger Peter Jay caught the Wollongong defence napping.

Jay sped away amid half hearted appeals for offside and his well hit low shot sent big goalkeeper Fabio Fabrainesi sprawling on the turf unable to hold the ball.

As the ball ran loose Kevin Lagerstrom raced in to tap in the simplest of goals.

Just before halftime referee Bill Turner raced to the sideline and censured Wollongong coach Herbie Williams,

Williams, standing by as a reserve, had broken the ethics of the code by coaching his team from the bench.

Shortly after the interval Williams came on as replacement for Peter Begg, but was unable to counter the relentless work of Col Curran and John Clinton, two of Adamstown's heroes when the game looked like turning against the Rosebuds.

Opposing goalkeepers, Steve Goodbun and Fabio Fabrainesi did much fine work.

A magnificent diving save by the Wollongong keeper prevented an almost certain goal by Joe Senkalski.

Adamstown replaced Graham Jennings and Jim Foley with Jack Harrison and Mark Smith as the hard slogging type of play took its toll.

Foley was making his first appearance for a few weeks following a lay off through injury, while Jennings was troubled with a leg injury in the early stages of the match.

ROSEBUD'S 1-0 WIN A STRUGGLE

NEWCASTLE — Adamstown struggled to a 1-0 win against Wallsend in an uninspiring major semi-final of the Rothmans Northern Soccer premiership at Austral Park on Saturday.

Wallsend will now meet Cardiff in the preliminary final next weekend.

The winner plays Adamstown in the grand final the following weekend.

A diving header by Adamstown defender John Clinton in the 87th minute denied

Wallsend a justly deserved draw.

Adamstown keeper Steve Goodbun fumbled a lofted ball almost on his goal line.

Wallsend striker John Parkes flicked the ball toward goal and Clinton headed it away for a corner.

Kevin Lagerstrom netted for Adamstown in the third minute of play and just failed to score again in the opening minutes of the second half.

Adamstown had the better of play in the first half.

Wallsend were slightly superior in the second.

Poor finishing off by attacking players on a hard, dusty pitch detracted from the match which was continually halted for free kicks against both teams.

Wallsend beat Adamstown 3-2 in the third grade major semi-final and Adamstown beat Cardiff 2-0 in the reserve grade semi-final.