

# Southport had the mini-skirted cheer girls — Surfers had the goals



*Now, see here, sport!*

by  
**"ALL-ROUNDER"**



DICK ("All-Rounder") WILSON

**Good morning . . . And on Sunday it was out to Owen Park to see the Rules leaders, Surfers, completely cage the Southport Maggies.**

Due to other commitments I could only stay until half way through the second quarter — but as the score was then 62 to 26 in favour of the Surfers squad, even my inexperienced eyes could tell that they were much classier than the 'bies. Maggie vice president, Leo Busch, Rules scribe, Don Brown, and Maggies coach, Bevan Walters, took me under their wings and sorted out the game for me as it went along. I reckon I have seen enough football and footballers in my time to be able to pick out a good 'un when I see one, no matter what the code. Therefore it wasn't long before three players had made an impression on me.

### Champ. class

The first one turned out to be KEN BEST of Southport, who has all the earmarks of a champion in no matter what code he wanted to play. Best has that intangible something about him (as have the other two) that stamps him as a good 'un even before he kicks a ball. It was no surprise to me then, when Leo told me that Ken had been signed by Collingwood, but under the Rules law that has proclaimed Queensland a protected State as far as poaching is concerned, he could not make the trip South.

The Rules people have an interstate poaching ban on Blues where the game is fighting for fans. In Queensland's case it extends until 1971.

The second player who seemed a natural to me was JOHN WAUGH of Surfers, and once again it was nice to have my first

confirmed by finding out that he is the season's leading goal scorer and was at the time of seeing him about ready to notch his 100 goals for the season so far.

I particularly liked the way John eased his opponents out of position before marking the ball. It had the stamp of class and experience about it.

Thirdly, MICK COLLINS, from the Conangra Army Camp, who played for Southport, seemed to my Rugby League eyes at least to do everything right.

### Loud hailer

What I liked about Mick was that he never uttered the heavy going and got his team out of trouble lots of times.

As on my visit to Labrador last month, I was impressed with the fervour of the rules aficionados.

No Melbourne grand final could have ever heard more patriotic barracking.

Maggies V. P. Leo, who through the week has one of the best modulated voices on the Coast, was a fountain of information and criticism for his own players — the advice and scorn being delivered as though through an invisible loud hailer!

On the other hand coach, Bevan Walters, is of the silent suffering type who bore all the hard knocks and tribulations of his team as though he was getting the knocks personally.

### Minnies

Not so the cheer squad of six young Magpie ladies who made up the colourful ballet-like, Maggie barracker chorus line

in their black and white tops and minnies.

One thing surprised me . . . Surfers is always held up as the most, shall we say flamboyant of our Gold Coast settlements, but it had nothing in the way of barrackers, cheer squad, or display of any kind, strange!

Altogether an interesting and instructive hour or so and my thanks to the officials mentioned above who were so patient with my inquiries.

Blind Freddie could see this game in his own that Surfers was far impeccable style elsewhere in this journal, but the day and almost every- I would just like to say thing they did had a sure- that although Coast was unbeatable on their day ness and polish about it that the Maggies lacked. It was not surprising to hear on Sunday night that Surfers had won by 10 goals.

Anyway I must have impressed Leo, as he tells me there is an old buffers game on at the end of the season and if they are short he will give me a game.

Ye gods! never thought I would see the day. What will the family say!

### Black and gold

After leaving the rules it was down to the League game at Burleigh on half time.

My Compadre "Burleigh" Hellier has covered

ed this game in his own impeccable style elsewhere in this journal, but I would just like to say that although Coast was unbeatable on their day until the last whistle.

In particular little Toby Brown, who played (so they tell me) a "blinder" in a prelim game, then turned out and played his heart out defending as fullback in the firsts, deserves honourable mention.

He must have seen black and gold jerseys coming at him in his sleep for the past two nights.

### Four exiles

Tonight the first of the NSW v. Queensland matches taken place at the Ekka, and on paper it appears certain that we

will be back to that slump we were in before we beat the Blues here in the corresponding match, and won the Saturday game last year.

I think the only satisfaction we will get out of the two games coming up is the fact that NSW will be playing four Queenslanders in their team: Rhodes, Rasmussen, Wiltenberg, and Beetsen — there are four stars we would like to see in the Maroon jersey this week.

Still they are in the game for a quid, and they are getting one. So good luck to them.

Sad to note that Saturday's interstate game will be the last big game match for Australian captain, Johnny Raper.

Still, that fact alone should give the crowds some thing worth watching.

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