

MAGPIES WELL TANGLED IN BOB'S PHYSICAL FITNESS WEBB

CAPTAIN-coach of the Southport Magpies, Bob Webb, is a fair dinkum fitness crank and players know it — with his early pre-season training of old and new men.

Even some of the more rotund players like Davie Burns and Warren Burnes are starting to trim down to a svelte shape.

Keenness is at a high standard among all players and president, Allan MacKenzie, seems to think 1973 will be the year for the pennant to return to Southport.

Maybe he is somewhat influenced by some of the excellent imports that the Pies have obtained — big men like Bill Ryan, late of

Cooptaroo, Queensland captain for the last two years and before that the Geelong and Victorian VFL player.

Boys improving

They have also Steve Hunter, also late of Cooptaroo, an excellent in-form player and a man who can play in a multitude of positions including half back flank, rover or ruck.

Younger players like Zane Taylor, from Footscray Colts, Steve Merritt and Robert Matheson, both from Victoria — these boys are really starting to shape up with the Magpies.

The Pies committee is also pleased to see many of the oldtimers and last year's players, also in training. Club stalwarts like Polly Rankin, Barry

Rudd, Wayne Eastman and also a real Maggie di-hard, Mick Kelly.

In order to allow some of the new players to meet the local people, the Southport committee has organised a players meet the supporters night, in the Down Under Bar at the Pacific Hotel on Friday night, March 14.

Admission is \$2.50

per head and refreshments include a chicken and champagne supper. All are cordially invited.

The Magpies committee has also announced the appointment of Kevin Smith, of the Pacific Hotel, as club secretary. His appointment follows the recent sad loss to the club of previous secretary, Col Mauro.

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Bill Ryan's clearance skyrockets Southport's rules hopes

By GOALSNEAK

SOUTHPORT'S hopes for the 1973 Aussie Rules premiership were boosted during the week when former VFL star, Bill Ryan, was cleared by Cooptaroo. The clearance has been a controversial issue for several weeks and it was felt the bulky ruckman would fail to gain the nod following talks in Brisbane a week ago.

Ryan, 36, joined Cooptaroo two seasons ago from VFL club, Geelong, and was responsible for the club's rise to the Brisbane competition as well as the regional clearing by the State side in their last season.

It is said that the ruckman's vast experience would have a big bearing on the many young players within the Southport side.

Strong group
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State side
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was available to play for Queensland in the game against Tasmania in Brisbane on May 12.

Southport president
Dr Allan MacKenzie, said the news of Ryan's clearance was like a breath of fresh air and had lifted club morale 100 per cent.

He added that the ruckman's vast experience would have a big bearing on the many young players within the Southport side.

Team issues
Dr MacKenzie said the club had also applied for two other players from Cooptaroo — Steve

Thorn, a utility player from Geelong, Queensland, and Mike Macdonald, from Melbourne.

He said there was hope for a clearance for Mike Macdonald, but a big impediment to that, Macdonald has returned to South Australia.

Magpie coach, Bob Webb, is another who is pleased that the State clearance is finally in being.

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club appointments are available and can be confirmed from players and officials at half Ovens Park on Tuesday in the next fortnight.

The club also plans a new rule in Brisbane Island on Easter Sunday and this is open to players, officials and supporters.

Plans are also well advanced for a sportsman's dinner and 10 and special games will include "No Touch", Run Races, and Soccer Kicks League and Foot Kicks.

Further information in the Bulletin which is always available.

Letters contributed
Dennis at Gull Oval, was coach, Fred Potts, was a handle to see the 11 boys and their team to be placed in colors at the end of the year.

The former utility player Ryan is still recovering to well advanced, with all players displaying unusual vigor in each weekly game.

From Queensland and other sources, two returned footballers, are expected to be joining the club.

Plans will first originate from Brisbane and Brisbane had already signed and were expected to arrive soon.

Although the club has had many players, John Widdings, Terry Harry and Stephen Mann, officials report that the club's prospects will prove to be some for the opening game against Southport.

Ready later
Other Lions, Fred Miller and Terry O'Brien, are expected to be confirmed, but will be available around mid-March. They should find time quickly as both are in-form.

Lions president, Frank Traugh, says

The Tigers are planning three pre-season games and will receive 1000 in the coming week.

Two matches

from Marlow (on Wednesday) and One Creek (Thursday) are two matches signed by Lebrun in the last fortnight. Other potential players were named with the Tigers include, Peter and Gary Edwards, Peter Potts, Terry Potts, John Baker and John Edgecombe.

The Australian Football Council has ordered the clubs to disband with a report indicating some 231 clubs and the Gold Coast League will follow.

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SPORT-7

With the growing support of parents, 114 boys will be attending the school.

The same will be undertaken by many young footballers who are at present playing their football with their own high school.

The League Football will announce this week and announced that they will be playing their football with their own high school.

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Ryan boots 10 and keeps Pies riding high

1975 Southport Magpies maintained their unbeaten record this season when they with-
stood a strong challenge by the Coolangatta Blues in a Gold Coast Australian Rules match
at Owen Park, Southport, on Sunday.

The Magpies pulled
off a superb victory
over the Blues in a
highly competitive
match which was
played in front of
a large crowd at
Owen Park, Southport,
on Sunday.

In a hard fought
contest, the Magpies
were never in the
hunt against a bigger,
faster and more skilled
Southport combination
which had the game
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Southport completely
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The Magpies clever
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Merritt, left un-
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The Magpies were
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although Gill, Taylor,
Leonard and

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many chances were
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Southport's defence
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Riebelt, Rodgers
and Meyer giving
the Coolangatta
forwards no latitude.

In the second
half, Thompson,
who had staged
a great battle with
Gill, got on top
and with the
Magpie forwards,
Sapwell, Gillett
and Browne piling
on the goals it
was no contest.

The Blues had
no counter to
Southport's
ruck supremacy
and the speed
and teamwork
of the Magpie
forwards who
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them on a platter.

SOUTHPORT TAKE RESERVE GRADE FLAG IN CANTER

SOUTHPORT turned on power football to outclass Coolangatta and win the Gold Coast Australian Football Reserve Grade premiership at Owen Park, Southport, on Sunday.

The Coolangatta Blues were never in the hunt against a bigger, faster and more skilled Southport combination which had the game wrapped up at half time when they led by 10 goals.

Southport completely outclassed Coolangatta and won the grand final 32-23-215 to 9-19-73.

The Magpies clever forward play with deft handball had the Blues defence completely disorganised and Merritt, left unguarded, made the most of his good fortune and notched four goals in the first half.

The Magpies were winning in the ruck and in the air and although Gill, Taylor, Leonard and

Faulkner were battling valiantly for the Blues, many chances were lost through hurried and inaccurate kicking for goal.

Southport's defence was great with Riebelt, Rodgers and Meyer giving the Coolangatta forwards no latitude.

In the second half, Thompson, who had staged a great battle with Gill, got on top and with the Magpie forwards, Sapwell, Gillett and Browne piling on the goals it was no contest.

The Blues had no counter to Southport's ruck supremacy and the speed and teamwork of the Magpie forwards who had the ball delivered to them on a platter.

It was a disappointing game for the big crowd as the Magpies won effortlessly and notched up a huge score to deservedly win the 1975 premiership.

Best players: Southport-Thompson (best on ground), Riebelt, Rodgers, Merritt, Sapwell, Thrift, Coolangatta-Leonard, Taylor, Martyn, Faulkner, P. Gill, R. McKay.

Goal Kickers: Southport-Thompson (8), Sapwell (6), Merritt (5), Piesley (3), Gillett (3), Browne (3), Burns (1), Lewis (1), Coolangatta-Martyn (3), Gill (1), Taylor (1), Faulkner (1), J. McKay (1), Turner (1), Endersby (1).

TRUE BOOT

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