

'BALL-OR-NOTHING' PLAYER MAY WEAR ALL WHITE IN 1975

ONE of the Gold Coast's toughest Australian Rules players, Southport's Davey Burns, is considering taking up the whistle next season to umpire matches.

Burns announced his retirement from playing after last week's grand final.

He coached Southport reserves which lost to

Palm Beach-Currumbin.

Burns' 'ball or nothing' attitude made him one of the Gold Coast's most feared men during his 12-year career.

He played senior football until recently and won

the Gold Coast reserves' best player award this season.

Burns had the ability to play key defence posts, centre or ruck-rover.

Injured stomach

He tore stomach muscles when Southport won the reserves second semi-final three weeks ago.

He was still unfit for the grand final, but was talked into playing.

His game was serviceable and he 'unloaded' several players during chases for the ball.

Southport club president, Mr A. MacKenzie, paid tribute to Burns after the grand final.

He later joked: "Knowing Davey's style, the wrong man will get most of the free kicks."



DAVEY BURNS

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