

HE MAY PLAY ON GOLD COAST

ONE of the all-time greats of Australian Rules, Bill Ryan, could play on the Gold Coast next season.

Ryan played for Geelong and represented Victoria before joining Coorparoo, Brisbane, as coach for the past two seasons.

His grocery business at Main Beach has forced him to decline the Coorparoo coaching position for next season and several Gold Coast clubs are interested in his services.

It is understood he is eager to coach or play locally next season.

Negotiable

He has already held negotiations with at least one Coast club.

Ryan played all his Victorian football with Geelong and was in its 1963 VFL premiership winning team.

His magnificent high marking established for him an unequalled reputation in Australian Rules' number one State.

His high leap and strong hands made him the perfect high marker.

Ryan represented the VFL in interstate games. He joined Coorparoo

Negotiations continuing

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as coach and took it to third-place last season.

"He's a tremendous coach and the sort of bloke I like playing next

to," a Coorparoo player said.

Coorparoo officials believe he will play with them next season, but Ryan's business commitments could keep him on the Gold Coast.

Several times last season he trained with

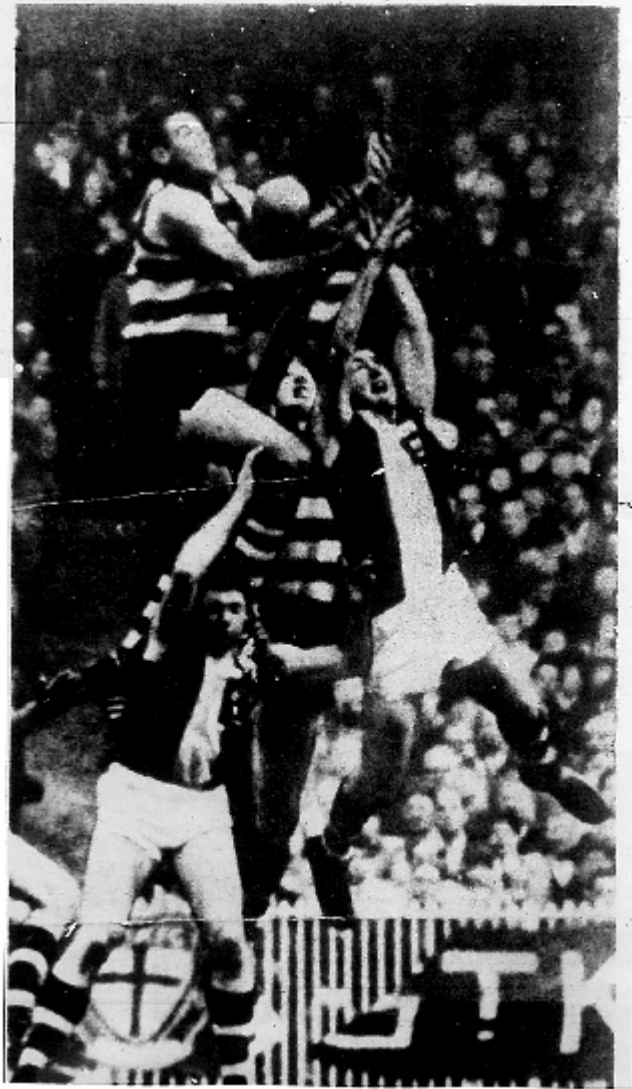
Southport in preference to driving to Brisbane.

Ryan attended most Gold Coast league finals and was conspicuous at the grand final.

He stands 1.9 metres (6ft 2in) tall and weighs 102 kilograms (116 stone).



■ Ryan, No. 26



Gold Coast Bulletin: October 5 1971, p26

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