



WHITE EAGLE 1968

**Association & George Evans Shields, Falkinder Cup Winners
&
League Runners up**



Back: J Scally (Coach), D. Jefferson, I. Honeyman, I. Stewart, S. Rakowski, B. Dora, E. Rosinski, K. Olsen, W Jones (Trainer)
Front: D. Jones, H. McCann, D. Stoddart, D. Siggins, B. Osuchowski, J. Biggar

Mathias will be tonic for Rapid

By Gordon Burnett 3/2/68

RAPID Soccer Club in Hobart are looking forward to better things this coming season with the return of State player Egon Mathias from White Eagles.

Newly appointed coach Tom McLaughlin said yesterday that Oscar Heinrich was returning, and Otto Bachinger would be playing again after a spell on the mainland.

He said the promising Dilba twins, Jack and John, were also new recruits, and there was a chance Eric Owen would join Rapid on his return from England. All last season's players except for goalkeeper Fritz Pfund would be available. Pfund is hoping to get a coaching position with another club.

Former State player McLaughlin arrived in Hobart from Scotland in 1960 and joined Rangers, with whom he remained until he went to Brisbane, where he played for the Azurri club. On his return to Hobart after three months, he re-joined Rangers, then went to Rapid, and was back with Rangers for a spell until he joined Juventus last season.

This will be his first coaching and he will have Otto Frick as team manager.

Coaching job to Sarfalvy

By Gordon Burnett 13/2/68

FORMER State soccer coach Alex Sarfalvy has been appointed director of soccer coaching in Tasmania.

This was revealed yesterday by the Tasmanian Soccer Coaches Association after receiving advice from the technical committee of the Australian Soccer Coaches' Association. It means that Sarfalvy now ranks as one of the top coaches in Australia, being on the same grading as the Australian Olympic squad coach or the Victorian State coach.

The president of the T.S.C.A. (Mr. D. Summers) said yesterday that a preliminary award coaching course of six weeks, would start on Sunday. It would begin at the Claremont school oval at 10 a.m.

Summers will deal with the course, Tony Parker will take the gymnastic side, and Sarfalvy will be responsible for the technical instruction.

Soccer in South begins today

By Gordon Burnett [THE MERCURY] 4/3/68

The Tasmanian Soccer Association roster season will open today at Grove Rd., Glenorchy, with only one game instead of the two programmed for the split round.

Rangers' withdrawal this week left the association with the choice of having only seven teams in the Southern Premiership League, with the resultant bye each week, or invite a team to take Rangers' place.

They offered the place to Metro, but they decided they were not ready for a return to senior status, and University have now been approached to make the eighth team. Metro topped the Metropolitan Division 1 standings last season and had the opportunity of challenging Rapid (who finished in last place in 1967) for promotion, but did not do so, deciding to concentrate on this season's Metropolitan Division premiership with a view to seeking promotion in 1969.

University were second only to Metro last season. Metro's new coach Peter O'Brien, the former Rangers and Croatia winger, is concentrating on getting the club's 36 players really fit to see out the 90 minutes of a game.

South Hobart will open the roster at 2.40 p.m. at Glenorchy when they meet Juventus after the friendly between Rapid and Caledonians.

A feature of the new season will be the adoption of the new F.I.F.A. rule that any two players may be substituted at any time of the game at the discretion of the coach. The new rule will give an added advantage to the better placed clubs who have a number of first-class reserves.

Teams chosen: Juventus from K Jaeger, R. Carnevale, J. Rais, J. Lindsay, V. Tria, J. Hanna, P. Owen, J. Thornhill, P. Baker, P. Woods, T. Watson. Reserves: B. Cengia, D. Rizzolo. South Hobart: from Barnfield, Baker, Crawford, E and D Rawlings, West, Manson, Grimsey, D. Dolliver, Gibson, Bowles, Wells, Brooks, Hursey, Hankey.

Juventus open season on right foot for 4-2 win

By Gordon Burnett [THE MERCURY] 4/3/68

JUVENTUS opened the Tasmanian Soccer Associations 1968 roster season with a 4-2 win over South Hobart before a large crowd at Grove Road Glenorchy on Saturday.

Juventus, who led 3-1 at half time, had three newcomers, Englishman Thornhill, who excelled at inside-right, Hanna, who was not at his best at wing-half, and Lindsay who showed out with his headwork in the centre-half berth. The winners opened strongly but fell away after the interval.

Rapid, who fielded a promising and youthful team, won 5-0 against Caledonians, for whom Wilson missed a penalty. Rangers players included in the Caledonian line-up were goalkeeper Nick Wilson, MacKinnon, Reid, Hobbs and Guyan. Worsey is still nursing an ankle injury, Bernard Siggins has only just resumed training after being on the injured list and Walner was not available because he is still playing cricket.

Juventus forfeit winning points

By Gordon Burnett [THE MERCURY] 8/3/68

THE Tasmanian Soccer Association has decided that Juventus should forfeit the points they won through their defeat of South Hobart.

No registration forms for any of the Juventus players have been received, an association meeting was told. The Juventus delegate explained that the club member handling the registrations and team sheets, was admitted to hospital on Saturday morning and the club was under the impression that the registrations had been completed. The meeting voted 8-7 that Juventus should forfeit the points.

University have accepted an invitation to join the Southern Premiership League. They will fill the vacancy caused by the withdrawal of Rangers. The Rapid v University game will be played on a date to be fixed.

Last season's premiers Olympia will be seen in action against Caledonians tomorrow. Olympia have lost several prominent players and Caledonians strengthened by ex-Rangers players, could be hard to beat.

Croatia, with a new coach and some new players in their line-up, face White Eagles who have been weakened by the loss of Mathias, back with Rapid, and Keith Dolliver, retired.

Goal disputed but Olympia notch soccer points

By Gordon Burnett 11/3/68

OLYMPIA beat Caledonians by a hotly disputed goal 10 minutes from time in Saturday's Southern Premiership League soccer game at Glenorchy.

Olympia's new winger Sakazis, flashed across a shot that slithered underneath the goalkeeper, and the linesman ruled that the ball had crossed a goal line, that had been erased in the wet long before this incident.

But for the brilliance of Mick Roussos in goal, Olympia would have lost, as he saved brilliantly from a penalty taken by Walner in the first half. Then he stopped a powerful shot from Arnott in superlative style in the second half.

Olympia coach Caglalís played in the half-back line and gave a good display, while Caledonian goalkeeper Nick Wilson from Rangers, was also in great form.

In the other league game, Croatia equalised at 4-4 against White Eagles after being 3-3 at half time. The avalanche of goals was possibly due to the failure of the goalkeepers to use gloves in the wet conditions. Skaro (3) and newcomer Yoso scored for Croatia, and McCann (2), Jefferson, formerly of Rangers, and Lundin netted for White Eagles.

Juventus to appeal on forfeit

By Gordon Burnett [THE MERCURY] 13/3/68

Juventus have decided to appeal against the Tasmanian Soccer Association decision that they should forfeit the points for their 4-2 win over South Hobart in the opening league game of the season.

The T.S.A. executive found that no registration forms for any of the Juventus players had been received and did not accept the explanation that unknown to the club, the Juventus delegate with the names for registration had been admitted to hospital.

The club's secretary (Mr. Ray Salter) said there were very strong reasons for the appeal against the loss of the points and added that Dr. J. Clemente would be handling the appeal for the club.

Soccer champions morale boosting win against South

By Gordon Burnett 5/4/68

OLYMPIA - last season's title winners - should have a morale and goal percentage boosting win against South Hobart in tomorrow's Southern premiership league soccer game at Glenorchy.

So far this season, Olympia has won all its games in the league, but the victories have been lack-lustre. Olympia defeated Caledonians 1-0, then stumbled over University to win 3-0. Last Saturday they showed a bit of last season's fire and teamwork to defeat Juventus, a long-standing rival, 2-0, in an Ampol Cup match. Tomorrow they will have a chance against South Hobart to give their supporters some heart.

Caledonians, boosted by new forward Fergus Brown, who has been transferred in his employment from Launceston, could reverse the results of their Ampol Cup match against White Eagles. White Eagles won this game 4-2 after extra time. After time, results were 2-2, but in the time-on, the Caledonian defence let two goals through.

Brown showed out in a practice game against South Hobart and could give Caledonians the extra sting in attack needed to win games.

The experience of Juventus should overcome the youth of Rapid – despite the return of Rapid's inside forward Bachinger. Juventus has not shown a lot of form in early matches, and the fast-improving Rapid could cause an upset.

University in their first season of Southern Premiership League, will find it hard to match Croatia's fast-moving style of play. Despite the enthusiasm the students display, it is hard to imagine Croatia losing, or even being held to a draw.

Olympia soccer leaders; down South Hobart 3-0

By Gordon Burnett 8/4/68

OLYMPIA jumped to the top of the Southern Premiership soccer ladder with a comfortable three-goal win over South Hobart on Saturday.

Rapid, who were leading after last week's first round lost to Juventus. They now occupy equal third place with Juventus and South Hobart – all with two points.

Croatia with a devastating seven-goal win over University, have moved into second position with White Eagles. Caledonians and University, who have failed to gain points, are on the bottom rung.

Rapid's inability to take advantage of opportunities cost them the game against Juventus. Playing high standard football, they were evenly matched up to half time, with the score at one goal each. But the standard deteriorated after the break, when rough play was introduced. Juventus took the game away with three goals. They were well served by experienced half-back Thornhill, while Jack Dilba, Rapid's right winger caught the eye with flashes of good football.

White Eagles score a one goal win over Caledonians in a match which see-sawed throughout. Caledonians began well and scored two goals within 10 minutes. White Eagles gradually came into the game, and by half time the score was equal at two goals. After the break, White Eagles gained the lead, but Caledonians came back quickly to equalise. Stewart scored the winning goal for White Eagles 15 minutes before full time.

Wild scenes at soccer final: Policeman hurt

By Gordon Burnett [THE MERCURY] 10/4/68

A Police officer was punched and kicked, as he protected a senior soccer referee from an angry crowd, after on eventful Ampol State Cup final in which Olympia beat Croatia 2-1 at South Hobart yesterday.

Women screamed as the crowd surged forward to the stand rail to see what was happening. Constable R. E. Stephen, of the South Hobart police station was mauled while getting referee Roger Marlors against the wall so that he could protect him. The attack came within a few yards of the referee's room.

Const. Stephen, the only police officer on the ground for this "needle" game, saved the referee from serious injury, and was himself fortunate to come out with only a few cuts and bruises. Only the press of the crowd kept him on his feet.

Almost immediately after this, a series of fights broke out among about 300 spectators, who went on to the ground for the presentation ceremony.

Fists flew as rival groups clashed, and several persons knocked down were kicked as they lay on the ground in one of the worst brawls seen at South Hobart.

Just as things had quietened down, a supporter started the chant "Olympia, Olympia," and a man went on to the ground carrying the Olympia flag.

This sparked off another battle of bigger proportions, that was stopped only when officials of both clubs intervened. Police questioned four men, and are continuing their investigations. No report was made of any casualties, but there were a number of black eyes and bleeding noses.

The brawls came after a hard and rough game in which Nadanic (Croatia) was sent off the field by Marlor in the second half with Olympia leading 2-0, and Vagianos (Olympia) received his marching orders with two minutes to go and Olympia leading 2-1. Croatia players Nadanic, Desic and Skaro all had their names taken before players were sent off.

Juventus have to talent beat Croatia and rival soccer leaders

By Gordon Burnett 15/4/68

JUVENTUS have the talent to beat Croatia in the Southern Premiership League soccer competition tomorrow at South Hobart, and so establish themselves as Olympia's main rivals for the season's top honours.

A fast-moving and sharp shooting forward line, backed up by a solid hard tackling half-back line, will give them the chance of the early lead they need. Juventus who have won both their league games, will be playing under new coach Fred Cunningham, as Jackie Rais has resigned. Tony Goodman is on the injured list, and he will be missed badly from the defence.

Croatia have had the benefit of six games, as against Juventus' three, and Skaro will be all out to keep his record of scoring in every game, and adding to his aggregate of 14 goals (in all games). Nadanic will be missing from the Croatia side for two weeks. He was suspended last night for striking Girling (Olympia), in last Saturday's cup final. Desic will be available, as the investigating committee waived one of the three cautions against him. Desic will be suspended automatically if he is cautioned again.

Brawling clubs will face fine

By Gordon Burnett [THE MERCURY] 17/4/68

SOUTHERN TASMANIAN soccer clubs whose players or spectators cause brawls such as that at South Hobart on Monday, will face a minimum fine of \$500 and possible suspension. And the committee to try such a case will comprise The Tasmanian Soccer Association's independent members.

This was decided last night by the T.S.A. executive at its routine meeting, after the chairman (Mr. V. Tuting) had said he would have nothing to do with the game if there was any repetition of what had happened in the Olympia v Croatia match on Monday.

"The scenes that followed the end of the game were disgraceful and disgusting, and unless you are very careful the ground will be taken away from you."

He appealed to club players and followers to try to put the game back on its feet. "Only hotheads, larrikins, and hooligans are doing this disservice," he added.

Olympia delegate Mr. D Finegan said the only way to stop this sort of thing was to fine an offending club \$500 if it was proved it was responsible.

Mr. J. Steen (independent) thought the cause was a nationalistic one and

said national teams should be avoided by the introduction of district teams.

Caledonians submitted a letter calling for strong action against the Croatia club, stating that the behaviour of some of the Croatia players and their supporters was "totally inexcusable and it is a wonder that some spectators were not seriously injured".

The executive decided to send a letter to the Croatia coach (Brezna), severely censuring him for going on the field during play. It also agreed to inform the police authorities, that more than one policeman was needed for matches. Last season four attended games at South Hobart.

White Eagles, yet to be beaten in the league, will be playing Olympia in the curtain-raiser and could give them some worrying moments. Rangy Ian Stewart will be completing an ex-Caledonian half-back line. Among

White Eagles reserves are David Jones and Jimmy Graham, also transferred from Caledonians.

Olympia will be without centre-half Vagianos, who was suspended last night for two weeks for striking Yoso (Croatia) in last week's game.

The young and fast Rapid side should beat South Hobart in the main game at Glenorchy, and Caledonians are expected to win against University, who are yet to score a goal.

Caledonians are playing Hugh Mackinnon, formerly of Rangers, in place of Tom Wilson, who has been called up for national service and will be leaving early next month.

University will be without Steen, who received a week's suspension for abusing the referee and dissenting his decisions.

Udovicic brilliant in game for Croatia: Juventus unable to pierce defence

By Gordon Burnett 22/4/68

SUPERLATIVE goalkeeping by 20-year-old Joseph Udovicic, held Croatia together for a 2-all draw on Saturday against Juventus, in the Southern Premiership Soccer League, after leading 2-0 at half-time.

Udovicic's anticipation was uncanny, and his agility produced the most superlative exhibition of goalkeeping seen in Hobart in years.

With several players in unaccustomed positions, Juventus took time to settle, and when they did, they found themselves two goals down.

Skipper Joe Hanna handled on the edge of the penalty area in the 28th minute, and Skaro rocketed the ball into the net to continue his goal scoring spree - 15 from all games.

Then a magic pass-back by ex-Manchester player Jim Thornhill into an empty net, saw Croatia go to 2-0 three minutes before half-time.

On the resumption, Juventus looked more like the team that provided thrills each week back in 1958, and they were on level terms within 12 minutes - and the players mainly responsible were wing-half Thornhill and left-winger Rizzolo.

A high ball from Thornhill on the right, was headed in by Rizzolo, and almost immediately after, inside-right Owen hit the cross bar. Then, while centre-half Desic was reeling after a

collision with his own goalkeeper, Thornhill sent across a free kick from the right that opportunist Rizzolo nodded back for Parker to slam in the equaliser.

The bearded Udovicic, then saved brilliantly from right-winger Carnevale twice and Wood. Owen crashed another shot against the crossbar, and Letec cleared from off the goal-line, as Juventus threw everything they knew, into a bid to save their 100 p.c. record. In reply Skaro had two chances and Yoso was in a scoring position once.

The big kicking, heavy tackling Croatia side, were handicapped by dissension in their ranks, and the crowd was treated to the unusual spectacle, of a player shouting to the coach on the sideline to replace another player.

Olympia, who scored a goal in each half to beat White Eagles 2-0, felt the loss of suspended Vagianos from their defence and goalkeeper Roussos was given a torrid time by a side which realized a little late, that they could match Olympia for possession, if not artistry.

Inside-right McCann, rattled the Olympia crossbar, and Jefferson should have converted a centre from Osuchowski. Goalkeeper David Siggins brought off several fine saves, one in particular being at point-blank range from Stanton. Jimmy Graham, a former captain of Caledonians, had his first game with the Polish club, taking Honeyman's place after the interval.

It was after this game that it was announced that only the trainer, coach, and two reserve players of the two teams playing, would be allowed on the touchline. Anyone else would be prosecuted.

At Glenorchy, University held Caledonians to 1-0 at half-time, although Walner missed a penalty, and then lost 5-0. Walter Worsey recorded a hat trick.

South Hobart's centre-forward Paddy Gibson also had a hat trick against Rapid, who came back from 1-3 at half-time, to draw 4-all, with John Dilba scoring the equaliser with 10 minutes to go.

Injuries rob Juventus two key players for league clash

By Gordon Burnett 26/4/68

JUVENTUS will be without key players Tony Parker (centre-forward), and Carl Jaegar (goalkeeper), for their Southern Premiership League soccer competition game against Caledonians at South Hobart tomorrow.

But Tony Goodman pulled up very fit at last night's practice after being absent with a troublesome back injury, and it is likely he will play at right-back.

Jaegar has a back injury, and will be replaced by Cengia, and Parker is nursing a thigh injury. Promising under-19 centre-forward di Tommaso - he played several senior games last year and was known as Santino - will be given his chance, and could be a success with clever inside men like Wood and Owen to help him.

Caledonians are notoriously slow starters, but they played well against the enthusiastic University side, and moved the ball smoothly. Only the playing of the offside trap stopped them from building up a substantial first-half lead.

Juventus showed against Croatia last week that they can fight back, and this will stand them in good stead again tomorrow.

White Eagles are not likely to make too many changes against University, although the speedy David Jones could be played at inside-right. He represented the State on the right-wing. With Jimmy Graham short of training, Honeyman could be preferred at full-back, although he spoiled good work last week by an overdose of kicking out.

Rapid "babes" sparkle and send talented Olympia crashing to defeat

By Gordon Burnett 29/4/68

RAPID gave the most refreshing exhibition of soccer seen at South Hobart for some years, when they overran the star-studded Olympia side, to win 2-1 on Saturday after a 1-0 interval lead.

Otmar Bachinger and the Dilba twins, John and Jack, backed up by former State centre-half Egon Mathias, were the stars of a side, that had a complete forward line under 21 and played as a team.

They concentrated on playing soccer all the time, going for the ball and letting the referee control the game. In return, the Referees' Association should make sure these lads are given the fullest protection against intimidation of any sort, as they have not the physique to stand up to rough play.

Coach Tom McLoughlin said his youngsters had carried out instructions to the letter, and had shown greater stamina than he had expected.

Olympia started confidently, but were floundering when Bachinger took a neat pass from John Dilba in the 14th minute, slipped past three defenders and beat Roussos with a well-placed shot. Two minutes later, Foster hit the crossbar with Roussos beaten.

Olympia coach Cagialis came off in the 32nd minute causing a positional reshuffle, with Groothuis going to the wing, Harper going to centre-half, and Girling coming inside.

These moves made no material difference, and just before half time, Roussos was fully extended to save from Reznik. Olympia equalised five minutes after the interval, when Alexiadis gave Girling a glorious opening.

Then, with fullback Fisher going off with an ankle injury, and being replaced by Wolfgang Stuetzel, Rapid looked as if they could have shot their bolt. But they continued to use the ball at top speed, and nine minutes later, a through pass saw Foster beat two defenders before netting.

Soon after there was a mix-up between Harper and Roussos that almost led to another score, and just before the end, Bachinger fired in a great shot from 30 yards that Roussos did well to fist over.

It was Olympia's first defeat in 13 roster games - since Juventus beat them 3-2 last season - and it was their first roster defeat by Rapid, since the opening game of 1964.

They will be glad to get Vagianos back after his period of suspension. It has been his absence, that has caused Richards and Shacklady to come back into the defence, and so put a brake on the once smooth moving attack.

They lost on Saturday because they had no answer to their opponents speed, and fast and open play, with a minimum of close passing.

Juventus were strengthened by the return of Goodman, and seldom have Caledonians been so outplayed, although Juventus were limited to a goal in each half.

Phillip Owen had bad luck again, with two shots hitting an upright - there were two of these against Croatia the previous week - Peter Wood went very close to scoring on several occasions.

Wood opened the scoring in the eighth minute and Juventus' second goal came in the 73rd minute through the tireless Thornhill.

Reserve goalkeeper Cengia, brought off several good saves to foil spasmodic Caledonian raids. Tomasso came on in place of Tria before the interval and played on the right wing with Lindsay at centre-forward.

A lone goal by Croatia's latest recruit Krizanovic in the 20th minute, sealed South Hobart's fate at Glenorchy, and White Eagles scored a goal in each half, to beat University 2-0.

Rapid have the power to down Croatia in match of the day

By Gordon Burnett 3/5/68

THE youthful Rapid team have got the soccer match of the day at South Hobart tomorrow for the second week running, and they could win again, against the heavy, slow-moving Croatia.

A wet ground will favour the fast-moving Rapid, who beat Olympia so pointlessly last week, but they will find the Croatia stopper tactics, a very different proposition.

Croatia will be without Desic, who is in Melbourne, and Yoso, who was injured at work this week. It is a game that could need strong handling by the referee.

Juventus are trying to get more punch into their attack by sending Thornhill up to inside-right to partner Owen, and this could produce the goals Juventus have been missing after good approach work.

With Jaegar back in goal and Parker at centre-forward again, Juventus look to be at their strongest, and should be too good for White Eagles in the curtain-raiser.

For their curtain-raiser at Glenorchy against University, Olympia could be without Richards because of golf commitments, but Vagianos will be back to restore balance in the defence.

In Richards' absence, Parkin could get his chance in his proper position at wing-half, where he will have room in which to manoeuvre.

Olympia beat University 3-0 in the-Ampol Cup and should repeat the dose against a side that concentrates on defence. University gave an improved display against White Eagles last week, holding them scoreless for 65 minutes.

South Hobart will be fielding a young and keen side against Caledonians in the main game at Glenorchy and are a better side than is admitted.

They reduced an earlier 9-1 defeat by Croatia, to a single goal last week, and Caledonians will need to play a lot better than they did against Juventus.

Caledonians have recalled goalkeeper Leslie, and until they have settled down, they would be advised to cut out their uncertain short passes in defence and concentrate on clearing their lines. The return of Caledonians' heady newcomer Fergus Brown to the attack, could be the turning point in this game.

Persistent Rapid overwhelm to take place over second place on league ladder

By Gordon Burnett 6/5/68

Rapid's speed and persistence on a slippery ground, gave them a convincing 3-0 win over Croatia on Saturday and second place in the Southern Premiership League soccer standings.

In losing their unbeaten roster record, Croatia contributed to their own downfall by:

- Conceding a penalty in the 32nd minute, when coach Brezna, who had been cautioned earlier, pulled centre-forward Foster away from the ball.
- Replacing both wingers Babic and Loveric at half-time, to complete their substitute quota.
- And goalkeeper Udovicic, threw his jersey down and raced to the dressing room after the second goal in 65th minute and did not return until Rapid had gone to 3-0 six minutes later.

The bearded Gjurbuzovic took his place in goal, but had no chance, when John Dilba pounced on a loose ball on the edge of the penalty area and slammed it past him.

It was the other twin, Jack Dilba, who was responsible for the second goal, as it was his high centre that beat Udovicic, and all the unmarked Foster had to do was to tap ball into the net.

Bachinger (Rapid), hit the crossbar in the opening minutes, and another shot from him just after half-time was deflected against an upright by Udovicic.

Rapid, who missed Reid on the left-wing, again showed excellent team spirit, and it was this that kept Croatia out on the few occasions they tried to use the ball as a complete unit.

Skaro should have given them an early lead when he had the goal at his mercy, and soon after very nearly got his head to a low centre across the goalmouth.

White Eagles almost snatched a point from Juventus, who scored the game's only goal one minute before half-time. Former under-16 star Genovesi came on as replacement for Tria in the 30th minute, and it was from his neat pass that Owen centred for Rizzolo to head into the net. Genovesi hit the near up right five minutes after half-time.

David Siggins was again in magnificent form in the White Eagles' goal, handling with great confidence and showing really good anticipation. White Eagles' full-back Rawlings went off with an injured leg, and was replaced by Rosinski, and Jones went on for Lundin soon after.

Caledonians led South Hobart 2-0 at half-time at Glenorchy and went on to win 4-1. Paddy Gibson scoring South's lone goal, to give him six of his side's seven goals this season.

The T.S.A. chairman (Mr V. Tuting) announced on Saturday, that Cardiff City, the Second Division League club, would be playing an extra game on their Australian tour, and would meet Tasmania on Monday June 10, possibly at Queenborough. This will be the first overseas team to visit Tasmania since Chelsea were here in 1965.

The Southern Tasmanian side to play the Australian Universities XI at South Hobart on May 25 will be selected from the 14 players chosen on the basis of two players from each senior club excluding University. Udodovic, Zapatocki (Croatia), D. Siggins, D. Stoddart (White Eagles), Hanna, Thornhill (Juventus), Vagianos, Parkin (Olympia), B. Siggins, Walner (Caledonians), Foster, Bachinger (Rapid), West, Mackie (South Hobart). Tom McLoughlin (Rapid) will coach the side.

Caledonians determined to extend soccer cup wins to 13

By Gordon Burnett 10/5/68 - [Falkinder Cup]

CALEDONIANS will be a determined side tomorrow, when they set out on the first stage of their attempt to extend their remarkable Falkinder Cup soccer record, to 13 wins in 18 seasons.

They play Olympia, and an added inducement will be the chance to avenge an unlucky lone-goal defeat by this team in the first game of the season.

If the defence can keep their attack moving, they have forwards who can take their openings, even though opportunist Walter Worsey is away on holiday.

Olympia, who hold the cup, could be without Richards, who managed only half a game last week, and Parkin yesterday was favouring an ankle injury from the University game.

Olympia do not consider this competition as important as the premiership, and will not take any chances with their stars. Reserve player Sakazis is reported to be leaving today for Greece.

White Eagles who have yet to meet South Hobart this season, could alternate their winning form in the match of the day at South Hobart, although Ian Stewart could be away after a bout of flu. In his absence, Graham would probably go to wing-half, with Rosinski brought in on the wing.

For their first game at headquarters, South are trying out a new left-winger in Feltham, who has shown promising form at training

Following the retirement of Ray West due to pressure of work, South have decided to get a paid coach.

Juventus are not taking any chances against University and will play their strongest team, with Thornhill back at wing-half and Owen inside-right to Genovesi.

Rapid's second successive game against Croatia, has been made the match of the day at Glenorchy, and a spate of Croatia absences, suggests Rapid will repeat their 3-0 win of last week. Desic is still in Melbourne, Yoso is injured and Gjurbuzovic, Cahut and Babic have not been to training. Among their 13 named players, are veteran Charlie Knapek and youngster Vilac.

Rapid could have newcomer Foehn on the wing, as Reid is likely to be out after a hand operation.

It is not an easy programme to predict as professional players don't get paid for playing, and there is a consequent lack of keenness.

The new combined Caledonians-Rangers committee is composed of D. Pillinger (chairman), T. Walner, J. Law (secretary), Mrs Brian Harper (treasurer), N. Pollard and N. Ausberg. The team manager is John Guyen and George Arnott is captain-coach. The selection committee is Guyen, Arnott and Law.

Croatia topple weakened Rapid side 3-1 in surprise cup result

By Gordon Burnett 13/5/68 – [Falkinder Cup]

CROATIA provided the only surprise in the first round of the Falkinder Cup soccer competition on Saturday, when they reversed their 3-0 defeat the previous week, by beating Rapid 3-1 at Glenorchy.

But Rapid were without star centre-half Egon Mathias, wing-half Reznik and winger Reid - and new winger Foehn had a recurrence of his back injury and had to be replaced.

Croatia were more than satisfied, as they said they had ironed out several team problems. It was a goalless first half, and then in the course of 10 minutes, Skaro converted a penalty for 'hands' and added a second to give Croatia a winning edge. Rapid fought back pluckily and Foster reduced the arrears, only for Leung to make it 3-1 with four minutes to go.

Croatia's promising Chris Hawes, who is really a centre-forward, played inside and on the wing, and another youngster Vilac caught the eye on the wing, before being replaced the second half by veteran Knapek.

Olympia coasted to a 6-0 win over Caledonians after weathering a worrying first half. It had to be one of the worst Caledonian sides in years not to cross with the lead at half time. Mick Roussos made several brilliant saves, but seemed to be a magnet for Caledonian shots from fine goalscoring positions.

Olympia scored three times in each half, and they could have had more. They could be losing Tommy Harper soon, as there is talk of him returning to the mainland.

The game of the day at South Hobart between White Eagles and South Hobart, was a scrappy affair. It was a pity that South reserved their listless display for their first appearance at headquarters this season.

None of the previous characteristics of this 50-year-old club seemed to have been retained by the players, wearing a newly designed strip. White Eagles, who were without Fred Rawlings, led 2-0 at half time, and both sides scored in the last five minutes.

Croatia all out to avenge Cup defeat: Top players will clash

By Gordon Burnett 17/5/68

THE clash between top scoring centre-forward Tony Skaro, and State squad centre-half Lachie Vagianos, should be the feature of the return soccer clash between Croatia and Olympia at South Hobart tomorrow.

Last time they met, Vagianos "wandered" for a brief instant and Skaro's goal put Croatia back in the game. Croatia who lost that Ampol Cup game 1-2, are keen to avenge the defeat, and could treat the crowd to a fine exhibition if they play as a team.

They are always hard to beat, but often they beat themselves. Both sides have been beaten by Rapid this season, indicating their vulnerability against fast, open play. But the better-balanced Olympia, are expected to take another step towards their fourth successive premiership.

Caledonians will still be without Walter Worsey for their game against Rapid in the curtain-raiser and will give 16-year-old Godfrey a chance in their attack. They have not met Rapid this season and will need to improve considerably to beat them. Goalkeeper Nick Wilson, who is back in the side, is seeking a clearance to Juventus, who have two goalkeepers in Jaegar and Cengia.

University have been strengthened on the eve of the inter-varsity carnival opening on Monday, by the transfer of winger Groothuis after month-long negotiations with Olympia, and the inclusion of tall, well-built centre-forward Tscheppera, who looks promising material. This means they will be able to get away from a defensive complex.

They lost 0-7 to Juventus last week in the Falkinder Cup series and could cut the difference down if the defence is given a breather now and again. Juventus have brought Bottari in on the wing and will be without Jaegar. Jim Thornhill will be having his second last game with them as he will leave Melbourne for England on the Australis on June 2. Former State forward Roger Nixon is in training again and is likely to play for Juventus reserves tomorrow.

South Hobart are desperately in need of a coach and more supporters to restore their confidence, and they are disappointed there have been no applicants for the paid job. Tomorrow is the last day for applications.

They lost 1-3 to White Eagles last week in the Falkinder Cup, and without Ernie Rawlings this week, they could be struggling to avoid a bigger defeat.

Croatia dictate tactics but opportunist goals give Olympia win

By Gordon Burnett 20/5/68

OLYMPIA beat Croatia 2-1 in their Southern Premiership League soccer game at South Hobart on Saturday, after the losers had dictated both tempo and tactics.

Croatia had the chances to win by a clear margin. Leung headed against the crossbar in the opening minutes; Knappek gave them the lead in the 20th minute through a lapse by Roussos, but they lost the advantage five minutes later, when opportunist Harper equalised.

Olympia had the near miss of the second half when Alexiadis failed to head home a low centre from the left, but he made amends in the next minute when he headed in the deciding goal.

Olympia missed Schwesinger, and their rapid interchanging of position at a non-stop pace, broke up their usually machine-like approach work. Croatia showed they could match Olympia's ball distribution and control, but failed to take their chances, and are now out of the top four.

Despite the absence of Mathias, Rapid hung on to second place with a 3-2 win over Caledonians, but there was a period in the second half when they were facing defeat, and Caledonians deserved a point.

Feature of the game was a remarkable goal by Otmar Bachinger, who raced down the left and centred when only two yards from the line. It was a goal from the time the ball left his boot. Wilson was given no time to position himself, and the ball went over his outstretched fingers to enter the top corner, to give Rapid a 2-1 lead at the interval. Rapid scored the winning goal 10 minutes from time.

University were down 0-3 at half-time and then 0-4 against Juventus, but then scored three goals with 10 minutes to spare, to worry their more talented opponents.

White Eagles inside forward Hugh McCann, slammed in four goals against South Hobart, who scored first and were 2-3 at half-time, before losing 2-6.

Southern Premiership League Standings

TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Olympia	6	5	0	1	17	3	10
Rapid	6	4	1	1	19	11	9
Juventus	6	4	1	1	13	8	9
White Eagles	6	3	1	2	16	12	7
Croatia	6	2	2	2	15	11	6
Caledonians	6	2	0	4	14	11	4
South Hobart	6	1	1	4	9	18	3
University	6	0	0	6	3	32	0

Leading Goalscorers: Skaro 8, Gibson McCann, Foster 6, Parker, Alexiadis, Bachinger, Worsey 5

Injuries to Olympia gives Juventus edge in vital clash

By Gordon Burnett 24/5/68

STATE and Olympia soccer goalkeeper Mick Roussos has cartilage trouble, and is expected to be on the sidelines for the rest of this season.

And with Schwesinger nursing a burned hand, and Parkin an absentee from training this week, Olympia are facing a testing period, on the eve of an important game against Juventus tomorrow. Nineteen-year-old Johnny Lymas, who has been in Hobart for only 12 months will get his chance in goal.

Juventus, who have been beaten only by Olympia this season, are keen to avenge that 2-0 Ampol Cup defeat, particularly as it will be Jim Thornhill's last game before he returns to England. They have brought Lindsay into the attack to partner winger Owen. Jaegar will be back in goal, and they look capable of winning and taking over the leadership in the standings.

Olympia lose key players on eve of second competition round

By Gordon Burnett 27/5/68

OLYMPIA will start the second round of the Southern Premiership League soccer roster on June 15 with a lead of two points, but without coach Peter Cagialis and ace goalkeeper Mick Roussos.

Roussos is having cartilage trouble and Cagialis will return to Greece this week after being with Olympia since May last year and taking them to the 1967 Southern premiership.

Cagialis, who played with pain-killing injections against doctor's orders, was badly needed on Saturday against Juventus when Harper was unable to play, and Olympia just scrambled home for a 4-2 win after leading 3-0 at half-time.

Juventus were unlucky in that their determined bid to save the game, petered out when Parkin scored the fourth Olympia goal. The goal came after Girling appeared to handle the ball in a collision with goalkeeper Jaegar.

Juventus' star players Hanna and Thornhill, who led the team in his final appearance before returning to England, both found two games on one day too much - they had played earlier against the Universities' side - and Thornhill was replaced by Tria in the second half.

Olympia's midfield dominance again laid the foundation for their success, but their defence was again suspect under pressure. Olympia were so short of adequate reserves, that Schwesinger played with a heavily bandaged right hand that had been burned, and he came through a grueling match with credit.

New goalkeeper John Lymas, a 19-year-old Irishman, showed the benefit of special coaching by ex-State goalkeeper Harry Alexiadis, by doing well in his senior debut. He saved his side when he held a header from Rizzolo at close quarters during mounting Juventus pressure.

Croatia beat Caledonians 3-2 at Glenorchy after being 1-1 at half-time and then 3-1, and White Eagles managed to hold Rapid to a goalless draw, thanks mainly to goalkeeper David Siggins. Reznik hit their upright, and John Dilba shot straight at the goalkeeper when favourably positioned.

Combined universities more than held a Southern Tasmanian side for the first 30 minutes and were 1-2 at half-time. But then an overdose of soccer in the past five days of the intervarsity carnival took its toll, and they lost 1-7. They provided badly needed new faces and their vocal supporters entertained with chanting and rhythmical hand-clapping while their team were still in the game.

Sydney captain Tony Jebb, right-half Thompson, Adelaide goalkeeper Makestas and left-winger Tsonis were the most impressive of a side that never gave up against predominantly professional opposition.

Girling will lead Olympia against Croatia in Cup semi-final

By Gordon Burnett 31/5/68 - [Falkinder Cup]

STATE soccer player Dick Girling will be captain-coach of Olympia when they take the field as favourites against Croatia in the semi-final of the Falkinder Cup competition at South Hobart tomorrow.

Olympia's coach Peter Cagialis, who is rated one of the best coaches to come to Hobart, is attending Europe's top three coaching schools in Yugoslavia, West Germany and England before returning to Hobart at the end of the year.

Harper is expected to return to the side, and if Girling can keep carefully laid 4-2-4 plans moving smoothly, Olympia's teamwork should carry them through to a third win over Croatia, whom they have beaten 2-1 twice this season. Petropoulos is in training again and could be a very useful substitute.

Juventus will be without Jaegar who will be working, and Thornhill who leaves tomorrow for England. Cengia and Tria have come into the side again.

White Eagles are starting to play good soccer and they will take some stopping if they can finish off their approach work.

They have met Juventus once this year and lost by a lone goal scored by Rizzolo just on the half time whistle. An Olympia v White Eagles final would not surprise .

University, who should have won the intervarsity title, have both Steens, Hans and Tom on the injured list as a result of the five-day series, and could find South Hobart too solid for them in their postponed roster game.

South, who have been given a taste of thorough conditioning this week under new coach John Kirkpatrick, will have Paul Howard in goal instead of Goodie.

Croatia play with purpose to gain place in final

By Gordon Burnett [THE MERCURY] 3/6/68 – [Falkinder Cup]

CROATIA outplayed Olympia to win 3-1 in a Falkinder Cup soccer semi-final at South Hobart on Saturday.

Quicker on the ball and playing with much more purpose, they led 2-0 at half-time through goals by centre forward Tony Skaro. They were pegged back to 2-1 by a penalty and scored the last goal 14 minutes before time.

Croatia lost Plezanic when he collided with team-mate Skaro. Babic took his place. Croatia opened the scoring when Skaro headed in a free kick by Gjurbuzovic against Vagianos' deliberate handling of the ball. Then Skaro scored again in the 31st. minute when Lymas misjudged a high shot from Leung.

Hands against Letec the penalty area in the 54th minute saw Richards convert the spot kick, but Olympia's hopes of forcing a draw in the gathering darkness were shattered when a high curling free kick by Gjurbuzovic beat Lymas to make it 3-1.

Kotler and Letec were the mainstays of Croatia, while Girling held a wavering Olympia side together in another of those hard, tough games in which referee de Witt cautioned three players on each side. Plezanic was detained at the Royal Hobart Hospital for four hours before he was allowed to leave.

Two hand balls in the area by Biggar could have cost White Eagles a place the final, but after Goodman had kicked the first penalty straight at Siggins, they opened the

scoring, and Hanna's goal from the second penalty caused extra time to be played.

The first few minutes of extra time were charged with drama as Osuchowski forced a corner, Carnevale was ordered off – allegedly for dissenting referee Marlor's decision – Jefferson scored his second goal for White Eagles, and Juventus captain Hanna was given his marching orders for allegedly arguing with the referee and gripping his arm.

But with nine men, Juventus came on terms in corners if not in goals, before Osuchowski scored for White Eagles, who had another corner for good measure. Juventus, who were without Parker, Jaegar and Thornhill, wasted potential match-winner Owen at centre-forward and were well beaten. In fact, they could have lost much more heavily had Jefferson, McCann and particularly Osuchowski been on target.

Paddy Gibson (South Hobart) should have had a feast of goals against University in their Southern Premiership League game, and he even missed a penalty, to allow University to force a goalless draw and pick up their first point in the roster.

New Scottish coach John Kirkpatrick made a very favourable impression in his debut for South, showing fine ball control and a football brain.

All four leading teams favoured in premiership games

By Gordon – Burnett 14/6/68

THE second half of the Southern Premiership League soccer competition will get under way tomorrow, with the four top teams likely to win.

Closest encounter should be that between Croatia and White Eagles at South Hobart.

A hat-trick of goals by Tony Skaro gave Croatia a 4-4 draw in their first roster clash with White Eagles, and Skaro scored one of the three goals in Croatia's 3-2 win in their Ampol Cup success against White Eagles - but Skaro will be an absentee tomorrow.

He has an injured leg from the Cardiff City game, but with Bruno Kotler, Frank Letec, and Plezanic forming an aggressive halfback trio, Croatia should get the same chances that gave them their first win this season over Olympia.

White Eagles who have not been beaten in their past four appearances, have not been training regularly in the recent lull, and could pay the penalty against a fit side like Croatia.

South Hobart could give Juventus some anxious moments in the curtain raiser, although they are unlikely to win. Juventus beat them 4-2 in their first encounter, and then lost the valuable two points because they fielded unregistered players.

Juventus will be without Remo Carnevale this week and Justi has been promoted from the reserve side to fill the vacancy. Carnevale was suspended last night for one week by the investigation committee for dissenting referee Marlor's decisions in the Falkinder Cup game against White Eagles.

Whereas skipper Joe Hanna got off with a reprimand for the same offence, Carnevale was suspended because of an earlier caution for the same reason.

Rapid should retain their position as second to Olympia when they meet University at Glenorchy.

Caledonians are trying Tony Walner in the centre, with Walter Worsey on a wing and Bernard Siggins and Cole in the inside positions. But they will need to improve considerably to beat Olympia, who beat them rather luckily by a lone goal in their first clash on this ground, and then scored six goals without reply in the Falkinder Cup.

Jackie Rais, the ex-Rangers and Juventus player, has joined the referee's association and will be on the line for the main game at South Hobart.

Croatia out of top four

By Gordon Burnett [THE MERCURY] 17/6/1968

CROATIA badly missed Bruno Kotler and Tony Skaro on Saturday, fell heavily into the offside trap set by White Eagles coach Jim Scally, and as a result ore out of the top soccer four.

Kotler withdrew from the side about 10 minutes before the game, and Croatia's defeat could be attributed in no small measure to his absence.

White Eagles crossed over a goal down after having had their chances. They equalised in the first minute of the second half, when a free kick by Osuchowski came off defender Krizanavic past Udovicic. The winning goal by Jefferson, was a fine left footed drive after he had been sent through the centre with a glorious pass from Graham in the 59th minute.

As Croatia saw the game slipping away against a side that was maintaining their early pace, they became even more sensitive to the offside trap that was holding them up, and this minimised their prospects of saving the match.

Graham's distribution was one of the features of the encounter as besides the match-winning pass he sent Jefferson in again in the closing stages only to see him lose control of the ball when a goal seemed certain. White Eagles are now all square with Croatia, against whom they have won, drawn, and lost this season, and they have taken three roster points from them.

It took Juventus a whole half to assert their superiority over South Hobart and won 3-1 after being a goal down and 1-1 at half-time in a very poor game. At least 12 of the 22 players on view did not deserve a place in this class of soccer.

South's new coach John Kirkpatrick will make his mark, as he is a very business-like wing-half apart from his undoubted coaching ability.

Juventus could be strengthened by the return of Jaeger and Carnevale, but they need a lot more snap up forward if they are to be a premiership threat. They could do with some new talent and could make better use of the talent they have.

Rapid showed the effects of a couple of weeks' layup and beat University only 2-1 after a 6-0 first round effort. University scored first, about 10 minutes after the start through Sumner. Then came a solo effort equaliser by Zoetsch, and Foster netted the decider all before the interval.

Caledonians made a game of it in the first half against Olympia, and could have crossed over on level term instead of 2-1 down, as Arnott hit an upright. But from then on it was all Olympia, and they won 5-1 looking as if they have a very firm grip on the premiership.

Ex-State goalkeeper Harry Alexiadis was back between the posts instead of at centre-forward, and this gave young Raoul Madden a chance on the left-wing. Madden impressed with a good goal and a promising display.

Caledonians had an early setback, when Fergus Brown had to go off with a pulled tendon at the top of the ankle 10 minutes after the start. He was replaced by Bobby Biggar.

High-scoring soccer player retires; Caledonians reel from setbacks

By Gordon Burnett 21/6/68

WALTER WORSEY, who has scored about 400 goals since he arrived in Hobart from Scotland in 1956, has retired from active soccer.

And to make matters even worse for Caledonians against White Eagles at Grove Rd. tomorrow, skipper George Arnott is on the injured list - and Fergus Brown will be away for six weeks with a torn leg muscle.

Hoyle, captain of the reserves, Jack Johnston, who has scored 21 goals for the reserves, and Pless, who broke a leg playing for the Tasmanian under 16 side in Melbourne several years ago are the replacements.

Worsey said last night that he had been considering retirement for some time, but he would continue as secretary of the T.S.A. Besides setting a record of 63 goals in a season in 1957, he has represented Tasmania eight times at centre-forward and played a big role in successful teams in all the main competitions, except the Ampol Cup.

Worsey played for Caledonians, Rangers, Rapid, and Juventus, and was in premiership sides for all of them except Juventus.

White Eagles made the four last week and they intend to stay there with an unchanged team, but they will be advised not to take Caledonians lightly.

Olympia had good and bad news this week. Roussos is making a comeback if his knee injury will stand up to the test, and he could be playing for one half against South Hobart tomorrow.

To counter this, however, forward Tommy Harper has left the State on transfer in his job.

Roussos intends to have a cartilage operation at the end of the season and his reappearance will help Olympia considerably, as it will release Harry Alexiadis for the attack. Petropoulos has been practicing for a month since his return from Greece and could be at full-back.

South Hobart are hoping to have Cahut's clearance from Croatia in time, and he would bolster their defence in no uncertain manner.

Juventus will be without Peter Wood, who has an ankle injury against Rapid, and they are playing Owen in his place on the left wing with Rizzolo.

Rapid have lost 1-4 twice to Juventus this season, but the result tomorrow should be much closer.

University, who are a much fitter side now, have shown improved form in recent games. Boyle will be away, but Hans Steen makes a welcome return, after an absence of several weeks, and they could worry Croatia. Skaro will be fit for Croatia, whose team is being selected today.

Leaders battle draw with South in lifeless round

By Gordon Burnett 24/6/68

THERE were no fireworks on Saturday at the South Hobart soccer ground, where the leaders Olympia, fought desperately to save a roster point against the lowly placed South Hobart - and where the Rapid bubble burst.

The value of a player-coach who knows what he's about, has seldom been more clearly emphasised, than with the appearance of Scotsman John Kirkpatrick in the South Hobart side.

On Saturday, he missed a lift to the ground and South played with 10 men until he arrived 11 minutes late, and they then proceeded to dance to his tune. Olympia scored in the 30th minute, but not until after Kirkpatrick had sent centre-forward Gibson in for what should have been a goal.

South were on terms 10 minutes later, when a defensive blunder between Vagianos and Roussos, let Mackie in for a gift goal. South went ahead when Gibson goaled nine minutes after the resumption, but Vagianos equalised in the last 60 seconds following a corner on the right.

It was a fine team effort for South against a better equipped side, and Kirkpatrick was the best man on the ground, holding the defence together

and getting his forwards moving with splendid distribution.

Mackie scored South's first goal and it was from his centre that Gibson headed in the second. Both these players had the ability to do much better.

Olympia had Roussos in goal and Petropoulos at full-back, but missed Parkin in the second half and were poorly served on the wings, causing bunching in the centre that reduced them to mediocrity – and arguments among themselves.

Rapid should have won their game against Juventus in the first 10 minutes. But after scoring in the 17th minute, they saw their opponents equalise six minutes later and get on top through Rapid's own stupidity.

Rapid's only strength lay in fast, open play as a unit, and they threw this acquired asset away by holding on to the ball, running across one another, and shooting from unlikely angles. And when they felt the game slipping away from them, they resorted to robust methods.

This lost them what little chance remained, and they dropped to fourth place in the standing, which Olympia still leads with a two-point advantage.

Juventus, now second in the standings, went to 2-1 in the 56th minute, and two minutes later, Rapid had a double misfortune when Zoetsch was ordered off for abusing referee Heiremann over a penalty that Hanna was to convert to make the scores 3-1. Juventus went to 4-1, before Rapid scored again, 12 minutes before time.

Croatia beat University by a goal in each half at Glenorchy, with the second goal coming seconds before the final whistle and with skipper Letec off the field injured.

White Eagles also scored once in each half to beat the greatly depleted Caledonians.

Cahut's transfer from Croatia to South Hobart will depend on South's willingness to pay a transfer fee that that will be returned to them when Cahut goes back to Croatia.

Weakened Croatia pressed to hold confident Juventus

By Gordon Burnett 28/6/68

JUVENTUS will be at full strength tomorrow against a depleted Croatia, and should win their Southern Premiership League soccer game at South Hobart.

Croatia led them 2-0 in their first encounter, and then had to fight desperately to save a point as Juventus equalised and looked like winning in the closing stages.

Tomorrow Croatia will be without Skaro, who was suspended for one-week last night by the investigation committee because of three cautions in recent games. Letec who is injured, and Kotler who has not played in the past two games. This has left Croatia with very indifferent attack.

Juventus who have Jaeger and Wood back, are on the crest of a wave after their big win over Rapid. They are only two points behind Olympia, and would have been level with them, but for not registering their players for the opening match.

Olympia will have Tom Parker and Mike Richards in their line-up against White Eagles. Main Olympia worry is goalkeeper Roussos, who is favouring his injured knee and it is affecting his game. It may not be long before Alexiadis has to take over.

The unchanged White Eagles have improved considerably since their 0-2 defeat by Olympia, although Vagianos was not playing against them and Olympia have a strong combination tomorrow.

South should worry Rapid in the main match at Glenorchy, as they all but beat Olympia last Saturday, and Rapid have gone back in recent clashes. Rapid came back from 1-3 down to equalise 4-4 with 10 minutes to go against South in their last game at Glenorchy.

They will have Zoetsch tomorrow, as the investigation committee threw out the charge of abusive behaviour towards the referee last week because of conflicting evidence.

Coach Kirkpatrick would not agree South Hobart won a point last week. "We lost one," he told a jubilant team, which is showing much better staying powers.

University are continuing to improve and did well against Croatia, being led only 1-0 with seconds to go. It was then that Steen put through his own goal. And Groothuis shook a Croatia upright and there were also several near misses.

With Prasad and Boyle to sharpen up their attack, they could extend the weakest Caledonians side for some time, despite a 0-5 defeat in the first-round encounter. Arnott will be back to hold Caledonians together.

Croatia said last night that full-back Cahut had withdrawn his application for a clearance to South Hobart and Caledonians have said they will not release Nick Wilson to Olympia without payment.

Soccer tribunal airs grouch

By Gordon Burnett [THE MERCURY] 26/6/68

THE soccer investigation committee has complained to the T.S.A. executive about the absence of referees from tribunal hearings.

Committee members say that cases are being dismissed because of insufficient and unexplained detail in supposedly comprehensive reports of incidents.

At last night's meeting of the T.S.A. executive Mr. R. Marlor (referees' delegate) said referees did not attend because of being kept standing around for a couple of hours and then finishing up on trial themselves.

The executive also questioned the choice of referees for the various games, and a suggestion was made that a sub-committee consisting of two executive delegates and one referees' delegate should make the appointments. It will be referred back to the referees.

Eagles break hoodoo: First win against Olympia for five seasons

By Gordon Burnett [THE MERCURY] - 1/7/1968

WHITE EAGLES recorded their first win against Olympia in five seasons of senior soccer when they beat them 2-1 after a hectic second half at South Hobart on Saturday.

And with Juventus beating Croatia 4-2, and South Hobart holding Rapid to a 1-1 draw, Olympia's previous two-point advantage has been whittled down to equal leadership with Juventus, one point ahead of White Eagles and two points in front of Rapid.

In the absence of Shacklady (influenza), Parkin (leg injury), and skipper Girling (ankle injury), Olympia recalled Huddleston to lead the attack, remembering that he scored five goals in one game against White Eagles last season, and State wing-half Richards was at inside forward.

But Huddlestone was without match practice and Girling took his place in the second half and brought Richards back into the intermediate line for Olympia to show something like their usual form.

Where they relied surprisingly on big kicking in the first half to get their forwards moving, they resorted to close passing tactics in the second term with a two-goal deficit, and they could have won without surprising. White Eagles took the shortest route to goal. Wing half Stewart headed in the first goal from a corner kick in the 26th minute and Jefferson's good solo effort goal came just before half time.

Lachie Vagianos who captained Olympia in what could have been his last game with them, made up for the lapse that enabled Jefferson to score by heading past Siggins from a free kick against Stewart in the 59th minute.

Olympia could have goaled through Stanton, Schwesinger, Alexiadis, Girling and Vagianos, and White Eagles also put pressure on Roussos through Jefferson and Osuchowski as the tension mounted.

David Siggins was at his brilliant best in the White Eagles' goal, and at the other end Roussos, still worried by a knee injury, showed vast improvement on his form of the previous week.

White Eagles' defence did well under the pounding it received in the second half, and the addition of another goal-scoring forward in this side would make it a very formidable combination.

Vagianos, who had his only roster hat-trick against White Eagles – in 1965 – left for Adelaide yesterday to be given a trial by the Greek club Adelaide Hellas.

A four-figure transfer fee has been mentioned and Hellas want to see him in action. If terms are satisfactory, he will be cleared immediately by Olympia.

Southern Premiership League Standings (after 10 games)

TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Olympia	10	7	1	2	29	10	15
Juventus	10	7	1	2	26	17	15
White Eagles	10	6	2	2	22	14	14
Rapid	10	5	3	2	24	17	13
Croatia	10	4	2	4	23	19	10
South Hobart	10	1	4	5	13	24	6
Caledonians	10	2	1	7	9	23	5
University	10	0	2	8	6	38	2

Croatia's in-and-out form makes them a risky bet for cup final

By Gordon Burnett [THE MERCURY] – 5/7/1968 – [Falkinder Cup FINAL]

CROATIA have the talent to win the Falkinder Cup soccer final tomorrow against White Eagles but are far too unpredictable to be followed with confidence, and they had only four players at training on Tuesday.

Frank Letec and Tony Skaro will be back in the side, but Croatia say Bruno Kotler will not play, although they also said this last week. He played and was sent off for kicking an opponent.

Referee's delegate R. Marlor said last night that referee A. Lanningan was abused by Croatia player Nadanic as he was leaving the field on Saturday. Lanningan had told Nadanic he was not being cautioned but was being sent off the field. They will appear before the investigation committee next Thursday.

With Letec at centre-half and Cahut at left-back, Croatia could have a very solid defence with striking power up forward with players like Skaro, Leung, Fiamenco and Nadanic.

Unlike Croatia, who won this competition in 1964, White Eagles have not won a senior trophy in their five years in top-grade soccer, and they are keen to take this one out. They have a strong defence, although it wavered last Saturday against an Olympia side below full-strength, but the attack relies too much on centre-forward Jefferson for the goals.

Unbeaten in their past seven games, White Eagles drew 4-4 and beat Croatia 2-1 in the roster series and lost 2-3 in the Ampol Cup competition to them.

It should be a hard and close game with the result going either way. It will depend largely on the form of Skaro, who has scored every time he has played against White Eagles this season, and that of White Eagles' goalkeeper David Siggins, whose form has been in and out this season.

Teams: **White Eagles:** D. Siggins, Honeyman, F. Rawlings, Stewart, J. Biggar, Stoddart (capt) Osuchowski, Graham, Jefferson, McCann, Lundin, Reserve Watson. **Croatia:** Udovicic, Zapatocki, Cahut, Plezanic, Letec (capt), Gjurbuzovic, Krizanovic, Hawes, Skaro, Leung, Fiamenco, Babic, Knappek, Glasovac.

White Eagles look goods in Falkinder Cup win over Croatia

By Gordon Burnett [THE MERCURY] – 8/7/68 – [Falkinder Cup FINAL]

THERE was jubilation in the White Eagles soccer camp on Saturday when they won the Falkinder Cup, their first major success in five years in the top division, by defeating Croatia 5-1.

Coach Jim Scally's boys looked a good team in the first half. They secured a winning two-goal lead in the first eight minutes through swinging the ball about and made it four goals by half-time. Then, when Croatia fought back after the interval, White Eagles' defence took a hammering just as they did against Olympia in the second half the previous week. On Saturday they eased up and lost their effectiveness to such an extent that Croatia could have forced a draw without surprising.

John Biggar played Skaro out of the game and his one attempt at goal was so hurried that it was easily handled by David Siggins. Letec was not at his fittest before the game started, and a heavy collision early left him only a shadow of his usual self. Centre-forward Jefferson was on target again with a goal in each half and he has now scored 14 goals this season. But what is more important, he has scored in 10 out of the 12 games in which White Eagles has scored.

White Eagles' wingers Lundin and Osuchowski were dangerous throughout and most of the goals eventuated from moves down these flanks. Croatia did not field goalkeeper Udovicic, who was reported to be in Burnie, Kotler, who has clashed with the committee, and Nadanic, who is reported to be suspended by the club. In their absence they had full-back Marlin in goal, left-winger Fiamenco at centre-half, and Krizanovic was replaced in the 28th minute by teenager Belac.

The line-up was as surprising to the players themselves as it was to spectators, and they were so ragged in the opening minutes that they could have easily given up. But Letec held them together and a late arrival could have been excused had he thought they were winning instead of losing 1-4. They scored their lone goal five minutes before half time when coach Zemunik followed up a shot from Letec that had crashed against an upright.

Then after half-time, Zemunik had the goal at his mercy but only tapped the ball to Siggins, who two minutes later, saved a point-blank shot from Letec. Four minutes later the ball cannoned off an upright in a wild melee in the White Eagles' goal mouth, and Honeyman later headed from off the goal line when Zemunik seemed certain to score with a powerful shot.

White Eagles scored their fifth goal eight minutes from time when Jefferson cleverly tapped the ball over the head of Fiamenco and then flashed in an unstoppable shot. Croatia's main problem was getting the ball up to their attack, and when it came it was so laboriously done, that the forwards had run into the well-laid off-side trap. White Eagles, on the other hand, scored five goals from eight chances to record their fifth successive win, and avenge a 2-3 defeat by Croatia in the Ampol Cup. They missed McCann in the second half as he pulled a muscle and had to be replaced.



1968 Falkinder Cup Winners

Back: I Stewart, P Angel (Mgr.), J. Graham, J. Biggar, F. Rawlins, D. Jefferson, I. Honeyman, J. Scally (Coach)

Front: K. Lundin (Olsen), B. Osuchowski, H. McCann, D. Siggins, D. Stoddart. Watson.

Premiership hope rekindled with easy victory: Top teams shocked

By · Gordon Burnett 15/7/68

JUVENTUS lost, and Olympia and White Eagles were held to draws, in a series of upsets in Southern Premiership League soccer matches on Saturday.

Croatia won, to make a late bid for a place in the four and to gain a point on Rapid in the standings. With only three roster games to go, Croatia 's clash with Rapid on Saturday, could decide which team makes the four.

The real surprise of the day was Caledonians' win over Juventus through a last-minute goal by Bernard Siggins, after the teams had been 1-1 at half-time at Glenorchy. It was as Caledonians' first win in seven games.

At the University oval - used for the first time this season for a first division game - University failed to record their first win when White Eagles full-back Ian Honeyman slammed in the equaliser with the last kick of the game.

University had led 1-0 at half-time, and 2-0 up to 15 minutes before the end, against a side which had not been beaten in eight games. A feature of the encounter was the goalkeeping of Peter Curson, who stopped everything except two rasping shots from Honeyman.

Olympia had enough chances against Rapid to improve their goal average to unassailable proportions, but needed a goal in the 66th minute to save a point.

Foster should have given Rapid a very early lead, but it not until the 38th minute that Zoetsch opened the

scoring with a penalty against Petropoulos.

Goalkeeper Roussos had his name taken by referee Marlcor for hotly disputing the penalty decision. There was always a tendency for the Rapid youngsters to hold that ball for the extra fraction of a second, to spoil many of their movements.

Olympia had things all their way when they brought Alexiadis in for Petropoulos in the second half.

One minute after the resumption, Fisher blocked a point-blank shot by Parkin and not long after, goalkeeper Pfund had to dive at Huddlestons feet.

The equaliser came when Huddlestons headed in a centre from Harper. Then Girling sent the ball down the centre and Huddlestons and Parkin chased it for what seemed a certain score, but they managed to kick it too far forward and Pfund cleared.

The fast pace became even faster as Olympia strove desperately for a decider, and Stanton should have given it to them after beating four opponents, but as he got into position for a shot, he kicked the ball over the bar.

Another great chance was missed when Jack Dilba raced 30yds. to take the ball off Parkin's toe, just as he

was about to kick for goal.

Olympia missed Vagianos, who was stranded by the strike in Adelaide when he was told to return for the game after a delay in the payment of his transfer fee by Adelaide Hellas. No clearance is being permitted until transfer fee - close on \$3,000 - is paid to Olympia. .

Stefan Stuetzel and Mathias held Olympia up time and again as they refused to revert to the needed orthodox five-man attack.

Croatia wore their new red strip, the registration of which was denied by the T.S.A. executive last week and celebrated with a 4-1 win over South Hobart after being 1-1 at half-time.

Full-back Cahut who had sought a clearance to South earlier in the season, scored a surprise goal for Croatia in the opening minutes, and winger Henderson equalised just before half-time.

But from then on it was all Croatia, and coach Brezna Zemunik gave a fine display of shooting to collect two goals. He had come on as replacement for Belac.

In the absence of star centre forward Skaro, Gjurbuzovic led the attack, and Eddie Puclin made a welcome return in goal. Wells played for South, as Barker broke a toe at practice.

Southern Premiership League Standings

TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Olympia	11	7	2	2	30	11	16
Juventus	11	7	1	3	27	19	15
White Eagles	11	6	3	2	24	16	15
Rapid	11	5	4	2	25	18	14
Croatia	11	5	2	4	27	20	12
Caledonians	11	3	1	7	21	24	7
South Hobart	11	1	4	6	14	28	6
University	11	0	3	8	8	40	3

Leading Goalscorers: Skaro 9, Parker, Gibson 8, Foster 7, Alexiadis, McCann, Jefferson, Bachinger 6

Leading teams to meet in cut-throat roster

By Gordon Burnett [THE MERCURY] 19/7/68

THE Southern Premiership Soccer League is wide open with three matches to go, and four of the top five teams play one another tomorrow.

- Olympia have won only one of their past five, but should beat University at Glenorchy to maintain their leadership.
- Juventus are back to full strength, but could find White Eagles too solid although a draw would not surprise.
- Having their last chance to make the four, Croatia can be expected to throw everything they have into their game against the light Rapid side, and they could reverse an earlier 3-0 defeat.

Skaro will be leading the Croatian attack, but Letec is still hobbling and may not last more than one half. Gjurbuzovic is injured, Udovicic is in Burnie, Babic is in the Army, and Kotler and Nadanic are suspended. But they have a rugged defence, and several sharp shooters up forward, particularly Zemunik.

Juventus have dropped Rizzolo, but Cengia is available after being kicked in the face last week, and Goodman will be back after missing one game.

White Eagles, unbeaten in nine games, have built a solid combination with the emphasis on defence and tricky wingers, and a good spearhead in Jefferson.

Juventus have signed Troup, who has played for Stockport County in the fourth division of the English league, and he will try out at right-back with the reserves tomorrow.

Caledonians play South Hobart in the game of the day at Glenorchy and will be confident of victory after upsetting Juventus last week. Arnott will be back to direct the attack, and with Mackinnon improving with every game at centre-half, Caledonians should again do well.

Terry Collins, an Englishman who has been in Hobart only a couple of weeks, has joined Caledonians as a goalkeeper or full-back. This could encourage a suggestion that they try to exchange goalkeeper Nick Wilson for John Lymas, of Olympia.

South, who have held Rapid and Olympia to draws, will be without centre-forward Gibson and full-back Barker.

University, who have improved greatly with draws against Caledonians and White Eagles in their most recent games, have been handicapped by missing outdoor practice on Wednesday, but are hopeful of extending the leaders.

Olympia have not solved their centre-half vacancy caused by the departure of Vagianos, but Richards is getting another chance there.

Northern Juventus finished at the top of the standings in the North, but for the first time there will be a final four competition.

Croatia's first premiership diminish further with loss to Rapid

By Gordon Burnett [THE MERCURY] 22/7/68

CROATIA, who started the soccer season with such promise of going close to their first premiership, lost 2-3 to Rapid on Saturday and now need only the slightest nudge to have no chance whatever.

They started with 10 men and were a goal down straight from the kick-off. They scored the only goal of the second half, and could have forced a draw with better distribution of their resources, as Letec and Gjurbuzovic were wasted on the wings.

Pfund was very shaky in Rapid's goal and was fortunate Croatia did not pepper him with shots. Coach Tom McLoughlin caught Croatia napping when he threw star centre-half Egon Mathias into the attack with the wind and used Zoetsch to watch Skaro and Zemunik.

Mathias supplied the passes for two goals and scored a goal himself - and Zoetsch kept a close watch on the Croatian sharp-shooters. It was a game that will be remembered more for the many foul tackles and differences behind play rather than for any particular prowess shown.

Zoetsch, who tripped Zemunik when he was going through for what must have been a certain goal, and Fiamenco and Cahut had their names taken by referee Marlor.

Juventus had the advantage of an early goal against White Eagles, but they lost it four minutes later when Hanna helped the ball into his own net in a goalmouth scrimmage, and they were down 1-2 seven minutes afterwards.

Hanna missed a penalty for hands against Stewart, and Wood wasted a good chance before they came on terms in the 75th minute, only to see Jefferson go through the centre to score the decider with 10 minutes to go.

The defeat saw Juventus slump from second to fourth place. McCann was replaced in the second half by Watson, who missed a certain goal immediately after.

White Eagles, who are coming good at the right time, again played well as a team, and this is their main strength. David Siggins was in adventuresome mood in goal and was lucky several times to see the ball scrambled away after he left his charge and failed to collect the ball.

Centre-forward Dave Jefferson again showed what a greatly improved player he is, nodding in a centre from Stewart and then racing through the centre to score his second goal to bring his roster tally to eight and his season's bag to 16.

Tony Parker's two goals for Juventus brought him on level terms with Skaro at the top of the individual goalscoring list for the roster competition – and he has the easier final two games.

A lone goal by skipper Arnott five minutes after the start of the second half gave Caledonians the points against South Hobart at Glenorchy.

An unusual feature of the Olympia-University game was that Olympia captain Dick Girling sent State player Norman Stanton off the field after he had taken and missed a penalty kick without instructions. Stanton will be called before the club's committee to explain his action.

Parkin's hat-trick in this game, won by Olympia 5-0, was the first for Olympia this season.

Police request on soccer

By Gordon Burnett [THE MERCURY] 24/7/68

THE police have asked for greater protection for referees at the South Hobart soccer ground.

A letter from the Commissioner (Mr. P. W. Fletcher) read at last night's T.S.A. executive meeting called for the use by referees of the basketball building, the recreation hall, or a caravan to be placed near the caretaker's cottage.

It said that police could not accept the position of having to escort referees through dense crowds in the conditions that existed at South Hobart.

It asked for the present open railing fence from the entrance turnstile to the eastern end of the grandstand to be converted to cyclone or another solid type of fence so the spectators could not duck under the rail and go on to the playing area.

The request was also made for the extension of the fence on the far side of the ground toward the caretaker's cottage. This was the sequel to the brawl at this ground on April 15 after Olympia had beaten Croatia 2-1 and a police officer was punched and kicked as he protected the referee.

Olympia were fined in their absence the referees' fees for games they forfeited to Dnipro and Southern Cross in Metropolitan Division 2 on July 6 and 20.

A motion that any club be fined \$10 plus the referee's fee for any future failure to play without giving due notice by 7 p.m. on the day before the game was lost by a 6-4 vote after there had been a 5-5 dead-lock at the first count. The executive confirmed that there would be a final four competition.

The permits committee reported that Nick Wilson of Caledonians was an amateur, but it could not accept his application for a clearance to Olympia because he had applied after the expiration date for transfers - April 30. It was now up to the two clubs to reach an agreement.

It was agreed to pay the referees \$10 for providing a results service. Messrs. C. Leslie, D. Whitchurch and W. Worsey were appointed to form a sub-committee to get the constitution ready for distribution among members.

Juventus look too good for out of form Croatia

By Gordon Burnett - 26/7/68 - [Association Cup]

JUVENTUS have dropped winger Philip Owen for their Association Cup soccer game against Croatia tomorrow, but they should win to check a losing run.

Owen failed to attend training, Rizzolo replaces him. Diminutive di Domenico is on the other wing. Croatia will be without skipper Frank Letec, and there in-and-out form does not suggest they are capable of beating Juventus for the first time this season.

Juventus drew 2-2 and beat them 4-2 in the roster, and their better-balanced side should succeed again. Croatia have played 19 games this season, more than any other side in the competition. They have won 10, lost seven and drawn two.

Caledonians who did not survive one round in either of the two earlier cup competitions, have won their past two roster games and are hoping to extend Olympia in the curtain-raiser at South Hobart.

Olympia have beaten Caledonians 1-0, 5-1, and 6-0 this year. But they will be without Richards, who is in Sydney and Harper who is at Bell Bay and unable to make the trip to Hobart.

This will make the loss of Lachie Vagianos even more pronounced as Richards had been playing centre-half since he left. Vagianos, now playing for Adelaide Hellas made a rushed trip to Hobart this week to see his parents.

He told Olympia officials that he had enjoyed his debut in South Australia last Saturday, although the pace was much faster, and the type of play much harder than he was used to. He is being paid \$25 a game at centre-half.

Olympia, who have had a very unlucky season with losses, injuries, and enforced changes, will be losing Parkin soon. This game could be his second last before going to Sydney for family reasons.

Stanton, who was sent off the field last Saturday by his captain Dick Girling for not carrying out orders, attended training this week and has been selected for tomorrow.

South Hobart should have centre-forward Paddy Gibson back for their game against Rapid at Glenorchy. He scored a hat-trick in their first 4-4 draw against Rapid, and then netted their only goal in the 1-1 draw in the second round of the roster.

White Eagles, with 10 games without defeat, meet University who have not won any of their 14 games in the curtain raiser at Glenorchy. But White Eagles will be without forwards McCann (pulled stomach muscle) and Osuchowski (influenza).

The Association Cup is not a popular competition. and the clubs could treat tomorrow's matches as a training run in preparation for the more serious roster games the following week.

Rapid have close call against South Hobart but remain major premiership chance

By Gordon Burnett 29/7/68 – [Association Cup]

RAPID, who are gradually working their way up to an all-out assault on the Southern soccer premiership they last won in 1964, had a close call against South Hobart in the Association Cup competition on Saturday.

At sixes and sevens throughout the first half, they crossed over two goals down. And with the benefit of the wind, they equalised only when South's centre-half Colin West, was off the field with a suspected broken nose.

West pluckily returned for the last few minutes, and it was during this period that Mathias scored the decider.

In the other matches, Juventus beat Croatia, although the losers had their chances, Olympia scrambled in against Caledonians and White Eagles beat University 4-0.

The draw for the semi-finals in the Cup competition to be played on August 17 is Juventus v Rapid; White Eagles v Olympia.

Goodman was a last-minute withdrawal from Juventus against Croatia, and winger Owen came into the side at full-back. Parker and Rizzolo headed in goals for Juventus in the first half after Skaro hit an upright with a left-foot kick. They went to 3-0 in the second minute of the second half when Parker converted a pass from Wood.

The slightly built Under-16 State player M. Belac was the most dangerous Croatia forward, and Cengia did well to save three of his well-directed shots. But Croatia, shorn of many of their stars, looked a jaded side out of condition.

Tricky ball player Wood worried Puclin several times, and Lindsay missed two good scoring chances in the closing minutes.

Caledonians very nearly upset Olympia in a repeat of last year's final, as Walner twice hit the underside of the crossbar and ball was scrambled away.

Olympia played the first half without Huddlestone, who was working, and crossed over 0-0 with Stanton off with a facial injury after a goalmouth collision.

Stanton has a broken cheek-bone and this will be another serious loss to last year's Southern champions. Their only real chance up to that stage had been when Shacklady fired in a powerful shot that Leslie did well to reach and tip over the bar.

Caledonians' defence erred with an indirect free-kick only yards from the goal in the opening minutes of the second half. Girling took it, tapped it to Parkin, who passed to Shacklady, who had all the time in the world to slam it through an appreciable gap in the human barricade.

A second goal came five minutes later from Parkin, but Caledonians fought back and should have made a draw of it in the last minute, when Walner's shot came down from the cross bar to a couple of Caledonian forwards only feet from the goal.

University conceded only one goal up to half time and were in the game against White Eagles until defensive errors sealed their fate. They eventually lost 4-0, but were triers to the bitter end, with Groothuis doing everything he could to rally the forwards.

Honeyman, who scored the two goals that gave White Eagles a draw against University in their previous encounter, was again one of their more prominent players together with Biggar and Lundin.

Skippers absence will be the final blow for Croatia this year

By Gordon Burnett 2/8/68

SKIPPER Frank Letec was reported last night as unfit for Croatia's needle soccer game against Olympia at South Hobart tomorrow.

And his absence could spell the end of a very disappointing season for Croatia, who must win to have a slender chance of making the final four. It is that slender that it depends on University surprising Juventus tomorrow.

But Olympia have their problems also, as they will be without Stanton, who could be out for the rest of the season after an operation for a broken cheek bone, and Richards, who is in Sydney for another week.

Harper will be back in the side and Parkin will be able to get in an extra game, as he is playing tomorrow, and again next week before going to Sydney.

Olympia have beaten Croatia 2-1 twice, and lost 1-3 to them in the Falkinder Cup.

There was talk last night of Croatia releasing wing-half Plezanavic to Juventus after tomorrow's game, and that they would turn amateur next season, but no official comment was available.

Supported by the Australian Croatia Association, they have spent a lot of money this season without achieving a single success, but if they turn amateur, they will have difficulty holding on to their stars, as the professional clubs will waste no time making offers.

Rapid, who are keen to get second position in the standings for a second bite at the premiership in the final-four series, are unchanged for their curtain-raiser at South Hobart against Caledonians. They beat a better Caledonian side 3-2 in their only other clash this season, and they are unbeaten in four games.

White Eagles will have Osuchowski back on the wing, and they should hold their position with a win in the main game at Glenorchy over South Hobart, who will be without centre-half West and Barker. West has a broken nose and Barker a broken toe.

Hugh McCann had the seasons' best individual goalscoring feat with four of White Eagles six goals against South in their first meeting this season, and they beat them 3-1 in the Falkinder Cup.

Juventus are persevering with Owen at full-back after his good showing there last week, and Bottari has been introduced on the wing for their game against University, who came from 0-4 to 3-4 in the first round.

University will be badly handicapped at forward by the absence of Groothuis and must win to avoid relegation.

Southern Premiership League Standings

TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
White Eagles	13	8	3	2	30	19	19
Olympia	13	8	2	3	36	13	18
Juventus	13	8	1	4	35	24	17
Rapid	13	6	5	2	32	24	17
Croatia	13	6	2	5	31	24	14
Caledonians	13	4	2	7	26	28	10
South Hobart	13	1	4	8	15	32	6
University	13	0	3	10	10	51	3

Leading Goalscorers: Parker 12, Skaro 11, Jefferson 10, Gibson, Foster 9, Rizzolo 7, Walner, Alexiadis, Bachinger, McCann, Arnott 6

Croatia triumph in mud, but leave win fortnight too late

By Gordon Burnett [THE MERCURY] 5/8/68

CROATIA left their winning effort against Olympia two weeks too late, and their deserved 2-1 success in the mud on Saturday did not give them a place in the Southern Tasmanian soccer four.

White Eagles, who beat South Hobart 3-1, are almost certain to have the two chances in the play-off series, and are followed by Olympia, Juventus and Rapid each of whom could fill second place. The last round of roster matches – with previous scores – is White Eagles v Rapid (0-0), Olympia v Juventus (4-2), – the four top teams – and Croatia v Caledonians (3-2), and South Hobart v University (0-0).

With one game to go Juventus centre-forward Tony Parker has taken a one-goal lead over Tony Skaro (Croatia), last year's winner, and two over Dave Jefferson (White Eagles), in his bid to be leading roster goalscorer. The top teams were glad over Croatia's failure to reach the final four as they have always been capable of rising to any heights at the least expected time and that was what they did on Saturday.

Olympia were without Harper who could not get down from Bell Bay, Richards and Stanton, but scored first through a solo effort by Huddleston in the 38th minute.

Croatia equalised three minutes later when full-back Zapatocki went up on the right to make an opening for Skaro, and they dominated play in the second half to score the decider four minutes from time when teenager Glasovac centred for Zemunik to head into the net. It avenged Olympias earlier 2-1 roster win, and the sides are now level with two wins each from their encounters this season – and Olympia are one goal up.

Croatia's win was further evidence of the value of rangy Bruno Kotler, who has been their best player this season. His return after an absence of four weeks gave them incentive and restored their play from that of individuals to something approaching teamwork.

Olympia, who will have Parkin for only one more game have won only two of their second-round games and are by no means a safe bet for the premiership. Absentees, injuries and enforced positional changes have undermined confidence.

Aided by a fine hat-trick by centre-forward Tony Walner, Caledonians nearly became only the second team to defeat Rapid this season. Opening the scoring, Caledonians were 1-2 at half-time and led 4-3 with only 14 minutes to go in the most exciting match of the season. Both goalkeepers Pfund and Leslie, brough off brilliant saves as forwards were sent through the centre time and again with long passes.

Coach Tom McLoughlin, who used Mathias at centre-half and Foster at centre-forward, must have been glad to see a fit looking Bill Ziehfrend sitting in the stand. Former star Ziehfrend, who is working at Savage River would be a very welcome surprise packet for the final four series as he is still a member of Rapid.

White Eagles continued on their winning way, beating South Hobart 3-1, after being 2-0 at half time, and Jefferson could have had a hat-trick but for a penalty kick hitting an upright in the last few minutes.

Juventus took full advantage of defensive lapses by University and increased a 3-0 interval lead to a 6-2 win

Southern Premiership League Standings (after 13 games)

TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
White Eagles	13	8	3	2	30	19	19
Olympia	13	8	2	3	36	13	18
Juventus	13	8	1	4	35	24	17
Rapid	13	6	5	2	32	24	17
Croatia	13	6	2	5	31	24	14
Caledonians	13	4	2	7	26	28	10
South Hobart	13	1	4	8	15	32	6
University	13	0	3	10	10	51	3

Leading Goalscorers: Parker 12, Skaro 11, Jefferson 10, Gibson, Foster 9, Rizzolo 7, Walner, Alexiadis, Bachinger, McCann, Arnott 6

Clash of top four to produce best club soccer for years

By Gordon Burnett [THE MERCURY] 9/8/68

TWO of the most exciting soccer matches at South Hobart in years are expected tomorrow when the top teams battle for the best positions in the final four.

And indications last night were that no fresh talent would be introduced, despite the fact that intrastate transfers are allowed. Croatia said that none of their players would be cleared or "loaned" this season.

Any one of the four teams playing at South Hobart tomorrow could end up in first or second position in the final Southern League standings.

White Eagles and Rapid will have the advantage tomorrow - they clash after the Olympia v Juventus game. The standings before the final round: White Eagles, 19pts, Olympia 18pts, Juventus, 17pts, Rapid 17pts.

Olympia are again in trouble as Harper may not be able to travel from Bell Bay, but Richards will be at centre-half again. Stanton is still unavailable, and Parkin is playing in what could be his last game before going to Sydney, although there is talk of bringing him back.

Juventus will have Goodman at wing-half after being out for two games, but they will have the pressure on them from Olympia's ace strategist Girling, and link forwards Harper and Shacklady should establish a midfield superiority for Olympia. Olympia have beaten Juventus 4-2 (they led 3-0) and then 3-0, could make it a winning hat-trick.

A confident White Eagles team may prove too solid for the young Rapid side, although it was only goalkeeper David Siggins who kept Rapid to a goalless draw in their only other meeting this season. White Eagles were forced on the defensive by both Olympia and Juventus in recent games, but they recovered, and it was hard to find the gaps.

Mathias will be needed to look after the goal happy Jefferson. Foster could then lead the Rapid attack with Zoetsch at wing-half. White Eagles are unbeaten in 12 games and their teamwork should match the finesse of a less experienced side when the chips are down.

Croatia will have Krisanavic, who has returned from West Australia, and will be out to repeat their earlier 3-2 win over Caledonians. There should not be much between the two sides and Caledonians last week showed form good enough to beat Croatia, especially at Grove Road.

Ray McGuinness, who played for South Hobart in their 1959 premiership team, will be returning to the senior team after a number of conditioning games at wing-half for Dynamos, whom he has been managing. South are also hoping to have West back.

University were lucky to hold South to a goal-less draw last time and tomorrow they will be without goalkeeper Carson, who has a chipped bone in a hand, and Fuller and Hans Steen are also injured. On the credit side, Groothuis will be back in the attack.

Alexiadis (Olympia) visited the Alexandria Club in Melbourne, but was unable to get a clearance for Robbie Sharpe, a Scot who has joined the Hydro Electric Commission and is likely to be in Hobart for at least two years. Sharpe played top class soccer in Melbourne.

Fights erupt, Girling injured, referee, rejects replacement

By Gordon Burnett [THE MERCURY] 12/8/68

RAPID beat White Eagles 7-5 but failed narrowly to reach second position on the Southern soccer premiership ladder on Saturday during a drama-packed afternoon at South Hobart.

David Jones' fifth goal for White Eagles in the last three minutes robbed Rapid of, second place on goal average.

The drama came in the Olympia - Juventus game. Olympia came from 0-1 at half-time to beat Juventus 4-2, but before the final siren went:

- Olympia captain Dick Girling dislocated his shoulder in a heavy collision with Owen.
- Olympia forward Alexiadis and Juventus goalkeeper Cengia were sent off the field for fighting after spectators had come onto the field near the Juventus goal.
- Referee Dolliver refused to allow Jaegar to come on as goalkeeper in the second half as Juventus had not listed any reserves on their team sheet.
- Juventus centre-forward Tony Parker made almost certain of winning the individual roster goalscoring award by converting a penalty.

Juventus who were without Goodman, paid the penalty for not naming reserves on their team-sheet. Their action in withdrawing Rizzolo, and sending Jaegar on in the second half, was unacceptable to referee Dolliver. Rizzolo was then goalkeeper. After looking the better side, Juventus eased up to let Olympia back into the game.

Olympia now hold first place for the fourth year in succession and the fifth in six years.

Juventus led early, but were crippled by the loss of Cengia, they saw Olympia equalise in the 65th, and take the lead within four minutes. A Juventus penalty against Parker brought an equaliser, but Olympia scored in the last seven minutes.

Alexiadis and Cengia were sent off for fighting after a clash between Huddlestone and Carnevale in the Juventus goalmouth had brought several spectators onto the field. However, police and the referee handled the situation well and order was restored almost immediately.

Huddlestone was booed as he returned at half-time, almost touching off another brawl in front of the stand. There also were a number of arguments before the end of the game. The referee and linesmen did not come into contact with the crowd. They changed in the basketball building.

White Eagles, who were beaten for the first time in 12 games, were unlucky to lose goalkeeper David Siggins after a collision with team colleague Honeyman early in the game. They did not have a reserve goalkeeper and Stewart and Biggar filled the position in turn, while Watson and then McCann were used as replacements.

Rapid crossed over 2-2 and it was when they reached 5-2 that they took the all-important lead over White Eagles on goal average. They consolidated it by going to 6-2 with 12 minutes to go and still held it at 6-3 when McCann scored from an indirect free kick near goal, but later lost it when Jefferson scored his second goal with seven minutes left.

Foster then completed his hat trick to put Rapid 7-4 and ahead again on goal average, but a minute later goalkeeper Pfund mishandled and presented Jones, making a rare appearance for White Eagles, with a gift goal.

Six goals came in the last 15 minutes and Rapid's goal average fluctuated from 0.09, 0.18 and 1.08 up on White Eagles, to 0.01 down, 0.09 up and then a final 0.0013 down.

White Eagles have seldom played as badly, but were thoroughly disorganised by the loss of Siggins who complained of affected vision.

Rapid played their usual fast and open game and were not ahead at the interval because of crowding one another in attack and not using the full width of the field to advantage. They will have to play Juventus, the only team to beat them in the roster in the second semi-final, and even though they are amateurs they will take some stopping.

Centre-forward Wally Foster produced the form that got him into the State squad and he finished only one goal behind Parker, together with Saturdays rival centre-forward Dave Jefferson.

Tony Skaro did not have a chance to score on Saturday as Croatia's game against Caledonians was postponed because the Glenorchy ground was waterlogged.

University scored first against South, who equalised in the second half, The two sides also drew their first encounter.

Southern Cambridge League Final Standings – 1968

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
OLYMPIA	14	9	2	3	40	15	20
WHITE EAGLE	14	8	3	3	35	26	19
RAPID	14	7	5	2	39	29	19
HOBART JUVENTUS	14	8	1	5	34	28	17
CROATIA GLENORCHY	14	7	2	5	35	27	16
CALEDONIANS	14	4	2	8	29	32	10
SOUTH HOBART	14	1	5	8	16	33	7
UNIVERSITY	14	0	4	10	11	52	4

Olympia down six as White Eagles ready to advance to final

By Gordon Burnett 16/8/68 – [Association Cup – S/F]

OLYMPIA will be without six players who represented them at the start of the season when they meet White Eagles tomorrow.

But it is an Association Cup semi-final tomorrow, not nearly as important as the premiership rounds in the following weeks.

Olympia have lost Vagianos, Cagialis, Parkin and Harper who cannot get down from Bell Bay this week, as well as Stanton and Girling.

They have broken even with White Eagles in their two roster encounters this season, but there has been so little between them that a White Eagles win can be expected tomorrow.

Girling's thrust will be badly missed, and a weakened attack could give the White Eagles' halves the respite needed to keep own their forwards plied with the goalscoring openings. Siggins is reported to be fit again after he was badly shaken in a collision with team-mate Honeyman last week.

Stanton is expected to return to the Olympia side for the final four series. And Parkin and Harper also should be available to make Olympia a strong challenger once again. Girlings dislocated shoulder is strapped and is making good progress. He will see the doctor or again on Monday.

Juventus has played Rapid three times this season and have won 4-1 in the Ampol Cup and 4-1 and 4-2 in the roster competition. And Rapid will need to counter the long, swinging type of game Juventus play, if they are to get through to the cup final.

Rapid will find the fast hard tackling full-backs Tommy Watson and Philip Owen a tremendous hurdle to overcome, as they are not only capable of holding up the goalscoring Dilba twins, but also are able to turn defence into attack with bursts down the flanks.

Juventus will be without Goodman again, but the report is that he will be available for the final four next week in the intermediate time.

Rapid's cup record has been a bad one this season with first round defeats by Juventus in the Ampol and Croatia in the Falkinder Cup, and they could be struggling tomorrow, despite their high scoring win last week.

The other four Southern Premiership League sides are without a game because their fixture list for their new competition for a \$60 cash prize has yet to be drawn up.

Going down by odd corner to Juventus after extra time

By Gordon Burnett 19/8/68 – [Association Cup S/F]

RAPID, who won the Association Cup soccer competition on the toss of a coin three years ago, came within four minutes of tossing once again on Saturday at South Hobart - this time for a place in the final.

And the amateur club was decidedly unlucky to concede a corner in the 116th minute, to lose to Juventus by three corners to two in extra time after being 2-2 at full time.

Without star forward Otmar Bachinger and goal-keeper Pfund because of flu, they fought back splendidly from two goals down at half time and two corners down in the first minute of the second half of extra time, and a shot by Reid in the last few minutes missed by only inches.

Rapid not only lost, but Egon Mathias came out of the game with a very sore knee and limping badly.

Juventus could not match their speed, especially that of the talented Dilba twins, and wilted in the second half after a promising start. They came back into the game only when Mathias hobbled out on to the wing with 15 minutes to go. Both goalkeepers excelled in extra time, Holzinger saving a fine header by Lindsay, and Jaeger just reaching a shot by Foster.

Juventus took the lead in the fifth minute and were 2-1 after 19 minutes. Rapid scored nine minutes after half time and were level with 25 minutes left.

White Eagles qualified for the final with a comfortable 3-0 win over Olympia, who are feeling the lack of suitable reserves. Olympia played Goss and Petropoulos as full-backs and had Schwesinger at wing-half, with Quinn at centre-half and Richards on the other flank. Madden and Kroustalis played in the forward line and Kramasanious come on for Shacklady near the end. Despite the enforced changes Huddlestone had several chances to score.

McCann hit an upright and a pile-driver by Osuchowski was saved brilliantly by Roussos, before Jefferson opened the scoring in the 25th minute, after it had been claimed he had handled while taking the ball on the chest in the goalmouth. Five minutes after half time the unmarked McCann snapped up a corner kick by Osuchowski and had it in the net in a flash. And four minutes later Jefferson scored his 21st goal of the season after a solo effort to seal Olympia's fate.

White Eagles were much the better-balanced side, and it was their midfield superiority that gave their wingers such a field day and made their attack so menacing.

Both White Eagles and Juventus have entered the final for the first time and they will play off for the trophy on September 28, the last day of the season.

Olympia will play Sharpe in semi

By Gordon Burnett [THE MERCURY] 21/8/68 – [FINAL SERIES]

SCOTTISH soccer player Bob Sharpe, who received professional offers from six clubs before coming to Australia from Glasgow, will play for Olympia on Saturday in the first semi-final against White Eagles.

The TSA executive could find nothing in its constitution last night to stop him playing, provided he had the necessary clearance from the Melbourne club Alexander, for whom he played before coming to Hobart early last month.

Members were told by Olympia delegate Mr D. Finegan that the Australian Soccer Federation secretary (Mr I. McAndrew) had told him that a move to get all States to agree to a set date after which transfers could not be made had been impossible to implement this season.

Mr McAndrew said such a move would affect State constitutions and necessitate the calling of special general meetings. Mr Finegan said Mr McAndrew had intimated this was a local matter and in his opinion permissible if there was proof that negotiations for the transfer were started before August 1.

Mr Finegan said there was no question of stacking the side just for the final four. "Sharpe came to Hobart in July and attended two training sessions of Olympia after a chance meeting with one of the Olympia team and he signed for the club on August 1."

Mr McAndrew said on August 7 that there had been an all-States agreement not to transfer players interstate between August 1 and October 30. However, on August 15, the Victorian club Melbourne, signed on two players from fellow Hungarian club in Sydney, St George Budapest, and no action was apparently taken.

Sharpe plays equally well at centre-forward or on the wing and would greatly strengthen the Olympia attack. Mr Finegan said he had been cleared verbally, the clearance itself would be needed before he could play on Saturday.

Newcomer Sharpe to be surprise packet in Olympia team

By Gordon Burnett [THE MERCURY] 23/8/68 – [FINAL SERIES]

NEWCOMER Bob Sharpe will play for Olympia in their soccer semi-final against White Eagles at South Hobart tomorrow.

Harper is expected to return from Bell Bay, Parkin from Sydney, and Stanton is fit after missing a couple of games. But Olympia have lost Alexiadis, who was suspended last night, and skipper Girling still has a shoulder injury. Sharpe can be used at centre-forward or on a wing and could be a surprise packet.

It has been suggested exception could be taken to Sharpe's clearance from Alexander at this late date, but any move to stop the transfer should have been made at Tuesday's TSA executive meeting. Olympia were given the green light by the executive and should have its full backing.

White Eagles goalkeeper David Siggins is reported to have influenza. Reserve goalkeeper Wallace is in hospital after a car accident and other goalkeepers Rakowski (back) and Dora (ankle) are injured.

White Eagles beat Olympia last week, but Olympia are much stronger tomorrow and should win. Quinn had a good look at Jefferson last week, and will not be giving him the same latitude. Winger Osuchowski is striking his best form and will need careful watching.

White Eagles successes have often been influenced by Siggins' form in goal, and he could be thoroughly tested by a clever attack.

Rapid are unchanged for their game against Juventus, who have Goodman back after missing several games.

Rapid have lost all their four games against Juventus this season - Croatia are the only other club to beat them, but they were very unlucky to lose last week after a great recovery.

If they use the ball and forget individual play, they have the ball control, speed, and talent to run all over Juventus.

So it looks very much as if the winners of last week's final four preview will be this week's losers. A Juventus defeat will see them without a game until the Association Cup final on September 28.

The new bottom four competition for a \$60 cash bonus will get under way with two games at Glenorchy - and as the Caledonians - Croatia match is the only outstanding Southern Premiership League roster fixture whatever goals Skaro scores will count for the individual goalscoring award.

Skaro is two goals behind Parker, and one goal behind Jefferson and Foster, but he will find Hugh Mackinnon a much-improved centre-half.

TSA to rule on Olympia's playing Bob Sharpe without clearance

By Gordon Burnett [THE MERCURY] 26/8/68 - [FINAL SERIES]

OLYMPIA took a calculated risk in playing Scottish newcomer Bob Sharpe, from the Melbourne club Alexander on Saturday, without having the necessary Victorian Soccer Federation clearance in writing.

A TSA executive meeting will decide this week whether their 2-1 win over White Eagles in the premiership semi-final is in order, needs replaying, or is to be forfeited.

State council secretary Mr Les Smith said he had been told over the phone by the VSF secretary, Mr Edgar, that the clearance was in order - and after the game on Saturday referee R. Marlor was given a letter from Alexander dated August 22 saying Sharpe was free for transfer.

Absence of the usual clearance in writing has caused much confusion, but indications are that a VSF clearance dated before Saturday's game could be acceptable.

Meanwhile, Olympia have in Sharpe a newcomer nowhere near as good as expected. Centre-forward Ted Huddleston who was rapidly returning to top form left the field with an injured leg that could keep him out for several weeks and winger Parkin did not return from Sydney.

Olympia reversed the previous week's decision against White Eagles but were far from impressive. Opposing centre-forward Jefferson could have had a hat-trick instead of a retaken penalty goal because Roussos moved before he took the first kick and saved the shot. And winger Osuchowski had at least two chances to score.

Olympia took the lead in the 40th minute through Shacklady, and Huddleston went through from what looked to be an offside position for the second goal three minutes after the resumption. Jefferson scored for White Eagles from the penalty spot with 10 minutes to go.

Harper's return greatly strengthened the Olympia defence and full-back Schwesinger was sent up on the wing to bolster an attack that badly missed Alexiadis.

White Eagles' strength was again in defence in which Stewart stood out as their forwards wasted chances.

Rapid beat Juventus by a corner scored in the first minute of the second half of extra time, but they had made things hard for themselves and came close to defeat as a result.

Their ball control was upset by the stiff breeze and both defences persisted in big kicking that cut midfield play down to almost a minimum. But for all that Rapid had many scoring chances which they threw away by the wrong player shooting from a difficult angle.

Right-back Franz Fischer played Rizzolo right out of the game and forced Juventus to sacrifice ball player Wood on the wing, and this weakened the Juventus attack further.

Zoetsch played the major role of holding down the centre, and Bachinger was the danger up forward. Centre-half Hanna held Juventus together, but for the second week running they were flattered by the result.

Centre-forward Tony Parker led the side in what could have been his last appearance in a senior game as he leaves for the United State on September 2. Juventus do not have another game until the Association Cup Final on September 28.

Rapid opened the scoring in the 20th minute, when Jack Dilba deflected a centre by Bachinger past Jaegar, and Juventus equalised seven minutes later when Lindsay converted a free kick. Juventus forced the first corner, but then conceded two others.

Rapid to repeat form by tossing White Eagles out

By Gordon Burnett [THE MERCURY] – 30/8/1968 – [FINAL SERIES]

AMATEUR club Rapid, the only team White Eagles failed to beat in the roster competition, should repeat the dose by winning tomorrow's soccer preliminary final at South Hobart.

A hard, dry ground would give Rapid a very big advantage as they are faster and possess better ball control. In the first 0-0 encounter, White Eagles were saved by brilliant goalkeeping by David Siggins, and then only a couple of weeks ago Rapid piled on seven goals against them to fall by only 0.0013 of a goal to get second position in the final standings.

They were not as impressive against Juventus last week and will need to make sure of every chance this time and not tax their fighting capabilities. Rapid played poorly against Juventus, and the forward line lost much of its rhythm.

Coach Tom McLoughlin will be sure to insist on his youngsters looking to see whether a colleague is better placed for a shot. They have been shooting too often from poor positions after the opening has been made.

It would not surprise to see Zoetsch given the task of stopping Jefferson, the season's top goalscorer in all games, and allow Mathias to play a roving type of game.

Stewart is the key man of the solid but slow Eagles' defence, and if he can be lured out of position Rapid could over-run them. White Eagles have lost two of their last three games but are formidable opponents who seem to do better in the more important matches.

Their main threat could come through their wingers, Lundin and Osuchowski, with Jefferson ready to take full advantage of their centres, either in the air or along the ground. Rapid were beaten only once in their last eight games by an unlucky corner in extra time.

Winners of this game will meet Olympia in the grand final next week.

Experience shows, as Eagles enter grand final after thrilling clash

By Gordon Burnett [THE MERCURY] – 2/9/1968 – [FINAL SERIES]

GREATER experience put White Eagles into the soccer grand final, after a thrilling 3-2 win over Rapid at South Hobart on Saturday.

They steadied to take their chances against a side who should have won with the opportunities they made for themselves. The switching of Egon Mathias from semi-defence to full-scale attack almost turned the game in Rapid's favour – but the move was half an hour too late.

White Eagles, who are trying for their first premiership success in five years of senior soccer, will meet Olympia in the grand final on Saturday.

Rapid were shaky in the first 10 minutes after being rocked by a first-minute goal, but it was not long before a corner by Foster skidded off the crossbar.

And in the 36th minute Reid pushed through a pass to Foster, but with only Siggins to beat, he shot straight at the goalkeeper to waste a great chance.

White Eagles were without left-winger Lundin, who was reported to have a groin injury, and reserve player 17-year-old Adamczyk centred in the first minute for Osuchowski to net through a crowd of players.

After showing he will be a very useful player with more experience, Adamczyk was replaced by Rosinski for the second half. It was following a centre from Rosinski that McCann collected a loose ball and crashed it home six minutes into the second half to make White Eagles' lead 2-0.

Mathias crowned a good solo effort with a goal in the 62nd minute, but White Eagles went to 3-1 with 11 minutes to go when Stewart burst through the centre and beat several defenders before scoring.

Mathias made it 3-2 in the next minute when he headed in a centre from Foster, but Rapid's determined raids in the closing stages were held up by a solid defence.

White Eagles were well served by their defence in the slippery conditions, Siggins handling very confidently and the two full-backs Honeyman and Rawlings holding up the fast Rapid wingers. Stewart stood out in the hard-working half-back line. They played right up on their opposite numbers, cutting down the area in which they could manoeuvre. This resulted in the nippy Rapid forwards trying to get that extra ground and holding on to the ball for those fateful extra seconds.

Stefan Stuetzel gave the finest display of full-back play seen this season, and the only shot opposing winger Osuchowski had was in that opening minute when he was standing almost on the penalty spot together with half a dozen other players.

Zoetsch one of the Rapid originals also had a fine match keeping the dangerous Jefferson scoreless. Another Rapid veteran, Mathias proved his all-round capabilities by almost pulling the game out of the fire after White Eagles had taken a winning 2-0 lead.

Lundin's return boosts White Eagles premiership hopes

By Gordon Burnett [THE MERCURY] – 6/9/68 – [FINAL SERIES]

LUNDIN will be back on the left-wing tomorrow for White Eagles, who are expected to give Olympia a real shake in a determined bid for their first Southern Tasmanian soccer premiership.

Lundin did not play in the preliminary final, and White Eagles did well to win without him. His return should restore the teamwork that has brought this rugged side to the grand final with a great chance of success.

Olympia, hit by injuries and transfers, have failed to retain the machine-like combination that used to carry all before them, and they will be without Alexiadis and probably Girling. Girling is in the awkward position of not being satisfied with his injured shoulder and yet wanting to play in what could be his last game in Southern Tasmania. He is contemplating retirement at the end of this season.

It is possible that this key player for Olympia will make a second half appearance, but much will depend on how the shoulder is tomorrow morning. Parkin is reported to be coming from Sydney for this game after disappointing the side in the semi-finals.

This should be a real thriller with little between the two sides, although Olympia play the same type of game as Rapid and are more capable of taking their chances - and Rapid should have beaten White Eagles in the semis. Olympia have more drive at forward and could easily dominate midfield exchanges to turn the tide their way.

Rapid coach Tom McLoughlin thinks Olympia will win easily if they produce the standard of play they are capable of, as he considers White Eagles' defence too erratic under pressure.

Juventus coach Fred Cunningham thinks Olympia's experience will go a long way, but he feels the stronger White Eagles team has benefitted from their errors this season and could win through sheer determination.

Both sides have each beaten the other twice this season, and White Eagles, who have scored six goals to Olympia's five, have been beaten only twice in their past 16 games. Olympia have won the premiership four times in the past five seasons, and they are seeking their fourth in a row,

Injured skipper inspires Olympia to fifth flag in six years

By Gordon Burnett [THE MERCURY] - 9/9/68 – [GRAND FINAL]

OLYMPIA won their fifth Southern Tasmanian soccer premiership in six seasons on Saturday when they beat White Eagles by a lone corner.

The corner came in extra time. Neither side scored a goal in the match. Olympia owed their narrow but deserved success to skipper – coach Dick Girling, who despite an injured shoulder came on in the second half for an injured Huddleston.

He inspired the side to produce that bit extra needed to stop the determined White Eagles and turn what looked likely to be defeat into victory. Neither side made full use of the howling wind, and both played better against it. Harper hit the post twice in the opening half when Olympia strove desperately for an early breakthrough and at the other end Quinn and Richards gave away dangerous free kicks on the edge of the goal-scoring area to stop Jefferson getting through.

In the second half White Eagles' goalkeeper, Siggins, brought the big crowd to its feet when Girling sent across a magnificent centre only to see Siggins throw himself at the unmarked Stanton's feet. Parkin also tested Siggins with a shot that needed a full-length dive to save. All too often a cross would come from one of the White Eagles' wings with too few up to take advantage of it. The all-important corner came in the 10th minute of extra time just after Stanton had failed to take the centre from Parkin.

With two minutes to go before the end, a free kick against Olympia half-back Richards for obstruction was taken by Osuchowski, who netted direct from the spot, only to find it was an indirect free kick and two persons had to touch the ball before it could be a goal. Referee Marlors said he raised his arm for the indirect free-kick signal and kept it there until the kick was taken – in addition to shouting to the players that it was to be an indirect free kick.

Seconds later Parkin missed an open goal at the other end, which was a great pity as it would have stopped most of the argument over the disallowed goal.

Girling stood out for Olympia, followed by Parkin whose trip from Sydney was very worthwhile as he turned in his best game in Tasmania. Harper had another good game getting through an incredible amount of work and making sure the forwards got their share of the ball. Newcomer Sharpe gave an improved display.

Olympia realised they had to bottle up Jefferson, and they did this at any cost. It was a policy that could have easily cost them the game. McCann played himself into the ground for White Eagles, and Honeyman and Biggar stood out in a defence that held up promising raids with effective spoiling tactics.

Two Juventus players out; Eric Owen included for final

By Gordon Burnett [THE MERCURY] - 13/9/1968 – [Association Cup Final Preview]

JUVENTUS will be without centre-forward Tony Parker and wing-half Remo Carnevale for their Association Cup soccer final match against White Eagles tomorrow at South Hobart – but they will have Eric Owen from England. Owen, who played for Rapid before going to England to further his studies, looked impressive at training this week and should help to stiffen the Juventus defence.

His brother, Philip, who has played at full-back and on a wing this season, will be at inside-forward with John Lindsay leading the line in the absence of Parker, who is in America. Carnevale arranged his wedding date, so as to finish the roster season with Juventus and be ready for this Cup final, originally scheduled for September 28. However, the TSA decision to bring the final forward a fortnight has robbed him of a chance of playing in what could be the first Juventus team to win this trophy.

White Eagles who are also playing in their first Association Cup final, could be a little jaded after their great bid for the Southern premiership last Saturday, but they will be flat out to take their first major trophy in senior soccer. Graham is reported to be unavailable, and Lundin was in bed yesterday with influenza and their loss could upset the balance of the forward line and cost them the match.

It is a bitter blow for a team who could have had the services of Rapid star Egon Mathias for the grand final if they had wanted him. He played for them the previous season and offered his services after Rapid's defeat in the preliminary final. White Eagles and Juventus have met three times this season, sharing roster honours, but White Eagles beat Juventus in the Falkinder Cup after extra time.

Spectators demand refund as team walks off in soccer shemozzle

By Gordon Burnett [THE MERCURY] - 16/9/1968 – [Association Cup Final]

SPECTATORS unsuccessfully demanded their money be refunded at South Hobart on Saturday when Juventus officials called their remaining seven players off the field after only 30 minutes in the Association Cup soccer final against White Eagles.

After the two teams had looked well-matched in the opening exchanges, referee A. Lannigan, a qualified official from England, awarded a penalty for "hands" against Eric Owen, who was playing his first game for Juventus since returning from England.

Owen was sent off for allegedly dissenting the decision and abusing the referee. Juventus captain Joe Hanna was sent off almost immediately after for allegedly the same offences. Juventus players Goodman and Rizzolo were ordered off for returning to the field after leaving it without permission - after earlier cautions.

Jefferson's penalty kick crashed against an upright and went out of play, but Lannigan then noticed Hanna had not left the field. He called the police to have Hanna removed and ordered the kick to be retaken. This time Jefferson scored.

While this had been going on, Juventus players had wanted to walk off the field, but coach Fred Cunningham insisted they continue. Goodman had gone to the touchline to try to persuade some of them to finish the game, and it was when he and Rizzolo made to return to their positions that Lannigan ruled they could not come on again, after leaving the field without permission.

Juventus officials in the stand then called their players off the field. In addition to the four players ordered off, another five Juventus players will face a charge of leaving the field without permission. Only Phillip Owen and Cengia remained when the referee and the White Eagles' side came off.

Although there was never any threat of violence, police gave Lannigan a four-man escort to the dressing room.irate spectators noisily demanded a refund of their gate money.

An indication was given that there would be "another game" next week, but there would appear to be no grounds for a replay. White Eagles were in no way implicated and had established a goal lead. A suggestion that the match was not played for the required length of time to constitute a game would be valid in the case of adverse weather conditions or crowd behaviour but hardly through a walk-off by a losing team.

The TSA executive will discuss the match at tomorrow's routine executive meeting.

Rizzolo had two great chances to score after 15 minutes but ended a 40m run with a shot straight at goalkeeper Siggins. The ball rebounded to Wood, who passed to Philip Owen, and Rizzolo should have scored when the ball came back to him. To even up matters, McCann had hard luck in not scoring at the other end.

Eric Owen out for two weeks

By Gordon Burnett [THE MERCURY] 19/9/68

Juventus soccer player Eric Owen who was sent off the field last Saturday in his first game since returning from England has been suspended for two weeks.

The investigation committee last night found the charge of abusive language to the referee not proven but he was suspended for disputing his decision.

Goodman was suspended for one week for his general behaviour towards the referee after the committee had found that he did not leave the field as reported by the referee.

Rizzolo, who was sent off for returning to the field after leaving without permission, was cautioned together with the five other players.

Hanna did not appear to meet the charge of disputing the referee's decision and he will remain under suspension until he does.

The incidents occurred in the Association Cup final between Juventus and White Eagles which ended when the Juventus team left the field after only 30 minutes play.

Melbourne side to play White Eagles

By Gordon Burnett [THE MERCURY] 25/10/68

White Eagles will play Melbourne team Keilor City in the soccer curtain-raiser at Glenorchy tomorrow.

Keilor City has just won the second division premiership, and will play in the first division next year. It is an amateur side with the emphasis on youth and most of the players are Polish.

White Eagles could be without McCann and Jefferson who both are on the injured list.

The main game at Glenorchy will be between Olympia and Helvetic.

Scores:

White Eagles 3 drew with Keilor City 3. Goalscorers for Eagles who were 0-2 at half-time and were trailing 1-3, were Jefferson, McCann and Osuchowski.

Olympia defeated Helvetic 5-0 with a hat trick from Huddlestone and one each to Stanton and Shacklady.