1998

Barnestoneworth more than a mouthful

ORANGE soccer team Barnstoneworth United have taken the Central West over 35s league by storm.

Brainchild of soccer legend Chris Jacobs, Barnstoneworth United has attracted an elite team of luminaries such as Aiden Sugden, Dan Kelly, Gary James, Chris Jones, Craig Mills, Ed Cato, Rod Lambert, Greg Madafiglio, Kenny Morrison and Brazilian style players who just go by first names, Paul, Greg, Glenn and Jose.

Now with round four to be played today Barnstoneworth United already has an impressive string of near victories under their belt.

A forfeit in round one from Waratahs didn't stop the Barnestoneworth players from merrily slotting goals against a non-existent opposition. Other teams began nervously checking their draws for when they would have to play the guys in the white shirts.

A 4-0 loss to Molong RSL in round two was followed by a 5-1 loss to a well-drilled Waratahs side with Chris Jones the Barnestoneworth scorer.

Today Barnestoneworth tackles Cudal at 3pm at Jack Brabham Park.

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CENTRAL WESTERN DAILY, Saturday, May 23, 1998 – 59

Speaking of soccer, there is a local team called Barnstoneworth United.
Funny name, but few would realise its origin.
An episode of the tremendously funny Fantasy World Cup on SBS the other evening saw all revelealed.
In an episode of the funny British series Ripping Yarns, starring Michael Palin, there was such a team, albeit fictional, which never won a match.
Seems the local is a little more successful.

CWD -
Date Unkown
Year 1998

The first report in the CWD →

Barnestoneworth's perfect 10

BARNESTONEWORTH United opened their account in emphatic style, stamping their authority on the over 35s soccer competition with a stunning 10-2 victory over Cudal Green on Saturday.

In a scintillating display Barnstoneworth scored a goal through Aiden Sugden about 20 seconds from the kick-off in what is believed to be a league record.

Cudal, reeling from this blow, never really found their stride but did score two quality goals in a day that was all Barnstoneworth.

Legions of Barnstoneworth fans were whipped into a frenzy as the goals came thick and fast.

Leading goal scorer 'Dangerous' Dan Kelly, with three goals, said after the match: "I think I could get used to this."

Other goal scorers included Glenn Harpley 2, Paul Crain, Paul Coleburn, Brazilian import Jose, and even the hapless Chris Jacobs scored a consolation goal after spraying shots far and wide.

Workmanlike performances from the solid backline and halves set the scene for a fine afternoon of soccer which saw Barnstoneworth United come of age and set the standard for the rest of the competition to follow.

26 – CENTRAL WESTERN DAILY, Tuesday, May 26, 1998

Cwd 7/5/98

Experience pays off for Barnstoneworth

A YOUNG East Orange United felt the weight of Barnstoneworth United's experience in a hard fought 3-all draw in last Saturday's over 35's match.

East Orange looked like running away with the game at a couple of points, however, solid controlled play followed by scintillating goals by Barnstoneworth answered all challenges.

Paul Crain opened Barnstoneworth's account with a shot on the rebound from a save by Easts' keeper.

Dynamite Dan Kennedy followed by calmly slotting a ball past the diving keeper following a deft pass and Glenn Arpley scored from one of his trademark shots off his booming left boot.

Midfielder Kenny Morrison struggled to find his heading form despite the delivery of accurate floating corners that found him unchallenged in the box.

Barnstoneworth's resolve and form remains sound despite revelations last week that several unnamed players have been linked to a bizarre drug and sex fiasco rumoured to involve missing Spice Girl, Geri Halliwell, and a quantity of new performance enhancing agent, Viagra.

Player's spokesperson Ed Cato remained tight-lipped during the press conference, but he did say the rumours 'were ridiculous' and warned players that random drug testing and small arms inspections could be on the cards.

Skipper Chris Jacobs, when asked to comment, was circumspect about the allegations and said: "Well I suppose we could have expected something like this given the profile of the Barnstoneworth players.

"It's only natural that some mud will be flung our way due to our successes on and off the paddock and it appears that some agencies would stoop to this level to discredit the team.

"It is pleasing to note, however, that Barnstoneworth United has stuck together throughout this difficult time and continue to make soccer the winner," Jacobs added.

Barnstoneworth battle the odds

Soccer

INJURY and illness continue to plague Barnstoneworth United as they went down 5-2 to CYMS in Saturday's over 35's league match.

CYMS capitalised on occasional lapses in concentration from the Barnstoneworth players to drive home the advantage.

Barnstoneworth have been continually behind the eight ball in struggling to field a consistent team with recurring injuries plaguing some of the more senior players.

Star keeper, Rod Lambert is out of action with the mumps, which led to stand-in keepers Aiden Sugden and Chris Jones struggling to fill his shoes.

Absences from winger Glenn Harpley and striker Dan Kelly left a significant hole up front with a lack of penetration and finishing power being the order of the day for Barnstoneworth.

Dionne Jacobs and Penny Mills' run-on substitutions raised the tone of the match and provided glamour and verve, but they were unable to find clear paths through the CYMS defence.

Kenny Morrison and Paul Cain were creative and solid in attack and were Barnstoneworth's standout players for the day.

An early goal from skipper Chris Jacobs from a magnificent 25 metre strike and a follow-up brilliant individual effort from Brazilian Jose raised Barnstoneworth's expectations and gave them a 2-1 half-time lead.

CYMS rallied after half time and took advantage of some sloppy play from Barnstoneworth and slotted four more goals in the second half seriously challenging Barnstoneworth's resolve.

Skipper Jacobs said after the match: "It wasn't really a case of CYMS winning this match, it was more a case of us losing it. I am however proud of the way that our men courageously faced adversity and continue to make soccer the winner on the day."

Central Western Daily 9/6/98

Depleted Barnstoneworth feel pinch

AN understrength Barnstoneworth United outfit met highly fancied Blayney at Blayney in last Saturday's over 35 league match.

In a physical, gritty display Barnestoneworth were beaten 2-0 in the game of the series so far.

Barnstoneworth started with nine players and struggled manfully, continually robbing Blayney of possession however lacked penetration up field to capitalise on their opportunities.

Blayney went into the second half one goal up from a header in which Barnstoneworth ran out of numbers to mark up the blue shirts.

The second half saw Barnstoneworth reinvigorated with the addition of Dionne Jacobs into the front line as well as Chris Jones making up the numbers.

Unfortunately, the continual physical play from Blayney took its toll on Barnstoneworth as injury problems set in on some of the senior players who had not recovered sufficiently to regain match fitness from previous injury.

A questionable spot penalty given against Barnstoneworth defender Craig Mills took Blayney's tally to 2-nil.

Stand-in keeper Garry James was Barnstoneworth's player of the match. Cool and confident in the box, James took many wayward balls and stopped several spirited Blayney opportunities.

Aiden Sugden disappointed himself by bouncing a spot penalty off Blayney's crossbar and Mills up from defence narrowly missed scoring from the rebound with a diving header.

Skipper Chris Jacobs could not praise Barnstoneworth's efforts highly enough, saying after the match: "Against the odds we played brilliant soccer, it would have been a completely different story with a full team." Barnstoneworth have the bye next round and will take the opportunity to revise some set plays and allow some time for the wounded soldiers to recover.

CWD 23/6/98

End of the line for Barnstoneworth

AFTER a titanic struggle Barnstoneworth have been bundled out of the Orange over 35's premiership race by East Orange United.

In an elimination semi-final that was scoreless at full and extra time, the decision came down to the wire in a penalty shootout in which the young East Orange side were able to capitalise 4-3 against the old warriors.

Tensions ran high during the match which showed outstanding defensive efforts from both teams, however significantly on the day the match was played hard but in fine spirit, with no foul play from either side.

Barnstoneworth thought they scored a stirling goal off the boot of Glenn Harpley which would have cinched the match, however the goal was disallowed on the basis of a questionable decision following a late call from the linesman.

Skipper Jacobs was circumspect about the result and commented after the match: "Sure it was a tough call but without the officials there would be no match. They have to call

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it as they see it. Unfortunately the decision went against us, but we wouldn't have complained either if it went against the opposition in a similar situation."

Barnstoneworth, in summary, have taken the over 35's competition by the scruff of the neck and given it a good shake. What started out as a concept team has proved wildly successful, beyond the hopes of the management. Early in the year Barnstoneworth were regarded as easybeats and soft opposition, old men over the hill. Critics have been emphatically silenced by the continued dedication, commitment and competitive fair play of the Barnstoneworth team.

Indeed, it is gratifying to hear match officials complimenting Barnstoneworth, win or lose, on the nature and spirit of the games played which in turn has made it enjoyable for the officials as well.

Barnstoneworth management has been swamped with enquiries from players wishing to join the men in big shorts, so next season is shaping up to be a pearler for Barnstoneworth fans and players. The level of interest has prompted management to consider the possibility of Barnstoneworth fielding two teams and the probability of some lucrative sponsorship contracts developing in the off-season.

Players released from local commitments now are free to take up offers to play in the European competition in the off-season, while leading and veteran goal scorer Dan Kennedy will take the opportunity to brush up on the finer points of the off-side ruling to save the embarrassment of having to ask the opposition fullbacks to interpret the rule for him.

To conclude Barnstoneworth management would like to take this opportunity to thank the players and management of the opposing teams for a splendid season and to congratulate and wish those teams well on their journey through the finals series.

Moral win for United

Barnstoneworth United showed their true colours in a gritty and physical match against Canobolas Rangers Blue last Saturday.

In what turned out to be a dour stoush Barnstoneworth displayed the style of play that has earned them legendary status in the over 35's league.

The younger and fitter Rangers team were unable to find a way through the impregnable Barnstoneworth defence and had it not been for a lucky cross which found the post and dribbled over the line, Rangers would have taken a scoreless draw away from the match.

Several well directed Barnstoneworth attempts were foiled on the line by the Rangers keeper and similarly Rod Lambert, Barnstoneworth's athletic and graceful keeper, was put to the test only once turning a Rangers strike over the bar.

Paul Colbourn and Gary James were outstanding in defence playing many quality balls through to the forwards.

Aiden Sugden said of Barnstoneworth's performance after the match: "We were the better team, but we just didn't have our scoring boots on today." Barnstoneworth winger Glenn Harpley was notable by his absence and may well have been the difference between the two sides.

Barnstoneworth skipper, Chris Jacobs was full of praise for his men and said after the match: "We can hold our heads high and on the day soccer was the winner."

24-CENTRAL WESTERN DAILY, Tuesday, June 2, 1998

Trouncing spurs Barnstoneworth

MEMORIES of a trouncing by Millthorpe in a pre-season trial match were clear in the Barnstoneworth player's minds as they took the field against highly fancied Millthorpe in last Saturday's over 35s league match.

The layoff of a few weeks due to the weather allowed Barnstoneworth to regroup and put in solid training sessions, venturing north to Caloundra after accepting an invitation from the Wallabies to join them in an training camp.

A full strength and eager Barnstoneworth outfit dominated Millthorpe from the outset with sparkling raids and attacking shots coming from all angles.

Forward Glenn Harpley was deft and threatening as was midfielder Aiden Sugden. Jose celebrated his return to form after a gruelling international stint during July with deceptive, runs and delightful through balls, one of which found the boot of effervescent winger Paul Crain who dispatched it with his usual verve into the Millthorpe net.

Millthorpe fought back like men possessed taking every advantage of their home ground knowledge but were unable to capitalise against the Barnstoneworth defenders, who remained relaxed and solid.

Millthorpe's best opportunity to equalise came from a penalty against skipper Chris Jacobs in the box, however in a rare flash of poetic justice Millthorpe were unable to convert the penalty with keeper Rod Lambert displaying his trademark cat-like agility and easily gathering in the shot.

An early second half corner from Barnstoneworth found leading goal scorer Dan Kennedy lurking with intent on the post. Kennedy took the ball neatly on the volley and turned it into the open goal.

Millthorpe again came at the men in the big shorts but were continually frustrated by glittering defensive play from Paul Colbourn evergreen Gary Jones and Greg Vinall. Millthorpe left the field scoreless in a match that may have implications in opening up the points table.

On a string ... Millthorpe's Darrell Ryan works on keeping possession against Barnstoneworth.

34 – CENTRAL WESTERN DAILY, Tuesday, August 18, 1998

Barnstoneworth trouble rivals

BARNSTONEWORTH United proved to be a thorn in the side of stablemates Orange Ex-Services despite losing Saturday's over 35s league match 2-1.

Expecting an easy victory the highly placed Ex-Services team were taken aback by the skill and dedication of the Barnstoneworth defence and the speed with which Barnstoneworth were able to capitalise on defensive lapses from Ex-Services.

Ex-Services played a physical game resulting in two red cards against them.

Barnstoneworth winger Glenn Harpley latched onto one of many delightful through balls and went one-on-one with Ex Services keeper before scoring Barnstoneworth's first goal

Ex-Services replied five minutes before halftime with a half-hearted attempt taking an unfortunate deflection and leaving keeper Garry James flat-footed as the ball ballooned into the net.

Five minutes into the second half Ex-Services took a long speculative shot that looked like going wide but again the hapless James could only watch, muttering to himself, as the ball trickled just inside his far post. Barnstoneworth had several more attempts at goal - the most likely again from Harpley who, faced with an open goal, opted for the lofted shot and Barnstoneworth fans howled in frustration as the ball impossibly cleared the bar.

Harpley confided after the match: "I couldn't do that again if I tried."

Barnstoneworth management has been inundated with enquiries from prospective players and has had to close the books while player contract are being negotiated in preparation for next season.

Barnstoneworth skipper Chris Jacobs commented: "Today Barnstoneworth has shown their pedigree. Ex-Services are a side that have a reputation for scoring freely and easily, however Barnstoneworth have shown them what it means to have a reputation.... nothing."

22 – CENTRAL WESTERN DAILY, Tuesday, July 14, 1998

Barnstoneworth down to highly fancied White

Soccer

A DEPLETED Barnstoneworth side took on the highly fancied Canobolas White last Saturday with Canobolas eventually winning 5-3.

With abseiling adventurer Craig Mills apparently lost on a trek through the Blue Mountains, the responsibility of marshalling the defence fell to evergreen Guy James.

James' cunning and trickery spelled the end of numerous attacking raids.

He was also on hand to slot away a penalty after Chris Jacobs was cynically fouled.

Always playing catch up football, Dan Kennedy twice drew Barnstoneworth level with opportunist goals, pleasing Dan's new sponsors after signing a lucrative boot deal during the week.

With Jose back from international duties, Barnstoneworth's passing game looked sharp at times, pleasing all the spectators who braved the damp conditions.

On a bright note the return of keeper Rod Lambert after serious injury which had the potential to drop the curtain on an illustrious career was a great relief to all concerned.

The disappointment of a narrow loss was overshadowed by the announcement by management that flamboyant striker Chris Jones and hard man Greg Vinyall had agreed to terms, rumoured to be a club record, keeping the pair at the club until the end of the century.

CWD - 21/7/98