

# Coalstars through to the grand final

Coalstars' enthusiastic midfielder Andy Ogden turned in a match-winning performance against North Star at Perry Park yesterday in the major semi-final, to book Coalstars berth in the Fourx Soccer league and final on October 5.

Coalstars defeated North Star 2-0 yesterday to advance the club to its first soccer grand final since 1965, and man of the match Ogden was the difference between the two sides.

Twice in the first half, when Coalstars keeper Brent Diflo was beaten, Ogden denied North Star goals by clearing off the goal line.

Then, in the second half, he set up the opening goal for Brad Kearton and capped a fine performance by bringing the second goal in injury time.

Coalstar's win avenged the 3-1 loss to North Star at Zillmere when Coalstars lost both the minor premiership and club championship last week.

North Star player-coach Iain Fagan unfortunately was not as gracious in defeat as he was in victory. He delivered a scathing attack on referee Garth Goodwin and Coalstars' defence, especially Kevin McDowell.

"It was a shocking exhibition of refereeing by Goodwin and he allowed Caldwell to kick us out of the game."

Fagan also said: "I could have kicked Ogden down when Coalstars scored the first goal, but I don't play it that way or coach that way. I am sure Caldwell would have if the situation was reversed."

By JOHN RODERICK

Fagan's comments no doubt were triggered by Caldwell's actions in embracing Fagan when Ogden scored the second goal and reminding him of the score.

While not condoning Caldwell's actions towards Fagan yesterday, the records reveal the Coalstars veteran defender made it in the National League by playing over 100 games with Brisbane City, while Fagan tried but could not win a regular spot with either City or Lions. Also, the free kick count was 16 to nine in favour of North Star yesterday.

It was an open, tough end-to-end semi-final with both teams having chances, but Coalstars again defending for long periods.

Coalstars coach Brian Styles again blasted his players for being too defensive.

"We are not attacking as we should, but we are in the grand final and the others have to get there. It was a good guts effort after last week's disappointment."

While Ogden was the hero for Coalstars yesterday it was not a lone hand effort.

Coalstars' defence of Caldwell, Ian Lawrie, Mark McNaughton and Alan McFarlane played well, while the midfield of Ogden, Bruce Penman, Stu Weston and Murray Kitching got on top of their opponents with the exception of veteran Jim Cameron.

Striker Brad Kearton worked tirelessly while Mark Brusasco was

marked out of the game by Danny Lobwein.

North Star will now play Mt Gravatt in the preliminary final next week with the winner playing Coalstars in the October 5 grand final.

Mt Gravatt easily accounted for a disappointing Eastern Suburbs 3-0 in the knockout semi-final.

Coalstar's reserve grade also advanced straight to the grand final by defeating Mt Gravatt 2-0 in the major semi-final, while Ipswich United gave hopes of an all Ipswich grand final in this grade for the second successive year by defeating North Star 1-0 in the knock out final.

Ipswich United Colts lost the major semi-final 2-1 to Taringa as did the United 6th Division which went down 3-2 to Deception Bay.

Coalstars' 7th Division defeated The Gap 2-1 in the major semi-final to be the first of the local club's team in grand finals.

Scores: Fourx League Major Semi-Final: Coalstars 2 (B. Kearton, A. Ogden) def. North Star 0. Knockout Semi-Final: Mt Gravatt 3 (K. Swan, R. Peachey, T. Carnarvas) def. Easts 0. Reserve Grade Major Semi-Final: Coalstars 2 (T. Watkin, J. Pedley) def. Mt Gravatt 0. Knock Out Semi-Final Ipswich United 1 (W. Dann) def. North Star 0. Colts Major Semi-Final Taringa 2 def Ipswich United 1. Sixth Division Major Semi-Final Deception Bay 3 def Ipswich United 2. 7th Division Major Semi-Final Coalstars 2 def. The Gap 1.

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# Ogden - lucky for Coalstars

**MIDFIELDER Andy Ogden could be the good luck figure Coalstars Fourx League soccer side need to win their first grand final since 1965 next Sunday.**

Ogden, the man-of-the-match in Coalstars 2-0 major semi-final win against North Star at the weekend, is making his third grand final appearance.

And the attacking midfielder has every reason to predict a Coalstars victory in 1986.

Ogden was the hero in the 1983 Premier League grand final scoring the goal which gave Olympic a 3-2 win over Lions.

The 24-year-old repeated that performance six weeks ago when he netted Coalstars winning goal in the Ampol Cup grand final.

Ogden's successful shot 15 minutes from fulltime set up Coalstars 3-2 victory over North Star.

A Dinmore Bushrats junior, Ogden played in his first final for Lions in 1982 when they lost the Brusasco Cup to Ipswich United 2-0.

Ironically, that Ipswich United side included four of Ogden's current Coalstars teammates.

Top side regulars Mark Brusasco, Kevin Caldwell, Ian Lawrie and Bruce Penman were all members of that winning United combination.

By DAVID LEMS

On Sunday, Ogden will join the four this time on the same team.

Since Lion's 1982 loss, Ogden has made a habit of switching to the right club, a good omen for Coalstars.

In 1983, his switch to Olympic United was well-timed as Olympic went on to win the grand final against his old team Lions.

The only low point in Ogden's soccer career so far came in 1985 when he suffered a serious stress fracture in his back.

Ogden had hoped to transfer to Coalstars that year but had to delay the change until his back healed.

After injuring his back in the pre-season, Ogden spent three months in a brace and had to undergo months of physiotherapy.

But fortunately he regained full fitness in time to sign-up for Coalstars this year.

Since making the change, Ogden hasn't looked back being named man-of-the-match on a number of occasions.

He has only missed one Fourx League game and is satisfied 1986 has been his best year.

Co-incidentally perhaps, the Ogden influence has helped Coalstars recover from a disappointing 1985

season to win the Ampol Cup and reach the grand final for the first time in 11 years.

Not surprisingly with his good form, Ogden is confident Coalstars have overcome the mental lapse which caused them some problems going into the finals.

"We'll win (next Sunday)," Ogden said.

"Playing attacking football, that's what will win it for us."

Despite his personal glory, Ogden chooses not to dwell too much on his individual efforts.

"I'd rather see everyone do well," he said.

"Team spirit has been the reason for our success this year."

Keen to remain with Coalstars next year, Ogden believes last Sunday's match was his best of the year.

He scored Coalstars winning goal late in the match after setting up his side's opening goal.

Ogden, who lives at Riverview, attributed his match-winning performance to a switch by Coalstars coach Brian Styles.

Styles moved Ogden from flank midfielder (out wide) to central midfielder, a move which Ogden said suited his style of play.

"It allowed me to tackle more and take a bigger part in the game," he said.



● Coalstars midfielder Andy Ogden at work.

But Ogden believes his back problem in 1985 slowed him down and he can only improve.

"I think I'll play a lot better next year," he said.

Ogden, who works at Action Sports, said after Coalstars win the

cup, he plans to take his wife to England for a holiday.

Ogden had originally planned the trip for early October but cancelled it after Coalstars reached the Ampol Cup final.

# Styles confident of win

COALSTARS coach Brian Styles is confident his side has turned the corner and can go on to win the grand final of the Fourx Soccer League on Sunday week.

Rejuvenated by Sunday's 2-0 win over North Star in the major semi-final, Styles now believes Coalstars can win the grand final and somewhat compensate for sacrificing the premiership to North Star.

Coalstars grand final opponent will be decided when North Star and Mt Gravatt clash in Sunday's preliminary final.

"Yes, I'm confident. It's a one-off situation

By CAM COOPER

now," Styles said yesterday.

Queried as to which side was the major threat to Coalstars grand final hopes, Styles said he was not overly concerned with which team Coalstars would oppose.

"Mt Gravatt are the big improvers. They have had a good second half to the season. Both are good sides. Both are good attacking sides.

"But it doesn't really matter who we play. I'm more worried about our game," he said.

Styles has been harsh in his criticism of Coalstars in recent weeks, slamming the players attitude since their win in the Ampol Cup six weeks ago.

However, he was far more impressed with the side's performance on the weekend.

"It was better than the week before (when Coalstars lost to North Star). The attack was a lot better. Far more positive.

"They wanted to win it. I had a feeling all week that we would win.

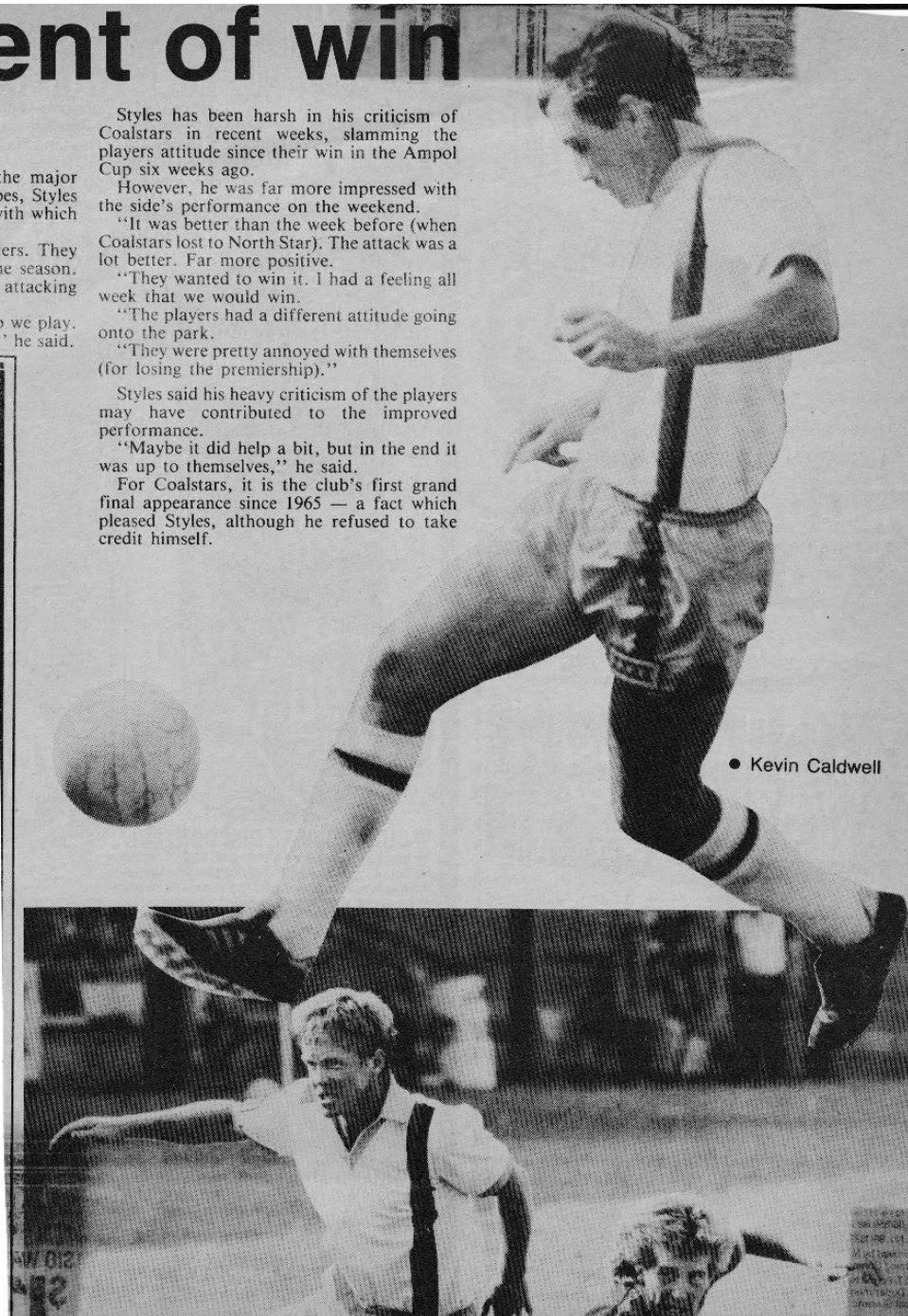
"The players had a different attitude going onto the park.

"They were pretty annoyed with themselves (for losing the premiership)."

Styles said his heavy criticism of the players may have contributed to the improved performance.

"Maybe it did help a bit, but in the end it was up to themselves," he said.

For Coalstars, it is the club's first grand final appearance since 1965 — a fact which pleased Styles, although he refused to take credit himself.





# A dream comes true for Murray

**Coalstars midfielder Murray Kitching was one of the happiest men in Coalstars' dressing room after the 2-0 major semi-final win over North Star.**

"We are there. I am going to play in the grand final. It's like a dream come true," Kitching said.

Kitching, a 50-game veteran with Ipswich United, transferred to Coalstars at the beginning of this season.

"In 1982 I missed Ipswich United's win over Lions because of a knee injury.

In 1984 I had a late start to the season because of injury, played in the reserve grand final when we beat Mt Gravatt 2-0 and sat on the bench, but never got a run when the top team beat Mt Gravatt 2-0 the next day," Kitching said earlier this week.

He also missed Ipswich United's grand final success last year when a difference of opinion between him

and coach Matt Carson saw Kitching transfer to Acacia Ridge.

Kitching has been taking things easy over the last two weeks to avoid a recurrence of a stomach muscle strain which has plagued him for the second half of the season.

"Brian (Styles) hasn't told me where I'll be playing yet, but I am just happy to be part of it all and if he wants I'll even play in goals to be out there on Sunday".

Coalstar's experienced defender Ian Lawrie knows that grand finals are all about.

While many soccer players would give a year's bonus to play in one grand final, Lawrie will be lacing his boots tomorrow for his seventh grand final appearance.

"I was on the bench for Lions in 1974, played in 1975 and 1976 and lost the lot to Brisbane City. Kevin Caldwell killed us in 1976. He gave Alan Niven an awful night when Les Schienflug was the coach," Lawrie said yesterday.

Grand finals were a little kinder to Lawrie when he joined Ipswich United in 1980 for a 112-game career.

"We won three in 1982, 1984 and again last year, all under coach Matt Carson, so the record stands at three all, but I'll put the account on the right side on Sunday," Lawrie added.

Lawrie started his career at Coalstars as a striker in 1973 as a 16-year-old before going to Lions from where he became a youth international, a State representative and played 50 NSL matches.

He promised Coalstars' long-serving secretary Eric Evans that he would finish his career at Bundamba and honoured that commitment by transferring back to Coalstars this year.

"I have been lucky I suppose, by being with the right clubs at the right time and I have really enjoyed this year. We can win on Sunday if we play to our ability," Lawrie said.

## Reserves chase double

by JOHN RODERICK

COALSTARS is favoured to complete the premierships-grand final double in the Fourx League Reserve grade grand final against Mt Gravatt at Annerley tomorrow.

Coalstars only lost two matches in this division this year — 3-2 to Wynnum in the first round and 2-1 to North Star in the last round-before going on to defeat Mt Gravatt 2-0 in the major semi-final at Annerley two weeks ago.

Mt Gravatt finished the premier-ship one point behind Coalstars, but had only one loss in the home and away series, but seven draws to Coalstars' four saw the premierships go to Bundamba.

The clash between the reserve divisions top teams also brings

and has many of that squad geared up for success again.

"We can win if we play to our ability and stick to the match plan. We will again attack Mt Gravatt down the flanks through Jon Kitching and Rob Clarke. If we go down the middle their defence is too solid," Caldwell said.

"Our biggest problem may be ourselves. We won the major semi-final 2-0 and did it pretty easy, but if the players go out and think its only a matter of turning up, Mt Gravatt will give them a shock — they play some good soccer," he added.

Ian Steele, the Mt Gravatt coach

Mt Gravatt, although a good side to watch, may have to wait another year.

Coalstar's 7th Division complete the clubs grand final treble by playing The Gap in the 1pm game at Annerley.

Reserve grade teams: Coalstars: Aston Bell, Dave O'Leary, Glen Gotting, Dave Mann, Garth Mitchell, Peter Gillespie, Mark Mitchell, Tony Watkin, Jon Kitching, John Pedley, Rob Clarke. Reserves: Gary Carroll, Craig Donnelly, Mark Pettie, Phil Caldwell.

Mt Gravatt: Mark Pickup, Gavin Newman, Gary Careless, Chris Fullerton, Duncan Alexander, Steve

## How they will line up



## The three wise men

## Soccer grand final preview

# Coalstars confident of victory

**Coalstars is confident of winning the Brusasco Cup for the first time by defeating North Star in the \$10,000 Fourx Soccer League grand final at Perry Park tomorrow.**

The players believe in their ability to match it with the "best" football team in the league and come out on top.

"We have played North Star four times this season and beaten them on three occasions, but that will mean nothing if we lose on Sunday. It is the big one and we want it to prove to everyone who is the best Fourx League team," striker Mark Brusasco said earlier in the week.

That attitude comes through from most players spoken to this week.

These two teams have proved themselves to be the best in the League and will be worthy grand finalists.

Coalstars defeated North Star 2-0 at Bundamba in the last first-round match of the season to go to the top of the premiership table and then defeated Easts on penalties in the President's cup final.

It was Coalstars again in the Ampol Cup grand final in early August with a thrilling 3-2 win over North Star to bring the Cup back to Bundamba for the first time since 1965.

North Star took revenge by defeating Coalstars 3-1 in the last premiership fixture at O'Callaghan Park to win both the premiership and club championship.

Coalstars then came out and defeated North Star 2-1 a week later to advance straight to the grand final, while North

By JOHN RODERICK

match winner who has the pace to worry the North Star defence.

North Star is also confident of success with striker Alan Marley the only injury worry, having suffered a knock on Sunday which almost tore his ear off.

However, the veteran striker is expected to be in the thick of the action tomorrow.

Coach Iain Fagan has labelled his team the best football team in the league and if they are allowed to dictate terms as they did last week against Mt Gravatt that claim seems justified.

But Coalstars won't let that happen tomorrow.

The Ipswich team has the players capable of closing down the opposition quickly and limiting the options, but also picking up the elusive North Star runners off the ball.

Coalstars has a proven defence of goalkeeper Brent Diflo, hardened campaigners in Kevin Caldwell, Ian Lawrie and skipper Mark McNaughton to nurse teenager Alan McFarlane through the early testing nerves.

Andy Ogden, Bruce Penman, Stu Weston and the steady influence of Murray Kitching in midfield will form the important link to Brusasco and either Wheeler or Kearton.

North Star also has a top team with goalkeeper Dave Gallagher backing a defence which gets fullbacks Cameron Pearse and Gordon Buchanan forward in



● A determined Mark Brusasco — centre — chases the ball in a match earlier this season against Taringa. The Coalstars striker will be a key player in tomorrow's grand final.



# STARS FIRST GRAND FINAL

SPORT  
Times



● Coalstars Andy Ogden gives the victory salute

By JOHN RODERICK

**COALSTARS won their first-ever Fourx Soccer League grand final by defeating North Star 2-1 at Perry Park yesterday.**

By etching their name on the Brusasco Cup as grand final winners Coalstars continued the Ipswich dominance of recent soccer grand finals. Coalstars win and that of neighbours, Ipswich United in 1982, 1984 and last year, means that the local clubs have won four of the last five soccer grand finals.

While Coalstars victory was the result of a strong team effort to complete the Ampol Cup-grand final double, Coalstars veteran defender Kevin Caldwell was named man-of-the-match.

It must have been satisfying for Caldwell as he has been the centre of controversy in recent years over his camp for his over-vigorous defensive methods.

While Caldwell turned in an inspir-

ing display after being flattened early by North Star skipper Gerry Lindsay, he was just one worthy contributor to a determined team effort.

From goalkeeper Brent Diflo through to strikers Mark Brusasco and Dave Wheeler, most turned in strong performances.

Captain Mark McNaughton and Ian Lawrie showed their experience when it was needed and teenager Alan McFarlane shadowed either the experienced Billy Williamson or Alan Marley all day and allowed neither much space.

But it was midfield where Coalstars

won the game with the terrier like tactics of Bruce Penman, Andy Ogden, Stu Weston and Murray Kitching continually bustling North Star into error and stopping good ball being delivered to the Zillmere strikers.

Penman once again proved what a big game player he is and he and Ogden scored Coalstars goals.

Wheeler led the full match despite a knee injury and contributed by delivering the final pass for both goals, while Brusasco showed good

close skills and his combination with Wheeler worried the North Star defence all match.

North Star opened the scoring in the 10th minute when Lindsay flattened Caldwell deep in North Star territory and with Coalstars short in defence the ball swung quickly down the left flank where Alan Marley held up the ball and crossed for midfielder Ross Swan to slam a great left-foot volley past Diflo from 10 metres out.

Coalstars equalised 15 minutes later when a corner on the left by Lawrie was not effectively cleared by North

Star defence. McFarlane knocked the ball wide to Kitching on the right who chipped back into the penalty area.

Wheeler headed down to Penman who knocked a good left-foot shot along the ground which was too strong for North Star keeper Dave Caldwell's despairing dive.

North Star midfielder Dave Currie hammered a terrific first-time 35 metre left-foot drive just wide of the far upright which had Diflo beaten

before Coalstars grabbed the lead in showed why it is the best in the league.

A long clearance by Diflo was headed-on by Brusasco to Wheeler who showed his uncanny skill by beating two defenders and setting up Ogden who hammered a strong shot past Gallagher from eight metres.

Both sides had further first-half chances with Currie and Gordon Buchanan missing for North Star and Brusasco bringing a fine Gallagher save.

After an early North Star flurry in the second half, Coalstars defence

Diflo only had to make one worthwhile save, but once when he was beaten it was Caldwell who was there to clear the line.

Coalstars had chances to wrap it up with Brusasco bringing a good fingertip save by Gallagher and a piece of Wheeler-Brusasco magic putting Wheeler clear but Gallagher read the situation well and took the ball off his toe.

Gallagher twice saved North Star with courageous saves after Coalstars, through Ogden and Caldwell, made the chances on the right.



● North Star's Danny Lobwein — left — moves in on the ball, with Dave Wheeler, of Coalstars, in pursuit.

North Star coach Iain Fagan, who used himself as a second-half replacement, at last gave Coalstars credit.

"It was the first time Coalstars have been the best team when they beat us since I have been coach," Fagan said.

COALSTARS 2 (B. Penman, A. Ogden) d NORTH STAR 1 (R. Swan).

Intermediate league: Rochdale 0 drew with Acacia Ridge 0.

1st division amateur: Nerang 2 (P. Curtis, K. Clark) d Inala City 1 (D. Ryan).