

Lions skipper clear to play

LEICHHARDT skipper Danny Stowers will take his place in the midfield for tomorrow night's home FNQ Football preliminary final against Stratford despite being hospitalised last weekend.

Stowers fell awkwardly on his head during the team's 4-0 defeat of Edge Hill last weekend and spent a nervous few hours in care after the game.

But an early exit from the hospital and a few days of relaxation at Mission Beach has him back on deck with a clean bill of health for tomorrow night's clash at Leichhardt Soccer Club.

Coach Chris Pennington said Stowers' availability was a huge boost as they attempt to qualify for the decider.

"It would have been a bit of a loss. He is an inspiration and very important to have around the club," Pennington said.

The same side that dominated Edge Hill will take

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the park this weekend, but the coach hinted he might tweak the set-up slightly.

"I'd say Stratford are individually more skilful, tougher, quicker and physical. They also like to attack more so that will mean some adjustment from our end," Pennington said.

The team trained away from their home paddock this week in an effort to maintain the sense of occasion come tomorrow.

"I want it to feel different when they walk out on Saturday night," Pennington explained.

"It's two teams at the pointy end of the season that are playing well and both want to go through. Anyone that wants to see some tough, classy football should get down."



Stratford ready for a bruiser

TOMORROW night's preliminary final has been billed as the traditional grudge match by Stratford coach Glenn Biskin.

His team must beat a red-hot Leichhardt if they want another crack at Marlin Coast in the decider and he anticipated plenty of feeling during the heated battle.

"There has always been a bit between the teams and it's good to see the rivalry back again," Biskin said.

He said a history of player movement between the two clubs had created the fire between the sides and could not wait to write the next chapter in the contest this weekend.

"We're not at all nervous," Biskin said.

Finals experience is a rarity in Biskin's squad but it isn't worrying him.

"We're very confident in taking them on and have made a pact to play in that grand final and win every 50-50 ball. I think we learned heaps from the loss last week and we'll be up in their face this time."

Opposition coach Chris Pennington was not buying in to the grudge match talk, instead shifting the pressure on to the higher-placed team.

"They finished second, we were third. Both good sides but they should definitely start favourites in my book," Pennington said.

"I don't know about grudge match but it will definitely be a physical one from both teams."

Inspirational: Leichhardt skipper Danny Stowers takes a clean bill of health into tomorrow night's clash against Stratford.

PRELIMINARY FINAL TOMORROW, 7.45PM

Stratford FC: M Bull (c), P Sorensen, F Fabris, A Bull, J Bull, T Kikuchi, A Lohmann, D Gatto, C Breton, J Craig, R Booy, D Sherwin, C Barber, H Ah Shay-Knight, J Bell, N Mapp.

Leichhardt: D Stowers (c), J Richards, M Pinto, P Clarke, A Crowe, K Frisch, P Rogato, M Murphy, D Fernandez, S Sproul, H Ingles, S Nuttall, C Kennedy, D Soares, O Mazigi.

TattsBets of the Week

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UNITAB WAGERING

NRL

PRELIMINARY FINALS

	HEAD TO HEAD (INC ET)	MARGIN (@ 80 MINS)			P'SHIP
		1-12pts	13+pts	DRAW	
Gold Coast	\$1.70	\$3.25	\$3.55	\$4.00	
Sydney Roosters	\$2.15	\$3.65	\$4.55	\$21.00	
St George Illawarra	\$1.45	\$3.05	\$2.75	\$2.25	
West's Tigers	\$2.75	\$4.10	\$6.75	\$5.00	

LINE (INC ET)

Gold Coast -2.5 points	\$1.90
Sydney Roosters +2.5 points	\$1.90
St George Illawarra -6.5 points	\$1.90
West's Tigers +6.5 points	\$1.90

TRI-BET (INC ET)

Gold Coast Over 6.5 points	\$2.40
Either Team Under 6.5 points	\$2.80
Sydney Roosters Over 6.5 points	\$3.00
St George Illawarra Over 6.5 points	\$1.90
Either Team Under 6.5 points	\$3.15
West's Tigers Over 6.5 points	\$3.80

AFL

GRAND FINAL

	HEAD TO HEAD	MARGIN		
		Under 39.5	Over 39.5	DRAW
Collingwood	\$1.40	\$2.15	\$3.45	
St Kilda	\$3.00	\$3.30	\$14.00	\$41.00

LINE

Collingwood -17.5 points	\$1.95
St Kilda +17.5 points	\$1.85

TRI-BET

Collingwood Over 15.5 points	\$1.83
Either Team Under 15.5 points	\$2.85
St Kilda Over 15.5 points	\$4.75

NORM SMITH MEDALLIST

Dane Swan (Coll)	\$5.00
Scott Pendlebury (Coll)	\$8.00
Nick Riewoldt (St K)	\$8.00
Alan Didak (Coll)	\$11.00
Brendon Goddard (St K)	\$13.00
Lenny Hayes (St K)	\$13.00
Dale Thomas (Coll)	\$15.00
Travis Cloke (Coll)	\$17.00
Nick Dal Santo (St K)	\$17.00
Leigh Montagna (St K)	\$17.00

Other players quoted \$21.00 and over

SOCCER

A-LEAGUE

RESULT

Wellington Phoenix	\$1.85
Draw	\$3.40
North Queensland Fury	\$4.00
Adelaide United	\$2.07
Draw	\$3.35
Perth Glory	\$3.30
Brisbane Roar	\$2.25
Draw	\$3.35
Melbourne Heart	\$2.90
Newcastle Jets	\$2.65
Draw	\$3.35
Melbourne Victory	\$2.45
Sydney FC	\$2.02
Draw	\$3.30
Gold Coast United	\$3.50

Prices @ 9.00am on 23/9/2010 at TattsBet.com

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HORSE RACING

MANIKATO STAKES (FINAL FIELD)

	WIN	PLACE
Hay List	\$1.70	\$1.11
Love Conquers All	\$6.50	\$1.85
Reward for Effort	\$10.00	\$2.40
All Silent	\$11.00	\$2.55
Eagle Falls	\$11.00	\$2.55

Other Runners \$12.00 and over
*Refunds and deductions apply.

best bet

(AFL) 630626 ST KILDA 1-39 \$3.30

best multi

(NRL) 630979 Gold Coast -2.5 & 630362 St George Illawarra -6.5 \$3.61

Gamble responsibly.

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