



// SOCCER

Bulls heed wake-up call

A HALF-TIME spray was just what the FNQ Bulls needed to realise what was at stake against the bottom side on Saturday night.

Bulls coach Tony Panetta admitted the side needed a wake-up call in the dressing rooms at the break, after the first half didn't exactly go to script in their Queensland State League clash against the Capricorn Cougars on Saturday night.

"I probably can't repeat what I said to them at half-time," he said.

Despite leading 1-0 at the break thanks to a strike by Nathan Bird in the 10th minute, the



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Bulls weren't playing like the side which had last week knocked off the Sunshine Coast Fire.

"The boys just weren't playing very well," he said.

"We just weren't in any sort of structure."

The players were up at 3am on game day for the road trip to Rockhampton and the effects of fatigue were there for all to see in a lacklustre first half.

Panetta tinkered with their structure, and the Bulls soon found top gear in the second half.

"They rectified it very quickly," he said. The Bulls piled on six goals in 33 minutes of football to obliterate the struggling home side.

Steven Cater (60, 75) and Jo Rusch (63, 93) showed they were at their best as the Bulls surged towards securing a finals berth.

Bird also slotted his second in the 72nd minute.

The late goals were in stark contrast to their past two wins which have come from early scoring sprees, with three in each of the first halves against the Fire and QAS in recent weeks.

Despite a poor work-rate in the opening half, the Cougars only generated a handful of opportunities on goal.

And when the Bulls wrestled back complete control, Panetta said goalkeeper Jack Richards was rarely forced to get his hands on the ball.



In command: Marlin Coast's Wayne Austin stays in control in a men's premier senior match against Southside at Fretwell Park last night. Picture: MIKE WATT

// RESULTS

Round 12
Men's Premier Senior: Edge Hill United FC 0, Leichhardt SSC 0, Stratford FC 1 (A Lohmann), Mareeba United FC 0, Innisfail United FC 2, FNQ Fusion 2, Southside Fury FC 3, Marlin Coast Rangers FC 5
Men's Premier Reserve: Edge Hill United FC 2 (J Hirao P Lansana), Leichhardt SSC 0, Stratford FC 2 (JL Bull Own Goal), Mareeba United FC 3 (SJ Girgenti C Stude 2), Innisfail United FC 8, FNQ Fusion 3, Southside Fury FC 0, Marlin Coast Rangers FC 5
Men's Premier Under 18: Edge Hill 2 (ZA Tomassetti SG Grace), Leichhardt 5 (KT Batey MA Scott 4), Stratford FC 1 (BA Holland), Mareeba 2 (RS Bird S Malahoff), Innisfail United 3, FNQ Fusion 3, Southside Fury FC 3, Marlin Coast Rangers 1
Ladies Division: Innisfail United FC 4 (SK Lowe EJ Costelloe 2 SK Sou), FNQ Fusion 4 (KJ Forster T Ure MR Cater 2), Southside Fury FC 0, Marlin Coast Rangers FC 6, Edge Hill United FC 1, Leichhardt SSC 1, Mareeba United FC 6, Stratford FC 2
Men's Second Division: Hmong Cairns FC 9 (S Vang DL Vang 3 L Chang 3 SM Kue 2), Redlynch Gold 0, Dimbulah Barras 1 (LJ Brischetto), Leichhardt FC 2 (MA Scott NS Holmes), Marlin Coast Rangers FC 2 (JM Duff KG Clarke), Innisfail United FC 1 (M Myles), Southside Fury FC 0, Edge Hill United FC 11 (PB Connelly TH Walder-Wolfe 3 S Roberts CJ Smith 2 JM Kleijkamp 4), Stratford FC 4 (SW Carmiggelt LS Phua JT Masters Own Goal), Rattle N Hum Douglas Dragons 5 (LJ Marsh NL Tither CT Nielsen MD Smith DL Mainwaring), JCU Cairns FC 1, Atherton FC 7

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| Men's Premier Senior | | | | | | |
|----------------------|----|----|---|----|----|-------|
| | P | W | D | L | F | A PT |
| Marlin Coast | 12 | 10 | 1 | 1 | 33 | 12 31 |
| Edge Hill | 12 | 9 | 2 | 1 | 53 | 10 29 |
| Stratford | 12 | 8 | 1 | 3 | 29 | 9 25 |
| Mareeba | 12 | 7 | 0 | 5 | 27 | 17 21 |
| FNQ Fusion | 12 | 3 | 3 | 6 | 19 | 25 12 |
| Leichhardt | 12 | 3 | 2 | 7 | 27 | 31 11 |
| Innisfail | 12 | 2 | 3 | 7 | 16 | 23 9 |
| Southside | 12 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 8 | 85 0 |

| Men's Premier Reserve | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----|----|---|----|----|-------|
| | P | W | D | L | F | A PT |
| Edge Hill | 12 | 10 | 1 | 1 | 66 | 16 31 |
| Stratford | 12 | 7 | 3 | 2 | 60 | 14 24 |
| Leichhardt | 12 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 48 | 17 22 |
| Marlin Coast | 12 | 5 | 2 | 5 | 44 | 23 17 |
| Mareeba | 12 | 5 | 1 | 6 | 24 | 26 16 |
| FNQ Fusion | 12 | 5 | 0 | 7 | 32 | 53 15 |
| Innisfail | 12 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 27 | 48 14 |
| Southside | 12 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 7 | 111 0 |

| Men's Premier Under 18 | | | | | | |
|------------------------|----|---|---|----|----|-------|
| | P | W | D | L | F | A PT |
| Innisfail | 12 | 7 | 4 | 1 | 43 | 18 25 |
| Mareeba | 12 | 7 | 2 | 3 | 33 | 16 23 |
| Southside | 12 | 7 | 2 | 3 | 37 | 30 23 |
| Marlin Coast | 12 | 6 | 2 | 4 | 32 | 23 20 |
| Leichhardt | 12 | 5 | 1 | 6 | 14 | 20 16 |
| FNQ Fusion | 12 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 32 | 34 15 |
| Edge Hill | 12 | 2 | 2 | 8 | 14 | 37 8 |
| Stratford | 12 | 2 | 0 | 10 | 19 | 46 6 |

| Ladies Division | | | | | | |
|-----------------|----|---|---|----|----|-------|
| | P | W | D | L | F | A PT |
| Leichhardt | 11 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 58 | 7 26 |
| Stratford | 11 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 50 | 12 25 |
| Edge Hill | 11 | 7 | 3 | 1 | 85 | 11 24 |
| Innisfail | 11 | 6 | 1 | 4 | 46 | 22 19 |
| FNQ Fusion | 11 | 5 | 1 | 5 | 48 | 24 16 |
| Marlin Coast | 11 | 4 | 0 | 7 | 23 | 54 12 |
| Mareeba | 11 | 2 | 0 | 9 | 22 | 50 6 |
| Southside | 11 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 31 | 55 0 |

| Men's Second Division | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----|---|---|----|----|-------|
| | P | W | D | L | F | A PT |
| Edge Hill | 11 | 9 | 1 | 1 | 30 | 10 28 |
| Atherton | 11 | 8 | 0 | 3 | 51 | 14 24 |
| Hmong Cairns | 11 | 7 | 1 | 3 | 53 | 18 22 |
| Marlin Coast | 11 | 7 | 0 | 4 | 40 | 28 21 |
| Rattle N Hum | 10 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 35 | 20 19 |
| Red Maroon | 11 | 6 | 0 | 5 | 31 | 23 18 |
| Leichhardt | 11 | 5 | 0 | 6 | 48 | 30 15 |
| Innisfail | 11 | 5 | 0 | 6 | 37 | 33 15 |
| JCU Cairns | 11 | 4 | 1 | 6 | 28 | 34 13 |
| Dimbulah | 11 | 4 | 0 | 7 | 29 | 29 12 |
| Stratford | 11 | 4 | 0 | 7 | 31 | 45 12 |
| Red Gold | 11 | 4 | 0 | 7 | 28 | 44 12 |
| Southside | 11 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 51 | 18 0 |

Stratford continue winning ways

STRATFORD have continued their march towards a crack at the top two in the FNQ Premier League with a 1-0 win over Mareeba United on Saturday night.

Stratford coach Andre Lohmann said it was the win they need to back up last weekend's victory over the Marlin Coast.

"We got the three points, which is the result we wanted," he said.

After a frustrating period which saw a number of chances go begging, Lohmann said his side could have taken a substantial lead into the half-time break.

In the end, Lohmann was the man to find the back of the net

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in the 55th minute for his side.

Lohmann was particularly pleased with the efforts of his defence, and lauded the efforts of his back four – Ben Columbus, Greg Millward, Neil Mapp and Mitch Bull.

Angelo Serafin was steadfast in the goals, holding out two strong Mareeba chances on goal.

Lohmann admitted the jury was out on whether Mareeba played to their full potential – and still labelled them a finals contender.

Meanwhile, Leichhardt proved

they are deserving of pushing for a finals berth by holding Edge Hill United to a 0-0 draw.

Leichhardt again had the luxury of secondary FNQ Bulls goalkeeper Steven Daangard, who kept Edge Hill's attack at bay.

"It's been brilliant having him back, he's a very good communicator and his guidance is what we need with a few of the young players," coach Adrian Crowe said.

The surprise result kept a glimmer of hope alive for Leichhardt's finals chances, Crowe said.

"It was good to finally get a point against a top-four team," he said.

Finals are in the back of Crowe's

mind, but he admits it will be a tall order.

"Mathematically it's possible, but it's a big ask," he said.

"It won't deter us from pushing all of the top four sides in the last third of the season."

Leichhardt have two winnable games coming up before a tough final stretch in the minor rounds.

"We need to exert some dominance over those teams, it will be critical to gaining some confidence against the top four sides."

Meanwhile, Marlin coast Rangers were too good for Southside Fury, winning 5-3 at Fretwell Park last night.