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QUARTER BY QUARTER



KIMBERLEY DREAM LIVES ON

LATE Perth midfielder Brett Claudius's legacy lives on through every Indigenous kid playing out their footy dreams on the Kimberley pindan.

Claudius's unexpected death nearly two years ago at age 37 rocked the north-west.

As a West Australian Football Commission development officer and co-ordinator for Garduwa, the peak Indigenous body in the region, between 2007 and 2018, Claudius's work in remote communities saved and nourished lives.

Now his memory is being honoured by nieces, Holly, 16, and Zoe Giles, 13, through St Norbert College and the Brett Claudius Kimberley Football Boot Drive.

Holly is one of 10 St Norbert College students travelling to the Kimberley from September 11-17 for an "immersion" in Kununurra. It's a journey the college embarks on every second year, but the 2020 trip will have an emotional edge as Holly retraces the steps of her late uncle.

"My uncle was instrumental in creating football in the



Boots 'n all: Zoe and Holly Giles and, right, Lisa Giles and the late Brett Claudius. Main picture: St Norbert College

communities in the Kimberley. He taught youth about nutrition and health," the Year 10 student said.

"He developed and implemented a Certificate 2 in Sport and Recreation to encourage community kids to go to school. He identified talent for WAFL clubs and helped create safe and trusting pathways for girls and

boys to play footy in Perth. He took teams of boys to Melbourne. Brett got kids exercising and gave them something to love in footy."

Holly aims to collect 500 pairs of boots. "The kids will have beautiful, big smiles and I can't wait to see their excited reactions," she said.

Holly's mum Lisa Giles saw



the difference Claudius, her only sibling, made not only on the football field but in the classrooms of the remote communities.

"Brett loved the Indigenous kids as much as they loved him. He cared so deeply about them and their well-being," she said.

"Brett would drive for thousands of kilometres to help kids through footy. It wasn't just the boots or the footballs the kids received from Brett, but it was the kindness and genuine interest in each and every person.

"Brett not only helped kids but he up-skilled Aboriginal adults about how to be good coaches and how to umpire games. He created mini-networks of people with football

knowledge so that kids could play footy."

Giles said her brother created VET (vocational education and training) pathways for Year 11 and 12s to encourage them to attend and finish high school.

Claudius, who played 43 WAFL games for the Demons between 2000 and 2006, was passionate about closing the gap in education and life expectancy between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians.

Three years before his death, Giles travelled with her brother to Kolkata, India, to retrace their family heritage, and was startled by his observation.

"We had been to a slum and Brett said, it's worse in parts of the Kimberley," she said.

"We need to continue bridging the gap with Indigenous people. Brett was very good at this. He was welcomed into Aboriginal families and this was the key to being able to help and create a healthy environment for sport to be played.

"Having Holly selected as a St Norbert student to travel north means so much more to us than

people understand. It will be a spiritual journey for her and I am sure at times she will feel she is walking in his footsteps.

"She is also travelling with her two best friends from the college who are Aboriginal girls and through these initiatives such as the immersion we can create opportunities for our young city kids to connect with children in remote communities.

"We are all humans and we can all help."

Darcy Coffey, CEO of Claremont Football Club, worked closely with Claudius for more than a decade as the Kimberley is prime Tigers recruiting territory.

"A lot of the kids would not have had any of the opportunities they had without his help," he said.

Boots can be donated up until September 8 at St Norbert College, Treasure Road, Queens Park, or South Districts Touch Association in Manning Road, Karawara or email holly.giles1104@gmail.com.

Lifeline 13 11 14



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HAYDEN Ballantyne has always played "bigger" than his 173cm. He hasn't stopped in retirement, as this Instagram post shows: Borrowed Aaron's clubs for @peelthunder golf day @communityrecyclingwa, in reference to his 211cm former teammate Aaron Sandilands.

In shadow of a Tiger

LIVING in the spotlight of a famous parent is never easy.

But for Charlie Woods, it will be a furnace.

Charlie Woods, pictured with his famous dad after last year's US Masters win, has already started demolishing fields ... at 11 years of age.

Earlier this month, in an event sanctioned by US Kids Golf as part of the South Florida Tour, Charlie shot a three-under 33 across nine holes to win by a lazy five shots.



Ramsden a 2000m gun

JUST weeks after breaking the State 5000m record, West Australian distance gun Matthew Ramsden produced a winning 4min. 55.44sec. on Friday night in Bydgoszcz, Poland, making him the second-fastest ever Australian over 2000m.

That came just a week after he paced Joshua Cheptegei in the 5000m at the Monaco Diamond League, where the Ugandan set a new world record of 12min. 35.35sec.

Meanwhile, registrations are open for the Asics Bridges Fun Run on Sunday, September 6. Go to wamc.org.au for details.



Warnie savours his new spin on success

SHANE Warne called it the alcoholic equivalent of his ball of the century. And gin connoisseurs clearly agree.

The cricketer's WA-made SevenZeroEight 23 gin has taken out Platinum Best of Class at the 2020 SIP Awards, an internationally recognised consumer judging spirits competition

SevenZeroEight 23, a low-alcohol, low-calorie gin, also received the SIP 2020 Innovation Award, while the brand's 43 per cent classic dry gin took home a Gold Medal.

While SevenZeroEight has won several award medals around the world in the past year, the distiller said the SIP Awards were especially important because they are consumer judged.

"It is great to see the gin get so much recognition in our first year. 23 being recognised for innovation and Best in Class is especially exciting, I am glad people are loving the gin," Warnie said.

The awards featured 981

spirits and mixer brand entrants from around the world.

The concept of 23 came from Warnie wanting a mid-strength gin to drink guilt free while enjoying long afternoons watching sport with friends and family.

His number 23 is the inspiration from his days as a St Kilda Under 19s player before he wore it in limited overs cricket. The team formulated a gin-inspired spirit with 23 per cent ABV, less calories and the same taste as the original classic dry.

SevenZeroEight will launch its first pre-mix canned spirit, 23 Mid-Strength Gin & Handcrafted Slim Tonic, 75 Calorie 250ml can, during the Aussie summer.

Warnie said last year the "game changer" was using orange as a garnish, rather than the usual slice of lemon.

The collection was named after the 708 wickets Warnie took at Test level, including his first in a Test on English soil at Old Trafford in 1993.