

TISSOT  
IN THE  
MOMENT

## LECRAS LAPS UP 12 OF THE BEST

► Mark LeCras' celebrated 12-goal haul in 2010, also known as 'Le Dozen', is featured in this week's episode of *In The Moment* on [AFL.com.au](http://AFL.com.au).

The West Coast forward had four on the board by quarter-time of the round 16 clash with Essendon.

By the end of the evening, some 26,000 (mainly Bomber) fans had been witness to the most goals kicked by one player at Etihad Stadium. "At half-time I started

to realise it would be a fair day and they started to clear the forward line out after that," LeCras said.

"Once I got to about 10, I would have been pretty happy if they'd blown the siren."

Teammate Nic Naitanui said it was a game where LeCras simply couldn't miss.

"It wasn't like he was in the goalsquare and we were feeding it to him. He was kicking them from everywhere, around the body, snaps, set shots from 40 and 50 out. It was a goalkicking clinic," he said.

*In The Moment* appears every Tuesday on [AFL.com.au](http://AFL.com.au).

## NEXT WEEK

Melbourne's final quarter barrage to beat Greater Western Sydney.

## THE LIFE OF A LEGEND

### The greatest, hands down

Good books make a difference – and Steve Hawke's biography *Polly Farmer* has done just that.

Twenty years after the first edition was published, Hawke has produced a revised and updated study of the life and times of Graham 'Polly' Farmer, the game's greatest ruckman.

Farmer originally approved the project only on the condition that Hawke agreed to help him create The Graham (Polly) Farmer Foundation.

Driven by the slogan 'Make Your Mark', the foundation now nurtures the dreams of more than 1000 Aboriginal youngsters around the country.

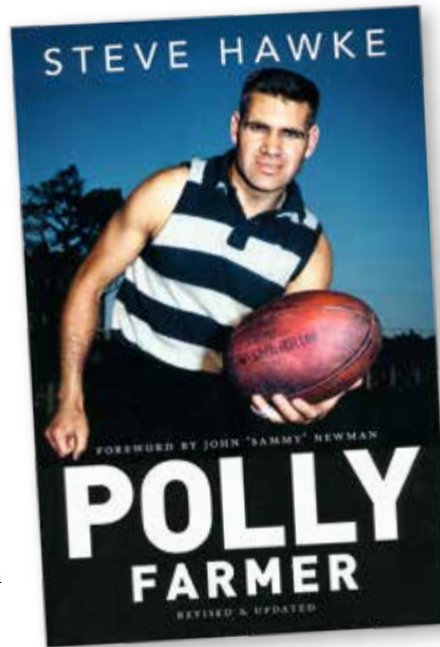
This new edition features a foreword by John 'Sam' Newman, a teammate of Farmer's at Geelong, later an opponent in interstate games and one of his greatest supporters.

Newman has often said Farmer was the best player in the history of the game. He also says here that Farmer was the only player to change the game, with his attacking use of handball.

Newman laments that there is little footage of Farmer in action, but adds that those who had the privilege of seeing him play have "retained indelible images ... (and) it's an exhilarating view".

Hawke's vivid word pictures share this exhilaration, charting Farmer's inspiring journey from a childhood spent in a home for Aboriginal youngsters to football greatness in Western Australia and Victoria.

Hawke, the son of former Labor Prime Minister Bob Hawke, also



## Farmer was the only player to change the game

SAM NEWMAN

reveals the financial problems that forced Farmer to sell his three Sandover Medals and MBE, along with his deteriorating health and battle with dementia.

An added bonus is the afterword (first published in *The Age* in August last year) by former Geelong player Gareth Andrews, who shared details of Farmer's brief but poignant meeting with a group of modern-day Cats. **BEN COLLINS**

*Polly Farmer*, by Steve Hawke, published by Slattery Media Group. RRP \$34.95.

## ROUND 20 MILESTONES

### 150 GAMES



NATHAN FOLEY  
RICHMOND

### 100 GAMES



MATT THOMAS  
RICHMOND

### 50 GAMES



TOM JONAS  
PORT ADELAIDE



TOBY GREENE  
GWS GIANTS

JASPER PITTARD  
PORT ADELAIDE



RORY THOMPSON  
GOLD COAST

JORDAN BANNISTER  
FIELD UMPIRE

This list includes those not necessarily selected but on the verge of milestones.

## EDITOR'S LETTER

► Over the past week, fans have seen first-hand how much emotion players invest in the game.

Jake King and Gavin Wanganeen might have been at opposite ends of the talent scale, but both were adored by the fans of their respective clubs.

A classic 'boy from the burbs' story, King took retirement to a new level last week by joining the Richmond

cheer squad during the game, downing a farewell beer and thanking the Tiger faithful for their support.

Last week, Port Adelaide released vision of Wanganeen being presented with the 2004 premiership jumper he thought he'd given up for good after the Power's historic win.

It was not until the next day he realised it was missing but a decade on, it was found interstate. After the jumper was handed back, the club organised an in-house presentation

to their former champion and recorded the moment on camera.

For a while Wanganeen thought he was receiving a replica jumper but once he discovered it was the real McCoy, he broke down in front of the club's current playing group. Go to [portadelaidefc.com.au](http://portadelaidefc.com.au) and watch how the story unfolded.

What are your thoughts? Email [Michael.Lovett@afl.com.au](mailto:Michael.Lovett@afl.com.au).

MICHAEL LOVETT