

MEMORABLE MATCHES

MELBOURNE v FOOTSCRAY

VCA 1st XI Final played at the Albert Ground on March 20, 21 & 27, 1976. Melbourne won on first innings by 109 runs. Toss: Melbourne. Umpires: KJ Carmody & WJ Copeland.

Melbourne 1st Innings

JK Moss c James b Watson.....	50	–
JG Anderson c Bright b Culph.....	22	–
DJ Broad c Bright b Watson.....	19	–
* AP Sheahan not out.....	189	–
GR Booth b Culph.....	23	–
PR Josephson c Bright b Culph.....	8	
GM Swan c James b Dredge.....	24	
+ CJ Dart run out (Stone).....	4	
IC Hennig c James b Culph.....	13	
R Forsyth b Dredge.....	2	
NW Williams lbw b Watson.....	0	
lb 3, nb 2.....	5	
Total.....	348	

1/20 2/73 3/94 4/172 5/200
6/268 7/280 8/315 9/347 10/348

Bowling: First Innings – Dredge 25-3-97-2; Culph 27-1-140-4; Watson 20-4-70-3; Bright 11-0-36-0.

Second Innings – Dredge 5-0-42-0; Culph 5-0-42-1; Watson 2-0-13-0; Bright 6-1-28-1; Paone 3-2-5-0; Stone 1-0-9-0; Joslin 1-0-1-0; Gray 1-0-6-0; Hansen 1-0-4-0; Nicholls 1-0-4-1; James 1-0-8-0.

Melbourne 2nd Innings

c Stone b Bright.....	83
c Paone b Culph.....	6
c Paone b Nicholls.....	52
not out.....	7
not out.....	16
lb 5, w 2, nb 3.....	10
3 wickets for.....	172
1/8 2/133 3/162	

Footscray Innings

EB Gray c Anderson b Williams.....	1
RC Nicholls c Sheahan b Swan.....	21
KW Stone c Forsyth b Swan.....	15
GA Joslin st Dart b Hennig.....	47
AJ Paone c Swan b Hennig.....	25
RJ Bright c Dart b Williams.....	78
GJA Hansen c Moss b Hennig.....	3
BJ Watson (1) lbw b Broad.....	14
*+LH James (2) c sub (Patrick) b Broad.....	7
AT Culph not out.....	11
PW Dredge (3) b Williams.....	0
B 7, lb 9, w 1.....	17
Total.....	239

1/2 2/33 3/44 4/112 5/115 6/137
7/182 8/193 9/236 10/239

Bowling: First Innings – Williams 23.4-7-60-3; Swan 10-1-39-2; Forsyth 7-0-47-0; Hennig 27-8-40-3; Josephson 3-0-15-0; Broad 6-0-21-2.



(1)



(2)



(3)



Paul Sheahan

One of the great innings in a VCA Final spoilt Footscray's second appearance in a Final, the Bulldogs having previously gone down to St Kilda in 1964/65. Paul Sheahan's century was clearly the decisive innings in the match. Only Bill Lawry's famous 282* for Northcote against Essendon in 1965/66 and Gerald Healy's 230 for Prahran against Collingwood in 1921/22 have topped Sheahan's brilliant, unbeaten 189.

After a brisk start by Jeff Moss – the Demons' first 50 came up in just 39 minutes – Paul Sheahan took over. According to the VCA Annual Report "In an innings of elegance and grace, Sheahan was the complete artist during a brilliant 189 not out and was responsible for his team's commanding first innings total of 348." Although Tony Paone, Graeme Joslin and the tail, led by Ray Bright, fought bravely, the Demons' total was never seriously threatened.

Richmond finished on top after the home and away matches, 17 points clear of second-placed Carlton. In a sensational semi final (previously featured in Memorable Matches), the Demons beat the Tigers by just one run, while the Bulldogs comfortably beat Carlton after Keith Stackpole embarrassingly declared 127 runs behind, only to be asked to follow-on by Lindsay James (the follow-on was 100 runs).

PHOTO QUIZ Answers: Pic A – Des Fothergill. **Pic B** – Jack Watters (left) and Bob Dempster.