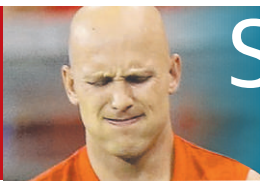




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'YOU JUST GET CHOPPED AND THAT'S IT'
MICK MALTHOUSE'S RAWEST INTERVIEW
P4-5



HOW A BET BROUGHT AB FAB BACK
STYLE MAGAZINE

Government green-lights new plan to ease traffic pain

TUNNEL VISION

TOM MINEAR
MELBOURNE'S second river crossing will today be revealed — a congestion-busting double tunnel running 3km under the western suburbs.
The \$5.5 billion Western Distributor project will see motorists travel underground from Williamstown Rd to the Maribyrnong River and a widened West Gate Freeway. It is expected to save 20 minutes in travel time from Geelong, Werribee and Point Cook into the CBD.
The project follows the decision to dump the East West Link, at a cost of \$1.1 billion to the taxpayer.
Local parkland would also be protected and there would be minimal impact to nearby residents and community facilities, the State Government said.
Premier Daniel Andrews said yesterday the project would create 5600 jobs and slash congestion.
"We're building Melbourne's long-overdue second river crossing," Mr Andrews said.
"The time for talk is over — we are getting these projects done."
The contract to build the Western Distributor will be awarded in late 2017, construction starts in 2018 and is due to be finished by 2022.
FULL REPORT, PAGE 7



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MICK MALTHOUSE OPENS UP ON BEING SACKED, HIS WIFE'S CANCER BATTLE AND WHY HE WILL NEVER COACH AGAIN

I was left vulnerable, without confidence, any sort of confidence



MICK Malthouse has revealed the dark days following his high-profile sacking and the private fight his wife has endured with cancer.

In an exclusive interview with the *Sunday Herald Sun*, the coaching legend has spoken of the self-doubt that engulfed him and his determination to never again put his family under pressure from his coaching job.

Malthouse, 62, said his family was now his priority after that sacking in May last year

COLIN VICKERY

when he was ousted as Carlton coach, after an AFL record 718 senior matches as coach at four clubs, with premierships at West Coast in 1992 and 1994, and Collingwood in 2010.

"As the exterior might seem to be what it is (confident), to lose that job under those circumstances was (devastating)," Malthouse said.

"I was left vulnerable. I was without confidence, any sort of confidence.

"For the first month or so your self-doubt is unbelievable. Then you question how you went with the other 40-odd years of your working life.

"You just get chopped and that's it.

"The media have their piece of you, and the only ones that are with you are your family and dear friends."

Being sacked from Carlton, on top of his controversial exit from Collingwood, was a one-two punch that has clearly made Malthouse rethink his

priorities. It has prompted him to promise never again to put his family under the constant stress of coaching in the AFL.

"I can categorically say I have no interest in coaching again, primarily because I know the effects that it has on my family and has for a number of years," Malthouse said.

"Nanette is recovering from breast cancer.

"It was suggested to her that stress won't give it to you (breast cancer), but it doesn't help.

"I saw the effect (of being an AFL coach) on my family. I'm not going to put her through that (again).

"She has come out of it well and we want to keep her staying that way."

Malthouse said being head coach on Foxtel's TV show *The Recruit*, a 10-week gig, is as close as he wanted to get to a footy field.

"I don't want to work full time," he said. "Not now."

He said Nanette, children Christi, Danielle, Cain and

Troy, and grandchildren Zac, Holly, Lillia, Tom, Grace and Denver, were more important than more trophies in a cabinet. It was time to smell the roses, he said.

"From age 15 to 62 I have been flat out working," he said.

"It (AFL coaching) was all-consuming. You get into the habit of just waking (early) and you think it is normal.

"Life at coaching level was not normal.

"One morning (last July) I slept through (the alarm) and I

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Mick Malthouse with wife Nanette (main); with *The Recruit* contestants; with daughter Christi and grandchildren Holly and Zac; and with the family (above).



had not known what it was like to sleep through for 30 years.

"I get on very well with my children and grandchildren, so it (not coaching any more) gives me more time to spend with them and live life — whether that be coming into the city with my grandchildren, going to the football with my sons, or to the theatre with my daughters.

"I figure after 40-odd years of work that the next phase of my life is things like this (*The Recruit*).

"It only took 10 weeks of filming and it was enjoyable. There was no pressure to win."

The Recruit shows a different, and softer, side of Malthouse. The days of grumpy media conferences are over.

He obviously cares deeply about the futures of these young players.

"It is no accident that the superstars (of AFL) become superstars," Malthouse said.

"It is because of hard work, dedication and a massive want. "One of the things I liked to

do is take people (players) away when they first arrive at the footy club — all the young kids — and just see if you can probe their soul.

"One thing I'm really good at is being able to read the eyes and get through to the soul."

He said every player had a uniqueness about them.

"They may walk shoulder to shoulder with Gary Ablett Jr and go, 'Who am I (compared to him)?' But I would say to them, 'You have an X factor, he hasn't,'" Malthouse said.

"Maybe you tackle harder, handpass better, or kick a longer ball."

Malthouse said he also felt strongly about boundaries for his players.

"There are tram lines (boundaries), and as long as you stay within them — and some players will bounce off each rail — I don't care," he said.

"If you cross over, then we have a discussion. If you treat people as adults, you expect them to act as adults.

"If you treat them as kids they'll act like kids. I never had an alcohol policy.

"They know the rules. If you're injured or it is a short week — you don't drink.

"If I invite a player to my house, and I invited plenty of players, if I knew you were a beer drinker there would be a beer in the fridge.

"There would be a glass with a bottle of wine next to it on the table on a Tuesday or Wednesday night."

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FOX8

THE RECRUIT

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Edgar Degas *Dancers on the stage* c. 1899 (detail) Musée des Beaux-Arts de Lyon
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