

AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE GRAND FINAL

570. Mr A.P. O’GORMAN to the Premier:

Would the Premier please tell the house who he thinks will win the Australian Football League grand final?

Dr G.I. GALLOP replied:

Mr Speaker, I seek your permission to add a scarf to my attire for my answer to this question. I know I speak on behalf of all Western Australians in congratulating the West Coast Eagles on their achievement in winning a position in this year’s grand final. The Australian Rules grand final, played every year at Melbourne Cricket Ground, is one of the great sporting events not only in Australia but also internationally. It is a great thing that one of the teams from Western Australia, the West Coast Eagles, is in that grand final. This morning I took the opportunity to ring the coach, John Worsfold, and congratulate him on his and his team’s great achievement in winning a place in that grand final. Also, I took the opportunity to wish him and his players all the best on this wonderful occasion, the grand final that will be played in Melbourne on Saturday.

Mr Speaker, now can I speak as a West Coast Eagles supporter? Those of us who support the West Coast Eagles have had a magnificent season. We have seen a great team play football at the highest level consistently throughout the season. They are never defeated and they play out the four quarters of football. I am sure that with the skills, commitment and excellent coaching back up they have they will win the grand final on Saturday on behalf of all Western Australians.

I know I can say this today: come on the Eagles!