

Goldfielders – we're simply the best

HAS Goldfields achievement been underrated? In sport, business and also socially, have we produced the best of any other region in the whole of Australia? Are we too humble?

As we take a look at the sports, we have produced some of the best footballers, had world champion billiards players learn their craft here and had the creme de la creme when it comes to horses and jockeys ride the historic Kalgoorlie Boulder Racecourse.

On a business side of things some of the biggest are right here in the Goldfields.

The largest hole in the southern hemisphere creates much of our wealth, mining and exploration companies and support industries to the mining industry we are the best.

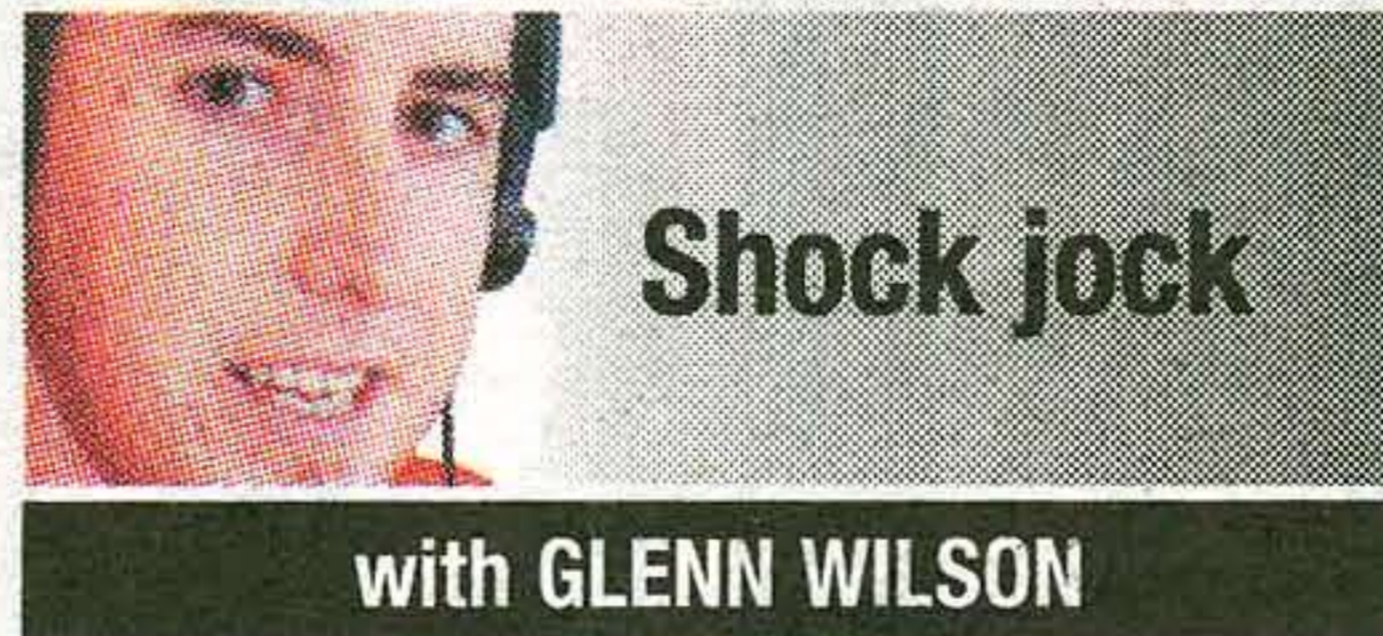
We are at the fore of the state right now as well with the recent award to AVKO Mining in recognition of West Australia's Business of the Year.

Interesting story that AVKO was almost named AVGO as in 'have a go'. Which is what we really do well in the Goldfields.

Then look now at Paul Tennant, who has just been awarded Trainer of the Year as well.

Not only do we have the best business but also now the best trainer.

What can you expect when we all know just



how good we are?

Socially we produce the best party in Australia, something which has been kept a secret for many years – the Kalgoorlie Boulder Race Round.

The course flowing with entertainment, champers, Hollywood tape* and losing betting tickets is a bit of a sideshow to the greatest show on turf. The week just isn't about the horses these days, it's about the romance of the Goldfields hospitality and the way we are the friendliest people.

Goldfielders also have hearts of gold. We love helping charities. Thinking here of Bill Jackson, Jim Fleming, David James and the entire Boulder Rotary Club, raising in excess of \$1.2 million in 22 years for the Boulder Rotary Club Radio Auction.

That in itself can not be duplicated pretty much anywhere in Australia in terms of man hours, donations and dollars raised.

We have ways and means of recognising

our efforts such as the Sporting Hall of Fame, Business Awards and the support of events and fundraisers but are miracles performed under our noses without that sort of recognition?

What about the doctor at the hospital that saved a life? Or the teacher who talked a student into staying at school after realising the potential was there and they went on to become a world leading engineer? Or the police officer who negotiates a potential suicide victim out of the situation?

We have everyday heroes who play sport with a local club, work for a local business, and head to the KBRC on Kalgoorlie Cup Day and give money to charity.

It's their work which goes unrewarded. To a large degree many don't like coverage of their efforts and achievements – something which sits fine with me.

But if there is a good news story out there tell people about it. I'm sick of hearing about war, drugs, violence and politics.

Well maybe not the recent Kevin Rudd story that's a bit funny.

Ordinary bloke on a blinder, something every bloke has done. Well I have been to a strip joint haven't you?

* Hollywood Tape for the uninitiated – tape designed to hold items in ladies' dresses in.