



Speech by

**PHIL REEVES**

**MEMBER FOR MANSFIELD**

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Hansard 30 November 1999

### QUEENSLAND SPORTS AWARD

**Mr REEVES** (Mansfield—ALP) (10.25 a.m.): Last night, along with a number of my colleagues on both sides of the House, I had the pleasure of attending the Sports Federation of Queensland 1999 Queensland Sports Award. The night was to showcase the 1999 Sports Award. The night also was used to present the Queensland sporting heroes of the century. Never before—and, may I say, perhaps never again—will such Queensland sporting legends be in the one place at the one time. Among others in attendance were such legends as Mal Anderson, Lisa Curry, Peter Gallagher, Ian Healy, Joyce Lester, Craig McDermott, Tony Shaw and Vicki Wilson.

I have been to many sporting functions or events but never have I witnessed a longer standing ovation than when the names of the Queensland sporting heroes who were attending were announced. This standing ovation was matched only during the speech of the legend of Queensland sport, Rod Laver.

**Mr Schwarten:** A Rocky boy.

**Mr REEVES:** As the Minister said, he was a Rocky boy. He is a man who epitomises what Queensland sport is all about. He talked about his early days at Rockhampton and the great heights that he has achieved, including his personal triumphs over the past year. I think I speak on behalf of many of the honourable members who were at the Sports Federation awards last night when I say that it was an absolute privilege and an honour to attend and be in the company of such great sportspeople.

The Sports Federation of Queensland, under the guidance of Peter Cumiskey as Chief Executive and his assistants—Nadine Dennis and Ingrid Keates—should be congratulated on putting on what surely must be regarded as the greatest sporting night of the century. To me, one of the highlights of the evening was the fact that we not only acknowledged the great sportspeople of the year and the century but we also acknowledged the great sports administrators, coaches and officiators, volunteers and service to junior sport as well.

The night will stay long in my memory as the night that Queensland sport honoured itself—and so it should—with the successes it has had over a number of years. One point that stands out for me was the number of sportswomen who, either individually or as a team, were nominated or who were successful in the categories of sport. A few years ago, I think the awards would have been dominated by the Rugby League players and cricketers of the sporting world. I believe sport has come a long way in this State. In the year 2000 and beyond the future looks terrific for sport.

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