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Big Jack back where he's happy to speak his mind

OVER the journey, **John Elliott** hasn't been known for taking a backward step, so it comes as no surprise to learn that he is "returning to the scene of the crime", to use a figure of speech, as part of the **Ron Barassi Senior Memorial Debate** in Hobart on July 28. The event is run by the Lord's

Taverners and raises funds for disabled and disadvantaged children. During last year's debate, on the subject "The media has a lot to answer for", the former Carlton president dropped the line: "In my 20 years at Carlton I think we had some people who claimed to have been raped by our players, but not

once did it get into the press. There were only about 20 people writing [football] and they weren't interested in that sort of nonsense. We'd pay the sheilas off and wouldn't hear another word." It was Big Jack who had a lot to answer for and the Blues barred him for the comments.

Unperturbed, Elliott is back for 2010, and will be joining **Ron Barassi Jr**, **Grant Thomas** and **Roy Masters**. The topic? Something to do with "issues relating to the salary cap." Sporting Life is reliably told. We won't be the only ones waiting to hear what an ex-Carlton president has to say on that one.

Got a tip? Contact mhawthorne@theage.com.au