

# ROOSTER REMINISCES

*A look back at a memorable match from each round*

## Round 11

### Season 2007 (Saturday 17 June)



*Clint Alleway and Dean Howard were the standouts in the clash  
Against the Eagles that proved North were “contenders”*

Sometimes a match comes along which is classed as the “line in the sand” moment. A “defining” game. One that a club can reflect back on as a pivotal result for the season. In this very Round back in 2007 North had such a game. It would prove significant in their venture towards a long-awaited premiership.

#### ***The Background***

The **Andrew Jarman**-coaching era was into its 4<sup>th</sup> season and with years of optimism and three final series behind them doubts as to whether North can go the next step further and not only just compete in finals but reach the Grand Final – and even win it – was still debatable around the SANFL circles. North had a plethora of talent by 2007 with names like **Clint Alleway**, **Nick Gill**, **Chris Ladhams**, **Heath Younie**, **Dean Howard** and **Leigh Ryswyk** all established matchwinners and in 2007 the return of the brilliant **Ben Hart** into Roosters colours was a significant positive for the club and supporters. Oh also a new recruit called **Jimmy Allan** was carving up the competition with his ball-magnetism, football brilliance and gut-running commitment. By Round 11 North were again holding a position within the top three on the ladder but a poor performance and loss against bottom-placed Glenelg the week before raised doubts over North to the point that the specific answer was needed. And the question was on the front cover of the Football Budget for the week: *Contenders or Pretenders?* North needed to prove to everyone what they were. And no better time than against the top team Woodville-West Torrens.

#### ***The Match***

In a sign of their attitude North entered the playing field early which *The Advertiser* highlighted:

- “Concerned about the preparation of his squad after a poor build-up against the Tigers, Jarman's changes pre-game didn't stop there. North entered the playing arena much earlier than usual with some players putting fluoro bibs on during a competitive drill and others working on their clearance work with Jarman. It enabled North to take its aggression into the contest and establish a match-defining three-goal buffer at quarter-time.”

North's three goal first quarter lead was a great response to the previous week's effort however with another three quarters remaining the challenge was still on. North maintained the lead as both teams kicked three goals in the second term. North's powerhouse midfielders in **Dean Howard** and **Matt Krieg** were hard in the crunches and **Shane Schubert** was a surprise

goalkicking option up forward. It wasn't until the final term when North powered away with a six-goal last quarter that broke the game open and provided North a 28-point victory. The win placed the club in second position of the ladder and gave them the confidence needed to prove that CAN match it with every other club.

*The Advertiser* was quick to question what it may have been that provoked the club to turn the tables so positively.

- “Contender or pretender? The front page of yesterday's SANFL Budget had been blown up and hung on North Adelaide's changeroom wall for all players to see. And with a hard-fought 28-point victory against Woodville-West Torrens at Prospect, the Roosters answered in a blue-collar fashion not normally linked to **Andrew Jarman's** charges. The North coach's statement certainly had an impact.”

Leading North's assault was the bullocking, tough, rampaging centre-half forward **Clint Alleway** who was a consistent threat up forward and straightened the traffic forward with 15 kicks, eight marks and a scoreline of 3.2. **Dean Howard** was continuing to be a brilliant recruit and gave his teammates first use of the ball while gifted Heath Younie cruised around the ground to become an effective and dominating player that the Eagles could not contain. **Nathan Lonie's** long range clearing kicks from half-back were productive in placing the opposition backs under pressure and **Gavin Grose** was just as defiant next to him at centre-half back. Up forward **Shane Schubert** led the goalkicking to kick 4.1 from his five kicks and the emerging **Michael Wundke** kicked three goals himself.

On Magarey Medal night it was all North Adelaide with **Heath Younie** polling three votes, **Dean Howard** two and the speedster wingman **Leigh Ryswyk** picking up a vote for another great game.

The win was the first of four successive victories and perhaps it helped the club defeat the Eagles during the 2007 Finals series (in which North trailed late in both matches) on their way to their first Grand Final since 1991.

*There were no Statistical records recorded by this match for Round 11*

#### **Match Details:**

North	4.3	7.5	11.7	<b>17.8</b>	<b>110</b>
Eagles	1.4	4.5	8.9	<b>12.10</b>	<b>82</b>
<b>Ground:</b>	Prospect Oval			<b>Crowd:</b>	2,728

**Best Players:** Alleway, Howard, Krieg, Ryswyk, Lonie, Ladhams, Allan, Ivens, Bamford, Grose, Younie

**Scorers:** Schubert 4.1, Alleway 3.2, Wundke 3.2, Younie 2.0, Ladhams 2.0, Allan 1.0, Sporn 1.0, Wintle 1.0, Bamford 0.2, Howard 0.1

#### **The Team:**

F: Shane Schubert, Michael Wundke, Chris Ladhams  
HF: Tim Delvins, Clint Alleway, Darryl Wintle  
C: Leigh Ryswyk, James Allan, Scott Bamford  
HB: Luke Ivens, Gavin Grose, Nathan Lonie  
B: Josh Cubillo, Greg Gallman, Trent Sporn  
1R: Brett O'Hara, Dean Howard, Heath Younie  
Res: Daniel Wakelin, Matt Krieg, Tate Kaesler



*Heath Younie, Shane Schubert and Matt Krieg all played standout roles in North's win against the Eagles in 2007*

**David O'Hara**  
**History Committee**