

# ROOSTER REMINISCES

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

## Round 14

**Season 2007 (Saturday 5 July)**



*Lucas Herbert rejoices in a goal while Danny Morton clears (with Mark Jeffries in assistance) against Port in the big win in 1997*

When is it NOT a good time to beat Port Adelaide is a football match? Never. Ever. And in 1997 it was one of those occasions when North were flexing their muscles midway through the season and proving to their competitors they were a team to be reckoned with. It was a great win for the club yet this match had an off-field incident which created more press coverage than the game.

### ***The Background***

1997 saw a number of significant changes after a disappointing 1996. **Chris McDermott** (coach) and **Jay Viney** (captain) commenced their new positions and North were trying to rebuild with the retirements of **Tim Perkins**, **David Sanders**, **Sean Tasker**, **Brett Mancini** and **Josh Francou** who was selected in Port Power's AFL side. The return of nippy **Danny Morton** (who last played in 1992) from the AFL, the emergence of some uncertain recruits and the faith in young hopefuls seemed to be working as North were playing respectful and quality football. In Round 13 they produced their most momentous victory when they defeated the previously-undefeated and premiership favourites Norwood. The following week they lined up against Port Adelaide who were sitting second on the table. North knocking off the first and second teams in successive weeks would certainly show the SANFL North can match it with the big boys – but not a bet you would have taken.

### ***The Match***

North's 1939 Magarey Medallist **Jeff Pash** tossed the coin for the game as North took on Port at Prospect on a sunny Saturday afternoon. North's confidence from the previous week clearly continued and Port were shell-shocked immediately as North, with their flea-size midfield brigade swarming with speed and zest around their Magpie opponents, immediately gave North's tall timber in the forward lines first use to hit the scoreboard. In a dominant display North kicked six goals to one and led by a surprising 30 points at the first break. Port were a strong team in 1997 and this was demonstrated when they responded in the second term to outscore North six goals to four to leave North entering half time 17-points clear. The game closed up in the third term with

only three goals kicked – all by North while Port's efforts were thwarted by poor shots at goal. With the smell of an upset in the air North took it all before them in a scintillating last quarter full of run, teamwork, dominating in the air and precise goalkicking to finish of the fine play. North's 31-point margin at the last break was in no threat and the Roosters ran away for a comfortable 58 point win.

*The Advertiser* provided a report of the match:

- “After inflicting premiership favourite Norwood's first loss last week, North Adelaide showed it has every right to be considered a flag threat by demolishing Port by 58 points;”
- “The Roosters play quick, skilful, run-on football, their defence is tight and aggressive and they have a trio of strong marking forwards in **Brendon Parker**, **Lucas Herbert** and **Glenn Sandford**.”

Ruckman **Wayne Rosenboom** was a standout with 16 touches, five marks, 21 hit outs to be named best for the red-and-whites. The umpires were also impressed as he was awarded two Magarey Medal votes. Relentless/ fierce backman **Richard Gerke** collected the three votes in his 23-possession rebounding game and the vintage **Brenton Phillips** showed he still wasn't slowing down with one vote in his 23 touches, eight marks contribution while collecting one vote from the umpires. Others that impacted highly were **Daniel Morton** (20 disposals, one goal) scooting around the packs, **Scott Sutherland** (22) repelling out of defence and AFL-listed **Matthew Collins** providing run on a wing.



*Darryl Wintle celebrates a goal while defenders Tim Davis and Mark Hollitt attempt to spoil*

While North's victory deserved praise in SANFL circles and deservedly promoted in the media it was a non-football incident that sparked a media frenzy. *The Sunday Mail* pointed out the event:

- “North's victory was marred only by an ugly incident which occurred behind the northern goal late in the third quarter when a Rooster cheer squad member launched a rock at Port full-back Roger Delaney. The rock struck Delaney just above the right eye.”

North supporters, including those in the Cheers squad, were automatically labelled as the culprit until further investigation (and a couple of days later) it was concluded a 12 year-old male Port supporter was responsible.

But for North it was a win to saviour as they continued their charge towards the finals where they won their Elimination Final against Sturt before their loss to Central District in the 1<sup>st</sup> Semi ended their season in 4<sup>th</sup> position.

#### **Stats Fact**

- North's 20.4 (83.33% accuracy) is their 3<sup>rd</sup> best average in any match (with 10 or more scoring shots). Their most accurate match is 21.3 (at 87.50%) against Glenelg in 2011;
- North's 20.4 (124) is equal 5<sup>th</sup> highest against Port Adelaide at Prospect;
- North's 58-point winning margin is their 3<sup>rd</sup> highest against Port Adelaide at Prospect;

- North's six-goal first term and seven-goal final term equals best first/ last quarters against Port Adelaide at Prospect;

*There were no Statistical records recorded by this match for Round 14*

**Match Details:**

North	6.1	10.2	13.4	<b>20.4</b>	<b>124</b>
Port	1.1	7.3	7.9	<b>9.12</b>	
<b>Ground:</b>	Prospect Oval			<b>Crowd:</b>	4,404

**Best Players:** Rosenboom, Phillips, Lehmann, Gerke, Collins, Morton, Davis, Hollitt

**Scorers:** Parker 4.0, Herbert 4.0, Lehman 3.0, Collins 2.0, Wintle 2.0, Morton 1.2, Hodges 1.1, Jeffries 1.1, Sutherland 1.0, Saunders 1.0

**The Team:**

F: Lucas Herbert, Brendon Parker, Mark Jeffries  
 HF: Darryl Wintle, Glen Sandford, Matthew Collins  
 C: Troy Lehmann, Tim Nunan, Shane Hodges  
 HB: Scott Sutherland, Mark Hollitt, Jay Viney  
 B: Rod Saunders, Tim Davis, Brenton Phillips  
 1R: Wayne Rosenboom, Richard Gerke, Danny Morton  
 Res: Ben Armstrong, Graeme Kellett, Chris McDermott



*Representatives of North against Port in Round 14 (l-r): Danny Morton, Glen Sandford, Darryl Wintle and Matthew Collins*

**David O'Hara  
History Committee**