

ROOSTER REMINISCES

A look back at a memorable match from each round

Round 20

Season 1982 (Sunday 22 August)



Grenville Dietrich diving and grabbing one of his 10 marks against Woodville in Round 20, 1982. Greg McAdam is watching on.

There wasn't a lot of enthusiasm within the SANFL football circles and purists who didn't have some allegiance to either side when North and Woodville clashed at Football Park. However for the two clubs both entered the game with ironic optimism for victory – something both teams had not enjoyed throughout the season. With both teams defence leaking plenty of points and an emphasis of attack high in the SANFL mindset a high scoring game was on the cards. And Football Park indeed saw a surplus of goals (and records breaking) in the stand-alone Sunday afternoon game.

The Background

North started the season positively when they won their first three games for the season. A great win over the more-fancied Sturt in Round One followed by wins over West Torrens and Woodville saw North burst onto the 1982 season with a 3-0 tally. This turned out to be short-lived and by the closing of Round 19 North had only won a further five games. Woodville were clearly bottom but were coming into the clash against North on a winning streak when they kicked 29 goals in their first win for the season against fellow cellar-dwellers West Torrens.

The Match

It was obvious early that attacking was the name of the game and goals aplenty were to be kicked if the opening quarter gave a clear indication. 13 goals were shared between the two teams with North compiling an eight-goal term to lead by 19 points at the first break. The lack of defensive pressure was quickly evident and whoever could obtain control in the centre would give their team a great opportunity to score.

Usually a team kicking 12.1 in a half of football is well-placed for a victory or a tight tussle but for Woodville this wasn't the case. In the same half North had amassed an extraordinary 18.5 and a 40-point lead after a powerful 10.3 second term. North spearhead **Grenville Dietrich** – in his debut season – led the charge as *The Advertiser* reflected:

- “The result was a foregone conclusion by the 15-minute mark of the second quarter when North led by 57 points after a seven-minute burst which yielded six goals – the first three

in three minutes from heavyweight full forward Grenville Dietrich, who finished with eight.”

In fact the quarter was so void of defensive efforts the two teams kicked a combined total score of 105 points – one of five quarters North have been involved in that produced a century aggregate score in the one term!

North continued to win every quarter to kick a grand score of 29.18 and defeat Woodville by 70 points with full forward Dietrich finishing with 8.4. Woodville, to their credit, were always chasing but still kicked 19 goals with their own spearhead, Trevor Pierson, bagging seven goals at the other end.

The Advertiser covered North’s dominating win:

- “North Adelaide and Woodville had some goalkicking practise at Football Park yesterday – watched by a parent-and-friends crowd of 2317” – *The Advertiser*
- “North produced some attractive football, as it should have because Woodville’s resistance often was merely token” – *The Advertiser*
- “The Roosters’ superiority started in and around the centre where ruckman **Mick Redden** and **John Brealey** generally gave their running, creative teammates first use of the ball. And followers **Greg McAdam** and **Wayne Stringer**, rovers **Tony Antrobus** and **David Owens** and centreline trio **Brenton Phillips**, **Bill Lokan** and **Leigh Stanbridge** swept it away with monotonous regularity. They collected kicks so easily they could have been gathering leaves on a stroll through the park. Captain **John Riley**, helmeted **Craig Stanbridge** and sturdy **Steven Molloy** were busy and aggressive defenders and **Alan Stringer** and Dietrich proved dependable focal points in attack, assisted by McAdam, Antrobus and company, who were rampant” – *The Advertiser*

For **Grenville Dietrich** this game was the match that made the SANFL public take notice of his goalkicking ability. After bags of six and five in Rounds 16 and 17 respectively, his 8.4 was his greatest return in his 14 games. And they were primarily scored after a quality mark – either a tough contested effort or a result from a quick and defining lead. He finished with 15 kicks, 10 marks and even provided three handballs. (*For interest Dietrich went even better the following weekend to kick his first 10-goal performance against Torrens*). The mercurial **Greg McAdam**, faultless in skill, ball-reading and elusiveness, was voted North’s best with 23 kicks, seven handballs and 4.1 to highlight his genuine goalkicking ability, while young and speedy **Tony Antrobus**, in his 17th game, gave insight of the football brilliance North fans will thrive on with 17 kicks, 13 handballs and a goal. Others of prominence included ruck-rover **Wayne Stringer** (24 touches), the **Stanbridge** brothers in **Leigh** (wingman – 31 possessions) and helmeted **Craig** (centre half-back – 18 possessions) and **Brenton Phillips** with 25 touches. Tall forward/ ruck back-up **John Brealey** kicked four goals while resting forward while the bustling and busy **Steven Hay** clasped 10 marks but wayward in front of goals finishing with 1.3

While all North fans and players enjoyed the victory coach **Mike Nunan** found an area where he was clearly disappointed in – the umpires. As *The Advertiser* quoted Nunan as stating:

- “These little blokes are giving us a bad name” – Mike Nunan on umpires Rick Charlesworth and Graham Hilton.

However the newspaper followed this up with a tongue-in-cheek reason:

- “Umpires Rick Charlesworth and Graham Hilton may have had difficulty concentrating – excusable, if true, because the empty grandstands exuded as much atmosphere as a game of marbles.”

North used this newly found attacking power the following week with a record-smashing match against West Torrens. (*This will be featured next year in the Rooster Reminisce*) but still ended the season in 8th position. This was also the last season North wore the white “V” before the striped jumpers arrived in 1983.

The match was a statistician's delight.

Stats Fact (All Matches)

- North's 29.15 (189) - 4th highest ever score (over 2200 played);
- 308 match aggregate points - 7th highest achieved in any North match;
- North's 10.3 second quarter - one of six occasions North have kicked 10 or more in a second quarter against any team;
- 105 total points kicked in the second quarter - 5th highest in a North match. Only nine times have North been in a match where 100 points or more were kicked in a quarter

Stats Fact (North at Football Park)

In the 161 games North has played at Football Park this game provided the following:

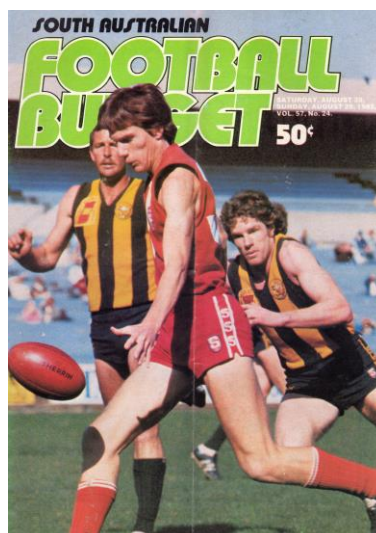
- 29.15 (189 points) – highest score by North against any team;
- 19.5 (119) – 3rd highest losing score against North;
- 308 points – 2nd highest aggregate game involving North;
- 8.2 – 4th highest score for North in a first quarter;
- 10.3 – Highest 2nd-quarter score for North;
- 8.4 (Grenville Dietrich) 3rd highest individual North performance

Stats Fact (North vs Woodville)

- 29.15 (189) – North's highest score;
- 19.5 (119) – Woodville's 6th highest losing score;
- 19.5 (119) – Woodville's 2nd highest score against North at Football Park;
- 308 points – highest aggregate game;
- 8.2 (North) first quarter – equal 2nd highest;
- 5.1 (Woodville) first quarter – equal highest kicked against North at Football Park;
- 10.3 (North) second quarter – highest;
- 70-point winning margin – highest against Woodville at Football Park;
- 7.0 (Woodville) second quarter – equal highest;
- 7.1 (T. Pierson – Woodville) – equal 3rd highest
- 8.4 (Grenville Dietrich) – highest individual performance against Woodville at Football Park

Round 20 Stats Fact

- 29.15 (189) – North's highest score;
- 19.5 (119) – third highest score against;
- 70-point winning margin – equal 4th highest;
- 308 points – highest aggregate game;
- 8.2 (North) first term – highest kicked;
- 10.3 (North) second term – highest kicked;
- 8.4 (Grenville Dietrich) – second highest for North player



The following weekend's SA Football Budget with John Brealey against Woodville in the Round 20 clash (photo SA Football Budget)

Match Details:

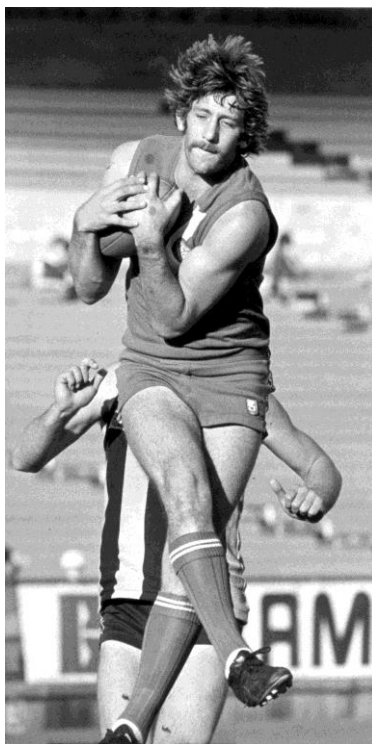
North	8.2	18.5	24.10	29.15	189
Woodville	5.1	12.1	15.3	19.5	119
Ground:	Football Park			Crowd:	2,317

Best Players: McAdam, Antrobus, W. Stringer, J. Riley, Phillips, L. Stanbridge, C. Stanbridge, Dietrich, Molloy

Scorers: Dietrich 8.4, McAdam 4.1, Brealey 4.0, Lokan 3.1, L. Stanbridge 2.1, A. Stringer 2.0, Hay 1.3, Antrobus 1.1, Phillips 1.1, Klomp 1.1, Owens 1.0, C. Stanbridge 1.0, W. Stringer 0.1, rushed 0.1

The Team:

F: John Brealey, Grenville Dietrich, David Owens
HF: Greg McAdam, Alan Stringer, Steven Hay
C: Brenton Phillips, Bill Lokan, Leigh Stanbridge
HB: John Riley, Craig Stanbridge, Michael Armfield
B: Stephen Molloy, Paul Arnold, Trevor Grenfell
1R: Mick Redden, Wayne Stringer, Tony Antrobus
Res: Kim Klomp, Paul Zoontjens



Leading forward – big Grenville takes another grab in Round 20, 1982

**David O'Hara
History Committee**