

ROOSTER REMINISCES

A look back at a memorable match from each round

Round 21

Season 1972 (Saturday 2 September)

18 — SA FOOTBALL BUDGET, 1972

SEPTEMBER 2

SEE THIS GAME TONIGHT FOLLOWING SAT. MOVIE

Football Inquest Pt.1—5:30 Pt.2—6:30

TOTAL FOOTBALL

Unley Oval, 2.20

STURT

(Double Blue)

Goals Kicked

2—CHESSELL, K. C.	
3—WINTER, D. B.	
4—SIMS, T. J.	
5—WILD, G. R.	
7—GREEN, J. H.	
8—BAGSHAW, P. L. (A-C)	
9—SHORT, V. T.	
11—NELSON, P. M.	
12—WHITTAKER, G. R.	
14—BROOKS, C. E. (19th)	
15—FRIEDRICH, P.	
16—ADCOCK, B. C. (A V-C)	
19—GRAHAM, M. W.	
24—DAVIES, E. R.	
25—NUNAN, M. A.	
26—GREENSLADE, M. R.	
27—OTTENS, D. L.	
28—BARTON, R. L. (20th)	
29—ELLIOTT, D. J.	
31—EVANS, I. C.	

1st Qtr. G B Pts.	
2nd Qtr. G B Pts.	
3rd Qtr. G B Pts.	
FINAL G B Pts.	

SCORES CODE: A. Torrens, B. Woodville, C. Port, D. Centralis, E. Glenelg, F. South, G. West, H. Norwood; J. Sturt, K. North.

NORTH ADELAIDE

(Red and White)

Goals Kicked

2—VON BERTOUCHE, T.	
3—STRANG, G.	
6—PAULL, G.	
9—STRINGER, B.	
10—ROBRAN, B. (A V-C)	
11—LEHMANN, K.	
14—HEARL, B.	
15—HOWARD, A.	
16—ROBINSON, J.	
17—BARR, K. (Res.)	
18—REBECK, A.	
20—ROBRAN, R.	
21—COLLINS, T.	
24—O'SHEANNESSY, R. (Res.)	
26—SPORN, G.	
27—JAWORSKYJ, B.	
29—HAMMOND, R. (A-C)	
30—SACHSE, D.	
36—MARSH, D.	
38—SPRY, J.	
40—FORD, R.	

1st Qtr. G B Pts.	
2nd Qtr. G B Pts.	
3rd Qtr. G B Pts.	
FINAL G B Pts.	

UMPIRES — 1. R. Bennet, 4. M. Ducker, 5. D. Foster, 7. P. Mead, 9. M. O'Connell.

The South Australian Football Budget team list page for the Round 21 minor round match in 1972 between North and Sturt

The final round of the 1972 season left three of the four finals-bound clubs battle for the one remaining double chance positions available. The other double chance position was already cemented by top-of-the-table North Adelaide. Before days of players being rested, byes prior to finals to freshen players and dubious late-season selections 1972 saw clubs continue to put their best team on the ground week in, week out until the final siren. North went into their last minor round match with no risk of movement on the premiership table and with the best available list... and stamped their authority that showed the other competitors the Roosters were ready for the pointy end of the season!

The Background

After winning the 1971 premiership the thought of the Roosters going back-to-back gained momentum as the season progressed. Early pacesetters Central District led the premiership table for the majority of the season but dropped to 4th by the last minor round. North, slowly working their way into the season after a couple of early losses, grabbed top spot after Round 17 before a massive 77-point drubbing by fellow premiership threat Port Adelaide in Round 20 left some questions to be answered in North's quest for glory. A response was needed against their Round 21 opponents Sturt (at Unley) who would finish 5th just outside the Top Four no matter the result.

The Match

North immediately went out to atone for the previous week's loss with a comprehensive opening term when they hit the Unley Oval ground running. Leading the first quarter barrage was the likeable and man-mountain **Dennis Sachse**, who was back into career-best form after missing all of 1971 and causing too much for the Sturt defenders. Kicking two goals early he set the avalanche of a seven-goal to one first term that completely broke the game wide open. North continued with another seven-goal second term however Sturt had settled and also kicked eight goals in a 99-point scoring feast between both teams in the quarter. The energised **Barry Hearl** was running rampant around the forward lines while the brilliant **Barrie Robran** was nonchalantly dictating terms of the match at will. In fact *The Advertiser* was not backward in assessing Sturt's first term:

- Sturt, after an opening quarter of sideways kicks and pussy passes..."

The second half initially belonged to Sturt who counter-pouched to win the third term to leave the Roosters nine-points clear with a term remaining. Any thought the red-and-whites would allow Sturt any glimpse of victory was quickly vanquished with a belligerent display of merciless football which could not prepare the club to the following week's finals action any better. The 9.3 to 1.4 term torn shreds off the double blues and bestowed North a whopping 55-point winning margin. As *The Advertiser* quipped:

- "North rammed on nine goals to put the precocious Sturt back in its place."

Sachse was the star of the Norths with a personal 9.2 from his 11 kicks and eight strong marks. He was the main feature in *The Advertiser's* report of the game:

- What a huge hand that man-monolith Dennis Sachse will take in shaping the next month's football future was as clear as the September sunshine on Saturday. The 108-kilogram full forward kicked one behind more than his side's 55-point margin over Sturt at Unley - and showed that he'll be as hard to budge as the Cocos Islands King. Sachse shed experienced defenders Paul Bagshaw and Keith Chesell like water from a duck's back whenever he wafted across from his pocket to clasp those might hands around the ball.

Sachse lifted his season goal tally to 62 goals for the season and was ably supported in the scoring frenzy by versatile and clever half-forward **Barry Heal** who helped himself to a 5.2 handful. *The Advertiser* featured their dynamic duo domination over the Sturt defenders:

- "North's full forward set-up had Sturt completely fozzled. Sachse had two goals from his pocket before the Blues saw the light but dummy goalsneak **Barry Hearl** led the defenders a merry dance throughout - giving Sachse a paddock... to cultivate;"

Around the ground North also had players executing commanding displays that rattled the opposition. Leading the charge, as he often did, was **Barrie Robran** who initially lined up at centre half-forward yet moved around the ground to provide support to his colleagues. Collecting 30 kicks, nine marks, 11 handballs and seven hit-outs Robran was in scintillating form as, once again, *The Advertiser* could not let lie:

- And further down the field Sachse had the unsurpassable Barrie Robran doing the farming - handing out scoring opportunities like how-to-vote cards on election day. Directions which Hearl..., rover **David Marsh** and follower **Bob Ford** took full advantage of."

Marsh collected 23 disposals and three goals, Ford 20 kicks while centre half-back Bohdan Jaworskyj was defiant in defence negating many Sturt quests forward with eight marks and 15 kicks.

History will show the loss to Port in Round 20 was only a mirage to the incredible late-season performances of North Adelaide who would go on to win their two finals and take out the premiership before also adding the Champions of Australia trophy for the club cabinet.

NORTH ADEL.	GAMES Career	Year	PLAYERS	KICKS 1st Q.	2nd Q.	3rd Q.	Final Q.	Match Total	HIT OUTS	HEAD- BALL	FOES FOR	MARKS	GOALS	POINTS
	6	6	J. SPRY	2	1	1	1	5	15	2	2	1	1	1
	67	15	D. SACHSE	5	2	1	2	10	11	2	1	1	9	2
	10	10	D. MARSH	5	2	1	2	10	16	1	1	1	1	1
	55	13	B. HEARL	5	2	1	2	10	7	1	1	1	1	1
	119	17	B. ROBRAN	2	1	1	2	6	7	4	1	1	2	2
	20	13	A. REBBECK	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	1	1
	139	16	J. ROBINSON	2	1	1	2	6	1	1	1	1	1	1
	20	11	T. COLLINS	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	1	1
	37	17	B. STRINGER (DID NOT PLAY)	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	1	1
	15	15	G. STRANG	4	2	1	2	9	1	1	1	1	1	1
	142	18	B. JAWORSKYJ	4	2	1	2	9	1	1	1	1	1	1
	28	13	A. HOWARD	3	2	1	2	8	1	1	1	1	1	1
	169	18	G. PAULL	3	2	1	2	8	1	1	1	1	1	1
	27	7	R. FORD	2	1	1	2	6	1	1	1	1	1	1
	219	17	R. HAMMOND	2	1	1	2	6	1	1	1	1	1	1
	37	17	G. SPORN	1	1	1	1	4	20	1	1	1	1	1
	31	9	B. ROBRAN	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	1	1
	116	20	T. VON BERTOUCH	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	1	1
	103	21	K. BARR	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	1	1
	9	2	R. O'SHANNASSY (ON LAST 2)	1	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	1	1
	11	5	R. SCHUBERT (OFF LAST 2)	3	3	2	1	9	1	7	1	1	1	1
			* GAMES WITH CURRENT CLUB ONLY											
			TOTALS	57	55	46	61	219	45	62	21	61	25	14
			Umpire: M. DUCKER											
			ATTENDANCE: 7,544											
			OVAL: UNLEY											
			CONDITIONS: GOOD											

North Adelaide's stat sheet from Monday's *The Advertiser* shows how recording of the match details have changed so much in recent years.

Stats Fact

- North's 25.14 (164) – 5th highest ever against Sturt and their 2nd highest score at Unley Oval;
- Sturt's 15.19 (109) – 4th highest ever losing score against North and 2nd highest losing score against North at Unley Oval;
- North's 55-point victory – 5th biggest at Unley Oval;
- The 273-point match aggregate – 2nd highest between the two teams in any match;
- North's 7.6 1st quarter – 2nd highest at Unley Oval
- North's 9.3 4th quarter – best 4th quarter scores in any match,
- Dennis Sachse 9.2 – second best individual score by a North player at Unley;

Round 21 Stats Fact

- North's 25.14 (164) – 2nd highest score kicked;
- Sturt's 15.19 (109) – 2nd highest ever losing score against North;
- 55-point winning margin – 5th biggest;
- 273-point match aggregate – 2nd highest;
- North's 7.6 first quarter – 2nd highest;
- North's 9.3 4th quarter – equal highest;
- Dennis Sachse's 9.2 – second highest by a North individual (behind Grenville Dietrich's 10.4 in 1982)

Match Details:

North 7.6 14.10 16.11 **25.14 164**

Sturt 1.4 9.9 14.15 **15.19 109**

Ground: Unley Oval **Crowd:** 7,544

Best Players: B. Robran, D. Sachse, R. Ford, Jaworskyj, Hearl, Marsh

Scorers: D. Sachse 9.2, Hearl 5.2, Rebbeck 3.2, Marsh 3.1, R. Ford 2.3, Collins 2.0, Robinson 1.0, von Bertouch 0.1, B. Robran 0.1, rushed 0.2

The Team:

F: John Spry, Dennis Sachse, David Marsh

HF: Barry Hearl, Barrie Robran, Adrian Rebbeck

C: John Robinson, Terry Collins, Rick Schubert

HB: Geoff Strang, Bohdan Jaworskyj, Alan Howard

B: Geoff Paull, Robert Ford, Bob Hammond

1R: Garry Sporn, Rodney Robran, Terry von Bertouch

Res: Kevin Barr, Bob O'Shannassy

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Despite coaching the NAFC Mike Patterson also found time in 1972 to promote some KFC!

**David O'Hara
History Committee**