

A reflection into the club and its players from a different perspective through snippets of yesteryear

Round 16 Edition

"The Mail" - Saturday 1 October 1949

"Jeff Pash, North half-forward flanker and 1939 Magarey Medallist, led North onto Adelaide Oval for today's Grand Final because it was his last - and 137th - game in 12 seasons. Pash, veteran of the day at 33 years, announced before the game that he had finished. His appearance, carrying the team's mascot at the head of Ian McKay, was a drastic change, as he had been notorious for being last man on to the field - and nearly always last off. It was fitting that after such valuable service he should have been carried shoulder high from the field by an enthusiastic supporter."

Sunday Mail Sunday 21 August 1960

"Officially approved runners operated for the first time in league matches today... the new runners wear armbands and are permitted to carry messages to players during a game. It was decided to approve official runners to stop the practice of teams sending out trainers with messages under the guise of treating injuries."

North Adelaide Football Club Annual Report 1983

"The North Adelaide Football Club is most grateful to John's (Phillips) employer, Stanlee (Adelaide) who generously made available a prestigious trophy to perpetuate the memory of John. This trophy will stand in a specially prepared area within the Roosters Club. The winner of the inaugural trophy was Anthony Antrobus. Anthony's name has been inscribed on the trophy and he and all other future winners will receive a replica."

From The Quotebook...

"The injury to young Malcolm Kirk was a result of incompetent umpiring" - Barrie Robran (Round 12, 1974 v Woodville)

"Bunyip" - Friday 18 July 1890

"On Saturday the Gawlers journeyed to Kensington to fulfil their engagement with the Medindie club. The weather was wretchedly bad, and after the Gawlers had 'stripped' and were in the field the Medindie captain refused to play, and appealed to the umpire, Mr. McIntyre, who acquiesced, and would not sanction the game owing to the bad state of the weather and the grounds, notwithstanding the fact that the Gawlers had a fully representative team on the field practising the keep themselves warm. When the result was made known to the Gawler players it was received with great dissention, and references were made to the Victorian Association, where engagements are kept whether playing in a lake or in a mud puddle."

"The Advertiser" Monday 4 July 1932

"The most recent addition, Parnell, played his first match on Saturday. Although strongly built, he showed pace at times. He came from Curramulka on the enthusiastic recommendation of H. Hawke and should be a valuable acquisition when he becomes accustomed to the team and turf. North officials saw him for the first time when he entered the clubrooms on Saturday."

South Australia National Football League Football Budget - A Recollection



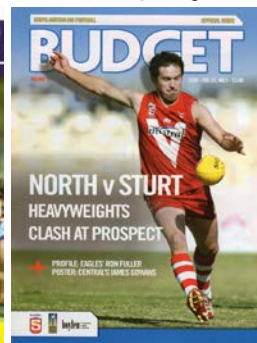
Rd 12, 2004



Rd 2, 2007



Rd 18, 2007



Rd 2, 2008



Rd 11, 2008

**"The Advertiser"
Wednesday 21 April 1926**

"North Adelaide have decided to sell club badges for 2/6 each, but the holder is not entitled to any privileges. Only those who pay the 12/6 for the badge and ticket combined will be entitled to a vote at the annual meeting. Also it has been decided that all those who are life members of the club will be issued with a badge and ticket which will enable them to go to the 14 club matches and also entitle them to a vote."

"Football Times" July 10 1980

"Craig Stanbridge had to change club to get a chance in senior football. After three frustrating years at Norwood he crossed to North at the beginning of this season to crack the big time. An injury in the last trial game cost him a place in the senior side for the opening round but he lined up for his first league appearance the week after against Glenelg at Brighton Road. And what an exciting debut. Playing at centre half-forward he booted six goals in a losing side and was rated North's second best player behind Peter Cloke. Stanbridge found it difficult to believe he had finally got his chance.

"I was stunned and it didn't register until the Sunday that I had kicked six goals, he recalled. "The night after the game I was at Malcolm Ellis' 21st birthday party and everybody was offering congratulations but it hadn't sunk in."

"It was a tremendous experience when it did dawn that I was a league player at last."

Stanbridge originally joined Norwood from Campbelltown in the Norwood-North Association in 1976 at a time when the Redlegs had an abundance of talented forwards. He played Reserves football for three seasons without getting a chance in league company.

One facet of his football that he is working hard on is his ground play – an added bonus for any centre half-forward who can master this skill. Stanbridge works with SGIC as a work study analyst. He is a keen follower of all sports and for relaxation enjoys a game of basketball and soccer."

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From The Quotebook... 1954

"Three times in my football career I have had to go off the field during a match - and each time it has been against Port Adelaide" - Ian McKay

"The Advertiser" Monday 8 July 1940

"The ways in which the hero-worshipper expresses admiration for the object of his esteem are many and, apparently, devious. When Ken Farmer kicked his 17th goal for the match at Prospect Oval on Saturday the ball landed in the crowd on the mound. There was a vigorous scuffle for the ball with which the forward had beaten his own record. A man, who prematurely considered himself the luckiest man on the ground, gained possession and, ball under arm, began a determined dash for the nearest exit. For few beatific seconds he knew the thrill of possession of the successful souvenir hunter. Then a Rugby-like tackle by an equally determined Farmer fan brought him crashing to earth. The treasure forgotten in the surge of ire which followed, tackled and tackler found vent for their feeling in a prolonged bout of fisticuffs. Another ball was obtained by the umpire, the game continued, and the crowd, delighted by the return in entertainment for its admission fee, divided its attention between the fighting hero-worshippers on the mound and the rain of goals from Farmer's boot in the arena. This vigorous outburst of enthusiasm on the part of the two souvenir-hunters deserved better results than it obtained, for neither gained possession of the ball. The trophy was repossessed and the North Adelaide club will have it mounted, inscribed, and presented to Farmer."

From The Newspapers Match Report Quotebook

Rodney Robran (1977, Rd 3 v Wv)

“Rodney Robran is tremendously talented, vigorously effective and an intelligent ‘reader’ of a game. In 115 appearances for North Adelaide these facets have tended to become obscured by magic, artistry, and genius of his elder brother Barrie. However there were all evident at Prospect Oval on Saturday when Rodney emerged as a personality in his own right” – *The Advertiser*

Johnny Boras (2011, Rd 13 v GI)

“... in 20-year-old man mountain Boras, North fans have another imposing full forward in the tradition of Grenville Dietrich and Daniel Hargraves to get excited about. Boras kicked eight goals straight, handed off three others and seemed to inspire dropped Power forward Daniel Motlop who kicked 4.0 of his own” – *Sunday Mail*

Peter Anderson (1964, Rd 20 v WA)

“North Adelaide’s Peter Anderson, 18, got his 8.1 against West... as if he were trying to revive the full forward’s lost art. Without Anderson North’s eight-point defeat could have been a 10-goal rout. For a first-year player his feat was remarkable... he was playing ahead of losing half-forward and centre lines, the ball was greasy... and none of his goals came from frees. Six came from marks... and the other two were snapped – one with his left foot from near a forward pocket boundary as he was forced away from goal. In the last quarter... Anderson was deliberately struck on the head but this didn’t stop his standing in drizzle after the game to sign autographs” – *The Advertiser*

Tom Leahy

“Who was primarily responsible for the northerners win? The answer can be given in one word – Leahy. Those who watched his generalship and his play in that final term when excitement was at its highest pitch, and when the players themselves were many of them overwrought with the thrilling passages in the dying moments, must have been captivated by the sterling work of the North skipper... Leahy knocked out with superlative ease and precision and constantly set his rovers dashing off towards goal” – *The Mail* (1921, Rd 14 v WT)



“Of all the players in this afternoon’s game, first mention must be made of the reds’ captain, T. Leahy, who further substantiated the claim that he is the finest ruckman in the Commonwealth. The reds owe a great part of their success to the indefatigable and skilful play of the genial giant, than whom there is no fairer player in the League, although he has always a lot to contend with” – *The Mail* (1919, Final Replay v WT)

“Tom Leahy, as usual, carried the side on his shoulders. He was roughly handled in the ruck but he came out triumphant. He got the knock out almost every time in spite of the fact that he followed all through and took some magnificent marks” – *The Mail* (1915, Rd 13 v SA)

“As usual, Leahy was a big factor in the ruck, where he worked in his usual willing manner. The northern captain’s effectiveness nowadays lies not so much in the fact of his handling the ball himself as of affording chances to others to do so. He brought down several marks in his old-time fashion, one of them being that from which he kicked his goal” – *The Mail* (1920, 2nd Final v WT)

“A feature of the match was the excellent performance of Leahy. The veteran northern captain had displayed form during the season considerably below that for which he was responsible in previous years. This afternoon, however, he seemed to have regained most of the effectiveness which so distinguished him of yore. In the air Leahy brought off many of the marks for which he is noted, while his ground work was far ahead of that in other engagements this season. Whenever he handled the ball – which was often – he always did something useful with it. Altogether he showed today that he was not only an admirable tactician, but a first-rate player. The success of this side was in no small measure due to his fine performance” – *The Mail* (1920, Final v Nw)

“He (Tom Leahy) knocked out brilliantly and marked over everybody. Once he held the ball high over his head from the crowd (pack), but generally it was allowed to slide down his arm as usual” – *The Register* (1910, Rd 9 v WA)

“Even those who knew T. Leahy at his best were surprised at some of the marks he pulled down, and with such examples as these it was no wonder that the whole team was reinvigorated” – *The Advertiser* (1913, Rd 9 v St)

From The Newspapers Match Report Quotebook

Brendon Parker (1999, Rd 1 v Nw)

"In Brendon Parker, playing his first game back since knee surgery, North has an answer to its most glaring deficiency of last season - a target in the forward lines. Parker marked strongly and booted four goals to give North's band of fleet-footed runners something to aim at ahead of centre" – *Sunday Mail*

Bob Geisler (1963, 1st Semi v WA)

"But if any one man settled the issue it was Geisler, who not only kicked three goals, but relentlessly created chances for his team by brilliant ball-handling and deadly foot-passing;" "North's unobtrusive half-back flankers, Farrell and Coppins were sound, Sutter solid, and Knuckey, as is customary, carried the stamp of class in the back pocket" – *The Advertiser*

Peter Cloke (1975, Rd 12 v CD)

"But the star of the show, catching and holding the spotlight from overture to curtain-down, was centre half-back Cloke whose marking may not have reached the dizzy heights of Robran and Stringer but outstripped them for sheer strength and consistency" – *The Advertiser*

Bohdan Jaworskyj (1976, Rd 19 v Wv)

"Dwarfing all else during the afternoon was the dominance of North ruck-rover and half-forward Bohdan Jaworskyj. A seemingly nonchalant air and unruffled ease characterised his every movement as he bewitched his opponents for four quarters. Although there was nothing classical about his style, he was busy and persistent" – *The Advertiser*

James Allan

"There's whispers around the SANFL that some teams are happy to let Jimmy Allan run loose because his weekly mountain of 'cheap kicks' doesn't hurt them. After yesterday, Sturt is not one of them. By design or by blunder, the Double Blues gave Allan room to run... and the triple Magarey Medallist made them pay with a superb solo performance... The numbers are hardly staggering for Allan's typical output – 37 disposals, 12 clearances, three marks, seven inside 50s and two rebounds... But as for not hurting the Double Blues? Yeah, Allan was as weak as a belt across bare bum cheeks" – *Sunday Mail (2012, Rd 7 v St)*



"Last year's Magarey Medallist James Allan again led the charge with 29 solid possessions. He set a good example for the next generation of red-and-white stars such as Cohen Thiele and Todd Pfeiffer who put their bodies on the line against a wasteful West" – *The Advertiser (2008, Rd 23 v WA)*

"Fittingly it was best-on-ground James Allan who sealed it for North Adelaide, roving a deft tap from a boundary throw-in to stroll to 50m and put the Roosters 15 points clear with less than three minutes to play. Allan ended the match with a whopping 42 disposals, but this was more than just a show of accumulation" – *Sunday Mail (2011, Rd 10 v WWT)*

"Magarey Medallist James Allan was back to his hard-working best, not only earning 19 possessions in the first half but making sure almost every touch was constructive. After setting up two goals in the opening term, Allan's lead was followed by team-mates Rhys Archard" – *Sunday Mail (2009, Rd 21 v Nw)*

"The return of Magarey Medallist James Allan inspired the Roosters, despite him still carrying obvious pain from his hip injury and suffering from the 28C heat that made him physically ill at half-time. Allan managed to create magic throughout the midfield, in one instance kicking across his body from the forward pocket to find an available player in Rory O'Brien on the edge of the goalsquare" – *The Advertiser (2008, Rd 4 v PA)*

"Magarey Medal winner James Allan showed no ill-effects after being concussed last week. He racked up 42 possessions, nine marks, eight inside 50s, seven clearances, a couple of goals. He most likely pocketed three Magarey Medal votes, despite being in the losing side" – *City North Messenger (2011, Rd 20 v Nw)*

"Despite the loss, James Allan, who gathered 43 possessions, continued his form as the competition's leading ball winner. Allan was North's best, alone with Matthew Wright (29 possessions). The pair was prolific at the stoppages, but their side's midfield brigade failed to share the workload" – *City North Messenger (2011, Rd 4 v WWT)*