



**COMING UP**

# FOOT-e TIMES SA

## ROUND 19 ISSUE

**FEATURE STORY**

**WHAT WE LEARNT FROM ROUND 18**

**PLUS THE MOST COMPREHENSIVE  
ROUND 19 PREVIEWS**



# FIGHTBACK 5000



*Let's double our Double Blues*  
[sturtfc.com.au/membership](http://sturtfc.com.au/membership)

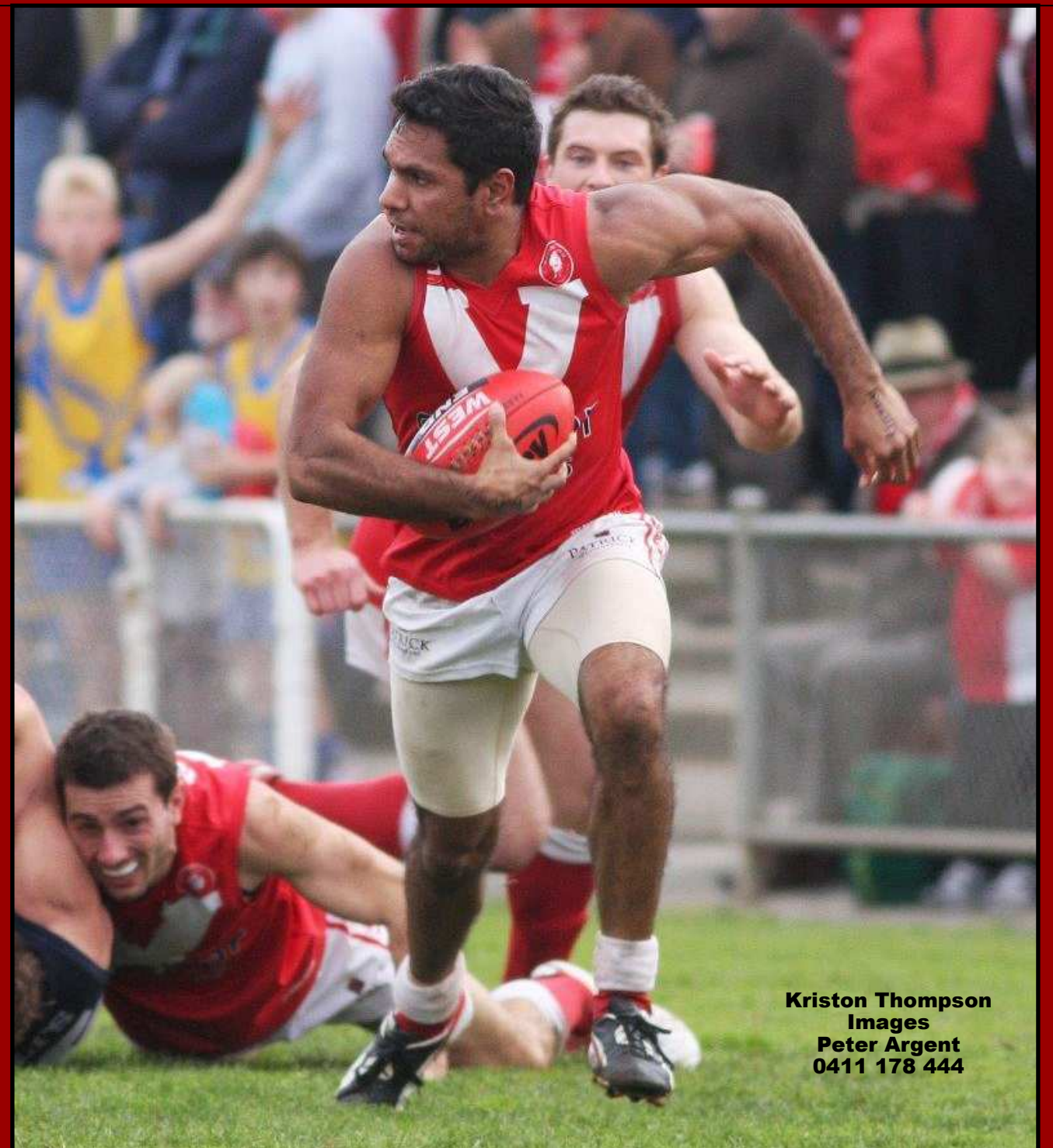
# FOOT-e TIMES SA

*Committed To Comprehensive Coverage of South Australian Football*

**2013 Issue 19 (Part 1) : Thursday August 1**

## RAMPAGE!

**ROOSTERS LEAVE SOUTH IN THEIR WAKE**



Kriston Thompson  
Images  
Peter Argent  
0411 178 444





# FOOT-e TIMES SA

# WELCOME



## FOOT-e TIMES SA OBJECTIVES

Important issues in South Australian Football will be covered in detail.

There will be a diversity of opinions with every club perspective covered.

Reader contributions will be encouraged

We will have the most comprehensive SANFL Game Previews

We will be a one stop shop for SANFL statistics and media coverage

There will be solid coverage of football beyond just the local SANFL league competition

We will ensure there is regular recognition of our state's football history & heritage.

## THE FOOT-e TIMES SA TEAM

**Phil Herden**  
**Peter Argent**  
**Phil Aspinall**  
**Don Cooper**  
**John Nankivell**

## CONTACT US

E-mail: [footetimes@gmail.com](mailto:footetimes@gmail.com)

## PLEASE NOTE

FOOT-e TIMES SA is NOT an official publication of the SANFL or any of its clubs and any opinions carried within this publication should not be taken as those of the SANFL or any of its clubs.

All images courtesy of Peter Argent & available for sale.

## 2013 ROUND 18 EDITION

Thursday August 1st 2013

## CONTENTS (Full Issue)

### FEATURE SECTION (PART ONE)

3) Welcome

5) Feature Story by Peter Argent  
SANFL's Under 18 Class of 2003

13) What We Learnt

18) ALF Reserves Update

24) Coming Up

### PREVIEW SECTION (PART TWO)

26) Photo Essay

28) Norwood v Port Preview

32) Glenelg v Eagles Preview

36) Central v North Preview

40) West v Sturt Preview

44) Individual Stats Leaders

47) Team Stats Rakings

49) Quarter By Quarter

50) Last Week Wrap

51) Injury List

52) Foxtel Cup

54) State Of Play

55) Arrangements

56) 2013 Schedule & Results

58) Media Watch / Tipping Ugly



**Peter LW Argent**

Freelance Photojournalist

Managing Editor - Barracker Publications

[pla.wordsmith@bigpond.com](mailto:pla.wordsmith@bigpond.com)

0411 178444

(08) 82978448

Sports, travel & wine writer - award winning photographer  
graphic design - book design & publishing - author

## TAKE IT ... OR LEAVE IT?

It has been a crazy 48 hours in South Australian Football as the AFL Reserves issue hits the final straight (at least for 2014).

Things are emerging at such a rapid rate it is actually hard to get a firm fix on things.

For those SANFL fans living under a rock we will include in this issue the facts as presented to us.

So far the basic outcomes appear to be.

: There will be no change in the current Port Adelaide structure, or at least until the end of 2014 when the One Club agreement ends.

So the Magpies as they currently stand with their zone etc will stay.

: The Crows meanwhile appear to have a back up plan of the SAAFL all organised.

They are then using the threat of competing direct with the SANFL with weekly games at Thebarton Oval to demand not only a decision within 2 weeks but unanimous approval from the SANFL directors.

: Despite only having 10 days to decide, key elements of this proposal including how players in this 10th side will be topped up remain unresolved.

Throw in links to the Adelaide Oval stadium deal and AFL licence sale and there is a lot to be worked through in upcoming weeks.

Through this time FOOT-e TIMES SA will do our best to give a SANFL perspective on matters.

As further reduction of media coverage of the league looms likely in a Crows reserves environment we have also updated our tag line.

It is now 'Committed to Comprehensive Coverage of South Australian Football.'

We have added the "Committed" to emphasise that in this time of great change we are not going anywhere.

**Phil Herden**  
**FOOT-e TIMES SA**

**THE GREATEST FOOTY CLUB RAFFLE OF ALL TIME**

**KEEPING SA FOOTY FOUNDATIONS STRONG**

**IGA** **maughan thiem** **Lifestyle SA** **VENTURE HOLIDAYS** **malaysia airlines** **Fairmont Homes** **Retirement living at its absolute best.** **7** **FIVEaa** **The Advertiser**





# Round 18: West v Sturt

## 1983 Premiership Reunion Day

### CELEBRATING 30 YEARS

# SATURDAY 3RD AUGUST 2013

## RESERVES 11:25AM | LEAGUE 2:10PM

### CITY MAZDA STADIUM - 57 MILNER ROAD, RICHMOND

## '83 PREMIERSHIP PLAYERS WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE CROWD PRIOR TO THE LEAGUE GAME!

- BAR FACILITIES • BBQ & CANTEENS • MERCHANDISE •
- FAMILY FRIENDLY AREA WITH JUMPING CASTLE •

THANK YOU TO OUR HOME MATCH PARTNER:



## FEATURE STORY



### SANFL'S UNDER 18 CLASS OF 2003

By Peter Argent

After this season's unparalleled success at state Under 18 level, I thought it would be interesting to travel back 10 years and see what has happened to the class of 2003.

A decade ago, back in the 2003 national campaign, the South Australia Under 18's were coached by former South Adelaide footballer and Tasmanian Hall of Fame inductee, Darren Trevena.

It was captained by David Kellett, who would win back-to-back All Australian Under 18's honours, but despite being touted as a Greg "Diesel" Williams type of midfielder, he was never drafted. He played a handful of SANFL league games, but drifted around in SA country football for the majority of the next decade.

His deputy was Luke Nitschke, a Norwood stalwart who played at The Parade over the greater part of the next decade, but never dominated at senior level.

There are arguments over who was the best player to come out of this group. There is a train of thought that bottom aged player from this team, Ryan Griffen, from Goolwa in the Great Southern competition is the best, while there is a case for his Western Bulldogs team mate, Brownlow Medallist Adam Cooney.

Others including Harry Miller, Jay Nash, Brad Symes, Josh Willoughby, Tim Schmidt, Sam Butler, Heath Grundy, and Beau Waters made it on to AFL senior or rookie lists.

From the famous aboriginal football nursery at Mallee Park in Port Lincoln, Miller went to Hawthorn where he played 18 games and kicked 13 goals over three seasons, but never cemented a spot.

He returned to his foundation club after his tenure at the Hawks and would go on to play state country football.

Jay Nash, the son of former first class cricketer and Norwood footballer John Nash, was in the AFL system for seven years, six with the Bombers and the 2010 season at Alberton.

Debuting in 2005, he was a late call up against Collingwood in Round 16 and stood on 1992 Magarey Medallist (and 2003 Brownlow Medallist) Nathan Buckley in this contest.

He played 43 games with the Bombers, and eight in the 2010 campaign with Port Adelaide.

Nash was also a member of the



Jay Nash  
Images : Peter Argent  
0411 178 444



# "TWO OF A KIND"

The 244-page book on the Gowans Twins

**Controversial.  
Competitive.  
Adored.  
Despised.  
Entertaining.**

Identical twins Chris and James Gowans were a lot of things but most of all they were huge characters in Central District's record-breaking 21st century dynasty, the pair leaving an indelible imprint on the SANFL after arriving in South Australia in 2000.

Now that the identical competitors have retired, it is time to lift the lid on their journey, to be recounted in print, with the upcoming release of Two of a Kind, the story of Chris and James Gowans, to be launched at their adopted home, Playford Alive Oval, on April 13, prior to the blockbuster night match between the Bulldogs and reigning premier Norwood.

Written by Central District supporters and freelance journalists Robert Laidlaw and Steve Barrett, Two of a Kind will be a must-read for all Bulldog fans, and those from other persuasions.

**LIMITED  
PRINT RUN  
SO ORDER  
NOW**

Call the CDFC on 8255 2555 (office hours)

Or visit the Bulldogs Shop  
[www.cdfc.com.au/bulldog-shop/](http://www.cdfc.com.au/bulldog-shop/)  
and buy online

Books are \$30 each  
(Plus \$10 Postage or can be picked up)



**Exclusive recollections on the life  
and football journey of  
huge characters and equal all time  
SANFL Premiership Record Holders**

**A BOOK FOR ALL  
SOUTH AUSTRALIAN  
FOOTBALL FANS**



## FEATURE STORY



Central District Bulldog's flag that season, but played the 2012 season at SANFL Reserves level, after recovering from a knee reconstruction.

Brad Symes, along with Panther Joel Cross, is the reigning Magarey Medallist. He is a Central District lad through and through, being at the club from development squad level in his early teens.

The last of his 20 AFL games for the Power was in the 2007 Grand Final debacle, that the boys from Alberton endured against Geelong.

Transferring across town to the Crows he played 60 games over five years, including 36 in the 2008 and 2009 seasons.

He is currently co-captain of the Bulldogs and a triple premier-ship player.

A Kevin Sheehan medallist at national Under 16's level in 2002, Tim Schmidt was collected by Sydney.

From the mid north village of Robertstown Schmidt played just 17 games in six years on the Sydney Swans list.

In a Reserves game in the AFL Canberra competition, Schmidt won a massive 56 possessions. He is a cousin of current West Adelaide midfielder Chris Schmidt, who played at AFL level with Brisbane and Adelaide.

Dylan Pfitzner was rookie and senior listed by St Kilda, but never played senior football at the Saints.

He came back to SA and after trying his luck at his foundation club, the Bulldogs, moved to Norwood, but only had modest success there.

Josh Willoughby shared the Sheehan Medal with Tim Schmidt in 2002, and was collected by Sydney as well.

The rover had five years in Sydney, but never played AFL footy. He played upwards of 50 senior games back at Glenelg after returning to the SANFL.

After dealing with the tragic deaths of team mates over the

12 months previous to him being drafted, Beau Waters was scooped up by the West Coast Eagles.

Current vice-captain of the Eagles, Waters was a key member of their 2006 premiership, as a defender he was best remembered for a crucial mark in the final seconds of their one point win over the Swans.

An elbow injury sidelined Waters for a significant period, but he returned to peak form in 2012, winning All Australian selection. He did play a League game for the Bloods at the end of the 2003 minor round.

Now with 120 games to his credit, Waters was cruelled by cruelled by season ending surgery



Beau Waters  
Images Peter Argent  
0411 178 444



# MATCH DAY AT THE BAY



## GLENELG VS EAGLES

### SATURDAY AUGUST 3

2.10PM GLIDEROL STADIUM, GLENELG

ENJOY SATURDAY FOOTY AT THE BAY!



MATCHDAY SPONSOR



## FEATURE STORY



to his knee in late July.

Another who had his issues with injury was late convert from soccer, Sam Butler.

From South Gawler Lion's juniors, he played in the 2003 Central District Reserve's premier-ship side, having a tremendous finals series.

He, like Waters, was a member of the 2006 premiership triumph before becoming a 100 game AFL footballer.

Like Griffin, Heath Grundy was a bottom aged player in 2003, and would go on to collect All Australian honours for the following season, but was originally just rookie drafted in the draft at the end of that year.

Dependable in defence, Grundy was a member of the Swan's 2012 triumph over Hawthorn on that last Saturday in September.

At the end of July, Grundy has played 131 games at Sydney, being noted for his consistency.

One of just three players in SANFL history to move directly from Under 17 to SANFL league football, along with Lindsay Head and Gary McIntosh, Adam Cooney was the number one pick at the 2003 draft.

**Ryan Griffen**  
Images Peter Argent  
0411 178 444

He had a full season at League level with West Adelaide in 2003, playing in the Blood's League Grand Final against Central District.

In 2008 Cooney had the best year of his career, winning the Brownlow, collecting All Australian honours, and was selected in the "Dream Team" that played the Victorian's that year to celebrate 150 years of the game.

Last weekend he played his 197th AFL game and if his knee holds up, he will become a 200 game Bulldog in the next month.

Ryan Griffen was taken at selection number three in the 2004 draft, and the Western Bulldogs

thought they had grabbed a bargain.

This was even after he has endured a knee reconstruction while playing for South Adelaide during that season.

Their hunch was spot on, as Griffen is generally regarded as the Bulldog's best and most consistent player.

His awards include the 2010 Charlie Sutton Medal (Club best and fairest), and he was runner up the following year.

Both Cooney and Griffen played in the Bulldog's 2010 pre-season premiership.





# STURT FOOTBALL CLUB MEMBERSHIP 2013

Being a supporter is great but the best way to support your Club is by being a member. You can sign up online at [www.sturtfc.com.au](http://www.sturtfc.com.au) or call us 08 8272 1501 for all your membership and ticketing needs.

## BLUES BASE – \$66.00 (Concession \$60.00)

- SFC/UCSC Membership
- 2013 Members Sticker
- Membership Card (1<sup>st</sup> Year of Membership)
- 2013 Members Badge
- 10% Double Blues discount voucher towards item at merchandise van
- Voting rights for the SFC & USCS
- Members Email
- Exclusive access to SFC website members area
- Annual Report
- Sponsors Member discount offers throughout season

## UNLEY THREE GAME PACKAGE - \$88.00 (Concession \$77.00)

- Blues Base Membership Plus
- Entry to three Unley home games.
- Grand Stand Pass

## TRUE BLUE - \$155.00 (Concession \$148.00)

- Blues Base Membership Plus
- 15% Double Blues discount voucher towards item at merchandise van
- Entry to all 10 Home Games
- Home Grand Stand Pass

## TRUE BLUE SEASON - \$195.00 (Concession \$183.00)

- Blues Base Membership Plus
- 15% Double Blues discount voucher towards item at merchandise van
- Entry to all Home and Away Games
- Home Grand Stand Pass

## VICE PRESIDENTS - \$600.00

- Blues Base Membership Plus
- 15% Double Blues discount voucher towards item at merchandise van
- Exclusive VP Scarf (1st year of Membership )
- Exclusive VP Key ring
- Half time VP function (Home games)
- 2 Season Tickets
- 2 Grand Stand Passes
- Car park at Unley Primary School
- Invitation to two Corporate Breakfasts
- In season meetings

## PLATINUM VP - \$1750.00

- Vice Presidents Package Plus
- Breakfast with the Coach
- 1 PT Morton Medal Ticket
- 2 Gala Auction Dinner Ticket

Major Sponsor

**CLARIDGE  
HOLDEN**  
driving ahead.



## FEATURE STORY



## 2003 NATIONAL AFL U18 CHAMPIONSHIPS SOUTH AUSTRALIAN TEAM LIST

1	David KELLETT ©	Central / North Pines
2	Luke NITSCHKE	Norwood / Lobethal
3	Michael SUMNER	Sturt / Imperial
4	Josh WILLOUGHBY	Glenelg / Bordertown
5	Martin WILSON	Sturt / St Peters College
6	Harry MILLER	Port Magpies / Mallee Park
7	Robert JONES	Glenelg / Naracoorte
8	Ricky BUTLER	Central / Eastern Park
9	Mark HORNER	North / Quron Wolves
10	Jay NASH	Central / Nuriootpa
11	Lucas BLOCK	Glenelg / Naracoorte
12	Daniel REAVILL	Glenelg
13	Ryan GRIFFEN	South / Goolwa
14	Benet COPPING	Sturt / Mitcham
15	Tim SCHMIDT	West / Robertstown
16	Adam COONEY	West / Flagstaff Hill
17	Scott FRASER	Port Magpies / Salisbury West
18	Tim HARKNESS	Glenelg / Bordertown
19	Sam BUTLER	Central / South Gawler
20	Brad SYMES	Central / Gawler Central
21	Dylan PFITZNER	Central / Gawler Central
22	Heath GRUNDY	Norwood / Modbury
23	Scott CHALLEN	South / Noralunga
24	Jason WHITEHEAD	Eagles / Moonta
25	Matthew CRAGG SAPSFORD	Central / RSMU
26	Clint DUBIENIECKI	Glenelg / Port Noarlunga
27	Darren BRACKENRIDGE	North / Peterborough
28	Beau WATERS	West / Happy Valley
29	Heath COMMANE	Central / Trinity College
30	Shane JORDAN	Port Magpies / North Pines



Top—Heathy Grundy with fans and 2012  
2012 Premiership Medal  
Above—Tim Schmidt  
Images Peter Argent  
0411 178 444





# *a night at the Races*

## SOUTH ADELAIDE FOOTBALL CLUB GALA AUCTION

**WHERE:** The Peter Darley Function Room

**DATE:** Saturday 7 September

**TIME:** 6:30pm for a 7pm Seated

**COST:** \$90

**DRESS CODE:** A Night at the Races

**Book Now!**

**Call:** Theresa or Kristie on 81868200

**Email:** [reception@safc.com.au](mailto:reception@safc.com.au)

The Gala Auction is South Adelaide Football Clubs Major Fundraising Event of the year, with vital funds raised helping the club to continue to enhance its junior and senior football programs, and its community programs.

Enjoy a night of gourmet dining and first class entertainment. There will be an array of exciting items up for grabs!



Visionary | Can-Do | United

## WHAT WE LEARNT



## WHAT WE LEARNT

### Peter Argent

#### Eagles—Not up to it

When you consider where West, Norwood and North are at the moment, last Saturday's effort, especially in the second half, suggests there is a definitive gap between them and Woodville West Torrens.

A number of sides have now worked out how to subdue Luke Jarrad's influence and run, and Luke Powell and Angus Rowntree whilst still being serviceable are not winning the clearances they were in previous seasons.

The forward structure is a concern and Nick Salter needs to stand up and be counted.

Also the kids in Woodville West Torrens's Reserves, Matt Appleton, Luke Dunstan and Jake Von Bertouch need to get opportunities at League level.

#### Port found a way to win.

Nine points down, 20 minutes into the final term, Port Adelaide showed that undying belief that was a trademark of previous generations.

Kicking into the breeze, Graham Johncock slotted through an important goal to get the Magpies to within a straight kick of glory, then a relative unknown, James Watt, kicked the match winner at the 23 minute mark.

They were helped by the inaccurate Bays, who missed a number of relatively simple chances by SANFL standards in the final quarter, kicking 1.6.

**Caleb Daniel**  
**Images : Peter Argent**  
**0411 178 444**

When you're on a losing streak, sometimes, you start to find different ways of enduring defeat

Glenelg were the better team on the day, but lost. Port found a way to win – ugly – and this is great for their confidence.

#### Pocket Rocket

While many South Adelaide people would have been miserable with the result at Prospect Oval, there was one great positive from my perspective.

A teenager, wearing the number 63 jumper and wearing protective head gear, showed the SANFL football public he is a rising star of the competition.

The size of a jumps jockey at Oakbank and about the same weight, Caleb Daniel was superb against the odds.

He had ticker (courage), football smarts, ball skills and is one of the

exciting prospects in the league

#### Looking forward to their next contest

After yet another thriller, when Norwood got up by less than a goal, it would be great if they match up against West Adelaide in a Final's match, just because of the recent history these combatants have created.

The Bloods have won just one game between these sides in the last three years and they have played some big games.

Nathan Bassett is again Andy Collin's nemesis. Their press conference from last year's Grand Final alone is worth a rematch in the Finals.

West must beat the Redlegs if they want a cherished first Premiership since 1983.

One reckons Collins won't be sending the former Adelaide Crows 200 gamer a Christmas Card







## PREMIER SANFL COVERAGE

Listen Live on the Web [www.rphadelaide.org.au](http://www.rphadelaide.org.au)

## ROUND 18

7.00PM FRIDAY  
**NORWOOD  
v PORT**

1.30PM SATURDAY  
**GLENELG  
v EAGLES**



## WHAT WE LEARNT

### Don Cooper

1 – Ok, so this is where we seem to be at with the season following Round 18 action. Norwood are the competition's tough customers, the Roosters are the most dangerous, the Bloods are suffering from mind over matter, the Eagles are in fact enigmatic after all, the 'Dogs were sleeping so best let them lie, the Magpies are courting Lady Luck but without a date with destiny just yet, the Double Blues love a good surprise party, the Panthers lost their "Heart Again" (Hartigan), while the Tigers improved from hopeless to hapless!!

What a week in footy!! What we also learnt from this round is that the SANFL is very much alive as a competition comprised of thrills and spectacle – no matter who the adversaries are!

2 – Although they may have lost the League match to the visiting Double Blues, the Woodville-West Torrens Football Club continued to win me over with their community focus last weekend.

Once again underlining the impact the sport of Australian Football has on the lives of so many - and is, without doubt, so much more than a game!!

Kudos must go to our esteemed "Chief of Staff" Phil Herden, who works tirelessly in his endeavours to promote the Eagles –

– and the SANFL - to the wider populous, with no other agenda other than to ensure people understand how much they make up the very framework of a football club.

It is this culture and commitment which has stood the Eagles in great stead in the past and will most definitely take them into the future

3 – After a seven goal haul, the Rooster's Lewis Johnston is every chance to be feathering a different nest this coming weekend.....the Crow's nest!

The dynamic forward has returned from injury better than ever and had a real day out on Sunday at Prospect, as he helped demolish the Panthers and push his club into outright second favourite for the flag following their 105 point triumph.

In all honesty, the odds of a Norwood v North Adelaide Grand Final are shortening by the week – and unless the likes of West Adelaide, the Eagles, Central District and Port Adelaide get their act into gear, those from

this group fortunate to participate in the major round will be playing for sheer entertainment value!

4 – Not since the 1988 smash hit by British pop sensation, Underworld, have I seen anyone sneak "Underneath the Radar" like the Rooster's Cohen Thiele.

Having finished in the top two possession earners for three weeks in succession, the fleet footed, sharp shooting, flashy forward topped out Round 18 with a season high 33 disposals against the Panthers, and if opposition coaches continue to give him surplus real estate, they will pay a record high price!

After breaking through the 20 disposal barrier in Round 12 against Sturt (24 and 2 goals), the 24 year old has gone from strength to strength and is one of the most under-rated commodities in the SANFL, but definitely not at his own club – nor that of the astute Foot-e Times crew! (refer to the "My Left Foot" feature of last week's issue)



Cohen Thiele  
Images : Peter Argent  
0411 178 444

## PANTHER PRESS

Club Web Site : [www.safc.com.au](http://www.safc.com.au)



### Gala Auction Dinner.

Saturday September 7th,

6:30pm for 7:00pm sit down

in the The Peter Darley Function Room  
at Hickinbotham Oval.

\$90 for a 3 course meal and 3 hour drinks  
package.

Call Kristie or Theresa at the club on  
8168 8200

### ROAD AHEAD

Rd 18 Bye

Rd 19 @ Eagles (SatA)

Rd 20 v PORT (Sun)

Rd 21 @ West (SatA)

Rd 22 @Sturt (TBA)



**Tom Zorich**  
Your Liberal Candidate for Wakefield

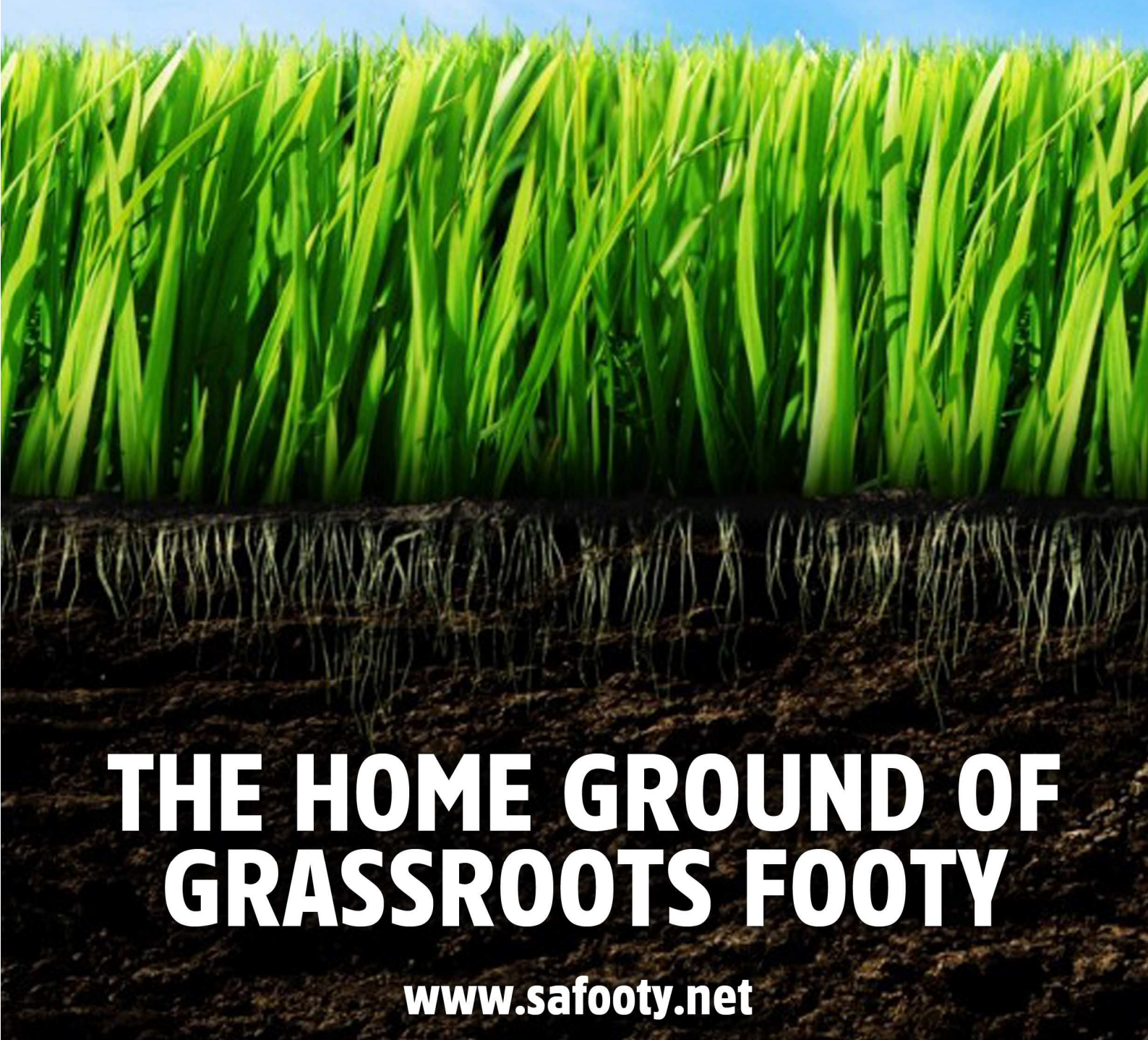
Email: [tom.zorich@saliberal.org.au](mailto:tom.zorich@saliberal.org.au)  
Phone: 0418 967 424  
[www.liberal.org.au](http://www.liberal.org.au)



Hope.  
Reward.  
Opportunity.

Authorized by G Greene, 25 Leigh St,  
Adelaide SA 5000.





# THE HOME GROUND OF GRASSROOTS FOOTY

[www.safooty.net](http://www.safooty.net)

## WHAT WE LEARNT



### John Nankivell

#### Missed Opportunity.

The Eagles blew a golden opportunity to move into the top three when they lost to the Double Blues by 15 points on Saturday.

Despite leading the contest at both quarter time and half time the Eagles let the match slip in the second half, as they were out played by a more committed Sturt side.

Bad kicking didn't help the Eagle's chances either, with the home side having five more scoring shots than the opposition but kicking four less goals.

While they are still a chance to earn the double chance in 2013 you can't help but feel that this loss may come back to bite the Eagles.

#### Red Hot Roosters.

North Adelaide smashed South on Sunday at Prospect by 105 points in what was their most dominant display of the season.

Led by Lewis Johnston who kicked seven majors, the underrated Cohen Thiele who seemed to be everywhere, and the hard running Thring brothers George and Max; the ...

Roosters went from strength to strength as they dismantled their hapless rival and showed just what they are capable of. It was an awesome performance to watch, and one that I am sure sent shivers up the spines of the other teams in the top five

#### Johnston Amazing.

With a seven goal haul on the weekend for the Roosters, Crow listed spearhead Lewis Johnston showed that he is well and truly over the knee injury which has

seen him miss most of the season so far.

Johnston scored the first goal of the match with a set shot from fifty meters out to signal his intentions, and from there was never headed as he played a leading role in North's win.

While an AFL call up for this weekend's showdown seems inevitable, Rooster's fans will be hoping that he will again suit up for North Adelaide come finals time, where he will no doubt continue to be a focal point for the Red and Whites



**The Eagles let a top 3 chance slip away**  
Images : Peter Argent  
0411 178 444





## AFL RESERVES UPDATE



## AFL RESERVES UPDATE

Here is our take on what has been announced since Tuesday

### TUESDAY NIGHT —PROPOSED MODEL REVEALED

Following is part of a media release from the SANFL

A summary of the model is as follows:

- One league team from the Adelaide Football Club enters the SANFL from 2014, forming a 10-team competition. The Port Adelaide Magpies become the second team of the Port Adelaide Football Club;
- The 2014 SANFL competition would become an 18-round home-and-away season with all clubs playing each other twice;
- Each of the nine existing SANFL clubs would have 10 home games – the Adelaide Football Club’s SANFL team would play all its games ‘away’;
- The AFL clubs would pay each SANFL club a guaranteed uplift per annum;
- The AFL clubs would work closely with the SANFL and clubs on game development throughout the community; and
- The AFL clubs’ SANFL teams would not wear the AFL club’s jumper, will not be called by the AFL club’s nickname and would carry no AFL club sponsorship

Top up players required by the AFL clubs’ SANFL teams would be provided by the other SANFL clubs on an as-needs basis. These would be 18-22 year-old players not currently playing league football.

The model commits the AFL clubs to the SANFL for a minimum of 15 years with the SANFL to review annually.

“It is the Commission’s belief that the recommended model protects the integrity, the relevance, game development and club and competition viability,” SA Football Commission Chairman John Olsen said.

“It provides the SANFL and its clubs with certainty about the future of our competition while also providing the Adelaide and Port Adelaide football clubs the best competition outside of the AFL in which to test themselves.

“The alternative to this course of action exposes the SANFL to reduced corporate interest and reduced media coverage while also threatening the relevance of the competition as the best outside of the AFL.”

#### MODEL IN DETAIL

##### Listed players

All AFL listed players (including Rookie listed) to play with AFL support team should they not be in their AFL team.

##### Top Up players – leadership player

AFL clubs can contract one ‘leadership’ player per season. 28 years and over, must have been on AFC or PAFC respective lists.

##### Top Up players – other

18 – 22 years old, on an SANFL Club list. Players selected at start of pre-season in conjunction with SANFL clubs. AFL and SANFL clubs to review at agreed points throughout season. Top-up players cannot play against their home SANFL club. ANFL club has first rights to any top up player at League level during the minor round.

##### SANFL League Finals qualification

No qualification criteria for AFL listed players during the SANFL finals series when AFC/PAFC are still involved at AFL level. Should AFC/PAFC not be involved in AFL finals, a player must have played the majority of his football at SANFL level, or 3 of the last 5 games at SANFL level to qualify.

##### Competition commitment

AFL clubs to commit to ‘playing to the line’. Will not rest players and take up elective surgery options. SANFL doctor to provide 2nd opinion on surgeries before end of season. Will commit in writing to these points, to be in club and head coach charters.

##### Support Staff

AFL clubs to commit to not recruiting support staff directly from SANFL clubs.

##### Home Venue

AFC will not have a home venue; will play as away team throughout the minor round.

#### COMMERCIAL STRUCTURE

##### Licence Fee

AFL clubs to pay a licence fee to the SANFL for their involvement.

##### Membership

AFL clubs will not sell SANFL team membership. SANFL to explore joint membership options with AFL clubs, including access to SANFL games.

##### Branding

AFC support team not to be branded Crows. AFC support team not to wear Crows-style AFL guernsey in the SANFL

##### Sponsorship

AFL clubs not to attract sponsors for their SANFL team.

##### Media

AFL clubs to generate interest in SANFL competition and other SANFL clubs through media activation, social media and online.

##### Community Engagement

AFL clubs to commit to working with SANFL clubs in promoting pathways to AFL Football. In lead up to SANFL games, AFL clubs will help promote the game in tandem with the SANFL club within their promotional zone.

##### Commitment

AFL clubs to commit to the SANFL competition for 15 years, reviewed by the SANFL on a yearly basis.

#### COMPETITION STRUCTURE

##### SANFL Fixture

Focussed on maximising attendances for SANFL teams 25 week season from start to end; start date to be set once AFL fixture is known  
18 minor round matches over 21 weeks  
1 bye for State Game  
2 split rounds  
10 home matches per Club

##### Salary Cap

Reduced by \$20,000 per SANFL club as acknowledgement of reduction in minor round matches..

The League Directors agreed to present the model to their respective boards for consideration prior to reconvening to consider their response.

So from this recommendation of a model by the SANFL commission to the SANFL league directors ,it now goes back to the clubs for consideration.

Reports indicate that a vote on this model will occur on Friday August 9th.

Here is our take on what has been announced since Tuesday night

### WEDNESDAY— PORT STAY WITH STATUS QUO

As previewed by David Koch at a AAMI Stadium lunch three weeks ago the Port Adelaide Football club have rejected this proposed model and will stay with the status quo.

Port’s initial proposal was rejected by the SA Football Commission, leaving the club with the choice of either the status quo or being just an AFL entity with no SANFL zone or development / under age squads.

This PAFC decision means the Magpies will still have their zone and full SANFL structure and the Power’s AFL surplus players will continue to be spread across the current 9 SANFL clubs.

This matter appears to be settled for now, however two factors need to be considered.

Firstly there is has been a lot of SANFL club feedback re the regular transfer of AFL listed players from their mini drafted SANFL club to the Magpies. Expect some sort of updated ruling to stop this continuing and the Magpies becoming the SANFL reserves by stealth.

Also the current ONE CLUB agreement expires at the end of 2014. Add this need for renegotiation with what I expect to be an increase in pressure to avoid being the only AFL club without a reserves side and I think this matter has not be fully resolved, only delayed by 12 months.

At least when the renegotiation occurs the AFL Licence sale plus Adelaide Oval stadium deal will have been resolved,

In addition the SANFL can look at the impact of the host club arrangements that take full force in the WAFL next season.

So with the Magpies “Saved” full focus now turns to the Adelaide Football Club and their attempts to be the SANFL’s 10th team.





## AFL RESERVES UPDATE

### WEDNESDAY— CROWS CALL “ALL IN”

For the past two months the numbers required for change were clear.

Any change to the SANFL competition would require the votes of 6 of the 8 Club Directors.

If 3 clubs voted against a change it would be lost.

There was also speculation a final decision could be delayed so no changes occurred until 2014.

However through a media briefing on Wednesday afternoon the Crows have raised the criteria.

Firstly they confirmed an earlier declaration that the AFC would have a reserves team in 2014 regardless of the SANFL's decision.

Should they not get approval to join the SANFL league then they will go into the SAAFL (Amateur League) with home games at Thebarton Oval.

The SAAFL has confirmed this arrangement should the Crows wish to accept it.

This raises the spectre of the Crows reserves competing head to head with SANFL games in terms of crowds, media and corporate support.

With this Plan B in play the SANFL League directors now have a clear vote, either accept the Crows into the SANFL or see the rise of a competing league.

However that is not all.

The AFC also advised that a 6-2 vote would not be good enough for them to forgoe the Amateurs and join the SANFL.

No, the Crows will accept nothing less than a unanimous 8-0 vote from SANFL clubs.

If this commitment is carried out it means that the disention of just one SANFL League director would be enough to see the Adelaide Football Club join the Amateur league.

**Ian Callinan**  
**Images : Peter Argent**  
**0411 178 444**

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT— TOP UP DILEMA

Regardless of how you see the overall concept of an AFL Reserves team in the SANFL League one major logistical issue that needs to be overcome is just how the Crows would top up their playing list.

After all the number of AFL listed available players can change markedly during a season due to injury and suspension.

The initial SANFL commission model has each club supplying 2-3 “developing” U22 players that can be called upon, unless the SANFL club wants them for league duty, or the Crows opponent that week is the SANFL club..

This in addition to one leadership player aged 28 who was previously on an AFL list.

However there appears to be a lot of concern from SANFL clubs on this model so it is back to the drawing board.

### COMING UP

It's going to be a frantic week before a vote is taken next Friday.

This Friday night sees the start of SANFL Round 18, what will the vibe be on the terraces and how many signatures can the NO AFL IN THE SANFL obtain?

Next week details need to be finalised and decisions made at club level, all amidst a lot of media coverage and members input.

At **FOOT-e TIMES SA** we will do our best to give you a full update next week.



## AFL RESERVES UPDATE

### STOP PRESS — FROM THE ADELAIDE FOOTBALL CLUB

By Steven Trigg

Adelaide's current position of seeking to be the tenth team in the SANFL league competition is based on what we and the SA Football Commission believe is best for South Australian football.

Now that the Commission has endorsed the negotiated proposal, the Adelaide Football Club will in the coming days meet with all the SANFL clubs with a view to working with them all to find solutions to any specific issues and to provide as much information as possible about the benefits to the SANFL competition.

SANFL club members have had had very little information and some are understandably nervous about how the model could impact their clubs and competition. We are determined to provide each club board with the depth of information required to make a sound decision.

It is our view that our involvement would enhance the SANFL competition and below are some of the positives we will discuss with the clubs.

We have met with all the SANFL clubs in the past fortnight and we have a genuine desire to continue to co-operate respectfully with the SANFL clubs while protecting the integrity of the competition.

### Benefits to SANFL and its clubs

Fixed guarantee sum to each of the SANFL clubs

This annual payment does not include any match day revenues from our 18 games (all to be played at the grounds of the SANFL clubs).

Fixed advertising/promotion budget to each Club

Equitable fixture: 18-game season (each team plays all other sides twice)

Keeps AFL-listed players in SANFL

Less disruption to SANFL clubs with interchange of AFL players (selection, training etc)

Increased media coverage and promotion

Opportunity for free-to-air TV coverage and online streaming of SANFL games

Exposure to new audience

Re-engage SANFL fans who reduced their interest to follow the AFL club

Potential partnerships with AFC (use of facilities, zone resources etc)

Adds to status of competition

### Benefits to Adelaide Football Club

Keeps Crows-listed players together, coached by our staff

Player retention

Strong competition for our players

Cost-effective solution (no travel)





## AFL RESERVES UPDATE

### Q&A

*Why does the Adelaide Football Club want a reserves team?*

We need to provide our coaches and players with the best possible environment to be successful.

Introducing a support team under our banner is a key part of this strategy. The main benefits for us revolve around the advantages of having our own players together, playing with team-mates and being coached by our coaches and development staff.

It's clearly the best way to prepare our players and the team for AFL competition. It will also help with player retention, as we strive to integrate players from all over Australia into our Club.

A strong and successful Adelaide Football Club is critical for the health of South Australian football. And we will continue to work with the SANFL and the clubs to get the best possible outcomes for all involved.

*The current system seems to have worked for more than two decades? Why change now?*

There have certainly been some benefits from having our players being hosted by all nine SANFL clubs, playing in a strong club-based competition.

Some players have thrived in the different environment, others have struggled. But we strongly believe the clear best option now and for the future for the Adelaide Football Club is to have our own support

team from the 2014 season, with our players under our control and playing for the Crows.

*Will there be any interest in following a Crows support side?*

No doubt. Many Crows fans already keep an eye on the SANFL to see how our listed players are performing.

We know many of our supporters will be excited about the opportunity to watch these players represent the same team.

There will also be some solid media interest in the side and we will also promote it and the competition strongly through the Club's communication channels.

*Will the support team play to win?*

We want to play for premiership points, we believe that's important. Development is a focus but the competitive spirit within the group must and will be strong.

[Our thanks to Steven Trigg and the Crows for this information.](#)

[More details next week.](#)

**Phil Herden**



## MILESTONES

### Nick Madden (Port)

Debut back in 2009, tall defender Nick Madden has finally achieved his 50 senior game milestone with the Port Adelaide in this Saturday against ladder leaders, Norwood.

Interestingly, over his journey his best effort for a season so far has been 13 matches in the 2010 season.

He has played 10 of the possible 14 at league level this year in one of his more consistent winters.

From the Mildura Demons Football Club in the Sunraysia League, Madden in now 27-years-old and played his first game with the Magpies in round two of the 2009 season against Glenelg at the age of 22.

At 191cm and 86 kgs despite not being one of the most naturally gifted footballers to don the traditional prison bar jumper, Madden can play as a key defender or a third tall down back.

He has been in the senior program at Alberton since back in 2005, playing 70 reserves matches.

Unsurprisingly Madden was rewarded Port Adelaide Magpies Reserves "Most Dedicated Player" award in 2009.

**Peter Argent**

**Nick Madden**  
Images **Peter Argent**  
Phone 0411 178 444



**50** games  
(if selected)