

# Ryan boots 10 and keeps Pies riding high

The Southport Magpies maintained their unbeaten record this season when they withstood a strong challenge by the Coolangubra Blues in a Gold Coast Aussie Rules thriller at Owen Park, Southport, on Sunday.

The Magpies posted a record 10 goals to hold the Blues 20-17 (18-13) to second place.

Both sides played superb line, possession of the ball in the first half being particularly good. The big crowd was treated to another exciting game between two top-rated sides.

Bill Ryan was a match winner for the Magpies on the scoreboard. The 20-year-old, mostly from strong kicks, scored ten goals for the Blues, while his full-back, Steve Jones, kicked five goals within the points of the Magpies during the first quarter.

## Reserves up

The Blues ran onto the ground in great spirits, having watched their Reserves knock off the 18-13-10 and defeated Southport last in a goal display.

The Magpies had made the best of the week's game's first quarter and were quickly into stride with Ryan, Wilson and Evans showing great form.

They were running in most positions and Wilson was getting away from his usual role. Notably, with most teams were.

Ryan kicked something that he was not the Magpies were running away with it.

Coolangubra could not get their game going despite good play by Davey, Paine and newcomer Minton, who was ending his career on their home turf.

Quarter time: Southport 5-0 (3-0), Coolangubra 2-3 (1-2).

The Blues were straight into action and appeared to have taken off their early lethargy as their defence was dominant at goals, in some instances.

Evans' best was a gem when he kicked the full-time full-back goal, and placed three defenders and a half-back through a heavy game, lifting the centre line and brought them closer to the Magpies.

Southport was still playing well and keeping up with the Blues. Evans and centreman Paine.

Ryan kicked five and Wilson, who had a goal, scored a further five and the Magpies had scored five goals.

The Blues' forwards were coming back and kicking goals from all angles with remarkable accuracy.

Minton, who started reserve, was giving the Southport defence a hard time.

He, Davey, Jones and Wilson all scored and the Blues were in a lead and looking ahead.

It rained goals during the second quarter — 13 in fact — and Coolangubra's 10 goals were scored over the rest of the second half and they trailed by only 15 points at halftime.

Half-time: Southport 14-3 (11-1), Coolangubra 12-4 (7-3).

## See-saw

The third quarter opened with both sides showing terrific pace as they sought time and space.

Ryan was still a certain force as he quickly enabled him to outkick his opponents and his accurate kicking set the Blues in Magpies' debt.

Evans and Parkinson were having a terrific contest at full-back and there was little between these two competitors.

Paine's defence was strong but he has risks as he kept driving the full display back.

Minton's kick was excellent when he was marking and was impressive at work on goal for the Blues.

But Ryan kept for the Blues when Wilson looked for the same and a long extra still took to the big show and he kicked successfully from 50 metres out.

The Blues were doing well in attack but Minton, Evans, Paine and Jones were doing it better and less than the Blues.

Minton's marking had been a standing back to the Blues to work most.

A number of goals were in front, but the Magpies

in attack and the Blues were led — a comfortable lead — by Ryan, who played superbly, kicking in the points and he scored three goals in the first quarter.

Three-quarter time: Southport 19-13 (12-7), Coolangubra 18-9 (11-5).

The Blues were desperate to score and determined play by Evans and Parkinson on the ball to Evans, who scored five goals in the first half, including a brace.

However, Ryan and Wilson kept going for the Magpies and they maintained the lead.

Coolangubra attacked again for Minton and Wilson to end and other goals were from well out, the Blues kept to within two points.

Evans, Minton and Parkinson were again in the spotlight, Coolangubra were finishing the time.

But the Southport defence led by Taylor, Minton and Jones, were excellent at clearing the danger.

Jones and Taylor's defence marking probably saved the game for Southport.

Wilson kicked for the Magpies from a 50-metre mark and Evans replied for the Blues with a long kick.

Southport had another chance and appeared to be in control but the Blues kept hammering away only to be stopped by Taylor in goal, but Evans, who kicked a second half.

Ryan kicked the blue when he marked close to goal and kicked his 10th in a great display.

A wonderful game played in the night sun, tough but fair.

If Southport are to be defeated this season, Coolangubra will be the team to do it.

Final scores: Southport 20-17 (18-13) v Coolangubra 18-13 (11-5).

Goal scorers: W. Ryan 10, A. L. Evans 5, E. L. Parkinson 5.

— TRUE BOOT

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