

Mighty Magpies made mincemeat of Lions

SOUTHPORT put the seal on their greatness with an effortless win over Palm Beach Currumbin in Sunday's major Aussie Rules semi final at Peak Oval, Kirra.

After an even first quarter when the Lions led narrowly, the Southport big guns started to fire and they demolished their plucky opponents with a brilliant display of power football.

A brawl, which broke out right at the end of the first quarter, could have been the turning point of the match as the Southport Magpies liked their game in all positions and cleared out to a big lead at half-time.

Final scores: Southport 31-20-206 v Palm Beach Currumbin 12-13-85.

Umpire Brian Spence was in charge of the game and PBC kicked to the southern end which was favoured by a light breeze.

Fierce
The game opened at breakneck speed and

both halfback lines were on top and play saw-sawed within this region with neither side able to make much headway until Culph goalied from a courageous mark — his third major for the term.

Wolff, drifting down from the flank, goalied for the Magpies.

Punch-up
A major dust-up occurred when Ryan and Harrison had a disagreement on the outer flank — the prelude to a wild melee involving about 25 forcees who decided to relieve the tension.

The umpires and the siren ended hostilities with PBC holding an eight point advantage.

After a scint opening in the second quarter, the players settle down and Southport showed a flash of system when Fawc on the run, accepted a hand pass from Stewart and goalied.

Stewart was getting on top of Campbell at mid-field and, when he weaved out of trouble, passed to Wolff who goalied. Southport had hit the front.

Fawc held a great mark but grabbed his kick and the ball was cleared.

The Marnie machine slipped into top gear as they took control across the centre and, with superb team work, added goals through Jordan, Cheel and Stewart to go to a big lead.

PBC lost Glover through injury but his replacement Jackson, scored a nice goal from the angle.

Then the Magpies stormed forward for Cheel to spear through a goal from an acute angle.

Cheel and Ryan were getting armchair rides from a winning centre line and they each added a

feared fierce tackling by both sides as each strived for a break.

Culph was active on the PBC forward line and snapped first goal.

Howard was winning in the air and Culph goalied again when he accepted a nice pass from Banfield.

Southport had a chance but Ryan missed with a left foot snap.

The Magpies were being upset by the aggressive Lions, whose small men were scouting well.

However, Courtney missed a sitter and Wright scored two behinds — the second a poster — when goals would have given them a useful lead.

Southport's first goal came up when Cheel passed to Webb, on to Ryan and the big fellow made no mistake.

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further two goals as the Lions defence collapsed before the onslaught.

In command
Southport supporters were ecstatic as their team turned on a premiership quarter of football to crush the Lions and go to a commanding lead at the long interval.

Ottoway replaced Webb (injured) in Southport's line up.

Ryan handballed to Wolff for a goal. Culph marked and was severely dealt with by Wojtala but, from the resultant penalty kick, Campbell could manage only a behind.

Courtney scored a much needed goal for the Lions. They had liked their game and were contesting fiercely and preventing the Magpies from creating the loose man.

Howard and Wojtala were great ruckmen for their sides and their duel was a highlight.

Jackson was doing well in the forward pocket and managed to get loose and kick a couple of valuable goals from the Lions.

Ryan was giving the PBC defenders plenty of trouble and his great team play created goals from Wolff, Jones and Kirby.

Courtney was given the task of keeping him quiet.

Pollock, tough and courageous, and Mick Goody were great goers for the Lions and kept forcing the ball to their attacking zone.

They were rewarded when Banfield, Culph, Jackson and Pell all goalied to give the PBC score some respectability.

In a high scoring quarter each side had added seven goals in an entertaining term.

Runaway
Southport put the issue beyond doubt early in the final quarter when they added four goals in the first five minutes.

Stewart was in everything for the Magpies and was giving a great display at midfield.

Wolff, too tall for his opponent, kept driving the ball forward as the Southport score mounted.

The Lions battled hard but were unable to gain momentum as they were

beaten in most positions. With the exception of Howard and Anderson, they were being out-marked by their opponents.

Trevene, who had been quiet early, Hunter and Taylor had little difficulty in repelling spasmodic thrusts by the Lions.

Jackson brought some respite when he pounced on a loose ball in the square and brought up the Lions solitary goal for the quarter.

All interest, apart from the statistics had gone from the game, as the dominant Magpies built a huge score and completely over-ran their dejected rivals in the final term.

The Magpies must be the honest favourites on record for the 1976 flag, while PBC and Broadbeach will settle it out next Sunday at Owen Park, Southport to earn a grand final berth.

Best players: A. Stewart (s) 3, W. Ryan (s) 2, J. Wojtala (s) 1.

LOWER GRADES
SOUTHPORT Colts won their way into the Australian Rules grand final when they defeated the hot favourites, Broadbeach, in a fiery encounter on Sunday.

The game was marred as a spectacle by the brawling tactics of both sides and there would have been many sore heads after the match.

There were two all-in brawls and it was only the closeness of the scores at half-time when both sides were even, that made it interesting from the football angle.

The Southport Reserves, undefeated for the season, had a narrow escape when they just scraped home from Palm Beach Currumbin Lions in a great second Aussie Rules semi final curtain raiser last Sunday.

The Lions dominated the game early and had a lead at half-time, which was unusual against the Magpies.

But the Magpies third quarter was all class and they ran on 10 goals to their opponents two and there lies the story of the match.

SCORES AT A GLANCE

SENIORS				
SOUTHPORT	2-4	12-13	19-15	31-20 (206)
PBC	3-8	4-9	11-12	12-13 (85)
BEST: Southport — Stewart (best on ground), Ryan, Wojtala, Wolff, Cheel, Kirby, Torres; PBC — Culph, Howard, Pollock, M. Goody, Wright, Jackson, Kettle.				
GOALS: Southport — Ryan 5, Wolff 3, Stewart 4, Cheel 4, Kirby 4, Jones 2, Hyde 2, Wojtala 2, Fawc 1, Jordan 1, Ottoway 1; PBC — Jackson 5, Culph 4, Courtney 1, Pell 1, Banfield 1.				
RESERVES				
SOUTHPORT	6-2	7-8	17-11	19-14 (128)
PALM BEACH	4-0	9-4	11-8	17-12 (114)
BEST: Southport — Watts (best on ground), Myer, Gillett, Richer, Miles; Palm Beach — Steel, Felch, Weaver, Tiley, Taylor.				
GOALS: Southport — Miles 5, Gillett 4, Clements 2, Abbott 1, Eastman 1, Lewis 1, Forbes 1, Dawson 1; Palm Beach — Thompson 4, Parker 2, Bosack 2, Steele 2, Penroy 1, Weavers 1, Boyd 1, Beach 1, Garlick 1.				
COLTS				
SOUTHPORT	2-1	9-3	18-6	17-11 (131)
BROADBEACH	4-4	8-9	11-12	12-14 (80)
BEST: Southport — Allard (best on ground), Hertz, Rogie, Chid, Edwards, Davis; Broadbeach — Dreckman, Skelton, Harrison, Taylor, Brown.				
GOALS: Southport — Ross 5, P. D'Arcy 1, Davis 1, Edwards 2, Chid 1, T. D'Arcy 1, Wrathall 1, P. Fitzpatrick 1; Broadbeach — Taylor 2, Brown 2, Skelton 3, Feo 2, Kendall 2, Mareroff 1.				

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