

MAGPIES CUT DEMONS TO SIZE AT FIERCE RULES GRAND FINAL

(By "PUNT HIGH")

The Southport Australian Football Club won the 1966 grand final by 14-24-108 to 7-16-58 against Surfers Paradise last Sunday at Owen Park, before the biggest crowd of Australian Football history on the Gold Coast.

Southport dominated in all positions and were clear winners in the early stages of the match.

Grand final "jitters" must have been felt by the Surfers Paradise Demons because their standard of play was actually below the under 16 and under 13 curtain-raisers.

The wind, which had been an important factor in the earlier matches, dropped suddenly and Southport opened its scoring account, with a behind.

Harold Peacock, an emergency replacement, registered Southport's first major which was soon followed by Bobby Manuel and Southport now led Surfers by 2-3-15 to nil.

This quarter was virtually all Southport and the Demons were rarely sighted.

Although the ruck supremacy went to Surfers, the agile Southport rovers delivered the ball forwards.

Big Bill Whitehead was a tower of strength at centre-half-back for the Demons and whatever passed him was soon blanketed by Ken Boldock in the fullback position.

Wanting

Although these two played so well, other Surfers back-men were found wanting and the Magpie machine cut them to ribbons.

Big Darrell Hodggets, at centre-half-back for Southport, blocked every forward move made by Surfers which were far too slow for Southport's two yards extra speed.

Southport's skipper, Terry Larkins, booted its third major and in only the 10th minute of play.

At this stage of the match, Noel Martin ruled supreme in the centre for Southport and his

kick to Terry Doyle to Davy Burns resulted in Southport's fourth goal to nothing.

Although Surfers had a clear winner at this stage in winger Wayne Cullen, his winning work was rebuffed at every turn by the lack of function in the Demon forward line.

It was at this great first quarter that Terry Doyle, that elusive Magpie full-forward, booted his 100th goal for the 1966 season and put Southport 5-5-33 to nil over a bewildered Surfers Paradise eighteen.

Out of bounds

For the first time in this first quarter, Surfers took the ball over the half way mark, where Graeme Whitfield received the free kick but landed it out of bounds.

Play was now in the Surfers forward line in front of the new grandstand crowd but just as Surfers was about to score, the tight Magpie defence repelled the ball to the other end of the ground, where it went out of bounds in Southport's scoring area.

Robust Southport defender Col Luhrs flattened a Surfers player here and Demon skipper, Graeme Whitfield, rushed in to have words with him but this ugly incident was smartly suppressed by umpire Bill Carmichael.

After this incident, Southport rushed goalward where Tony Doyle marked at shoulder height and put the Magpies in front by 6-7-49 to nil as the first siren sounded.

Southport won the match by 59 points and led at the first quarter change by 49 points to nil.

In other words, Southport had only a one-point supremacy over Surfers in the remaining three quarters.

In contrast to the opening quarter, the Demons had virtually all-conce good but the Mag-

pies attacked and goals from Bobby Manuel and Javy Burns put the issue almost beyond doubt.

Goaled

Only seconds later, ace goal-getter Terry Doyle, goaled for the Magpies and was followed by a popular major by veteran Harold Peacock.

Graeme Whitfield's great goal while falling over in the dying stages did little for the Demon morale as the siren sounded with Southport winning the 1966 grand final from Surfers Paradise by 14-24-108 to 7-16-58.

Best players, Southport: Terry Larkins, Darrell Hodggets, Davy Burns, Errol Campbell, Ken Best and Noel Martin.

Aroused

Surfers Paradise: Graeme Whitfield, Noel Chapman, Bill Whitehead, Graeme Walsh, Bob Freestone.

After the big match, the Bulletin correspondent interviewed the coaches and this is how they saw the match:

Terry Larkins (Southport Magpies): "We played better teamwork all year and again today and this is how we won it. I said before that our centre line would be supreme and it was.

"Our boys played hard and I am very proud of them. After their first quarter performance of 49 to nil, we had very little to fear from Surfers.

"I and the whole club are very proud at them right down to the 19th and 20th men."

Graeme Whitfield (Surfers Paradise Demons): "I must congratulate Southport on a very fine exhibition of football. We have no excuses to offer, Southport was just too superior on the day.

Graeme Walsh, Noel Chapman and Bob Freestone moved well for Surfers, but with a combined team effort could not narrow down the Magpie lead of 26 points.

Darrell Hodggets and Col Luhrs were invaluable in defence for Southport which led the three quarter change by 9-17-71 to 6-9-45.

Although having their fair share of the ball, Surfers trailed miserably by 3-7-25 to 7-12-54 at the half time change-over.

The last term began most excitingly with Surfers needing only four well directed kicks to the well directed kicks to the

Magpies attacked and goals from Bobby Manuel and Javy Burns put the issue almost beyond doubt.

Only seconds later, ace goal-getter Terry Doyle, goaled for the Magpies and was followed by a popular major by veteran Harold Peacock.

Graeme Whitfield's great goal while falling over in the dying stages did little for the Demon morale as the siren sounded with Southport winning the 1966 grand final from Surfers Paradise by 14-24-108 to 7-16-58.

Best players, Southport: Terry Larkins, Darrell Hodggets, Davy Burns, Errol Campbell, Ken Best and Noel Martin.

Aroused

Surfers Paradise: Graeme Whitfield, Noel Chapman, Bill Whitehead, Graeme Walsh, Bob Freestone.

After the big match, the Bulletin correspondent interviewed the coaches and this is how they saw the match:

Terry Larkins (Southport Magpies): "We played better teamwork all year and again today and this is how we won it. I said before that our centre line would be supreme and it was.

"Our boys played hard and I am very proud of them. After their first quarter performance of 49 to nil, we had very little to fear from Surfers.

"I and the whole club are very proud at them right down to the 19th and 20th men."

Graeme Whitfield (Surfers Paradise Demons): "I must congratulate Southport on a very fine exhibition of football. We have no excuses to offer, Southport was just too superior on the day.

Graeme Walsh, Noel Chapman and Bob Freestone moved well for Surfers, but with a combined team effort could not narrow down the Magpie lead of 26 points.

Darrell Hodggets and Col Luhrs were invaluable in defence for Southport which led the three quarter change by 9-17-71 to 6-9-45.

Southport were just too good on the occasion." Umpire Bill Carmichael said: "Southport was the better side and played better teamwork throughout and thoroughly deserved their win."

Only seconds later, ace goal-getter Terry Doyle, goaled for the Magpies and was followed by a popular major by veteran Harold Peacock.

Graeme Whitfield's great goal while falling over in the dying stages did little for the Demon morale as the siren sounded with Southport winning the 1966 grand final from Surfers Paradise by 14-24-108 to 7-16-58.

Best players, Southport: Terry Larkins, Darrell Hodggets, Davy Burns, Errol Campbell, Ken Best and Noel Martin.

Aroused

Surfers Paradise: Graeme Whitfield, Noel Chapman, Bill Whitehead, Graeme Walsh, Bob Freestone.

After the big match, the Bulletin correspondent interviewed the coaches and this is how they saw the match:

Terry Larkins (Southport Magpies): "We played better teamwork all year and again today and this is how we won it. I said before that our centre line would be supreme and it was.

"Our boys played hard and I am very proud of them. After their first quarter performance of 49 to nil, we had very little to fear from Surfers.

"I and the whole club are very proud at them right down to the 19th and 20th men."

Graeme Whitfield (Surfers Paradise Demons): "I must congratulate Southport on a very fine exhibition of football. We have no excuses to offer, Southport was just too superior on the day.

Graeme Walsh, Noel Chapman and Bob Freestone moved well for Surfers, but with a combined team effort could not narrow down the Magpie lead of 26 points.

Darrell Hodggets and Col Luhrs were invaluable in defence for Southport which led the three quarter change by 9-17-71 to 6-9-45.

Gold Coast Bulletin: September 14 1966, p46

www.southportsharkhistory.com.au



Celebrating 50 years!

