

# Woods trap the Tigers

Wayward kicking couldn't blight Blackwood's desire for victory against a previously undefeated visiting Lobethal combination last Saturday at Windy Hill.

The Woods recent form has resembled a yo-yo, however, the return of veteran Matt Thomas last Saturday certainly made a difference.

Thomas complemented the Woods forward set up with five vital majors, springboarding the team towards an important 11-17 to 9-20 victory in the Hills Football League Central Division A-grade competition.

It was the Tigers first loss for the 2013 season, after they had impressively won the opening five matches.

Both sides entered the Round 6 clash keenly seeking victory.

Blackwood were intent on bouncing back after poor performances against Uraidla Districts and Torrens Valley, while the Tigers sought to continue their resurgent unblemished campaign.

Each squad appeared to be missing missing key personnel for what was a very even start to the fixture.

Lobethal midfielder Trevor Baust was the dominant player on the ground early in the opening term, which turned into an arm wrestle.

Both sides had plenty of chances but couldn't convert truly on the illuminating scoreboard.

The Woods entered quarter time with a two-point lead with local spearhead Glenn Dundovic and Tigers livewire Alex Wills being the only goal scorers for the term.

Blackwood got on top around the midfield during the second stanza, and while Troy Edwards peppered the forward 50m arc, the Woods couldn't capitalise due to wayward goal kicking.

The Woods could only extend their lead to 10 points at half-time, even though they did the majority of the attacking during the second quarter.

Lobethal stayed out on the ground during the half-time break with coach Jeremy Aufderheide giving his chargers some strong words of encouragement.

Woods coach Dave Benson took his troops into the confines of the Blackwood change rooms to give them some astute words of wisdom.

As play resumed, Lobethal came out with a head of steam, throwing Wills into the midfield in a move which worked a treat.

With Baust and Jack Bampton extracting the ball and moving forward, Lobethal started to get on top in the midfield battle.

The Tigers peppered the forward 50m, but resilient defence from Blackwood's Tavis Kleinig and Andrew Work resulted in Lobethal kicking just three goals from 13 scoring opportunities.

Two of those goals came from Joe Zadow, who was playing an attacking wing role.

Lobethal had 17 inside 50m entries for the third quarter, however, it was Blackwood which made the most of its attacking opportunities, scoring three goals from seven shots.

Blackwood held a slender four-point lead at the final break and an upset appeared on the cards.

Coach Benson urged his midfielders to lift for the final quarter and take the game on.

It appeared the Tigers had given everything they had during the third quarter, and the Woods were confident they could run out as the stronger team.

The final quarter turned into another arm wrestle with both teams struggling to gain the initial upper hand, however, Blackwood's forwards stood tall in the deciding quarter, which proved the difference.

Lobethal finished the match with three goals from nine scoring opportunities in the final stanza, while the Woods posted four goals from nine scoring chances.

The Woods held on for a nine-point victory, duly inflicting Lobethal maiden defeat of the 2013 campaign.

Post-match Blackwood coach Benson was a relieved man and happy with the Woods team performance, finding it very hard to pick the best players as everyone fulfilled their responsibilities.

Captain Steve Woods was adjudged best afield for the Woods, with Kleinig, Sam Cheek, Work and Edwards also among the best.

Lobethal were very good with the ball in hand, taking full advantage of Blackwood's turn overs, however, some costly skill errors let the Tigers down, while they couldn't execute the one percentage plays, including tackles and shepherds, which enabled Blackwood to score easily.

The Woods will confront Mt Barker this Saturday, chock full of confidence to confront the undefeated Barkerroos, while Lobethal will aim to bounce back against neighboring arch rival Torrens Valley.



Strathalbyn's Wade Thorpe is mobbed by jubilant team-mates as his goal after the final siren clinched a remarkable comeback victory for the Roosters over Willunga in last Saturday's round of Great Southern Football League A-grade fixtures.

# Dream seals Strath win

Strathalbyn's Wade Thorpe lived every boy's dream in last Saturday's Round 5 clash against Willunga, soaring over the pack to take a screamer and boot the winning goal after the siren at Willunga Oval.



The last-gasp win enabled the Roosters to consolidate second position in the Great Southern Football League A-grade competition, while two-time reigning premier Langhorne Creek have slumped to outright bottom place for the 2013 season.

Strathalbyn pulled off its first victory over the Demons since the 2010 grand final after trailing by six goals with 20 minutes remaining in the last term, going on to record a 13-11 to 13-9 triumph with the final kick of the match.

The Demons dominance only began in the third term after they turned a six-point first quarter lead and a four-point half-time buffer into a 27-point advantage at the final interval.

The Roosters started hot early with in form big man Ben Simmonds backing up his six-goal haul in Round 4 with the opening two majors of the afternoon, accompanied by skipper Simon Munn and wingman Sam George.

The game was brought back to level playing terms late in the quarter and became topsy-turvy for the remainder of the first half, as Willunga tall Jake Stanfield and Todd Steele began to dominate in the ruck, while wingman Brett Meigel was working the outside parameters of the ground with great success.

Onka Valley recruit Daniel Butcher stamped his authority on the match during the third stanza, largely due to Steele giving his midfielders first use of the football in the centre of the ground. 2012 GSFL Mail Medalist Mitchell Portlock started to influence the contest, while Luke Collier was dominating Roosters counterpart Thorpe at centre half forward, grasping multiple contested marks to help set up several of Butcher's seven goals for the match.

The former Hills Bulldog kicked his seventh after receiving a free kick just before the three-quarter-time siren, however, it was a kick after the siren 30 minutes later which decided the match.

The Demons extended their advantage six minutes into the last term, gaining a seemingly unassailable 36-point lead and carrying all the momentum.

The unassailable component wasn't relayed to some defiant members of the Strathalbyn side, as Ben Cousins begun a run of six straight goals to reclaim the Ivan Cross Memorial Trophy – last held by the club three seasons ago.

Simmonds was injected into the ruck despite laboring from a lower back injury, going on to snap his fourth goal to bring the margin back to four majors with 15 minutes remaining.

In other pivotal moves key forward Ashley Weckert went into defence and Thorpe into attack, with the latter kicking his first goal minutes after Cousins, bringing his side within striking distance.

Munn and Cousins each had an outstanding 11 disposals in the final term to lift their side over the line, both contributing one of the next two majors

to move within five points with three minutes left in the match.

A rushed behind seemed to signal the end of the match and a gallant but unsuccessful attempt to bring down the GSFL powerhouse, before Munn pumped the ball inside 50m for the 15th time of the quarter in the very last roll of the dice.

The 55m bomb was destined to be knocked over the line before Thorpe elevated himself above a massive pack of players to take a spectacular mark, goaling after the siren from an acute angle to clinch the Roosters fourth win for 2013.

A depleted Langhorne Creek weren't as successful against Myponga-Sellicks on Saturday night, losing 15-9 to 10-9 at Langhorne Creek Oval.

The Hawks went into the match without defenders Dale Chandler and Greg Norman for a second week, also unsettled without Phil Cleggett, Rodney Uebergang and Brock Rothe.

It wasn't a factor in the first term as the home side kicked five majors to two, before trailing by two points at the major break.

Jarrold Kellock was ruthless in his attack on the ball for the Hawks, while Lorry McGregor was instrumental before suffering a hamstring injury in the third term.

The absence of the Hawks dynamo opened the game up for the Mudlarks with past Ironbank player Gareth Williams slamming through four majors in a best afield performance to steer his side home.

Myponga piled on eight goals to two in the second half to run away with the victory, however, it wasn't all negative for the young Hawks who continue to gain A-grade experience.

Riley Mattner battled rigorously in the ruck, while returning junior Stanley Long made some classy contributions, including two majors in the first term.

It was mostly 'against the grain' results in Saturday's other GSFL matches, as Goolwa/Port Elliot overcame Victor Harbor 8-15 to 7-9, McLaren eclipsed Yankalilla 12-14 to 11-12, and Encounter Bay scored a modest 13-8 to 9-12 win against Mt Compass.

An even playing field among all sides has gone to new levels so far this season, exemplified by almost every team having a chance to claim a victory in Round 6 matches this Saturday.

The Hawks travel to Goolwa in search of their second victory for 2013, coming across an inform Magpies side which could jump to as high as third if they win, despite currently sitting seventh.

The Roosters will host Victor Harbor in a bid to cement themselves in the top two, although the Roos will be desperate for a win after two consecutive defeats.

The Mudlarks travel to McLaren Vale to meet the Eagles, and Willunga will host Mt Compass.



Members of Hahndorf's 1963 A-grade football premiership team who attended the recent 50th anniversary reunion held on May 5 ... (rear from left) Barry Henningsen, Alex Day, Noel Duffield, David Post, Ray Thiele, Peter Henningsen, Russell Grivell, Stu Beaumont and captain John Mullins. Middle: Bob Virgo, Craig Paech, Robin Correll, coach John Gaze, Leo Lambert, Neil Fulwood and Trevor Jacob. Front: Ian Paech and team mascot Alan Thiele.

Image courtesy Roy Liebich.

# Class of '63 feted

Hahndorf Football Club recently celebrated the 50th anniversary of its 1963 A-grade premiership victory against Mt Barker.

The event was part of the annual life members luncheon, and of the 26 members who formed part of the 1963 playing squad, 17 returned to the club – some for the first time in many years.

Those unable to attend the May 5 reunion included John Wittwer, who had other commitments on the day, Richard Clarke, who now lives in Geelong and Tony Goodchild who resides at Scone in NSW.

Robin Correll from Berri and Ray Thiele from Millicent travelled from regional SA for the event at Pine Avenue.

Sadly some team members have passed on, including Paul Bross, Robin Harris, Jack Grivell, Jack Cleggett, Malcolm Miller, Alf Braendler, Ralph Leonard and John Mullin.

After reflecting on the lasting memory of those departed players, the fun of the reunion began with stories abounding of how the group overcame a narrow grand final loss to Mt Barker in 1961 and another narrow preliminary final loss against Mt Barker in 1962, before finally etching into Hills football history in 1963.

In the 1963 Hills Central association decider Mt Barker got away to an early lead, which was expected by most, but after quarter time Hahndorf found its feet and pegged back Mt Barker's lead to be almost level pegging at half-time.

The Magpies then confidently ran away from their neighboring arch rival in the second half to record a resounding and quite unexpected 14-12 to 5-15 victory.

Best on the day for Hahndorf included Goodchild, John Mullins, Noel Duffield, Correll, Bross and Neil Fulwood, with the major goal kickers including Goodchild with five goals and Duffield and Wittwer with two each.

Hahndorf's 1963 premiership coach John Gaze especially travelled from Bundaberg in Queensland for the event.

He introduced the team to the audience and noted it was a pleasure to lead them 50 years ago.

"They were a very talented group," outlined Gaze.

"Many were as young as 17 and they were mostly local lads.

"They were all very single minded about the opportunity

they had to finally put the club's 31 year A-grade premiership drought to rest."

Team captain Mullins captivated the crowd of over 100 guests with his wonderful recollections of the premiership year.

During the post-match celebrations he recalled people, whom he had never met before, running up and down Hahndorf's main street embracing each other and shouting jubilantly about the victory.

It struck Mullins how important the win was to what was then a rather small community.

Later he invited all of his attending team-mates to the microphone to describe their own memories of the victory 50 years ago.

Those in attendance were entertained with many interesting tales including how Duffield came to be a Hahndorf player, Leo Lambert's 12-goal haul against Langhorne Creek and the emotion from David Post of what it meant to win a premiership.

Past club secretary Bob Virgo also humorously reflected on cleaning out the coach's pig pens before some games, and described the wizardry of Tony Goodchild.

Goodchild played just one year at Hahndorf after enjoying a distinguished career at Sturt playing alongside legends including Wally May and Len Fitzgerald, but obviously left an indelible mark on all of his team-mates at Hahndorf, exemplified by their apparent admiration for him.

The fun didn't stop there as the team was asked what the club had presented to them after the historic win, with some correctly nominating an engraved ash tray.

It provided the cue for Greg Beaumont – a best and fairest recipient for the Magpies during the 1980s – to produce an engraved ash tray from his pocket, which was given to his father Stuart some 50 years earlier.

Beaumont previously bought his father's property and rediscovered the ash tray while recently digging in the garden.

He asked him to look after it a little better, which brought the house down and it was the perfect finish to an afternoon which master of ceremonies Graeme Sinclair described as a "piece of local history that will never be repeated".

Thankfully most of the function was videoed by the club and will be archived so future generations can enjoy the feats of the class of '63.