

# Basketballer caught in football's net

ADELAIDE forward Kurt Tippett has won the AFL Rising Star Round 8 nomination after a standout game against Melbourne.

The 21-year-old, 200cm Queenslander, who has kicked 13 goals since his debut in Round 1, booted four goals against the Demons at AAMI Stadium on Sunday.

Tippett switched to Australian Rules from basketball, where he represented Queensland and toured the US with the Queensland Academy of Sport.



His future seemed destined for basketball when he made the talent identification squad for the NBL's Brisbane Bullets.

But in 2004 he was introduced to football by Ben Merrett, the son of former Brisbane captain Roger.

He had a kick in the AFL

Queensland independent schools competition and quickly graduated to the Southport seniors.

Two years later he played in a Southport premiership and was taken by the Crows at pick No. 32 in the 2006 national draft.

Tippett has played every game this season after an injury-plagued first season.

"It is exciting for the club and our supporters to see him showing some really good signs as a key forward and occasionally in the ruck," Adelaide coach Neil Craig said.

AAP