

1976 National Football League - Semi Final

Tigers buckle under Hawk pack tactics

Hawthorn	2.2	7.7	9.11	11.16 (82)
Glenelg	2.1	3.1	7.4	8.8 (56)

By MIKE COWARD

Hawthorn came, had a fleeting look, and then conquered Glenelg in the first National League semi-final at Norwood Oval last night.

Hawthorn was prepared to gamble and played the numbers game to perfection to end by 26 points Glenelg's challenge for the first national title.

The crowd of 8086 was soon aware that Hawthorn had more run, more strength and more players at the fall of the ball.

Glenelg did not have the right personnel to combat Hawthorn's fundamental but effective pack-running football.

Hawthorn, which will now meet the winner of next Tuesday's Norwood-North Melbourne semi-final in the August 17 final, made certain of victory in an aggressive second quarter.

In this period it kicked 5.5 to a solitary goal and was just too bold for Glenelg, which tended to be apologetic when it most needed to be forthright.

When Kym Hodgeman took two heavy head blows in the second term, the impetus went out of Glenelg's game.

Hawthorn, desperate to win after stunning losses in Melbourne, over the past two weeks, easily ran the ball through half-forward.

Neil Kerley's gamble of playing Paul Weston at centre in the absence of the 'flu-struck Peter Marker, was not successful.

After a sound start, centre half-back Reg Pollard — a cut-down version of Mick Nolan — was unable to contain Martello and Weston found the going hard against Kelvin Matthews, returning to the side after serious injury.

Kerley was forced to switch Weston to half-back, Pollard to half-forward and release kick-starved half-forward Adrian Rebeck to the centre.

However, Hawthorn, still carried the ball with great ease and confidence through centre and half-forward.

Blond and exciting rover Barry Rowlings, versatile follower Michael Tuck and John Hendrie, a crafty half-forward who read off hands to perfection, wrought havoc in the Glenelg defensive zone.

Only Greg Croser, who outsmarted feted Michael Moncrieff and Rex Voigt, who never seems perturbed by such demanding occasions, was able to keep body, soul and reputation intact.

Glenelg had chances in the second half, but squandered many of them. Sadly, one of the offenders was Fred Phillis, who played splendidly on Kelvin Moore, arguably the best full back in Australia.

Had Glenelg more players with the persistency and boldness of Graham Cornes, who played another marvellous game, Hodgeman and John MacFarlane, it may have got closer to Hawthorn.

Cornes was named Man of the Match and collected his second color television set. With eight points from three games, he now has a stranglehold on the title of Player of the Series, and the \$5700 car that goes with it.

GOALKICKERS — Hawthorn — L. Matthews, Hendrie, 2.2; Walter, 2.0; Scott, 1.3; K. Matthews, Moncrieff, 1.1; Eade, Douge, 1.0; Rowlings, 0.2; Rice Martello, McCarthy, 0.1; rushed, 0.2.

Glenelg — D. Phillis, 4.1; Hodgeman, 1.2; Rebeck, 1.1; Hercock, Marriott, 1.0; Johnston, Caldwell, Copping, 0.1; rushed, 0.1.

BEST — Hawthorn — Rowlings, Hendrie, K. Matthews, Tuck, L. Matthews, Martello, McCarthy. Glenelg — Cornes, Croser, Hodgeman, MacFarlane, Voigt.

Umpire — R. Scholefield.

COACHES' COMMENTS

Parkin 'haunted' by Kennedy

By GEOFF KINGSTON

Hawthorn acting coach David Parkin looked around the room at half-time and got the surprise of his life to see coach John Kennedy standing back in a corner.

"I didn't know he was here," Parkin said afterwards.

Kennedy caught a late flight out of Melbourne and arrived at Norwood Oval just as the game was starting. He watched it from the back of the grandstand.

At half-time Parkin asked Kennedy how he thought the side was going.

"He said okay," said Parkin "And then gave me a list of about nine suggestions."

Kennedy even "haunted" Parkin in Melbourne.

As part of the team preparation for last night's game, Parkin had arranged some in-flight reading and study of the Glenelg players.

But just as they were stepping onto the plane, a Fokker friendship, a messenger arrived with a further package of "required reading" from Kennedy.

"The players had so much to read they

couldn't finish it all in the two-and-a-half hour trip," Parkin laughed.

Following two successive defeats, Kennedy and Parkin were happy to win last night.

Parkin said: "It was a small step in the right direction." Kennedy said: "I'm just a little happier but not sure we have turned the corner."

"We took risks when the game had to be won," Parkin said.

"But when we got four or five goals in front we didn't work properly, so the win was really just a small step."

"But of course Glenelg has a lot of players out so we shouldn't take too much kudos from the win."

Kennedy thought Hawthorn's second quarter was "good," the third, "not bad," and in the last quarter it was "just going through the motions."