

What a Premier Port!

Tigers prove too timid

By Ashley Porter

Port Adelaide embalmed itself in glory by clinching its third consecutive premiership with a crushing 51-point victory over Glenelg at Football Park yesterday.

The Magpies won almost every position and what promised to be an exciting, close contest turned into another one-sided fizzer.

Port looked the winner mid-way through the second term when it became painfully obvious Glenelg simply did not have the material to win a grand final.

And from then on the match developed into a procession as the tattered Tigers trailed Port guernseys for the ball into Port's forward line.

Glenelg was thrashed across centre, did not have a capable or threatening forward and found it too hard to simply win the rucks at centre and drive straight into attack.

Superb

Perhaps the most dismal part of Glenelg's ineptness was its kicking. Rarely has a league final side kicked so badly whether under pressure or in the clear and countless good kicks landed in Magpie arms.

Glenelg lacked Port's superb movement of the ball, its back-up and regimented teamwork between running players.

Port was self-disciplined, worked desperately hard for the ball and always gave the impression it knew what it was doing and what had to be done.

Glenelg became unsettled when half-back, Neville Caldwell was

	6-5	8-6	12-11	14-11	95
Port Adelaide	6-5	8-6	12-11	14-11	95
Glenelg	1-0	2-4	2-5	6-8	44

BEST - PORT: Ebert, Clifford, Martyn, Warren, Kinnear, Bradley, Giles, Eckermann. **GLENELG:** Kuhlmann, Paynter, Weston, Carey.

SCORES - PORT: Bradley 3.1, Clifford 3.0, Evans 2.2, Ebert 2.0, Cahill 2.0, Martyn 1.1, Granger 1.0, Belton 0.2, Kinnear 0.1, Johnston 0.1, rushed 0.3. **GLENELG:** McDermott 1.1, Paynter 1.1, Brown 1.1, Walter 1.1, Marshall 1.0, Copping 1.0, Weston 0.2, Rady 0.1, McGuinness 0.1.

INJURIES - PORT: Abernethy (hamstring). **GLENELG:** Caldwell (concussion).

UMPIRES - Peter Mead, Bob Scolefield. **CROWD -** 52,659

knocked out and the Tigers appeared to lose concentration as Port kicked two goals late in the first term to lead 6-1 to 1-0 at quarter time.

The match was won in the second term with outstanding defensive work by Port's Ivan Eckermann, Len Warren, Tony Giles, Danny Hughes, Greg Phillips and Peter Hoffner.

While Glenelg missed Caldwell, Port suffered a blow when Bruce Abernethy was forced off with a hamstring injury mid-way through the second term.

But the telling difference was that Port had numerous winners around the ground while Glenelg lacked flexibility.

There were two other big differences between the winner and loser — centreman Russell Ebert and follower Stephen Clifford.

The power they generated around the ground was amazing and they consistently found Magpies hungry for the ball. Ebert's outstanding per-

formance dispelled the old theory that he could not perform in a big final.

He amassed 24 kicks (eight in the first term) gave out 13 handballs and took six marks.

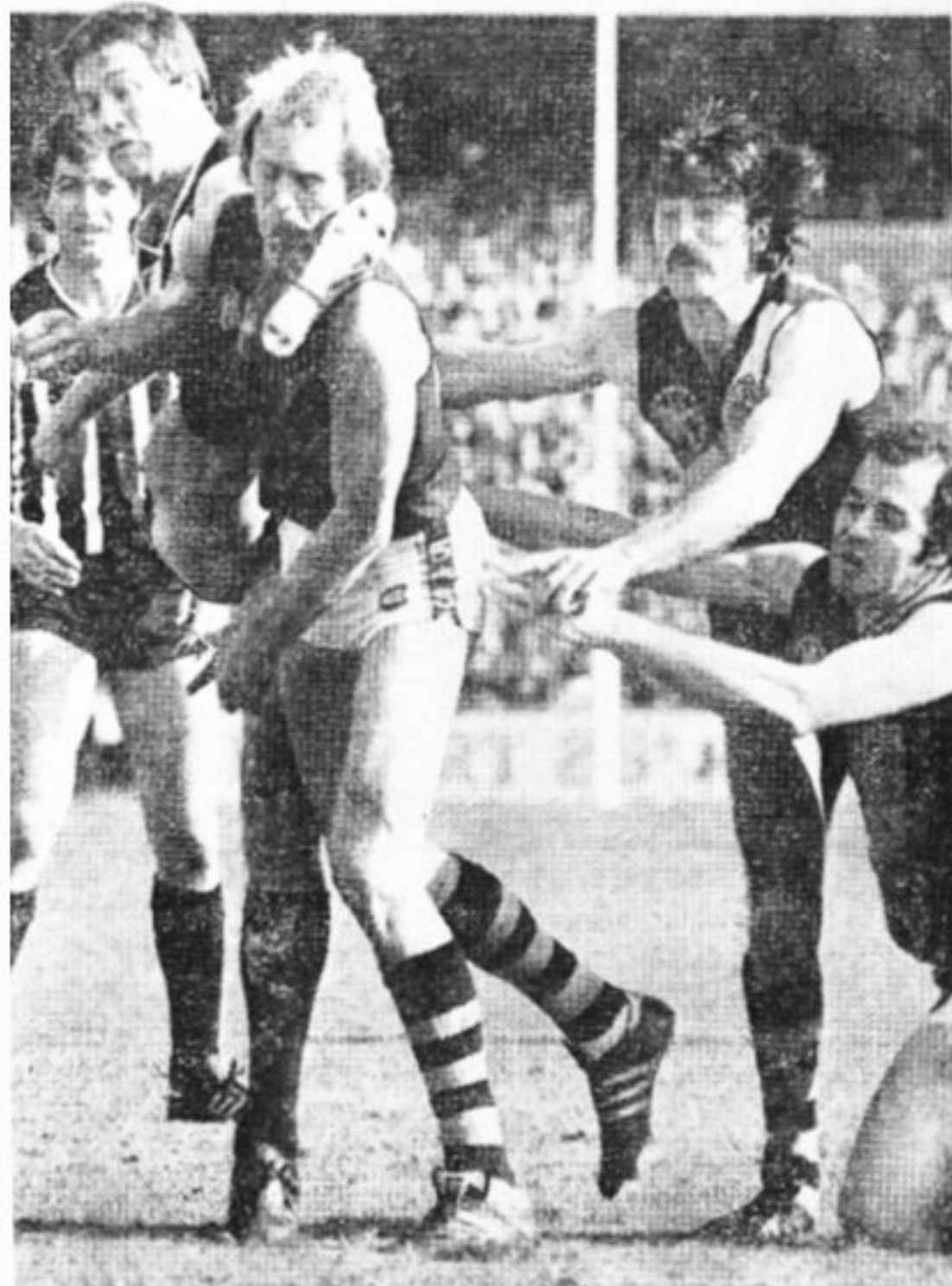
Clifford repeatedly designed Port's attack with some clever ball-handling and sheer desperation. He recorded 25 kicks, three handballs and seven marks.

Excellent

Wingman Kym Kinnear produced his usual superb finals' effort for the Magpies while on the other wing Tony Martyn was instrumental in a number of forward movements.

Glenelg had very few winners, but of them, full back Keith Kuhlmann was the best.

He did an excellent job on restricting Tim Evans to only two goals and thwarted numerous



Glenelg's Graham Cornes got a boot, er bit, more than he bargained for from Magpie David Granger.

Magpie thrusts.

But sadly, like some other Glenelg players, he did not receive enough support from running players.

Glenelg captain Paul Weston collected 21 kicks but spoilt his effort when so many went to the opposition downfield.

Rookie

Graham Cornes put in only a fair performance and he too was ineffective at times.

The Tigers played

rookie Tony McGuinness in the 20 ahead of Colin Anderson and the selection proved a good one as the youngster added some bite in the second half when he collected 12 kicks.

Glenelg had nothing to look for up forward and was forced to take centre half forward Stephen Kernahan off in the third term, while full forward Robbie Walter found it hard to capitalise on the few opportunities he was given.

The last word ...

Ebert best on ground

Port Adelaide centreman Russell Ebert was easily best on ground in yesterday's grand final against Glenelg.

If there was any doubt about him performing at his best in a final, it was dispelled from the opening minutes of play.

He guided his team in attack with some brilliant efforts and earned 24 kicks, 13 handballs, six marks and kicked two goals.

Ebert, 32, seems certain to be presented with the inaugural Jack Oatey Medal for being best on ground in the grand final at the premiership dinner in a few weeks.



Russell Ebert

R. Ebert (PA)	1
S. Clifford (PA)	2
K. Kuhlmann (Glen)	3
— DARYL HICKS	

R. Ebert (PA)	1
S. Clifford (PA)	2
A. Martyn (PA)	3
— ASHLEY PORTER	



John Cahill



Brian Cunningham

What the captains and coaches said.

JOHN CAHILL (Port coach): "The 1977 premiership was sweeter but this one was more satisfying because of the discipline and the hard work the players produced to get there."

"I was always confident throughout the season of winning the grand final because I knew of the courage the players had."

"This premiership means a lot because it's three in a row and only in the fifties has this been achieved by Port in 100 years of football."

BRIAN CUNNINGHAM (Port captain): "It was a good team effort. Much credit must go to the youngsters who played particularly well."

Commiseration to Glenelg. They were the best team in the minor round."

JOHN HALBERT (Glenelg coach): "We did not work hard enough, we did not combine well enough and it was the worst we have kicked this year."

"I don't think we were physically strong enough and we will have to work on that next year. The movement in the forward lines was bad, it was congested."

PAUL WESTON (Glenelg captain): "It was naturally disappointing for us. Congratulations to Port, it played the better game."



John Halbert



Paul Weston

GRAND FINAL '81 SOUVENIR

Tried and true...

Port Adelaide simply steam-rolled Glenelg with its tried and trusted finals formula.

During the game the Tigers refused to admit to the superiority of Russell Ebert and Stephen Clifford and the dominance of Greg Phillips and Peter Hofner over their key forwards.

Coach John Halbert and his "brains-trust" failed to make moves that may have given Glenelg a chance to recover.

The loss of Neville Caldwell, although it unsettled the side, in no way affected the result.

Glenelg simply succumbed to the overall power, size and athletic ability of their opponents.

As I have always said... you have to attack Port and control its prime movers allowing your players to play their own game.

Even if they have only 50 per cent of the play the Magpies are more effective because of players like Ebert and Clifford.

There appeared to be no attempt from Glenelg to play man-for-man, arm-across, body-against, physical-contact football.

Glenelg at least should have learnt its lesson from the second semi-final.

Did the Glenelg bench have too much confidence in its key position players to offset the dominance of Hofner, Phillips, Ebert and eventually Granger?

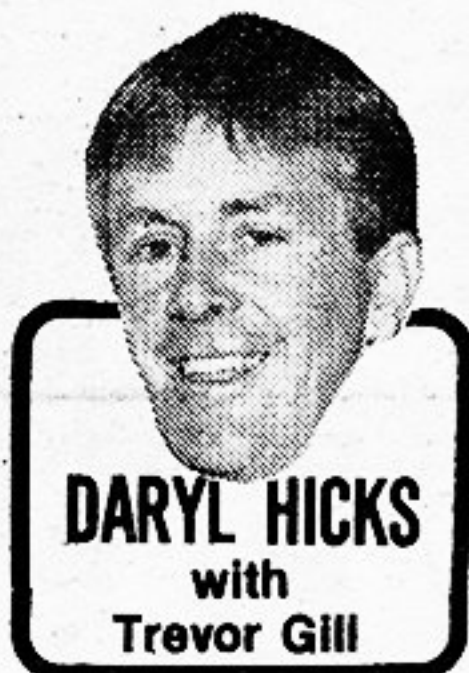
From the outset Port coach John Cahill took the initiative and attempted to mislead Glenelg by starting Bruce Abernethy on the wing.

But after the initial thrusts, Abernethy swapped with Tony Martyn.

Glenelg's reaction reflected pre-match planning. John MacFarlane was quickly upon Abernethy, with David Holst at half-forward.

Stephen Clifford's early dominance and goal highlighted the difference in the ruck-rover roles of each team.

For Glenelg Graham Cornes is the high-marking, kick-behind-the-play follower, while Clifford is a running, attacking



DARYL HICKS
with
Trevor Gill

link man... even a second rover.

Clifford's role, when coupled with Ebert's attacking power, gives Port two avenues in which to move the ball directly at goal.

Port also dominated right across centre, despite Glenelg swapping its wingmen David Marshall and Peter Brown.

No peer

And in defence the Magpies played percentage football. They had numbers to the fall of the ball and made total commitment to it.

Against the breeze Len Warren, Tony Giles, Greg Phillips, Danny Hughes, Peter Hofner and Ivan Eckermann were supported by the loose man in defence, Darrell Cahill... a role in which Cahill has no peer.

These players turn defence into attack, often running the

ball past centre with penetrating kicks to forwards in open spaces.

Glenelg alternatively was forced into hurried kicks to position.

The duel of the day was undoubtedly between Keith Kuhlmann and Tim Evans, and it was only the magnificent defensive work of the All-Australian full-back that prevented the Ken Farmer Medal winner from kicking 100 goals for the season.

Kuhlmann's tactics are to play Evans from the front and use his great strength to offset the Port full forward's marking ability.

And it is no mean feat to hold Evans to two goals against such an attacking side.

Russell Johnston just shaded Peter Carey in ruck.

But Port's rovers Brian Cunningham and Paul Belton outplayed their opponents John Paynter and Chris McDermott.

Tony McGuinness' efforts in the second half were good for a 17-year-old in his first final series, and he is a player of the future.

As for the other juniors on the ground, Port's Craig Bradley and Danny Hughes lived up to the expectations of the Victorian scouts.

Bradley is a talented opportunist half forward flanker whose speed, anticipation and skill made him a match-winner.

Glenelg's other junior, Stephen Kernahan, found the strength and ability of Greg Phillips just a bit too much for him at this stage of his career.

Claremont top

PERTH: Claremont took the WAFL 1981 grand final in a sensation packed match against South Fremantle at Subiaco Oval yesterday winning by 15 points — 16-15 (111) to 12-24 (96).

The game was marred by vicious brawls in the first ten minutes which temporarily shook Claremont, but the Tigers' superior pace and fitness was the deciding factor in their victory.

It was one of the best

grand finals for many years and some football followers were denied the chance to see the game because the gates were closed just before the start of the match.

There were 50,517 people at the ground and the total for the four finals was a record 150,795.

Jim Krakouer was the momentum behind the Tigers' victory and his sparkle put the polish on a consistent and persistent Claremont side.

GLENELG

FORWARDS



CHRIS McDERMOTT,
23, 185cm, 75.5kg



ROBBIE WALTER,
27, 185cm, 85kg



JOHN MACFARLANE,
26, 185cm, 105kg

HALF-FORWARDS



STEPHEN COPPING,
25, 185cm, 75.5kg



STEPHEN KERNAHAN,
18, 190cm, 87kg



GRAHAM CORNES,
33, 190cm, 85kg

CENTRES



PETER BROWN,
23, 190cm, 87kg



PAUL WESTON,
24, 185cm, 81.5kg



DAVID MARSHALL,
21, 175cm, 71.5kg

HALF-BACKS



DAVID HOLST,
23, 190cm, 87kg

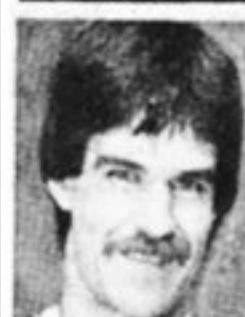


BOB PARCH,
26, 185cm, 87.5kg



NEIL L. CAMPBELL,
21, 185cm, 87kg

BACKS



JIM LIHOU,
23, 185cm, 85kg



KEITH KUHLMANN,
21, 185cm, 93kg



JOHN MACGILL,
21, 190cm, 83.5kg

RUCK



PETER CAREY,
27, 195cm, 105kg



DARYL RADY,
25, 195cm, 115kg



JOHN PAYNTER,
25, 175cm, 73.5kg

INTERCHANGE



COLIN ANDERSON,
29, 185cm, 87kg



CHRIS VEIDE,
21, 190cm, 97kg



JOHN HALBERT

COACH

Tigers' heart-stopper

Glenelg survived a heart-stopping final term to beat Port Adelaide by two points in the Reserves grand final at Football Park yesterday.

The Tigers wrestled a slender lead back off Port at the 23-minute mark of the last quarter when Michael Farquhar steered through the victory goal.

The Magpies earlier took the lead off Glenelg and that was the start of a gruelling battle of the defences.

Both sides consistently forced the ball into attack, but were turned back by the desperate defenders.

RESERVES

By Trevor Gill

It was Glenelg's revenge victory after being beaten by Port in last year's Reserves grand final, and its first premiership since 1967.

It was a classic curtain-raiser to the League grand final between the same two clubs and a triumph for Glenelg's Reserve coach Steve Hywood.

The hero of Glenelg's defence was veteran Malcolm Greenslade, who played the final with all the relish of a youngster.

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts
Glenelg	4-3	4-3	6-6	7-8	50
Port Adelaide	0-1	1-8	4-10	6-12	48

BEST—GLENELG: Greenslade, Bellman, Rogers, MacVicar, McInerney, Lunnis, Barratt, Hurley. PORT: Baker, Leslie, S. Williams, O'Donovan, C. Ebert, Gill, Natt, Whitehead.

GOALKICKERS—GLENELG: Farquhar 2, Phillips 2, MacVicar, Mason, Anderson. PORT: A. Williams, Hamill, Craik, Baker, S. Williams, Whitehead.

He was the "Gibraltar Rock" of the Tiger back-men, undoubtedly a major reason for the Glenelg victory in the final term.

But it was a credit to both sides the way they fought out what was an unbelievably perilous final 15 minutes.

Glenelg leapt to an early lead, restricting Port to only one point in the first quarter.

The Magpies had their chance to work back into

the game in the second term, but managed only one goal from eight scoring shots.

In that same term Glenelg did not score, but in the second half gusty conditions again restricted the scoring and it was only Glenelg's determination which allowed it to last for victory.