

# Sad story for Central again

By GEOFF KINGSTON

Central District lost another close game yesterday. After his team's 22-point loss to Glenelg at Football Park, it seems the only thing left for coach Daryl Hicks is prayer.

But one wonders if even the Lord has turned a deaf ear to him; certainly it looked a little that way at times yesterday as some bewildering umpiring decisions sabotaged potentially match-winning moves by Central late in the game.

Hicks was more than a little confused after the game — as were many Glenelg people — and said he felt that "umpiring decisions contributed to our loss of momentum in the last term when we needed a bit of luck."

It is believed a runner for one club spoke to umpire Peter Mead during the game about his interpretation of ruck infringements.

But all that aside, the ugly fact remains that Central again failed to win a close game.

About 20 minutes into the last quarter it trailed by just five points and was poised to grab the lead when a pass by follower Darel Hart missed its mark inside half-forward.

Instead it was quickly rebounded by Glenelg and, with Central players out of position, John Paynter picked off an easy goal to stretch Glenelg's lead to 11 points.

Central never recovered. It got close a couple of times but that elusive winning edge was missing once again.

It has now lost five games this season in tight finishes. Five games

Glenelg	2.4	5.9	9.9	12.13 (85)
Central	3.2	4.5	7.8	9.9 (63)

that were winnable and which would have made the club safe in the major round struggle.

Yesterday's loss is more evidence for a belief that is threatening to take control.

Nevertheless, Glenelg deserved its win. It worked damn hard all day and, like Central, also was the victim of some strange umpiring decisions.

Peter Carey again did well without being overpowering and he stopped Central ruckmen Terry Moore and Richard Cousins from exerting any match-winning influence.

And the rovers were pretty even also. Glenelg's Tony McGuinness and Central's John Platten were the most prolific kickgetters on the ground and continued to do the desperate things in that desperate last quarter. The other two — John Paynter (Glenelg) and Mark Norsworthy (Central) — also broke even on the day.

There was not much between the two centremen either. Peter Krieg, who was a last-minute replacement for Dean Mobbs (ill), made a superb return to league football. He worked hard far and wide repeatedly to

push Central into attack.

Ralph Sewer got his kicks a little easier but was just as effective; maybe more so in that tense last term.

Peter Vivian beat John MacFarlane on one wing but David Marshall evened the balance with a top performance against Stephen Livesey on the other side.

But the biggest difference, probably the match-winning difference, was in the followers.

Glenelg's Graham Cornes and Chris McDermott were always threats, always working, always doing something to unbalance Central. René Van Dommele and Darel Hart, on the other hand, rarely caused Glenelg any concern.

And the Glenelg defence probably finished in front also.

**GOALKICKERS** — Glenelg: McDermott 3.1, Hewett 2.3, Paynter 2.2, Carey 1.1, MacFarlane 1.1, Lunniss 1.1, Kernahan 1.0, Cornes 1.0, Symonds 0.2, McGuinness 0.1, rushed 0.1. Central: Platten 3.2, Edwards 3.1, Wilson 2.0, Wright 1.2, Cousins 0.1, Gillies 0.1, rushed 0.2.

**BEST** — Glenelg: McGuinness, Maynard, Cornes, Paynter, Marshall, Carey, Sewer. Central: Platten, Krieg, Vivian, Beythien, Norsworthy.

Umpires — P. Mead, B. O'Connor.

## LEAGUE PREMIERSHIP TABLE

	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	Pts.	P.c.
STURT	10	2	—	1610	1213	20	57.0
WEST	9	3	—	1576	1292	18	55.0
PORT	8	3	1	1407	948	17	59.7
GLENELG	8	3	1	1612	1254	17	56.2
CENTRAL	6	6	—	1509	1324	12	53.3
NORWOOD	6	6	—	1314	1186	12	52.6
SOUTH	5	7	—	1181	1316	10	47.3
NORTH	5	7	—	1136	1518	10	42.8
TORRENS	2	10	—	971	1668	4	36.8
WOODVILLE	—	12	—	1051	1848	—	36.3

## Leading goalkickers

	Sat. and Sun.	Total
EVANS (Port Adelaide)	2.1	64.29
EDWARDS (Central District)	3.1	56.28
PIERSON (Woodville)	8.2	50.17
DAVIES (Sturt)	4.2	44.25
REYNOLDS (South Adelaide)	2.2	43.33
WRIGHT (Central District)	1.2	43.23

## Crowds for 12th series

FOOTBALL PARK (WA v. PA)	11,311
ADELAIDE OVAL (SA v. Nwd.)	6133
PROSPECT OVAL (NA v. Wd.)	2034
UNLEY OVAL (St. v. WT)	3950
FOOTBALL PARK (G v. CD)	4823
<b>Total</b>	<b>28,251.</b>

## Draw for 13th series

**SATURDAY** — FOOTBALL PARK: South Adelaide v. North Adelaide. ALBERTON OVAL: Port Adelaide v. Glenelg. THEBARTON OVAL: West Torrens v. Central District. WOODVILLE OVAL: Woodville v. Sturt. **SUNDAY** — ADELAIDE OVAL: West Adelaide v. Norwood.



As steady rain falls at Football Park yesterday Central District ruckman Terry Moore gets the jump on Glenelg's Peter Carey and thumps the ball away. But his team's fortunes generally foundered in the wet and Glenelg won by 22 points.

# PORT COUNCIL OF WAR

Port Adelaide has reacted strongly to its loss to West Adelaide on Saturday.

The club has organised a special dinner for all players tomorrow night to discuss Saturday's losses by both the league and reserves teams and to prepare for the coming weeks.

The dinner, to be held after training, will be addressed by Port coach John Cahill.

Cahill said last night the club had a busy week ahead with an Escort Cup game against West Torrens on Wednesday night as well as a game against Glenelg on Saturday.

"I want to make sure everyone is having a disciplined week," he said. "It wasn't a good effort by Port on Saturday with both the league and reserves losing.

By PETER HAYNES

"I didn't think our desire was as good as West's, and I want to make sure we're ready for this week."

Port will name its team for Wednesday night's game at the team dinner.

Paul Belton, who suffered a slight recurrence of a groin injury, is expected to be rested for that game with Ross Agius, who has a slight ankle injury.

Both are expected to be fit for Saturday.

West Torrens rover David Lawless suffered a kick in the shin against Sturt, but it is not expected to keep him out of Wednesday's game.

Norwood follower Keith Thomas

spent Saturday night in hospital after suffering concussion in the game against South Adelaide.

He was admitted to the Adelaide Sports and Science Clinic at Hindmarsh for observation and is expected to miss Sunday's game against West Adelaide.

North Adelaide suffered a severe blow when centre Greg McAdam was taken from the ground in the third quarter with a torn hamstring.

He is expected to miss at least two games. Half-forward Bill Lokan corked a thigh but is expected to be fit for Saturday's vital game against South.

Central District captain Dean Mobbs suffered a gastric upset before the start of yesterday's game and was forced to withdraw from the side at the last minute.