

Preliminary Final, 1984

# Only one match to go for the Redlegs

By GEOFF KINGSTON

Norwood somehow... impossibly, miraculously... has made it to the 1984 grand final. Its stirring 18-point victory over Glenelg in yesterday's preliminary final has left it one game away from history.

Never before has a SA league club won a premiership from fifth place.

But Norwood's performance yesterday convinced most of the 30,601 crowd that one more chapter of the already great history of Norwood is about to be written.

Only arch rival Port Adelaide can do anything about it.

The two champion SA club sides, who have dominated football in this State, will meet yet again in the most important game of the year next Sunday — Port hoping for its 23rd

|         |     |      |       |       |       |
|---------|-----|------|-------|-------|-------|
| Norwood | 4.3 | 7.8  | 13.10 | 16.11 | (107) |
| Glenelg | 1.8 | 5.15 | 8.19  | 11.23 | (89)  |

premiership since 1907; Norwood its 13th.

Glenelg found once again that as the months roll by, the spelling gets longer and the winning gets harder.

It had its chances yesterday but was not good enough.

Its early inaccuracy in attack cost it any chance it had to build up a comfortable, cushioning lead. At one stage in the second quarter it had kicked 4.14 to Norwood's 6.3.

Then, 10 minutes into the third term it edged to a 15-point break. It looked poised to bury Norwood. Even Norwood coach Neil Balme confessed afterwards he had been worried: "Yeah, I thought Glenelg was going somewhere then," he said. In fact, it went nowhere.

While the Glenelg players were clapping each other, congratulating each other and applauding each other, Norwood stole the game from them.

In 14 minutes Norwood exploited

that premature celebration to kick 6.1 to just one point by Glenelg to turn that 15-point disadvantage into a 21-point lead at three-quarter time.

Glenelg never recovered.

It was about the time that Glenelg moved two goals ahead that Balme and his advisors made a move that might just have won the game.

Garry McIntosh had been struggling in the centre. He was not giving Norwood the chances it needed.

So he was switched to half-forward, changing with Peter Laughlin and having a run on the ball. Michael Aish was installed in the centre.

The Glenelg players believed Laughlin was in the centre — so did coach Graham Campbell. And while they were struggling with their confusion Aish triggered a recovery that carried Norwood into what promises to be one of the great grand finals.

Yet for a lot of the game it struggled. It was Glenelg that

seemed on the edge of something spectacular.

Aish was doing well on the ball; so was Laughlin and rover Greg Thomas... and ruckman Neil Hein was exposing the hole in the Glenelg side left by the absence of Peter Carey.

But most of the others were just plugging away, looking and hoping that someone else was going to make it all happen.

It was getting walloped across the centreline by Steve Talbot, David Marshall and Tony Symonds. Steve Kernahan in ruck and at centre half-forward was playing one of his very big games. Chris McDermott, Tony McGuinness and Robin Kidney were winning some important touches around the packs and Chris Duthy was playing it tough and tight in defence.

Norwood was able to stay in the game because of its willingness to persist, to work hard when it seemed so futile... and because of Glenelg's inefficient use of the ball.

Then came the change that swung the game. And it coincided with the "arrival" in the game of the Norwood defence.

Playing as though their football lives depended on it — as indeed it did — defenders Bruce Winter, Tom Warhurst, Lester Ross, Justin Scanlon, Rohan Helyar and Craig Balme took control of the game to shut out Glenelg almost completely.

As they applied the pressure Glenelg cracked.

Many of the Glenelg players forgot about defence in their desperation to get a kick, to win the ball. Their lack of discipline and failure to check opponents once the ball was lost sabotaged their chances.

When the final siren sounded Glenelg's Kernahan could hardly believe the reality of what had happened. He looked over his shoulder several times in disbelief at the scoreboard that could not tell a lie.

**GOALKICKERS** — Norwood — Roberts 5.3, Laughlin 3.0, Aish 2.2, G. Thomas 2.1, Vardanega 2.0, McIntosh 1.0, Gallagher 1.0, Payne 0.2, K. Thomas 0.1, rushed 0.2. Glenelg — McGuinness 2.3, Garton 2.2, Symonds 1.3, A. Stringer 1.2, Hall 1.2, Marshall 1.2, Copping 1.1, Kernahan 1.1, Gibbs 1.0, Kidney 0.1, Holst 0.1, rushed 0.5. **BEST** — Norwood — Aish, Hein, Laughlin, G. Thomas, Gallagher, Roberts, Glenelg — Marshall, Kernahan, McDermott, McGuinness, Duthy, Symonds. **Umpires** — L. Argent and J. Hyllton.

## Forwards fail Tigers

Norwood was more efficient and disciplined in its forward lines than Glenelg.

This was the main reason for the Redlegs' 18-point win in yesterday's preliminary final.

Norwood didn't waste many forward movements. Glenelg did.

I don't subscribe to the theory that Glenelg blew its chances solely because of poor kicking for goal.

Glenelg's 11.23 to Norwood's 16.11 says it did. But the scoreboard doesn't show that Glenelg rushed six of its points and that players often were under real pressure when kicking for goal.

Norwood players weren't prepared to give the ball to a team-mate further ahead unless there was a definite movement on; one they could be sure of.

In contrast, Glenelg sometimes had two and three players flying for a mark in attack.

With Stephen Kernahan starting in ruck, Glenelg opened with Tony Hall at centre half-forward, Stephen Copping at full forward and Adam Garton in a forward pocket.

**GRAHAM CORNES** talks football with Alan Shiell



In addition, John MacFarlane was in a back pocket on Neville Roberts — the key to Norwood's forward lines — and Mark Hewett was at half-back left, minding the elusive David Payne.

Roberts was in superb touch early — he marked strongly all day — and Hewett promptly was switched on to him.

Hall was not tall enough for centre half-forward. So Glenelg's forward lines appeared to lack some balance early.

In this regard, Peter Carey's enforced absence was a contributing factor to Glenelg's loss yesterday — and also to Port Adelaide in the second semi-final.

Young Adam Garton played soundly enough. But, of course,

the Tigers really missed their captain.

Kernahan was forced into doing more ruckwork than normal, which meant his height and high marking were lost to the forward lines too often, although he had a big influence at centre half-forward in the second quarter.

Norwood had a winner in Jim Michalanne at centre half-forward. I thought he was terrific. You don't see many dominant games from centre half-forwards in finals.

The decisive move came in the third quarter when Michael Aish went into the centre and Garry McIntosh moved out to a forward flank, changing with Peter Laughlin as a follower — as much as it looked originally as if Laughlin was at centre.

Aish climbed into the game so much, he was the eventual match-winner.

David Marshall had played very well at centre for Glenelg, so I didn't think Graham Campbell could have done much about Aish, other than to go completely defensive and play a tagging-type of player on him.

Surprisingly, McIntosh didn't

break clear of as many tackles as usual.

While the effect of Carey's loss was obvious, Norwood didn't lose as much through being without wingman Duncan Fosdike and half-back Andrew Jarvis.

Glen Vardanega was most impressive on a half-forward flank and Danny Jenkins was in good touch early.

I also admired ruckman Neil Hein's sound marking and ground work and rover Greg Thomas's tenacity.

The backlines were fairly even, save for some looseness by Glenelg when Norwood made that crucial third-quarter surge.

The Redlegs didn't get a particularly good run early from umpires Laurie Argent and John Hyllton, but generally I thought their exhibition was quite okay.

With the grand final on a Sunday, Norwood has one more day to recover than the preliminary final winner has had in recent years.

Norwood has gained sufficient momentum to have the best chance any team has had of making history by winning the premiership from fifth position.

And it just might do it.



Ross Gibbs came off the interchange bench to take this spectacular mark over Norwood's Justin Scanlon in the preliminary final at Football Park yesterday. Gibbs goaled to keep the Tigers in touch. Photograph by staff photographer Barry O'Brien

## Restless Carey's day of sadness and frustration

Peter Carey's dream of leading Glenelg to a league football premiership remains a dream.

By MICHELANGELO RUCCI

His hopes of turning that dream into reality this year were dashed when Norwood eliminated Glenelg from the race in yesterday's preliminary final.

With his ultimate ambition shattered he did not seek a secluded corner in Glenelg's cold and heartless changeroom at Football Park.

Rather the Glenelg captain chose to be with his team-mates. Perched against a locker, which he had been denied to use because of a two-match suspension, Carey took long draws from a cigarette and acknowledged the apologies from some of his teammates.

"It has been a frustrating day all round," he said. "I'm not feeling for myself, but for all the 20 players who battled their hearts out."

"I feel for them more than anything else."

Carey often hid his face in his hands. He remained silent as a few Glenelg officials consoled him with pats on the back and said, "Bad luck, maybe next year."

Coach Graham Campbell described Carey's feelings best.

"He was flat," he said. "He knew it was

all over for him too and it shouldn't have been.

"I was very saddened for him. Peter Carey was dealt a harsh blow by the tribunal's decision."

"Peter suffered and ultimately it cost us a chance of playing in the grand final."

Carey had conceded defeat midway through the last quarter when Glenelg trailed by 31 points.

He threw his head back and sank deeper into his seat on the coach's bench.

He then found it harder to cover his emotions. He became restless in the final 15 minutes. Shaking harder he often appeared set to run out onto the field.

His silence was then broken.

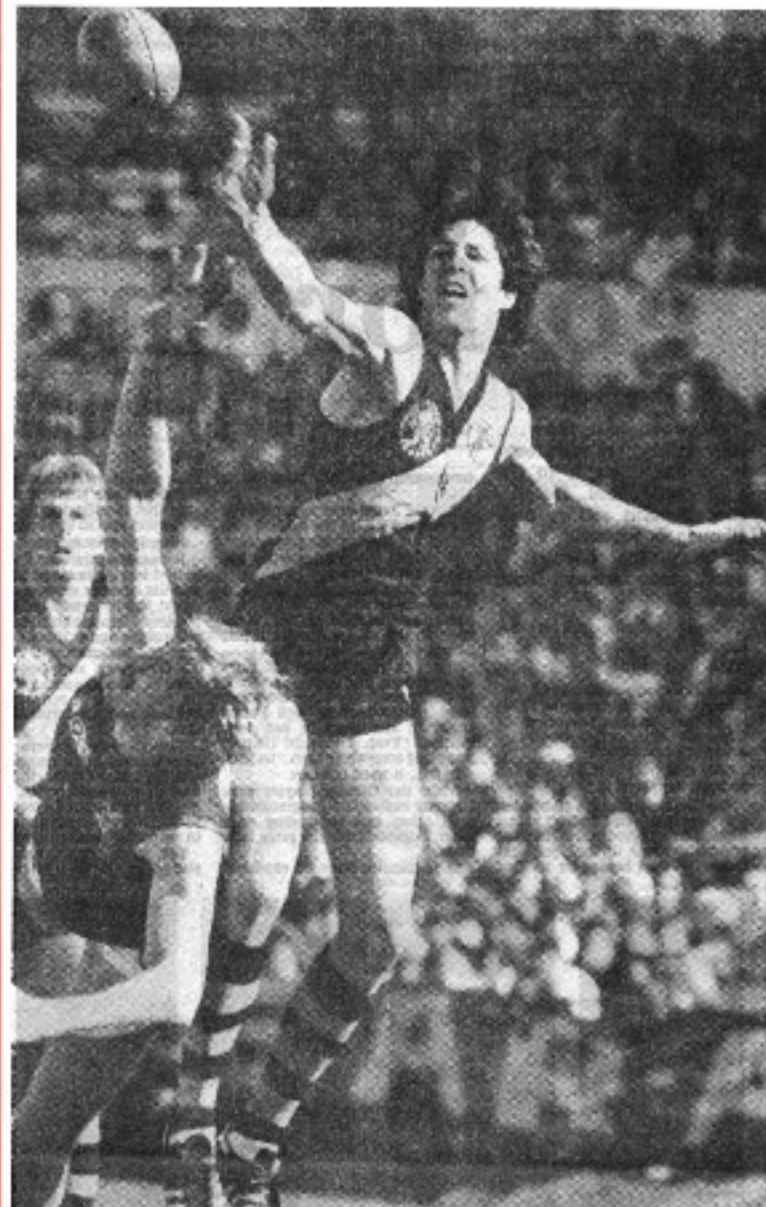
"Run it now, run it," and "Come on get it on," he yelled to his team-mates. But he soon realised he could not help.

"I now know how a coach feels from the bench," he said. "You have no control of the game from here."

"I would have loved to have been out there. It has been a hard couple of weeks."

Carey quickly rose when the final siren sounded.

He pushed his hands into his denim jeans' pockets and slowly walked down the players' race into the changeroom.



Glenelg champion Stephen Kernahan gets the knock from Norwood giant Jon Hall. At left is Glenelg's Alan Stringer. Norwood won by 18 points before a crowd of 30,601. Pictures by staff photographer Barry O'Brien.



Peter Carey, who watched yesterday's preliminary final from the Glenelg trainers' box, seems resigned to defeat for his team late in the last quarter.

## Yesterday's statistics

### GLENELG

| Player        | Kicks      | Mks       | H'ball     |
|---------------|------------|-----------|------------|
| Copping       | 9          | 9         | 6          |
| Duthy         | 11         | 3         | 5          |
| Farquhar      | 2          | -         | -          |
| Garton        | 10         | 6         | 3          |
| Gibbs         | 3          | 1         | 1          |
| Hall          | 7          | 4         | 3          |
| Hewett        | 8          | 1         | 8          |
| Holst         | 4          | 1         | 5          |
| S. Kernahan   | 14         | 9         | 10         |
| Kidney        | 10         | 2         | 7          |
| MacFarlane    | 5          | -         | 4          |
| Marshall      | 18         | 7         | 9          |
| McDermott     | 16         | 4         | 13         |
| McGuinness    | 15         | 2         | 8          |
| Salisbury     | 10         | 3         | 2          |
| Seebahn       | 6          | 1         | 7          |
| A. Stringer   | 9          | 3         | 5          |
| W. Stringer   | 13         | 4         | -          |
| Symonds       | 17         | 5         | 4          |
| Talbot        | 11         | 2         | 4          |
| <b>Totals</b> | <b>198</b> | <b>67</b> | <b>114</b> |

### NORWOOD

| Player        | Kicks      | Mks       | H'ball     |
|---------------|------------|-----------|------------|
| Aish          | 24         | 7         | 15         |
| Balme         | 9          | 3         | 1          |
| Fantasia      | 4          | 1         | 1          |
| Gallagher     | 15         | 4         | 11         |
| Hall          | 3          | 3         | 1          |
| Hein          | 7          | 8         | 5          |
| Helyar        | 11         | 4         | 2          |
| Jenkins       | 9          | 5         | 5          |
| Laughlin      | 16         | 6         | 9          |
| McIntosh      | 12         | 2         | 8          |
| Michalanne    | 9          | 9         | 5          |
| Payne         | 12         | -         | 3          |
| Roberts       | 9          | 8         | 3          |
| Ross          | 8          | 4         | 2          |
| Scanlon       | 5          | 2         | 7          |
| G. Thomas     | 13         | 3         | 3          |
| K. Thomas     | 10         | 2         | 7          |
| Vardanega     | 11         | 1         | 7          |
| Warhurst      | 6          | 2         | 8          |
| Winter        | 6          | 5         | 3          |
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**1. MICHAEL AISH** — Continued his dominant form for Norwood with an excellent display as a follower. He had 39 touches.



**2. DAVID MARSHALL** — Dominated centre, picking up 18 kicks and nine handballs to be a power source for the Tigers.



**3. STEPHEN KERNAHAN** — Class performance with strong rucking and marking at centre half-forward.



# FINALS 84

## Tigers can only kick themselves

Gee, Glenelg had its chances.

The score line of 1-12 to 5-3 at the five-minute mark of the second quarter told the tale.

Everyone has heard bad kicking is bad football, and looking back on the game, had the Bays kicked straight it would have been the VFL preliminary final all over — decided by half-time.

Good sides don't let these opportunities go.

From the start the Glenelg forward lines were robbed when Stephen Kernahan began in ruck.

Had his magnificent solo effort in the first half been capped off with accurate kicking by the forwards, it would have been enough to see Glenelg through.

### Needed

But the Norwood defence just kept on doing its job and putting pressure on the Bay forwards.

In particular, back pocket player Lester Ross was brilliant.

To win the game I thought Glenelg had to have a forward who could kick four goals. It didn't.

The forwards who have done such a good job all year just weren't there when they were needed.

With the loss of Kernahan to ruck there wasn't any cohesion in attack.

On the other hand, Norwood, with Neville Roberts and Peter Laughlin kicking eight goals between them, had enough up forward to win the game.

Jim Michalanne at centre half-forward also played a superb game, marking strongly and directing the ball forward.

And Glen Vardanega, who came into the side with Justin Scanlon going to half-back in place of the injured Andrew Jarvis, made opportunities and kicked a couple of valuable goals.

I thought Neil Balme outcoached Graham Campbell in the third quarter by putting Laughlin in the centre and Neil Hein in ruck.

The big string-bean Hein not only got his hand to the ball at centre bounces but also took some telling marks in defence.

Garry McIntosh, who has had a relatively quiet



**Rick Davies says**

... as told to Peter Cornwall

finals series, was certainly being nullified by the brilliant David Marshall.

If it hadn't been for Marshall and Kernahan, Glenelg would have struggled.

Glenelg looked likely to go on to victory when Tony McGuinness booted his second goal with a superb backscrawl punt in the third quarter and led by seven points.

But with victory in their nostrils, they stopped, allowing Phil Gallagher, Laughlin and Michael Aish to get valuable touches in the midfield.

When the chips were down, Norwood, as it has done throughout the past three games, dug in, and the saying "when the going gets tough, the tough get going" really applied.

Norwood worked the ball whereas the Bays blasted into the forward lines.

There was no discipline in the Bay attack.

Two and three players flew against one another for the marks and there was no one on the ground waiting for the crumbs. Numerous Norwood attacks were set up by Redlegs players taking those crumbs.

Ross must have thought he had the ball on a string as I can't re-

member him making a blue.

He was at the fall of the ball, he made the space, and along with Rohan Helyar and Tom Warhurst repelled most attacks.

And then there was the match-winning Roberts.

It's marvellous to see Roberts in action because you can almost sense when the play comes from centre where it is going to go.

They don't look for Laughlin. They don't look for Thomas. And 30,000 spectators know where the ball is going.

And go to Roberts it did.

He marked in front, he marked from the side, and, apart from a couple in the second quarter, kicked beautifully.

Coming away from the game I was thinking Michael Aish had been useful.

But when reading his statistics — 27 kicks, 10 marks, 15 handballs — I thought what more can a man do?

It is easy to see what high standards he has to perform at to gain recognition.

Finals are a different game, and if you are there, anything can happen.

So I can't help but feel sorry for coach Campbell.

### Proved

He has done such a good job at the Bay.

It is one thing to make the final five, but as he will well know, you certainly must win to make it worthwhile.

I hope he goes on — he's now got something to prove.

And Neil Balme, whether Norwood goes top or not, has certainly proved what a great coach he is.

I'm looking forward to a truly great, and maybe historic grand final.



Peter Laughlin

## Balme's boys make it three

By Ashley Porter

Neil Balme has become the first coach to take Norwood into three grand finals since Jack Oatey in the late 40s following the demise of Glenelg by 18 points at Football Park yesterday.

And with some sons of the players from that golden era, the club's character is still the same.

The Redlegs once again showed incredible resilience under pressure to recapture the lead and hang on for the right to play Port Adelaide next Sunday.

Forget Glenelg's atrocious kicking for goal, Norwood, too, missed some easy shots.

The fact is Glenelg hit the front in the third term and led by 15 points at the 12 minute mark. If it was good enough, it would have gone on with the job, but failed.

A turning point came moments after Norwood forward Neville Roberts was found alone and goaled.

Then a bad short pass by a Glenelg defender allowed Michael Aish to take a superb mark over an op-

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UMPIRES—Laurie Argent, John Hyton.

CROWD—30,601.

ponent, run through the centre and pass to Roberts.

Another goal.

And that moment of brilliance inspired not only the Norwood side, but its supporters who chanted: "Norwood, Norwood!"

From then on, Glenelg again looked beaten. The Redlegs added another four goals for the quarter while the Tigers looked shattered.

The heart of the Tiger

kept pounding. A goal to Ross Gibbs early in the last term brought Glenelg within 12 points, and with the use of the breeze, hopes soared.

Another turning point. Roberts was paid a hotly disputed free kick, goaled, and with a lead of 18 points, Glenelg was unable to recover.

Glenelg's bad kicking was bad football. It should have had the lead at half time. But its worse sin was blatant loose checking in the backlines in the third term.

Coach Graham Campbell admitted too many Norwood players were allowed to go unchecked, and added it could have been a case of finals inexperience.

"It's a sad ending to a season which has been significant for the Glenelg Football Club," he said.

The Tigers again missed ruckman Peter Carey, although Adam Garton tried his heart out and gave a valuable contribution.

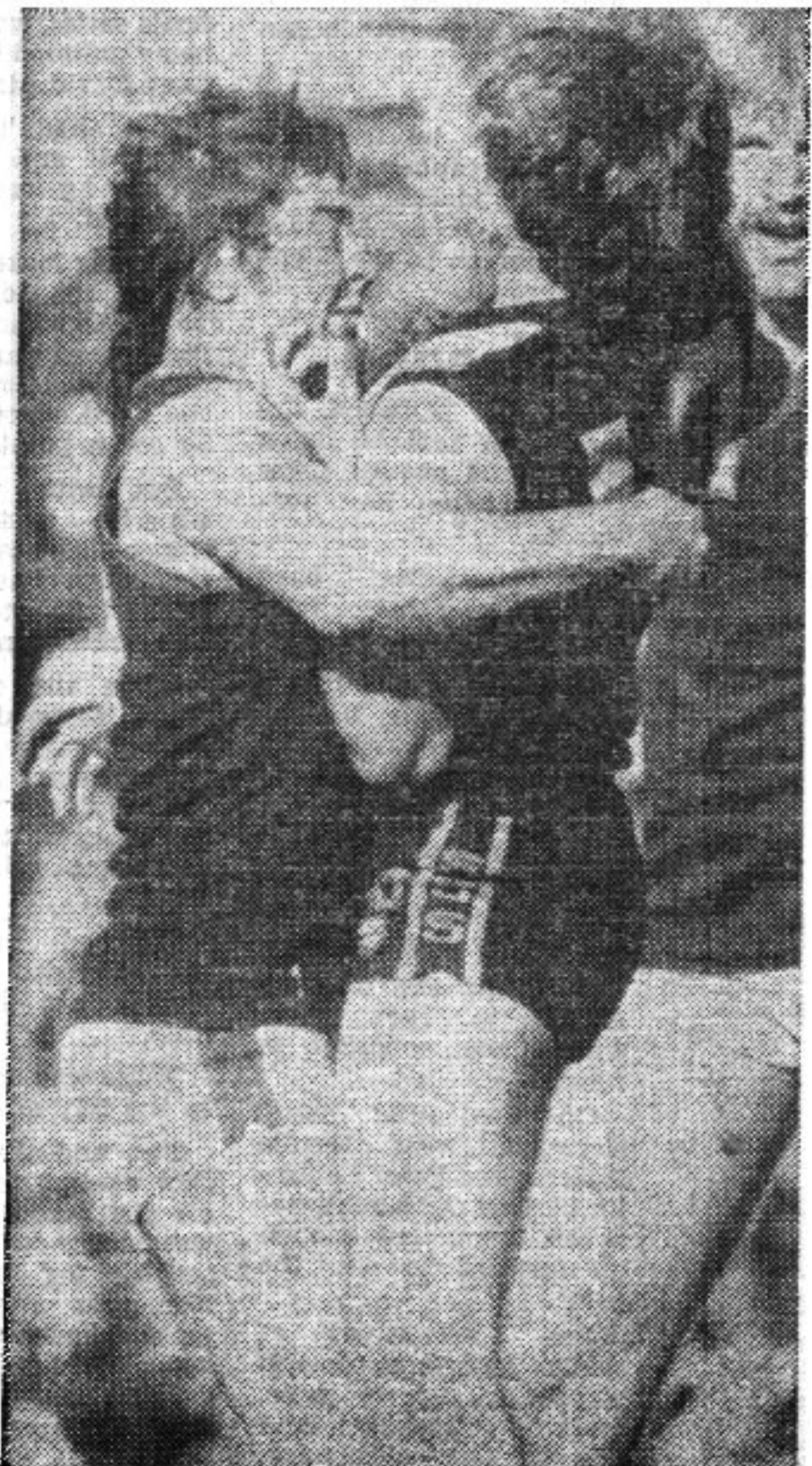
When asked what effect the loss of Carey had on Glenelg's two finals losses, Campbell replied: "Put it this way, we don't have to thank the tribunal."

There were some outstanding players for both sides... Aish, Jim Michalanne, Lester Ross for Norwood, while Glenelg's best two were easy to select... Stephen Kernahan and David Marshall.

Aish did an enormous amount of damage, especially in the second half, and finished with 42 disposals — 27 kicks and 15 handballs.

Kernahan was inspirational, both in ruck and around the ground, while Marshall was brilliant at centre.

Balme lost to the Magpies in the 1980 grand final, and took Norwood to a premiership two years later. With players full of courage, the Redlegs again deserve to be there.



TALK about a close game... Norwood's Garry McIntosh and Chris McDermott come face to face with the ball