

ALL MY 20 BEATEN-KERLS

By Gordon Campbell

Disappointed West Adelaide coach Neil Kerley was highly critical of his players' poor form against Central yesterday and declared: "All 20 were beaten."

"It was a very, very poor performance," Kerley said after his side's soul-destroying 85-point loss at Football Park.

"It rates with our worst losses this year.

"The players were not up to it mentally... I sensed before the game at 130 a very poor feeling in the rooms.

"They were lackadaisical but they should not have needed motivating with such an important game at hand."

Kerley said supporters and the club had been let down.

He said players had not started with the competitive enthusiasm he had wanted and Central had.

"To make the five from here we'll have to win the remaining six games," he said.

"If we fall along the way we're in real trouble."

West is two games behind fifth-placed Norwood and will fill either sixth or seventh today after Sturt clashes with Woodville at Woodville.

The big victory lifted the Bulldogs to second on percentage and prompted coach Kevin Neale to say: "It was the first time this year we put four quarters together."

Confident

"... yes, I'm confident we'll finish in the top three.

"But I want a repeat of the consistency against West in the next six weeks to maintain the double chance.

"It was a very important win because West was the only team we had not beaten this year... the mental preparation was right, and that was the difference between today and last week when we lost badly."

South's shock 90-point loss to ninth side North at Adelaide Oval has jeopardised its chances of finishing the minor round in the top three.

The Panthers face a vastly improved Torrens next week and clash with a revived Sturt the round after before confronting Port and Glenelg.

And Central also will have its character fully tested against Port and Glenelg in two of its next three games.

NORWOOD IN 8 GOAL STUNNER

By Peter Cornwall

Norwood snatched an incredible last-minute win against West Torrens at Thebarton Oval yesterday to strengthen its place in the top five.

The Redlegs trailed by 45 points at the three-minute mark of the final term, and Torrens' supporters were already celebrating.

The Eagles appeared to have emerged as a finals' threat. And Norwood's aspirations for the finals appeared in jeopardy.

But from nowhere, Norwood stormed home to add 8-3 to nothing by Torrens and grab an incredible six-point win.

In the tense final moments, with the scores

level and the ball at centre half-forward for Torrens, Eagles' rover Daryl Schimmelbusch was called for holding the ball after being seemingly pushed in the back.

Norwood rushed the ball from centre half-back into the forward lines, where Jim Michalannev kicked the winning goal with 30 seconds remaining.

Schimmelbusch was incensed by the decision.

Redleg interchange player Greg Thomas played a key part in the final term burst, collecting 10 kicks and four goals.

And Norwood coach Neil Balme could hardly stop smiling.

"I was disappointed

with the way we played, but very pleased with the last quarter effort," Balme said.

"In the final term we worked the way we should have all day and the same way as we had to defeat Port last week."

But Balme was critical of the Norwood performance over the first three quarters.

"We caught Torrens by surprise."

That they did. West Torrens had played such desperate, determined — and skilful — football in the first three quarters that its third successive win seemed a formality.

Instead, coach Glenn Elliott was just left lamenting.

Magpies prove they're mighty

The Magpies really are mighty, and after beating Glenelg in magnificent fashion at Alberton yesterday, they deserve to be perched on top of the premiership ladder.

It was Port Adelaide at its best... fighting desperately hard for the ball, chasing, backing-up, but most of all it epitomised the meaning of teamwork.

And it had one other quality. It's called leadership, and few men, if any, could have set a finer example than coach Russell Ebert.

He is 35, is poised to break the all-time Australian games record of 424, and his muscular body has taken the hard knocks over 17 arduous seasons.

Yet he was able to gather 33 possessions, kick three goals, take six marks, bustle through the packs where the action was tough, and produce the enthusiasm of a first year player.

For the second time this season, Glenelg had the same number of scoring shots and lost comfortably to Port.

Last time it was 20 points, yesterday it was 25. And again Glenelg's inaccuracy was due to two things—bad football when having set shots, and being forced to have hurried kicks for goal because of the relentless pressure Port applied.

Glenelg should not call upon any hard luck stories. Port always looked the better side. The fact Glenelg played on Wednesday night was irrelevant because it courageously attempted to come back in the last term.

By Ashley Porter



Russell Ebert... fine example of leadership

And it is significant that Port won without key players Stephen Clifford, Greg Anderson, and John Harvey, and ace full forward Tim Evans kicked only two goals.

Ruckman Russell Johnston also played a superb game. He worked hard in ruck and Port was fortunate in having great back-up support from Dexter Kennedy in this area when Johnston went to a back pocket.

Johnston certainly did not rest there, the first time this season he played in a back pocket. He greatly reduced the marking power of Glenelg, and consistently cleared with 10 effective kicks and 14 handballs.

Supporting him in defence were Steve Curtis, Martin Leslie, and Ben Harris. Their combined efforts were match winning, and at times it was like watching tennis as the ball went back and forth.

Best for Glenelg was Stephen Kernahan, whose around-the-ground play lifted his side at crucial stages.

Chris Duthy showed tremendous endeavor and discipline at full back and Port would have won by a far bigger margin without his valuable service.

The Stringer brothers, Alan and Wayne, produced fine efforts while Ross Gibbs rated very highly up until three-quarter time.

Port won the ball out of the square far more consistently through top performances from centreman Craig Bradley, and other running players, Stephen Williams, Paul Belton and Wayne Mahney.

Glenelg coach Graham Campbell made a number of field changes in a desperate bid to slow down the Magpie machine, but had relatively little effect.

Persistence

The Tigers deserve credit for their persistence. They were 41 points down going into time-on in the third term, and fought back to get within 18 points in the last.

However, Port was able to sustain the pressure and ran-out a comfortable winner.

Campbell said he was frustrated by the loss, claiming it was not Glenelg's day and it had blown it chances with poor kicking for goal.

Port star on the mat again

By Ashley Porter



Port Adelaide and State centre half-forward Dwayne Russell will face the tribunal for the second time this season.

He was charged with striking an unnamed Glenelg player during a brawl involving 25 players in the first term at Alberton.

Goal umpire Graham Hilton reported Russell, alleging he had struck the Glenelg player with a clenched right fist.

The brawl started at the 10 minute mark in Port's left forward pocket when a Glenelg defender appeared to hit Port rover Wayne Mahney.

Russell was close to the scene. Players rushed in from most parts of the ground.

After Russell was in the middle of the brawl, Glenelg ruckman Peter Cared then fronted Russell and was jeered for most of the game by Port supporters.

Russell was found guilty and suspended for two matches for striking Norwood's Tom Warhurst on May 4. Port next Saturday will regain Stephen Clifford who has served his two match suspension.

League details

FOOTBALL PARK

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Central	5-3	10-9	18-16	24-23	167
West	2-1	4-8	7-13	11-16	82

BEST — CENTRAL: Roe, Platten, van Dommelle, Wilson, P. Babner, Graham, Fraser, Norworthy. WEST: Bennett, Herbert, Fielke, Hamilton, Kantilafas.

SCORERS — CENTRAL: Fraser 6.6, Graham 5.1, Wilson 4.0, van Dommelle 3.3, Norworthy 2.3, Platten 2.2, Beythien 1.2, Roe 1.1, P. Babner 0.1, Krier 0.1, rushed 0.3.

WEST: Luders 3.2, Herbert 2.2, Morris 2.1, Lamb 1.1, Ryan 1.1, Miller 1.0, Fielke 1.0, Grosser 0.3, Bennett 0.2, Rennie 0.1, rushed 0.3.

INJURIES — WEST: Mickan, Herbert, Dreher, Kantilafas (sprains), Miller (suspected fractured index finger in left hand).

UMPIRES — Ric Charlesworth, Rick Kinnear.

THEBARTON OVAL

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Norwood	2-6	4-12	6-15	15-18	108
Torrens	5-4	9-7	13-12	15-12	102

BEST — NORWOOD: Gallagher, Jenkins, McIntosh, G. Thomas, Warhurst, K. Thomas, Michalannev, Menzel, Ross, Aish. TORRENS: Dillon, Collier, Sims, Schimmelbusch, Lindsay, Hanna, Enright, Kellett.

SCORERS — NORWOOD: G. Thomas 4.0, Michalannev 3.4, Aish 2.0, Hall 1.1, Payne 1.1, Jenkins 1.1, Hein 1.0, Foslde 1.0, Kelly 1.0, Menzel 0.2, Warhurst 0.2, K. Thomas 0.1, Gallagher 0.1, McIntosh 0.1, Winter 0.1, Jarvis 0.1, rushed 0.2.

TORRENS: Hanna 3.5, Roberts 3.1, Taylor 2.2, Collier 2.1, Dillon 2.0, Cunningham 2.0, Pavlich 1.0, Sims 0.1, rushed 0.2.

INJURIES — TORRENS: McIndoe (dislocated right shoulder).

UMPIRES — Peter Francis, Daryl Schramm.

ALBERTON OVAL

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Port	5-0	9-1	14-7	18-9	117
Glenelg	3-2	6-5	8-8	13-14	92

BEST — PORT: R. Ebert, Johnston, Bradley, Belton, Leslie, Curtis, Harris, S. Williams, GLENELG: S. Kernahan, Duthy, A. Stringer, W. Stringer, Gibbs, Carey.

SCORERS — PORT: R. Robertson 3.1, R. Ebert 3.0, Belton 3.0, Evans 2.2, Russell 2.1, Mahney 2.0, Knight 1.2, S. Williams 1.1, Smith 1.0, Bradiev 0.1, rushed 0.1. GLENELG: Symonds 3.0, Gibbs 2.1, Twelltree 2.1, Coppink 1.2, S. Kernahan 1.2, McDermott 1.1, Kidney 1.0, Carey 1.0, Marshall 1.0, A. Stringer 0.2, McInnes 0.1, rushed 0.4.

INJURIES — PORT: Kinnear (ankle).

REPORT — Dwayne Russell (Port) by goal umpire G. Hilton for allegedly striking an unnamed Glenelg player with a clenched right fist during first term.

UMPIRES — Jim Field, Laurie Argent.

ADELAIDE OVAL

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
North	9-5	14-6	20-10	23-12	150
South	2-4	3-9	4-11	7-18	60

BEST — NORTH: Tiller, Campbell, Phillips, Jarman, Simmons. SOUTH: Schneebichler, Dewhurst, Naley, Darren Kappler, Christie.

SCORERS — NORTH: Dietrich 3.4, Simmons 3.0, Gehling 3.0, Klomp 2.1, Parsons 2.1, Phillips 2.0, Tiller 2.0, Hart 2.0, Campbell 1.2, Presley 1.1, Jarman 1.1, Molloy 1.0, rushed 0.2. SOUTH: Harris 1.1, Darren Kappler 1.1, Would 1.2, Schneebichler 1.2, Polsterok 0.2, Naley 0.2, D. Hewitt 0.1, David Kappler 0.1, rushed 0.8.

PREMIERSHIP TABLE

	W	L	F	A	Pts	%
Port	13	3	2013	1581	26	56.37
Central	12	4	1867	1192	21	55.58
Glenelg	12	4	2071	1672	21	55.33
South	10	6	1907	1540	20	55.32
Norwood	8	8	1738	1892	16	47.88

*Sturt... 6 9 1770 1952 12 47.56

West... 6 10 1666 1879 12 47.00

Torrens... 5 11 1691 2117 10 44.41

North... 4 12 1766 1812 8 48.95

*Woodville... 3 12 1730 2282 6 43.12

* To play today.

LEADING GOALKICKERS

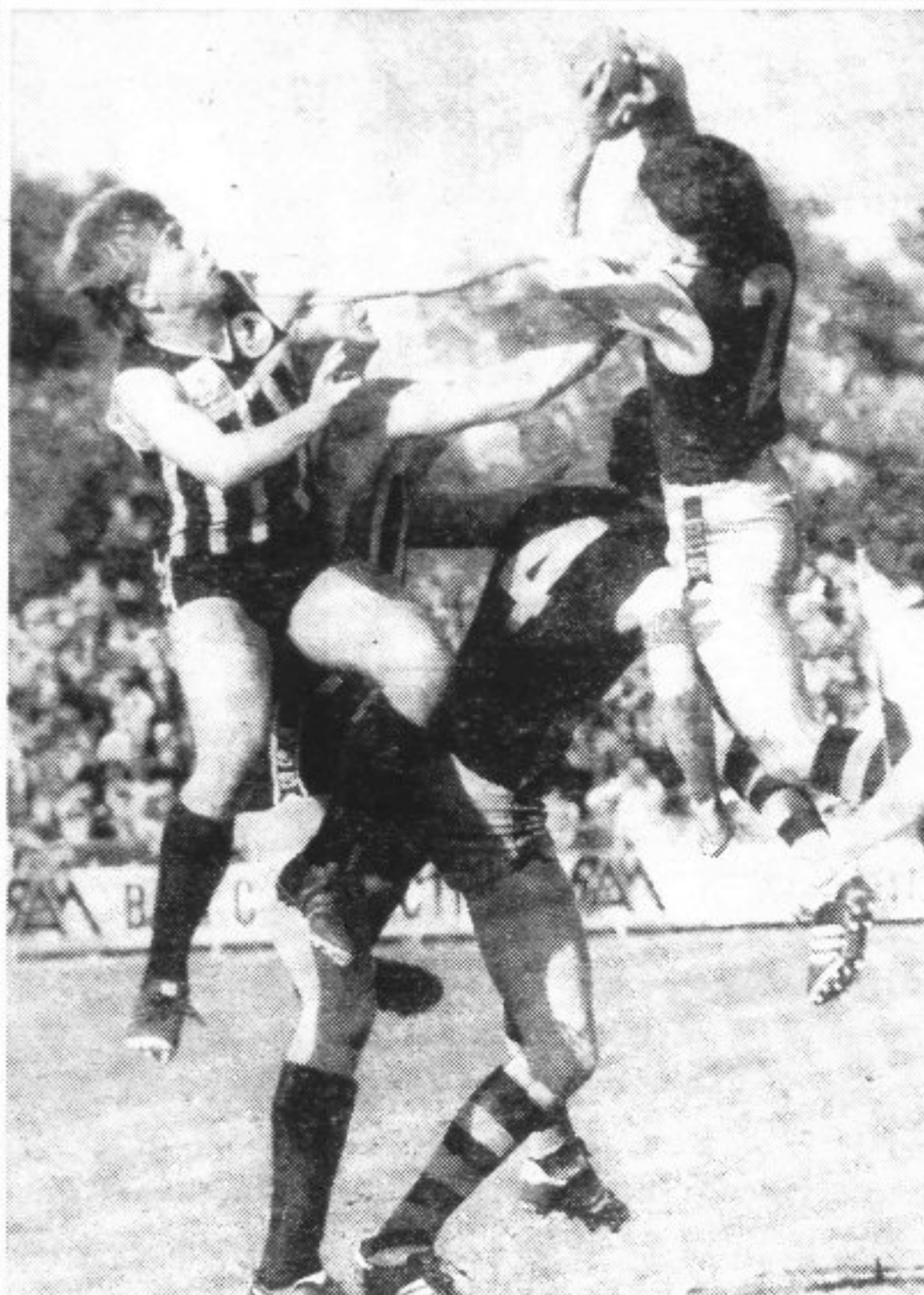
	Games	Yest	Total
T. Evans (Port)	16	2-2	89-31
G. Dietrich (North)	15	3-4	70-35
R. Davies (Sturt)	15	—	69-36
B. Beecroft (Woodville)	12	—	57-23
W. Wilson (Central)	16	4-0	55-20
N. Roberts (Norwood)	13	—	54-27
G. Nicholls (Glenelg)	13	—	48-35
R. Luders (West)	13	3-2	48-28

CROWDS

Football Park	5044
Adelaide Oval	3604
Alberton	11,859
Thebarton	6151

NEXT WEEK

Friday: Sturt v Central (Football Park). Saturday: Port v North (Football Park). South v Torrens (Adelaide). Norwood v Glenelg (Norwood). West v Woodville (Richmond).
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Two high points for Tigers

These Tigers flew high, but the scoreboard at the end told a different story at Alberton. Chris McDermott is pictured (left) taking a spectacular mark over Port's Steve Curtis, while Ross Gibbs (No. 2) marks facing the wrong way into the pack. Trying to spoil for the Magpies are David Kemp (left) and Dexter Kennedy, whip Glenelg's Stephen Kernahan (No. 4) is buried underneath. McDermott and Gibbs played fine games for Glenelg, but their efforts were of no avail.