

Glenelg holds off Eagle challenge

By ALAN SHIELL

Glenelg withstood a brave, stirring fight-back by West Torrens for an unflattering 12-point win under difficult conditions at Football Park last night.

It was a slippery contest of startling contrasts, with Glenelg dominating the first half and Torrens controlling much of the rain-drenched second half.

Glenelg kicked 7.7 to 1.5 until half-time, seemingly confirming the gap in class between the equal top team and the second-bottom side.

But Torrens made a mockery of this in the second half, adding 7.3 to 2.7 and giving Glenelg one of its biggest frights of the season.

Over four hard quarters, the Tigers won because they handled the slippery, blustery conditions more skilfully and comfortably. Their fluent co-operation and understanding of each other's movements generally were superior to their opponents'.

The result did not appear in doubt after Glenelg's strong second-quarter effort, in which it outscored Torrens 5.3 to 1.1 for a 38-point lead at half-time.

But Torrens earned admiration and

GLENELG	2.4	7.7	8.12	9.14	(68)
TORRENS	0.4	1.5	6.6	8.8	(56)

respect for the way it fought so persistently throughout the third term and reduced its deficit to 18 points by adding 5.1 to 1.5, including four goals in a blistering five-minute surge midway through the quarter.

A surprisingly big crowd of 3308 (most in the members' stand) braved the cold, wet weather to see Glenelg's third success against Torrens this season.

But the conditions, not to mention Torrens's bold showing, dictated that Glenelg did not have a chance of equalling its high-scoring feats against Torrens in the fourth and 12th series, when it kicked 27.23 to 9.13 at Thebarton Oval and 27.19 to 17.10 at Glenelg Oval.

The conditions also should have proved to the SA National Football League, if proof still were needed, that July and August are not the months for night matches at Football Park.

Glenelg owed its early dominance to a tough, rebounding defence in which flanker Wayne Stringer and back pocket Dennis Russell were outstanding; the poise and creativity of David Marshall and Tony Symonds across centre, and the marking power of ruckmen-forwards Peter Carey and Stephen

Kernahan. Tony Hall, Alan Stringer and Rod Campbell were effective across half-forward, as were follower Chris McDermott and rover Tony McGuinness.

Torrens's recovery was inspired by the ruckwork and field play of big Jeff Sarau, follower Mark Downie, captain Bruce Lindsay, who was swung from half-back to centre, and back pocket Paul Pisani.

Rover Daryl Schimmelbusch was a ball of muscle and Ron Taylor provided some dash near goal.

David Holst proved he was back in the Glenelg team to stay with a typically vigorous performance at centre in the last 2½ quarters after replacing Stephen Talbot ('flu).

Marshall continued to show out on a wing and Russell put in a telling last-quarter effort in defence.

GOALKICKERS — Glenelg: Carey 3.1, McGuinness 3.0, Kernahan, Campbell 1.1, Hall 1.0, Symonds, Holst 0.2, McDermott, W. Stringer, Marshall, Kidney, Copping, Talbot 0.1, rushed 0.1. Torrens: Taylor 2.1, Kellett 2.0, Roberts 1.1, Hanna, Downie, Lindsay 1.0, Sims 0.2, Hill, Stretch 0.1, rushed 0.2.

BEST — Glenelg: Marshall, W. Stringer, Carey, Russell, Holst, Symonds. Torrens: Sarau, Taylor, Lindsay, Downie, Pisani, Schimmelbusch.

Umpires: P. Francis, D. Schramm.

GLENELG

Player	Kicks	Mks	H'ball	Pts.	Tot.
Campbell	5	4	12	6	27
Carey	16	6	3	7	140
Copping	2	1	3	2	53
Duthy	8	4	3	7	124
Gibbs	3	1	1	1	104
Hall	9	6	5	5	53
Holst	17	8	3	7	50
S. Kernahan	10	6	8	6	157
Kidney	9	1	1	4	39
MacFarlane	16	4	11	7	123
Marshall	27	10	10	8	131
McDermott	15	4	5	7	93
McGuinness	15	—	6	6	131
Russell	14	5	1	8	76
Salisbury	8	1	10	7	115
Seebom	8	3	4	6	128
A. Stringer	8	1	5	6	122
W. Stringer	8	2	3	8	137
Symonds	17	3	2	7	140
Talbot	9	3	3	4	72
Totals	224	73	98		

TORRENS

Player	Kicks	Mks	H'ball	Pts.	Tot.
Cunningham	7	1	6	4	97
Downie	17	4	5	7	—
Enright	11	1	3	6	122
Flanegan	—	—	2	—	92
Hank	10	2	6	6	78
Hanna	14	4	6	7	95
Hill	6	2	4	3	32
Johanson	1	—	—	—	34
Kellett	2	—	—	2	71
Lindsay	13	2	10	7	135
Matheson	10	3	3	5	48
Pisani	12	3	4	7	52
Querzoli	10	3	3	5	37
Roberts	6	2	2	2	66
Robson	12	2	4	6	81
Sarau	15	4	7	8	73
Schimmelbusch	16	—	5	7	132
Sims	9	—	7	5	62
Stretch	11	3	1	5	79
Taylor	14	2	5	7	47
Totals	196	40	83		

(Merit points by Alan Shiell)

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LEAGUE TABLE

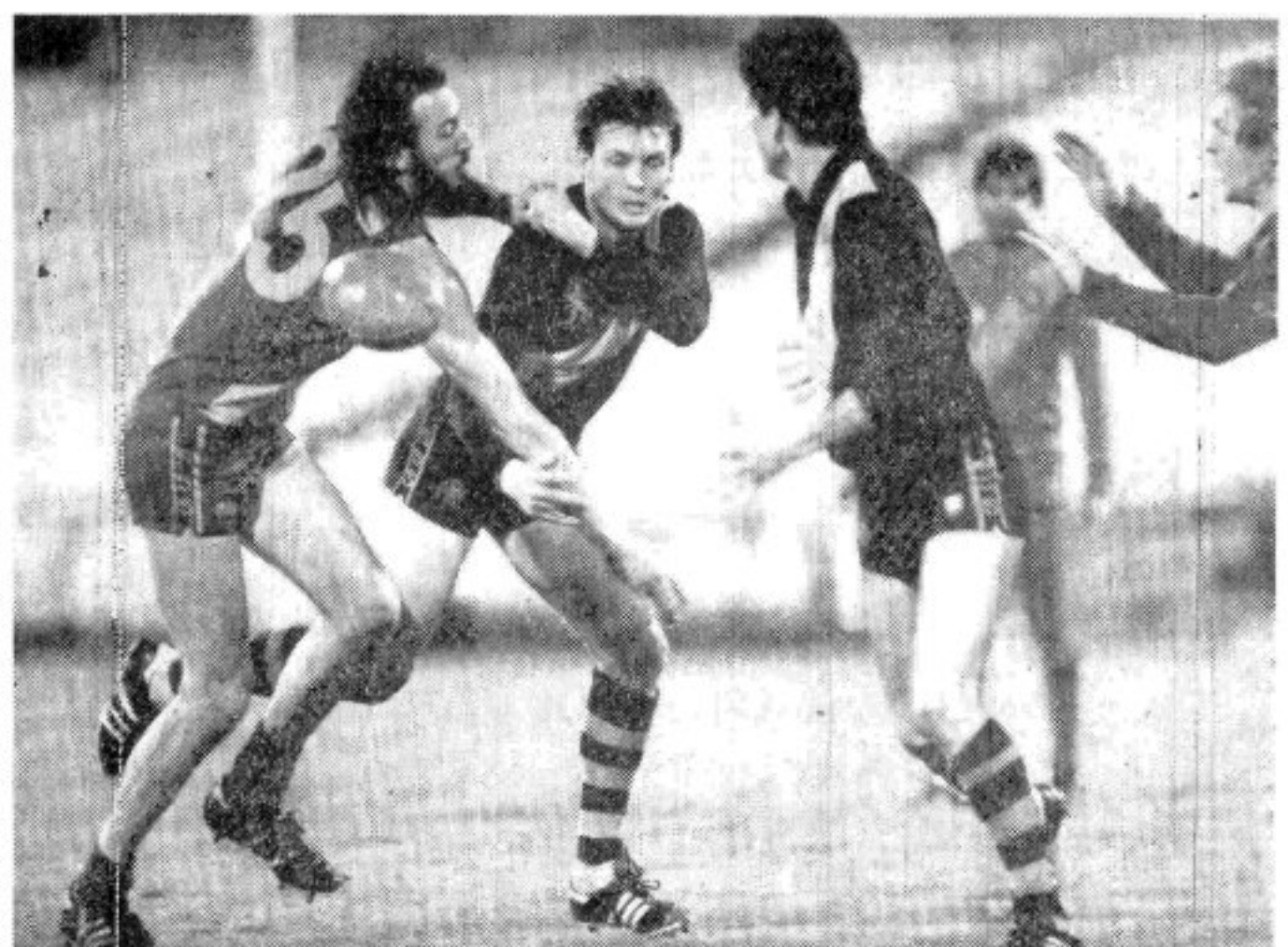
	W.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.	P.c.
PORT	16	5	2474	1994	32	55.37
GLENELG	16	5	2567	2117	32	54.80
CENTRAL	15	6	2364	1964	30	54.62
SOUTH	13	8	2414	1959	26	55.20
NORWOOD	12	9	2286	2288	24	49.98
WEST	9	12	2235	2495	18	47.25
STURT	8	13	2308	2639	16	46.65
NORTH	6	15	2290	2241	12	50.54
TORRENS	6	15	2138	2660	12	44.56
WOODVILLE	4	17	2266	2985	8	43.15

Leading goalkickers

Player	Series	Total
EVANS (Port Adelaide)	4.1	115.37
DIETRICH (North Adelaide)	1.0	93.37
DAVIES (Sturt)	—	81.46
ROBERTS (Norwood)	0.3	73.35
BEECROFT (Woodville)	—	70.26
LUDERS (West Adelaide)	3.1	72.39
WILSON (Central District)	1.1	65.29

Crowds

Glenelg v Torrens	3308
Central v Woodville	2933
Port v Sturt	6457
South v West	3376
Norwood v North	6268
Total	22,342



West Torrens centre half-forward Lee Robson, switched to that position from centre half-back, forces Glenelg's Scott Salisbury into a hasty handball which misses team-mate David Marshall at Football Park last night. At right is Torrens's Bruce Lindsay. Picture by staff photographer Bryan Charlton

King's reign ending

Neil Kerley's crooked fingers strangled a pocket-size copy of the league football program.

By ALAN SHIELL

"This has been my bible for 33 years," he said. "It has controlled my life for nine months of every year. It will be a change not having to live by it."

"I won't feel it until next year when I'm reading about what's happening and I'm not there. Then it will have much more meaning."

"But I've got so much to do that I won't have any idle time. Anyway, I don't want idle time. You can't burn daylight."

Kerley, 50, will be involved in his last league football match when he coaches West Adelaide against Sturt at Richmond Oval on Saturday.

In a remarkable playing and coaching career spanning four clubs and four decades, he has forged a formidable reputation as a courageous competitor, a master motivator and the most colorful, controversial character in SA football.

They called him The King or Knuckles or Kerls. They praised him, they damned him. They loved him, they hated

him. They envied him, they pitied him. They could never ignore him.

Kerley's many thousands of friends and admirers will be saddened by his leaving the game with which his name has been so synonymous.

His detractors — and they are a dwindling minority — probably will feel a sense of relief that he has gone.

Has he made, or does he have, any enemies?

"Not to my face," he said. "A lot of people don't like me, but they don't know me. They just hate the image."

"You've got to hate the enemy in football. It's war."

"I'll miss it. But I consider myself very lucky that I've got a fantastic (yachting) challenge ahead of me at international level (starting in Perth in mid-November)."

"I guess if that hadn't presented itself, I would have been involved with football again next year. "My enthusiasm is still there. Who knows if I'll come back to football in a few years? It's too far ahead."

"I'm very thankful for the opportunities I've got

out of football. And I'd like to think I've given a lot back to the game."

"I've given all my clubs everything I could possibly have given them. I've played it straight down the line, with no half measures or short cuts."

"A hell of a lot of people have helped me. Mum has been good to me. Dad died when I was only 11. Barbara (his wife) has put up with a lot. So have the kids."

"I've been inspired by men like Vin Keane and Dave Burchell. With my father, they are the most genuine men I've ever met. They'd die for you."

Among all his achievements and memories, Kerley rates as "pretty special" SA's win over Victoria in Melbourne in 1963 and South Adelaide's premiership in 1964.

"The '63 win was pretty special because it achieved something for the State," he said. "It was the first time SA had beaten Victoria in Melbourne for 37 years."

"South's climb from bottom to top in '64 also was pretty special."

"Of course, the other premierships in '61 (West), '73 (Glenelg) and '83 (West) were fantastic, too."

"There have been many disappointments like losing those four grand finals (1969, '70, '74 and '75) with Glenelg."

"But I gained tremendous satisfaction in my 10 years (1967-76) at Glenelg."

Kerley rates Ted Whitten and Barrie Robran as the best allround footballers he has seen — "be-

cause they could do a job in any position."

He lists (not in any order) Peter Darley, Rick Davies, Peter Carey, Graham "Polly" Farmer and John Nicholls as his best big men, and he names Ken Eustice and John Cahill as "fantastic smaller types."

And he has one final lament

"The thing I'm having to come to grips with now is that West will not be in the finals this year," he said. "For the first time in my career, my side is playing matches (against South Adelaide and Sturt) and not fighting for a place in the finals."

"Still, as Ned Kelly said when he stood on the gallows: 'Such is life.'"



ABOVE Kerley the player clutching the ball and determined as ever. RIGHT: Fearing defeat, Kerley the coach harangues his team at three-quarter time.



NORWOOD	4.4	6.6	7.8	7.12	(54)
NORTH	0.0	2.2	5.4	8.5	(53)

GOALKICKERS — Norwood: Payne 2.1, Aish, G. Thomas 2.0, Fosdike 1.0, Roberts 0.4, K. Thomas, Kelly 0.2, Gallagher, Fantasia 0.1, rushed 0.1. North: Campbell, Gehling 2.0, Jarman, Bunn, Dietrich, Simmons 1.0, Hart 0.2, Klomp, Phillips 0.1, rushed 0.1.

BEST — Norwood: Gallagher, Aish, McIntosh, K. Thomas, Scanlon, Fosdike. North: Riley, Tiller, Hart, Jarman, Wildy, Phillips. Umpires: D. Foster, J. Hylton.

CENTRAL	2.3	6.5	11.7	14.11	(95)
WOODVILLE	3.4	5.7	6.11	9.11	(65)

GOALKICKERS — Central: Fraser 5.1, Platten 3.4, Nolan 3.0, Wilson 1.1, P. Bubner, D. Bubner 1.0, Vivian 0.2, Beythien, Wright 0.1, rushed 0.1. Woodville: Blight 2.4, Lynch 2.0, Wood, Guest, Koop, Arbon, Fuller 1.0, Parker, McDonald 0.2, Butterworth, Mackereth 0.1, rushed 0.1.

BEST — Central: Platten, Fraser, Krieg, P. Bubner, Cousins, Marsworthy, Woodville: Koop, Wood, Blight, Reardon, Parker, Lynch. Umpires: R. Kinnear, R. Charlesworth

WEST	4.3	10.4	12.7	12.12	(84)
SOUTH	3.5	6.9	9.14	10.21	(81)

GOALKICKERS — West: Lamb 3.2, Luders 3.1, Smith 2.2, Fielke 2.1, Weideman 1.2, Herbert 1.0, Bennett, Ryan 0.1, rushed 0.2. South: Naley 2.2, Slatery, D. Hewitt 2.1, Wold, David Kappler 1.3, Fairclough 1.2, Dewhurst 1.1, Harris 0.3, Bennett, Irvine 0.1, rushed 0.3.

BEST — West: Williams, Herber, Ronnie, Watson, P. Winter, Hamilton. South: David Kappler, Dewhurst, Fairclough, Naley, Schneebichler, Bennett. Umpires: L. Argent, J. Field.

ADVERTISER TROPHY

FOOTBALL PARK (Friday)

D Marshall (Glenelg)	3
J Sarau (Torrens)	2
W Stringer (Glenelg)	1

FOOTBALL PARK

J Platten (Central)	3
D Koop (Woodville)	2
R Fraser (Central)	1

ADELAIDE OVAL

David Kappler (South)	3
C Williams (West)	2
D Herbert (West)	1

ALBERTON OVAL

S Clifford (Port)	3
C Bradley (Port)	2
M Leslie (Port)	1

NORWOOD OVAL

P Riley (North)	3
J Gallagher (Norwood)	2
D Tiller (North)	1

Leaders — 31 Bradley, 25 Platten, 24 S. Kernahan (Glen), M. Aish (Nwd), 19 M. Naley (SA), 17 M. Leslie (PA), 16 D. Marshall (Glen), 15 D. Tiller (NA)

PORT	4.3	10.6	14.9	19.12	(126)
STURT	3.1	3.4	8.7	10.10	(70)

GOALKICKERS — Port: Evans, Knight 4.1, Ginever 4.0, R. Ebert 2.1, Russell 2.0, Belfon 1.3, Anderson 1.2, Clifford 1.0, Brodley 0.2, rushed 0.2. Sturt: Willmott 3.2, Derrington 2.1, Fry 1.4, Paynter, Craig 1.0, Smith 0.1, rushed 0.2.

BEST — Port: Clifford, Bradley, Leslie, Anderson, Knight, Kennedy, Belfon. Sturt: Paynter, Paech, Motley, Craig, Derrington. Umpires: G. Hilton, M. Mackie.

Draw for 22nd and last series

SATURDAY — FOOTBALL PARK: South Adelaide v Norwood. ELIZABETH OVAL: Central District v North Adelaide. THEBARTON OVAL: West Torrens v Port Adelaide. RICHMOND OVAL: West Adelaide v Sturt. WOODVILLE OVAL: Woodville v Glenelg.