

Mighty Magpies'

Swansong of the man they call Super

By LEO SCHLINK

Startling from the outset and stunning through its 18-year passage, Peter Carey's magnificent career ended unremarkably at 4.55 p.m. at Football Park yesterday.

When the siren mercifully sounded, 31.27 minutes into the last quarter of the grand final, Glenelg captain Carey looked suitably dejected and bewildered.

The Australian record-holder's 468th appearance in his 10th grand final was, as the great man later observed, not destined for a fairytale climax.

It was, in fact, Carey's seventh losing grand final since his fabulous contribution to SA football began in 1971.

Glenelg's heart and soul, and its leader for the past six seasons, Carey trudged wearily past ecstatic Magpies after the siren to grieve and sympathise with some inconsolable, tearful Tiger players.

Minutes earlier, Carey's last attempt to conjure a departing miracle was snatched away by another John Cahill gambler — defender Greg Boyd.

It seemed an unjust and hardly fitting gesture from the gods who preside over these matters, but as Carey admitted "everyone else seems to be getting younger and I seem to be getting older".

Understandably upset, Carey, 34, revealed to Tiger colleagues his decision immediately after the match in the dejected privacy of the players' room.

"I guess there were a few there who were a bit emotional," Carey said.

"I guess I made the decision unofficially about three weeks ago, but I've retired. I won't reconsider and I hope other people won't try and get me to reconsider."

Reluctant to remove that No. 5

With coach Graham Cornes, Carey limped, soft drink can and cigarette in hand, through Football Park's cool, concrete tunnels to congratulate a wildly celebrating Port.

Later, standing alone in the solemnity of Glenelg's change-rooms, Carey seemed reluctant to hoist his famous No. 5 guernsey over his huge shoulders.

Eventually he did, seeking sanctity and reflection in a bath.

When he emerged, Carey, as he had done amid Port's jubilation, spoke with poise: "It would have been great to have gone out with a win here. But I'm still immensely proud of the boys."

"I sat down about three weeks ago and really assessed what I could contribute to the side — and I thought it was time to give it away."

"I probably could play another season but I don't want to get out there and really have to struggle."

"I guess I'm just starting to go downhill and I want to stop before I start going downhill too fast."

With that the man they call "Super" cleared out his locker for the last time.

By ASHLEY PORTER

Port Adelaide captain Russell Johnston couldn't hold back the tears as he joined his gallant men on the premiership dais after capturing SA football's most precious trophy.

The emotional moment said it all after the magnificent Magpies topped a stubborn, admirable Glenelg by 29 points in a surprisingly tame, but hard-fought contest before 50,313 fans at Football Park.

Johnston watched from the bench, serving the last of his five-match suspension, and immediately after the final siren his teammates made him the focal point of the euphoria.

"We did it for Johnno and the club," a few ecstatic players shouted in the rooms above the bellows,

cheers, club song and the popping of corks.

The heartfelt respect for their captain, and their club, epitomised the way in which the Thomas Seymour Hill premiership trophy was won — with unity.

While there were many heroes, it was ultimately the superb team performance which Glenelg found so difficult to counter.

It was a tremendous climax to a great year for SA football, and while Glenelg fans should naturally feel disappointed with the loss, they

should have been proud of the way their side contested to the final siren.

Port, from midway in the second term, always looked as if it had the grand final in its grasp, but it was not until the last 10 minutes of the match that it seemed to have victory assured.

Glenelg made a mockery of the common belief grand final sides, which emerge from the elimination final, fail to chase and contest over the last quarter of the season.

Sure, the Tigers were tired, but so was Port because, for most of the game, neither side was allowed to gain possessions without the pressure of tackles and smotherers.

Despite this constant intensity, both Port and Glenelg were able to produce some of the finest features of this great game.

And rarely did spite take over from skills. There were moments when tempers flared and some punches were thrown, but overall, Port and Glenelg concentrated purely on playing the game.

It wasn't the most sensational grand final, nor was it the best display of class.

But it was still a gripping contest where teamwork outshone individuality.

There were freakish goals, the first by Port's David Brown from the southern right flank when the ball bounced at a right angle in the goalsquare.

And there were the hard luck stories; when Glenelg missed four easy set shots between its third and fourth goals, and when Port hit the post four times, three times within as many minutes early in the second term.

If there was a turning point in the match it was when Glenelg champion Peter Carey, in his last appearance, missed a set shot on the first quarter siren.

Teammate Mark Hewett also missed an easy shot, the first score of the second term.

If both of these shots had been goals, the Hindmarsh Adelaide scoreboard would have read Glenelg 5.2, Port 0.2, and the Tiger fans would have banked on a win.

But it was not to be. Brown's amazing goal, at the seventh-minute mark, was Port's first, and after hitting the post three times, the next goal came from rover Tim Ginever, from a free, and Port trailed by five points.

It was then the Magpie machine began to really roll.

Glenelg's dominance in the centre square faded with huge efforts from Port's David Hynes, the man who took over the ruck duties from Johnston.

Hynes leaped over Carey at the centre bounces like a flying frog, and consistently found his smaller mates



Scoreboard

Port	0.2	4.6	7.10	12.12	(84)
Glenelg	3.3	3.5	4.7	8.7	(55)

BEST — PORT: Hynes, Phillips, Leslie, Abernethy, Williams, Fiacchi, Delaney. **GLENELG:** Seebom, Hewett, Russell, A. Stringer, McDermott. **Glenelg:** Seebom, Hewett, Russell, A. Stringer, McDermott.

GOALS — PORT: Hodges 4.0, Brown 2.2, Ginever 2.0, Foster 1.2, Harrison 1.1, Williams 1.1, R. Smith 1.0, Hutton 0.2, Kerr 0.1, Mahney 0.1, rushed 0.2. **GLENELG:** Budarick 3.0, Mansell 2.0, Hewett 1.1, Hodgeman 1.1, A. Stringer 1.0, Maynard 0.1, West 0.1, Marshall 0.1, Carey 0.1, rushed 0.1.

INJURIES — Glenelg: A. Stringer (cut above eye), Russell (cheekbone).

UMPIRES — Michael Abbott, John Hylton.

CROWD — 50,313.

FOOTYPUNT — (21-30) \$4.10.

Locked in battle...

Port's David Brown and courageous Glenelg defender Scott Salisbury come to grips during the heat of yesterday's grand battle at Football Park. The Magpies powered away from a gallant Glenelg combination to win by 29 points.

Photos: ALEX MASSEY, BARRY O'BRIEN and NEON MARTIN.

day of triumph

Porter's pick

in Stephen Williams, Tim Ginever, Andrew Obst and Wayne Mahney.

The space between Glenelg's third and fourth goals was 62 minutes of play, during which Port kicked 7.8 to six behinds, four of them from set shots.

Despite this agonising drought, Glenelg was only 21 points down at three quarter time, and with a chance.

If there was a doubt about this Port side, it concerned its lack of finals experience.

The pre-match hype about Glenelg's experience versus Port's freshness looked set to come to the fore.

Cool under pressure

But it didn't, because Port displayed maturity, resilience and remained cool under the pressure, while Glenelg continued to run and chase.

As expected, Port's defence was rock solid, especially across half-back with the hardy campaigners, Martin Leslie, Greg Phillips and Bruce Abernethy.

They provided magnificent rebound, often deep into attack, and were ably backed-up by full back Roger Delaney, who did not concede a score to his early opponent, Max Kruse, and George Fiacchi and Greg Boyd in the back pockets.

Abernethy won the Jack Oatey Medal after being selected by a panel as the best player on ground, but in my opinion, Hynes was best because he enabled Port to win the centre square.

Glenelg fired the first salvo when exchanging team sheets.

It announced 22 players to the Press on Thursday night, and crossed out the names Kruse and Nick Chigwidden on the list the team managers exchanged.

It must have thought Port team manager, Jim Nitschke, was born yesterday because he quickly noticed Kruse and Chigwidden had their names typed twice and crossed out only once.

Players down on form

The Tiger pair which missed out was Chris Melican and Tony MacTavish.

Glenelg had many players well down on form.

By half-time, forwards Craig Budarick and Kruse had collected one kick and a handball between them, and it was only Budarick's three goals in the second half which enabled him to save face.

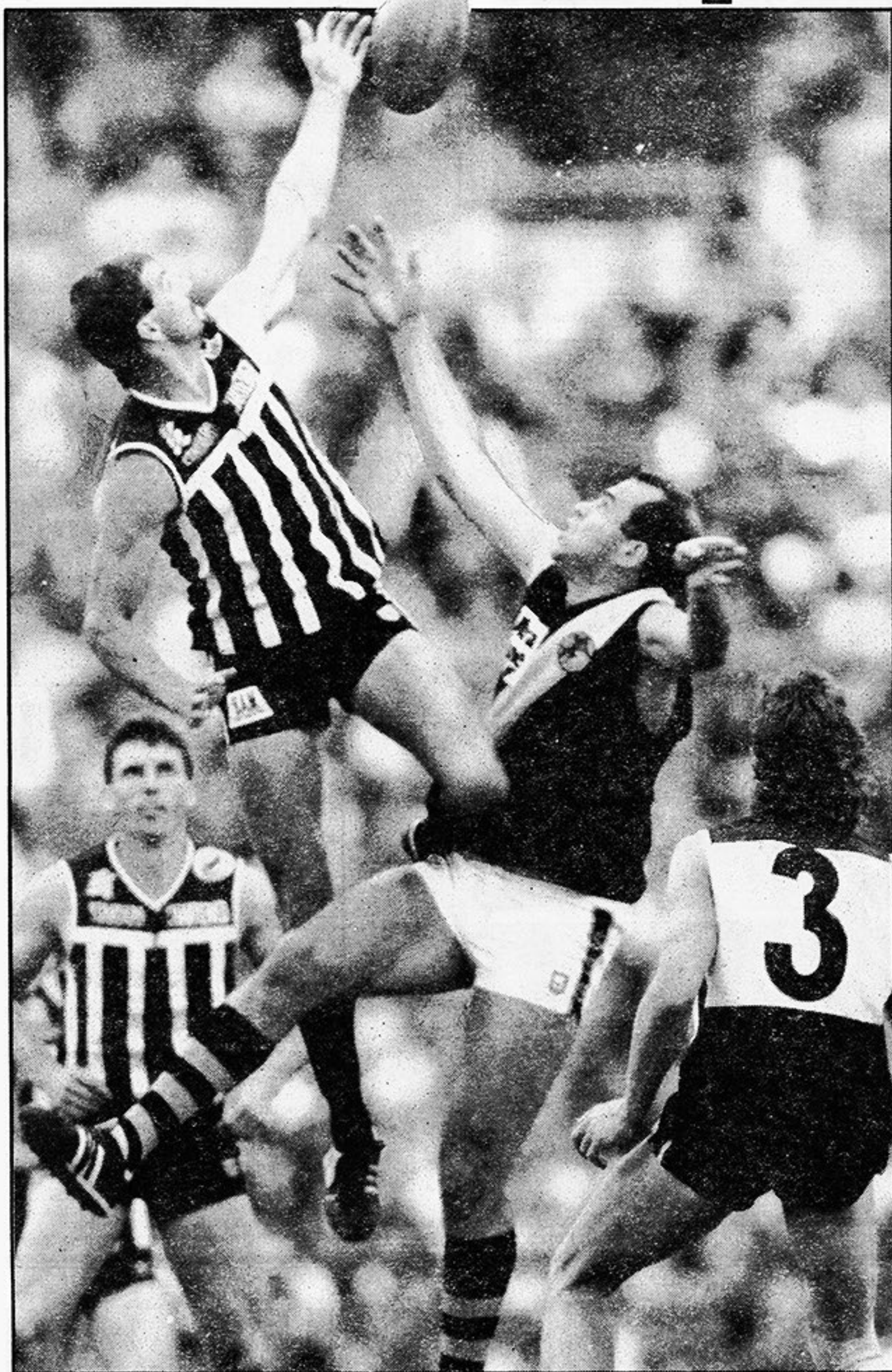
Rover Chris McDermott worked and tried hard, and although being a contributor, his form was not up to the high standard which he set himself.

Centre half-back John Seeborn did a fine job, and wingman David Marshall created the limited forward thrust.

The Tigers were often hustled off the ball, and forced to kick hurriedly, allowing Port to collect the stray kicks and rebound with authority.

Port thoroughly deserved to collect the premiership trophy because of its persistence, discipline and, above all, team game.

Glenelg, if nothing else, received respect for providing a great contest. It had nothing to be ashamed of.



Port's David Hynes and Glenelg's Peter Carey contest a centre bounce while Stephen Williams and Andrew Obst await the outcome



1 DAVID HYNES (Port): Was outstanding in ruck and also provided strength and control around the ground with strong marking and teamwork.



2 GREG PHILLIPS (Port): Once again, he was a pillar in a tower of strength from centre half-back, repeatedly turning defence into attack.



3 MARTIN LESLIE (Port): Like Phillips, he consistently guided the Magpies out of trouble from the half-back line and rarely allowed his opponents the chance to break free.

Good word on umps

Field umpire Michael Abbott, in his first grand final, and experienced colleague Jack Hylton gave good exhibitions in yesterday's grand final.

Despite speculation the match would degenerate into a brawling affair, both successfully kept the lid on tempers during a hectic opening.

It was only during the second half that sporadic fighting took place — but none of it could be traced to umpiring uncertainty or indecision.

Neither man, according to Port Adelaide and Glenelg officials, was forced to lodge reports.

Predictably, the only complaint — and it was slight — emanated from the Tiger changerooms.

Goal by goal . . . how the game was won

First quarter

6.26 — Darren Mansell capitalises on Port defender's error and goals.

17.11 — Mansell again. This time the forward flanker skirts a goal-mouth scramble to soccer through his second.

20.54 — Handballs from Chris McDermott and Peter Carey find Kym Hodgeman who snaps from 25 metres.

Second quarter

7.44 — Rover David Brown left foot snap from 40 metres bounces at right angles for the most astonishing goal of the match.

16.46 — An Tiger defender pays the penalty for tackling rover Tim Ginever without the ball. Ginever goals from 30 metres.

20.00 — Rohan Smith, a left-foot kick from 40 metres.

22.28 — Centreman Stephen Williams finds full forward Scott Hodges with a pass Glenelg defenders are powerless to stop. Although hurt, Hodges spears it through from 25 metres.

Third quarter

1.19 — Hodges freed 30 metres from goal.

10.58 — Hodges again. Rohan Smith reads the pack brilliantly and centres the ball to Hodges, who marks near the goal square.

14.50 — Half forward Richard Foster scores a wonderful left foot goal on the run.

26.44 — John Seeborn passes to Peter Maynard, who relays the ball to Craig Budarick. He plays on from 35 metres.

Fourth quarter

0.58 — Brown gathers 20 metres out, turns and goals.

4.58 — Budarick nudges Roger Delaney under the ball and marks. He goals from 10 metres.

8.54 — Wingman Phil Harrison dashes through a pack kicks from 40 metres.

10.36 — Hodges wins a free kick and goals after another electrifying spurt from Harrison.

15.34 — Centreman Alan Stringer anticipates a Greg Phillips spoil and snaps from 20 metres.

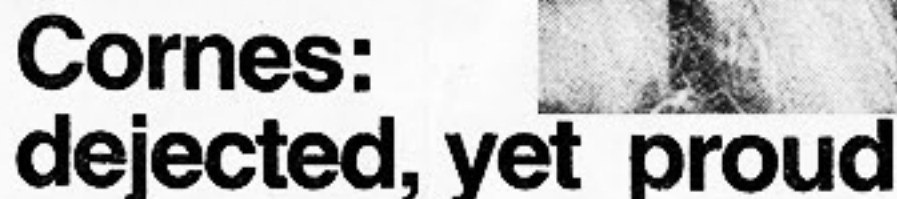
17.18 — Budarick again high over a goalmouth pack to grab an inspirational mark. He goals.

23.04 — Interchange Roger Kerr marks strongly and receives 15 metre penalty. He passes to Ginever, who goals from 30 metres.

29.00 — Williams weaves through defenders and spears through a left foot goal.

29.49 — A McDermott handball finds Hewett on his on. The wingman goals from 45 metres.

End of long road for big, bold 'Supe'



— Ashley Porter

"One game at Prospect in 1974 he kicked 11 goals from that position."

"However, if I was 19 or 20 now I think it would be entirely different."

	DISPOSALS										HT OUTS					POSSESSIONS					SCORES		
	KICKS										Hand ball	Total	Tap outs	Ball ups	Thru ins	Total	Frees agst	Frees for	In play	Net count	Goals	Pts	Miss
	1	2	3	4	Total	Ineff.	Pass																
MAHNEY	1	1	2	2	6		1	2	8	2			2	1	1	2	5	7		1			
HODGES		1	3	2	6			1	7						3	2	2	1	4				
BROWN	4	2	2	3	11		1	6	17	2			2		1	2	14	15	2	2			
FOSTER	2	5	2		9		2	3	12	1			1	1	1	10	10		1	2			
D. SMITH			1	1	2		1	4	6			4	2	6	3		2	4	5				
R. SMITH		4	1	2	7		3	4	11	2			2	2	2		9	8	1				
HUTTON	2	3	4		9	1		1	10					2		5	5	7		2	1		
WILLIAMS	4	3	4	9	20	1	8	3	23	1			1	2	2	7	14	22	1	1			
HARRISON	2	4	2	2	10		5	7	17	2			2	1	2	4	11	14	1	1			
LESLIE	3	2	2	4	11		4	12	23	3			3	2	1	7	15	21					
PHILLIPS	3	1	4	2	10		4	4	14	4			3	7	1	2	3	9	11				
ABERNETHY	6	4	7	5	22	2	5	1	23					2	3	10	10	21					
FIACCHI	4	3	2	3	12		4	8	20	1			1	1		2	18	18					
DELANEY	4	3	3		10		10	3	13	1			1		3	3	7	9					
PHELPS						1		1	1					1			1	1					
HYNES	2	1	1	2	6	1	3	14	20	2	14	8	24	1	3	5	12	12					
OBST		4	1	3	8		4	4	12			1	2	3	2	3	4	5	7				
GINEVER	3	3	2	3	11	1	1	14	25	1			1	3	2	2	21	18	2				
KERR				6	6		1		6								4	4		1			
BOYD	5	2	1		8		3	9	17								4	13	16				
RUSHED																					2		
TOTALS	45	46	44	49	184	7	60	101	285	22	19	15	56	25	29	65	191	227	12	12	1		
ANALYSIS	Frees For Forward line 8 Out of bounds: Thru ins 59 15m Penalties: 3										Centre line 10 On full (free kick) 4 Spots 31					Back line 11 Ball ups 38 Shepherds 15					Centre square 0 Smothers 3		

	DISPOSALS										HT OUTS					POSSESSIONS					SCORES		
	KICKS						Hand ball	Total	Tap ins	Ball ups	Threw ins	Total	Frees agst	Frees for	Mark	In play	Net cost	Goals	Pts	Miss			
	1	2	3	4	Total	Ineff.															Pass		
MANSELL	4			1	5			6	11	1	1		2			2	9	8					
CAREY	1			2	1	4		2	5	9	2	11	11	24	3	2	1	6	4				
GIBBS		5			2	7		5	3	10	1			1			2	8	11				
BUDARICK	1	1	1	2	5			1	1	6				1			4	2	5	3			
WEST	3	1	1		5			1	4	9			1	1	2	3	2	4	4				
MAYNARD	5	4	2	3	14		1	3	2	16				1			5	11	13				
HEWETT	6	4	3	5	18		1	4	7	25	2			2	1	1	4	20	20	1			
A. STRINGER	6	2	4	4	16		1	7	14	30	2			2	3	3	2	25	26	1			
MARSHALL	3	5	5	1	14			2	6	20	3			3	1		4	16	19				
W. STRINGER	4	2	6	1	13		1	5		13				1	2		5	6	12				
SEEBOHM	4	3	1		8			6	9	17	2	2	1	5			5	12	12				
GRENVOLE	2	2	1		5			4	2	7	1			1			2	5	5				
SALISBURY	1	3	2	3	9					14				3	1	2	11	10					
RUSSELL	1	1	1	2	5			9	1	6	1			1	4	3		3	1				
SCHNEEBICHLER	3	1	1	2	7		1	2	3	10	2			2	1	2	1	7	4				
CHRISTIE	2	1			3		2	1	4	7		7	9	16	1	3	2	2	3				
McDERMOTT	1	5	4	5	15			3	16	31		1		1	1	3	3	25	18				
HODGEMAN	4	2	5	1	12		1	4	5	17	3			3	3	1	4	12	15	1			
KRUSE			1	2	3				2	5				1			2	3	2				
CHIGWIDDEN			1	6	7		1	2	7	14				2	1	1	12	9					
RUSHED																							
TOTALS	51	42	42	40	175		9	61	102	277	20	22	22	64	29	25	53	199	201	8			
ANALYSIS	Frees For Forward line 4					Centre line 11					Back line 9					Centre square 1							
	Out of bounds: Throw ins 59					On full (free kick) 7					Ball ups 38												
	15m Penalties, 5					Spalls 32					Shepherds 8					Smothers 5							