

SANFL S

SA ladder

Table with columns: W, L, D, F, A, % Pts. Lists teams like PORT, GLENELG, EAGLES, NORTH, WEST, South, Norwood, Central, Sturt.

SA goalkickers

Table with columns: Player, Games, Rd 18, Total. Lists M. Tylor, S. Morphett, M. Jones, M. Russell, C. Lamb, T. Modra, G. Molloy, C. Burton, D. Bortase.

Football Park

Table with columns: Team, Goals, Points. Lists EAGLES, Sturt.

BEST - EAGLES: Pyman, Taylor, Nicol, Neave, Morphett... SCORERS - EAGLES: Taylor 6.4, Neave 4.3... INJURIES - EAGLES: Schwarz (strained neck)...

Adelaide Oval

Table with columns: Team, Goals, Points. Lists SOUTH, Central.

BEST - SOUTH: Naley, Kappler, Brockhurst... SCORERS - SOUTH: McIntyre 3.2, Osborne 2.3... INJURIES - SOUTH: White (concussion)...

Glenelg Oval

Table with columns: Team, Goals, Points. Lists GLENELG, West.

BEST - GLENELG: Fidge, Mansell, Chigwidden... SCORERS - GLENELG: Fidge 13.2, Russell 2.3... INJURIES - WEST: Ravesi (split webbing in thumb)...

Norwood Oval

Table with columns: Team, Goals, Points. Lists NORTH, Norwood.

BEST - NORTH: Gerke, Perkins, Atkinson... SCORERS - NORTH: Burton 6.2, Atkinson 4.1... INJURIES - NORWOOD: Richard Kelly (suspected fractured jaw)...

SA crowds

Table with columns: Venue, Crowds. Lists Football Park, Adelaide Oval, Glenelg Oval, Norwood Oval.

SA draw

Round 19: Saturday - Eagles v. West Adelaide (Football Park), South Adelaide v. Glenelg (Adelaide)...

Reserves

Table with columns: Team, Goals, Points. Lists GLENELG, West.

BEST - GLENELG: McGuinness, Deane, A. Symonds... SCORERS - GLENELG: West 5, Thornborrow, Gepp 4... INJURIES - WEST: Woomnam 4, Deptula 2, Wren, Peek, Hoye, Kerr, O'Dea, Buckskin, Smith.

GOAL GLORY FROM FIDGE

By ALAN SHIELL

John Fidge kicked 13 goals against West Adelaide at Glenelg Oval yesterday in one of the most dominant fullforward performances seen in SA football.

Fidge's mighty haul helped Glenelg sprint away from West Adelaide in the second half - 13.10 to 3.6 - for a decisive 61-point win.

Glenelg's 10th victory in 16 games lifted it from third to second position and forced West (nine wins) from second to fifth.

The Tigers put West out of business in the third quarter when, kicking into an increasingly stiff south-westerly wind, they piled on 8.2 to 1.4 to convert a half-time deficit of three points into a commanding 37-point lead.

Fidge notched his 10th goal 20 minutes into the third term.

In the space of only 17 minutes, he booted five of Glenelg's eight third-quarter goals, after getting five - two in the first quarter, three in the second - of its first seven goals.

He led cleverly and marked superbly, particularly overhead, by turning some no-hope chances into freakish grabs. And, as usual, the strongly-built right-footer kicked with radar accuracy - 13.2.

His control was so complete yesterday that West tried three opponents on him - Glenn Goss (until Fidge had kicked seven

Tiger in awesome display

goals), Paul Patterson (three) and Simon Byrne (three).

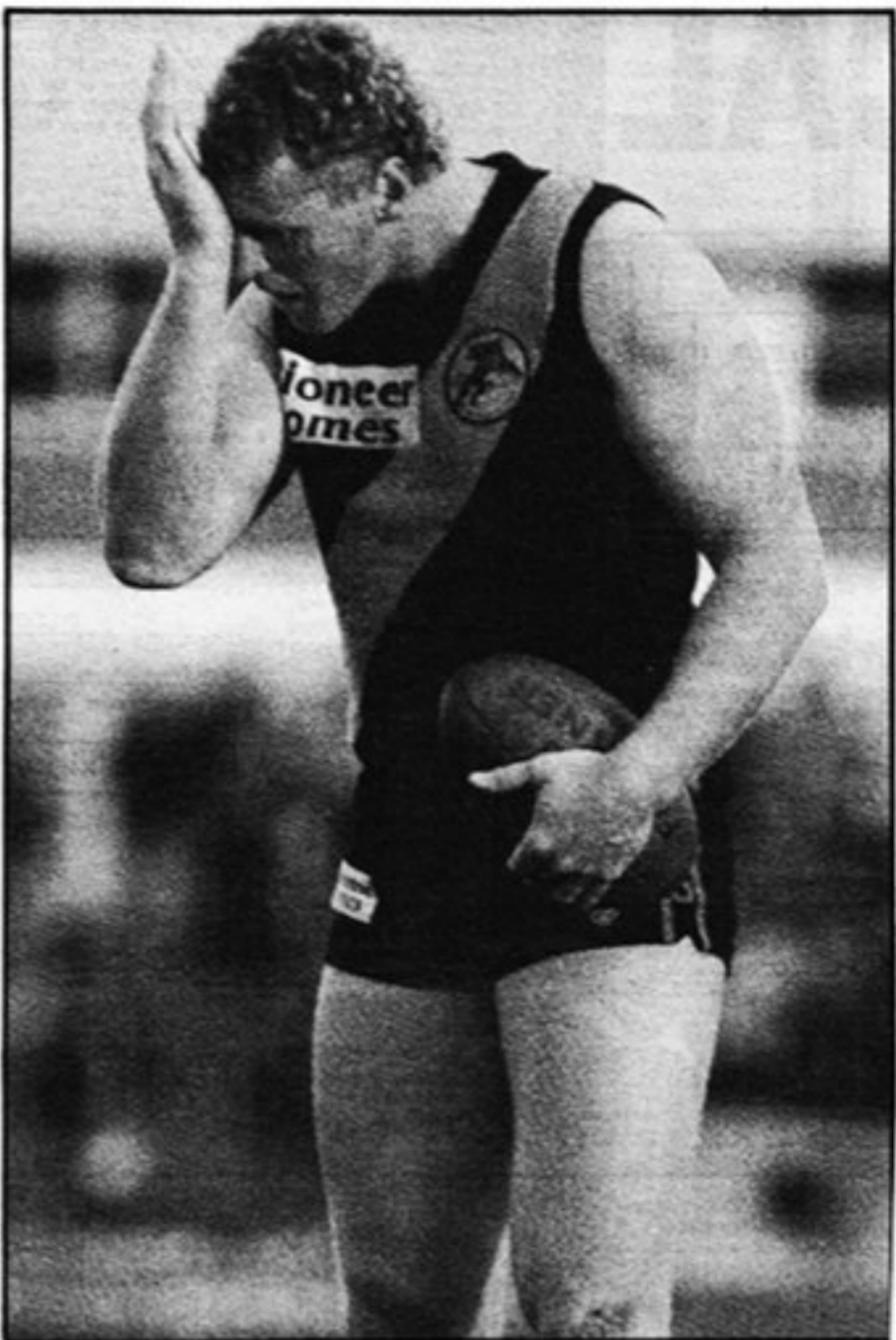
Glenelg often surged into attack with the artistry and arrogance befitting a strong premierships contender, although there were times, excusable perhaps, when it overdid the smart stuff.

Darren Mansell was a rampant centreman, Andrew McKay underlined his consistency with another big rebounding job from half-back, Nick Chigwidden roved brilliantly and Grant Reubenicht was a penetrative wingman.

And, significantly for the Adelaide Crows, Rod Jameson again was productive as a follower/half-forward, more so before Robbie McKinnon became his shadow.

This was Jameson's third match for Glenelg this season. He, like fellow Crows David Marshall and Michael Murphy, now has qualified for the finals.

West was best served by neat, three-goal rover Shane Fitzsimmons, who could check opponents more closely, tearaway half-back flanker Paul Ravesi, bustling centre half-back Simon Porter, back pocket Allan Hogg, McKinnon and ruckman Brook Fogden.



Glenelg strongman John Fidge lines up for another kick at goal despite being felled after taking a mark

Table with columns: Kicks, Marks, Handballs, Frees, Scores, Hit, Talls. Lists players for Glenelg.

Table with columns: Kicks, Marks, Handballs, Frees, Scores, Hit, Talls. Lists players for West.

Fidge in wrong league

By ALAN SHIELL

John Fidge should be playing in the Australian Football League, preferably with the Adelaide Crows, of course.

At 26, he is in danger of always being regarded as a good footballer who never really made it in The Big League. If he wants to live with that also-ran tag, well, that's his business...

Fidge's 13 goals against West Adelaide at Glenelg Oval on Saturday were symbolic of a man who was playing out of his class - a diamond among some not-so-glimmering jewels.

His was nothing less than a virtuoso display, one that made a lasting impression

on Crows (and former Glenelg) coach Graham Cornes, watching, with comrades Chris McDermott and David Marshall, from the back rows of the old grandstand.

Cornes also would have been rapt in Glenelg's dashing half-back flanker Andrew McKay, 22, but please don't tell those avaricious AFL talent scouts about the second-year recruit from Lucindale - as if they don't already know!

Fidge's quarter-by-quarter goal-tally was two, three, five and three - in all, 13.2 of Glenelg's 20.19, which was sufficient to beat West by 61 points, thanks to a second-half blitz in which the Tigers, stung by a furious half-time spray from coach Kym Hodgeman, outscored the Bloods 13.10 to 3.6.

Fidge was well fed by team-mates, but he fed them unselfishly, too.

Australian football's most basic requirement - and perhaps greatest skill - is to be in the right place at the right time, to "read" the play so you are where the ball is.

Fidge was, nearly always,

Table with columns: Team, Goals, Points. Lists GLENELG, WEST. Includes scorers and injuries.

and it was what he did with it that stamped his consummate performance as one of the best produced by a full forward in the South Australian league competition.

Hodgeman said on Saturday night Fidge was about "80 per cent fit - about three or four games away from proper match fitness".

A foot injury had restricted Fidge to only three other league games this season, plus two in the Foundation Cup.

In his four winters with Glenelg, he has had some turbulent times, perhaps off the field more than on it. For all his ability, only Fidge could answer whether he had the desire, stamina and general fitness to cope with the strict, demanding, training regimen of an AFL club, a la the Crows.

If he could and would guarantee he was fair dinkum, he should be approached immediately.