Bays no pretenders to flag

By PETER PRIME

There have been some people pushing the notion around football circles that Glenelg is merely a pretender for the 1992 premiership — that it is a shadow of the team it once was.

Forget it!

The Tigers, for all their recent inconsistencies and unpredictability, will play an integral role in the intense, pressure-cooker atmosphere that is the major round.

There was much to like about Glenelg's 22-point win over a dogged Norwood at Football Park on Saturday unmitigating evidence it will not be the slightest bit intimidated by the impending match-ups against the likes of Port Adelaide, North Adelaide and the Eagles in the finals.

The Redlegs went blow-forblow with the Tigers for a large portion of their clash, yet Glenelg never appeared to suffer any knee-shaking, nor look rattled.

GLENELG	6.3	10.6	12.11	17.16	(118)
NORWOOD	5.4	7.8	11.12	14.12	(96)
HOITHOOD					11

SCORERS - Glenelg: Fidge 7.2, Russell 5.3, Symonds 2.0, Chigwidden, Lamb, Gibbs 1.0, Stuart 0.2, Bow, Hallahan, Salisbury, Bartlett, Kretschmer 0.1, rushed 0.4. Norwood: Aish 4.3, Smart 3.1, Jones 2.1, Thomas, Molloy, Modra 1.1, James, Tanner 1.0, Pike 0.3, rushed 0.1.

BEST - Glenelg: Hallahan, Russell, Fidge, Bow, Lamb, McKay, Kretschmer, Chigwidden. Norwood: Tanner, Aish, Pittman, Burns, D. Smart, Patterson.

INJURIES — Norwood: Molloy (dislocated shoulder).

UMPIRES — Kevin Chambers, Tim Pfeiffer. CROWD — 4573.

Glenelg always appeared to hold the winning cards.

In the final minutes of battle, hairline fractures within the Redleg ranks suddenly became crevasses, the flood gates opened and the Tigers waltzed to a convincing victory.

The triumph could not have come at a better time for Kym Hodgeman's outfit.

Before Saturday, it had lost three in a row and questions were being asked as to its suitability on the big stage in September.

But now its latest win has restored some much-needed respectability, kept alive its double-chance aspirations and sadly ruined Norwood champion Michael Aish's 300th game celebrations.

Paul Hallahan was a wonderful contributor for Glenelg, winning 23 kicks, eight marks and seven handballs.

He asserted greatest influence on the game lurching deep into attack and falling back into defence when required. .

The Tiger attack was lively and enthusiastic, with lethal John Fidge booting seven goals and potent Mark Russell, five.

Lynden Bow, Clayton Lamb,

defender Andrew McKay, Dwayne Kretschmer and rover Nick Chigwidden also were notable performers.

It may have been Aish's day for the Redlegs — he is the first player in the club to notch the 300-game mark but Glenelg offered no courtesy and certainly no mercy on Saturday.

However, there is more than a flicker of light at the end of the tunnel for Neil Craig's Norwood. The Redlegs will not be part of the finals action this year, but they will be a combination to be feared in the future.

They have some outstanding youngsters who still are learning what league football is all about. Perhaps Norwood now has to develop a mean streak - a streetwise mentality.

Among Norwood's best were Grant Tanner, Aish (four goals), ruckman David Pittman, young defender Scott Burns, Doug Smart (three goals) and Stephen Patterson.

SANFL PREMIERSHIP TABLE

	w	L	D	F	A	P.C.	Pts
Port	17	3	-	2561	1813	58.55	34
North	12	8	-	2234	1779	55.67	24
Eagles	12	7	-	1836	1878	49.43	24
Glenelg	11	9	-	2192	2025	51.98	22
South	10	10	-	2225	2280	49.39	20
West	9	11	_	2048	2137	48.94	18
Norwood	8	11	-	1997	1811	52.44	16
Central	7	12	-	1823	2195	45.37	14
Sturt	2	17	-	1474	2472	37.35	4

CENTRAL DIS	TRICT	3.4	9.7	15.11	17.17	(119)
PORT ADELA	IDE	3.1	9.7	13.8	18.10	(119)
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SCORERS — Central: Chaplin 4.1, Sutton 3.1, Abbott 3.0, Coffee 2.2, Handley 1.6, Stevens 1.1, Cummings, Wakelin, Saywell 1.0, Reimers 0.1, rushed 0.5. Port: Tylor 4.0, Ginever, Chalmers, Buckley 2.0, D. Smith 1.2, Bond, M. Williams, Brown 1.1, S. Williams, Rizonico, Foster, Settre 1.0, Hutton, Smallridge 0.1, rushed 0.3.

BEST — Central: Chaplin, Lynn, Geister, Stevens, Abbott, Tongerie, Ingerson, Saywell. Port: Delaney, Buckley, Chalmers, Brown, M. Williams, S. Williams.

INJURIES — Port: Mead (concussion).

UMPIRES — Craig Doddridge, Mark Mackie. CROWD — 4231.

SOUTH ADELAIDE	3.2	8.6	16.10	19.15	(129)
STURT	4.8	6.9	10.10	16.13	(129) (109)

SCORERS — South: Groom 7.0, Keam 6.2, Mills 2.1, Cameron, Bone 1.2, Kappler, Koster 1.0, Powell 0.4, Trevena, Naley, Brockhurst, Webb 0.1. Sturt: Brooks 5.1, Wark 4.1, Stevenson 2.3, Roberts-Thomson 1.2, Viney 1.1, Field, Russell, Bagshaw 1.0, Salisbury, Gask 0.1, rushed 0.3.

BEST — South: Groom, Naley, Grummet, Stoeckel, Koster, Keam, Kappler, Cameron. Sturt: Judd, Brooks, Viney, Gask, Paynter.

INJURIES — South: Osborn (ankle). Sturt: Kitschke (bruised foot). UMPIRES — Ron Bettridge, David Elliott. CROWD — 2657.

SANFL LEADING GOALKICKERS

(Club)	Rd 22	total
	4	96
	2	50
	5	49
	_	48
	5	47,
•	7	47
	1	46
(Glenelg)	1	44
	(Club) (Port) (Norwood) (Glenelg) (Eagles) (North) (Glenelg) (Norwood) (Glenelg)	(Port) 4 (Norwood) 2 (Glenelg) 5 (Eagles) - (North) 5 (Glenelg) 7 (Norwood) 1

Glenelg 19.11 (125) d Norwood 11.8 (74), South 23.14 (152) d Sturt 11.7 (73), Port 23.18 (156) d Central 14.10 (94), West 16.21 (117) d North 13.8 (86).

RESERVES

Under 19: Norwood 11.10 (76) d Glenelg 9.15 (69), South 18.14 (122) d Sturt 14.7 (91), Port 24.19 (163) d Central 6.4 (40), North 19.16 (130) d West 8.7 (55).

Under 17: Norwood 13.14 (92) d Glenelg 6.12 (48), South 11.12 (78) d Sturt 4.4 (28), Central 8.13 (61) d Port 6.9 (45), North 8.10 (58) d West 6.2 (38.)

NORTH	9.4	15.6	17.10	23.16	(154) (65)
WEST	2.2	5.5	6.7	9.11	(65)
WEST	2.2	3.3	0.7	0.11	(00)

SCORERS — North: Parsons 6.4, Burton 5.1, Bennett 5.0, Atkinson 2.2, Hamilton 2.0, Sanders, Sims, Mancini 1.1, Nunan 0.2, Ryan, Phillips 0.1, rushed 0.2. West: Modra 2.1, Fitzsimmons 2.0, Goss 1.3, Morris 1.1, Simpson, Patterson, Ricciuto 1.0, Grosser, Carlson 0.2, rushed 0.2.

BEST — North: Redden, Bennett, Phillips, Sanders, Nunan, Gerke, Tasker. West: Grosser, Morris, Fogden, Carlson.

INJURIES — North: Bennett (dislocated finger), Krieg (hamstring). West: Schumann (hamstring).

REPORTS — North: Parsons, by field umpire Abbott, for allegedly striking Byrne. West: Goss, by Abbott, for allegedly striking Parsons. Burgess, by field umpire Williams, for allegedly striking Bennett. UMPIRES — Michael Abbott, Richard Williams. CROWD — 2868.