

Youthful Redlegs run down Bays

By ALAN SHIELL

Norwood, younger, quicker and more determined, persisted for longer in difficult conditions yesterday to beat Glenelg by 10 points in a poor standard first semi-final at Football Park.

Down 13 points at half-time, Norwood outscored Glenelg 4.11 to 2.0 in the second half of a scrappy spectacle, spoiled by a wet, slippery turf early and a powerful wind that belted in from the west.

While the Redlegs could claim credit for their perseverance, they would need to go up a cog or three to match Port Adelaide in Sunday's preliminary final.

But coach Neil Craig was pleased with his players' effort.

"The important thing over the past two weeks is the way we've gone about our footy," he said. "We were prepared to accept the difficult conditions. Each week, we are meeting sides above us on the ladder. There's no question the Eagles and Port were the two most consistent teams in the minor round, and we respect that."

"But we have a healthy respect for our own ability. We respect the Eagles and Port, but we don't fear them."

Glenelg coach Mark Williams said: "Norwood persisted better than us. They kept at it, we needed to go all the way."

"We turned the ball over too easily, too often. And I thought the bounce of the ball generally went Norwood's way."

Williams also could have mentioned that Glenelg received few favors from the umpires, with some crucial decisions going Norwood's way, as suggested by a free-kick count of 37-24.

As often is the way with the losing team in a final, Glenelg was rendered surprisingly sluggish in the second half. Too many players looked old, tired and slow.

Williams said Glenelg had "a lot of rebuilding to do" and forecast "many changes to the side for next year".

"Some of these players have been terrific for the club and it's

NORWOOD	3.4	5.4	8.10	9.15	(69)
GLENELG	3.2	7.5	8.5	9.5	(59)

SCORERS - Norwood: Prime 4.2, Ducker 1.4, Patterson, Pitt 1.1, Rowe 0.2, James, Smart, O'Brien 0.1, rushed 0.2. **Glenelg:** Fidge 3.1, Lamb 1.1, Mansell, Gibbs, Barton, West, McGuinness 1.0, Kretschmer 0.2, rushed 0.1.

BEST - Norwood: James, Rowe, Tanner, Patterson, Modra, McIntosh, Prime. **Glenelg:** McCully, Marshall, McGuinness, Hele, Kretschmer, Gibbs.

INJURIES - Norwood: Eames (bruised calf).

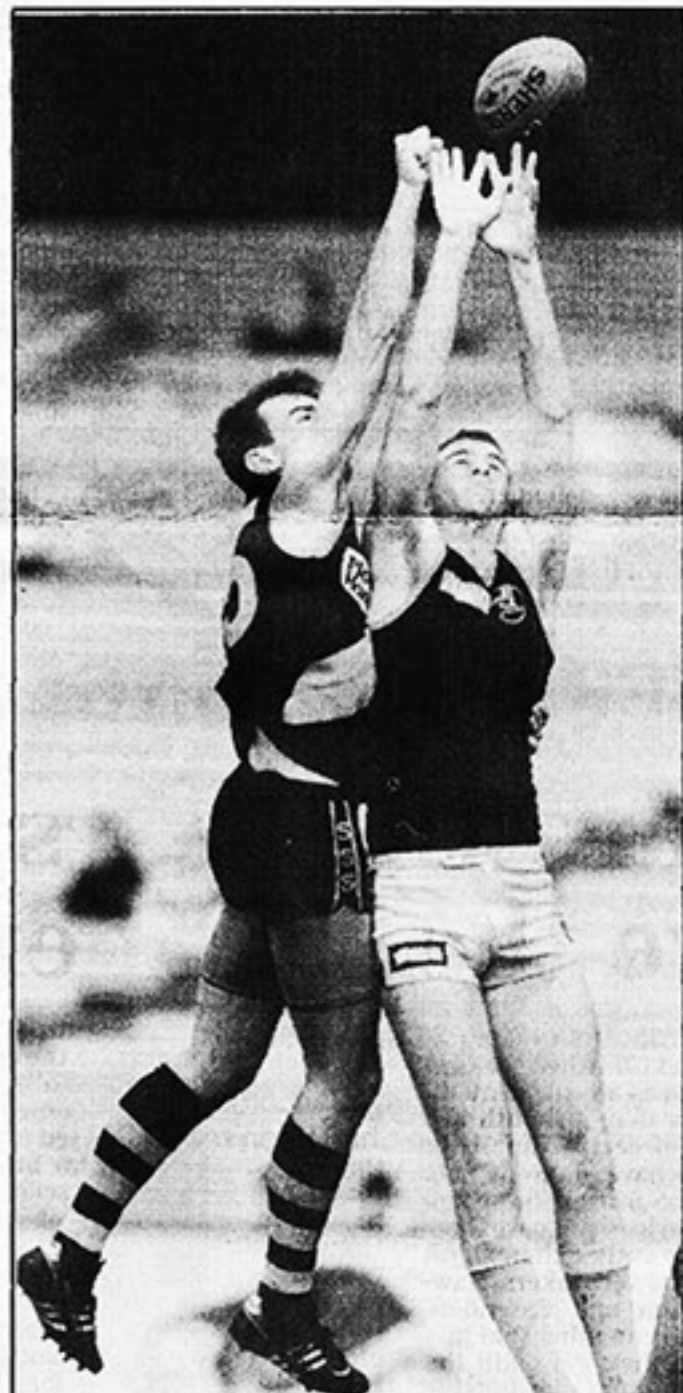
UMPIRES - Mark Westgarth, Richard Williams.

BEST ON GROUND - Brett James (Norwood).

TOP TEAM PLAYER - Stephen Rowe (Norwood).



GROUND ACTION ... Paul Hamilton, of Glenelg, and Redleg Steven Pitt fight for the ball. *Picture: NICHOLAS WILSON.*



disappointing we didn't give a better effort for them in the end," he said. "On the positive side, we look forward to a good result from our reserves side, which has been playing some outstanding footy in the finals."

By his normally high standards, Redleg Garry McIntosh was relatively quiet in the first half, although this seemed to be more a matter of the ball eluding him than any significant taming by tagger Dean Bailey.

But when the whips were cracking and the match was there to be won in the last quarter, "Macca" was in his element, gaining important touches.

Glenelg had looked a more mature, composed outfit in the first half as it took a bigger share of the ball through the influence of knock ruckman Stewart McCully, an in-control centre-line of Kretschmer, David Marshall and Simon Hele and

rover Phillip McGuinness.

Norwood could have been in trouble except for the colossal strength and shrewd anticipation (and surprising mobility) of heavyweight full forward Chris Prime, who kicked its first four goals.

Glenelg's third-quarter response was alarmingly nonchalant, bordering on soft, when it went to the southern end, favored more by the strong wind.

Norwood rovers Stephen Rowe and Stephen Patterson climbed into the game, and the defence, marshalled superbly by back pocket Brett James and centre half-back Ben Modra, tidied up Glenelg's irregular sorties.

A 60 m goal by 250-game back pocket Ross Gibbs was Glenelg's lone scoring shot for the term.

Goals always were going to be scarce, though, in such demand-

ing conditions and when straight-backed Steven "Snake" Pitt sank Norwood's ninth eight minutes into the last quarter for a 9.12 to 8.5 lead, the crowd sensed Glenelg was history.

The Redlegs were jubilant as they trooped off at the end. It was another tribute to Norwood's astute development program, and seemingly never-ending production line, that more than half of them had graduated through the club's junior grades.

The Tigers trudged off with heads bowed. David Marshall, having had his hand shaken by a few Norwood players, was the second-last of them to leave the field.

It was a sad way to finish a marvellous, long career. At least he chose to retire. Some of his team-mates will have their decisions made for them.

NORWOOD	Kicks				Marks				Handballs				Frees				Scores	Hit	Tackles		
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	F	A	G	B					
M.DUCKER	1	1	2	3	7	0	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	4	0	2
C.PRIME	6	1	1	0	8	1	1	0	0	2	1	0	1	0	2	3	2	4	2	0	2
D.BYRNES	3	0	0	2	5	1	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	3	4	2	1	0	0	0	5
S.ROWE	3	3	5	4	15	0	0	1	0	1	4	5	4	2	15	4	0	0	2	0	2
S.SMART	2	1	1	2	6	3	0	0	1	4	1	0	1	2	4	1	1	0	0	16	4
S.PITT	4	2	1	2	9	0	1	1	0	2	1	1	3	1	6	0	1	1	1	0	2
G.TANNER	5	2	3	4	14	2	1	1	0	4	4	3	1	3	11	1	2	1	0	2	3
R.KELLY	2	3	2	2	9	0	0	1	0	1	3	2	3	0	8	4	0	0	0	0	4
A.EAMES	4	2	5	0	11	1	0	1	0	2	2	0	1	0	3	5	2	0	0	0	3
S.ROBINSON	2	4	1	1	8	0	1	0	0	1	2	2	1	1	6	2	2	0	0	0	3
B.MODRA	5	0	6	0	11	1	0	1	0	2	0	1	1	0	2	3	1	0	0	0	3
S.BURNS	2	1	4	2	9	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	2	2	3	0	0	0	3
B.JAMES	2	6	5	3	16	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	3	5	11	4	3	0	1	0	5
J.TUMES	3	2	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	1	5	2	1	0	0	0	6
J.ROBRAN	3	1	3	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
M.THOMPSON	0	2	0	2	4	1	1	0	0	2	1	3	2	1	7	1	0	0	0	25	0
G.MCINTOSH	3	2	4	4	13	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	2	5	0	1	1	0	0	6
S.PATTERSON	6	3	6	7	22	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	2	1	3	2	2	1	1	0	6
C.BALME	1	0	2	0	3	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0
C.O'BRIEN	0	1	3	3	7	0	0	1	0	1	0	3	1	1	5	0	2	0	1	0	0
TOTALS	57	37	54	41	189	11	7	8	2	28	25	22	33	24	104	37	24	9	15	48	59
																RUSHED 2					

GLENELG	Kicks				Marks				Handballs				Frees				Scores	Hit	Tackles		
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	F	A	G	B					
J.WEST	1	2	1	3	7	0	2	0	1	3	1	0	3	0	4	1	1	1	0	0	1
J.FIDGE	4	4	2	1	11	1	1	1	0	3	3	0	1	1	5	1	1	3	1	0	2
D.MANSELL	4	4	4	1	13	0	1	2	0	3	1	1	2	1	5	1	4	1	0	0	2
P.MCGUINNESS	5	9	5	2	21	1	2	1	0	4	0	1	3	1	5	0	4	1	0	0	4
H.STUART	3	0	1	1	5	1	0	0	1	2	2	0	0	0	2	1	1	0	0	1	2
M.BARTON	4	3	1	2	10	0	1	2	1	4	1	6	1	1	9	1	1	1	0	1	3
L.BOW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
D.MARSHALL	5	7	2	2	16	0	2	0	1	3	2	2	5	2	11	1	6	0	0	0	7
S.HELE	8	7	6	5	26	0	0	0	1	1	2	1	1	1	5	4	0	0	0	0	1
D.BAILEY	5	2	2	1	10	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	2	3	10	1	1	0	0	0	2
P.HAMILTON	1	1	2	1	5	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	2	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
R.THOMPSON	3	5	6	0	14	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	1	1	2	4	2	0	0	1	3
R.GIBBS	3	1	5	6	15	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	1	3	6	2	1	1	0	0	2
J.HOCKING	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	2	1	1	2	2	6	1	2	0	0	0	2
C.LAMB	1	3	0	1	5	2	3	0	0	5	2	3	2	1	8	2	2	1	1	0	1
S.MCCULLY	1	0	2	1	4	0	0	3	1	4	0	0	5	0	5	0	3	0	0	43	3
D.KRETSCHMER	3	1	3	1	8	1	1	0	0	2	5	5	1	2	13	1	3	0	2	0	5
N.CHIGWIDEN	1	3	1	0	5	1	1	0	0	2	4	5	0	0	9	1	2	0	0	0	3
C.MCRAE	0	0	2	3	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	3	0	1	0	0	0	0
P.ROUVRAY	3	5	0	3	11	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	2	2	2	0	0	0	1
TOTALS	55	58	45	34	192	8	15	11	9	43	29	29	34	22	114	24	37	9	5	46	48
																RUSHED 1					

FREES				PENALTIES		GOALS				DIST. OF GOALS			
BACKS	CENT.	FOR	TOTAL	50 M	GOALS	FREE	PLAY	MARK	TOTAL	0-15	15-30	30-40	40+
11	17	8	37	1	0	1	6	2	9	5	8	2	2

FREES				PENALTIES		GOALS				DIST. OF GOALS			
BACKS	CENT.	FOR	TOTAL	50 M	GOALS	FREE	PLAY	MARK	TOTAL	0-15	15-30	30-40	40+
12	8	3	24	0	0	0	6	3	9	3	3	1	2