

Week-long wait before final-five positions decided

Port hits back as Tigers lick wounds



Phillip McGuinness clears under pressure

By ALAN SHIELL
Port Adelaide wounded Glenelg's pride and its premiership prospects with a resounding 39-point win at Football Park yesterday.

Both teams have an anxious week ahead of them, waiting for next Saturday's results to determine their positions in the final five.

If the Eagles defeat Central District at Elizabeth Oval and Glenelg accounts for West Adelaide at Richmond Oval, the Eagles will take the minor premiership from Port, which has the bye next Saturday - and Port and Glenelg will clash again in the qualifying final on Saturday week, after Norwood and Central have played in the elimination final.

Port wasted its greater share of the ball through inaccurate kicking for goal in the first half yesterday, and trailed by three points - 7.12 to Glenelg's 9.3 - at half-time.

But Port outscored Glenelg 12.10 to 5.10 in the second half and, at the end, could boast 41 scoring shots to 27 - 19.22 to 14.13.

Glenelg was hurt by the quarter-time retirement of full forward John Fidge, who strained a calf muscle in the pre-match warm-up out on the ground, and the half-time demise of captain-rover Nick Chigwidden, who strained a knee in the second term.

And other Tigers were sore enough for coach Mark Williams to lament later that his team finished with "15 or 16 fit men".

When asked whether he thought the match had any significance for the finals, Williams said: "None at all."

"We battled it out well under the circumstances," he said. "We were disappointed about losing, but we'll come back from it."

"Port missed some easy goals early, then we did the same later when the game could have gone either way."

"I was satisfied with the way our players ran the game out. I still believe we have the game to beat Port."

Port coach John Cahill said: "It was a good win. Our commitment was good, as it was against Norwood last week, and we were pleased again with the way our youngsters performed under finals-type pressure."

"Glenelg is always a hard team to beat."

"It was hard and hot out there, and it was pleasing the way we kept going."

"We've been up and down for the last seven weeks, and it was important for us to get a good win against a good team."

"This was no fluke. We prepared well during the week, and we had a day's less rest through playing last Sunday."

"That was worrying me in the heat, but, in the end, our courage kept us going."

"If we're top, we're top. If we're not, we're not."

"It would be a bonus to

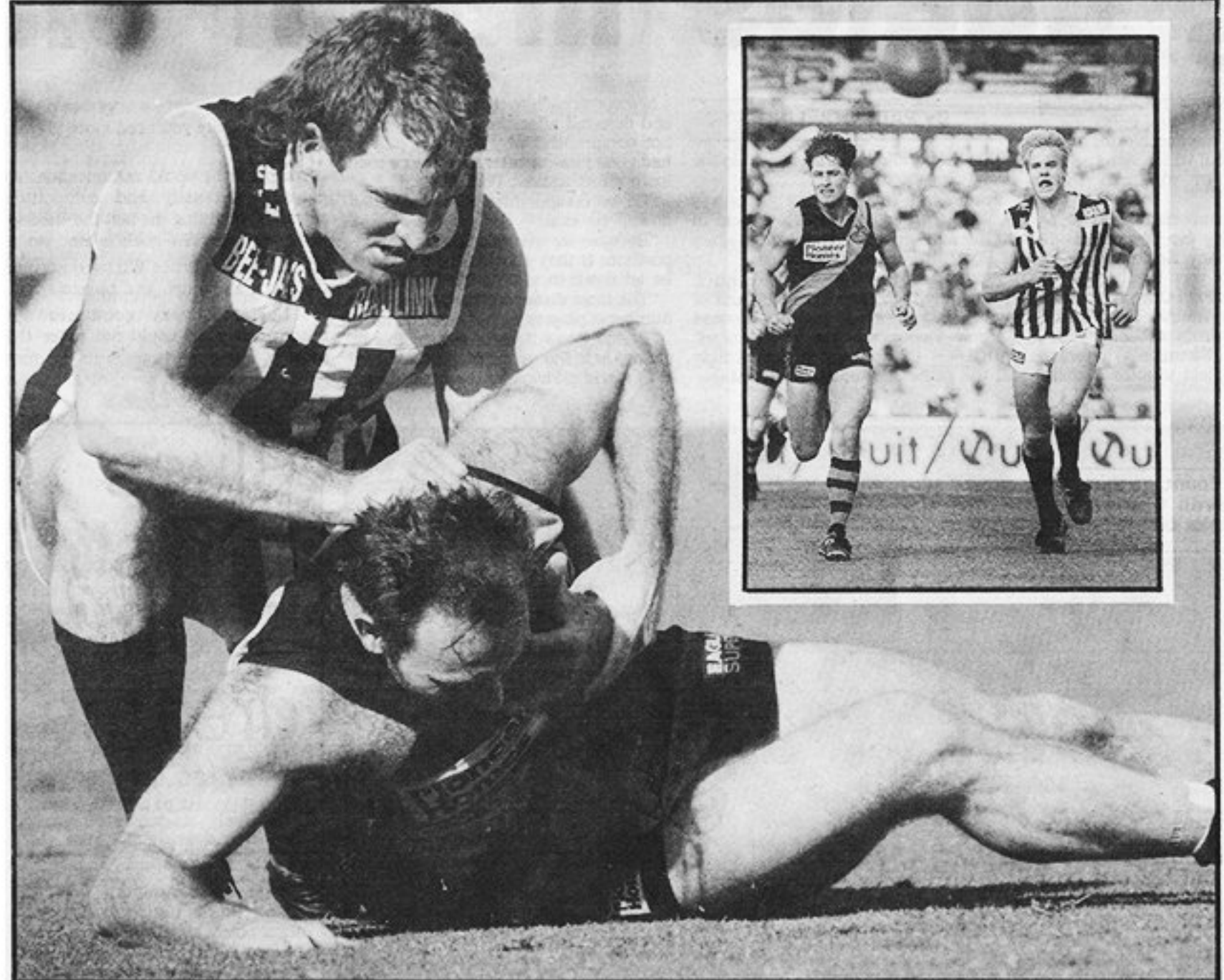
finish on top, but we've got next week off, anyway.

"We're pretty happy. We expect to go on with it now."

Port had a long best players' list, led by slippery rover Troy Bond, strong-marking centre half-forward Darren Smith, who kicked 3.4, rugged half-backs Julian Burton, elusive wingman Rohan Smith and strong utility Richard Foster.

On-batters Tim Ginever and Shane Bond and defender Brayden Lyle were always prominent, too, and forward Scott Hodges showed signs of recapturing form quickly, after his hamstring problem, with 3.3 until he was rested late in the last quarter.

Glenelg received most value from the on-ball efforts of Phillip McGuinness, Darren Mansell and David Marshall, defender Ross Gibbs and big forward Jim West, who booted 4.2.



Scott Hodges has the opposition by the scruff of the neck. Inset: Port's Julian Burton (right) in a neck and neck chase

Football Park

PORT	2.7	7.12	13.15	19.22	(136)
Glenelg	2.0	9.3	10.7	14.13	(97)

BEST - PORT: T. Bond, D. Smith, Burton, R. Smith, Foster, Ginever, Lyle, S. Bond. **GLENELG:** McGuinness, Mansell, Marshall, Gibbs, West.

SCORERS - PORT: Williams 3.5, D. Smith 3.4, Hodges 3.3, Tylor 3.1, R. Smith, Angove 2.0, Foster, S. Bond 1.1, Kemp 1.0, Lyle, T. Bond 0.1, rushed 0.5. **GLENELG:** West 4.2, Marshall 4.0, McGuinness 3.3, Stuart 1.2, Rattray 1.1, Barton 1.0, Hele, Hamilton, Kretschmer 0.1, rushed 0.2.

INJURIES - PORT: Cockatoo-Collins (ankle, off late third quarter). **GLENELG:** Fidge (calf, off quarter-time), Chigwidden (knee, off half-time).

UMPIRES: Ron Bettridge, Kevin Chambers.

Adelaide Oval

STURT	3.9	8.10	17.11	26.15	(171)
South	3.5	9.7	12.10	18.10	(118)

BEST - STURT: Johns, Underwood, Sutherland, Lienert, Stagg, Gray, Richter, Obst, Dent. **SOUTH:** McIntyre, Kappler, Polkinghorne, Page, Battams.

SCORERS - STURT: Arnol 5.5, Stagg 4.2, Wyatt 3.1, Viney, Baker 3.0, Sutherland 2.1, Trimboli 2.0, Dent 1.1, Richter, Gray, Kitschke 1.0, Sanderson 0.2, Obst, Salisbury 0.1, rushed 0.1. **SOUTH:** McIntyre 7.4, Polkinghorne 2.2, Mitton 2.1, Rogers, Darcy 2.0, Aulich, Stoeckel, Kappler 1.0, Naley 0.2, rushed 0.1.

REPORT - Arnol (Sturt) by field umpire Greg Inge for allegedly striking Whitford with a clenched fist in the back of the head.

UMPIRES: Greg Inge, David Elliott.

Norwood Oval

EAGLES	5.7	6.14	12.21	15.26	(116)
Norwood	1.1	7.3	11.6	16.8	(104)

BEST - EAGLES: Niemann, J. Sziller, Rogers, Ugrinic, Chapman, Taylor, Breuer, Nicol, Tape. **NORWOOD:** Patterson, Kelly, Balme.

SCORERS - EAGLES: Nicol 4.2, Taylor 2.6, Breuer, Morphett 2.2, J. Sziller 2.1, Niemann 1.2, Hannam, Chapman 1.0, Phillipou 0.3, Kluzek, S. Sziller 0.2, rushed 0.4. **NORWOOD:** Prime 4.2, Patterson 4.0, O'Brien, Smart 3.0, Rowe 1.1, Eames 1.0, Aish, Dolan 0.1, rushed 0.2.

INJURIES - EAGLES: Hannam (strained thigh). **REPORT** - Andrew Taylor (Eagles) by field umpire Michael Abbott for allegedly striking Norwood's Stephen Patterson with a clenched fist to the face in the first quarter.

UMPIRES: Michael Abbott, Richard Williams.

Prospect Oval

CENTRAL	6.1	10.5	15.9	21.15	(141)
North	4.0	9.2	13.5	15.7	(97)

BEST - CENTRAL: Saywell, Potter, Girdham, Geister, Handley, Louder, Luhrs, Coffee. **NORTH:** Perkins, Jeffries, Nunan, Perry, Mail, Phillips, Redden.

SCORERS - CENTRAL: Coffee 5.2, Handley 4.2, Luhrs 3.1, Cummings 2.2, Ingerson 2.0, Chaplin 2.0, Saywell 2.0, Tongerie 1.3, Girdham 0.2, MacGowan 0.1, rushed 0.2. **NORTH:** Jeffries 6.0, Phillips 3.0, Woolford 2.0, Barrett 1.3, Perkins 1.1, Turner 1.0, Saunders 1.0, rushed 0.3.

INJURIES - CENTRAL: MacGowan (bruised shoulder), Ingerson (bruised elbow). **NORTH:** Saunders (slight concussion), Marshall (driver muscle).

UMPIRES: Tim Pfeiffer, Mark Westgarth.

SANFL ladder

	P	W	L	D	F	A	%	Pts
PORT	20	15	5	0	2553	2155	54.23	30
EAGLES	19	14	4	1	2174	1633	57.11	29
CENTRAL	19	12	7	0	2096	1788	53.96	24
GLENELG	19	11	7	1	2258	1934	53.86	23
NORWOOD	19	11	8	0	2163	1884	53.45	22
South	19	9	10	0	2049	1947	51.28	18
North	19	6	13	0	1560	2115	42.45	12
West*	19	4	15	0	1664	2215	42.90	8
Sturt	19	3	16	0	1704	2549	40.07	6

* Bye.

SA goalkickers

	Games	Rd 22	Total
M. Tylor (Port)	20	3	87
P. McIntyre (South)	16	7	72
A. Taylor (Eagles)	19	2	71
C. Prime (Norwood)	18	4	71
J. Arnol (Sturt)	19	5	58

SA crowds

Football Park	8,626
Adelaide Oval	2,458
Norwood Oval	6,080
Prospect Oval	2,186
Total	19,350

SA Draw

ROUND 23 - Saturday: South v. Norwood (Football Park), Sturt v. North (Adelaide), Central v. Eagles (Elizabeth), West v. Glenelg (Richmond). **Bye:** Port.

Other States

WAFL: Elimination final - Subiaco 16.13 (109), South Fremantle 11.17 (83). **Rugby Union:** Preliminary semi-final - Randwick 55, Warringah 34. **Rugby League:** Canterbury 32, Canberra 8.