Round 1, 1995

Rampant Bays bring Port back to earth

By PAUL DOWLING

Port Adelaide's summer of dreams is over.

After months of celebrating its AFL licence, latching on to big-name recruits and basking in saturation publicity, it was rudely awoken last night by a rampant Glenelg at Football Park.

In an unprecedented opening-round upset Glenelg, marshalled by first-year coach Tony Symonds, routed last year's complacent premier by a staggering 92 points.

If Port had visions of 1995 being a triumphant prologue for its probable AFL entry next year it had better get cracking.

For last night it was dor-mant in midfield, impotent in attack and insipid in defence. It was lacking all the qualities which won it last year's championship.

Fierce-tackling Glenelg was a revelation. Seemingly transformed overnight from middle-of-the-road strugglers to urgent title contenders, it ambushed its unsuspecting opponent with a silky team game and liberal doses of aggression and run.

To complete Port's misery full forward Scott Hodges broke his left ankle and David Hutton suffered a dislocated elbow. Both were at Wakefield Hospital by three-quarter time and Hodges, who kicked 130 goals for Port last year, is unlikely to play again this season. Hutton will be missing for at least a month.

A triumphant Symonds must have been pinching himself after disposing of Glenelg's long-time nemesis in such an arrogant manner.

"The tackling was the best I've seen at Glenelg for six years," he said. "And these guys love doing the hard things. I told them at half-time there is nothing more dangerous than a Port team down by seven goals and down to 18 fit men. Then they went out and played the third quarter which was their best of the match."

Glenelg's domination began in the centre square where centreman Phil McGuinness and evergreen Nick Chigwidden spirited their team forward with alarming frequency.

Only Port's Richmond recruit Brian Leys stood in their way up forward but he was bypassed, allowing full forward Dean Caldow to boot seven goals on Darren Mead and Roger Delaney.

James West also was a reliable target, St Kilda pick-up David Strooper an opportunist, Simon Hele, Dwaine



CRUEL BLOW ... Magpie spearhead Scott Hodges is in agony after suffering a broken ankle.

Bloods boost

West Adelaide last night secured yet a further AFL recruit by signing former Sydney defender Gavin McMahon. He will join the club on Tuesday.

McMahon, 20, a former NSW representative in the under-17 Teal Cup series, is West's sixth AFL recruit this season following Anthony Banik (Richmond), Darren Whieldon (Fitzroy), Kieran Sporn (Fitzroy), Glenn Kilpatrick (Essendon) and Steven McLuckie (Brisbane).

Kretschmer, Paul Hallahan and Simon Hele constant goalscoring threats. Stewart McCully, playing in gloves, exposed Port's deficiencies in ruck and Crows Mark Viska and Paul Rouvray, operating at half-back and wing respectively, gave Glenelg an irresist-

(173)11.6 4.4 GLENELG 27.11 PORT ADELAIDE 6.12 11.15 (81) BEST - Glenelg: McGuinness, Chigwidden, Waugh, West, Kretschmer, Caldow, McCully, Bartlett, Bailey. Port: West, Leys, Williams, Northeast.

GOALS - Gleneig: Caldow 7.3, West 3.2, Strooper 3.0, McGuinness, Kretschmer, Hallahan, Chigwidden 2.1, Hele, Bartlett 2.0, Hamilton, Rouvray 1.0, Bailey 0.2. Port: Williams 4.2, Ryan 2.1, R. Smith 2.0, Hodges, Beinke 1.1, D. Smith 1.0, Waterhouse, Darcy, Malakellis 0.2, Hutton, Ginever, Pedler, rushed 0.1.

INJURIES — Port: Hodges (broken ankle), Hutton (dislocated elbow). UMPIRES - Daniel Kowal, Tim Pfeiffer. CROWD - 12,589.

BEST ON GROUND - Phil McGuinness (Glenelg). TOP TEAM PLAYER - Nick Chigwidden (Glenelg).

TURNING POINT - Glenelg's four goals (two to Caldow) in the final 10 minutes of the first half which turned what looked likely to be a narrow half-time lead into one of more than seven goals.

ible passage to goal along the

left-hand flank.

Viska restricted his gifted Crows team-mate Andrew McLeod to irregular if conspicuous possessions and teamed with surprisinglyefficient centre half-back Tony Redshaw to repeatedly stifle Port's clumsy forward thrusts.

But even more significant was the contribution of Glenelg's full back line. Jarrod Hocking was comfortably coping with Hodges before his forceful impact in a pack shoved the Port full forward off-balance and caused his in-

And he was assisted in curb-

ing the potential matchwinner by McCully's bulk and Geelong recruit Rowan Waugh's anticipation and agility. Waugh carried a big reputation into last night's game and justified it with a polished display from a back pocket.

Glenelg did not have a passenger, Port did not have a

Paul Northeast plus AFL recruits Robert West and Leys were the most constructive for the losers but they were far too conspicuous for the liking of coach John Cahill, who called an 8am training session for today.

"Everyone at the club, all of us, thought it was probably a matter of going through the motions," he said.

"This will teach everyone

about humility. "They (Glenelg) came out focused and we wanted to do things at arm's length. They

were alert, unselfish and did

all the things we didn't."

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