Young Bloods earn a victory

By Doug Robertson at Richmond Oval

WEST Adelaide mixed a touch of raw, exciting talent with priceless experience to overload, hassle and harass a wasteful Glenelg into submission by 36 points in warm conditions at Richmond Oval vesterday.

It was a match the emerging Bloods had to win to galvanise their early season successes and they jumped out with full focus to bang on seven consecutive goals to Glenelg's two in the opening 25 minutes.

The Bloods underlined their intent by kicking a match-winning 10 goals even to Glenelg's 3.1 by 10 minutes into the second term with a mix of flair, concentration and clean skills.

The teams kicked 12 goals between them without a miss before Glenelg's Matthew Manfield spoiled the run with big bomb from the 50-metre arc.

Always hard at the ball and body, West gave the stunned Tigers no respite after the opening blitz although both teams kicked 12.9 for the remaining three terms, which only underlined the importance of West's efficient start.

However, the Bloods' task was made infinitely easier by Glenelg's appalling turn-over rate.

By the club's own accounting, Glenelg gave the ball back to the Bloods an astonishing 60-plus times, including frees against, for the match.

That is equal to having three extra opponents each getting 20 possessions for the match.

Regardless, of Glenelg's problems, the Bloods — led by rough-and-rugged Dean Howard (5.1), Dion Myles (19 rebounding disposals), Scott Hahn (4.0) and livewire Salim Hassan (27 touches) played strong, mostly direct football to dish it up whenever the Tigers looked like steadying.

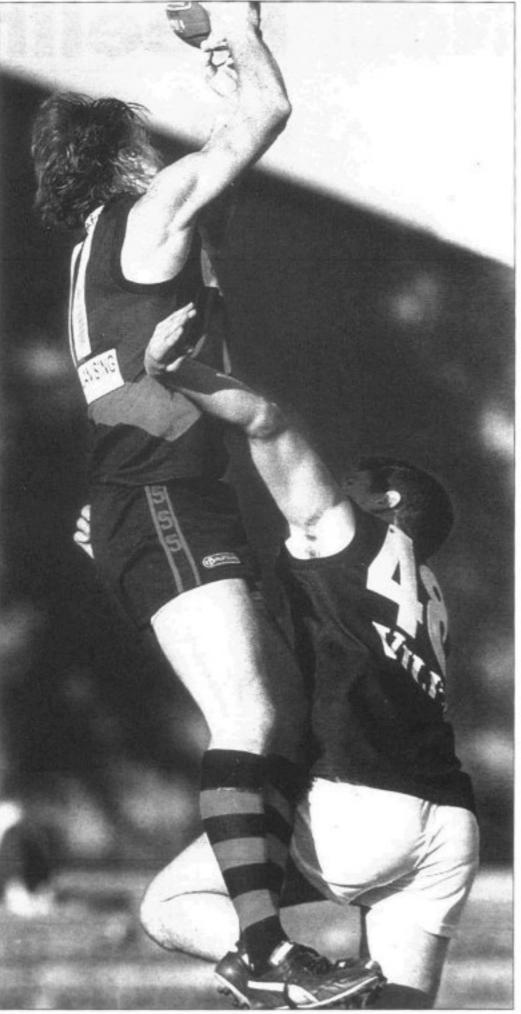
West lost Ben Rutten (thumb), Shane Tuck (thumb) and Chris Chubb (thigh) but half-time and big Ben Marsh became an inspiration by rucking for most of the second half with possibly a crack in his hand.

The Bloods' hardness and skills under pressure was a major factor in an important victory which put it on-par with the best teams in the competition with a 3-1 winloss record.

"It was an important game and we just had to nut it out. Both sides were pretty dead on the legs at the end of the

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129 points 5th on the ladder West 2.0 | 7.3 | 12.4 | 14.9 | Glenelg 8th on the ladder



West's Jason Porpiyzia marks above Glenelg's Craig Tasborski. Pic: Neon Martin

game," West coach Shaun Rehn said.

"Our boys stuck to the task, they knew it was a very important game for our season."

Wiry Hassan, 20 (175cm, 75kg), who drifted down from Darwin, was a sensation in the midfield.

He not only gave former West star Brett Backwell a torrid time as a tagger but Hassan also attacked the ball with sheer confidence and used most touches to effect.

That was a stark difference to the Tigers who gave away too many easy free kicks, were not strong enoughat holding the ball in attack and missed simple target with amazing regularity.

Glenelg was up to the task physically and never once looked like chucking in the towel but until the Tigers brush up the delivery, they will always be a target for even moderately efficient teams.

"Those are the key issues; not a great start, which puts you under the pump, then we had times when we looked like getting back in it but just gave (the ball) up," coach David Noble said.

"I wasn't worried about their state of mind when they hit the ground but our guys got caught a little chasing their rotations around."

The Power's Steven Salopek and Heath Culpitt impressed in their debuts for Glenelg.

Sturt v Central

Adelaide Oval — Friday

CENTRAL 2.4 2.8 5.10 11.12 Sturt 2.4 3.7

BEST — Central: Thomas, Aufderheide, Hay, Slade, J. Gowans, C. Gowans, Hopwood, Kellett. Sturt: Campbell, Begley, Feast, Cooper, Howman, Weatherald.

SCORERS — Central: J. Gowans, C. Gowans 2.1, Slade 2.0, Cowan 1.2, Coulter 1.1, Healy, Switala, Kellett 1.0, Cochrane, Schell 0.2. Thomas 0.1, rushed 0.2. Sturt: Chambers 3.1, Beveridge 1.1, Weatherald, Nelson 1.0, Feast 0.2, Squire, Klun, Wicks, Roberts-Thomson 0.1, rushed 0.2.

INJURIES - Sturt: Reilly (broken collarbone). UMPIRES - T. Pfeiffer, D. Kowall, T. Dey.

CROWD — 8694.

Norwood v South

Norwood Oval - Friday

SOUTH 9.13 13.16 4.6 7.10 Norwood 4.2 9.3 12.6 13.7

BEST — South: Mills. Davis, Berry, Bradley, Tregenza, Doughty, Chapman, Cobb, Letsch, Bennett. Norwood: Direen, James, Neill, Massie, Vidic.

SCORERS — South: Tregenza 6.1, Berry 4.1, Ormond-Allen 1.1, Chapman, Hateley 1.0, Mills 0.3, Johnson 0.2, Rigney, Bradley, Sampson 0.1, rushed 0.5. Norwood: Neill 6.1, Borlace 2.0, Ahmat 1.1, Hobby, Bartemucci, Vidic, Carslake 1.0, McEntee, Direen, Massie 0.1, rushed 0.2.

INJURIES - South: Hall (buttock) replaced in selected side by Newberry. Norwood: Direen (hamstring).

UMPIRES - D. Joyce, R. Fox, P. Williams.

CROWD - 4810.

North v Eagles

Prospect Oval

EAGLES 2.0 11.3 13.6 19.10 (124) North 4.5 5.6 8.8 9.9

BEST — Eagles: Shirley, Lindsay, Hall, Jeffries, Skipworth, Wise, McLure, Stokes, Cicolella. North: Kellett, Grocke, Morgan, James. SCORERS - Eagles: Passador 4.4; Hentschel 3.1; Stokes 3.0; Skipworth 2.1; Wise 2.0; Bock 1.3; Treeby, Jeffries, Frewen, Shirley 1.0; Cicolella 0.1. North: Herbert, Grocke 2.1; James 1.1; McLean, Gluschenko, McGahey, Morgan 1.0; Bamford, Davis, Casserly 0.1; rushed 0.3.

INJURIES - Eagles: Niemann (corked calf), R. Fiacchi (hamstring) replaced in selected side by Christie and Leal.

UMPIRES — G. Symons, S. Przibilla, R. Williams.

CROWD — 2265.

West v Gleneig

Richmond Oval

WEST 12.3 17.9 Glenelg 2.0 7.3 12.4 14.9

BEST — West: Howard, Hassan, Myles, Hahn, Cassisi, Marsh, Koulouriotis, Cooney. Glenelg: Koster, Salopek, Sherwood, Culpit, Nicholas, M. Raidis, D. Raidis.

SCORERS - West: Howard 5.1, Hahn 4.0, Bradshaw 3.0, Koulouriotis 2.1, Marsh 2.0, Cassisi 1.1, Tuck, Norman, Cooney 1.0, Fisher 0.3, Piasente, Rattley 0.1, rushed 0.1. Glenelg: Nicholas 4.0, Cook 2.2, Salopek, Robinson 2.0, D. Raidis, M. Raidis, AhMat, Culpit 1.0, Panozzo 0.4, Manfield, Backwell 0.1, rushed 0.1.

INJURIES - West: Chubb (thigh), Rutten (thumb), Marsh (thumb). Glenelg: Smith (sprained ankle).

UMPIRES — C. Doddridge, K. Broadbridge, J. Brown. CROWD - 1761.

Reserves

GLENELG 9.18 (72) d West 10.8 (68). BEST - Gleneig: N. Bell, Polley, Jon Vlatko, Morris, Dubienicki, Statham. West: Donaldson, Malinovski, Charles, Eagleton, Nordhausen. GOALS - Gleneig: Duldig 3, Smyth 2, N. Bell, Statham, Jon Vlatko, Bennett. West: Schuback, Chadwick, Eagleton 2, Fraser, Schmidt, C. Slattery, Sitters.

Under 19

GLENELG 17.17 (119) d West 8.7 (55). BEST — Glenelg: Nardelli, Kilsby, Cantwell, Hunyadi, Dodd, James. West: Bayliss, Nisbett, Sara, Fisher. GOALS - Gleneig: D. Reavill 4, Reeves 3, Hunyadi, White, Guitink 2, Farrier, Bradley, M. Reavill, James. West: O'Connor 2, Bayliss, Boughen, Burgess, Eagleton, Sara, Zeuner.

Under 17

GLENELG 16.7 (103) d West 15.11 (101). BEST — Glenelg: Simper, Devisser, Wilson, Yeomans, Blum, Humphries, Minns, Paterson. West: Waters, Hutchins, Bricknell, Grieger, Stone, Venning. GOALS - Gleneig: Wilson, Sugars, Bastian 3, Yeomans 2, Basir, Krezos, Devisser, Wright, Size. West: Venning 4, Grieger 3, Hutchins, Bricknell 2, Hartlett, Cornish, Bliesing, Mansforth.

	P	W	L	For	Agst	%	Pts
CENTRAL	4	3	1	482	273	63.84	6
STURT	4	3	1	447	306	59.36	6
NORWOOD	4	3	1	432	335	56.32	6
EAGLES	4	3	1	416	347	54.52	6
West	4	3	1	369	350	51.32	6
South	5	2	3	503	621	44.75	4
Port	4	1	3	376	420	47.24	2
Glenelg	5	1	4	418	562	42.65	2
North	4	0	4	307	536	36.42	0

SANFL goalkickers

	Р	R4	Total		P	R4	Total
B. Chambers (St)	3	7	15	R. Neill (Nwd)	2	0	9
D. Bradshaw (WA)	3	4	14	S. Cook (G)	4	1	9
D. Hargraves (NA)	3	0	13	D. Schell (CD)	3	3	9
R. Tregenza (SA)	4	3	10	R. Ahmat (Nwd)	3	0	8
P. Evans (PA)	4	5	10	1			