

SANFL DETAILS SATURDAY

Table with 5 columns: Team, Kicks, Mks, Hbl, F/for, F/og, Gls, Pts, H/O, Tkl. Rows for Central and South.

BEST - Central: O'Sullivan, J. Gowans, Schell, Slade, C. Gowans, P. Thomas, MacKenzie. South: Wright, Sampson, Kenna, Davey. SCORERS - Central: Schell 4.3, O'Sullivan 4.0, Wilson 2.1...

Table with 5 columns: Team, Kicks, Mks, Hbl, F/for, F/og, Gls, Pts, H/O, Tkl. Rows for Norwood and North.

BEST - Norwood: Jackman, Carslake, Borlace, Gallagher, B. James, Lower, Pfeiffer, Zorzi, Dugan, Campbell. North: Younie, Ivens, B. White, Walker, O'Hara. SCORERS - Norwood: Cockshell 3.2, Pfeiffer 2.1, Brunoli 2.0...

Table with 5 columns: Team, Kicks, Mks, Hbl, F/for, F/og, Gls, Pts, H/O, Tkl. Rows for Eagles and West.

BEST - Eagles: Inkster, Cicolella, Passador, Rugolo, Lindsay, P. Fiacchi, Cooper. West: Haynes, Welsh, Hollands, Walsh, Jencho, Grieger. SCORERS - Eagles: Passador 7.2, Cooper, Jacobs 2.1...

YESTERDAY

Table with 5 columns: Team, Kicks, Mks, Hbl, F/for, F/og, Gls, Pts, H/O, Tkl. Rows for Glenelg and Port.

BEST - Glenelg: Gibbs, Backwell, Moore, Cranston, Willits, Mitchell, Hinge, Ruwoldt, Sherwood. Port: Slattery, Elstone, Butcher, J. Clayton. SCORERS - Glenelg: Gibbs 6.1, Duldig 4.1, Graham 3.1...

DRAW

ROUND 18 - Saturday July 29: West v North (Broadspectrum Oval, 2.20pm), Norwood v Glenelg (Coopers Stadium, 2.15pm), Sturt v Central (Adelaide Oval, 2.20pm). Sunday: South v Eagles (Noarlunga Oval, 2.20pm) Bye: Port.

PREMIERSHIP TABLE

Table with 8 columns: Team, P, W, L, D, F, A, Pts. Lists all SANFL teams and their season statistics.

LEADING GOALKICKERS

Table with 4 columns: Player, Team, Rd17, Total. Lists top goalkickers for Round 17 and their season totals.

RESERVES

Table with 5 columns: Team, Kicks, Mks, Hbl, F/for, F/og, Gls, Pts, H/O, Tkl. Rows for Glenelg and Port.

BEST - Glenelg: Horan, Redden, Burdett, Block, Guilhaus, Austin. Port: Christmann, Hall, Montgomery, C. Thomas, Taylor, Dolling, T. Wait. GOALS - Glenelg: Horan 1, Saunders 3, Lally, Sellar 2...

SANFL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Table listing SANFL Player of the Year winners for various matches: Woodville-West Torrens v West Adelaide, Glenelg v Port Adelaide, Norwood v North Adelaide, Central District v South Adelaide.

LEADERS - 16: Jeremy Clayton (Port), 15: Justin Cicolella (Eagles), 14: Ben Haynes (West), 12: Matthew Slade (Central), 11: Tim Inkster (Eagles), 10: Adam Fisher (Glenelg), Nick Jackman (Norwood), 9: Jade Sheedy (Sturt), Luke Ivens (North).

Gibbs great as Bays break through

DOUG ROBERTSON

GLENELG dispelled any doubt that it has the class and pure slickness of a grand final contender - and wonder kid Bryce Gibbs confirmed his pedigree as a star in the making - with a comprehensive 81-point thrashing of a limp Port Adelaide at Glenelg Oval yesterday.

The Tigers handed out a complete hammering to ruthlessly claim fourth spot from Port, pushing it into fifth place and the edge of finals oblivion. Importantly, the new-look Glenelg did it with an accomplished no-fuss attitude that has been missing at the Bay for probably a decade.

There were no histrionics, no undisciplined behaviour and no flashes of the arrogance or the immaturity that has plagued the Tigers for years. The born-again outfit stuck at its attacking game plan which it launched from defence and underpinned by so much running and tough tackling the Magpies had floundered by late in the first quarter.

Glenelg led by 27 points five minutes into time-on and Gibbs had already racked up two goals and had half-a-dozen possessions.

But that was only the encore. A hot tip to go in the first two AFL draft picks later this year, the elusive Gibbs, 17, cut up the Magpies defenders with ease and hardly ever was prevented from releasing the ball with telling effect.

He kicked a match-high 6.1 and had 37 disposals and laid

seven effective tackles in a dominant display. More importantly, he never stepped outside the team-based style that makes the Tigers a threat to all comers.

Glenelg added seven goals to one in a touch over 23 minutes in the second term to lead by 62 points. The result was beyond doubt but Glenelg never stopped crashing in to overpower Port physically, then it stung the Maggies with precision skills.

Brett Backwell (39 possessions) has discovered the benefits of team footy, Ben Moore (27) celebrated his 100th SANFL game with flair, especially after half-time. Trevor Cranston did not let Port's giant ruckmen - Ivan Maric and James Melkejohn, who won the tap-outs - have control and a more accountable David Mitchell played the sweeper's role off half-back to perfection to put a smile on the face of usually unmovable coach Mark Mickan.

"When we had opportunities from that pressure we were able to score pretty efficiently from it and we maintained it for the duration, which was a positive," he said "We're aware they have some very good players in their side and if you don't apply pressure it's going to be a very difficult day for you. But we did the hard things very, very well, I thought."

Damn right. But Mickan

says the job has only just begun and accountable Norwood - equal on eight wins and fighting for a finals berth - presents a new challenge on Saturday.

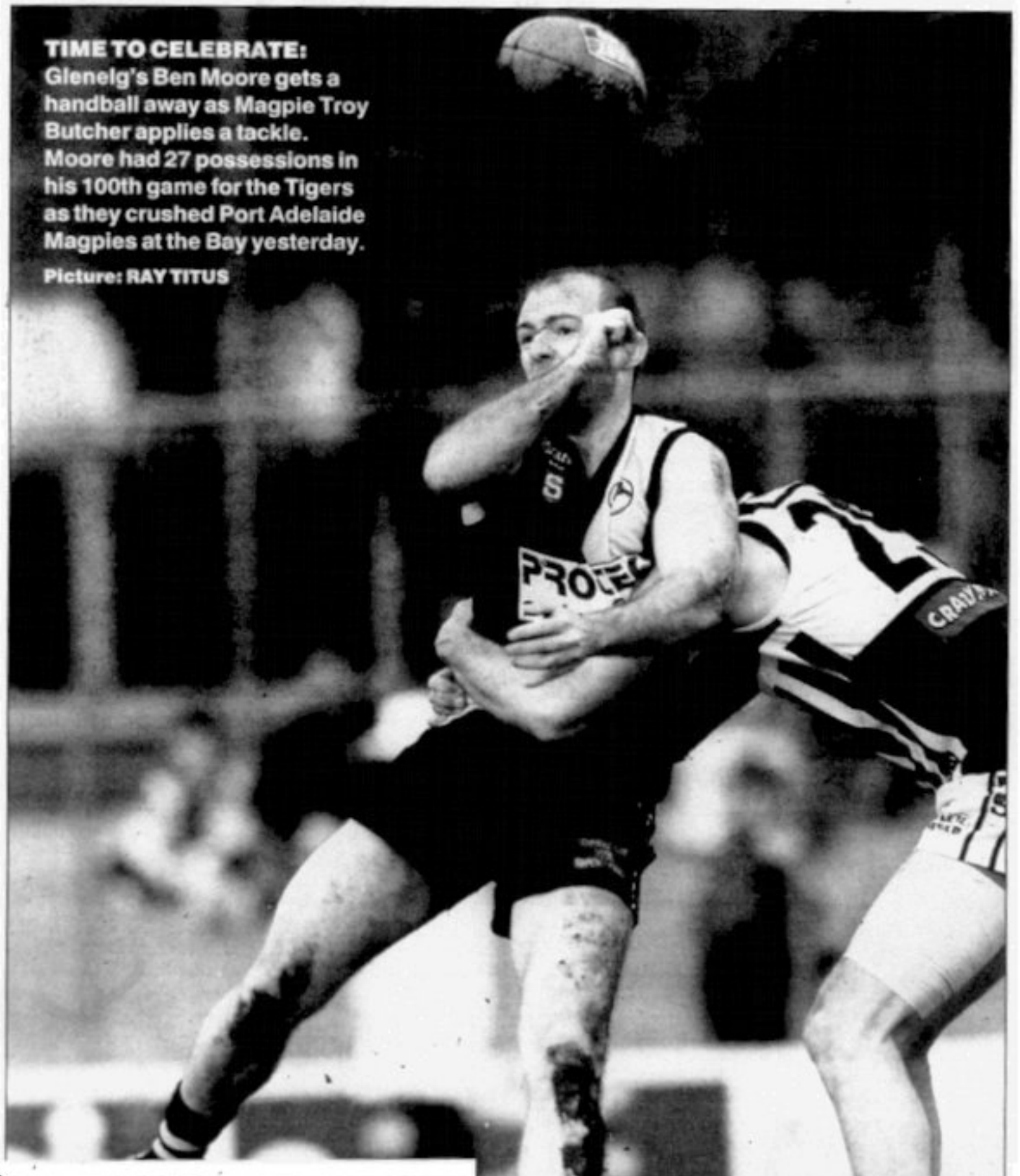
"The next five weeks are just so important and none more important than the first one," he said.

It was Glenelg's first win over Port in four years and it exposed how desperate matters are becoming at Alberton. Ten of yesterday's 21 started the year in the reserves but Port coach Tim Ginever said its downfall is not about personnel.

"It more about the way we're playing," he said. "In that first half we were extremely disappointing in all departments. We were smashed. Glenelg was superb in the attack at the ball and the tackling and I don't care if you've got 100 blokes out. If you put on our guernsey, you've got to play that way."

Ginever had a response from Jeremy Clayton, Melkejohn, John Baird and Daniel Elstone after he ripped into the entire group at half-time but the points were already gone. He says he will assess the path he takes for the remainder of the year in this week's bye.

"I don't want to be (in finals) just to make up the numbers. I want to win finals," he said "That was put to them all week and the reaction I got back was extremely disappointing."



TIME TO CELEBRATE: Glenelg's Ben Moore gets a handball away as Magpie Troy Butcher applies a tackle. Moore had 27 possessions in his 100th game for the Tigers as they crushed Port Adelaide Magpies at the Bay yesterday. Picture: RAY TITUS

GLENELG

PORT

Player statistics table for Glenelg, listing players like SUNDQVIST, ROGERS, RUWOLDT, KIRKBY, DULDIG, MCCONNELL, MOORE, BACKWELL, GRAHAM, GIBBS, WILLITS, MITCHELL, PANOZZO, SHERWOOD, HINGE, CRANSTON, DOUGLAS, MULES, SMITH, YEOMANS, ALLEN, and Totals.

Player statistics table for Port, listing players like JENNER, MELKLEJOHN, HARRY, SLATTERY, LOKAN, BUTCHER, POULTON, DAVIS, THOMAS, ILETT, BAIRD, CARR, KING, AHCHEE, FITZGERALD, MARIC, ELSTONE, J. CLAYTON, MANN, SUMMERTON, LOOBY, and Totals.



CRASHING IN: Glenelg's John Hinge applies a strong tackle to former Tiger Troy Butcher in the Bays' crushing 81-point win yesterday. Picture: RAY TITUS