

Clay leads way

WARREN PARTLAND

LATE in the second quarter at Adelaide Oval on Saturday South Adelaide captain Clay Sampson collapsed in pain with another shoulder dislocation.

Sampson has a history of shoulder problems which is reflected in the fact he has three times needed surgery. Glenelg was in front in the crucial battle to decide the fifth combatant for the finals but the Panthers, ordinary with their skills and decision-making for much of the first half, were mounting a charge.

Sampson took several steps towards the bench, popped his shoulder back into place and ran to pick up an opponent, seemingly still in discomfort.

The courageous skipper has shared the heartache

of Panther fans for many years - not since 1992 had the club been in the finals - and he was not going to leave the field when leadership was paramount.

South kicked the last two goals of the first half before going on a rampage in the third term, nailing eight goals to one against a disappointing opponent to set up the victory. This was to be the Panthers' moment and they, and Sampson, would not be denied.

Coach Robert Pyman has had to wear plenty of flak but this result was his satisfying answer to the critics. "This win and this season has justified a lot of the decisions that were made, some of them unpopular, to steer the club in the right direction," he said. "We made decisions that were not based on a

popularity contest but to make the football club better. I am proud of this group of players."

Glenelg coach Mark Mickan praised his players' endeavour and approach to the year but lamented a wasted opportunity to return to the major round after a seven-year absence.

He said there had been an improvement in the group this season but the players had sold themselves short in not qualifying for the finals.

"We have to wear it and we don't have any excuses," he said. "This group has tackled the program we have given them with gusto, enthusiasm and to their credit they have done that."

"I feel for them that they have not been rewarded with a go at the finals."

SANFL DETAILS



FRIDAY

NORTH	5.6	13.6	14.12	20.16	(136)
PORT	1.3	8.4	10.4	16.6	(102)
BEST - North: Ryswyk, Wintle, Alleway, Howard, D. Ebert, M. Campbell, Gatto, Edwards. Port: M. Clayton, Dolling, Jenner, King, J. Clayton.					
SCORERS - North: Ladhams 4.3, Younie 4.0, Alleway 2.2, Howard, Ryswyk 2.1, Hargraves 2.0, Edwards, Bamford 1.1, M. Campbell, D. Ebert 1.0, Wintle 0.2, Gatto 0.1, rushed 0.4. Port: Poulton 3.1, Jenner, J. Clayton 3.0, M. Clayton 2.0, Waterhouse, Dolling, Biacci 1.1, Morrison, Looby 1.0, Ilett 0.1, rushed 0.1.					
INJURIES - North: Hargraves (back), Ivens (broken finger), Coulter (shoulder). Port: Slattery (corked thigh).					
UMPIRES - D. Joyce, T. Pfeiffer, R. Williams.					

SATURDAY

SOUTH	4.5	9.6	17.11	24.13	(157)
GLENELG	3.2	10.5	11.7	16.12	(108)
BEST - South: Archard, Ellis, Davey, Clarke, Kenna, Neagle, McGlone. Glenelg: Sundqvist, Gibbs, McConnell, Moore, Crankston.					
SCORERS - South: Ellis 8.2, Archard 3.1, Davey 2.1, Cupido, Wright 2.0, Thewlis 1.3, Iljcesen 1.1, Kenna, Smith, Clarke, Kruger, Carlile 1.0, Twomey, Sampson 0.1, rushed 0.3. Glenelg: Sundqvist 6.1, McConnell 3.2, Duldig 3.1, Gibbs, Kirk 1.1, Cranston, Graham 1.0, Rogers 0.2, Yeomans, Sellar 0.1, rushed 0.2.					
INJURIES - South: Warren (knee) and King (concussion), replaced in selected side. Glenelg: Smith (foot).					
REPORTS - South: Cupido, for allegedly striking O'Connell in the third quarter. Glenelg: Backwell, for allegedly charging Thewlis.					
UMPIRES - T. Dey, C. Doddridge, G. Fila.					
CROWD - 1992 at Adelaide Oval.					

YESTERDAY

EAGLES	2.2	7.4	12.6	20.10	(130)
STURT	4.3	5.6	8.10	9.10	(64)
BEST - Eagles: Lindsay, Jarrad, Powell, Lomas, McKenzie, Passador, Cooper. Sturt: Feast, Sheedy, Hurley, Rischbieth, Coad, Evans.					
SCORERS - Eagles: Passador 5.2, Lindsay 3.0, Rugoio 2.3, McGregor, Shattock 2.0, Grocke 1.2, Powell 1.1, Cooper, Fiacchi, Symmons, Cicolella 1.0, rushed 0.2. Sturt: Chambers 5.3, McLeay 2.2, Button 1.2, Feast 1.1, Jarjoura, Evans 0.1.					
UMPIRES - T. Philip, J. Ralston, C. Rowston.					
CROWD - 2161 at Unley Oval.					

CENTRAL	5.4	11.6	13.12	17.16	(118)
WEST	0.3	5.8	7.11	7.16	(58)
BEST - Central: O'Sullivan, Musolino, Slade, Ware, Sibenaler, L. Westhoff, McCabe. West: Hollands, O'Sullivan, Jaques, Dragicevic, Bricknell, Grieger, Pisante.					
SCORERS - Central: O'Sullivan 4.2, Cowan 3.2, L. Westhoff 2.2, Ware, Switala 2.1, McKenzie, Wilson 1.1, Currie, C. Gowans 1.0, Slade 0.3, McCabe, A. Obst 0.1, rushed 0. West: Dragicevic 2.0, Haynes 1.6, O'Sullivan, Wood 1.1, Hutchins, Caire 1.0, Bonaddo 0.2, Bricknell, Buckley, Barnett, Hollands 0.1, rushed 0.2.					
INJURIES - Central: Schell (groin), J. Gowans (knee), R. Cochran (hamstring), withdrew from selected squad. West: Slattery (leg), withdrew from selected squad.					
UMPIRES - C. Bowen, D. Kowal, S. Hay.					
CROWD - 1847 at Broadpectrum Oval.					

DRAW

Adelaide Oval, Sunday, Elimination final - South v Port, 12.20pm. Qualifying final - North v Central, 3.10pm.

PREMIERSHIP TABLE

	P	W	L	D	F	A	Pc	Pts
Eagles	20	16	4	-	2286	1714		57.2 32
North	20	16	4	-	2443	1983		55.2 32
Central	20	12	8	-	2041	1698		54.6 24
South	20	11	9	-	2443	1977		55.2 22
Port	20	11	9	-	2070	2015		50.7 22
Glenelg	20	10	10	-	2282	1979		53.6 20
Norwood	20	9	11	-	1847	2137		46.4 18
Sturt	20	3	17	-	1681	2703		38.3 6
West	20	2	18	-	1599	2476		39.2 4

LEADING GOALKICKERS

		Rd23	Total
M. Passador	(Eagles)	5.2	74.44
B. Chambers	(Sturt)	5.3	69.43
B. Warren	(South)	-	61.23
D. Cupido	(South)	2.0	55.27
C. Waterhouse	(Port)	1.1	49.31

RESERVES

		4.0	14.4	19.13	25.14	(164)
Eagles		3.2	6.3	8.6	12.8	(80)
Central		4.5	9.7	12.10	15.13	(103)
West		3.3	6.8	9.13	14.16	(100)

Other results: North 12.11 (83) d Port 6.9 (45), Glenelg 19.11 (125) d South 18.8 (116). **Ladder:** North 30, Norwood 28, West 22, Glenelg 20, Eagles 21, South, Central 16, Port 15, Sturt 12.

UNDER-19

South 17.9 (111) d Glenelg 13.13 (91). **BEST - South:** McNamara, Jones, Denton, Skrypek, Carroll, Pegler. **Glenelg:** Kellock, Treloar, Sulkaich, Clayson, Davey, Radley. **GOALS - South:** Corstens 3, Lee, Robinson, Cece, Hutchinson, James 2, Skrypek, Riley, Heinrich, McNamara. **Glenelg:** McAister, Kellock, Tutt 2, Minns, Clayson, Ford, Lunniss, Degenhardt, Treloar, O'Grady. **Other results:** Eagles 19.21 (135) d Sturt 10.10 (70), West 12.14 (86) d Central 7.4 (46), Port 25.10 (160) d North 12.12 (84). **Ladder:** West 36, Port 32, Eagles 26, South 20, Central, Glenelg 16, Norwood, North 14, Sturt 6.

UNDER-17

Qualifying final: Sturt 25.15 (165) d West 18.14 (122). Elimination final: Eagles 14.13 (97) d Norwood 10.13 (73).

PANTHERS

SOUTH

	Kicks	Mks	Hbl	F/for	F/og	Gls	Pts	H/O	Tkl
KENNA	13	4	8	2	0	1	0	0	0
CUPIDO	10	1	2	0	2	2	0	0	3
KRUGER	3	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
DAVEY	13	5	11	0	0	2	1	0	4
TWOMEY	5	5	3	0	0	0	1	6	1
ILJCESEN	4	4	1	1	0	1	1	0	1
SMITH	8	3	10	2	1	1	0	0	1
C. SAMPSON	10	1	2	1	0	0	1	0	0
THEWLIS	14	6	0	1	2	1	3	0	0
ARCHARD	15	9	24	1	0	3	1	0	1
BENNETT	9	7	10	2	1	0	0	0	1
HATELEY	6	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
CLARKE	15	8	12	0	0	1	0	0	2
CARLILE	10	5	3	0	0	1	0	0	0
HANDBY	11	7	13	1	0	0	0	2	0
PARRY	5	3	4	2	2	0	0	18	5
WRIGHT	12	7	13	0	0	2	0	0	1
MCGLONE	26	8	5	1	0	0	0	0	2
ELLIS	14	7	4	2	1	8	2	1	0
NEAGLE	7	5	9	1	0	0	0	0	0
WILLIAMS	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Totals	211	99	139	17	10	24	13	27	23



GLENELG

	Kicks	Mks	Hbl	F/for	F/og	Gls	Pts	H/O	Tkl
GRAHAM	10	4	6	1	0	1	0	0	2
KIRKBY	6	4	3	1	2	0	0	0	1
DULDIG	5	3	4	0	0	3	1	0	0
SELLAR	7	5	3	0	1	0	1	0	1
SMITH	6	4	2	1	1	0	0	3	0
RUWOLDT	7	4	9	0	1	0	0	0	3
MOORE	10	4	8	0	2	0	0	0	1
BACKWELL	11	5	17	0	0	0	0	0	1
MCCONNELL	16	8	5	1	1	3	2	0	0
MITCHELL	24	8	3	0	2	0	0	0	0
KIRK	5	4	4	1	0	1	1	5	3
MULES	9	1	11	0	0	0	0	0	3
PANOZZO	9	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0
SHERWOOD	7	3	3	1	1	0	0	0	1
SUNDQVIST	16	8	4	0	0	6	1	0	2
CRANSTON	5	1	7	2	1	1	0	20	4
GIBBS	20	8	11	0	2	1	1	0	2
ALLEN	7	0	13	1	2	0	0	0	2
ROGERS	10	7	4	0	1	0	2	0	0
YEOMANS	5	1	6	0	0	0	1	0	0
LALLY	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	198	83	128	10	17	16	12	28	26

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Panthers book finals comeback

Warren Partland

SOUTH Adelaide's frustrating absence from finals action is over after overpowering Glenelg by 49 points at Adelaide Oval yesterday.

In a battle to confirm the fifth component of the finals series beginning next week, the Panthers overcame a half-time deficit to earn their first major round appearance since 1992.

The win lifted the Panthers to third on the ladder although Central District can regain that spot when it takes on West Adelaide today.

"That was an early final as far as we were concerned," South Adelaide coach Robert Pyman said.

"We need to be proud of this group of players."

Maybe it was nerves, maybe it was the blustery conditions, but the first quarter was marred by skills errors and poor disposal.

Pinpointing foot passes was a difficult task as both sides continually turned the ball over. The sides struggled to adapt to the tricky conditions and it was the Tigers who settled better.

Despite facing a strong wind, the Tigers took the challenge to the clumsy Panthers grabbing the early lead.

It took the Panthers 19 minutes to counter this, but they could not shake their opponents and a buffer of just nine points at quarter-time did not reflect the advantage they had with the breeze.

Glenelg wasted little time imposing itself on the battle in the second term and when Justin McConnell goaled five minutes into the quarter the Tigers were in front.

This term belonged to Jarr-

SCOREBOARD

GLENELG		108	157	SOUTH	
3.2	10.5	11.7	16.12	4.5	9.6
				17.11	24.13

GOALS
 Sundqvist 6; McConnell, Duldig-3; Gibbs, Kirk, Cranston, Graham.

BEST
 Sundqvist, Gibbs, McConnell, Moore, Crankston.

INJURIES/REPORTS
GLENELG: Smith (foot); Backwell reported for allegedly charging.
SOUTH: Warren (knee) replaced in selected side; King (concussion) replaced in selected side; Cupido reported for allegedly striking.

Umpires: T. Day, C. Doddridge, G. Fila.

ad Sundqvist. In his previous nine league games he failed to register a goal. Yet in the second quarter he nailed five in an amazing performance.

The Tigers were surer with their hands, hungrier for the ball and far more decisive.

Too often the Panthers stood back and allowed Glenelg to snatch possession.

Several times in the quarter the Tigers appeared set to break the game apart only to have the Panthers, with Rhys Archard again prominent on the ball, claw their way back into contention.

Having kicked the final two goals of the first half, the Panthers took the momentum into the third quarter to wrest control.

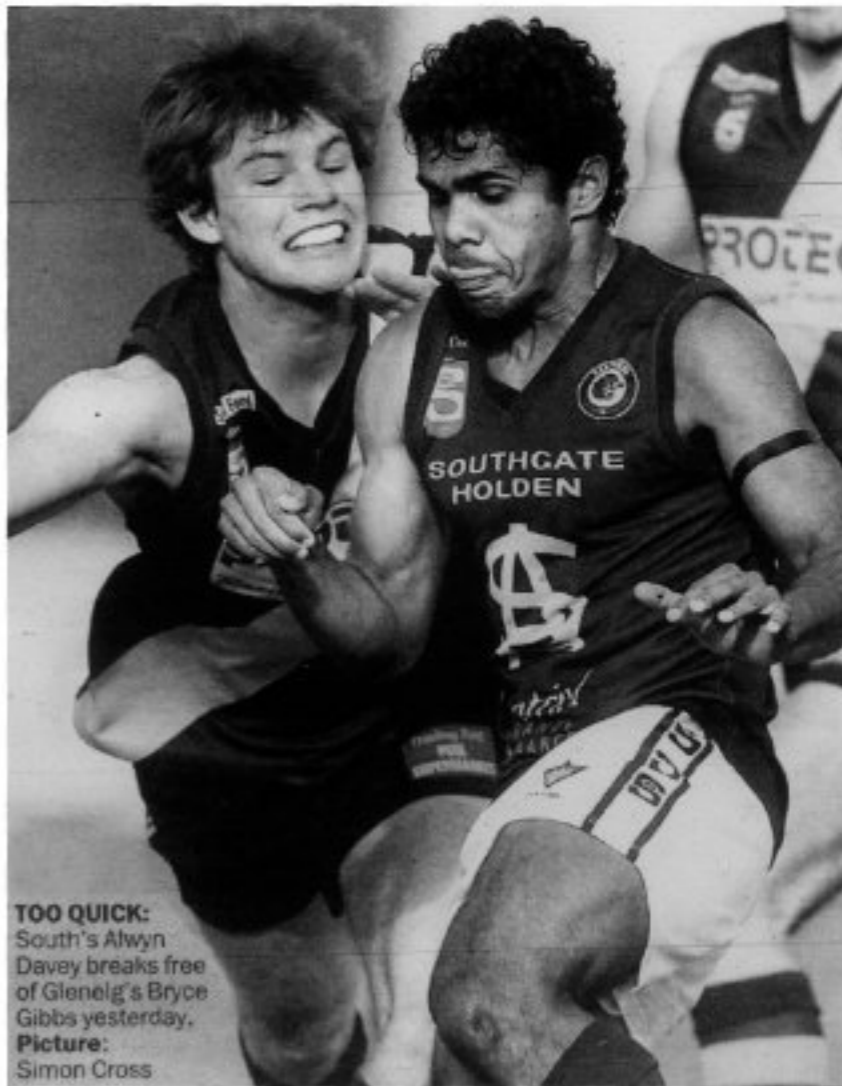
Glenelg slipped into a period of sloppy, ordinary football while the Panthers' game kicked into gear.

The Tigers wasted opportunities and coughed up many skills errors and South, with a lift in intensity and improved ball use, made them pay, charging to a convincing 40-point advantage at three-quarter time.

Early in the third period Panther Damian Cupido appeared to have his number taken after a scuffle with O'Connell. Late in the term, Tigers Brett Backwell was reported when Josh Thewlis was knocked to the ground after a mark.

When Dale Ellis goaled for South just two minutes into the final quarter the game and season was all but over for Glenelg. Nothing was going to halt the South charge.

"There are no excuses from us," Glenelg coach Mark Mickan said.



TOO QUICK: South's Alwyn Davey breaks free of Glenelg's Bryce Gibbs yesterday. Picture: Simon Cross