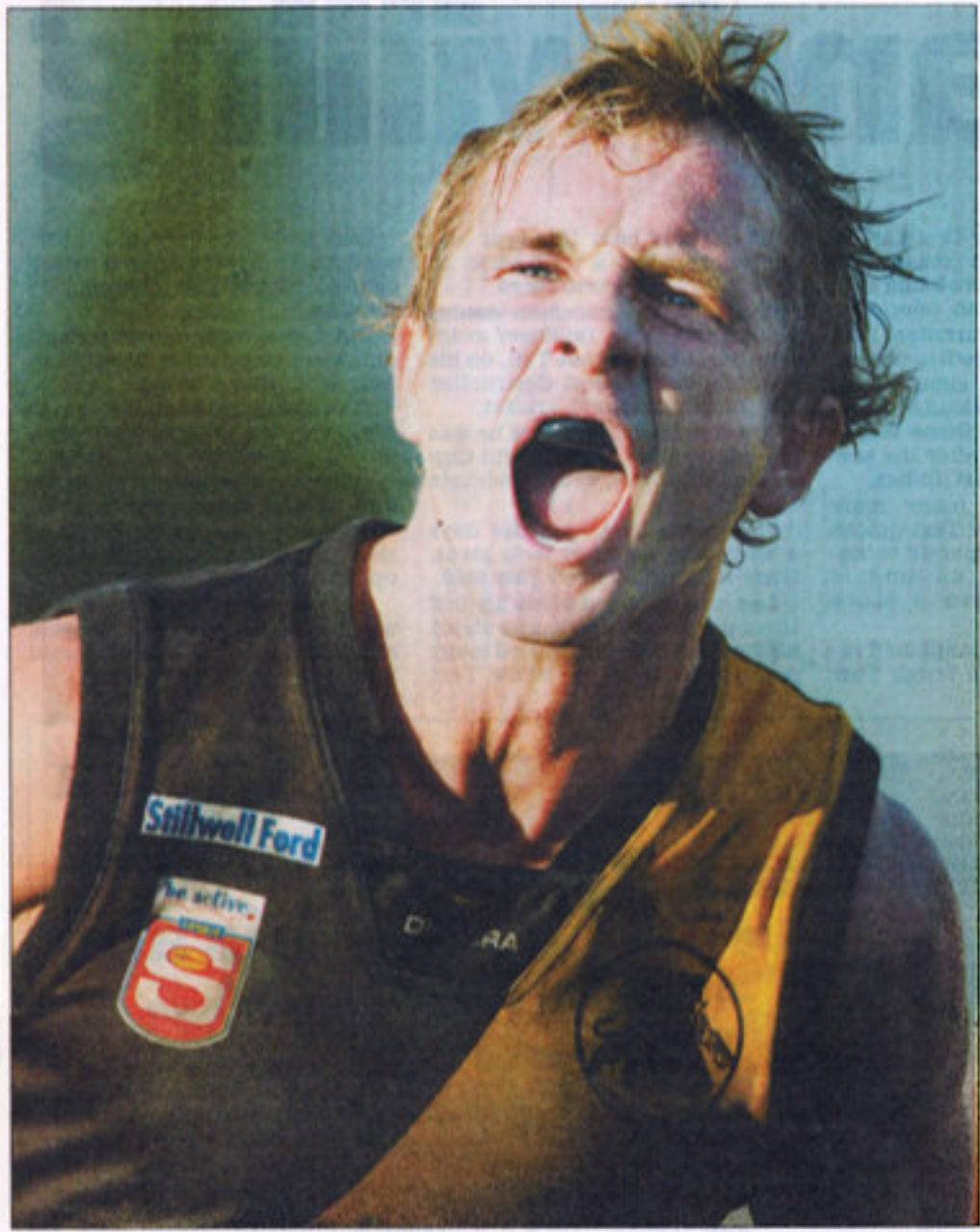


GUTSY | We want to get better every week, says Mickan

Top Tigers dig deep



YOU BEAUTY: Glenelg on-baller Matthew Bode celebrates a key third-quarter goal as Glenelg over-runs Port Adelaide Magpies yesterday at the Bay. Picture: CALUM ROBERTSON

CANDICE KELLER

GLENELG stormed to its eighth straight win yesterday with a come-from-behind 18-point home-ground victory over Port Adelaide Magpies.

The Tigers fought back after trailing for the first half to grab another two premiership points, strengthening their grip on top of the ladder. It was a gutsy showing in front of a boisterous bumper crowd of 7711, which expected the Bays to dig deep when it looked like Port could still win the game in the last quarter.

They did just that.

A disgraceful third quarter lost the Magpies the game and they failed to follow it up with the immense amount of skill and ferocity needed to control the Tigers again.

Star midfielder Jeremy Clayton managed only four possessions in the second half - one kick in the third - which was representative of the team's slump.

Glenelg ran free in the third quarter and claimed a six-goal turnaround, led by ruckman Trevor Cranston and midfielder John Hinge. However, the Bays could have closed the game much earlier with more accurate conversion and increased pressure in the opening stages of the clash.

Tigers coach Mark Mickan said the team was prepared for a tough game from a "desperate" Port.

And despite not putting in a full four-quarter effort, he was pleased the players "stuck at it and maintained discipline".

"I thought we were a bit sharper with our skills, we

TIGERS V MAGPIES

Crowd 7711 at Challenge Recruitment Oval

GLENELG	3.1	5.11	11.16	15.21	111
PORT	4.4	9.6	10.7	14.9	93

BEST: Cranston, Duldig, Fisher, Backwell, Bode, Hinge, Rudolph.

SCORERS: Duldig 3.3, McConnell 2.3, Kirkby 2.0, Hinge 1.2, Liebelt, Fisher, Allen, Backwell, Bode 1.1, Block, Murphy 1.0, B. Kane, Holmes 0.2, Ruwoldt 0.1, rushed 0.3.

INJURIES: Sherwood (knee).

BEST: Surjan, J. Clayton, Dolling, Meiklejohn, Thurgood, Lokan.

SCORERS: Waterhouse 3.0, Clinch 2.2, J. Clayton, Meiklejohn 2.0, C. Carr, Hargraves 1.2, Rugolo 1.1, AhChee, Surjan 1.0, Lokan 0.1, rushed 0.1.

INJURIES: Summerton (virus), withdrew from selected side.

PLAYER OF THE YEAR VOTES: Trevor Cranston (Glenelg) 3, Matthew Duldig (Glenelg) 2, Jacob Surjan (Port Magpies) 1.

UMPIRES: T. Pfeiffer, C. Rowston, M. Cousins.

manned up better and didn't allow the run that Port were generating from their backline," he said of Glenelg's post half-time charge. "Our second half was pleasing and even late in the second quarter we started to make our way back into the game."

Mickan said his squad had responded well to the pressure it now faced being a game clear of Sturt and Central District, which the Bays face in two weeks time after another bye.

"It's a new situation for our players and that's probably been the case for a couple of weeks now but they've dealt with it well," he said. "We just want to get better every week if we can."

For Port Adelaide, some promising signs will give the side some hope over the bye and a firmer foundation to start building on. The Magpies' first, second and last

quarters demonstrated a greater aggression at the ball, a skill coach Tim Ginever has been working on since day one.

"When it needed to be stepped up we didn't go with them which was disappointing because we'd been so good in the first half, we applied and sustained some pressure," he said.

"We've got to clean that up though. Some of the frees we gave away were just silly and you just know that's going to turn the ball their way. We're in a position where we need to win at all costs."

RESERVES

GLENELG 8.7 14.8 18.1221.15 (141)
PORT 0.1 1.6 4.7 7.8 (50)
BEST - Glenelg: Guilhaus, Grosse, Willoughby, Bulton, Horan, Graham. **Port:** Taylor, McInerney, Harder, Watson, Erskine, Christmann, Wait.
GOALS - Glenelg: Grosse 5, McGregor, Fosdike 3, Adlington, Carey 2, Basir, Clayton, Graham, Horan, Lally, Plant. **Port:** Harder 4, McInerney 2, Hughes.

PAGE 83: Match statistics, premiership table.

SANFL PREMIERSHIP TABLE

	P	W	L	D	F	A	Pc	Pts
Glenelg	9	8	1	-	984	688	60.1	16
Sturt	9	7	2	-	1009	579	63.5	14
Central	9	7	2	-	876	662	56.9	14
Norwood	9	4	4	1	672	788	46.0	9
North	9	4	5	-	857	969	46.9	8
South	9	3	5	1	618	902	40.6	7
Eagles	9	3	6	-	883	950	48.2	6
Port	9	2	7	-	790	884	47.2	4
West	8	1	7	-	517	784	39.7	2

JARS SAYS | They would have beaten some AFL sides

Blues on rampage

WARREN PARTLAND

REMEMBER back to the opening four rounds and the irrepressible form of the Sturt Football Club. Even back to the trials.

Those were the early days when the Double Blues were sensational, smashing sides apart with a highly attractive, high-energy style of football.

When the 21 players worked as a single unit to force sides into submission with class and a desperate work ethic.

If North Adelaide has a short memory it was given a not so subtle reminder at Unley yesterday, crushed by 106 points by a Sturt side hungry for action after a three-week lay-off.

The Double Blues went on the rampage from the opening quarter to have the game by the throat with a seven-goal buffer going into the second term.

There was no way back for the Roosters as Sturt piled on seven goals in the second quarter, six in the third and six in the last. And to think seven of the Roosters' 10 goals came from free kicks.

"The first four weeks were impressive and this is right up there," Sturt coach Rick Macgowan said.

"Sometimes a side can get some pride back by winning the last quarter when you tend to relax with that type of lead. It was important we had the courage to really push on and finish the game off on a high."

The trend of the day was established early as Sturt was vastly superior with its foot skills, getting numbers to the contest and rushing the ball forward in waves. And the clean delivery in finding targets deep in attack was unrelenting.

Veteran ruckman Simon Feast was brilliant and the likes of Adam Thomson and Jade Sheedy constantly drove the ball forward from stoppages. Power coach Mark Williams, you were wrong not to play Thomson on Sunday.

Andrew Whiteman was inspirational in defence, Tristan Gum was outstanding across half-forward against his old club while Michael Coad and Brant Chambers gave the Roosters' defence nightmares. Some of Coad's efforts even had the Sturt coaching staff applauding.

Magarey Medallist James Allan got his hands to plenty of ball with a typically tireless display but he had too many mates as passengers. Some Roosters

need to understand defence is a part of the game, not just attack.

The loss of Clint Alleway, Chris Ladhams and Leigh Ryswyk with injuries before the game did not help the cause of the visitors.

"We got outclassed and outplayed by a side clearly at another level in this competition at the moment," Roosters coach Andrew Jarman said. "This tells me where we are at - Sturt and Glenelg and the rest of us."

To a degree Central is up with the other two.

"We got outclassed by a quality side which would have beaten some of the AFL sides on the weekend the way they played."

RESERVES

STURT 4.4 11.6 14.9 19.12 (126)
NORTH 4.4 6.5 8.1113.12 (90)
BEST - Sturt: Martin, Bartlett, Jaensch, Gregory, Fitzgerald, Kay. **North:** O'Brien, Sandland, Walton, Thiele, Stewart.
GOALS - Sturt: Fitzgerald 5, Herring, Martin 3, Hurley, McDonald 2, Rischbieth, Jaensch, Johncock, Plant. **North:** Stewart 4, O'Brien, Armstrong 2, Down, Thiele, Brown, Sandland, Walton.

BLUES V ROOSTERS

Crowd 4434 at House Brothers Oval

STURT	8.3	15.5	21.9	27.12	174
NORTH	1.3	6.5	9.5	10.8	68

BEST: Gum, Coad, Feast, Whiteman, Thomson, Chambers, Sheedy, McLeay, Wark.

SCORERS: Chambers 7.2, Coad 7.1, Thomson 4.0, Gum 2.3, Perrie 1.2, Sheedy, Nelson, Whiteman, Fittock, Feast, Sharples 1.0, Evans, Wicks, Bentley 0.1, rushed 0.1.

BEST: Allan, Wright, Archard, Sporn.

SCORERS: Wright 3.0, Thompson 2.0, Coulter, Allan 1.2, Lonie, Gill, Younie 1.0, Ivens 0.1, rushed 0.3.

INJURIES: Alleway (hamstring), Ladhams (neck), Ryswyk (finger) all withdrew from selected side, Clarke (calf).

PLAYER OF THE YEAR VOTES: Tristan Gum (Sturt) 3, Michael Coad (Sturt) 2, Simon Feast (Sturt) 1.

UMPIRES: R. Williams, D. Joyce, T. Philp.



GLENELG

	Kicks	Mks	Hbl	F/for	F/og	Gls	Pts	H/O	Tkl
McCONNELL	6	1	1	1	0	2	3	0	0
DULDIG	11	5	5	3	0	3	3	0	1
BODE	8	6	15	1	1	1	1	0	4
SELLAR	4	3	4	0	1	0	0	2	3
KIRKBY	6	7	6	1	0	2	0	0	0
HOLMES	8	4	8	1	0	0	2	0	1
BACKWELL	13	2	6	1	1	1	1	0	1
HINGE	13	2	0	1	0	1	2	2	1
B. KANE	14	6	5	1	0	0	2	0	1
PANOZZO	7	2	8	1	0	0	0	0	0
SHERWOOD	5	2	7	0	1	0	0	0	0
MULES	2	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	2
MURPHY	11	4	7	3	0	1	0	0	0
RUDOLPH	16	5	2	2	0	0	0	0	1
SUGARS	13	2	4	2	0	0	0	0	1
CRANSTON	5	4	17	6	6	0	0	20	3
FISHER	11	2	9	2	4	1	1	1	4
ALLEN	9	1	6	0	1	1	1	1	5
LIEBELT	2	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	0
RUWOLDT	7	1	3	1	2	0	1	0	3
BLOCK	14	1	6	2	0	1	0	0	1
Totals	185	62	124	29	18	15	21	27	32



PORT

	Kicks	Mks	Hbl	F/for	F/og	Gls	Pts	H/O	Tkl
CLINCH	6	1	1	0	2	2	2	0	2
HARGRAVES	4	4	0	0	1	1	2	0	0
RUGOLO	12	7	8	1	3	1	1	4	1
WATERHOUSE	6	5	3	1	3	3	0	0	1
THURGOOD	7	4	4	0	1	0	0	0	5
LOKAN	6	5	12	0	1	0	1	0	4
DOLLING	17	7	4	1	0	0	0	0	3
KING	4	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	1
C. CARR	5	7	8	0	1	1	2	0	1
DEPASQUALE	6	3	4	0	2	0	0	0	1
AHCHEE	5	5	1	0	1	1	0	2	0
PERKINS	10	6	4	2	3	0	0	0	3
T. CARR	11	2	6	1	0	0	0	0	5
PERRY	5	6	7	0	1	0	0	1	0
LEES	7	4	2	0	1	0	0	0	4
MEIKLEJOHN	9	3	9	6	6	2	0	18	3
MURRAY	13	5	2	1	0	0	0	0	3
J. CLAYTON	18	8	8	3	1	2	0	1	5
SURJAN	17	11	12	0	1	1	0	0	2
HALL	2	1	2	1	0	0	0	2	3
BIACSI	9	5	8	1	0	0	0	0	1
Totals	179	100	107	18	29	14	9	28	48