

“What I believe we have done better than any other club is how we have embraced the community”

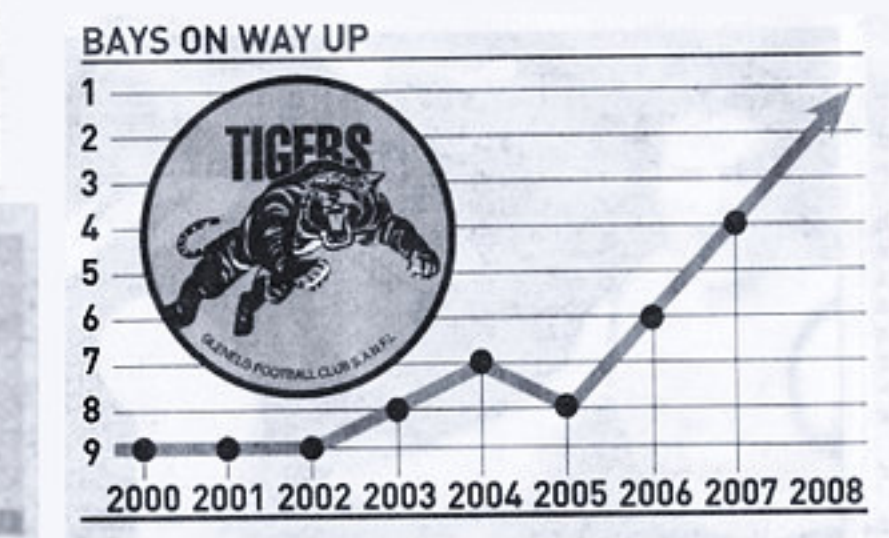
Bays top and don't the fans love it



ON TOP: Brett Backwell celebrates with Matthew Bode after he kicked the game sealer against Sturt to knock the Blues from top spot.



SEA OF FACES: Glenelg's Matthew Bode celebrates the Bays' pulsating eight-point win against Sturt before a bumper 11,827 crowd at Challenge Recruitment Oval. Left, Sturt's Tristan Gum shoots for goal and right, Tiger Luke Panozzo applauds the excited crowd after the final siren.



SATURDAY

EAGLES	4.2	8.8	12.9	18.14	(122)
CENTRAL	1.4	1.4	4.7	5.8	(38)

BEST - Eagles: Jarrad, Salter, McKenzie, Schwarze, Wright, Grocke, Powell, Dabrowski, P. Fiacchi. **Central:** Symes, O'Sullivan.

SCORERS - Eagles: Schwarze 7.1, Salter 4.2, Klun 2.2, Rimington 2.1, Grocke 1.2, McKenzie, Fitzgerald 1.0, Geddes, Jarrad, Dabrowski 0.1, rushed 0.3. **Central:** O'Sullivan 2.0, Cowan 1.1, Lawry, Williams 1.0, Callinan 0.2, McCabe, Ware, Williams, Dutschke 0.1, rushed 0.1.

INJURIES - Eagles: Colville (hamstring), Passador (hamstring) withdrew from selected squad. **Central:** Ware (corked thigh).

REPORT - Central: Slade, by umpire Pfeiffer, for allegedly making head high contact on Grocke in third quarter.

UMPIRES - M. Cousins, T. Pfeiffer, S. Hay.

CROWD - 1906 at Woodville Oval.

NORWOOD	4.2	6.5	11.7	17.10	(112)
WEST	1.3	1.6	6.10	10.14	(74)

BEST - Norwood: Cockshell, Weatherald, Vlatko, Massie, Dawes, Zorzi, Bown. **West:** McCormick, Ferguson, Slattery, Hollands, Harlett.

SCORERS - Norwood: Vlatko 7.1, Cockshell 3.0, Donohue 2.0, Massie 1.1, Puopolo, Bartemucci, Gallagher, Phillips 1.0, Walker 0.3, Aish, Weatherald, Davis 0.1, rushed 0.2. **West:** Hollands 2.2, Moran, Fisher 2.1, Harlett 2.0, Cupido 1.2, Ferguson 1.0, Piasente 0.3, Clark 0.2, Ezard, Willits 0.1, rushed 0.1.

INJURIES - Norwood: Puopolo (back), Jackman (back).

West: Brown (virus), withdrew from selected squad.

UMPIRES - D. Russell, D. Woodcock, D. Joyce.

CROWD - 2478 at Coopers Stadium.

PORT	0.5	2.6	10.8	11.10	(76)
NORTH	2.1	2.8	7.9	10.12	(72)

BEST - Port: Wilson, Clayton, Summerton, Dolling, Murray, Elstone. **North:** Ryswyk, Ivens, Archard, Wright, Allan.

SCORERS - Port: Hargraves 3.2, Murray, Krakouer 1.2, Waterhouse, Clayton 1.1, Elstone, Surjan, DePasquale, Wilson 1.0, Dolling, Rugolo 0.1. **North:** Alleyway 3.1, Thompson 2.3, Younle 2.2, Stewart 1.3, Ivens, Krieg 1.0, Wintle, McIntyre 0.1, rushed 0.1.

INJURIES - Port: King (hamstring), Krakouer (hamstring), J. Clayton (shoulder).

UMPIRES - R. Williams, T. Medlin, A. Crosby.

CROWD - 2662 at Alberton Oval.

GLENELG	4.4	7.7	7.9	10.13	(73)
STURT	1.3	8.4	9.7	9.11	(65)

BEST - Glenelg: Backwell, Cranston, Panozzo, Holmes, Mules, Kane, Block. **Sturt:** Gum, Sheedy, Coad, Crane, Kurtze.

SCORERS - Glenelg: Holmes 2.1, Kirkby 2.0, Bode 1.2, Grima, B. Kane, Hinge 1.1, Backwell, Duldig 1.0, McConnell 0.2, Block 0.1, rushed 0.4. **Sturt:** Coad 3.0, Gum 2.2, Crane 2.1, Chambers 1.2, Jaensch 1.0, Horrning 0.2, Perrie, Whiteman, Kurtze, Sharples.

INJURIES - Glenelg: Murphy (ankle), Ruwoldt (knee), Fisher (back), withdrew from selected squad. **Sturt:** Nelson (ankle), Paynter, withdrew from selected squad.

UMPIRES - T. Philp, C. Carey, C. Rowston.

CROWD - 11,827 at Challenge Recruitment Oval.

PREMIERSHIP TABLE

	P	W	L	D	F	A	Pc	Pts
Glenelg	11	10	1	-	1160	835	58.1	20
Sturt	12	9	3	-	1310	790	62.4	18
Central	11	7	4	-	996	887	52.9	14
North	12	6	6	-	1157	1173	49.6	12
Norwood	11	5	5	1	874	969	47.4	11
Eagles	12	5	7	-	1163	1271	48.8	10
Port	11	4	7	-	959	1013	48.6	8
South	11	3	7	1	772	1113	40.9	7
West	11	1	10	-	722	1116	39.3	2

LEADING GOALKICKERS

		Rd13	Total
B. Chambers	(Sturt)	1.2	57.28
D. Hargraves	(Port)	3.2	43.26
J. McConnell	(Glenelg)	0.2	37.14
M. Passador	(Eagles)	-	35.6
B. Warren	(South)	-	34.19
I. Perrie	(Sturt)	0.1	29.13

SANFL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Woodville-West Torrens v Central District

Luke Jarrad (Woodville-West Torrens)	3
Nick Salter (Woodville-West Torrens)	2
Mark McKenzie (Woodville-West Torrens)	1

Norwood v West Adelaide

Adam Cockshell (Norwood)	3
Tim Weatherald (Norwood)	2
Simon McCormick (West Adelaide)	1

Port Adelaide v North Adelaide

Michael Wilson (Port Adelaide)	3
Jeremy Clayton (Port Adelaide)	2
Leigh Ryswyk (North Adelaide)	1

Glenelg v Sturt

Brett Backwell (Glenelg)	3
Tristan Gum (Sturt)	2
Trevor Cranston (Glenelg)	1

LEADERS - 11: Paul Thomas (Central), Jade Sheedy (Sturt), Adam Fisher (Glenelg) 10: Ty Allen (Glenelg) 9: Luke Crane (Sturt), Brett Backwell (Glenelg) 8: James Allan (North Adelaide), Trevor Cranston (Glenelg) 7: Jeremy Clayton (Port) 6: Leigh Treeby (Eagles), Ian Perrie (Sturt), Chris Ladhams (North), Adam Cockshell (Norwood) 5: Adam Thomson, Tristan Gum (Sturt), Tom Holmes, Matthew Bode (Glenelg).



WARREN PARTLAND

GLENELG coach Mark Mickan sent a strong message to his players when he raced on to the field immediately after the half-time siren in last year's first semi-final to remonstrate with Daniel Kirk.

The ruckman, who has since quit the club to go rowing, had cost his side a goal by giving away a silly free kick, allowing Woodville-West Torrens to reclaim the lead at Adelaide Oval.

This was not a moment to be just brushed off.

Level-headed Mickan is not known for his emotion and the incident says a lot of what he is about.

Mickan demands discipline. He will not tolerate any player putting even a toenail outside the boundaries of his ethos.

The Tigers lost their opening-round clash with South Adelaide this season. They have since won 10 successive games to sit on top of the premiership ladder. Until this year that had not happened since round 3, 1996. They had not won eight in a row since 1981.

The on-field success has inspired dreams among long-suffering fans who have not watched their heroes lift the premiership cup since 1986.

On Saturday there were 11,827 fans packed into Glenelg Oval to watch the eight-point win over Sturt. Almost 8000 supporters watched the Tigers beat the Port Adelaide Magpies at the same ground on the Monday of the June long weekend.

Saturday's crowd was the biggest at the ground since the inception of the Crows in 1991 and the biggest SANFL minor-round attendance since 2001.

There were more people crammed into the Bay ground on Saturday than attended the AFL games that night in Darwin (Port Adelaide versus the Western Bulldogs) and on the Gold Coast (North Melbourne v St Kilda).

The re-emergence of Glenelg as a SANFL power has not been an overnight phenomenon, nor is it a fluke.

Stability with well-planned decision-making off-field is the cornerstone to leading sporting organisations.

Success rarely just happens.

Since Graham Cornes' time with the Tigers ended in 1990 there have been 10 coaches. That included Peter Simmons, who lasted just three-quarters of the 2005 season before being sacked.

Publicly that was a dark time for the club. Discontent among members prompted the board to resign and a new team was installed to direct the club's future.

GLENELG

	Kicks	Mks	Hbl	F/for/og	Gls	Pts	H/O	Tkl
McCONNELL	6	4	2	1	5	0	2	0
DULDIG	5	3	5	2	3	1	0	3
BODE	6	4	11	0	0	1	2	0
RUWOLDT	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
GRIMA	4	2	1	1	0	1	1	0
KIRKBY	8	4	3	3	0	2	0	2
HOLMES	14	2	7	2	1	2	1	0
BLOCK	5	0	2	0	1	0	1	0
B. KANE	11	5	15	0	1	1	1	0
MULES	4	3	9	0	1	0	0	2
SHERWOOD	7	5	9	2	1	0	0	0
PANOZZO	14	4	8	2	0	0	0	2
SUGARS	9	3	6	0	1	0	0	3
RUDOLPH	2	1	2	1	0	0	0	1
MURPHY	2	3	12	0	0	0	0	4
CRANSTON	1	4	16	0	0	0	0	26
ALLEN	3	0	12	0	3	0	0	0
BACKWELL	15	6	12	1	3	1	0	0
ADJUNGLON	5	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
SELLAR	1	1	4	0	1	0	0	4
HINGE	11	2	5	0	1	1	1	1
Totals	141	56	144	15	22	10	13	34

Macgowan saw win slipping away

SCOTT WALSH

STURT coach Rick Macgowan concedes he sensed victory sliding in the opening minutes of the last quarter as Glenelg turned the tide at the Bay on Saturday.

In front of a massive 11,827 crowd, the Double Blues controlled the dour contest in the middle quarters and led the blockbuster by 10 points at the last change.

But Glenelg - shuffled by percentage to second on the ladder before the weekend - kicked the only three goals of the final term at the non-scoring northern end to break Sturt's hold and claw out a 10th successive win.

"You could see five minutes in there was only one side that was going to win the game," Macgowan said. "Glenelg were really taking the game on, we were stagnant with our movement and probably didn't have the courage in the end to take the game on."

"That's not the way we play and it cost us in the end."

"I'm not sure why. Our midfielders probably tired at the end and Glenelg took advantage of that and got clean ball away from the stoppages which meant they got a lot more ball inside 50."

"They were just too good - they took their chances and that hurt us."

Having been held to just two behinds with a handy breeze in the third quarter Glenelg exploded in the last - but failed early to put its advantage on the scoreboard. The Tigers missed three straight shots in the opening minutes.

With 11 minutes on the clock a brilliant three-bounce run through the centre from Ty Allen found Thomas Holmes and the zippy youngster finished off to bring the Tigers to within three points.

Matthew Duldig held a big pack mark in the outer pocket minutes later and slotted the goal from 30m to put the Bays in front. It was the first time the home side led since Sturt's Matthew Jaensch capped a seven-goal second term for the visitors by converting after the half-time siren.

The Blues were without eight players from the side which crushed Woodville-West Torrens the previous week, three picked by the Power - Adam Thomson, Fabian Deluca and Greg Bentley - and five out through injuries - Simon Feast, Ben Nelson, Darren Gregory, Craig Evans and Seb Paynter.

Biggest crowd at Glenelg since 1991 as Bays turn it on against Sturt

Glory days

■ GLENELG v STURT

By REECE HOMFRAY

GLENELG has emerged from its bruising battle against Sturt with two premiership points and genuine belief that it can win this year's premiership.

Saturday's thrilling eight-point victory in front of almost 12,000 people was the Tigers' 10th win on the trot this season.

And more importantly, it was their fifth win in a row over the Double Blues that are looming as Glenelg's major challenger for this year's title.

There was plenty of emotion on the ground – youngster **Tom Holmes** celebrated both of his match-winning goals by pumping his fist and leaping into the air.

"The boys will get into me about it on Monday. I should stop doing it but once I kick a goal it's the best feeling in the world. The adrenaline rush just gets to me," a beaming Holmes said after the game.

Despite kicking the first three goals and leading by 19 points at quarter time, Glenelg was forced to do the chasing for most of the day as an undermanned Sturt hit back with the wind in the second term.

Three goals to **Michael Coad** and two to **Tristan Gum** put the visitors in front at the main break and the second half became a real dogfight.

Matthew Bode was terrific on the ball, **Trevor Cranston** was the dominant big-man on the ground and skipper **Ben Mules** was ferocious in defence.

Reliable defender **Sam Rudolph** had the better of Brant

thescore

Glenelg v Sturt

GLE	4.4	7.7	7.9	10.13	(73)
Stu	1.3	8.4	9.7	9.11	(65)

Best – Glenelg: Cranston, Backwell, Mules, Rudolph, Holmes, Bode. **Sturt:** Sheedy, Crane, Kurtz, Coad, Avery, Gum. **Goals – Glenelg:** Holmes, Kirkby 2, Grima, Backwell, Kane, Bode, Hinge, Duldig. **Sturt:** Coad 3, Crane, Gum 2, Chambers, Jaensch.

Chambers and in the end, was probably the difference between the two sides, as he kept Chambers to just one goal for the day.

The Bays stormed home in the final quarter and turned a 10-point deficit into an eight-point victory thanks to goals from Holmes, **Brett Backwell** and **Matthew Duldig**.

"It was a battle. I thought we started okay but we dropped right off in the second term," Glenelg coach **Mark Mickan** said.

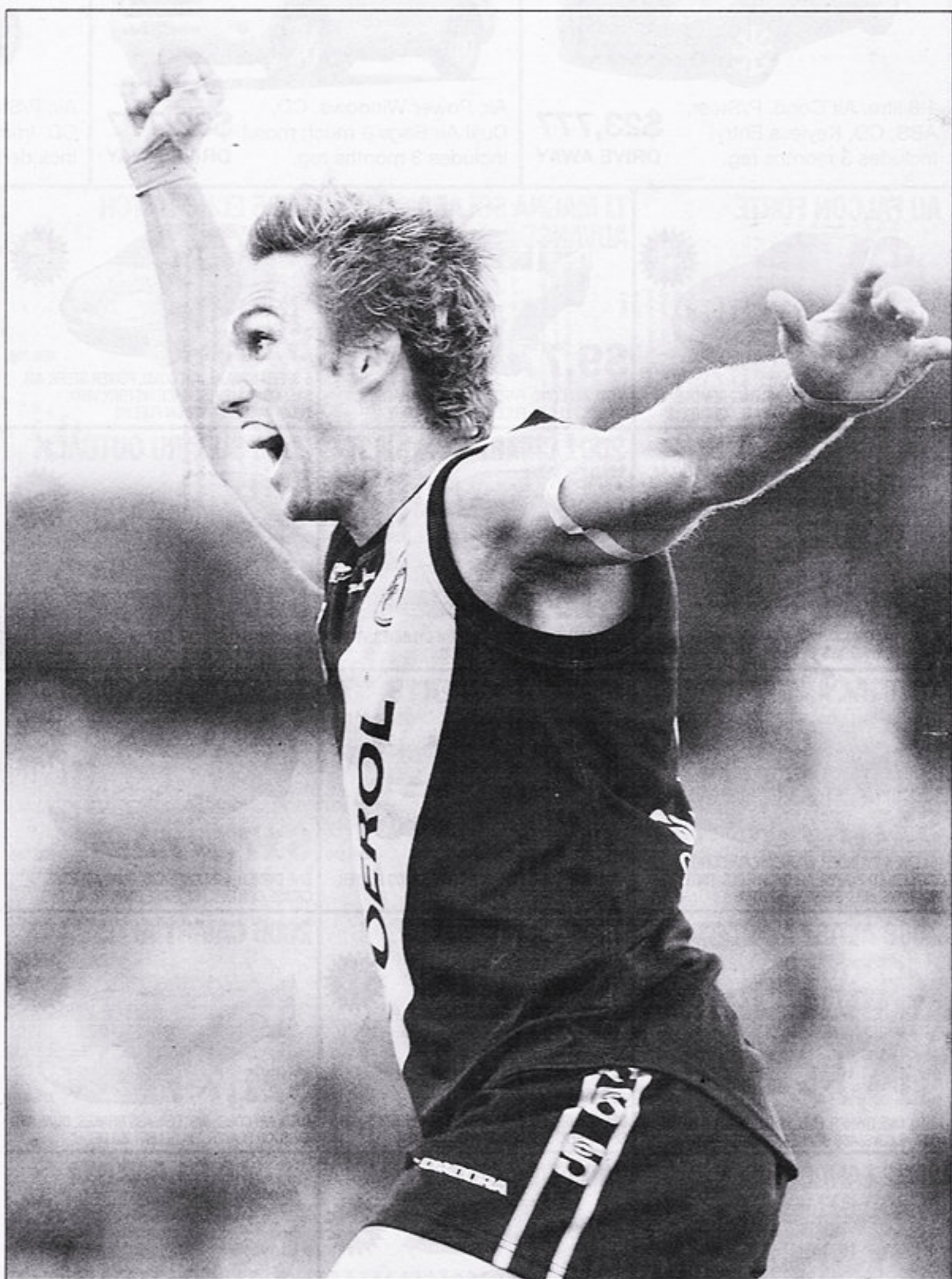
"They forced some errors and got right on top.

"That was a very good character win for our blokes."

Mickan said he was not surprised by Sturt's efforts, despite missing several big-names including ruckmen **Simon Feast** and **Fabian Deluca**, captain **Ben Nelson** and Port Power midfielders **Adam Thomson** and **Greg Bentley**.

"We were aware they had a lot of players out, but we were also aware their reserves have been a dominant force in this competition," Mickan said.

"So whoever came in was going to be a good player in good form and that's exactly what happened."



PARTY TIME: Brett Backwell celebrates his 4th quarter goal to help Glenelg to an eight-point win against Sturt. Pictured far left: Glenelg's Ben Kane breaks away, and left: John Hinge gets a kick off for the Bays under pressure. Main picture: Dylan Coker

Premiership favourite Bays look for longevity

■ SANFL

By REECE HOMFRAY

GLENELG has moved to secure several big-name players for next season as its 22-year premiership drought shows signs of breaking.

Magarey Medallist **Brett Backwell**, captain **Ben Mules** and forward **Todd Grima** are among eight League players out of contract at the end of this season.

According to Glenelg boss

Darren Chandler, initial discussions with the trio indicated all three wanted to remain at Tigerland next year.

Their signatures would be a further boost to the club that earlier this season handed coach **Mark Mickan** a contract extension until the end of 2009.

Former Crow **Matthew Bode**, vice captain **Adam Fisher** and emerging star midfielder **Ty Allen** are already contracted for next season.

"We've got a lot of players out

of contract, it happens every year, but we've already had initial discussions with about seven or eight," Chandler said.

"And they've given an indication they don't want to go anywhere.

"They love the place and we've got a really co-operative group that wants to stick together."

As of last week, Glenelg was a \$2.80 premiership favourite according to online betting agency, Sportsbet.

Although the Tigers have

started talks with out-of-contract players, Chandler said there was "no rush" to finalise next year's list.

"There's no rush because they're not going anywhere," he said.

"Ben Mules is as loyal as they come and Backwell has usually signed one-year deals.

"There's no time frame, we won't be distracting them from the job they've got to do this year."

factfile

Big names in the Tigers' den

■ Signed for 2009:

Matthew Bode
Adam Fisher
Ty Allen
Mark Mickan (coach)

■ Out of contract 2009:

Brett Backwell
Todd Grima
Ben Mules

Standing room only as Tigers triumph

By REECE HOMFRAY

GLENELG – and the SANFL – is fighting back.

After suffering years of dwindling crowds and defeat, largely due to the Adelaide Crows and Port Adelaide's emergence on the AFL stage, local footy is booming.

Saturday's crowd of 11,827 at Challenge Recruitment Oval was the biggest at a Glenelg home game in almost two decades.

And Glenelg and Sturt produced a game to match it.

It wasn't pretty football but it was an enthralling battle. Whoever wrote the script got it just right – three final term goals securing the Bays an eight-point

Footy news

win and top spot on the ladder.

"It was the best day the club has had since the Adelaide Football Club came in (to the AFL) in 1991," Glenelg chief executive **Darren Chandler** said.

"It was huge. We also had the biggest pre-match function we've ever had with almost 300 people.

"We threw the 10,000 figure out there last week hoping the interest would be there.

"Three years ago we would have been happy with a crowd of three or four thousand. This was unbelievable."

The crowd started queuing to

get in from 1pm. By 2pm the line had stretched almost 100 metres along Brighton Rd.

Both grandstands were full and supporters of both sides were packed 10-deep along the boundary line.

At the quarter-time breaks the ground was flooded with kids and footballs were flying everywhere.

The **Riddle** family, of Morphet Vale – **Kym**, **Justine** and their children **Jade**, 15, **Aimee**, 11, and **Kayla**, 7 – was among those soaking up the atmosphere on the field at quarter-time.

"You can't do this at AAMI Stadium," Kym said. "We've had Crows tickets for seven years but



CROWDED HOUSE: Part of the crowd at the Glenelg v Sturt game on Saturday (main pic and top left), and (inset right) Tiger fans Justine, Aimee, Kayla and Kym Riddle.

we gave them up to come here this year."

Kayla said her favourite player was defender **Sam Rudolph** – and she had the No.15 sewn proudly on her back to prove it.

But Tigers supporters might soon have a new pin-up boy in **Tom Holmes** who booted two crucial goals on the weekend.

On both occasions he leapt high into the air and pumped his fist in jubilation, triggering an almighty roar from the crowd.

After the game he told Messenger Newspapers kicking a goal in front of almost 12,000 people was "the best feeling in the world".