Tigers tear up dogged defence

SCOTT WALSH

WEST Adelaide battled bravely for 60 minutes – but it took just six more for premiership favourite Glenelg to smash the unlikely resistance at Richmond yesterday.

The Tigers were challenged in the first half as the Bloods turned Floods with a defend-at-all-costs strategy. But the ladder-leading visitors flicked on the afterburners with a four-goal burst early in the third quarter and ran away from the bottom side with a 58-point margin.

Glenelg, now unbeaten in its past 12 games, led by only eight points seven minutes into the third term until it blew out the margin to 32 points with goals to Matthew Bode (two), Matthew Duldig and John Hinge.

The Tigers made it seven for the quarter after both teams managed only three goals in a tight and ugly opening half, and West Adelaide was shot.

Todd Grima, held early by impressive youngster Tyson Slattery, was a marking power inside 50 for Glenelg and finished with five goals, defender Sam Rudolph showed his versatility running forward and Luke Panozzo, approaching his 100th game, provided endless run from half-back.

"We struggled to use the ball effectively in the first half and at times we missed a few tackles and our pressure wasn't as good," Glenelg coach Mark Mickan said.

"But I think the important thing about today was our persistence. While things didn't work in the first half we kept to the things we know work for us, and eventually they did.

"That (West Adelaide's flood) definitely made it hard to score early in the SCOREBOARD

GLENELG v WEST ADELAIDE
Broadspectrum Oval - 1816

GLENELG 1.3 2.8 9.11 13.13 91
WEST 0.3 1.6 2.7 4.9 33

BEST PLAYERS: GLENELG - Panozzo, McConnell, Grima, Backwell, Rudolph. WEST - Rowe, Brown, Fielke, Bailey, Cupdio. GOALS: GLENELG - Grima 5; Duldig 2; Fisher, Block, Bode, Rudolph, Hinge, McConnell. WEST - Willits, Hartlett, Fisher, Moran. INJURIES: Nil. REPORTS: Nil. UMPIRES: Hay, Avon, Medlin.

SANE	P	W	L	D	FOR	AGST	STR	PTS	%
Glenelg	13	12	1	0	1362	922	W12	24	59.6
Sturt*	12	9	3	0	1310	790	L1	18	62.4
Central	13	9	4	0	1162	1000	W2	18	53.7
Norwood	13	7	5	1	1072	1088	W2	15	49.6
North	14	6	8	0	1258	1397	- L3	12	47.4
Port	13	5	8	0	1089	1127	L1	10	49.1
Eagles**	13	5	8	0	1218	1295	L1	10	48.5
South*	12	3	8	1	844	1198	L7	7	41.3
West	13	1	12	0	816	1314	L4	2	38.3

play this round **Bye

game so to win by nearly 10 goals – we walk away satisfied with that."

Glenelg started \$1.03 certainties but West Adelaide deployed an ultra-defensive style that suffocated the Tigers.

Key forward Ryan Willits was often the sole Blood forward of the centre circle as West loaded numbers behind the ball.

But when the home side managed to steal possession, players looked up to see nothing but open air and the inevitable result was a glut of turnovers through the midfield.

The contest was so congested it took until seven minutes into the third term for the margin to break beyond nine points, through a Bode mark and goal. Bode's breakthrough sparked two more in two minutes and the Bloods' dam was busted.

Glenelg defender Sam Rudolph looked the most likely scoring option for the Bays early, by simply following the West Adelaide forwards into the Tigers' scoring zone.

Greg Rowe was lively for the Bloods but sprayed three shots early when West needed momentum.

Bloods coach Andy Collins said yesterday's game plan



FALLING DOWN: West's Hamish Hartlett is wrapped up as Matthew Bode closes in. Picture: Tait Schmaal

was a worthwhile trial for the likely wooden-spooners.

"It's very disappointing because we had a tactic to shut them down and then we dropped away our pressure, they became more efficient – game over," Collins said.

"They were a lot more switched on - that's why they're on top and we're on the bottom."

SCOREBOARD



NORWOOD v NORTH ADELAIDE



NORWOOD NORTH 7.4 12.5 16.10

16.10 17.11 **113** 3.8 6.11 **47**

NORTH 0.3 1.7 3.8 6.1 BEST PLAYERS: NORWOOD - Gallagher, Trotter,

Donohue, Weatherald, Duigan, Walker, Dawes, Kite. NORTH - Ivens, Archard, Alleway. GOALS: NORWOOD - Walker 5; Donohue 3; Gallagher, Trotter, Rowe 2; Cockshell, Weatherald, Littler. NORTH - Alleway, Ryswyk 2; Stewart, Allan. INJURIES: NORTH: K. Thompson (back), Wright (groin), Sporn (back). NORWOOD: Nil. REPORTS: NORTH: K. Thompson (headbutting). UMPIRES: Pfeiffer, Cousins, Dey.

SCOREBOARD



CENTRAL v PORT ADELAIDE Hamra Homes Oval - 3030



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CENTRAL PORT 0.2 3.6 5.6 8.11 4.3 4.5 7.7 7.10

BEST PLAYERS: CENTRAL - O'Sullivan, MacKenzie,
Thomas, Switala, Williams, J. Gowans, Lawry,
Havelberg. PORT - J. Clayton, Elstone, Summerton,
Perkins, Dolling, T. Carr, Wilson. GOALS: CENTRAL Lawry, Cowan 2; Callinan, O'Sullivan, Schell, O'Hara. PORT De Pasquale, Hargraves, Waterhouse 2; Dolling. INJURIES:
CENTRAL: Nil. PORT: Saunders (neck). REPORTS:
Nil. UMPIRES: Fila, Bowen, Williams.

FIGURE			1	WE	VEST					GLENELG									
	Kicks	Mks	ны	Filor	F/ag	Gls	Pts	но	Tkl	_	Kicks	Mks	ны	F/for	F/ag	Gls	Pts	H/O	TIM
FIELKE	10	6	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	BACKWELL	11	4	12	1	1	0	0	0	1
CLARK	2	1	3	1	4	0	0	14	2	DULDIG	7	5	0	0	0	2	1	0	0
ROWE. G	17	6	7	2	0	0	3	0	5	BODE	9	2	5	0	0	1	1	0	1
CUPIDO	15	4	5	0	1	0	0	0	1	KIRKBY	6	5	4	0	0	0	1	0	0
WILLITS	4	2	3	0	1	1	1	1	0	GRIMA	9	9	4	1	1	5	1	0	0
HOLLANDS	9	3	7	1	1	.0	0	0	0	HINGE	11	6	6	3	0	1	1	0	3
PIASENTE	4	3	13	2	0	0	1	0	2	KANE B	9	6	5	0	2	0	0	0	2
BAILEY	9	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	HOLMES	13	8	6	2	0	0	0	0	1
MORRIS	5	2	6	0	0	0	0	0	1	MCCONNELL	20	9	9	2	1	1	1	0	0
ANDERSON	3	0	4	1	0	0	1	0	1	MULES	11	7	8	1	1	0	0	0	4
FERGUSON	3	1	11	0	1	0	1	0	1	SHERWOOD	8	3	6	0	1	0	1	0	2
BROWN	10	7	20	0	0	0	0	0	1	PANOZZO	17	14	11	0	1	0	1	0	1
ROWE J	2	2	6	0	1	0	0	0	-1	SUGARS	14	9	6	1	0	0	0	0	0
MARTIN	5	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	RUDOLPH	10	6	5	0 -	0	1	2	0	2
THOMPSON	9	5	2	1	2	0	0	0	0	ADLINGTON	3	2	4	0	1	0	0	0	3
MORAN	6	4	11	1	1	1	0	5	1	CRANSTON	1	0	8	2	2	0	0	13	0
MCCORMICK	6	5	8	0	1	0	1	0	3	ALLEN	6	2	10	2	0	0	1	0	5
CAIRE	1	1	11	0	0	0	0	0	2	FISHER	10	8	12	0	1	1	0	0	2
FISHER	7	5	1	1	2	1	0	0	1	GUILHAUS	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	0
HARTLETT	6	3	2	0	0	. 1	0	0	2	BLOCK	7	1	3	0	0	1	0	0	0
SLATTERY	5	. 0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	MCGREGOR	3	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	3
Totals	138	67	130	12	15	4	9	20	27	Totals	185	107	126.	15	12	13	13	16	30