

Tigers go on the prowl at the Bay

SCOTT WALSH

IF Glenelg wasn't hurting over summer, it sure opened its 2009 season like it was.

The Tigers went some way to exploding the ghosts of a minor premiership followed by grand final defeat with a fighting 33-point win against Sturt at Gliderol Stadium last night. It was far from a perfect display - coach Mark Mickan will assure his charges of that - but Glenelg's victory in front of a huge crowd was a clear warning to rivals it will again be a major contender this year.

The Tigers bounced back from a third-quarter revival by the Double Blues, after they had watched a 35-point lead cut to 19 in 10 minutes.

First-gamer Wayde Mills will long remember his debut appearance after holding Ken Farmer Medallist Brant Chambers goalless.

The Bays plugged away in attack for little reward at times - they booted 3.6 in the third quarter to tease the door open for Sturt.

Regardless, until midway through the term it seemed the only question was: "Glenelg by how much?"

But new Blues coach Luke Norman swung into action a high-possession plan to beat the Tigers' zone and slow the tempo, while a lift from Sturt runners including Scott McGlone, Michael Bratton and Tristan Gum helped to shift the contest.

At 19 points down by the last change Sturt still had a

SCOREBOARD

GLENELG	3.2	7.6	10.12	13.15	(93)
STURT	2.1	3.2	8.4	9.6	(60)

BEST - Glenelg: Fisher, Ruwoldt, B. Kane, Hinge, Mills, Backwell. **Sturt:** Sheedy, Crane, McGlone, Thurstans, Kurtze.

SCORERS - Glenelg: Logan 3.1, Kirkby 2.2, Fisher 2.0, Duldig 1.3, Hinge 1.2, Sellar 1.1, Grima, Meyer, Block 1.0, Backwell 0.3, Ruwoldt, B. Kane 0.1, rushed 0.1. **Sturt:** Herring 2.0, Payne, Johncock, Gum, Evans, Kurtze, Crane, Anderson 1.0, Bratton 0.2, Chambers, McGlone 0.1, rushed 0.2.

UMPIRES - C. Bowen, C. Rowston, T. Pfeiffer.

CROWD - 5172 at Gliderol Stadium.

sniff, until Tiger Lucas Block booted his only goal to open the final term.

Sturt had its chances - albeit difficult ones - to slash the deficit through two Matthew Jaensch and Michael Bratton long bombs.

But by the time Tom Logan slotted his third, the Tigers were 33 points clear and in safe waters.

"The players have been hanging out for a game - a real game," Mickan said.

"That showed in the way they played, they were really hard at the ball and used it well.

"Everyone took their turn to tackle and put their head over the ball.

"That was the thing that identified the game for us and helped us win."

Glenelg's Lachlan Button, Luke Panozzo, Mark Ruwoldt and Ben Mules provided tremendous rebound from the Sturt's attacking zone.

By contrast, the Blues

seemed rushed by the Tigers' hard-working forwards.

The hurried disposal was reflected in their delivery to key target Chambers, who was double and triple-teamed at times. He had to wait until halfway through the second term to register his first kick, which he failed to convert from with a set shot from 40m. But all was not lost for Sturt. Angus Kurtz lifted after the first quarter against leading ruckman Trevor Cranston.

Jade Sheedy was tireless, Magarey Medallist Luke Crane was handy, McGlone was prominent and Power backman Toby Thurstans was a rare defensive luxury for the Blues.

"We probably lost the game in the first two quarters, we didn't work hard enough," Norman said.

"We lacked a bit of discipline so we'll take something out of it."

GLENELG										
	Kicks	Mks	Hbl	F/for	F/og	Gls	Pts	H/O	Tkl	
BACKWELL	9	2	9	2	1	0	3	0	0	
SELLAR	3	2	8	1	3	1	1	5	4	
DULDIG	6	1	1	0	0	1	3	1	0	
RUWOLDT	16	8	9	0	0	0	1	0	1	
GRIMA	1	2	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	
KIRKBY	15	11	3	0	1	2	2	0	1	
HOLMES	11	8	3	1	0	0	0	0	2	
LOGAN	9	6	6	3	0	3	1	0	6	
McCONNELL	14	6	7	1	1	0	0	0	0	
MEYER	5	2	7	0	0	1	0	0	1	
MILLS	3	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	
PANOZZO	6	2	5	1	1	0	0	0	1	
MULES	9	5	6	0	1	0	0	0	1	
BUTTON	5	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	
MURPHY	2	1	9	1	0	0	0	0	1	
CRANSTON	1	1	15	1	1	0	0	24	6	
FISHER	14	3	4	3	0	2	0	0	1	
B. KANE	9	3	9	0	1	0	1	0	3	
BLOCK	6	0	6	0	1	1	0	0	1	
HINGE	11	6	6	1	0	1	2	1	1	
ADLINGTON	6	1	3	2	1	0	0	0	2	
Totals	161	74	123	18	12	13	15	31	33	

STURT										
	Kicks	Mks	Hbl	F/for	F/og	Gls	Pts	H/O	Tkl	
PAYNE	9	4	9	0	0	1	0	0	3	
CHAMBERS	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	2	
BOWEN	0	0	4	1	0	0	0	7	1	
HERRING	6	6	2	0	1	2	0	0	0	
JOHNCOCK	7	6	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	
GUM	13	7	4	0	0	1	0	0	0	
EVANS	13	5	4	0	1	1	0	0	5	
SHEEDY	12	6	12	1	0	0	0	0	2	
MARTIN	8	4	6	1	0	0	0	0	1	
WARK	5	4	6	1	2	0	0	1	3	
RISCHBIETH	3	2	4	2	3	0	0	0	1	
McGLONE	11	4	6	1	0	0	0	0	1	
BRATTON	12	8	9	1	2	0	1	0	2	
JAENSCH	7	3	1	0	0	0	2	0	1	
FITTOCK	8	5	4	0	0	0	0	0	1	
KURTZE	6	6	5	0	1	1	0	18	2	
McLEAY	9	5	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	
CRANE	13	6	3	2	2	1	0	0	2	
THURSTANS	11	5	6	0	1	0	0	0	0	
SMITH	5	5	3	0	2	0	0	0	2	
ANDERSON	4	2	2	0	2	1	0	0	0	
Totals	163	93	96	12	18	9	6	26	29	

SANFL	P	W	L	D	FOR	AGST	PTS	%	
1	Glenelg	1	1	0	0	93	60	2	60.8
2	Norwood	1	1	0	0	102	69	2	59.6
3	Panthers	1	1	0	0	68	58	2	54.0
4	Central	1	1	0	0	74	66	2	52.9
5	Eagles	1	0	1	0	66	74	0	47.1
	West	1	0	1	0	58	68	0	46.0
	Port	1	0	1	0	69	102	0	40.4
	Sturt	1	0	1	0	60	93	0	39.2
	North**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

*Yet to play this round **Bye

SCOREBOARD

NORWOOD v PORT MAGPIES					
Coopers Stadium - 6572					
NORWOOD	4.3	7.8	10.11	15.12	102
PORT MAGPIES	3.2	5.7	8.8	10.9	69

BEST PLAYERS: NORWOOD - Lower, Gallagher, Thomas, Zorzi, Duigan, Davis, Doyle, Littler. MAGPIES - AhChee, Elstone, Young, DePasquale, Perry, Clayton. **GOALS:**

NORWOOD - Rowe 4, Terlich 3, Campbell 2; Vlatko, Lee, Phillips, Hughes, Gallagher, Davis. MAGPIES - Clayton, Waterhouse 3, Barham 2; Summerton, DePasquale.

INJURIES: Nil. **REPORTS:** NORWOOD: Phillips (striking). MAGPIES: Nil. **UMPIRES:** R. Williams, M. Cousins, G. Fila.

CENTRAL DISTRICT v EAGLES					
Hamra Homes Oval - 4489					
CENTRAL	2.4	4.10	8.11	10.14	74
EAGLES	2.1	3.2	7.3	10.6	66

BEST PLAYERS: CENTRAL - Griffin, Williams, Symes, Callinan, C. Gowans, M. Westhoff. EAGLES - Allmond, Jarrad, McGregor, Cicolella, Grocke. **GOALS:** CENTRAL - C. Gowans, Dutschke, Havelberg 2; M. Westhoff, Thomas, Giles, Callinan. EAGLES - Salter 3; Rowntree, McGregor, McKenzie, Cicolella, Lane, Jarrad, Allmond. **INJURIES:**

CENTRAL: Callinan (corked thigh). EAGLES: P. Fiacchi (neck), Broadbent (corked thigh). **REPORTS:** Nil. **UMPIRES:** Philp, Woodcock, Crosby.

PANTHERS v WEST ADELAIDE					
Hickinbotham Oval - 1702					
PANTHERS	5.2	6.4	9.5	10.8	68
WEST	0.7	3.11	5.14	7.16	58

BEST PLAYERS: PANTHERS - Warren, Parry, Handby, Thewlis, Torney, Williams, Hateley. WEST - Cupido, Piasente, Davenport, Davies, Bailey, Hartlett. **GOALS:**

PANTHERS - Warren 7; McKenna, Smith, Rolfe. WEST - Bradyn Fisher 2; Hartlett, Caruso, Ben Fisher, Cupido, Blesing. **INJURIES:** PANTHERS: Cockshell (hand, replaced in selected side by Bradley). **REPORTS:** WEST: DeJongh (forceful contact). **UMPIRES:** Hay, Ralston, Dey.

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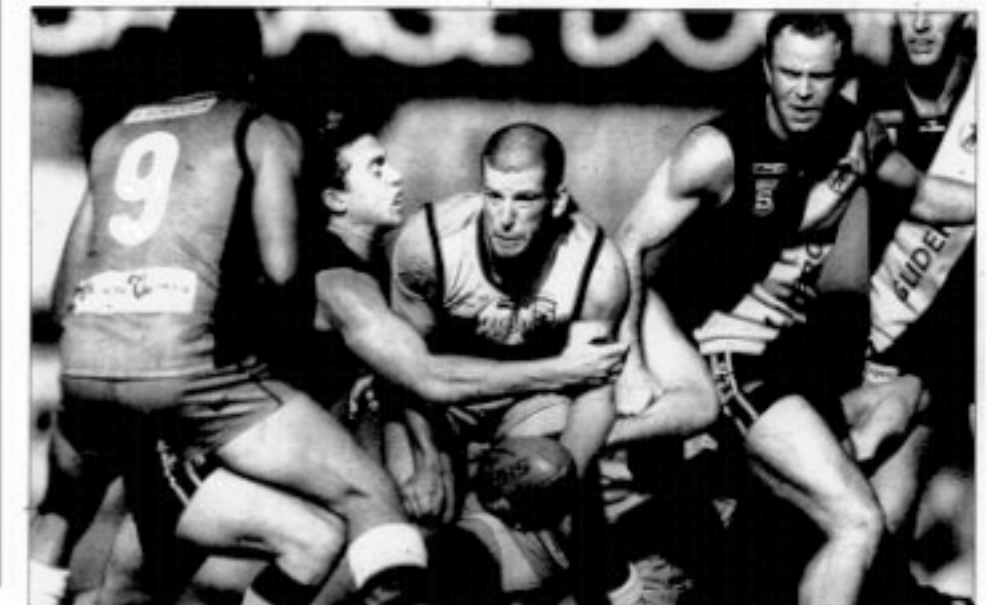
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UNDER PRESSURE: Onballer Michael Bratton attempts to spark the Double Blues into action against the Tigers.