

Tigers can sniff top spot

CANDICE KELLER

GLENELG fought off ardent pressure from Woodville-West Torrens to inch closer to the mantle of minor premier yesterday.

Logging a 26-point win against the Eagles at Gliderol Stadium, Glenelg demonstrated how it became a formidable top-three side in the competition and why it deserves to play deep into September.

With precision and intensity, the Tigers held their opposition at bay in a continuous and fluctuating struggle.

Opening their assault early, the Bays dominated a dazed Eagles in the first quarter and set the tone for the day. An all-in tussle in the Snout's Bar pocket in Glenelg's attacking 50 resulted in the report of Woodville-West Torrens ruckman Brad Dabrowski for alleged rough conduct and a goal from small forward Brett Backwell.

The altercation was a sign that both teams were prepared to put their passion and heart on the line for a win in a finals-like test.

The Eagles charged in the second term, rattling Glenelg slightly and swinging game momentum. Yet the Bays were able to recover with two quick goals through Mark Ruwoldt and Justin McConnell before the close of the term.

Glenelg coach Mark Mickan said he was pleased with his team's commitment and even share of the workload on a tough afternoon.

"After half-time we made a point about maintaining our discipline and we had to get back on top in clearances, which we did. I think we won clearances after half-time and that made a difference," Mickan said.

"The thing we take out of the game is we have to maintain our

discipline and our focus for four quarters against good opposition otherwise the scoreboard tends to go against us."

Lucas Block played one of his most solid games for the Bays making concerted second efforts and pushing the ball forward hard and fast. His eight gruelling tackles, five clearances and five inside-50s were crucial to the Tigers' victory.

He was well supported by Crows running forward Richard Douglas and diligent centreman Byron Murphy, who inspired the team with numerous strong and succinct passages of play. Douglas scored two of his three goals in the third term, putting the Bays in the box seat to take out the game at the final break.

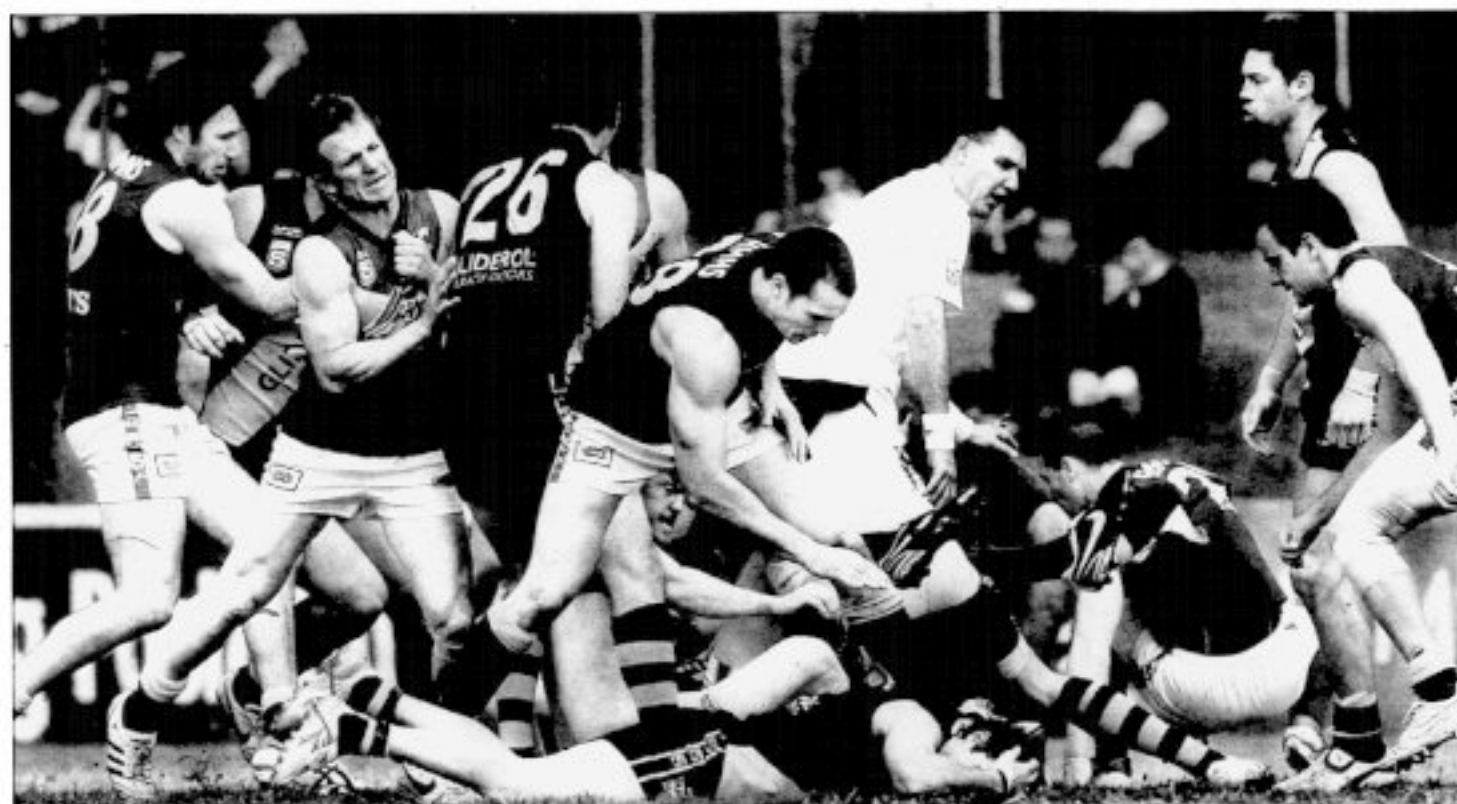
The visitors showed class through patches in the second and final terms. When on song, the Eagles shifted the ball from centre square to goal-line with just two or three possessions, usually courtesy of hardworking on-baller Justin Cicolella (22 possessions).

It was a good warm-up for both sides as they increase finals preparations with just one minor round to go. Glenelg is poised to claim the minor premiership if it defeats West Adelaide this weekend.

"We're playing a team next week that are big improvers and we'll be looking to finish off the year in a strong fashion," Mickan said.

Eagles coach Ron Fuller said in the first quarter his charges were a bit "reactive and fumbly" yet they managed to turn that around.

"I think Glenelg's persistence at winning the restarts and 50-50 contests is as good as anyone going around and to be able to match that for three-quarters of the game was pretty good," he said.



TEMPERS FLARE: Glenelg's Brett Backwell was knocked down and the incident sparked a heated reaction during yesterday's clash between the Tigers and Eagles at Gliderol Stadium.

Pictures: RAY TITUS

SANFL DETAILS



SATURDAY

NORTH	2.3	4.6	5.7	5.11	(41)
WEST	1.3	2.5	4.6	5.6	(36)

BEST - North: Younie, Sloane, Davis, Allan, Ryswyk, Stribling.
West: Ferguson, Bailey, Davies, Ben Fisher, Bricknell, Munn.

SCORERS - North: Younie 2.2, Delvins, Thring, O'Brien 1.0, Pfeiffer 0.3, Alleway, Allan 0.2, Stewart 0.1, rushed 0.1. **West:** Bennett 2.0, G. Rowe 1.1, Caruso, Lobbe 1.0, Ezard, Bailey, Willits 0.1, rushed 0.2. **INJURIES - North:** Wright (knee), White (hip), O'Hara (hamstring).

UMPIRES - T. Philp, S. Hay, J. Ralston.

CROWD - 1392 at City Mazda Stadium.

CENTRAL	4.4	4.5	9.7	11.10	(76)
STURT	1.3	5.6	8.10	8.10	(58)

BEST - Central: Callinan, O'Sullivan, Thomas, C. Gowans, Schell, Dutschke. **Sturt:** Sheedy, Nelson, Coad, Herring, Jaensch.

SCORERS - Central: Callinan 3.1, O'Sullivan 2.0, Sansbury 1.2, Schell, Dutschke, C. Gowans, J. Gowans 1.1, Hayes 1.0, Jenner, MacKenzie 0.1, rushed 0.1. **Sturt:** Herring 2.1, Nelson 2.0, Chambers 1.3, Johncock, Kurtze, Cubillo 1.1, Gum, Evans, Coad 0.1.

INJURIES - Central: Griffin (thigh), J. Gowans (ankle), Thomas (cut head), Slade (hamstring) withdrew from selected side. **REPORT - Sturt:** Fittock for alleged head-high contact on Dutschke by umpire Pfeiffer in the first term.

UMPIRES - T. Pfeiffer, T. Dey, M. Hardham.

CROWD - 2746 at Hamra Homes Oval.

YESTERDAY

PANTHERS	0.2	1.5	7.6	14.8	(92)
PORT	4.4	6.4	10.5	12.11	(83)

BEST - Panthers: Sandery, Cockshell, Torney, Thewlis, Handby, Lyons, Crate. **Port:** Elstone, Murray, Lokan, Melkelyohn, Summerton.

SCORERS - Panthers: Lyons 4.1, Warren 4.0, Cockshell 2.0, Sandery, Schmidt 1.1, Torney, Farmer 1.0, Splitt, Handby, Cook 0.1, rushed 0.2. **Port:** Perry 4.2, Beard 2.0, Shannon, Stanley, Stoyanoff 1.1, Dolling, Lokan, Summerton 1.0, Clayton 0.2, Barham, Carr 0.1, rushed 0.2.

INJURIES - Panthers: Neagle (thigh), Williams (thigh). **Port:** Carr (shoulder).

UMPIRES - G. Fila, D. Russell, C. Bowen.

CROWD - 2153 at Hickinbotham Oval.

GLENELG	6.5	8.8	14.10	16.10	(106)
EAGLES	1.1	5.4	8.6	12.8	(80)

BEST - Glenelg: Block, Douglas, Murphy, Allen, Fisher, B. Kane. **Eagles:** Cicolella, Powell, Petrenko, Fairclough, Polec, Goldsworthy.

SCORERS - Glenelg: McConnell 4.2, Kirkby, Douglas 3.0, Button 2.1, Ruwoldt, Allen 1.1, Backwell, B. Kane 1.0, Murphy, Hall, Willoughby, Panozzo 0.1, rushed 0.1. **Eagles:** Fairclough 2.1, Polec, Goldsworthy, McGregor 2.0, Cicolella, Grocke 1.1, Symmons, Daniel 1.0, Passador 0.2, Powell 0.1, rushed 0.2.

INJURIES - Glenelg: Logan (back) replaced in selected side by Kellock, Adlington (hamstring) withdrew from selected side.

REPORTS - Eagles: Dabrowski for alleged rough conduct by field umpire Deboy in the first quarter.

UMPIRES - R. Williams, C. Deboy, A. Crosby.

CROWD - 3676 at Gliderol Stadium.

DRAW

ROUND 23 - Times and dates to be confirmed today. North v Panthers (Prospect), Norwood v Central (Coopers), Port v Sturt (Alberton Oval), West v Glenelg (City Mazda). **Bye:** Eagles.

PREMIERSHIP TABLE

	P	W	L	D	F	A	Pc	Pts
Glenelg	19	16	2	1	1748	1420	55.2	33
Central	19	15	3	1	1893	1468	56.3	31
Sturt	19	13	6	-	1866	1278	59.4	26
Eagles	20	11	8	1	1739	1753	49.8	23
North	19	10	9	-	1550	1425	52.1	20
West	19	7	11	1	1365	1619	45.7	15
Norwood	19	6	13	-	1609	1705	48.5	12
Port	19	4	15	-	1577	1880	45.6	8
Panthers	19	2	17	-	1261	2024	38.4	4

LEADING GOALKICKERS

		Rd 22	Total
B. Chambers	(Sturt)	1.3	77.43
B. Warren	(Panthers)	4.0	46.16
J. Perry	(Port)	4.2	40.16
N. Salter	(Eagles)	-	38.18
S. Rowe	(Norwood)	-	38.17
R. Kirkby	(Glenelg)	3.0	34.22

RESERVES

GLENELG	4.1	11.2	15.5	21.11	(137)
EAGLES	3.4	3.5	4.6	6.11	(47)

BEST - Glenelg: Clayfield, O'Grady, Day, Vallance, Pekin, Hitchcock. **Eagles:** Staple, Geddes, Banner, Rowntree.

SCORERS - Glenelg: Hitchcock 4, Day, O'Grady 3, Duldig, Fosdike, A. Grima, Hill 2, Couch, McGinty, McGregor 1. **Eagles:** Davoren, Westbrook 2, Rowntree, Staple 1.

North 7.13 (55) d West 6.8 (44). Central 12.5 (77) d Sturt 9.7 (61). **Ladder:** Eagles 26, Sturt, Central, Port 24, Glenelg 23, North 18, West 16, Norwood 9, Panthers 8.

UNDER-18

Sturt 7.17 (59) d Central 4.8 (32), West 14.13 (97) d North 3.7 (25), Glenelg 11.15 (81) d Eagles 2.5 (17), Port 11.16 (82) d Panthers 6.1 (37).

SANFL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

North Adelaide v West Adelaide

Ryan Ferguson (West Adelaide)	3
Heath Younie (North Adelaide)	2
Rory Sloane (North Adelaide)	1

Central District v Sturt

Ian Callinan (Central District)	3
Jade Sheedy (Sturt)	2
Chad O'Sullivan (Central District)	1

Glenelg v Woodville-West Torrens

Lucas Block (Glenelg)	3
Richard Douglas (Glenelg)	2
Justin Cicolella (Woodville-West Torrens)	1

Panthers v Port Adelaide

Mitchell Sandery (Panthers)	3
Adam Cockshell (Panthers)	2
Daniel Elstone (Port Adelaide)	1

LEADERS - 16: M. McKenzie (Eagles), 15: J. Ezard (West), J. Allan, R. Archard (North), 14: J. Sheedy (Sturt), 12: T. Gum, S. McGlone (Sturt), T. Cranston (Glenelg), J. Cicolella (Eagles), 11: B. Murray (Port), A. Fisher (Glenelg), I. Callinan, C. O'Sullivan (Central).



GLENELG

	Kicks	Mks	Hbl	F/for	F/og	Gls	Pts	M/O	Tkl
ALLEN	7	1	9	3	1	1	1	-	6
BACKWELL	7	-	5	5	2	1	-	-	2
BLOCK	15	-	7	2	-	-	-	1	8
BUTTON	4	3	5	1	1	2	1	6	1
CRANSTON	-	-	7	3	4	-	-	36	4
DOUGLAS	12	4	8	2	1	3	-	-	2
FISHER	7	1	13	1	1	-	-	-	3
HALL	5	2	6	2	-	-	-	1	1
KANE	6	4	10	-	2	1	-	1	4
KELLOCK	4	-	4	2	-	-	-	-	1
KIRK	5	3	5	1	-	-	-	-	-
KIRKBY	6	4	1	2	-	3	-	1	1
LIEBELT	1	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	3
MCCONNELL	8	4	2	4	-	4	2	-	1
MEYER	5	2	3	-	2	-	-	-	1
MILLS	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
MILES	4	2	7	2	-	-	-	-	1
MURPHY	8	3	15	3	4	-	-	1	3
PANOZZO	8	3	5	-	3	-	-	1	3
RUWOLDT	9	3	3	1	3	1	1	-	3
WILLOUGHBY	9	3	4	1	-	-	-	-	1
Totals	132	43	122	35	25	16	10	48	46



EAGLES

	Kicks	Mks	Hbl	F/for	F/og	Gls	Pts	M/O	Tkl
ALLMOND	2	-	6	1	2	-	-	-	3
CICOLELLA	13	1	9	3	3	1	1	-	4
DABROWSKI	5	2	6	2	5	-	-	29	-
DANIEL	5	2	2	1	1	1	-	-	2
FAIRCLOUGH	11	2	3	-	2	2	1	-	5
FIACCHI	6	1	1	2	3	-	-	-	1
GOLDSWORTHY	9	2	2	2	1	2	-	-	-
GROCKE	6	4	4	-	-	-	-	1	1
HIER	3	4	5	1	4	-	-	-	-
JARRAD	6	1	1	1	-	-	-	2	2
MCGREGOR	5	3	2	-	-	-	-	2	1
MCKENZIE	6	3	3	-	-	-	-	2	1
MILES	2	-	2	1	2	-	-	18	1
PASSADOR	5	2	3	1	3	-	-	2	3
PETRENKO	14	5	1	-	2	-	-	-	4
POLEC	8	4	4	-	1	2	-	-	4
POWELL	10	3	5	-	2	-	-	1	2
RIMINGTON	10	4	1	3	3	-	-	-	5
SMITH	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SYMMONS	12	5	4	3	1	1	-	-	3
TREBBY	7	1	5	4	-	-	-	-	4
Totals	146	49	69	25	35	12	8	54	43