



Qualifying Final, 2010

Bassett's Redlegs roll over the Tigers

NORWOOD coach Nathan Bassett has been mentioned as a legitimate prospect for the AFL ranks.

The Redlegs lost their opening four rounds but the manner in which they responded to climb to third swelled Bassett's reputation.

Now the Redlegs may have trouble hanging on to the former Crows defender for the full length of his three-year deal after they smashed Glenelg by 44 points in the qualifying final at AAMI Stadium yesterday.

How the Redlegs went about dismantling the Tigers was impressive and a powerful warning to their second semi-final opponent Central District of their desperation to take the title. It was a triumph built on enthusiasm, a dedicated work ethic and most of all a fierce desire for tackling.

"The motivation is these guys have been working for 10 months," Bassett said. "We worked hard to get ourselves in this position."

"There should be no need for me to fire up the playing group to play in a big final at Footy Park. They played with true spirit - were committed, passionate and they ran out four quarters of it."

The magnitude of the loss has opened the Tigers' wounds from last year when they went into the finals as minor premier only to drop both games. Their ability to conquer their finals demons will be fully tested when they confront Woodville-West Torrens in the first semi-final.

Norwood's pressure was red-hot from the outset and it put the Tigers on the back foot.

Tiger Trevor Cranston won the ruck duels but it was Redlegs Nick Lower, no-frills Brett Zorzi, James Gallagher and Bryce Campbell who constantly took the ball away from the stoppages.

The tackling of the Redlegs was sensational, with Zorzi amassing seven in the opening quarter to win his side plenty of turnover possessions and give the side ample opportunities to charge forward.



WARREN PARTLAND

The Redlegs went inside their attacking 17 times in the first term compared to just once by the Tigers, who went scoreless until five minutes into the second quarter. While the Redlegs wasted their territorial advantage, they were able to choke the life out of Glenelg and quell its big names.

In the first half, Josh Carr and Ty Allen did not register a kick for the Tigers, Ruory Kirkby failed to have a possession in his 100th game and Alex and Todd Grima had six touches between them.

"Our pressure was another level again to what we had in the first half at the Bay (two weeks back when the Redlegs were overrun)," Bassett said. "Today was excellent how we kept at it all day."

"The last 16 matches we have played we have been as good as any team in the competition."

A disciplined Redlegs refused to relent the pressure after half-time and they continued to shut down the Tigers' run.

Allen tried bravely to lift his side with his fearless attack on the ball but he had too many mates who struggled to have an influence against the Norwood tide.

Briefly in the final term, when the Tigers cut a 40-point deficit to 21, there was a glimmer of hope for the black and gold fans. But back-to-back goals from Redlegs Cameron Shenton and Simon Phillips defused the danger.

"We knew what we wanted to do but could not execute," Glenelg coach Mark Mickan said. "They shut down our clearance work."

"We have an opportunity next week, there is strong belief in the group and they will give a response. They were angry with themselves after the game."

QUALIFYING FINAL REDLEGS v TIGERS

Yesterday, AAMI Stadium. Crowd 11,449

NORWOOD	2.4	6.7	8.10	12.11	83
GLENELG	0.0	1.2	3.5	5.8	39

BEST - Norwood: Lower, Gallagher, Georgiou, Zorzi, Phillips, Puopolo, Shenton.

Glenelg: Allen, Cranston, Ruwoldt, Kirk.

SCORERS - Norwood: Shenton 3.1, Phillips 2.1, Donohue 1.2, Trotter, Lower, Rowe, Dawe, Fuller, Gorrige 1.0, Gallagher, Davis, Terlich, Duigan 0.1, rushed 0.3.

Glenelg: T. Grima 1.1, B. Kane, Allen, Murphy, Lally 1.0, Panozzo 0.2, Carr, Kirkby, Sellar, Kellock 0.1, rushed 0.1.

UMPIRES: Rowston, Bowen, Deboy.

James delivers on big week

REECE HOMFRAY

A BIG week got even bigger for Norwood captain James Gallagher yesterday when his side steamrolled Glenelg in the qualifying final at AAMI Stadium.

Five days after becoming a first-time father with the birth of his son, Jack, Gallagher had 27 disposals for the Redlegs in their 44-point win.

"It hasn't been a bad week," Gallagher said.

"The little man, Jack, was born on Tuesday and I've had a few nights struggling for a little bit of sleep but I got a bit last night so it's been a reasonable week so far."

Gallagher said he was pleased with how his players responded to

their last encounter with Glenelg - a 30-point loss in round 22.

"Pretty satisfying, that's the overwhelming feeling, we sort of got a lesson from them a couple of weeks ago in the second half and had to address a few things after that, and I thought we put on a show today how we want to be seen as a football team."

The 30-year-old said the term "contested ball" was commonplace in football language but it underpinned yesterday's win, which has Norwood within a game of the grand final. "Sticking our tackles and hunting the opposition, that's something Glenelg has done better than anyone for a while ... but we really came to play and were switched on."

ELIMINATION FINAL EAGLES v BLUES

Yesterday, AAMI Stadium. Crowd 11,449

EAGLES	3.1	9.3	12.7	17.14	116
STURT	2.3	3.6	4.10	6.10	46

BEST - Eagles: Powell, Grocke, Cicolella, Pary, Lewis, Treeby, Jarrad, Grieger.

Sturt: Gum, Hassan, Jaensch, Nelson, Sheedy.

SCORERS - Eagles: Grocke 5.1, Welsh, Hentschel 3.1, Smith 1.2, Allmond, Lewis 1.1, Jarrad, Powell, Rimington 1.0, Rowntree 0.2, Pary, Polec 0.1, rushed 0.3.

Sturt: Hassan 1.2, Chambers, McIntyre 1.1, Cubillo, Jaensch, Johncock 1.0, Herring 0.2, Crane 0.1, rushed 0.3.

INJURIES - Eagles: Miles (hip/adductor).

Sturt: Giles (ankle).

UMPIRES: Williams, Fila, Haussen.

GLENELG v NORWOOD

Yesterday, AAMI Stadium, Crowd 11,449

	Kicks	Mks	Hbl	F/for	F/ag	Gls	Pts	H/O	Tkl		Kicks	Mks	Hbl	F/for	F/ag	Gls	Pts	H/O	Tkl
ADLINGTON	8	4	4	2	-	-	-	-	2	CAMPBELL	3	3	11	-	-	-	-	-	1
ALLEN	4	1	16	2	2	1	-	-	5	DAVIS	7	8	3	-	-	-	-	1	
CARR	7	2	11	1	3	-	1	-	4	DAWE	6	2	6	2	-	1	-	15	
CRANSTON	4	2	9	1	2	-	-	45	-	DONOHUE	9	5	7	-	1	1	2	-	
GRIMA	6	-	4	1	-	-	1	-	4	DUIGAN	6	3	2	-	-	-	1	1	
GRIMA	4	2	4	2	1	1	1	5	1	FULLER	5	1	5	1	1	1	-	1	
KANE	13	5	11	1	-	1	1	1	1	GALLAGHER	18	2	9	3	1	-	-	3	
KANE	4	1	7	-	-	-	-	-	3	GEORGIU	5	3	3	1	1	-	-	3	
KELLOCK	7	2	3	-	-	-	1	-	1	GORRIGE	3	-	1	1	1	1	-	8	
KIRK	8	2	3	-	-	-	-	2	-	HUGHES	8	2	6	-	-	-	-	3	
KIRKBY	3	2	1	1	1	-	1	1	1	JONAS	3	2	11	1	-	-	-	4	
LALLY	9	4	3	1	-	1	-	-	-	LOWER	11	3	15	-	1	1	-	5	
MEYER	4	3	8	-	-	-	-	-	3	MCGUINNESS	7	3	4	1	2	-	-	1	
MILLS	5	7	8	-	-	-	-	-	3	PHILLIPS	13	6	5	1	1	2	1	-	
MURPHY	9	8	12	1	-	1	-	-	6	PUOPOLO	9	3	7	2	1	-	-	5	
PANOZZO	18	9	12	1	1	-	2	-	-	ROWE	2	1	1	-	2	1	-	8	
RUDOLPH	21	6	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	SHENTON	6	4	4	-	2	3	1	-	
RUWOLDT	9	4	5	1	2	-	-	1	-	TERLICH	8	7	3	-	-	-	-	1	
SELLAR	2	4	10	-	2	-	1	21	1	TROTTER	18	3	4	-	2	1	-	4	
SNOOK	-	2	8	-	-	-	-	-	4	WEATHERALD	5	-	4	1	3	-	-	8	
TENACE	16	6	8	2	1	-	-	-	4	ZORZI	8	2	8	1	-	-	-	4	
Totals	161	76	150	20	15	5	9	76	40	Totals	160	63	119	15	20	12	11	38	

CLOSE CALL: Norwood forward Simon Phillips gets a kick away in yesterday's qualifying final at AAMI Stadium despite the spoiling attempt by Glenelg defender Paul Adlington. Picture: RAY TITUS

