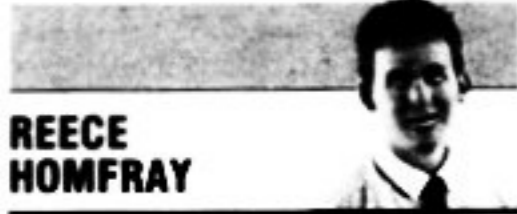




TOP SPOT | Bay blitz sets up showdown

Tigers shrug off Legs



REECE HOMFRAY

GLENELG put one hand on the minor premiership and flag favouritism by clawing its way back from 27 points down early in the third term to steamroll Norwood by five goals yesterday.

It was complete domination in the final term, and the scoreline 15.11 (101) was the biggest kicked against Norwood Mk II (the Redlegs post-round four) this season.

Glenelg's seventh win in a row moved the Tigers into top spot ahead of next weekend's final round showdown with Central District.

The damage was done around the stoppages as the Bays dominated the clearances (35-19) and shared the footy through the midfield.

Trevor Cranston was enormous in the air and at ground level, Josh Carr showed what a bonus he will be in finals with 35 disposals while Kane Tenace (29 touches) and Ben Kane (28) also had a day out.

Glenelg's defence shone with Daniel Kirk dominating Norwood's Sam Rowe and Wayde Mills doing a solid job on Cameron Shenton.

"The belief was very good, at half time we were three-and-a-half goals down and there was no panic in the group," Glenelg coach Mark Mickan said.

"We knew what we had to do and I thought our execution and run was a lot better."

Chris Kane had the tagging job on Brett Zorzi early, but the Norwood midfielder broke free to set up the first two goals.

The Tigers fought their way back and a gutsy mark and goal to Matthew Bode on the quarter-time siren levelled the scores.

It took 15 minutes for the first goal of the second term when Nick Lower slammed the ball on his boot from 40m, and that started a mini-landslide with two goals to Matthew Davis and one to Dean Terlich building the half-time buffer.

The third quarter was a goal-fest, and the Grima brothers had the answers for Glenelg.

The first through two goals to Alex, who staked his claim to be part of Mickan's finals plans, then through Todd who added another two.

Lower's third goal on the siren was the only difference between the two teams at the final change, but it was all Glenelg in the last.

Consecutive goals to Murphy and Ben Kane put the Tigers in front and when fullback Mills ran the length



ALL OVER THEM: Glenelg's Paul Addington has Norwood's Simon Phillips covered at Gliderol Stadium yesterday.



WRAPPED UP: Tiger Ty Allen puts a hard tackle on James Gallagher.

of the ground to pinch a goal, it was all over.

Despite what the scoreline suggests, Norwood's defence was reasonably solid - particularly Alexis Georgiou's job on Ruory Kirkby and Gavin Hughes and Kieran McGuinness' efforts.

Matthew Davis kicked four goals, James Gallagher, David Trotter, Brett Zorzi and Nick Lower were busy in the midfield but needed more help.

"It was weight of ball from stoppages, they hammered us from the first half in the stoppages and our defence held up really well, then in the second half it was an avalanche of footy coming in fast and we need to be much stronger around the footy," Redlegs coach Nathan Bassett said.

"The other thing we really let ourselves down in was general ball use ... we sabotaged some good scoring opportunities but we also missed I'd say reasonable shots."

Bassett said it was a "disappointing day for the club" that his side didn't put the Tigers away, but the Redlegs remain in the race for a top-three finish next week.

Mickan said finishing top was not a priority, and he had no concerns about going into the finals on what would be an eight-game winning streak should they beat the Dogs.

"We haven't talked about any positions on the ladder at all, and we won't this week," he said.

"I'd rather have good form and momentum and looking to maintain that (than losing a late regular-season game)."

SATURDAY

Table with 5 columns: Team, G1, G2, G3, G4, Total. WEST: 2.2, 6.4, 9.9, 12.10 (82); SOUTH: 1.2, 1.5, 4.7, 5.13(43)

BEST - West: Caruso, Caire, Ferguson, Willits, Rowe, Ezard, Hill. South: Liddle, O'Keefe, Murphy, Crate, Horne. SCORERS - West: Bennett 3.0, N. Caruso 2.1, Davies 1.2, Ezard, Rowe 1.1, Caire, F. Caruso, Hartlett, Hill 1.1, Willits 0.2, Helbig, Lobbe, Munn 0.1. South: Rolfe 2.2, Warren 1.3, Liddle 1.1, O'Keefe 1.0, Horne 0.2, Veide 0.2, McKenna, Perrey 0.1, rushed 0.1. INJURIES - West: Munn (ribs), F. Caruso (back), Fisher (sick). UMPIRES: Joyce, Crosby, Deboy.

CROWD: 1769 at Hickinbotham Oval

YESTERDAY

Table with 5 columns: Team, G1, G2, G3, G4, Total. GLENELG: 2.1, 2.4, 8.8, 15.11 (101); NORWOOD: 2.1, 6.1, 10.2, 11.5 (71)

BEST - Glenelg: Kirk, Carr, Cranston, B. Kane, Tenace, Mules, Allen, Mills. Norwood: Lower, Hughes, Gallagher, Puopolo, Trotter, McGuinness, Georgiou.

SCORERS - Glenelg: T. Grima 3.1, A. Grima 2.2, Kirkby 2.1, B. Kane, Bode 1.1, Tenace, Carr, Mills, Murphy, C. Kane, Allen 1.0, Rudolph 0.2, Panozzo, Kellock 0.1, rushed 0.1. Norwood: Davis 4.1, Lower 3.0, Terlich 2.0, Grigg, Dawe 1.0, Shenton 0.2, Phillips, Fuller 0.1.

INJURIES - Norwood: Hughes (hamstring). UMPIRES: Rowston, Medlin, Manikas. CROWD: 5819 at Gliderol Stadium.

Table with 5 columns: Team, G1, G2, G3, G4, Total. STURT: 3.3, 9.6, 11.9, 12.14 (86); CENTRAL: 1.3, 3.5, 7.10, 10.11 (71)

BEST - Sturt: Giles, Gum, Vassal, McLeay, Cubillo, Herring, Nelson. Central: Callinan, Thomas, Boyd, Lawry, Spurr.

SCORERS - Sturt: Herring 3.1, Giles, Vassal, Rischbieth, Gum 2.0, Johncock 1.0, Crane, Chambers 0.3, McIntyre 0.2, Bode, Nelson 0.1, rushed 0.3. Central: Callinan 3.1, Boyd 2.1, Schell 1.2, Thomas, Hardy 1.1, Spurr, Havelberg 1.0, Dutschke 0.2, C. Gowans, Reichert 0.1, rushed 0.1.

INJURIES - Central: O'Hara (calf), Jenner (hamstring) withdrew from selected squad. UMPIRES: Williams, Fila, Haussen. CROWD: 3448 at House Brothers Oval, Unley.

Table with 5 columns: Team, G1, G2, G3, G4, Total. NORTH: 2.2, 7.2, 11.4, 15.6 (96); EAGLES: 3.4, 6.5, 9.9, 11.11 (77)

BEST - North: Wright, Ackland, Allan, Archard, Ryswyk, Armstrong. Eagles: Polec, Cicolella, Rimington, Treeby, McKenzie.

SCORERS - North: D. Motlop 4.2, Ryswyk 3.0, Younie 2.0, Alaway 1.2, Gill 1.1, Ackland, Stribling, White, Whyman 1.0, Thring 0.1. Eagles: Cicolella, Polec 2.0, Rimington 1.3, Goldsworthy, Grocke 1.1, Day, Miles, Parry, Treeby 1.0, Almond, Jarrad, Thompson 0.1, rushed 0.3.

INJURIES - North: Ivens (hamstring). UMPIRES: Philp, Dey, Hundertmark. CROWD: at Prospect Oval.

DRAW

ROUND 23 - Saturday: Port v North (Alberton Oval, 2.10pm), Central v Glenelg (Hamra Homes Oval, 2.10pm). Sunday: Norwood v West (Coopers Stadium, 2.10pm), Eagles v Sturt (Woodville Oval, 2.10pm). Bye: South.

PREMIERSHIP TABLE

Table with 10 columns: Team, P, W, L, D, F, A, Pc, Pts. Glenelg: 19, 15, 4, -, 1853, 1457, 55.9, 30. Central: 19, 14, 5, -, 1722, 1329, 56.4, 28. Norwood: 19, 11, 8, -, 1436, 1218, 54.1, 22. Eagles: 19, 11, 8, -, 1679, 1526, 52.3, 22. Sturt: 19, 10, 8, 1, 1521, 1408, 51.9, 21. West: 19, 10, 9, -, 1274, 1335, 48.8, 20. North: 19, 8, 11, -, 1361, 1669, 44.9, 16. Port: 19, 4, 15, -, 1360, 1586, 46.2, 8. South: 20, 2, 17, 1, 1442, 2120, 40.5, 5.

LEADING GOALKICKERS

Table with 4 columns: Player, Team, Rd22, Total. T. Grima (Glenelg): 3.1, 55.19. B. Chambers (Sturt): 0.3, 45.18. R. Kirkby (Glenelg): 2.1, 46.17. S. Rowe (Norwood): 1.1, 37.17. S. Phillips (Norwood): 0.1, 33.15.

RESERVES

GLENELG 3.1 6.4 10.7 17.10 (112) NORWOOD 1.2 2.4 2.7 3.7 (25) BEST - Glenelg: Ramsey, Lally, Plant, Giddings, Tape, Trembath. Norwood: Nitschke, Webber, Doyle, Brown, Lee, Read. GOALS - Glenelg: Armfield 6, Trembath 5, Curran, Earl, Lally, McCarthy, Pitt, M. Snook. Norwood: Roberts, Donohue, Webber. CENTRAL 3.3 8.5 13.6 17.12 (114) STURT 1.1 4.4 7.6 8.8 (56) BEST - Central: Waldhunter, Hynes, Fry, L. Westhoff, Duncan, N. White, Bradtke, Marschall. Sturt: Stephens, C. Evans, Fotheringham, Lawrie, Twopeny, Myles. GOALS - Central: Hynes 6, L. Westhoff, M. Westhoff, Gunston 2, Frail, Snowden, Duncan, Foldesdy, Wittwer. Sturt: C. Evans 2, Kurtze, Myles, Anderson, Stephens, Colbung, Plant. EAGLES 3.0 4.3 11.8 14.11 (95) NORTH 6.3 11.3 13.3 14.5 (89) BEST - Eagles: Lane, Hobarn, Cheep, Corbett, Wright, Rayner. North: Roach, Teasdale, J. Wundke, Hay, Dempsey. GOALS - Eagles: Lane 8, Cheep, Daniel 2, Corbett, Hill. North: Boras 4, Renshaw 3, Newcomeb 2, O'Hara, Dempsey, Cheer, Mayes, Roach. Ladder: Sturt 28, Port 24, Eagles 24, Central 20, Glenelg 18, West 18, North 16, Norwood 16, South 8.

UNDER-18

West 10.14 (134) d South 7.6 (48), Eagles 22.13 (145) d North 7.7 (49), Sturt 17.20 (122) d Central 6.4 (40), Norwood 20.10 (130) d Glenelg 13.7 (85). Bye: Port. Ladder: Glenelg 28, West 28, Port 27, Eagles 26, Sturt 24, Norwood 19, North 8, Central 6, South 6.

GLENELG v NORWOOD

Yesterday, Glenelg Oval. Crowd 5819

Match statistics table for Glenelg vs Norwood. Columns include Kicks, Mks, Hbl, F/for, F/ag, Gls, Pts, H/O, Tkl for both teams. Totals: Glenelg (212, 89, 181, 23, 23, 15, 11, 57, 38), Norwood (171, 77, 142, 23, 23, 11, 5, 33, 48).