

Injured skipper provides motive for comeback victory

Mules spray fires Tigers

REECE HOMFRAY

A STIRRING three-quarter-time speech from injured skipper Ben Mules sparked Glenelg's gutsy three-point win over North Adelaide at Prospect Oval yesterday.

Mules, sidelined all season with a hamstring injury, ran from the grandstand at the final change and urged his teammates to take the game on.

"We lacked a bit of excitement and, once we started getting around each other and playing for each other, we're a lot better side," Mules said after the win.

"I just said, 'The first contest, the first goal, make sure we get around each other'."

With Mules' words and the tune of the Anzac Day-themed *Last Post* still ringing in their ears, the Tigers responded and kicked two goals to none, to emerge from a dogged final term with a crucial win.

Every player did his bit at times. Sam Rudolph produced an inspired final term in de-

fence, Byron Murphy put a big smother on Damon White 20 minutes in, and Daniel Kirk took two huge contested marks in time-on.

When the siren went, coach Mark Mickan forgot his usual ice-cool persona, leapt into the air and pumped his fists.

"It was bloody reflective of the type of win it was just a real character win," he said.

"Early on, we looked like we came to play, then we had a sudden period where we lost our way ... but the effort to get it back and fight out the last quarter like we did was a fantastic performance."

Even more pleasing was the win came without Power-listed Josh Carr, Tom Logan and Danny Meyer, ruckman Trevor Cranston and Mules.

"It's how you play and the character of the people who come to play that make the difference," Mickan said.

Glenelg made all the early running but North fought back in an opening term which delivered 10 goals - all to separate goalkickers.

North coach Daniel Healy

lamented his side's poor start but said it was no excuse for the loss.

"Our biggest disappointment is our inability to stick to our plan and to take the game on when it had to be," Healy said.

"Switching the footy, we kicked long down the line and Kirk took mark after mark ... there's myriad of things we could talk about, but one thing we can hang our hat on is I thought we had a crack."

Mickan was full of praise for Mules, not just for his speech yesterday but for his input while injured.

"He's a much-respected leader and whatever he said, I'm sure they took on board," Mickan said.

"It's not great to have him injured but he's a wonderful team person.

"And throughout his rehabilitation, he's been a powerhouse of support for myself and the team."

Mules is expected to return to the side in round seven.

TEAM	P	W	L	D	FOR	AGST	PTS	%
Eagles*	3	3	0	0	322	237	6	57.60
Central*	3	3	0	0	279	231	6	54.71
Glenelg	5	3	2	0	461	405	6	53.23
North	5	3	2	0	409	419	6	49.40
West**	4	2	2	0	329	291	4	53.06
Sturt*	4	1	2	1	365	378	3	49.13
South*	3	1	1	1	259	309	3	45.60
Port*	3	0	3	0	218	255	0	46.09
Norwood*	4	0	4	0	217	335	0	39.31

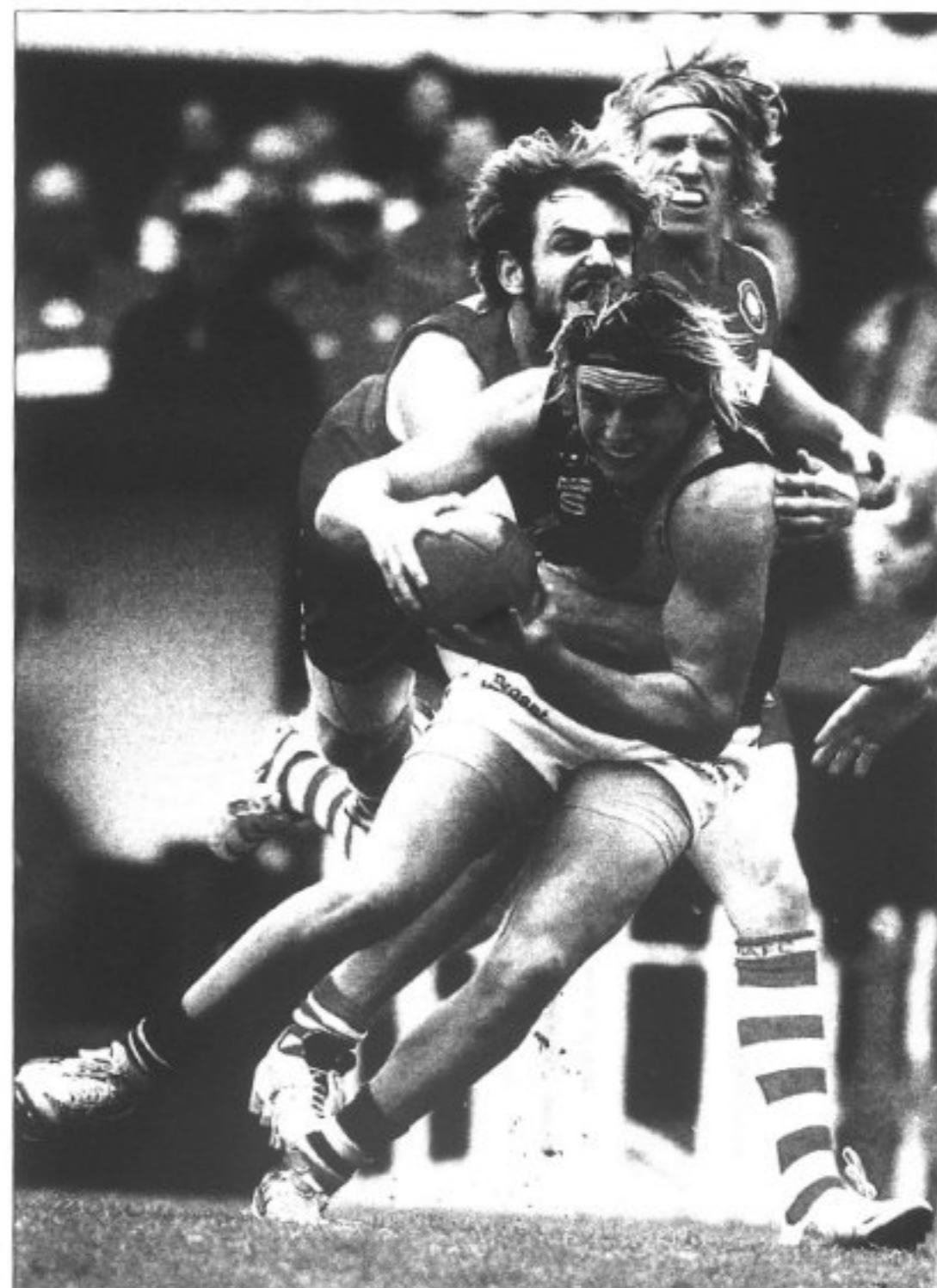
*Yet to play this round **Bye

SCOREBOARD

GLENELG v NORTH ADELAIDE					
Prospect Oval, crowd 2884					
GLENELG	5.4	8.4	10.8	12.9	81
NORTH	5.1	10.4	11.7	11.12	78

BEST PLAYERS: GLENELG: Tenace, B. Kane, Rudolph, Murphy, A. Grima, Ruwoldt. **NORTH:** Alleway, Allan, Thring, McIntyre, Armstrong. **GOALS: GLENELG:** A.Grima 4, Tenace 2; Ruwoldt, Willoughby Trembath, B.Kane, T.Grima, Kirkby. **NORTH:** Stewart, Gill, Alleway, Allan 2; Wundke, Thring, Whyman. **INJURIES: GLENELG:** Bode (back strain), Kellock (corked thigh). **NORTH:** Ryswyk (quad strain). **REPORTS:** Nil. **UMPIRES:** Joyce, Bowen, Deboy.

NORTH										GLENELG										
Kicks	Mks	Hbl	F/for	F/ag	Gls	Pts	H/O	Tkl		Kicks	Mks	Hbl	F/for	F/ag	Gls	Pts	H/O	Tkl		
ALLAN	18	3	7	2	0	2	0	0	0	ADLINGTON	5	3	5	0	0	0	0	0	1	
ALLEWAY	10	7	5	1	2	2	0	18	4	ALLEN	5	2	11	3	0	0	0	0	3	
ARCHARD	19	8	8	1	2	0	3	0	6	BODE	10	2	5	1	0	0	1	0	2	
ARMSTRONG	6	3	4	0	1	0	0	0	2	BUTTON	10	9	6	1	2	0	0	23	1	
CRAIG	1	0	4	0	0	0	0	24	1	GRIMA	8	3	5	1	3	4	1	0	1	
CUNNINGHAM	7	2	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	GRIMA	3	1	6	0	2	1	0	5	0	
ELSTONE	4	3	11	3	1	0	0	0	2	KANE	9	4	12	1	0	1	0	0	2	
GALLMAN	2	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	KANE	4	3	8	0	4	0	0	0	4	
GILL	8	4	1	1	0	2	0	1	0	KELLOCK	0	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	
IVENS	8	4	8	0	2	0	0	0	3	KIRK	7	8	7	0	0	0	0	5	0	
McINTYRE	8	6	5	1	1	0	0	0	2	KIRKBY	4	4	2	0	1	1	1	0	2	
MOORE	6	3	3	1	1	0	0	0	2	LALLY	12	4	5	0	1	0	0	0	1	
RYSWYK	4	2	7	0	0	0	0	0	4	McGINTY	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	4	2	
STEWART	9	6	1	2	3	2	3	0	0	MILLS	7	6	4	1	1	0	0	2	1	
STRIBLING	7	1	9	1	2	0	0	1	5	MURPHY	10	5	10	2	2	0	1	0	4	
THIELE	10	3	3	1	0	0	3	0	1	PANOZZO	11	7	5	0	1	0	0	0	0	
THRING	19	4	7	5	1	1	1	0	3	RUDOLPH	12	6	3	1	0	0	1	0	0	
WHITE	6	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	2	RUWOLDT	18	5	12	2	0	2	2	0	0	
WHYMAN	6	2	6	1	1	1	0	4	4	TENACE	16	4	6	2	1	2	0	0	4	
WRIGHT	8	2	11	1	0	0	0	0	4	TREMBATH	6	5	2	1	1	1	1	0	1	
WUNDKE	3	0	3	0	0	1	1	1	0	WILLOUGHBY	12	3	3	1	5	0	1	0	1	
Totals	169	67	111	25	18	11	12	49	45	Totals	169	84	120	18	25	12	9	39	30	



HOLD ON: Glenelg's Chris Kane is tackled by North's Andrew McIntyre. Picture: Tait Schmaal