Port climbs on crushed Tigers

WARREN PARTLAND

THE Port Adelaide Magpies put their toes through the door to a finals berth after crushing a disappointing Glenelg by 38 points at Brighton Rd yesterday.

The victory, coupled with South Adelaide's loss to North Adelaide, has helped the Magpies to climb into fifth spot on the ladder, a point above the Panthers.

They face Woodville-West Torrens in the final minor round next weekend while the Panthers take on Norwood.

Should the ladder remain intact, the Magpies will meet the Tigers in the elimination final and they would attack that contest confident on the evidence of yesterday's performance.

The workrate and pressure of the Magpies overwhelmed the home side and they had too many guns firing for the Tigers to combat.

In contrast to the effective team-orientated performance from the Magpies, the Tigers relied on individual efforts. If it was not highly promising Ben Kennedy using his pace and elusive skills to try and spark the Tigers, it was strong-marking forward Ruory Kirkby who had the imposing task of lifting the side.

The tone of the encounter was established in the opening quarter when the Magpies, with the strong wind in their faces, held the Tigers to a two-goal lead.

"We weren't happy with the way we played in the first quarter but we were able to restrict their scoring," Magpies coach Tony Bamford said. "After that the players did everything right. That is what I like about this group – they keep having a crack. It has been a long season and they are tired mentally and physically but they keep going."

Bamford wanted more defensive pressure from his forwards and thus the telling move of Matthew Lokan deep in attack.

The committed pressure and desperation from the Magpies rattled the Tigers although both sides were guilty of turnovers and lacklustre football for the first quarter.

It was a matter of which side could find composure and that was the Magpies, who grabbed the game by the neck after quarter-time with Terry Milera, Sam Gray and Luke Slattery among those giving the opposition problems.

The Magpies seemingly had the match in their control in the second half, outworking their opponents and being far more desperate in the scramble for possession. They were first to the ball too often for the Tigers and were constantly able to ignite attacking raids.

Typical of the Tigers' performance, it was some individual work from Alex Grima early in the third term which enabled Glenelg to cut the deficit to just 10 points and give the home fans some hope.

But the response from the Magpies was immediate; Lokan nailing a bomb from outside 50 to quickly restore order for the visitors.

In the final quarter the Magpies, with ruckman Ivan Maric having an influence, consistently grabbed the ball from the contest to put the Glenelg defence under the pump. And it had no answers.

final score

Port v Glenelg Glenelg Oval: 4160

Magpies	2.2	8.5	13.10	18.15	(123)
Tigers	4.5	5.7	8.10	12.13	(85)

BEST PLAYERS: Magpies: T Milera, Slattery, Maric, Summerton, Lokan, Gray, Biacsi. **Tigers:** Kennedy, Kirkby, Neale, B Kane. **GOALS: Magpies:** T Milera 5, Lokan 4, Slattery, Harder 2; Robson, Summerton, Gray, Maric, Biacsi. **Tigers:** Kirk 4, Kirkby 3, Grima, Snook, Neale, Murdoch, Kennedy. **INJURIES/REPORTS: Magpies:** Nil. **Tigers:** Nil. **UMPIRES:** Williams, Thompson, Crosby.

GLENELG

	Kicks	Mks	Hbl	F/for	F/ag	Gls	Pts	H/O	Tkl
AGNEW	6	1	4	1	1	0	0	0	3
BRADLEY	5	2	6	2	2	0	0	0	4
CLAYFIELD	2	1	6	0	2	0	0	0	2
CORNES	19	4	11	0	0	0	3	1	4
CRANSTON	1	0	8	0	2	0	0	23	5
CURRAN	6	3	12	1	1	0	0	0	3
GRIMA	11	3	4	0	3	1	2	0	2
HENDER	7	4	0	1	1	0	2	0	3
KANE	12	2	7	2	2	0	2	0	4
KENNEDY	16	7	11	0	0	1	0	0	0
KIRK	6	3	3	3	1	4	0	7	1
KIRKBY	9	7	4	0	0	3	1	1	1
McMAHON	8	2	10	0	1	0	1	0	1
MULES	6	3	10	1	2	0	0	6	6
MURDOCH	4	3	5	0	1	1	0	0	1
NEALE	14	3	6	0	0	1	0	0	1
SELLAR	7	5	3	1	1	0	0	1	0
SHAW	5	3	8	0	1	0	0	0	0
SNOOK	4	0	6	1	0	1	0	0	8
TENACE	4	1	5	0	0	0	0	0	4
TREMBATH	4	0	4	0	1	0	0	0	1
Totals	156	57	133	13	24	12	13	39	54

PORT

	Kicks	Mks	Hbl	F/for	F/ag	Gls	Pts	H/O	Tkl
BEARD	8	5	4	0	2	0	0	0	3
BIACSI	10	4	8	0	0	1	0	0	4
CLAYTON	6	4	11	1	0	0	0	0	5
DOLLING	10	3	7	1	0	0	1	0	2
GRAY	12	4	5	0	0	1	0	0	0
HARDER	10	2	6	1	2	2	0	0	1
HOSKIN	8	1	2	3	2	0	1	0	1
KIRKWOOD	18	6	3	3	0	0	0	0	1
KULIKOWSKI	8	3	6	1	0	0	1	0	1
LEES	7	4	4	3	0	0	0	0	5
LOKAN	10	6	3	1	1	4	2	0	3
MADDEN	7	4	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
MARIC	11	7	7	1	0	1	0	26	1
MEIKLEJOHN	3	1	5	0	2	0	0	12	2
MILERA	12	7	6	2	0	5	3	2	1
ROBSON	6	5	5	1	1	1	2	17	3
ROSE	6	2	4	3	1	0	0	0	3
SLATTERY	15	7	5	1	1	2	0	0	3
SUMMERTON	17	4	5	1	0	1	1	0	3
THURGOOD	10	5	4	1	0	0	0	0	1
YOUNG	6	2	1	0	1	0	1	0	7
Totals	200	86	104	24	13	18	15	57	53

Lowdown: Port's Justin Hoskin is tackled by Andrew Bradley (left) and Matthew Snook. **Picture:** Calum Robertson

SANFL ladder ROUND 22

Team	P	W	L	d	for	agst	Str	pts	%
Central	19	16	3	0	1899	1424	W4	32	57.15
Norwood	19	14	5	0	1706	1338	L1	28	56.04
Eagles	19	12	7	0	1578	1305	W3	24	54.73
Glenelg	20	9	10	1	1739	2008	L1	19	46.41
Port Magpies	19	8	11	0	1596	1614	W1	16	49.72
South	19	8	10	1	1514	1806	L3	15	45.60
North	19	7	12	0	1784	1777	W1	14	50.10
West	19	7	12	0	1436	1623	L2	14	46.94
Sturt**	19	5	14	0	1525	1882	W1	10	44.76

*YET TO PLAY THIS ROUND **BYE

SANFL RESERVES

GLENELG 8.4 17.10 19.11 24.15 (157)
PORT 4.4 6.4 13.10 15.14 (104)
BEST - Glenelg: S. Snook, Lyons, Ruwoldt, Carger, C. Kane, Earl. **Port:** Lindsay, Watt, Carey, Thamm, Scanlon, Shannon.
GOALS - Glenelg: Armfield 5, Ruwoldt, Lally, S. Snook 3, McIntyre, Carger, Lyons, Panozzo, Scott-Collings, Bennett, Douglas. **Port:** Erskine 4, Heffernan, Carr, Watt 2, Thamm, Tonkes, Eckerman, Grove, Solly.

STANDINGS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Glenelg	20	15	-	5	2038	1489	30
Port	19	12	-	7	1929	1427	24
Norwood	19	12	-	7	1699	1370	24
Sturt*	19	12	-	7	1516	1553	24
Central	19	9	1	9	1606	1522	19
North	19	9	-	10	1763	1727	18
West	19	7	-	12	1266	1676	14
Eagles	19	5	1	13	1221	1836	11
South	19	4	-	15	1412	1850	8

* Bye

UNDER 18

GLENELG 20.16 (136) **d Port** 12.6 (78).
BEST - Glenelg: S Underwood, J McMahon, S. O'Shaughnessy, T McIntyre, J Newton, W. Hancock. **Port Adelaide:** T Derham, J Graetz, D Gordon, S Inglis, T Keeley, G Shephard.
GOALS - Glenelg: W Hancock, G Turner 4, T McIntyre, C Francis 3, B Laurie, J Weir 2, M Scharenberg, J Wilson. **Port Adelaide:** T Keeley 5, H Tiller 3, G Shephard, J Johansen, A Wilson, D Gordon.

STANDINGS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Glenelg	20	15	-	5	2182	1684	30
Port	19	14	-	5	2056	1345	28
Norwood	18	12	1	6	1716	1123	25
Sturt*	19	12	-	7	1895	1371	24
North**	18	9	1	8	1660	1671	19
Eagles	19	9	-	10	1647	1526	18
West	19	4	3	12	1227	1826	11
Central	19	5	-	14	1379	1893	10
South**	18	2	1	15	877	2200	5

* Bye
** Late game

final score

North v South Prospect Oval: 2333

Roosters	2.5	7.9	9.9	13.11	(89)
Panthers	2.5	6.5	11.7	12.8	(80)

BEST PLAYERS: Roosters: Backwell, Ryswyk, Allan, Ivens, Gallman, G Thring, Alleway. **Panthers:** Cross, Murphy, Liddle, Stribling, cockshell, Gotch, Crabb. **GOALS: Roosters:** Boras 3, Allan, Bennett, Ryswyk 2; Thiele, Amato, Stewart, Mayse. **Panthers:** Wundke 3, Carey, MacLeod 2; Brown, Ainger, Bass, Sandery, Liddle. **INJURIES/REPORTS: Roosters:** Backwell (forceful contact). **Panthers:** Stribling (tripping). **UMPIRES:** Avon, Fila, Schramm.

final score

Central v Norwood Elizabeth Oval: 4892

Bulldogs	1.2	5.9	9.13	16.14	(110)
Redlegs	3.3	4.5	7.6	9.7	(61)

BEST PLAYERS: Bulldogs: Thomas, Williams, Jenner, Barmby, O'Hara, O'Sullivan, Boyd, Hynes. **Redlegs:** Suckling, webber, Zorzi, McGuinness. **GOALS: Bulldogs:** Hynes 4, Williams, Dunne 3; Habel 2, O'Sullivan, Sansbury, Thomas, Molyneux. **Redlegs:** Davis 3, Shenton, Langford 2; Grigg, Suckling. **INJURIES/REPORTS: Bulldogs:** Thomas (sling tackle). **Redlegs:** Nil. **UMPIRES:** Dey, Fleer, Deboy.

final score

Eagles v West Woodville Oval: 2279

Eagles	3.6	9.8	13.9	19.12	(126)
Bloods	1.1	4.3	5.5	8.7	(55)

BEST PLAYERS: Eagles: Parry, Cicolella, Powell, Rowntree, Lewis, Treeby, Tiller. **Bloods:** Birss, Green, Ferguson, Pettigrew. **GOALS: Eagles:** Tiller 4, Lane, Treeby, Hall, Allmond, Lewis, Cicolella 2; Jarrad, Rowntree, Staple. **Bloods:** Pettigrew 2, Davenport, Willits, Fisher, Webb, Ferguson, Hornburg. **INJURIES/REPORTS: Eagles:** Nil. **Bloods:** Nil. **UMPIRES:** Rowston, Oates, Haussen.

'I've nothing to prove'

Defiant Kane vows to play on – if only for the Bays

JESPER FJELDSTAD

FORGOTTEN champion Kane Cornes yesterday helped himself to a game-high 30 disposals for Glenelg as debate over his future was raging around him.

It was the third time in succession he had team-high counts for the Tigers after being discarded to the twos by Power coach Matthew Primus – and he did it in spite of heavy attention from the opposition and taunts from the terraces.

As the stand-off between Cornes and Primus is beginning to mirror the fate that befell brother and fellow All-Australian Chad before he was shown the door by Primus, Cornes now finds himself at the end of the first year of a three-year contract with no assurances of finding a regular spot with the Power.

It has been a trying time for Cornes, who has a list of achievements longer than his arm: a premiership, two All-Australian gongs, three best and fairests – the last of which came last year – and seven consecutive top-three finishes in the John Cahill medal.

But he was pragmatic as he left the suburban ground at Glenelg yesterday.

"It's certainly been a frustrating time," he told the *Sunday Mail*. "But I'm not the first player who's felt hard done by.

"I've seen Chad go through the same thing.

"I'll just keep doing my best, whoever I play for, and that means I can sleep at night."

Cornes offered a half-smile when it was suggested he had to prove Primus wrong, and you could almost hear his reasoning.

As commentators are now wondering whether it was the right thing to offer Cornes a three-year deal at the end of last year, there is an opposite view.

It goes: would it not also be the expected thing to do when Cornes, then 27, had earned that contract?

"I don't think I have to prove anything to anyone," Cornes said. "Hopefully, I can get a game but if not, I'll play for Glenelg with a smile on my face and hopefully I can play in a premiership."

Cornes's 19 kicks and 11 handballs yesterday followed contributions of 29 and 40 in the previous two weeks and although he made some mistakes, he was impossible to miss and had an extra gear around the stoppages. He was also one of several Glenelg players who refused to stop when the game had been lost to the Port Adelaide Magpies.

The question being asked by supporters and talkback radio is what will happen from here.

Cornes has already made it clear that he is not interested in being traded (other than to the Crows, who don't appear interested), having put his roots down in Adelaide with his family.

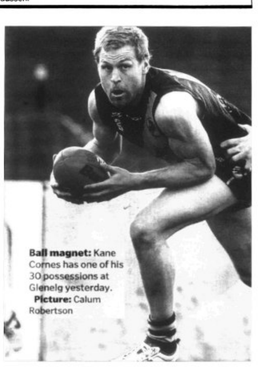
Trades will be discussed by Port during trade week, but ultimately, it will have to come back to Cornes and he will have to agree.

The best scenario for club and Cornes is that they find a regular role for him again and find a way to appreciate him the way they did to have him considered the club's most consistent contributor since the landmark premiership in 2004.

But it seems some work has to be done for that to happen, with Primus last week saying Cornes had to evolve with an ever-evolving game.

Like Chad this year, he will have to scrap to become a first-choice player again.

The third scenario, which will hurt both club and Cornes but is growing as a prospect, is that the two parties agree on a settlement – which will not necessarily be the full amount owed from his two remaining years – which releases Cornes immediately as he announces his retirement.



Ball magnet: Kane Cornes has one of his 30 possessions at Glenelg yesterday. **Picture:** Calum Robertson

Does Kane Cornes deserve to play for the Power next year?
adelaidenow.com.au

Cornes was yesterday prepared to close his season, having endured Port Adelaide's worst year in the AFL and not being qualified to play in the SANFL finals for Glenelg.

He had needed to play five games for the Bays to be eligible for the major round, but was stranded on four.

But late last night the club was looking at a way for Cornes to qualify, despite Glenelg having a bye in the final round, and said it would seek advice over whether Cornes could qualify by playing reserves for the lowest played side – where during the season players from other clubs are allowed to gain match practice.

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