



REECE HOMFRAY



GLENELG will reluctantly farewell matchwinning young forward Ben Kennedy until July as he turns his attention to the under-18 national championships.

Kennedy lit up Adelaide Oval with four goals and a best-on-ground performance against Sturt on Friday night but that's all the Tigers will see of him for the next six weeks.

The 17-year-old has been dubbed the most exciting youngster to emerge at Brighton Rd in years and has played all eight league games this season.

"I was told at the start of the year that there was a league spot available to a player like myself but I didn't expect this," Kennedy said. "It was pretty intimidating at the start but I got used to it pretty quickly.

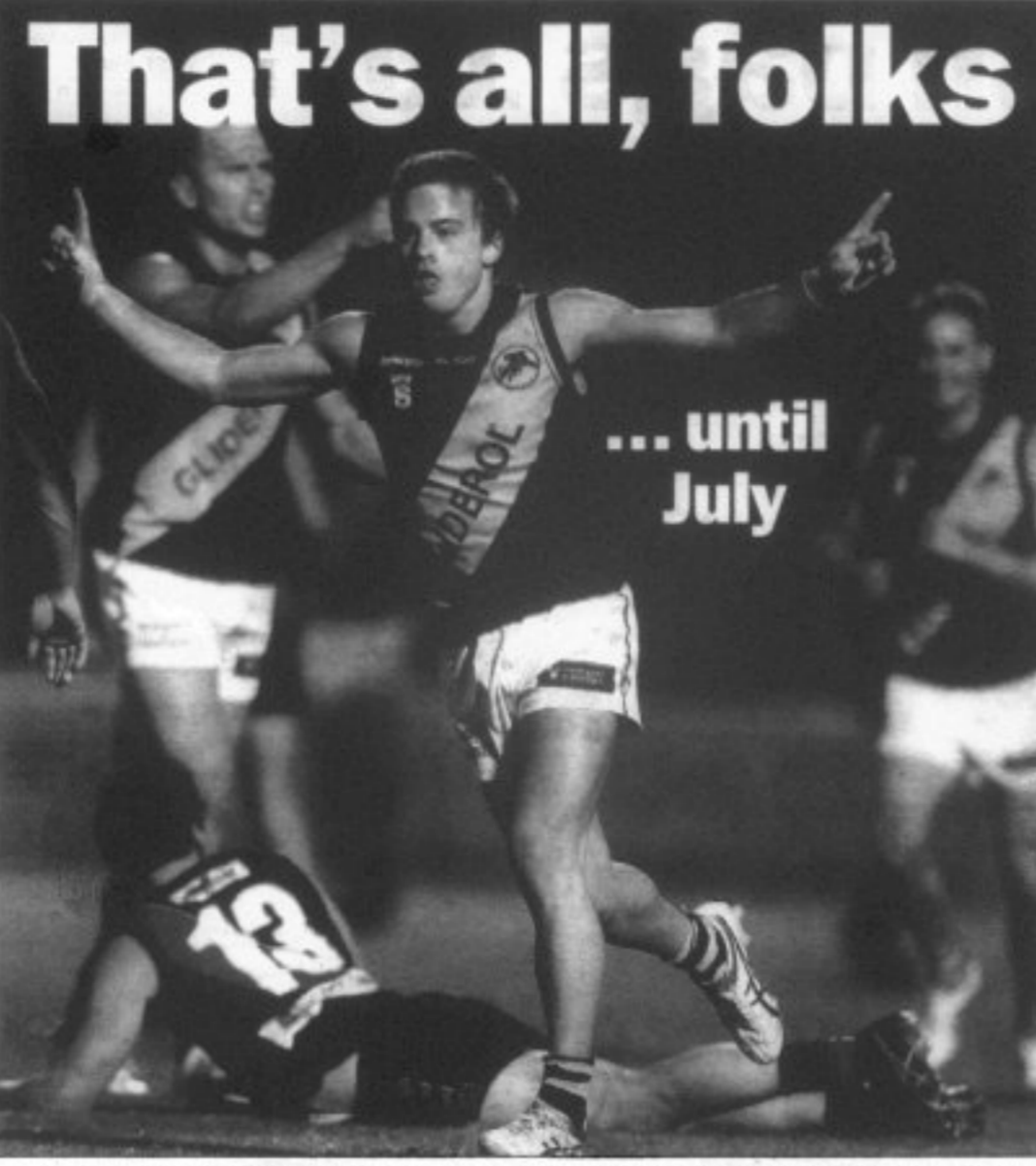
"I've just played as a defensive forward, trying to tackle and keep the ball inside 50 with a high workrate."

Kennedy doesn't turn 18 until next March so isn't eligible for this year's AFL national draft.

But he can be pre-listed by Greater Western Sydney and traded to a willing club.

The Sacred Heart College Year 12 student said he was enjoying playing footy without any pressure of the draft on his shoulders.

Glenelg isn't the only club to lose a young star to the under-18 championships, with South Adelaide's Emmanuel Irra and Sturt's Chad Wingard joining Kennedy in taking on the nation's best young talent from



LIGHTING UP: Glenelg young gun Ben Kennedy celebrates kicking a goal against West Adelaide at City Mazda Stadium. Picture: SIMON CROSS

June 4. Glenelg football manager Ken Applegarth said Kennedy had "really excited the place" this season.

"I've loved his energy and power, he's got good pace and can kick a long ball," Applegarth said. "He's provided something we haven't had for a while - a really good small forward who can also go into the midfield.

"It just confirms to me that you've got to believe in kids and let them play.

"It creates so much energy and you can't underestimate what that does for the senior players as well."

BIG PLANS

BEN KENNEDY'S SCHEDULE

State under-18s TRAINING today, Wednesday and Friday. TRIAL game against Sturt at Unley Oval on Saturday, 12.30pm. FIRST game of national championships against Queensland at Blacktown Oval on June 4.

The Advertiser www.adelaidenow.com.au Monday, May 23, 2011

Bays batter battle-scarred Blues

WARREN PARTLAND

GLENELG responded to a barrage of criticism with a convincing 57-point victory over a disappointing Sturt at Adelaide Oval last night.

The Tigers overcame a lacklustre opening quarter to bounce back from a poor effort against West Adelaide and grab their fourth win from seven games.

Sturt, which played most of the last quarter with just 17 fit men, has lost its past three matches and again struggled without injured captain Jade Sheedy.

The Tigers claimed the ascendancy late in the second quarter when they bagged five unanswered goals to break the game apart and claim a commanding 27-point advantage at half-time.

Debutant Lewis Hender nailed his third goal 19 minutes into the second quarter and when fellow youngsters Ben Kennedy, Darcy Armfield and Shannon Snook kicked truly the Tigers were in control. Their efforts rewarded team-mates at the stoppages who constantly retrieved possession and bombed the ball into attack to put the fragile Sturt defence under pressure.

The Tigers' dominant 15 minutes to end the second quarter belied most of the first half when both

SCOREBOARD

Table with 6 columns: Team, G1, G2, G3, G4, Total. Rows for GLENELG and STURT.

BEST - Glenelg: Kennedy, A. Grima, Mules, Lally, Cranston, McMahon. Sturt: Cubillo, Martin, McLeay, C. Evans. SCORERS - Glenelg: A. Grima 5.1, Kennedy 4.1, Lally, Hender 3.1, Armfield 3.0, Hitchcock 2.1, Kirkby 1.2, Snook 1.1, Panozzo, Cranston, Allen 1.0, B. Kane, Agnew, McGinty, Ruwoldt 0.1, rushed 0.2. Sturt: Duldig 4.0, McIntyre 2.2, Norsworthy, Kurtze 2.1, Hurley 2.0, Martin, Hinge 1.2, Johncock 1.1, C. Evans 1.0, Gum, Plant 0.1. INJURIES - Sturt: Thomson (foot), Stokes (knee), Kurtze (thigh), Hurley (hamstring), Sheedy (shoulder), withdrawn from selected squad. UMPIRES - M. Avon, C. Bowen, L. Haussen.

sides were guilty of clumsy turn-overs and too many passages of ordinary football. And many mistakes were under no pressure.

The momentum swung between the two sides in the first term.

Matthew Duldig had three goals in the opening 17 minutes to give the Double Blues a 13-point buffer before the Tigers reclaimed the frontrunning.

Sturt led by seven points midway through the second quarter before Glenelg took over with its domination of the stoppages.

Any chance of a Sturt comeback was snuffed out early in the third quarter when Glenelg kicked the opening three goals of the second

half to blast 47 points clear.

The Tigers found more system with their movement and challenged the Double Blues - smashed at the stoppages - with superior ball control and a desire to support team-mates and create opportunities.

Glenelg kicked 8.6 without response to take charge.

RESERVES

GLENELG 3.3.5.4.10.7 15.7 (97) STURT 3.2.7.6 7.6 9.9 (63) BEST - Glenelg: Not supplied. Sturt: Hegarty, Jones, Calabrese, Altmann, Twopenny, Wundke. GOALS - Glenelg: Not supplied. Sturt: Hegarty 2, Pinyon, Harms, McDonald, Calabrese, Giles, Twopenny, Myles.

Adelaide Oval

STURT

GLENELG

Large table comparing player statistics for Sturt and Glenelg, including Kicks, Mks, Hbl, F/for, F/ag, Gls, Pts, H/O, Tkl.

The Advertiser www.adelaidenow.com.au Saturday, May 21, 2011

FRIDAY

Table with 6 columns: Team, G1, G2, G3, G4, Total. Rows for GLENELG, STURT, NORWOOD, PORT. Includes BEST, SCORERS, INJURIES, UMPIRES, and CROWD info.

SATURDAY

Table with 6 columns: Team, G1, G2, G3, G4, Total. Rows for EAGLES, WEST, CENTRAL, SOUTH. Includes BEST, SCORERS, INJURIES, UMPIRES, and CROWD info. Also includes ROUND 9 - Friday and Saturday summaries.

PREMIERSHIP TABLE

Table with 8 columns: Team, P, W, L, D, F, A, Pct, Pts. Rows for Central, West, Eagles, Norwood, Glenelg, South, Sturt, Port, North.

LEADING GOALKICKERS

Table with 4 columns: Player, Team, Rd8, Total. Rows for M. Duldig, D. Havelberg, N. Gill, C. Alleyway, M. Wundke, J. Butcher.

RESERVES

Port 19.10 (124) d Norwood 10.10 (70), Glenelg 15.7 (97) d Sturt 9.9 (63), West 14.9 (93) d Eagles 10.5 (65), Central 15.12 (102) d South 7.4 (46). Ladder: Glenelg 14, Port Adelaide 10, Central District, North Adelaide, Sturt 8, Norwood, West Adelaide 6, Eagles 4, South 0.

UNDER-18

West 12.8 (80) d Eagles 9.6 (60), Port 6.8 (44) d Norwood 4.9 (33), Glenelg 17.19 (121) d Sturt 14.12 (96), Central 24.13 (157) d South 7.4 (46). Ladder: Glenelg 12, Port Adelaide 10, Eagles, North Adelaide 8, Central District 6, Norwood, West Adelaide 4, South Adelaide 2.

SANFL PLAYER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Table with 2 columns: Player, Points. Rows for Ben Kennedy, Alex Grima, Ben Mules, Bryce Campbell, Mat Suckling, Taylor Walker, Scott Lewis, Steve Morris, Luke Powell, Brad Symes, Josh Thewlis, Edward Sansbury. Includes Leaders list.