

'Mindset' cops blame for hot-and-cold Roosters

WARREN PARTLAND

THERE is arguably no more frustrating team in the SANFL than North Adelaide.

The Roosters used yesterday's 42-point win over Glenelg at Prospect to fully display their inconsistency and show why the jury is still undecided on their premiership chances.

Highly impressive in the first quarter when they smashed the Tigers, the Roosters had the two crucial premiership points all but in their keeping when they led by 44 points at the first change. But after a seven-goal haul for the opening term, they revealed their ugly side to kick just two in the second before going goal-less in the third when their skills, decision making and work ethic were questionable against a spirited opponent.

"It is all about mindset," Roosters coach Ken McGregor said. "Maybe if we did not lead by seven goals at quarter-time the attitude would have been different in the next two quarters. But credit to Glenelg. They have a young midfield who stuck at it and they kept fighting. There are plenty of positives to come out of the game for us, especially from that first quarter."

It took just 20 seconds for the Roosters to make a statement on the contest. Ruckman James Craig blasted a kick

from the opening bounce and Alan Obst marked and goaled to set the home side alight. The Roosters' pressure was relentless, the defence led by Michael Clinch and Todd Miles was on top and players swarmed forward in numbers with fluent run and carry.

Glenelg was under siege and when a Tiger grabbed possession he was attacked from all angles by a desperate opposition. It took the visitors 21 minutes before they had a shot at goal - former Rooster Clint Alleway kicking a behind after a strong mark.

The Roosters had 23 more possessions for the first quarter, 16 more marks and importantly seven more tackles. Whatever Tigers coach Nick Stevens said to his charges at quarter-time had the desired impact as his side lifted the intensity around the ball and found many more players willing to get their hands dirty and fight for the cause.

The Tigers' pressure lifted another cog in the third quarter and their tackling and smothering created uncertainty among the Roosters. Craig Pitt, Andrew Bradley and Hayden Jolly had an influence for the Tigers as they took the challenge to North but the damage had been done in the first term.

"The first quarter was inexcusable - you have got to come



KICKING ON: North Adelaide's Tood Miles puts his boot into it despite Tiger Clint Alleway's desperate attempt to smother.

Picture: TOM HUNTLEY

SANFL LADDER

	P	W	L	For	Agst	Stk	%	Pts
Port Adelaide	14	11	3	1523	1016	W1	59.98	22
Sturt	14	9	5	1218	967	L1	55.74	18
Eagles	14	9	5	1209	1149	L1	51.27	18
Norwood	14	8	6	1025	901	W1	53.22	16
South Adelaide	14	7	7	1221	1089	L2	52.86	14
North Adelaide	14	7	7	1227	1243	W2	49.68	14
West Adelaide	14	6	8	964	1090	W1	46.93	12
Central District	14	6	8	941	1076	W2	46.65	12
Adelaide	14	5	9	1113	1241	L1	47.28	10
Glenelg	14	2	12	846	1527	L6	35.65	4

	NORWOOD SOUTH ADELAIDE	8.0	8.2	9.5	10.7	67	
		0.4	2.7	3.9	7.12	54	

INJURIES Kirwan (Norwood).
VENUE Norwood Oval.

	CENTRAL DISTRICT EAGLES	4.1	7.2	9.5	10.8	68	
		0.1	2.1	6.3	7.5	47	

INJURIES Mabon (Central).
CROWD 2130 at Elizabeth Oval.

	WEST ADELAIDE STURT	4.3	6.8	7.8	9.9	63	
		1.2	4.3	7.7	8.11	59	

INJURIES Nil.
VENUE Richmond Oval.

	NORTH ADELAIDE GLENELG	7.3	9.3	9.7	12.8	80	
		0.1	2.4	4.7	5.8	38	

INJURIES Nil.
CROWD 2374 at Prospect Oval.

	PORT ADELAIDE ADELAIDE	3.5	6.10	12.13	15.16	106	
		1.2	4.5	5.8	7.12	54	

INJURIES Johansen (Port Adelaide), Hartigan (Adelaide).
CROWD 6196 at Alberton Oval.

	NORTH	7.3	9.3	9.7	12.8	80
	GLENELG	0.1	2.4	4.7	5.8	38

BEST
North: Clinch, Ryswyk, Miles, Kulikowski, Williams, Thiele.
Glenelg: McCarthy, Pitt, Bradley, Agnew, Jolly, Neal-Bullen.

GOALS
North: Williams 4, Ryswyk 3, Schulz, Thiele 2, Obst.
Glenelg: Alleway, McFarlane, McIntyre, Bailey, Hancock.

UMPIRES
Ralston, Haussen, Lowe.

CROWD
2374 at Prospect Oval.

with an appetite to play," Stevens said. "But after that there were patches when we looked dangerous and showed the game plan and what we are trying to do is working - we just can't sustain it for long enough."

	PORT ADELAIDE	3.5	6.10	12.13	15.16	106
	ADELAIDE	1.2	4.5	5.8	7.12	54

BEST
Port Adelaide: Moore, Summerton, Mitchell, Neade, Slattery, Clurey.
Adelaide: Rutten, Porplyzia, Ellis-Yolmen, Crouch, Petrenko, Battersby.

GOALS
Port Adelaide: Moore, Neade 3, Shaw, Krakouer 2, Amon, Slattery, Harvey, Johansen, Mitchell.

Adelaide: Porplyzia 3, Ellis-Yolmen, Burns, Petrenko, Callinan.

INJURIES
Port: Johansen (soreness).
Adelaide: Hartigan (back).

UMPIRES
Fleer, Crosby, Glouftsis.

CROWD
6197 at Alberton Oval.