

Midfield grunt drives South home

IGA SANFL ROUND 10

	PORT ADELAIDE	2.1	7.4	10.7	13.9	87	
	WEST ADELAIDE	3.1	3.3	4.4	5.7	37	

BEST Port: Sharrad, Summerton, Ah Chee, Moore, Mitchell, Logan, Butcher. **West:** Hartlett, Stevens, Helbig, Schmidt. **GOALS Port:** Neade, Moore, Wagner 2; Summerton, Mitchell, Butcher, Harvey, Howard, Palmer, Krakouer. **West:** Hardy, Fielke, Homburg, Middleton. **CROWD** 2159 at Richmond Oval.

	SOUTH ADELAIDE	4.0	6.1	10.2	13.5	83	
	GLENELG	2.1	4.4	6.4	9.9	63	

BEST South: Cross, Liddle, Murphy, Macleod, Gotch, Daniel, Kerin. **Glenelg:** Bradley, Milera, Agnew, Howard, Curran, Pitt, Earl. **GOALS South:** Haren, Rankine, Gotch 2; Murphy, Seccull, Dale, Eddy, Kerin, Liddle, Gulden. **Glenelg:** Milera 5, Alleway, Howard, Pitt, Merrett. **INJURIES Glenelg:** Pitt (knee). **UMPIRES** R. Hundertmark, G. Lewis, T. Medlin. **CROWD** 1862 at Noarlunga Oval.

	NORWOOD	7.0	10.1	11.2	12.7	79	
	STURT	2.0	5.5	6.8	8.9	57	

BEST Norwood Suckling, Panos, Allan, Webber, Georgiou, Ferreira. **Sturt** Kirkwood, Kurtze, F. Evans, Watt, Bruggemann, Allen. **GOALS Norwood** Ferreira 3, Phillips, Dawe 2, Panos, Chippendale, Baulderstone, Suckling, Davis. **Sturt** Bruggemann, M. Evans 2, Hansen, Beard, Kurtze, Coad. **UMPIRES** Haussen, Crosby, Bowen. **CROWD** 3995 at Peter Motley Oval.

PREMIERSHIP TABLE

	P	W	D	L	For	Agst	Stk	Chg	%	Pts
Norwood	10	9	0	1	745	624	7W	-	54.42	18
Eagles	8	7	0	1	661	416	7W	-	61.37	14
Port Adelaide	9	7	0	2	755	582	5W	U1	56.47	14
West Adelaide	9	6	0	3	824	646	2L	D1	56.05	12
South Adelaide	10	5	1	4	659	678	1W	-	49.29	11
Sturt	10	4	0	6	810	819	3L	-	49.72	8
Central District	8	2	1	5	548	633	1L	-	46.40	5
Adelaide	8	1	0	6	625	719	1W	-	46.50	3
Glenelg	10	1	1	8	713	949	1L	-	42.90	3
North Adelaide	8	0	1	7	514	788	7L	-	39.48	2

REECE HOMFRAY

SOUTH Adelaide had to call on its trademark midfield grunt to snap a three-game losing streak by holding off a resilient Glenelg by 20 points at home yesterday.

The win keeps the Panthers in the top five going into the week off and may be the spark last year's preliminary finalist has been looking for all season after its indifferent form.

Glenelg threw everything it had at the home side but the Panthers answered every challenge, led by their brilliant midfielders who all racked up big disposal numbers — Nick Liddle (31), Nick Murphy (28), Xavier Gotch (28), Joel Cross (22) and Brede Seccull (21). "It was a fierce battle, they (Glenelg) like it that way and we're normally not too bad at that sort of stuff and in the end the clearances were pretty similar (36-35)," South coach Brad Gotch said.

"We were pleased with a few of our patterns today, we transitioned out of defence and actually scored a few times which we haven't been doing.

"We always show a fair bit of character, it just wasn't an easy day but I thought we got that break that we needed in the last quarter.

"To their credit they kept coming as well. They've got some quality there."

Glenelg coach Matthew

Lokan praised his side's field kicking and said he could not question its endeavour.

"In patches we played some of the best footy we have all year," Lokan said.

"They (South) are a quality side, they're hard to play out here and I thought it was pretty even for most of the day.

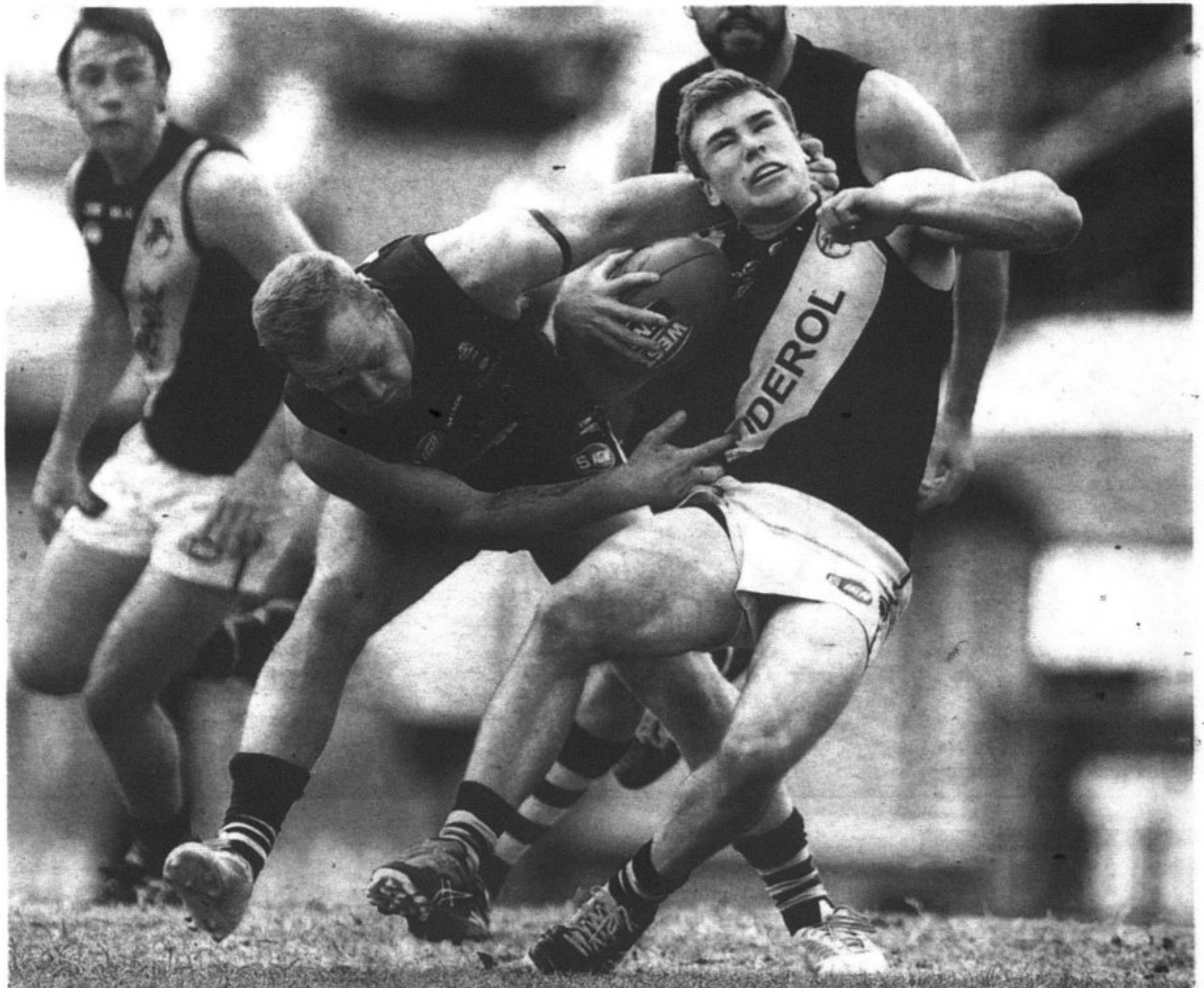
"We executed some of the things we've been trying to execute ... but unfortunately we couldn't sustain it for four quarters and they were able to kick two or three goals in patches which obviously hurts us."

The Tigers had a few wins like Terry Milera's five-goal haul and Bradley Agnew's job on stopping South forward Brett Eddy, while Craig Pitt did all the tough things you've come to expect from the vice-captain before missing the final quarter with a knee injury. Pleasing for Gotch was that South Adelaide side spread the load in the forward line with 10 goalkickers.

They got the first three goals through Matthew Rankine and Ben Haren, mainly due to the midfield's quick hands around the stoppages.

Liddle, Cross and Murphy flicked the footy around and when they got out, their forwards had a paddock of space to work into.

However, Milera did produce one for the highlights reel with four bounces and a goal in the third term.



HIGH CONTACT: South Adelaide's Brent McLeod tackles Glenelg's Andrew Bradley yesterday.

Picture: TOM HUNTLEY