

Battling Bays come from nowhere to almost snatch it

IGA SANFL ROUND 8

WEST ADELAIDE	0.2	1.5	2.8	7.11	53
SOUTH ADELAIDE	1.2	3.2	6.7	7.10	52

BEST West Calre, Schmidt, Silverlock, Wasley-Black, Ezard, Stevens. **South** Crabb, Cross, Liddle, Redigolo, Rolfe. **GOALS West** Calre, Fielke, Silverlock, Porphyzia, Hill, Ezard, Beech. **South** Eddy 3, Macleod, Rolfe 2. **UMPIRES** Bowen, Cook, Bau. **CROWD** 1877 at City Mazda Stadium.

NORWOOD	0.5	3.10	8.15	9.16	70
NORTH ADELAIDE	3.2	5.3	7.3	10.4	64

BEST Norwood Panos, Murphy, Webber, Baulderstone, Suckling, Roocke, Jefferies. **North** Virgin, Clisby, Miles, G. Thring, Caldwell, Obst. **GOALS Norwood** Murphy 3, Panos 2, Persinos, Allan, Roocke, Jefferies. **North** Obst 3, McMahon, Spina, Virgin 2, Amato. **INJURIES North** Wanganeen (ankle). **UMPIRES** Hundertmark, Medlin, Haussen. **CROWD** 2635 at Prospect Oval.

CENTRAL DISTRICT ADELAIDE	2.3	7.6	8.7	11.7	73
ADELAIDE	1.2	3.2	4.4	8.5	53

BEST Central Barmby, T. Schiller, Jansen, Habel, Stephenson, Thomas, Collier. **Adelaide** Shaw, Hartigan, Podsiadly, Callinan, Atkins. **GOALS Central** Gillbee 3, Retzlaff 2, Edmead, Potter, Jenner, Goodrem, Thomas, T. Schiller. **Adelaide** Castree 3, Ramsey 2, Podsiadly, Osborn, McGovern. **UMPIRES** Burke, Sobieraj, Fleer. **CROWD** 1873 at Playford Alive Oval.

PORT ADELAIDE GLENELG	4.3	10.4	11.5	13.5	83
GLENELG	0.0	3.3	6.7	11.9	75

BEST Port Mitchell, A. Young, Harvey, Moore, Summerton, Palmer, Logan. **Glenelg** Lonergan, Johansen, Snook, Bradley, Scott, Alleyway, Woolard. **GOALS Port** Harvey, Neade 3, A. Young, Palmer, Wagner 2, Sawford. **Glenelg** Alleyway 3, Bailey, Hinge 2, Snook, Johansen, Scott, Earl. **UMPIRES** Lally, Philp, Hosking. **CROWD** 1819 at Alberton Oval.

EAGLES STURT	1.1	4.4	6.7	6.7	43
STURT	0.2	0.3	2.4	3.8	26

BEST Eagles Petrenko, Jarrad, Goldsworthy, Wundke, Thompson, Lewis. **Sturt** Kirkwood, Battersby, Beard, Jonas, Page. **GOALS Eagles** Wundke 4, Rowntree, Ainger. **Sturt** Hansen, Hone, Harms. **UMPIRES** Sboro, Crosby, Schramm. **CROWD** 2832 at Maughan Thiem Hyundai Oval.

SANFL LADDER

	P	W	D	L	For	Agst	Stk	%	Pts
Norwood	8	7	-	1	591	498	5W	54.27	14
Eagles	7	6	-	1	598	382	6W	61.02	12
West Adelaide	7	6	-	1	718	484	4W	59.73	12
Port Adelaide	7	5	-	2	583	468	3W	55.47	10
South Adelaide	8	4	1	3	542	552	2L	49.54	9
Sturt	8	4	-	4	662	600	1L	52.46	8
Central District	7	2	1	4	471	548	1W	46.22	5
North Adelaide	7	1	-	6	455	694	6L	39.60	2
Adelaide	7	-	1	6	485	628	4L	43.58	1
Glenelg	8	-	1	7	556	807	4L	40.79	1

ANDREW CAPEL

PORT Adelaide survived a late scare from winless Glenelg to stay in touch with the top three at Alberton Oval yesterday.

Port kicked the opening 6.3 to race to a 39-point lead five minutes into the second quarter, evoking memories of last year's record 152-point demolition of the Tigers at the same venue. But that proved to be anything but the case as the Magpies were forced to dig deep just to win the two premiership points after a strong second half fightback from the Bays, who were coming off a 112-point loss to West Adelaide.

Glenelg, which trailed by 43 points at half-time, kicked 8.6 to 3.1 in the second half and gave itself a chance to win when it drew to within nine points with four minutes to play. Former Magpie Jake Johansen had the opportunity to cut the margin to less than a goal with 75 seconds left but his close-range snap shot slammed into the goalpost.

Port was then able to close out the game and cement its spot in the top five but its eight-point win did not come without an almighty fright.

"It wasn't the way we planned it in the second half," Port coach Garry Hocking said, demanding a more ruthless ap-



DESPERATE: Tiger Joshua Scott dives for the ball in front of Louis Sharrad. Picture: MARK BRAKE

proach from his players but praising Glenelg for its fightback.

"To just fall over the line wasn't great but maybe the boys just felt the job was already done.

"We obviously started really well, got well ahead and then fell away a bit. It's hard to put it down to anything but probably just a young group being inconsistent with performance and being unable to kill off a game."

At half-time Port was so dominant it held a 48-disposal advantage and led the inside 50 count 27-14.

But Glenelg turned things around so dramatically it finished with 24 more disposals and just five fewer inside 50s. If it had not butchered opportunities in front of goal in the third term it might have pulled off a miraculous comeback.

"The first half wasn't the

style of play we've been working towards but to our boys' credit they fought back well and to be able to compete with a side like Port was a positive," Tigers coach Matthew Lokan said. "We certainly don't accept losing but there were some positives and we believe we are heading in the right direction."

Port's experienced midfielders Kane Mitchell, Aaron Young and Andrew Moore were chiefly responsible for the home side's early dominance while key forward Mitch Harvey (three goals, seven marks) controlled the airways.

Glenelg's on-ballers wrestled back some control after half-time with Sam Lonergan and Matthew Snook combining for 14 clearances while Johansen played his best game for the Tigers since crossing from Port and regular forward Josh Scott showed good signs as a key backman.

ROUND NINE DRAW

Saturday: Central District v Port Adelaide (Playford Alive Oval, 2.10pm). **Sunday:** Norwood v West Adelaide (Coopers Stadium, 2.10pm), Sturt v Adelaide (Peter Motley Oval, 2.10pm). **Monday:** Glenelg v North Adelaide (Gliderol Stadium, 2.10pm), South Adelaide v Eagles (Hickinbotham Oval, 2.10pm).