

Glenelg's late rise crushes Roosters

ROB GREENWOOD

GLENELG will head into this week's bye firmly entrenched in the SANFL top five after digging deep to overcome a dogged North Adelaide.

The Bays showed more polish when it mattered to come from behind and record a gritty 29-point win over the Roosters in a see-sawing contest at Prospect Oval yesterday.

Matthew Lokan's highly-fancied side looked set for a routine victory when it led by 27 early in the third term.

But the Roosters had other ideas and a five-goal-to-one premiership quarter handed them a five-point buffer at the last change.

Five unanswered majors got Glenelg home in the final term, as the Milera brothers, Terry and Ian, ran riot to finish with three goals each.

Lokan said he was satisfied with the progress of the Tigers, who moved to third on the ladder at the midway point of the minor round.

"We perhaps didn't capitalise enough in the second quarter and probably should have been a couple more in front, but to North's credit they came back in the third," Lokan said.

"We got back to what we do well and that was hunt the footy (in the fourth term) and were able to break it open.

"To go into the mid-season break 6-3 is really positive, but it means nothing if we don't capitalise on that in the back end of the year."

Glenelg took a five-point

buffer to the first break after an free-flowing opening term.

North's Lewis Hender claimed a high-flying grab over the pack and goaled from 30m, but Ian Milera pounced on a loose ball late in the term to hand the Bays a slender lead.

The Tigers pulled away to a 22-point advantage in the second as the Roosters were punished for a string of sloppy turnovers and a failure to convert in front of the sticks.

Glenelg teenager Jay Boyle booted his first league goal early in the quarter and repeated the trick moments later.

Terry Milera produced a beautiful kick from a tight angle to push the Bays further in front, but Max Thring grabbed a crucial major back for the hosts in the dying embers of the first half.

The gallant Leigh Ryswyk and Keenan Ramsey were on target in quick succession to give North hope in the third.



Big man Alex Barns pulled out a superb kick from the boundary, before Hender and Ryswyk goaled again to hand the Roosters an unlikely lead.

But Glenelg powered home with strong performances from Ben Sawford, Matthew Snook and Jonty Scharenberg.

Roosters coach Josh Carr said his side was outclassed at key moments.

"We controlled the footy a lot better (in the third quarter) and gave our forwards an opportunity to win one-on-one contests," Carr said.

"But we just fell away and skill errors have really killed us."

	GLENELG	4.2	7.8	8.9	13.14	92
	NORTH	3.3	4.4	9.8	9.9	63

BEST
Glenelg: Sawford, T. Milera, Snook, Scharenberg, I. Milera, Barry, Boyle.
North: Ryswyk, McKenzie, Motlop, Clisby, Hender, Schwarz.

GOALS
Glenelg: T. Milera, I. Milera 3, Scott, Boyle 2, Sawford, McFarlane, McBean.
North: Ryswyk, Hender 2, McKenzie, Shannon, M. Thring, Ramsey, Barns.

UMPIRES
 M. Scott, A. Crosby, J. Broadbent.
CROWD
 2356 at Prospect Oval.

	PORT ADELAIDE	4.6	11.8	21.10	28.14	182
	WEST ADELAIDE	0.6	2.7	4.8	7.12	54

BEST
Port Adelaide: Howard, Young, Leinert, Austin, Frampton, Drew, Irra, Atley. **West Adelaide:** Stevens, Schiller, Middleton, Fielke, Keough.

GOALS
Port Adelaide: Howard 8, Young 5, Ladhams, Marshall 3, Palmer 2, Drew, Eddy, Neade, White, Atley, Krakouer, Lobbe.
West Adelaide: Noble 2, Keough, Fielke, Stevens, Batley, Watchman.

INJURIES
Port Adelaide: Monfries (calf).
UMPIRES
 T Medlin, M Harris, D Sobieraj.

SANFL clubs deny merger

MICHELANGELO RUCCI

THREE SANFL clubs - Glenelg, South Adelaide and West Adelaide - are not in merger talks to form a "super club".

And West Adelaide is increasingly confident it can stand alone as all eight traditional SANFL clubs work to debt-busting strategies with the sale of the league's Football Park asset at West Lakes.

A radio report yesterday morning declared the Tigers, Bloods and Panthers are in amalgamation talks - as an answer to their financial challenges - has been dismissed by both the clubs and SANFL.

The unfounded proposal would leave the SANFL as an eight-team competition, including AFL reserves teams from Port Adelaide and Adelaide.

Glenelg president Nick Chigwidden told *The Advertiser*: "It's not happening - certainly not with Glenelg. We are in no (merger) discussions."

West Adelaide chief executive David Grenvold declared no need to move away from the Bloods' new business plan, despite the recent financial difficulties at Richmond Oval where the club has freehold control on the real estate.

"We can categorically deny that we are looking to merge," Grenvold told *The Advertiser*.

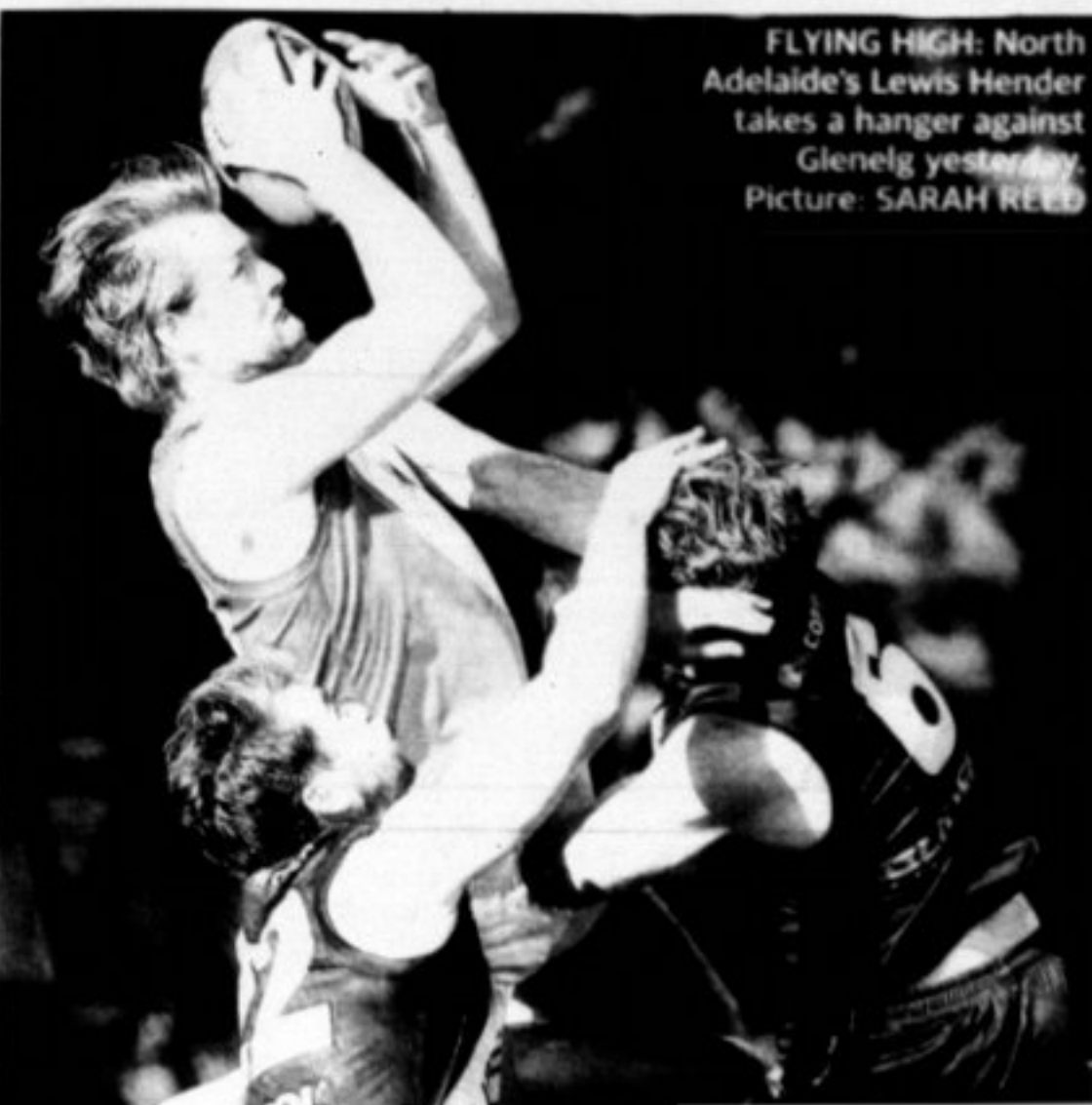
"We have a degree of optimism in the upside in our business. We have put a strategic plan in place with the SANFL.

"The finances from the SANFL in the sale of Football Park are important to all SANFL clubs.

"We also have a venue on freehold land that will be a solid asset on our balance sheet in the next five years."

The SANFL has not had mergers on its agenda since the second AFL licence was debated in the early 1990s when Norwood and Sturt considered an alliance.

The SANFL does have one merged club - Woodville and West Torrens after season 1990.



FLYING HIGH: North Adelaide's Lewis Hender takes a hanger against Glenelg yesterday. Picture: SARAH REED

FIXTURE

- ROUND 10**
Sunday, June 18
 Sturt v Port Adelaide, Peter Motley Oval, Unley, 2.10pm
 South Adelaide v Norwood, Hickinbotham Oval, 2.40pm
Saturday, June 24
 Glenelg v Woodville-West Torrens, Glenelg Oval, 1.10pm
 Central District v Adelaide, Elizabeth, 2.10pm
 West Adelaide v North Adelaide, Richmond Oval, 2.10pm

PREMIERSHIP TABLE

	P	W	D	L	For	Agst	Stk	%	Pts
Eagles	9	8	-	1	740	502	2W	59.58	16
Port Adelaide	9	7	-	2	973	633	3W	60.59	14
Glenelg	9	6	-	3	745	694	3W	51.77	12
Norwood	9	5	-	4	794	709	2L	52.83	10
Sturt	9	5	-	4	722	691	5W	51.10	10
South Adelaide	9	5	-	4	663	689	3L	49.04	10
Adelaide	9	5	-	4	672	727	1W	48.03	10
Central District	9	2	-	7	681	802	1L	45.92	4
North Adelaide	9	2	-	7	617	836	5L	42.46	4
West Adelaide	9	-	-	9	556	880	9L	38.72	-