

Bloods' finals hopes mauled

ANDREW CAPEL

GLENELG has won three consecutive games for the first time in more than a year to effectively end West Adelaide's finals hopes.

Bloods coach Gavin Colville conceded his side needed a miracle to play finals after its 29-point loss at the Bay yesterday left it three wins and a healthy dose of percentage outside of the top five, with three rounds to play.

"I'm really disappointed with that performance and we got what we deserved, I'm not sure we deserve to be playing finals football on that display," said Colville. "Full credit to the opposition because they played better than us but our skills were below SANFL standard. We turned the ball over, we were slow and indecisive.

"We didn't come with a contested mindset and we paid the price. We need to get a lot better to play finals and that's the challenge ahead of us."

The Tigers, who joined the Bloods on six wins and jumped ahead of them on the premiership table on percentage, had not won three straight matches since rounds seven to nine last year. Glenelg set up its victory in the second quarter when it kicked four goals without reply to jump to a 32-point lead at the long break.

With the strong-marking Chris Burgess bagging three

goals in the third quarter, West gave itself a chance. It drew to within 16 points in the final term but the Tigers lifted under pressure to kick clear.

Key defender Chris Curran was outstanding for the home side with 32 disposals and 14 marks, while classy forward Luke Reynolds — an elite kick — bagged five goals following six against former club Port Adelaide last week. Midfielder Matthew Snook (34 disposals), captain Andrew Bradley (22), onballer/forward Darcy Bailey (27) and wingman Carl Nicholson (19 and two goals) were influential while Elliot Chalmers curtailed potential No. 1 draft pick Izak Rankine.

Glenelg coach Mark Stone praised his side for its consistent display, saying his players were starting to grasp his defensive structures and play better for longer.

"I was really pleased with the way the guys fought and there were some outstanding efforts at critical times," he said, adding his team had only a "whisker" of a finals chance.

"What we are starting to do as a team is produce that for longer periods and we haven't had a team kick more than 70 points against us in four weeks, which is a really good indicator that our defensive structures are starting to work."

Burgess (four goals) and midfielder Aaron Anderson (34 disposals) were West's best.

ROUND 16 RESULTS

 NORWOOD EAGLES	3.4 9.5 13.8 16.16	112	
	6.1 7.4 9.5 12.6	78	

BEST Norwood Shenton, Phillips, Grigg, Bode, Nunn, Hamilton, Fuller. **Eagles** Boyd, Rowland, Thompson, Stewart, Sharrad. **GOALS Norwood** Phillips 5, Glenn, Wilson, Panos 2, Abbott, Smart, Shenton, Wilkins, Grigg. **Eagles** N. Hayes, Petrenko 2, Boyd, Hall, J. Hayes, Lewis, Lukosius, Goldsworthy, Haylock, Borholm. **INJURIES Norwood** Georgiou (ankle). **UMPIRES** Crosby, Broadbent, Lewis. **CROWD** 3327 at Coopers Stadium, Norwood.

 NORTH ADELAIDE ADELAIDE	5.1 10.4 15.7 22.9	141	
	4.1 11.2 16.4 19.7	121	

BEST North Clisby, Wilkie, Ramsey, Ryswyk, Woodcock, Allmond. **Adelaide** Ellis-Yolmen, Wilson, Himmelberg, Smith, Jarman, Gibson. **GOALS North** Ryswyk 4, Ramsey, Woodcock, Hender 3, Olekalns, Harvey 2, Deep, Barns, Thring, Smith, Rozee. **Adelaide** Himmelberg 5, Boyle, Davis, Jarman 3, Connelly 2, Wilson, Signorello, Slee. **UMPIRES** Bowen, Sboro, Morgan. **CROWD** 1726 at Prospect Oval.

 SOUTH ADELAIDE PORT ADELAIDE	3.5 4.10 10.11 17.15	117	
	0.0 3.4 5.5 6.7	43	

BEST South Brooksby, Davis, Liddle, Fields, Noble. **Port** Trengove, Toumpas, Snelling, Summerton, Proude. **GOALS South** Fitt 3, Davis, Cross, Kreuger, Szust, Liddle 2, Brown, Hunter, Rankine, Brooksby. **Port** Davidson, Thomas 2, Wong, Ladham. **CROWD** 1474 at Alberton Oval. **UMPIRES** Schramm, Scott, Bennett. **CROWD** 1474 at Alberton Oval.

 STURT CENTRAL DISTRICT	8.3 13.5 14.9 18.12	120	
	0.0 4.3 6.4 10.9	69	

BEST Sturt Osborn, Mark Evans, Kirkwood, Dodd, Riley, Stephens. **Central** Dew, T. Schiller, Goodrem, Watt, Butcher. **GOALS Sturt** M. Evans 5, Sutcliffe 3, Hone, Read 2, Osborn, F. Evans, Riley, Greenslade, Dodd, Munn. **Central** Presbury, Butcher, Watt 2, Dew, Hately, Jenner, McKenzie. **UMPIRES** Harris, Philp, Sobieraj. **CROWD** 2661 at Peter Motley Oval, Unley.

 GLENELG WEST ADELAIDE	3.4 7.8 10.9 13.12	90	
	2.3 2.6 6.10 8.13	61	

BEST Glenelg Curran, Reynolds, Snook, Bailey, Nicholson, Bradley, Chalmers. **West** Burgess, Anderson, Wasley-Black, Hill, Stevens. **GOALS Glenelg** Reynolds 5, Nicholson, Hosie 2, T. Milera, Uebergang, Sawford, Scott. **West** Burgess 4, Rankine, Beech, Green, Anderson. **UMPIRES** Bryce, Hundertmark, Medlin. **CROWD** 2077 at Gliderol Stadium, Glenelg.

LADDER

	P	W	D	L	For	Agst	Stk	%	Pts
Norwood	15	12	-	3	1573	1136	11W	58.1	24
Eagles	15	10	1	4	1243	995	2L	55.5	21
Sturt	15	10	-	5	1322	1070	2W	55.3	20
North Adelaide	15	10	-	5	1359	1206	1W	53.0	20
South Adelaide	15	9	-	6	1269	987	2W	56.5	18
Glenelg	15	6	-	9	1094	1147	3W	48.8	12
Central District	15	6	-	9	1124	1222	1L	47.9	12
West Adelaide	15	6	-	9	991	1281	2L	43.6	12
Port Adelaide	15	4	1	10	989	1272	5L	43.7	9
Adelaide	15	1	-	14	974	1822	2L	37.5	2

THIS WEEK

ROUND 17: Saturday - West Adelaide v Port Adelaide (City Mazda Stadium, Richmond, 1.10pm). **Sunday** - North Adelaide v Glenelg (Prospect Oval, 2.10pm). **Saturday, August 11** - Central District v Norwood (My Money House Oval, Elizabeth, 1.10pm). **Sunday, August 12** - Eagles v Adelaide (Maughan Thiem Hyundai Oval, Woodville, 2.10pm), South Adelaide v Sturt (Hickinbotham Oval, Noarlunga, 2.10pm).



TIGERIFFIC: Glenelg's Joshua Scott gets away from West's Errin Wasley-Black at the Bay.