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# Bloods' third-term sweat means tears for Tigers

**BEN CAMERON**

A MOMENTUM-SHIFTING four-goal third quarter was decisive in West Adelaide's first win for 2020, in a boilover at Hisense Stadium.

In a game with minimal highlights, five majors from captain Tom Keough shone brightest in gloomy conditions, as the precise Bloods kicked away to a 16-point victory over reigning premier Glenelg.

The Tigers were scoreless in a pivotal third term, as the home side turned a five-point half-time deficit into a 19-point buffer at the final change, with recruit Jordon Boyle collecting nine influential touches in the premiership quarter.

The Tigers had their claws all over early play but failed to put a major on the board in the

opening minutes. Then the sides traded two goals apiece in a four-minute burst, with Keough and Luke Reynolds each enjoying a brace for the term.

A goal from the boundary line continued Keough's opening quarter form to keep West-ies in the frame, as both sides had their share of the ball, with the inside 50 count almost identical. But the contest shifted 10 minutes into the third when Keough pounced a terrific chest mark and goal, as the Bloods pinched back the lead. Capitalising on a string of forward thrusts – through a Lyndon Hupfeld bomb from the paint of 50, and goals to Murray Waite and Sam May s – the Bloods took control.

The defending champs responded with a soccer off the ground from Reynolds for his

third and a Matthew Merrett mark and conversion, cutting the lead to seven points. But after big grab from Keough his fifth goal iced the game.

Buoyant Bloods coach Gavin Colville said he had been impressed by his team's ability to withstand Glenelg's last-quarter surge.

"We played a great footy club today. We've been close for a few weeks and we got reward for our effort," Colville said. "I thought the last (term) was probably more critical because we were challenged early. They got the momentum out of the blocks in the last but we got it back."

He said Keough's performance showed superb versatility.

"We play him a little bit out of position up forward, he's been a fantastic backman," he



**WEST ADEL** 64  
2.1 5.1 9.1 10.4



**GLENELG** 48  
3.3 5.6 5.6 7.6

**BEST**

**West:** Keough, Boyle, Stevens, Turner, Waite, Johnson, Duval.  
**Glenelg:** Curran, Bradley, Snook, Reynolds, Partington, Nicholson.

**GOALS**

**West:** Keough 5, Batley, Johnson, May, Waite, Hupfeld.  
**Glenelg:** Reynolds 3, McBean 2, Park, Merrett.

**UMPIRES**

Sboro, Harris, Burke

**CROWD**

900 at Hisense Stadium, Richmond.

said.

"(But) we feel it's the best balance for our club. He can play at any end of the ground and do a wonderful job."

By **ZAC MILBANK**

**West Adelaide caused a boilover as it secured its first premiership points in more than a year with a plucky 16-point win against Glenelg at Hisense Stadium.**

Without a win since defeating North by two points on July 13 of 2019, the Bloods piled on the pain for the Tigers during the third quarter, booting four goals while holding the reigning premier scoreless.

"I'll sleep a bit better tonight – I haven't slept very well since our last win over a year ago," a relieved Bloods coach Gavin Colville told Channel 7 after the final siren.

"It's just so rewarding for the players because they have been trying and learning for so long now. The message at three-quarter time was just to keep going with the process. I knew if we stuck at our game plan we would be OK."

West captain Tom Keough flourished in his team's three-prong forward line with five goals, as fellow forwards Lyndon Hupfeld and Riley Thilthorpe played important structural roles.

Keough set the tone for his side in the first term with two classy snap shot goals, he then found plenty of space inside 50m early in the second quarter to mark low to the ground ahead of booting his third.

The former Gold Coast Sun restored the lead for the hosts after marking strongly on the lead from a Hupfeld pass before giving West a 13-point lead 7 minutes into the fourth term from his 20m set shot, directly in front.

"It's nice to finally get a win on the board," Keough told Channel 7 after the match.

"We knew the work we were doing, we were nearly there, but now it's nice to just finally get there.

"It was good to get on the end of the few but I was just happy for us to get the win."

West's hunger at the stoppages was evident as it made the most of its 47-26 hit out advantage to gain a 40 to 27 edge at the clearances, whilst also posting 48 inside 50 entries to Glenelg's 31.

Bloods midfielders Jordan Boyle, Brett Turner, Kaine Stevens and Pat Fairlie were instrumental in this,

collecting 23 clearances between them.

Murray Waite and Isaac Johnson showed plenty of dash in registering 17 disposals and a goal each while vice-captain Logan Hill was rock solid for West across half-back with 21 possessions.

Glenelg defenders Andrew Bradley, Chris Curran and Max Proud defended tirelessly against the tide as did Michael Virgin, who took 10 marks – at least two of them in a courageous manner – in his return to the side.

Jack Oatey Medallist Matthew Snook also never gave in for the Bays, tallying a game-high 12 clearances to go with his 25 possessions.

**Premiership Ladder**

	P	W	L	D	For	Agnt	Pts	%
<b>W-WT Eagles</b>	4	3	1	-	329	204	6	61.73
<b>South</b>	4	3	1	-	314	246	6	56.07
<b>North</b>	4	3	1	-	287	268	6	51.71
<b>Glenelg</b>	4	2	2	-	292	303	4	49.08
<b>Sturt</b>	4	2	2	-	215	266	4	44.70
<b>West</b>	4	1	2	1	281	302	3	48.20
<b>Norwood</b>	4	1	3	-	269	321	2	45.59
<b>Centrals</b>	4	-	3	1	242	319	1	43.14

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