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Bays get 'bang for buck' in late charge



ANDREW CAPEL

GLENELG avoided a third consecutive loss for the first time in the Brett Hand coaching era by producing a powerful finish against South Adelaide at the Bay on Saturday.

Under serious pressure after falling behind for the first time midway through the third quarter and trailing by nine points entering time-on, the Tigers responded strongly with five unanswered goals in 15 minutes to quickly turn the game on its head to snap a two-game losing streak.

Taking control of the midfield and finding inside-50 targets, they kicked 7.8 to 1.1 after exciting Kim Kantilla had put the Panthers nine points ahead 19 minutes into the third term.

Glenelg's ultimately comfortable 34-point victory saw it retain the Carey-Darley Cup, which is played for between the two clubs, and consolidate its spot in the top five with a 5-2 win-loss record.

"We tidied up our skills late in the game and got bang for our buck," Tigers coach Hand said.

"We took 16 marks inside 50 this week, which is an area that we've let ourselves down in this year by blazing away with our ball use, so that was a real positive.

"It was also good to finish a game off because we didn't do that (in narrow losses) against Port Adelaide and North Adelaide."

In contrast, injury-riddled South's defeat left it languishing in seventh spot with a 3-4 record.

Compounding its loss was the shocking news that last year's Magarey Medallist Bryce Gibbs will have shoulder surgery on Monday and will be sidelined for 12 weeks.

Gibbs pulled up sore after the round six win against Norwood.

"Having Bryce go down is a big loss for us," Panthers coach Jarrad Wright said.

"We've had a lot of injuries this year and our kids had a crack for three quarters but we just couldn't sustain it.

"We went in with a certain method and executed for three quarters with really high intensity but their matureage, experienced players pushed a button in the last quarter and our young, developing side couldn't go with them and got found out in the pressure cooker."

Glenelg's Brisbane Lions recruit Corey Lyons starred in the first meeting between the clubs since last year's preliminary final, collecting 29 possessions and winning the John Schneebichler Medal as best-afield. Fellow midfielder Matthew Snook was superb at ground level, firing out 16 handballs and laying seven tackles.

Compiled by Zac Milbank

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Glenelg eventually shrugged off a persistent South Adelaide with a strong final term to record a 34-point win at ACH Group Stadium.

Plagued by inaccuracy in front of goal, the Tigers faced a stern challenge from the Panthers, who hit the front for the first time when Oscar Clavarino goaled on the run 11 minutes into the third term.

The Bays led by eight points at three-quarter time after Lachie Hosie booted the first of his three goals before the hosts slowly gained control of the contest early in the fourth quarter.

Premiership forward Luke Reynolds was welcomed back into the team after swinging his set shot through for a goal in the sixth minute before teammate Matt Allen made a difference-making play just two minutes later.

The West End State team wingman timed his run to perfection to intercept a South defensive pass before playing on to goal along the ground and extend the lead to 21 points in the eighth minute.

At the other end, unheralded Alex Martini produced the play of the day when he ran down speedy South forward Jye Menzie with a goal-saving tackle nearing the 10-minute mark of the last term.

It typified the Tigers' tenacity in ruckman Jack Hannath's 100th game, as midfielder Corey Lyons deservedly won the John Schneebichler Medal as best afield with his 29 disposals, five tackles, five clearances and a goal.

Allen (25 disposals, nine marks), Matthew Snook (26 disposals, seven tackles) and Luke Partington (23 disposals) were also prime movers around the ball as Darcy Bailey constructed off half-back with 28 disposals.

Lesser-lights Reid Kuller (18 disposals) and Brady Searle (15 disposals, two goals) also had an impact for the hosts as they won the inside 50 count 57 to 46 whilst controlling possession with 72 more disposals and 32 more marks.

Without injured midfielders Bryce Gibbs (shoulder) and Ben Heaslip (concussion), the defenders Panthers had Matthew Broadbent (24 disposals) and Joe Haines (23 disposals) as their major ballwinners while Mitch O'Neill before threatened early finishing with 22 disposals.

		PLAYED	WINS	LOSSES	FOR	AGAINST	POINTS	PERCENTAGE	FORM	
	ADELAIDE	7	6	1	740	532	12	58.18%		
	NORTH ADELAIDE	7	6	1	647	491	12	56.85%		
	STURT	7	5	2	590	444	10	57.06%		
	GLENELG	7	5	2	597	525	10	53.21%		
	WOODVILLE-WEST TORRENS	7	4	3	525	494	8	51.52%		
	NORWOOD	7	3	4	522	468	6	52.73%		
	SOUTH ADELAIDE	7	3	4	496	549	6	47.46%		
	PORT ADELAIDE	7	2	5	492	592	4	45.39%		
	CENTRAL DISTRICT	7	1	6	444	666	2	40%	000000	
	WEST ADELAIDE	7	0	7	413	705	0	36.94%	000000	