

Stunning Tigers on a high

Warren Partland

Glenelg can surely smell another premiership crown – how can it not?

The Tigers upped the ante in the race for the flag when they absolutely smashed previously top-of-the-ladder Sturt by an incredible 105 points in a stunning performance at the Bay on Monday.

The game was billed as the clash of the heavyweights but it was nothing of the sort as the Tigers tore the Double Blues apart in emphatic fashion.

This was one of those days for Glenelg, when very, very little goes wrong.

And the Bays benefited from facing an opponent which just did not turn up for the occasion. Sturt might not like to read it but it was simply woeful.

"I knew we were going OK but I did not think we were going that well," Tigers coach Darren Reeves said. "I'm not sure they were at their best today but I did not feel we allowed them to be at their best."

"I felt we were on right from the start, the way we defended we took away how they were able to move the footy. And we were able to execute from that."

"We have been building and really clear on how we want to play and how we want to defend."

The signs were ominous from the outset when the disciplined Tigers, with the strong wind at their backs for the opening quarter, went on the attack with damaging, clean movement.

They worked hard to create space and an option for teammates and, importantly, kicked goals from every angle. This set the tone for the entire contest.

With a regular supply of quality delivery, Glenelg's Matthew Allen, Lachlan Hosie and Liam McBean had plenty of fun.

GLENELG V STURT

	
7.4	1.3
14.5	3.6
21.10	4.6
23.12	6.9
150	45

BEST – Glenelg: Allen, Proud, Partington, Pink, Lyons, Snook, Bailey, McBean. **Sturt:** Battersby, Voss.

GOALS – Glenelg: Allen 6, Hosie 4, McBean, Chandler 3, Reynolds, McGree 2, Lyons, Bell, Holder. **Sturt:** Hone 3, Rentsch, Voss, Slimming.

INJURIES – Sturt: Page (concussion).

UMPIRES – Bowen, Hughes, Lewis.

CROWD – 7285 at Stratarama Stadium, Glenelg.

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TIGERS TEAR DOUBLE BLUES APART

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Glenelg's Cameron McGree celebrates a goal in the Tigers' 105-point thrashing of Sturt at the Bay on Monday. Picture: David Mariuz/SANFL

Even when the Double Blues had possession, the Tigers refused to relax the pressure and their relentless defensive work created opportunities. They constantly had more numbers at the contest.

In contrast, Sturt hardly gave a whimper – outworked, outplayed, out-everything.

Tackling machine Tom Lewis, the Blues' best player this season, was missing be-

cause of an ankle injury. That does not explain that poor, poor effort.

"We did not start well and it was downhill from there," Sturt coach Marty Mattner said. "It was one of those games where nothing goes right. Credit to Glenelg, that is the best I have seen a team in a long, long time."

"They were very good all around the ground."



Glenelg's James Bell celebrates booting a goal in the Tigers' crushing win against Sturt at the Bay. Picture: David Mariuz/SANFL

WEST V NORTH

	
3.1	3.2
7.3	5.5
10.6	5.6
10.8	5.9
68	39

BEST – West: Bramich, J. Stevens, J. Ryan, Park, Mattingly, Frost, Morrish, Johnson, K. Ryan.

North: Combe, Szekely, McInerney, Wigg, Spina.



GOALS – West: Frost 3, McCormick, Johnson 2, Mattingly, Redfern, Delahunty.

North: Minervini, Szekely, McInerney, Miller, Ramsey.

UMPIRES – Bennett, Scott, Reardon.

CROWD – 1353 at Hisense Stadium, Richmond.

NORWOOD V SOUTH

	
1.1	1.1
4.1	1.2
10.7	1.4
12.7	8.8
79	56



BEST – Norwood: Ling, Stockdale, Nunn, Panos, Rokahr, Seymour, Kennerley, Lok. **South:** O'Neill, Davis, Brooksby, Dunkin, Wilkinson, Shillabeer.

GOALS – Norwood: Lok, McLean 3, Hamilton 2, Kennerley, Panos, Bogle, Nunn. **South:** Shillabeer 3, Freitag 2, Fitt, Heaslip, Kirkland.

UMPIRES – Beyer, Morgan, Sboro.

CROWD – 1550 at Flinders University Stadium, Noarlunga.

PORT V CENTRALS



	
5.2	3.2
6.6	4.3
8.9	7.6
13.14	10.9
92	69

BEST – Port: Narkle, Fantasia, Jonas, Burgoyne, Szust, Burton. **Central:** Grant, Schiller, Liddy, Lange, Whitelum, McLennan. **GOALS – Port:** Fantasia 4, Szust, Evans 2, Barkla, Narkle, Scully, Lord, Mead. **Central:** McCormack, Grace 2, Munn, Barreau, Chisolm, Hoskin, Whitelum, Schiller.

UMPIRES – Burke, Sobieraj, Millar.

CROWD – 1738 at Alberton Oval.

ADELAIDE V EAGLES

	
3.4	5.2
6.7	8.2
9.14	10.4
13.17	11.6
95	72

BEST – Adelaide: Schoenberg, Crouch, Parnell, Berry, Newchurch, Hatley, Strachan, Wright. **Eagles:** Rowe, Beecken, Ballenden, Williams, Toumpas, Knight.

GOALS – Adelaide: Newchurch 4, Wright 3, Himmelberg 2, Crouch, Brown, McAdam, Cook. **Eagles:** D. Menzel, Pearce, Ballenden 2, Nicholls, Comitogianni, Toumpas, Beattie, Collier-Dawkins.

UMPIRES – Harris, Hardy, Williams.

CROWD – 5444 at Adelaide Oval.

	Played	Won	Lost	For	Against	Pts	%	Form
GLENELG	9	8	1	782	504	16	60.81	L W W W W W W W W
STURT	9	8	1	669	611	16	52.27	W W W W W W W W L
ADELAIDE	9	6	3	811	538	12	60.12	W W L W W L W L W
W-WT EAGLES	9	4	5	602	593	8	50.38	W L L L L W W W L
CENTRALS	9	4	5	530	568	8	48.27	L W W L W L L W L
PORT	9	4	5	657	726	8	47.51	L L L W W W L L W
NORTH	9	4	5	567	660	8	46.21	W L W W L L W L L
WEST	9	3	6	575	649	6	46.98	L L W L L W L L W
SOUTH	9	3	6	554	690	6	44.53	W W L L L L L W L
NORWOOD	9	1	8	469	677	2	40.92	L L L L L L L L W

Bays top the ladder with highest score in 12 years

Stratarama Stadium, Monday 12th June, 2:10pm

Glenelg	7.4	14.5	21.10	23.12	150
Sturt	1.3	3.6	4.6	6.9	45

Goals: Matthew Allen 6, Lachie Hosie 4, Will Chandler 3, Liam McBean 3, Cam McGree 2, Luke Reynolds 2, James Bell, Riley Holder, Corey Lyons

Best: Matthew Allen, Matthew Snook, Luke Partington, Cam McGree, James Bell, Max Proud

Disposals: L. Partington 31, M. Snook 28, C. Lyons 27, M. Allen 26, M. Proud 23, J. Bell 20, R. Kuller 20

Magarey Medal: 3 – Matthew Allen (GI), 2 – Corey Lyons (GI), 1 – Luke Partington (GI)

An outstanding day of SANFL football was on show on the King's Birthday public holiday. Full credit to Justin, Kristin and all our wonderful staff and volunteers, along with the SANFL, for promoting the day. Most importantly, well done to the 7300 odd people for coming along and supporting not only our football club, but the SANFL competition. It is hands down the best competition outside of the AFL, and what an outstanding way to showcase that.

With this being the case, it was important for our playing group to put on a solid performance. The challenge was we were playing against a team sitting undefeated and on top of the table. We felt like we needed to play somewhere near our best for long periods, and pleasingly we were able to play our best football for the season and able to sustain it for the full four quarters. Full credit to the playing group, who were relentless in the pressure and defensive action to take Sturt's game away consistently. What we have been pleased about over the last seven weeks is our ability for our offence to click into gear on

the back of what we are doing as a team defensively.

Our first quarter was exciting, and we were able to capitalise on dominant field position, both through a strong breeze and, mainly, through our method. Although we kicked seven goals, we still felt like we had missed some other good opportunities to keep piling on the pressure. From that point of view, my personal feeling was our second quarter into the strong breeze was our best quarter for the season. We were able to dominate around contest, consistently turn the ball over through outstanding pressure, and some of the ball movement to create and finish off our good work was really pleasing to watch.

The challenge in a game like this is to maintain that type of level knowing the opposition will respond. To be able to keep getting about our work with the same intent and work rate is a good sign for our group. Another seven goals in the third quarter were just rewards for how the playing group went about it. While the last quarter was a much tighter contest on the scoreboard, we didn't drop away from the work rate and

intent that we are after for long periods. While we understand we are at the halfway point of the season with still a lot of improving and things to work on, we are really encouraged by the way we have attacked the brand of football we are wanting to play. We look forward to getting back into it in a couple of week's time.

Our Reserves group continued with some good solid football and, like the league team, sit on top of the table at the halfway point of the season. While they were challenged early, they were able to fight their way through that with a strong second half, particularly the last quarter. What is really pleasing from a coaching perspective is the way the group is endeavouring to play our method. We have several players playing outstanding football week in week out. We look forward to that continuing into the second half of the season.

Our players now have a few days off to freshen up, reset and prepare to attack the next part of the season.

– Darren Reeves, Senior Coach
glenelgfc.com.au



SNAPSHOT

Round 9 Hostplus SANFL Snapshot – King's Birthday



By STEVE BARRETT

www.sanfl.com.au

Glenelg was simply majestic on the King's Birthday, catapulting to first place on the Hostplus SANFL League ladder with a 105-point demolition of Sturt at Stratarama Stadium.

The top-of-the-table clash, billed as the match of the year, was one-way traffic from the outset as the Tigers, explosively and emphatically, made it eight victories in a row while terminating the previously undefeated Double Blues' own eight-game winning streak.

The Bays had the bumper public holiday crowd of 7285 in raptures as they slammed seven goals in each of the opening three terms to firm as premiership favourites at the season's halfway point.

Matthew Allen, the last-ditch match-winner a week earlier against Adelaide, lorded over Sturt with six goals and 27 disposals.

Lachlan Hosie, the competition's leading goalscorer, booted four majors from his first four kicks, while three-time Ken Farmer

Medallist Liam McBean and fifth-gamer Will Chandler chimed in with three apiece.

Luke Partington (31 touches), Corey Lyons (27) and Matt Snook (27) were all prolific, while captain Max Proud and Toby Pink piloted an air-tight defence.

Glenelg's seven-goal headstart kicking towards the Primary School end was a virtual highlights reel, underlined by Cameron McGree's monster goal from inside the centre-square and McBean's 60m bomb, both big men capitalising on Sturt errors.

Jonty Scharenberg's one-handed, lunging, chasedown tackle of Josh Hone showed the Tigers also meant business at the other end.

Hone finally slotted the Blues' first goal after the quarter-time siren but any hopes of a fightback were quickly erased in the opening 30 seconds of the second stanza when Chandler shrugged off attempted tackles from James Battersby and Casey Voss, sold candy to Joe Thiele and threaded the needle.

Chandler converted again moments later as the Bay train continued to motor along imperiously.

Glenelg led by 65 points at half-time despite the fact Sturt, with Amos Doyle tireless in ruck, led the hit-outs 30-4.

It was more of the same in the third period, during which Pink, playing his 50th game, almost provided the biggest highlight in a match full of them, with an intercept and launch from beyond 70m, which was just touched as it bounced through the goals.

Hosie snapped his fourth to extend the margin to triple-digits before Allen outmarked Connor McFadyen and nailed his fifth right on the three-quarter-time siren, then added another one to his tally in the fourth.

Battersby (29 disposals, nine clearances) toiled away in a Sturt midfield which sorely missed injured dynamo Tom Lewis, while McFadyen and Voss combined for 15 rebound-50s in a backline which was savaged from start to finish.



ROUND 9 TEAMS

Toby tickled Pink

Andrew Capel

HE is remembered for kicking the most famous behind in SANFL under-18s history.

Now, seven years after his after-the-siren long bomb miraculously bounced past 11 North Adelaide players in the southern goalsquare at Adelaide Oval to secure Glenelg an amazing one-point grand final win, Toby Pink is making a big name for himself at league level.

He has been so good this season that first-year Tigers coach Darren Reeves declared he is "the best key defender in the competition".

"Every single week, he has got the job done for us," Reeves said of his powerful, red-headed backman.

"Toby's a quiet, unassuming lad but he's a competitive beast who has had an outstanding season.

"He plays on the best (opposition) forward week in, week out, and his ability to be able to win those battles and also win the ball and be really efficient with it has been terrific."

Pink, who was selected by Sydney in the 2016 rookie draft following his under-age grand final heroics and spent three years on its list without playing an AFL game before returning to Glenelg, has been a tower of strength in the Tigers' seven-game winning streak.

Considered unlucky not to have made the state team, the 24-year-old has rarely had his colours lowered in one-on-one contests while averaging 12 disposals and five marks.

"I've enjoyed being able to settle down back this season," said the 194cm, 94kg Pink, who returned to the Bay from the Swans in 2021.

"I've been thrown around a fair bit in the past couple of years, being used as a swingman up forward, in the ruck and down back, and I've loved being given that permanent challenge of taking the opposition key forward out of the game and helping my teammates get the win.

"Reeva (Reeves) tells me every Monday who I'm going to get the following week, so it allows me to prepare well and do my homework on them.



Martin Frederick (Sturt) and Toby Pink (Glenelg) will face off on King's Birthday Monday in a round 9 match that will double as a fundraiser to help the fight against MND. Picture: David Mariuz/SANFL

LADDER

	P	Pts	%
Sturt	8	16	57.5
Glenelg	8	14	57.9
Adelaide	8	10	60.6
Eagles	8	8	51.6
Central	8	8	49.2
North	8	8	47.1
Port	8	6	46.2
South	8	6	44.9
West	8	4	45.4
Norwood	8	0	38.6

"I really enjoy that challenge and have the competitive mindset to beat my player because I hate losing."

While Pink has enjoyed a standout season, he is often reminded of his famous behind after video of his kick went viral. With scores level, Pink marked 60m from goal when the siren sounded and while his long kick fell short, landing at the top of the goalsquare, it somehow eluded Roosters players, making him an instant hero.

"That video often pops up on the (social media) feed," Pink said.

"I was expecting the game to go into extra-time and for the kick to somehow bounce through from where it landed

was pretty unbelievable.

"To kick the winning score after the final siren in a grand final is every kid's dream and it definitely got my name out there."

Born in Millicent, part of Glenelg's south-east recruiting zone, Pink will be put to the test again when the second-placed Tigers play top-of-the-table Sturt in a blockbuster King's Birthday clash at the Bay on Monday.

The Double Blues are unbeaten, having won their first eight games this season, while Glenelg's only loss came against them at Unley in round one.

"They are a quality team so it will be a big test for us but one

we are really looking forward to," said Pink, who will line up for his 50th league game.

The SANFL is hoping the "Super Match", presented in partnership with The Advertiser and featuring a roadshow of off-field activities, including mini-golf, face-painters, inflatable footy games and free haircuts, will attract a crowd of about 10,000.

The day will also be used to raise money for South Australians suffering from Motor Neurone Disease, with a "Dunk me for MND" challenge, while three lucky fans will have the chance to win \$10,000 in a 'Kick for Cash' promotion on the oval.



GLENELG v STURT

STRATARAMA STADIUM, MONDAY, 2.10PM

Holder 23, Hosie 20, Reynolds 7	F	Hone 5, Rentsch 14, Burrows 31
Allen 22, McBean 1, Turner 27	HF	Slimming 39, Grivell 30, Fahey-Sparks 18
Bell 11, Snook 3, Stretch 18	C	Parker 28, Wilson 13, Frederick 1
Wisdom 26, Pink 32, Scharenberg 2	HB	Page 25, McFadyen 6, Voss 34
Proud 5, Newman 12, Martini 16	B	Puncher 21, Edmonds 15, Fryer 27
McGree 19, Partington 10, Lyons 8	R	Doyle 45, Lewis 2, Battersby 23
(from) Bailey 9, Deep 41, Kuller 17, Gerloff 4, Lovelock 39, Chandler 36, McCarthy 14	Int	(from) Mathews 7, Breuer 9, Reschke 29, Thiele 4, Dakin 16, Molan 10, Giacometti 36, Shute 11, Carey 3, Carruthers 12
	In	Rentsch, Molan, Wilson, Grivell, Puncher, Breuer, Carruthers
	Out	Coomblas (susp)