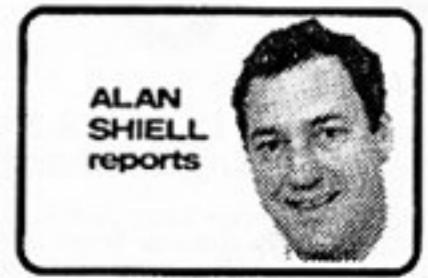


It's hard to hold that Tiger!



Port Adelaide strongman David Granger's on the field . . . and Glenelg centre half-back Graham Cornes immediately knows all about it. This incident in yesterday's preliminary final was captured by Staff Photographer Tony Lewis.

Glenelg	2.3	10.6	11.9	13.12	(90)
Port Adelaide	4.3	6.4	11.4	14.5	(89)

GOALKICKERS — Glenelg: Kernahan 4.2, McGuinness 3.3, McInerney 2.1, Weston 2.0, Sewer 1.1, Carey 1.0, McDermott 0.3, Lunniss 0.2. Port Adelaide: Evans 4.2, Huppertz 3.0, Cunningham 2.0, S. Williams, Agius 1.1, R. Ebert, Johnston, Belton 1.0, rushed 0.1.

BEST — Glenelg: Carey, Cornes, McGuinness, Maynard, Marshall, Weston, Kernahan. Port: Johnston, Belton, Cunningham, R. Ebert, Bradley. Umpires — D. Foster, R. Kinnear. Crowd — 32,339.

It just might be the Year of the Tiger after all. No longer is Glenelg a team to be damned and pitied in finals.

Consecutive major round wins against Central District, Sturt and Port Adelaide — victories stamped with a resolve of steel — have made Glenelg a most worthy challenger to Norwood for the 1982 SA league football premiership.

The question to be answered now is: Can John Halbert's men do it again on Saturday, after only a six-day break and against a fresh, fit side that will have enjoyed a fortnight's rest?

Winning four finals is a task that has not been performed since the introduction of the final five system in 1973. No team has gone top from third, fourth or fifth position. Norwood made the biggest climb — from fifth to second in 1980.

The only other instance of a team finishing outside the top three and playing in the grand final was in 1974 when Glenelg rose from fourth and lost the premiership to Sturt.

Port Adelaide joins Central District (1979) as the only sides since 1973 to win the minor premiership and miss playing in the grand final.

Glenelg has won only two of its previous nine grand finals. It beat Port by nine points in 1934 and North Adelaide by seven points in 1973.

But it lost to Norwood (by 47 points) in 1950, Sturt (71) in 1969, Sturt (21) in 1970, Sturt (15) in 1974, Norwood (12) in 1975, Port (eight) in 1977 and Port (51) last year.

Glenelg captain Paul Weston said after the thrilling one-point win over Port in the preliminary final yesterday that it was "the best Glenelg win" in which he had played since his league debut in 1974.

"It was another total effort in teamwork and dedication," Weston said. "Our aggressive attack on the ball was just first-class throughout."

Glenelg coach John Halbert said: "Our excellent second quarter won it for us. When it looked like we might get run over, I thought the fight and determination not to let it slip also was excellent."

Port coach John Cahill said: "Glenelg really kicked away in the second quarter. Our players put up a tremendous effort to get back. Glenelg will be very hard to beat in the grand final."

Halbert taunted his players before yesterday's match by having copies of newspaper reports of the club's past failures stuck up around the dressing room.

But, based on what it has achieved

and the way it has achieved it in the past three weeks, there can be only admiration for Glenelg.

The preliminary final looked all over when Glenelg led by 38 points — 10.6 to 4.4 — at the 24-minute mark of the second quarter.

But goals to full forward Tim Evans and rover Ray Huppertz in the time-on period narrowed the gap to 26 points at half-time. And Port trailed by only four points — 11.4 to 11.8 — when the time-on period began in the third term.

Glenelg shot 19 points clear with two goals from rover Tony McGuinness in the first five minutes of the last quarter.

Then, typically, Port hit back again, outscoring Glenelg 3.1 to 0.1 for the rest of the quarter.

It was a desperate finish to a desperately-fought battle. Players had to contend with rain, a soft, slippery turf and a muddy ball.

And Glenelg had to contend with David Granger, whose characteristic methods constituted probably the most undisciplined performance seen from a player in an SA final.

Port trailed by 26 points — 4.4 to 8.6 — when Granger was let loose off the interchange bench.

He announced his arrival by running straight into Glenelg centre half-back Graham Cornes, then throwing him to the ground while play continued at the other end of the field.

Thereafter, Granger, throwing his arms and legs around as if they were thrashing machines, was the deserved target of much crowd abuse.

Glenelg players were reluctant to retaliate for fear of being reported and missing the grand final.

Channel 7's statistician credited Granger with one kick and two marks. Yet he had an eerie effect on the game — an effect that ruined many spectators' enjoyment of it.

Glenelg had many better players than Port, despite the closeness of the final scores.

Big Peter Carey, hobbling on one leg, was courage, strength and stamina personified. Cornes led the defence superbly, supported by flanker Peter Maynard, and McGuinness (and Peter McInerney) roved brilliantly.

Weston and Stephen Kernahan (four goals) dominated in the first half and wingman David Marshall put in a big second half.

Barratt's right leg broken by kick

By GORDON SCHWARTZ

Glenelg back pocket Stephen Barratt was admitted to the Flinders Medical Centre last night with a broken right leg.

This followed an incident in which he was kicked during the third quarter of the preliminary final against Port Adelaide at Football Park.

Barratt, 22, is unlucky to miss the grand final as he has been a mainstay

in the Tiger defence, particularly in the past six or seven weeks.

Half-back Peter Maynard was treated for a bleeding eardrum after yesterday's match but is expected to be available.

Peter Carey, who has rucked amazingly on one leg for the past two weeks, will have intensive treatment again this week.

Glenelg could consider promoting Ian Hine to centre wing and switching Chris Duthy from that position to a back pocket.

Former State back pocket Jim Lihou also is on the league training list of 24 and must have claims.

Chris Hercocock was left out of yesterday's 21 but he, too, will be considered.

Glenelg will train lightly tomorrow night and again on Thursday in a bid for its third premiership.

Norwood practised for an hour yesterday and will train tonight, tomorrow and on Thursday.

FOOTBALL EXTRA

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GLENELG MAKES A POINT

Glenelg survived a blitzing counter-attack in an epic last half struggle against Port Adelaide at Football Park yesterday to claw its way into the 1982 grand final.

By



TREVOR GILL

It was a fierce, dramatic and momentous match between two bitter rivals and one which proved Glenelg really is a just-challenger for the premiership.

Its one-point victory was not without the legacy of the grinding punishment of the final amid the mud, blood and jeer of the 32,339 crowd.

Young defender Stephen Barratt was left in hospital with a broken leg after an incident with Port centre half-forward David Granger.

Wounded

Barratt was just one of at least four Glenelg players left reeling under the enforcement actions of the controversial Port forward, who was reported for striking by goal umpire Des Hillebrand.

Granger figured in other clashes with centre half-back Graham Cornes, defender Peter Maynard and half-forward Ralph Sewer.

But, apart from the strong-arm tactics employed in yesterday's headlong confrontation, the wet, heavy conditions took their toll on Glenelg.

Among the walking wounded was master ruckman Peter Carey, who carried an injured leg through four quarters in one of the most heroic and relentless efforts of this major round.

Norwood, rugged up in the grandstand and awaiting the challenge from the Tigers next week, could only derive further optimism from the bumps and bruises encountered by Glenelg.

But, like the VFL grand final on Saturday, yesterday's match was a credit to both sides for their undying determination for victory.

Before the start Port, under a cloud through injury during the week, showed they were primed for the action with a hip 'n' shoulders scrum among themselves, while Glenelg gathered around coach John Halbert for a last word in the rain.

It was a classic psychological springboard employed by both sides and the first quarter was just as torrid as the last.

Full forwards Tim Evans, too strong early for young David Frost, and Stephen Kernanhan defied the difficult conditions to set the pace for their sides.

In the time-on period of the first term the thigh injury to Carey was first exposed when an attempted kick for goal 35 metres out skidded ridiculously into the behind post.

From then on Carey could only kick with his left foot or look for teammates to handball out of trouble.

It was the second quarter which really laid the foundation for Glenelg's victory.

The Tigers approach to the ball was far more aggressive as they surged time and again toward goal to streak 38 points clear of Port just before half time.

Hooked

But goals to Evans and rover Ray Huppertz in the time-on period reminded Glenelg that Port was set to charge in the last half.

The match might have been fuelled with nitro glycerine in the third quarter with Granger prowling across centre half-forward looking for

anything that came near him.

But if his tactics were to unsettle Glenelg they worked.

Just five points separated the sides at the last change and the final quarter developed into a classic battle of the defences with players on both sides rarely able to raise a gallop.

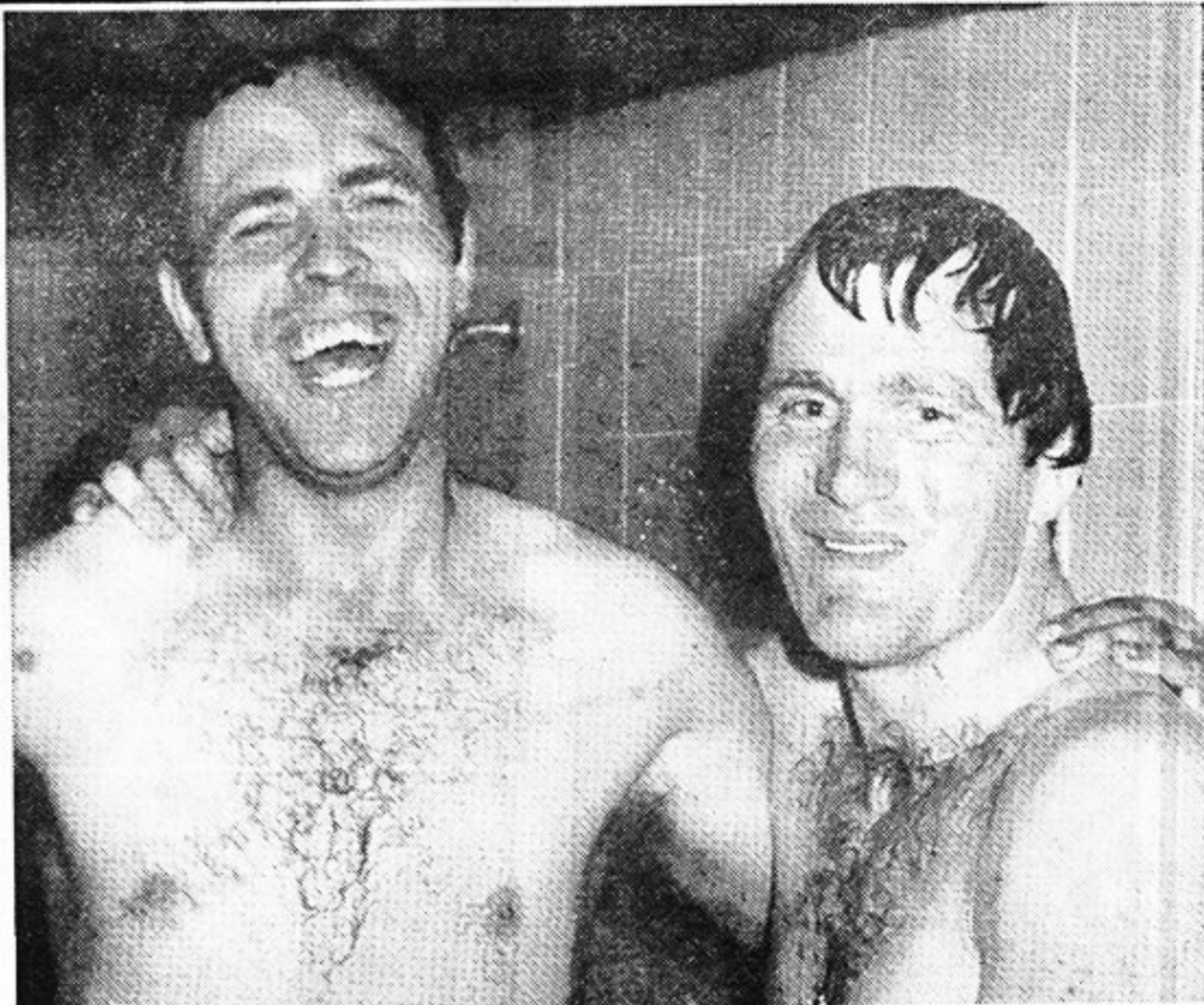
At the 16 minute mark Cunningham hooked a freak goal over his right shoulder to make the difference six points.

Glenelg had its chances to ease the pressure, but were continually driven back by the stern Port defence, led by Greg Phillips.

In the time-on period ruckman Russell Johnston booted another goal from point blank range, and there was just one kick left in the preliminary final.

But Glenelg would not surrender.

Centre half back Graham Cornes led the resistance, Carey called upon yet another super-human effort, and rover Peter McInerney uncaged a tackle that saved the game.



Ruckman Peter Carey and captain Paul Weston congratulate each other in the shower after the Bays grand win



Glenelg's David Marshall personified the tough trend of the game yesterday when he delivered this bone-crunching tackle on Port captain Brian Cunningham