

GRAND FINAL 1990

PORT ADELAIDE V GLENELG



PIE AND MIGHTY

Grand final details

Port	4.5	10.7	13.9	16.12	(108)
Glenelg	5.2	6.7	9.11	13.15	(93)

SCORERS — Port: Hodges 6.5, Settre 3.0, Wanganeen, D. Smith 2.0, S. Williams, Mahney 1.1, M. Williams 1.0, Tregenza 0.2, rushed 0.3. **Glenelg:** Fidge 5.3, Murphy 3.0, Christie, Liptak 1.2, Jameson, Marshall 1.1, Salisbury 1.0, Symonds, McDermott, Chigwidden 0.1, rushed 0.3.

BEST — Port: Fiacchi, Abernethy, M. Williams, Hynes, Rizonico, Wanganeen, Hodges. **Glenelg:** Seebohm, Jameson, Symonds, Bartlett, Thompson.

Umpires: Rick Kinnear, Mark Mackie.

Jack Oatey Medallist: George Fiacchi (Port).

Crowd: 50,589 at Football Park.

Top goalkickers

SA NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

	Yest.	Total
S. Hodges (Port)	6	153
A. Jakovich (Woodville)	—	101
J. Fidge (Glenelg)	5	91
D. Jarman (North)	—	68
R. Mandemaker (Central)	—	52
J. Weeding (Norwood)	—	50
D. Hart (North)	—	50
C. Lamb (Glenelg)	—	49



Port wins it with guts

A century of folklore relating to Port Adelaide's tradition came to life when it produced one of the most valiant grand final performances in its proud history to beat Glenelg by 15 points at Football Park.

Players embellished with finer skills, and perhaps with greater reputations, guided Port along the glorious path to 29 previous premierships, but it is doubtful whether they possessed more determination than those who took the field yesterday — the club's day of reckoning.

As South Australian league football enters another dimension, this magnificent achievement will linger in the hearts of its fans for it was one which epitomised the essence of courage.

Port, weighted by the emotions of the Australian Football League saga, delved into its spiritual well to overcome injuries before half time to ruckman Russell Johnston (ankle), Tim Ginever (concussion), Wayne Mahney (hamstring), Stephen Williams (concussion) and Scott Hodges (knee).

When Hodges, assisted by a club doctor and trainer, hobbled off the ground at the 23rd minute mark of the second term, with Port leading by only seven points, Port's dream of capturing its third successive premiership seemed to be fading.

Maybe Glenelg thought so too as it appeared to relax while Port, with 15 fit men on the ground from that moment, conquered its challenge.

Glenelg coach Graham Cornes told Port's players in their rooms after the game: "Looking at the teams before the match on paper, there was no logical reason why you should win and why we should lose."

But perhaps Port's tradition, that often carelessly used word, was not taken into account as this premiership was seized by sheer guts.

It also was carefully planned, and while the players deserve all the plaudits in the dictionary, so too does Port's coach John Cahill, for he was the mastermind behind the tightest and most intense grand final for years.

During the week he planned the winning moves — Mark Williams on Chris McDermott and Bruce Abernethy on David Marshall. They drastically reduced the usual effectiveness of Glenelg's regular stars and gave Port the edge in the centre square.

Cahill also manipulated his side well to cover the injury losses, with enormous credit going to David Hynes, the logical replacement for Johnston in ruck.

Melican destroyed Port early as he charged in for the centre bounces, but when Hynes responded to the call in a grand final, like he did two years ago, Glenelg's authority in ruck diminished.

Port's victory against the odds should not be aligned with accusations of a lack of heart by Glenelg, as this most worthy grand finalist was a terrific competitor.

Glenelg had players who were beaten on the day and were not allowed to produce their best, but none lacked tenacity or the will to win. This quality ensured a terrific grand final and a fine advertisement before 50,589 fans and a national television audience.

The Tigers had the edge in the first quarter and led by three points. They controlled most of the play to midway through the second, but managed only four behinds to Port's two.

This was largely due to the magnificent efforts by defenders from both sides, and the manner in which the ball was regularly crowded.

The game was there to be seized. Cahill and Cornes must have anxiously waited for one of their men to do something out of the ordinary to spark a run.

As fate would have it, Hodges was awarded a free kick and he goaled. Within two minutes, he marked and goaled again.

Then the real charge began. Mark Williams, during his brief rest in a forward pocket, also marked and goaled, and for the first time of the match, the "Mag-pies" chant drowned

FOOTBALL

with
Chief
Football Writer
Ashley Porter



the stadium.

It was not to last long as Hodges fell awkwardly and was assisted from the field. Adding to the Magpie worries was a goal from Bay centre half-forward Michael Murphy at the 26th minute mark.

But just when doubt surrounded Port, Adrian Settre, a replacement in the side for the injured David Brown, kicked two miraculous goals within a minute, and Stephen Williams followed with a superb goal on the run.

Port led by 25 points, and after marking seconds before the siren, Matthew Liptak had a shot for goal. Sadly for Glenelg, his shot was off line.

The goal burst, and Glenelg's miss, together with the emotional lift from the injuries, inspired Port to greater heights.

It was the stuff kids at Alberton are fed on — fighting and beating all the odds. When Hodges resumed after half time, with his left knee heavily bandaged, the spirit developed further.

Glenelg, however, certainly wasn't about to lie down. It responded in the opening minutes of the second half with a goal from Scott Salisbury.

But Salisbury's opponent, Gavin Wanganeen, answered for Port, dashing past him to kick a goal.

Some marvellous defensive work from George Fiacchi allowed Wanganeen to go again as Glenelg was failing to make use of the breeze.

If there was a special moment which epitomised Port's great performance, it was midway through the third quarter when McDermott was about to kick deep into Glenelg's forward lines.

In a desperate lunge, Mark Williams just grabbed McDermott's guernsey, enough to restrict his kicking motion and the ball went only a few metres. A Port player then swooped on the ball and it was cleared.

This was Port on the day. The often unnoticed little things of the game which inspired a team.

Fiacchi was magnificent in a back pocket. His courage, commitment and teamwork was typical of Port's game and he was a worthy winner of the Jack Oatey Medal for best on ground.

Abernethy and Mark Williams were resilient, and Hodges, the mercurial full forward who kicked six goals to better the season record of 151 set in 1983 by former Sturt champion Rick Davies, was again outstanding.

Wayne Mahney again showed he is more than just a gritty little tough player, especially in the opening term, when his quick thinking and hard work resulted in goals.

Paul Rizonico was tremendous in a back pocket, while Greg Phillips reversed his second semi-final performance against Murphy and again proved himself a tower of strength.

John Fidge kicked three of Glenelg's five goals up to quarter-time by out-playing Ben Harris, but from then on the Port full back won their clash.

Allan Bartlett worked exceptionally hard for Glenelg and provided plenty of strength and chances, both in the backlines or in a forward pocket.

John Seebohm frustrated Port with his intelligent and courageous play at centre half-back.

Rod Jameson, Tony Symonds and Robert Thompson also rated high among Glenelg's contributors, while Melican's first half was excellent.

Glenelg has now lost 11 of the 15 grand finals it has contested. For Cornes, it was loss number 10 as a player or a coach, and while the disappointment or anguish would probably be the same, at least yesterday his players lost with honor.

But the day wasn't about losers nor the continuation of the AFL saga. It was about an inspired team which triumphed against adversity.

Cornes speech angers Magpies

By LEO SCHLINK

The village rumor mill had seemingly got it all wrong.

Until midway through the first quarter of the Grand Final To End All Grand Finals, the match widely expected to be the most violent, most brutal in the game's rapidly evolving history, was decidedly fair-minded, almost polite.

When willing Port Adelaide ruckman David Hynes and his much-decorated colleague Scott Hodges indulged Allan Bartlett and Chris Duthy's overtures for contact outside the rules 20 minutes into the first quarter, the conflict threatened to escalate somewhat.

It was to be a mercifully brief infraction. When push came to shove, it was a points decision. Hynes and Scott Salisbury, somewhat predictably, had names and numbers taken and the match ran its magnificent, pulsating course.

If, as the pundits put it, this was the last Grand Final of Consequence in South Australia, it was to be an appropriately memorable finale, crowned by South Australian National Football League president Max Basheer's boorish presentation to the renegade Magpies.

After the match, fittingly rugged and uncompromising, the vanquished warriors showed a charitable character to remain on the field as Port players, supporters and spectators revelled in a historic 15-point victory.

But somewhere in the next hour, amid the raucous champagne-drenched, beer-stained celebration in the Port changerooms, came a dissertation of dubious quality and timing.

It belonged to Glenelg coach Graham Cornes, the man strongly rumored to have designs on the coaching job at the Adelaide Football Club and who, clearly, was striving to reconcile what had transpired in the previous two hours.

Cornes's speech to attentive Magpie players and officials would not have been made any easier by Tiger captain

Chris McDermott's outstandingly sporting and sincere address.

The angst that had brewed between the two clubs following the July revelation of Port's bid to join the Australian Football League washed away with each of McDermott's words. It was a superbly judged and well-meant oration.

Cornes endorsed his captain's remarks before talking a lot about logic. The logic, mostly, that said Port could not or would not win and the logic, largely, that said Glenelg would triumph.

While Cornes and Glenelg would never underestimate Port, they had, nevertheless, seen logic fall them.

But then came a warning, bordering on a threat.

"You should all enjoy the moment while it lasts," said Cornes, who has sampled the bitterness of grand final defeat three times since 1986. "The good times are well and truly over."

"I have the utmost respect for your coach and players, but there's a couple of individuals out there (in the crowded warm-up area) with a lot to answer for. So enjoy it while you can."

It was at this point, before a stunned gathering, that Cornes was urged to take his leave.

"Well, we'll make it four in a row next year then, ... you" came the angry response from an official. "Why don't you just ... off."

Needing little more encouragement to depart, Cornes and McDermott trailed off sombrely to the Glenelg quarters, where opposite number John Cahill had made a gracious speech to the losers.

Port players, who by no fault of their making had become involved in the long-running AFL imbroglio, were initially angered by Cornes's comments before later dismissing them at a dinner at Cheltenham racecourse.

Reviving the sentiments of the late Magpie stalwart Bob McLean it was a matter, simply, of winners laughing and the losers pleasing themselves after a grand final that provided most of its vitriol post-match.

A silence of shattered dreams

By KAREN PHILLIPS

There was nothing golden about this silence.

The silence that hung heavily over the Glenelg changerooms, after the defeated Tigers returned to their hideout yesterday, was grey, if not black, as the players dragged their feet towards the showers away from public scrutiny.

They had sat on the Football Park turf, a team of despairing individuals each unable to speak even to the colleague next to him, as they heard Russell Johnston accept the T. S. Hill Cup and Johnston's team-mates receive their premiership medallions.

Few could watch. It was all they could do to sit through the proceedings without stony masks cracking to reveal what good sportsmanship prevented them displaying.

There was no contact between team-mates, save the sinewy arms of Tony Symonds draped around Scott Salisbury; nothing to show these men had been fighting so hard for one common cause, until they left the public arena.

"It's not easy," captain Chris McDermott said later of this 20th-century torture. "You just want to go down to the changerooms and bury your head."

"But you have to show the respect they deserve. And it's a good learning experience for the young blokes; a moment you do not want to remember, but one you never forget."

"They say there's no second prize. Never a truer word has been spoken."

"There's only despair and distress, so if you can get anything else out of it, good. There ain't nothing else."

Coach Graham Cornes had locked his players away for a few brief minutes in the changerooms before they were forced again to expose their anguish to the outside world, to the fans and families and friends who wished to express their grief but would never understand. What he said in those

moments will not be revealed — at least not by Cornes.

Just as Cornes believes the emotions of the coach are a private matter to be borne alone, so he believes the coach's words to his players are for their ears' alone. But a calculated guess suggests those words were not entirely complimentary, considering Cornes told the media there was no "logical" reason for Port Adelaide's victory.

"There is no logical reason why Port Adelaide, on paper, should have won that game," Cornes whispered. "But when you come to emotional reasons — courage, desperation, discipline — they put it beyond doubt."

"In those five or 10 minutes of the game when it really counted, Port Adelaide showed how it should have been done."

"When we missed those couple of shots in time-on (of the last quarter), it was gone. We were in it until then."

"The players are obviously depressed and disappointed, but I guess players sometimes find it hard to accept the real reasons you get beaten."

Cornes refused to single out players who had performed to his expectations, claiming Glenelg had "some really good players today" but not enough.

His skipper, the man they call Captain Courageous, disagreed with Cornes' apparent disgust at what the sidelined coach had seen as insufficient emotional involvement.

"You could not be more prepared for a grand final than we were," McDermott said. "There wasn't that much in it, just five minutes in the second quarter that was the real difference; apart from that, it was pretty even."

"The better side on the day won."

"The reward was the same for both sides. We were as good as we could be, but they were better."

McDermott then joined the few remaining people standing, still silent, in the outer region of the changing area.

Day they lost the formula


GLENELG

BY NEVILLE ROBERTS

A lack of hard work, commitment and persistence are the cold, hard facts behind the Tigers' loss yesterday.

The Tigers matched Port until late in the second quarter, but a six-goal rampage by the Magpies sealed their fate.

The second semi-final was as good a lesson as anyone could get on how to beat the Magpies, and Glenelg looked as if it had found the formula on that day.

The secret was tight, hard, close-in football, with strong, running players at every contest and a mad assault on the ball.

Glenelg certainly was not prepared for that type of commitment yesterday.

The Magpies demand a four-quarter effort from all players, and to beat them they must be matched in that area.

Glenelg coach Graham Cornes was critical of his players.

"The commitment and effort in the last quarter were what we wanted - the level in the previous three was not there at all," he said.

"If anyone was going to be waging a campaign out there today it should have been us.

"With the events of the past few months and the feeling of the other nine clubs behind us, it should have motivated us sufficiently.

"But it is up to each individual."

The Tigers were outplayed in the crumbing position. When they needed tough runners at the fall of the ball they weren't there.

Glenelg at times did work hard enough, but unlike Port could not sustain the efforts.

After half time Cornes moved Allan Bartlett to centre half-forward.

Bartlett had performed well in tandem with Chris Duthy in controlling Port's Scott Hodges, who later proved a matchwinner.

Cornes had been forced to find a replacement for injured half-forward Clayton Lamb, and there is no doubt this unbalanced the team.

There was much speculation about the player who might be selected, but Cornes pulled one out of the box in going for half-back Rod Jameson.

It looked an incredible piece of coaching, with Jameson kicking the Tigers' first goal.

But it proved to be a flash in the pan, with the Tiger forwards having great difficulty in converting after that.

It must be said that the ball was in the area enough for them to have scored more.

Full forward John Fidge was the only real avenue to goal.

Cornes said after the game that success in 1990 was there for the most determined.

"I told our players earlier in the season that the flag was there for the taking," he said.

"I have thought throughout this would be a very winnable grand final. In fact it was the most winnable our club has been involved in."

Too few made task too hard

BY STEVE LARKIN

Experienced finals performer John Seebohm gave his all for Glenelg... but it was not enough to stop a Port premiership.

The veteran defender shut out Port Adelaide's Darren Smith and provided many opportunities from the key defensive position, gathering 21 possessions.

Skilful wingman Tony Symonds also rated highly, creating chances and having the better of star Magpie Simon Tregenza, but Glenelg had too many players down.

Here's how they rated:

Darren Mansell: Not given a sniff from a forward pocket, courtesy of a fine nullifying game by Richard Foster. Given little latitude and was frequently caught out of position. No value. Rating 1.

Ross Gibbs: Dragged late in first term after letting Wayne Mahney loose, and things deteriorated when placed on Adrian Settre in second stanza, with Settre booting two goals. Saved face with a great second half, repelling many attacks. Rating 4.

Chris Melican: Started well, providing drive from the centre square, but was beaten by David Hynes after quarter time. Taken off in third term and did little when called back in the last quarter. Rating 4.

John Fidge: Always dangerous at full-forward, and finished with 5.3. Port manned up on Fidge extremely well, and the spearhead often found himself with two or more opponents. Rating 6.

Chris McDermott: Would be disappointed with his 20-possession effort. Battled tirelessly but never exerted great influence, while always competing for hard ball. Died out in the last term when Glenelg needed him most. Rating 4.

Brett Deane: Damaging wingman, just shaded by David Hutton on the day. Started in great fashion and hurt Port with pace before Hutton tightened up defensively. Solid contributor. Rating 5.

Allan Bartlett: Brilliant in defence, shutting out resting ruckmen and later Wayne Mahney. Attacked ball aggressively and showed courage in top-notch display. Moved to centre half-forward in second half but struggled to win ball, but this doesn't detract from fine defensive effort. Rating 6.

David Marshall: Watched closely by Bruce Abernethy in the pivot, Marshall was never able to fully break free, but still picked up 23 possessions. The duel with Abernethy finished even. Rating 5.

Chris Duthy: Was splendid at full-back on Scott Hodges early, but the number of opportunities going Hodges' way was too great to resist. Hodges finished with six goals, but Duthy was far from disgraced. Good effort on a seemingly unstoppable spearhead. Rating 4.

Lynden Bow: Started on bench, came on briefly in first term in back pocket before benched again. Added bite in second half from defence but was never a real worry for Port. Average form from limited chances. Rating 3.

Michael Murphy: Blanketed by Greg Phillips at centre half-forward, and not allowed to get into the game. Moved to forward pocket in third term, but Phillips followed and continued to keep him quiet. Booted three goals, but generally down. Rating 3.

Nick Chigwidden: Came off bench late in second term, but struggled to win the ball. Tried hard but beaten by Magpie rovers. Bays needed more from him. Rating 3.

Gary Christie: Solid game, but never threatened to turn the match. Used as exclusive forward pocket in first half, and given a run on the ball after half-time. Never gave in, but couldn't match it with David Hynes. Had 10 hit-outs. Rating 4.

Matthew Liptak: Found ball frequently, but used it poorly. Found the grand final tempo a trifle fierce, but never gave up running and trying. Some glaring errors detracted from an honest effort. Will be better for the experience. Rating 3.

Port cut out Bay big guns

Glenelg had a huge chance of winning the 1990 premiership and blew it!

With no injury worries apart from Clayton Lamb, the week's break and the mental preparation, Glenelg has no excuses for defeat.

And having to watch the premiership slip away from the bench made me feel totally helpless.

It was the most empty feeling I have endured.

And I wasn't the only one.

All the other guys who didn't play... Lamb, Peter Maynard, Jason Bromilow, Paul Rouvray and Craig Elias felt the same.

Port Adelaide's key to victory was its shutting down of Glenelg's senior playmakers.

They cut Chris McDermott, David Marshall and company out of the game and reaped the rewards.

Port deserves full credit for its magnificent win achieved with only 18 fit players at best in the second half.

It was a gutsy effort in a very hard fought game and that is what finals are all about.

The only good thing from Glenelg's point of view is they did not throw in the towel.

The boys never gave in when against the odds in the second half.

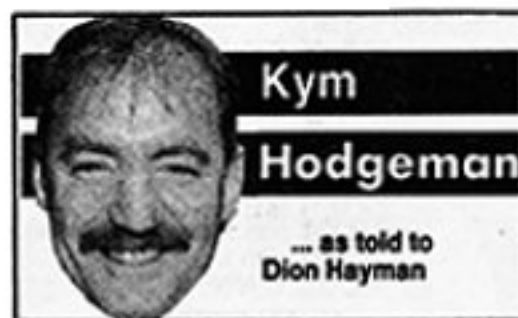
I thought George Fiacchi was magnificent. He fully deserved his Jack Oatey Medal win. The run he provided caught Glenelg off guard all day. He took risks and they always paid dividends.

Greg Phillips answered his critics in the best possible way by beating Michael Murphy and rendering Glenelg's half-forward line all but powerless.

Murphy was a big winner for Glenelg in the second semi-final but Phillips improved out of sight on his performance that day.

Paul Hallahan: Disappointing. Never able to get into game, and couldn't capitalise on ruckman Chris Melican's early dominance. Dragged in second term and couldn't lift tempo on return. Rating 2.

Rod Jameson: Began well across half-forward and looked set to cause Port trouble before Paul Northeast tightened up. Tried on the ball in second half and did some useful things, and was not Glenelg's worst. Rating 4.



Kym

Hodgeman

... as told to Dion Hayman

Bruce Abernethy's game on David Marshall was nothing short of sensational.

Marshall had been Glenelg's best player in its lead-up games and Abernethy's ability to nullify his impact was superlative.

Adrian Settre walked into a premiership side and proved he was worthy of his place by igniting Port early and kicking some telling goals.

And Scott Hodges' effort in kicking 6.6 showed him to be a true champion.

I thought Chris Duthy held him well in the first half but Hodges showed his class, despite injury, to kick a winning score and break the record.

Congratulations must go to him.

We really should have made more of our opportunities early in the second quarter, after having 65 per cent of the play.

But we couldn't kick that first goal we desperately needed and Port, to its credit, rushed on six goals in the last 12 minutes of the quarter to set up their win.

I thought we still had a chance to win at half-time.

But we could never get closer than three goals to give ourselves that real chance.

For Glenelg, John Seebohm was super and led by example.

He was well supported at full-back by Duthy and Ross Gibbs, particularly in the second half.

Tony Symonds never gave up on his wing.

And John Fidge always looked dangerous and did well to kick five goals.

Well done to Port Adelaide in winning three successive flags, a feat that really should be impossible in modern day football.

Scott Sallsbury: Matched it with the dangerous Gavin Wanganeen, but provided little attacking value. As always, tried 110 per cent but found it tough going. Rating 3.

Robbie Thompson: Solid half-back flanker's game, rebounding with customary dash and long kicking. Moved on to livewire Settre and shut him out while continuing to provide drive. Dependable. Rating 5.

Losing heroes ...



Seebohm



Symonds

JOHN SEEBOHM: Port's Darren Smith was a big worry for his team in the second semi-final a fortnight ago, failing to take marks and losing too many contests.

Yesterday, although he worked hard, the same applied. His poor form in both games had a great deal to do with Seebohm.

Seebohm's spilling, strong tackling and effective clearing made centre half-forward a real danger zone for the Magpies.

Port always struggled yesterday when its running players "bombed" the ball high into centre half-forward.

It was only when these players bypassed half-forward in the second half and used the flanks more that Port looked consistently dangerous in attack.

Seebohm also worked well with the ruckmen when they dropped back into defence. While Scott Hodges often was in trouble because he had two opponents the same applied many times to Smith, who usually was under intense pressure.

Blame Glenelg's loss on many factors, but do not blame its dependable and powerful centre half-back.

STATISTICS - Seebohm had 10 kicks and 11 handballs and took four marks. Rating: 8.

TONY SYMONDS: Glenelg had many players who either were down for the whole game or only came into the play occasionally.

Symonds definitely did not fit into either category.

He was invaluable throughout the game on his wing against Simon Tregenza, matching the Port star for pace and providing one of the most entertaining one-on-one contests of the game.

True, Tregenza also was one of his side's best but if he won their battle, it was not by much. And when Tregenza had the ball his opponent was not far behind and usually putting him under pressure.

Without Symonds firing, Glenelg would have lost a vital route into its forward lines.

STATISTICS - Symonds had 20 kicks and 13 handballs and took eight marks. Rating: 7.

- ROGER VAUGHAN

YOUR GUIDE TO THE BIG GAME

GLENELG

PREMIERSHIPS: 1934, 1973, 1985-86.
MAGAREY MEDALLISTS: H. Handby 1928, G. Johnston 1934, P. Brock 1940, M. Boyall 1941, D. K. Phillis 1969, K. Hodgeman 1978, T. McGuinness 1982.
1990 MINOR ROUND: 16 wins, 3 losses, 1 draw. Position: 2nd
1990 FINALS SERIES: Qualifying final Glenelg 17.16 (118) d North 14.11 (96); 2nd semi-final Glenelg 16.14 (110) d Port 15.9 (99).

PORT ADELAIDE

PREMIERSHIPS: 1884, 1890, 1897, 1903, 1906, 1910, 1913-14, 1920, 1928, 1936-37, 1939, 1951, 1954-59, 1962-63, 1965, 1977, 1979-81, 1988-89.
MAGAREY MEDALLISTS: S. Malin 1899, J. Mack 1907, S. Hosking 1910, W.J. Ashley 1914, R. Quinn 1938, D. Boyd 1956, G. Motley 1964, T. Obst 1967, R. Ebert 1971, 1974, 1976, 1980, P. Woite 1975, G. Anderson 1967, S. Hodges 1990.
1990 MINOR ROUND: 17 wins, 3 losses. Position: 1st
1990 FINALS SERIES: 2nd semi-final Glenelg 16.14 (110) d Port 15.9 (99); preliminary final Port 28.14 (182) d North 14.7 (91)



TEAM DETAILS

Forwards

Gary Christie — 27, 196cm, 95kg, 168 games, 22 this year, 151 kicks, 108 marks, 114 handballs, 15 goals, 292 hit outs. A strong marking ruckman.
John Fidge — Age 24, 185cm, 90kg, 128 games, 16 this year, 171k, 99m, 26hb, 86 goals. Has been troubled by injury but is in great touch near goal.
Paul Hallahan — 23, 175cm, 75kg, 26 games, 14 this year, 200k, 33m, 128hb, 17 goals. One of the SANFL's big improvers as a rover.

Half-forwards

Scott Salisbury — 32, 175cm, 82kg, 205 games, 10 this year, 83k, 21m, 60hb, 5 goals. A fearless player who attacks the ball and body aggressively.
Michael Murphy — 25, 188cm, 88kg, 109 games, 19 this year, 194k, 92m, 106hb, 23 goals. Back at Glenelg after several seasons with North Melbourne.
Darren Mansell — Age 23, 175cm, 76kg, 57 games, 17 this year, 138k, 66m, 94hb, 33 goals. Spectacular mark for his size and dangerous around goal.

Centres

Tony Symonds — Age 27, 182cm, 71kg, 188 games, 17 this year, 224k, 76m, 130hb, 23 goals. A dashing player either on a wing or across half-forward.
David Marshall — 30, 178cm, 82kg, 321 games, 19 this year, 322k, 95m, 181hb, 18 goals. A highly-skilled and talented footballer with precise disposal.
Lynden Bow — 21, 180cm, 75kg, 43 games, 17 this year, 179k, 46m, 131hb, 3 goals. Has developed into a very good utility player.

Half-backs

Robbie Thompson — 22, 180cm, 78kg, 59 games, 22 this year, 311k, 71m, 138hb, 2 goals. A solid rebounding defender who made State debut this year.
John Seebohm — 30, 190cm, 86kg, 275 games, 22 this year, 141k, 63m, 146hb, 4 goals. Veteran Tiger centre-half-back who reads the play beautifully.
Rod Jameson — 20, 184cm, 76kg, 44 games, 22 this year, 305k, 108m, 196hb, 10 goals. A very talented youngster in defence or at centre.

Backs

Ross Gibbs — Age 28, 175cm, 79kg, 190 games, 22 this year, 339k, 107m, 112hb, 2 goals. Known as "Mr Cool" for his reliability in defence.
Chris Duthy — 29, 190cm, 85kg, 167 games, 15 this year, 95k, 48m, 70hb. A tough, reliable player.
Allan Bartlett — 23, 188cm, 89kg, 45 games, 19 this year, 144k, 65m, 86hb, 7 goals, 38 hit outs. A big, strong player who can fill roles in attack or defence.

First ruck

1st ruck: **Chris Melican** — Age 26, 196cm, 95kg, 64 games, 19 this year, 93k, 60m, 131hb, 3 goals, 360 hit outs. A much improved ruckman with a big heart.
Chris McDermott — Age 26, 180cm, 85kg, 264 games, 19 this year, 283k, 57m, 304hb, 16 goals. There are few better players in the State than the Tiger skipper.
Nick Chigwidden — 22, 173cm, 72kg, 75 games, 15 this year, 93k, 30m, 119hb, 13 goals. Inspirational little rover.

Interchange

From: **Brett Deane** — Age 22, 179cm, 78kg, 36 games, 15 this year, 144k, 35m, 122hb, 12 goals. A pacy wingman who has made his mark this season.
Craig Elias — 22, 188cm, 93kg, 16 games, 10 this year, 48k, 32m, 43hb, 11 goals. Valuable utility player.
Paul Rouvray — 18, 193cm, 85kg, 21 games, 15 this year, 137k, 59m, 74hb, 13 goals. Has progressed through juniors to be handy forward.
Matthew Liptak — 20, 175cm, 76kg, 19 games, 15 this year, 194k, 53m, 180hb, 15 goals. Another very promising youngster and speedy rover.

Games this season and statistics — minor and major round matches only.

Backs

Paul Rizonico — 24, 188cm, 85kg, 34 games, 15 this year, 110 kicks, 44 marks, 84 handballs. Played 17 games for Collingwood and has proved a valuable defender for the Magpies.
Ben Harris — 27, 188cm, 94kg, 134 games, 14 this year, 47k, 31m, 75hb. Returned to the club this season from the Brisbane Bears.
George Fiacchi — 26, 175cm, 70kg, 109 games, 17 this year, 193k, 62m, 100hb. Enjoyed another great season in defence with some great clearing dashes.

Half-backs

Paul Northeast — 20, 186cm, 83kg, 54 games, 17 this year, 177k, 71m, 105hb, 1 goal. Works hard all day.
Greg Phillips — 31, 188cm, 91kg, 264 games, 21 this year, 19 State games, 164k, 99m, 155hb, 2 goals, 26 hit outs. Champion defender who reads the play brilliantly. Big game performer.
Bruce Abernethy — 28, 182cm, 82kg, 160 games, 22 this year, 9 State games, 345k, 92m, 91hb, 3 goals. A brilliant run-on player with great experience.

Centres

Simon Tregenza — 19, 184cm, 82kg, 60 games, 22 this year, 1 State game, 397k, 82m, 176hb, 22 goals. Smooth-moving wingman with outstanding skills.
Stephen Williams — 29, 178cm, 80kg, 164 games, 21 this year, 292k, 79m, 190hb, 14 goals. A creative, hard-tackling player who works hard all day.
David Hutton — 24, 183cm, 76kg, 85 games, 22 this year, 336k, 126m, 125hb, 16 goals. A lightning fast wingman who is dangerous around the goals.

Half-forwards

Richard Foster — 25, 183cm, 79kg, 67 games, 21 this year, 179k, 47m, 101hb, 1 goal. Can play in attack or defence, has been a handy acquisition from Carlton.
Darren Smith — 25, 193cm, 79kg, 167 games, 19 this year, 2 State games, 172k, 124m, 121hb, 29 goals, 51 hit outs. A dangerous centre-half-forward who marks well and is a long kick.
Wayne Mahney — 23, 178cm, 76kg, 94 games, 14 this year, 123k, 41m, 112hb, 6 goals. A strong, aggressive and inspirational footballer.

Forwards

Gavin Wanganeen — 17, 183cm, 67kg, 23 games, 20 this year, 231k, 45m, 154hb, 39 goals. One of the young stars of the SANFL. An exciting rover with superb skills.
Scott Hodges — 22, 188cm, 85kg, 94 games, 22 this year, 301k, 190m, 62hb, 147 goals. The winner of the 1990 Magarey Medal and Ken Farmer Medal. He is in brilliant form and riding high on confidence.
David Hynes — 23, 194cm, 86kg, 116 games, 21 this year, 166k, 95m, 174hb, 19 goals, 200 hit outs. A mobile big man who is back-up to Russell Johnston and a danger in the forward lines.

First ruck

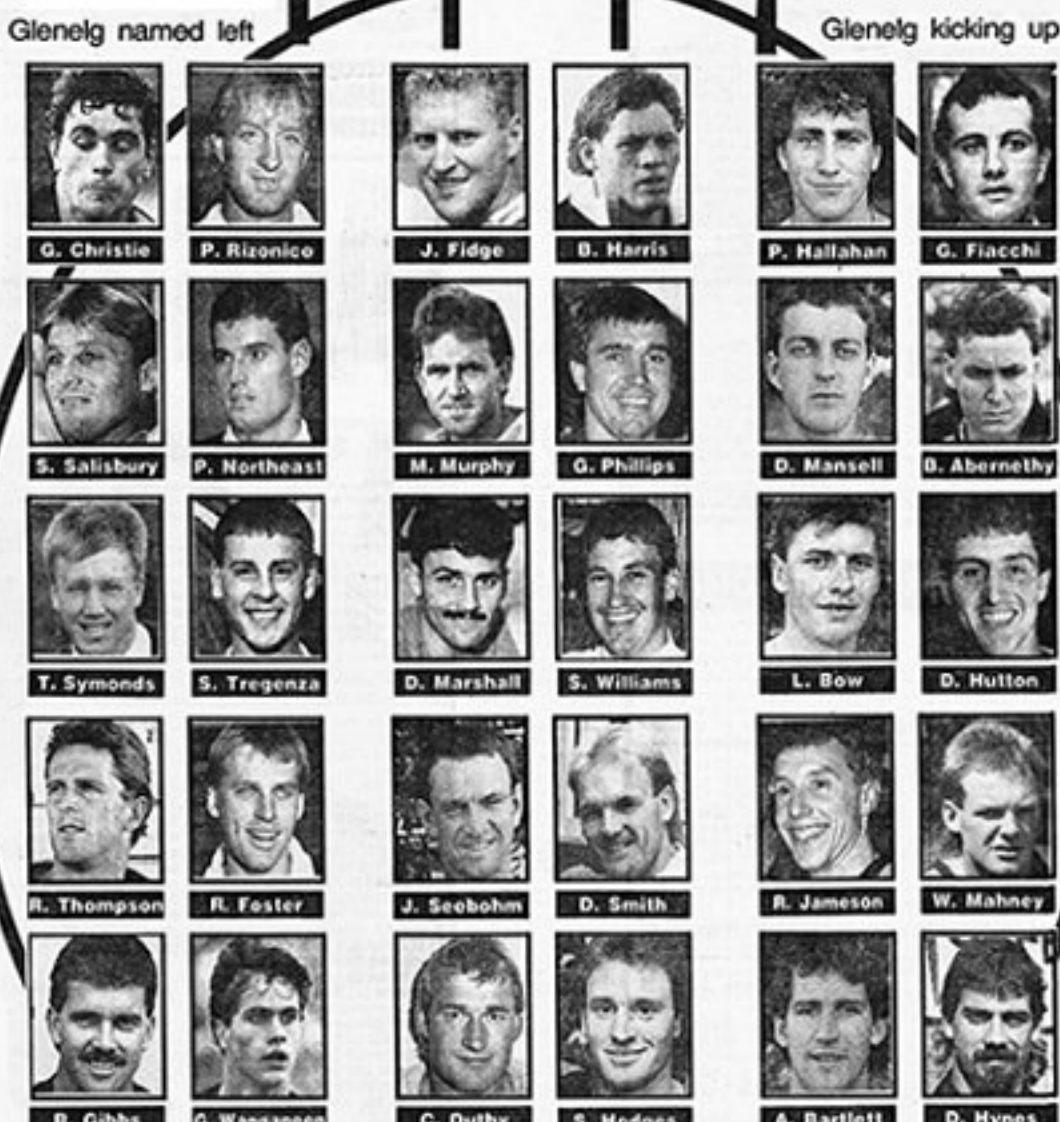
Russell Johnston — Age 30, height 196cm, weight 90kg, 207 league games, 17 this year, 6 State games, 103k, 82m, 123hb, nine goals, 212 hit outs. The Port skipper and a tireless ruckman.
Mark Williams — 32, 183cm, 84kg, 128 games, 13 this year, 8 State games, 199k, 40m, 148hb, 13 goals. An experienced, battle-hardened veteran, who returned this season from the Bears.
Tim Ginever — 24, 172cm, 71kg, 150 games, 12 this year, 171k, 36m, 125hb, 17 goals. A courageous rover who has constantly battled injury.

Interchange

Adrian Settre — 21, 175cm, 74kg, 39 games, 10 this year, 77k, 21m, 56hb, 13 goals. A dashing blond rover who is dangerous around the goals.
Geoff Phelps — 25, 186cm, 85kg, 116 games, 22 this year, 149k, 72m, 105hb, 18 hit outs. A versatile player who can be used to fill a number of roles.

Games this season and statistics — minor and major round matches only.

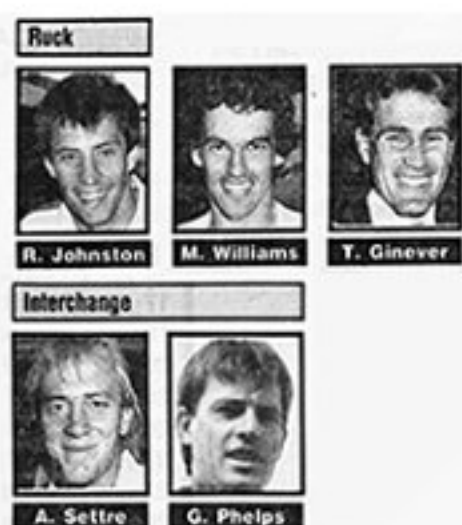
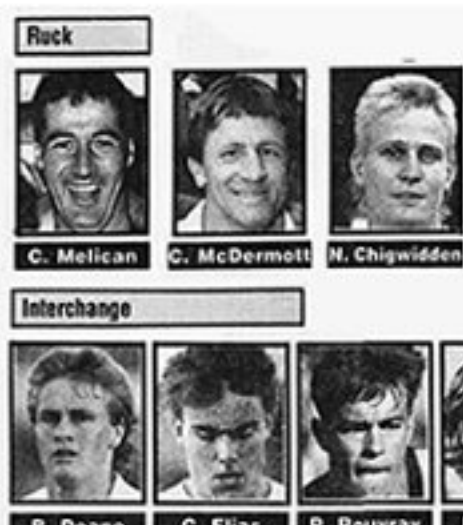
Umpires
 Rick Kinnear
 Mark Mackle



Graham Cornes
 Glenelg coach



John Cahill
 Port coach





Nice guys finish last

WILDY: After fighting a losing battle with injury, you made the decision to retire. Was it a relief or a feeling of sadness?

HODGEMAN: It was a bit of both. I was devastated I couldn't be part of the finals but, physically and mentally, that was an impossibility. Strangely, when I told Graham Cornes I was retiring, it felt like a burden off my shoulders.

WILDY: Kym, you went out in style by playing the last minor round game. It was a great gesture by the club to allow you to play but was the decision right? It might sound cruel, but weren't you denying a team-mate one last chance to impress for the finals?

HODGEMAN: No, not really. There were four players fighting for that last spot on the bench and rather than show favoritism they were all given a chance to impress in the reserves. One of them was going to be selected for the finals and as it turned out, Nick Chigwidden got the nod.

WILDY: When the players found out you were going to be selected what was their reaction?

HODGEMAN: Very positive and very supportive. I spoke at length to Cornes, Chris McDermott and Peter Carey discussing the pros and cons and they left me in no doubt I should play. Glenelg is a fantastic club and I'm so grateful to them for the opportunity to play that one last game.

WILDY: Where do you go from here. Coaching?

HODGEMAN: Oh, for sure. Football's been great to me and I'd like to put something back into the game. I don't want to coach an amateur team but if a league position came up I'd be more than interested.

WILDY: There's a possibility Cornes will coach the composite side next year. That would leave a vacancy at the Bay.

HODGEMAN: There'd be plenty of qualified people after the job. Peter Carey springs to mind and Wayne Stringer's done nothing wrong as reserves coach.

WILDY: At the start of the year did you apply for the reserves coaching position at Glenelg?

HODGEMAN: Yes.

WILDY: And you were knocked back?

HODGEMAN: No, I withdrew my application and decided to play one more year.

WILDY: Why did you change your mind?

HODGEMAN: Originally, I thought there was a vacancy there but when I found out Dennis Russell still wanted to coach, I backed out.

WILDY: But Russell didn't get the job, Wayne Stringer did. That seems strange.

HODGEMAN: The reason Dennis didn't retain the coaching role was because the club wanted him to play a more prominent role on the field without all the worries of coaching.

Mean streak a must

WILDY: I'd like you to clarify a point if you will. Did you threaten to quit the club when you found out Wayne Stringer was appointed reserves coach.

HODGEMAN: No, that's rubbish. There was never the situation of me quitting because Wayne got the job.

WILDY: It was a very strong rumor. If I'm wrong, I take it there are no hard feelings between the two of you.

HODGEMAN: Wayne and I get on like a house on fire. He's a neighbor of mine and, more importantly, has got a tennis court. That's always a good reason to stay friends.

WILDY: How did the Glenelg sides of the seventies and mid-eighties compare.

HODGEMAN: When I started in 1974 Glenelg had a very good team but lacked the killer instinct. Too many players were content just to make the finals. They thought their job had been done. We should have won the grand final in 1974 and 1975 but we didn't. The Glenelg team in the mid eighties was different.

WILDY: In what way?

HODGEMAN: We had the never say die attitude. By rights, we shouldn't have won the 1986 grand final. That day we had three or four players who never should have played because of serious injury. People said we couldn't win without Kernahan and McGuinness, but we did. If you are motivated anything's possible.

WILDY: When you returned from Melbourne did you notice how much Glenelg had improved in the physical department?

HODGEMAN: That was the first thing I noticed. The 1986 team consisted of ruthless people, people who would do anything to win.

WILDY: Anything?

HODGEMAN: Well almost. Such players as Stringers, Henwood, Garton and Salisbury added enormous physical strength to our team and, more importantly, added a mean streak. To win grand finals you have to have a bit of nastiness. Nice guys finish last.

WILDY: After winning the 1978 Magarey Medal you packed your bags and went to Victoria. What influenced you to sign with North Melbourne. I know Melbourne also was keen?

HODGEMAN: The chance to play finals football was the deciding factor. North Melbourne was a top line side whereas Melbourne, under coach Ron Barassi, had a 3-5 year plan to make the finals. I



● Wildy



● Hodgeman

Wildy Face-to-Face with Hodgeman

■ **NASTINESS** is one ingredient needed to win a grand final, according to former champion Glenelg rover Kym Hodgeman.

■ **HODGEMAN** said that when he returned from North Melbourne in 1986 he found the Glenelg team comprised ruthless players who would do almost anything to win — the Stringers, Henwood, Garton and Salisbury.

■ **"TO win grand finals you have to have a bit of nastiness. Nice guys finish last,"** said Hodgeman in an exclusive Face-to-Face interview with special writer, David Wildy.

■ **THE little roving champion** who won a Magarey Medal retired at the end of the minor round and is devastated he will not play in the Grand Final against Port.

■ **BUT** he reveals his thoughts now are centred on coaching "to put something back into the game."

■ **IF** a league position came up he would be "more than interested." If Cornes won the job as SA's composite team coach there were plenty of qualified people in line to take the Glenelg job, including Peter Carey and Wayne Stringer.

made the right decision.

WILDY: Did your stint in Melbourne make you a better player?

HODGEMAN: I came back to Adelaide a far stronger and more complete footballer but, unfortunately, because of injury couldn't show just how much improvement I'd made. A persistent groin problem and other niggling injuries slowed me down dramatically.

WILDY: So that explains why you were such an angry little man on the field. All your frustration was bottled up waiting to explode.

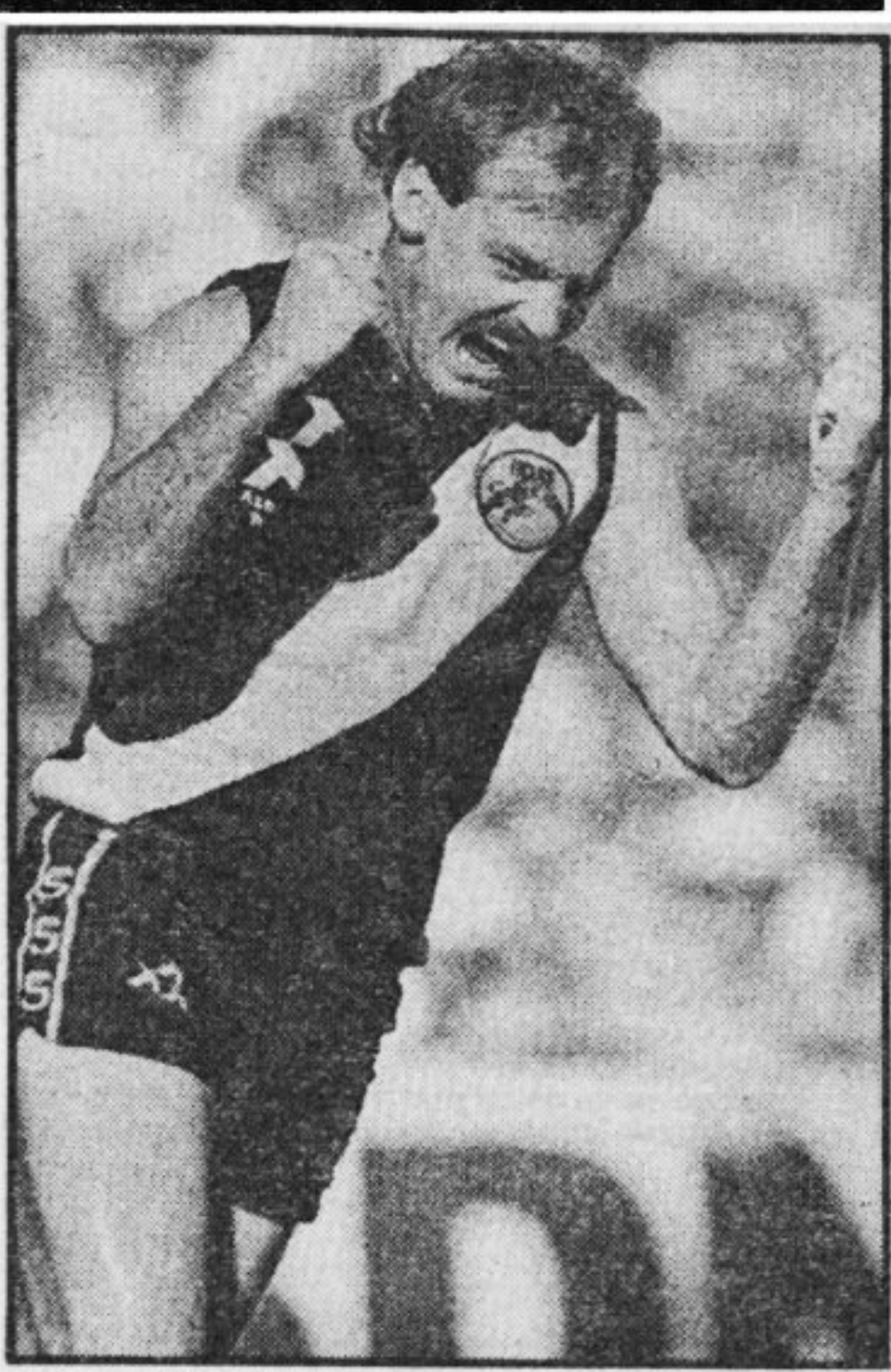
HODGEMAN: That's an interesting observation. For a large part of career I'd been pushed around quite a bit and one day I decided enough was enough. From that point on if anyone belted me they could expect to wear one themselves. The continuous weight work I did in Melbourne really did build me up and gave me the confidence to stand up for myself.

WILDY: Actually Kym, you've come a long way since you first arrived at Brighton Road weighing the best of 9 stone. Your first league coach Neil Kerley described you as a "half skun rabbit".

HODGEMAN: He was right. When I first played league football I was very thin. During the course of my career I gained over three stone but you still couldn't exactly call me fat.

WILDY: What did you learn from Kerls?

HODGEMAN: More than anything he taught me to be a stronger person. As a kid, I used to leave myself wide open putting myself at risk. Kerls knew if I was to survive at foot-



● ECSTASY: Hodgeman celebrates another Bays goal

ball I had to learn to protect myself. Whenever he could he'd shirtfront me at training to make me aware of the oncoming body. It was a hard way to learn but it prepared me.

WILDY: Well, just on coaches. What was the legendary John Kennedy like to play under. Similar to Kerls?

HODGEMAN: Yeah. Kennedy was very hard. Even at the age of 56 he'd do most of the training with us and he had a "pace-maker" fitted. One particular year we had a series of hamstring injuries. John wanted to slash everybody's car tyres and make the players either run or ride their bike to training because he thought our bodies were too soft.

WILDY: Cornes, Kerley, Nicholls, Halbert, Blight, Kennedy and Cable are big names in the coaching world. If you had to choose one who was the best.

HODGEMAN: I honestly couldn't narrow it down to one because they were all great teachers whether in a physical or mental respect. Cornes and Halbert were great thinking coaches, Kennedy and Kerley more physical. I had my best two years of football under John Nicholls. Cable taught me a lot about roving.

WILDY: Your career reads success after success. How important is it for you to be a winner?

HODGEMAN: I think it was Fos Williams who said "winning is not everything, it's the only thing". I can associate with that statement but, at the same time, keep things in perspective.

WILDY: So you don't kick the dog or row with the wife when you lose?

HODGEMAN: I hate losing but I don't think I'm unbearable. Winning and losing is part of sport. The biggest winners in sport are the people who can learn from mistakes.

WILDY: 17 years in football. Any regrets?

HODGEMAN: The only regret I have is that it took so long for me to play in a premiership side. It would have been nice to savor that feeling a lot earlier. The only other disappointment is not being able to finish this year. That aside I've been lucky.

WILDY: It's hard to describe the build-up to a grand final with all the pressure and hype. Can you recount your feelings?

HODGEMAN: Apprehension, nerves and worry is how I felt. If you're not nervous you shouldn't be out there.

WILDY: Isn't the atmosphere when you run onto the ground electric.

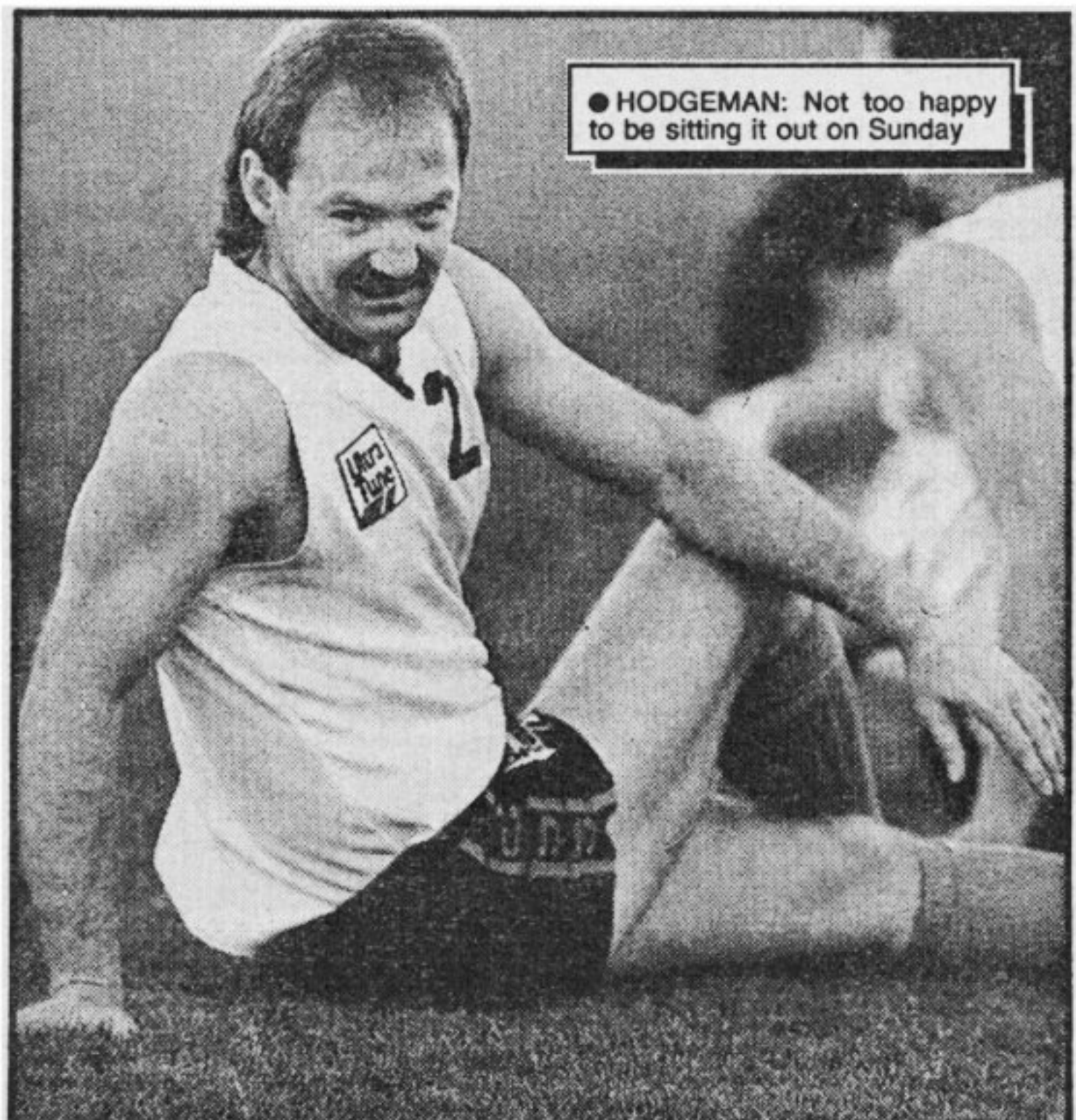
HODGEMAN: It's almost frightening, it's one continual buzz. Personally the nerves and butterflies disappeared when I got out onto the ground. I've actually seen players physically sick because of uncontrollable nerves.

WILDY: Your team-mates have enjoyed the week's break and no doubt are chafing at the bit.

HODGEMAN: Oh yes. Cornsey has kept everything very low key but I can assure you the players are ready.

WILDY: By the way. Can Glenelg win the flag?

HODGEMAN: Of course we can, and we will. Everyone at Glenelg is confident of doing well. Bring on the grand final.



● HODGEMAN: Not too happy to be sitting it out on Sunday