Hardy's haul tames Tigers

final score

Central v Glenelg Gliderol Stadium: 2357

Bulldogs	5.5	8.11	14.15	15.19	(109)
Tigers	4.3	5.4	6.8	11.9	(75)

BEST PLAYERS: Bulldogs: O'Hara, Hardy, Habel, Boyd, O'Brien, Sansbury, Thomas, Jenner. **Tigers:** Kirkby, Rudolph, Pitt, Lyons. **GOALS: Bulldogs:** Hardy 7; Habel, J. Gowans 2; Boyd, Jenner, Goodrem, Hannath. **Tigers:** Kirkby 6; Hitchcock 2; Tenace, Holmes, Bradley. **INJURIES/REPORTS: Bulldogs:** Sibenaler (hamstring). **Tigers:** Nil. **UMPIRES:** Avon, Thompson, Hundertmark.

SANFL ROUND 18

Norwood	3.3	6.8	7.12	9.19	**73**
Port	0.5	3.5	5.5	5.6	**36**

Injuries: Nil. **Reports:** Nil. **Crowd:** 6050 at Norwood.

North	1.3	5.4	6.7	11.11	**77**
West	1.4	2.4	4.8	8.9	**57**

Injuries: Nil. **Reports:** Nil. **Crowd:** 1720 at Prospect.

Central	5.5	8.11	14.15	15.19	**109**
Glenelg	4.3	5.4	6.8	11.9	**75**

Injuries: Nil. **Reports:** Nil. **Crowd:** 2357 at Gliderol Stadium.

TODAY: South v Sturt (Noarlunga)

BYE: Eagles

SANFL ladder

	Team	P	W	L	for	agst	Str	pts	%
1	Norwood	15	14	1	1344	810	W6	28	62.40
2	Central	16	11	5	1432	1134	W1	22	55.81
3	West	15	9	6	1105	947	L1	18	53.85
4	North	15	7	8	1139	1272	W2	14	47.24
5	Glenelg	15	7	8	1123	1339	L2	14	45.61
6	Port	15	5	10	1271	1312	L1	10	49.21
7	South*	14	5	9	1185	1309	L1	10	47.51
8	Eagles**	15	5	10	1040	1353	W1	10	43.46
9	Sturt*	14	4	10	1059	1293	L5	8	45.03

*YET TO PLAY THIS ROUND **BYE

final score

North v West Prospect: 1720

Roosters	1.3	5.4	6.7	11.11	(77)
Bloods	1.4	2.4	4.8	8.9	(57)

BEST PLAYERS: Roosters: Bennett, Thring, Alleway, Clisby, Shannon, Thompson, Blee. **Bloods:** Macreadie, Brad Fisher, Ben Fisher, Laird, Hartlett. **GOALS: Roosters:** Alleway 4; Mayes 3; Bennett, Clisby, Johnston, M. Thring. **Bloods:** Brad Fisher 3; Ferguson 2; Macreadie, Ben Fisher, Slattery. **INJURIES/REPORTS: Roosters:** G. Thring (knee), Thompson (striking). **Bloods:** Tippett, Bricknell (striking). **UMPIRES:** Bowen, Medlin, Ralston.

JAI BEDNALL

THERE'S nothing like a game against Glenelg to get Central District back into form.

The Bulldogs entered yesterday's clash on the back of a shock loss to Port but rediscovered the high-paced ball movement and hard running that had been missing in recent weeks in a 34 point win.

Justin Hardy made it 13 goals from two games at the Bay this season by kicking 7.3 – the biggest individual haul in the SANFL this season.

He feasted on the fine upfield work of Brayden O'Hara, Luke Habel and Jackson O'Brien while Eddie Sansbury and Paul Thomas kept the Tigers in check in defence.

"There were better moments today," Central coach Roy Laird said.

The Tigers once again saved their worst football for the Bulldogs.

It's now been 14 games since they've won against Central and they added another disappointing chapter to the SANFL's most lopsided rivalry despite having more possessions, more tackles and a stack more clearances.

"Our ability to transition with speed and execute by foot (was what let us down)," Glenelg coach Kris Massie said.

"It's an obvious area of improvement for our footy club . . . our defensive pressure up-field needs to improve also."

Laird brought in back-up ruckman Cameron Milne so he could leave Hardy as a permanent forward and pair him with Jack Hannath in a twin towers attack.

The ploy was working early as the pair combined for three goals in the first half.

But inaccurate kicking kept the Tigers in the contest and a hamstring injury which forced Yves Sibenaler to the bench left the Dogs slightly vulnerable.

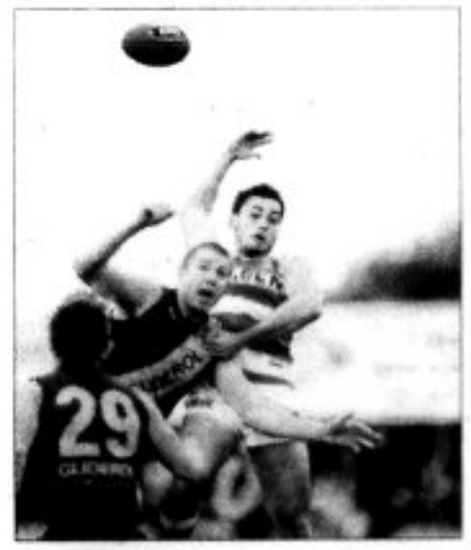
So Hardy took over.

The most improved player in the SANFL this season kicked 4.2 in the third quarter as the Dogs stretched their lead to 55 points.

Hardy's haul gives him a five goal lead in the race for the Ken Farmer Medal.

"He has shown consistently through the year if we can isolate him and provide him with a bit of space he can be dangerous," Laird said.

The other positives for Central on an individual level were the output of O'Brien in his first game back from the reserves, the poise O'Hara showed all day and the consistency Habel is finding. Thomas also responded well to a nasty head knock in the second term to lead from the front.



In dispute: Lachlan Button and Damian Hynes contest a mark yesterday

Norwood's win on Friday night and West's defeat yesterday have the Bulldogs all but pencilled in to second position.

They have four more games to prepare for finals and get a host of key players back.

Alan Obst, Andrew Hayes, Ben Nason, Jay Nash, Tom Dunne, Chris Gowans, Troy Menzel and Luke Barmby are all desperate to force their way back in before finals and Laird hasn't ruled any of them out.

Glenelg needs a couple of more wins to ensure its finals berth and faces a potential elimination final preview against North on Saturday.

Ruory Kirkby was the Tigers' best kicking 6.3.

GLENELG

	Kicks	Mks	Hbl	F/for	F/ag	Gls	Pts	H/O	Tkl
KIRK	7	7	5	0	1	0	0	5	1
TENACE	6	1	6	1	2	1	0	0	2
AGNEW	3	3	6	1	3	0	0	0	4
HOLMES	9	3	3	2	0	1	0	0	2
BRADLEY	10	3	5	1	2	1	0	2	7
ALLEN	7	2	9	1	1	0	0	0	8
RUDOLPH	10	1	4	2	3	0	0	0	1
TREMBATH	6	5	3	0	0	0	1	0	0
EARL	3	2	4	2	0	0	0	0	2
MCGINTY	3	3	4	1	1	0	0	13	4
KIRKBY	13	7	3	4	1	6	3	1	1
MILNE	14	8	8	0	1	0	0	0	1
LYONS	12	2	13	0	1	0	1	0	3
PITT	20	11	7	0	3	0	0	1	5
LALLY	8	4	7	0	0	0	0	0	0
MULES	10	3	8	1	3	0	0	0	1
KENNEDY	7	3	4	0	1	0	0	0	2
HITCHCOCK	8	3	0	1	1	2	0	0	1
DAVENPORT	17	1	8	3	0	0	1	2	3
BUTTON	2	0	6	2	1	0	0	25	0
SCHARENBERG	9	4	5	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total	184	76	118	22	25	11	9	49	49

CENTRALS

	Kicks	Mks	Hbl	F/for	F/ag	Gls	Pts	H/O	Tkl
WALDHUTER	4	1	3	0	1	0	2	0	1
HARDY	12	10	2	0	1	7	3	1	2
BOYD	16	2	4	3	1	1	2	0	3
JENNER	10	3	13	1	1	1	1	0	4
GOODREM	12	4	2	1	0	1	0	0	2
SANSBURY	9	2	6	0	2	0	0	0	0
DUTSCHKE	9	2	4	1	0	0	0	0	0
MILNE	2	0	4	0	2	0	0	7	0
THOMAS	10	1	4	2	1	0	1	0	2
O'BRIEN	12	4	10	2	2	0	0	0	6
HABEL	15	4	5	4	0	2	2	0	3
TEMPLETON	3	0	5	2	2	0	0	0	2
GOWANS	9	6	7	2	0	2	1	0	4
COLLIER	10	4	1	0	1	0	0	0	2
HANNATH	5	4	6	2	3	1	2	32	1
MARSCHALL	16	3	2	1	0	0	1	0	1
WILLIAMS	10	7	7	0	0	0	0	0	2
HYNES	3	2	3	1	1	0	0	0	2
SIBENALER	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
SCHILLER	10	3	4	0	1	0	0	0	4
O'HARA	13	3	9	3	2	0	0	0	3
Total	191	66	101	25	22	15	19	40	44