

Port, North, and West Win League Football: South, Torrens Draw

STURT OUTCLASSED

WEST ADELAIDE SHOW PREMIERSHIP FORM IN 3 TERMS

FIFTH SUCCESSIVE WIN

(By O. J. O'GRADY)

THE form shown by West in the first, second, and final terms at Adelaide Oval today was good enough to give that team an excellent chance of winning the 1932 premiership. That is, of course, if the form shown today can be maintained.

Apart from a brilliant term, when they scored 6-7 to two points, the double-blues were convincingly outclassed. Sturt will find it difficult to advance an excuse for their defeat. The great victory of West was unexpected, particularly as Snell was unable to play. West have won their last five games.

West began the season with comparatively poor prospects, and lost the first three games. Since then, however, the red-and-blacks have improved with each match, and today's great win places them in the leading four. There is no telling how far the red-and-blacks will go.

After having seen them in action against Glenelg last Saturday I was not impressed. That victory was achieved largely through the individual efforts of Snell and Bottomley.

Today it was an entirely different story. The only fault that could be levelled at West was in the handling of the team in the third term.

STRONG AT CENTRE

Before half-time West were superior everywhere, but at no point were they stronger than at centre, where Mathews, filling Snell's place, was defeating Bateman in pointless fashion. Just before half-time Bateman left the centre and brought in the junior Reeves to oppose Mathews. When the third term began Shea, West captain, moved Mathews to half-back left so that he would still oppose the Sturt leader, Mason, who had played the half-back position faultlessly in the

first half, took over the centre. The objective of the move was probably to ensure the subjugation of Bateman.

The result, however, was almost a disaster. Reeves defeated Mason at centre, and Bateman did much better at half-forward. Mathews and Mason faded from the picture for the time.

The result was that Sturt gathered momentum and the whole side was heartened. At three-quarter time West were only three points ahead, Sturt having added 6-7 to two points. Shea rectified his error at this juncture, and Mathews was brought back to centre again.

On the final term West again held command, and won with ease.

WEST	5-4	10-7	10-9	16-10
STURT	1-4	3-5	9-12	11-12

Goalkickers.—West—Bottomley (4), A. Williams (3), Connell, Hill, Golding (each 2), Mathews, Solomon, D. Williams. Sturt—Morton (4), Beeching (3), Parsons (2), Sawatzke, and Bateman.

Best Players.—West—Connell, Solomon, Mathews, Mason, Bottomley, A. Williams. Sturt—Treleven, Fisher, Wadham, Beeching, Reeves.

How the Games Finished

Port	10-15	Norwood	7-7
West	16-10	Sturt	11-12
Torrens	10-12	South	10-12
(Draw)			
North	17-12	Glenelg	11-12

League Premiership Table

	P.	W.	L.	D.	for ag.	Pts.	Prem.
North	9	7	2	—	938	787	14
Sturt	9	6	2	1	737	663	13
Norwood	9	5	4	—	770	737	10
West	9	5	4	—	767	735	10
Glenelg	9	4	5	—	837	851	8
Port	9	4	5	—	725	803	8
Torrens	9	2	5	2	698	735	6
South	9	1	7	1	712	873	3

Leading Goalkickers

Farmer (North)	67
Owens (Glenelg)	56
Morton (Sturt)	28
Bottomley (West)	25
Biddell (Norwood)	21
N. Hender (Port)	21
Waite (Torrens)	21

NORTH'S VIGOR GIVES THEM SIX-GOAL WIN

North's vigor more than anything else won them the game against Glenelg at Prospect today. Glenelg played in patches, occasionally giving glimpses of brilliant form, but there was no question which was the better team.

Glenelg have shown a tendency in many of their matches to begin slowly. This was the case today, but not to quite such a marked degree. For a time it looked as though they would pace it with North, but half-way through the first term it was apparent that the red-and-whites, who were bumping with hip and shoulder, would prove troublesome.

North's early lead made matters difficult for Glenelg. When the seashiders eventually got into their stride—which was not until the third quarter—they were too far behind to do much damage. Had Glenelg in that term been able to secure a moderate lead, it would have given them great moral support.

Throughout the piece North's tearaway tactics were successful. They are a much bigger side than Glenelg, and they made full use of this advantage. It was not spectacular football, the greasy ball robbing the game of many of its brightest features. The kicking of both teams was poor—largely accounted for by the slippery leather and the wet grass.

FARMER PATCHY

North made more use than previously of the centre as a medium to launch their goal attacks, and with Proud playing well there, many of their drives were effective. The performance of Farmer was patchy. The champion got eight goals, several of them in good style, but at times he was very quiet. King, of Glenelg, worried him consistently early in the game.

Owens was right out of touch. He was rarely sighted, and when he was the North defenders used their weight to such effect that he could not mark. Possibly the best individual performance of the whole 36 was that of Furler, the North captain. He dominated the play throughout the early stages, marking and kicking like a champion. To him more than anyone else North owed their half-time lead.

North sharpshooters started off badly, kicking seven behinds in the first quarter to three goals, but how well they made amends is shown by the final scores, 17-12. It was a wonderful recovery. Five of their goals were obtained in the last term without a point being added.

The play through the first term was rather puzzling. North, winning the toss and kicking towards the southern end, raced away to attack in somewhat unconvincing style, their forwards fumbling badly. But despite numerous errors on the part of North and some dashing play by Glenelg, the red-and-whites managed to keep in front until the end of the term. The second quarter was even more North's, but Glenelg were not altogether out of it when half-time came.

BIG GLENELG DRIVE

The ball had been bouncing rather luckily for North so far, and one or two of their goals had been somewhat fortunate. Then came the big Glenelg drive. Right from the bounce in the third quarter the Bay men swung into the game as if their whole hearts were in it. Keeping in front of their opponents, showing speed and anticipation, they looked like a new side. The results of this change were instantaneous.

North rattled on one goal quickly, but it was no quicker than the way in which Glenelg put on three full-pointers in succession. The tide had turned with a vengeance, and meeting vigor with vigor the Bay team looked as though it would make a match of it. But several more North goals, with Farmer getting into his stride, disheartened them, and the closing stages were practically all North's.

Had Glenelg got in front there might have been a different tale to tell than the six goals' win by North. The difference at least would not have been nearly so great.

NORTH	3-7	8-11	13-12	17-12
GLENELG	2-0	3-5	6-6	11-12

Goalkickers.—North—Farmer (8), Hemers (3), Furler and Storer (each 2), McInnes, McDowall. Glenelg—Owens (4), Wundersitz and Link (3), Winkler.

Best Players.—North—Furler, Drew Farmer, Proud, Munn, Mangelsdorf. Hemers. Glenelg—Wundersitz, Link, Edwards, King, Johnson, Murphy, Hill.

SOUTH RECOVER AGAINST TORRENS: DRAW SURPRISING FORM BY PORT: BEAT NORWOOD

By a brilliant last quarter recovery South drew with Torrens at Thebarton. South, who failed to score in the first term and appeared to be decisively beaten at "lemons," ran Torrens off their feet in the closing stages.

Torrens fought strenuously to turn back the persistent South thrusts. They threw all their weight into the game in an attempt to break down the eleven-hour system set up by the opposition.

Torrens defenders attempted to cramp the play. There were many scrummages, but South managed always to get the ball from the fringes of the pack and make for goal.

Spectators were on tiptoe with excitement as the fortunes of the game fluctuated in the last few minutes. South, who had been far behind for the greater part of the match, gradually wore down the opposition and got results. They scored three goals in four minutes. South demoralised Torrens with brilliant football when Tully scored full points to make the score level.

From then on the result of the game was in doubt. As each side struggled for supremacy the standard of the game deteriorated. The ball travelled from end to end mainly by individual effort in rushes.

TORRENS	3-5	7-5	7-12	10-12
SOUTH	0-0	1-8	3-8	10-12

Best Players.—Torrens—Bridgman, Read, Bertram, Williamson, Harris, and Pontifex. South—Errey, Jaffer, Masters, Hebbard, Tully, Rose, and Venning.

Goalkickers.—Torrens—Bertram (4), Waite (3), Harris (2), Quick. South—Hall (4), Hebbard, Jaffer, L. Baxter, Murdy, Tully, Dayman.

Attendances

Adelaide	9,432
Alberton	5,760
Prospect	4,949
Thebarton	3,344
Total	23,485

Showing surprising form, Port defeated Norwood in all departments on Alberton Oval this afternoon. In all but the first term the redlegs were definitely out of the picture.

Port's form was a revelation. They won in the rucks, and everywhere except on the centre wings, where the Norwood flankers either broke even or had the call.

Both sides were determined to have two premiership points to their credit. No changes were made in the selected teams.

It was in the third quarter that Port clinched the victory. Kellaway came out with one of the most brilliant individual performances seen in league games this season. His marking was superb, and he gathered in the high ones in the face of strong spoiling tactics. His two goals after E. A. Johnson had goalied for Norwood were full of merit. In the closing minutes of the term Port were showing the best football for the match. Their passing and position play were sound. Norwood were right out of the play.

Norwood had a slight chance of overtaking Port in the last term, but had kicking deprived them of what little chance they had of pulling the game out of the fire.

One fact revealed by the match was that Port will have to remodel their full forward line to have a chance against back men of class. Johns and Pike had the main forwards beaten all day, and Port secured their goals from the rucks, rovers, and half-forwards.

PORT	4-3	6-8	9-10	10-15
NORWOOD	4-4	4-4	5-6	7-7

Best Players.—Port—Kellaway, N. Hender, A. Hender, Eden, Hooper, Whittaker, Whicker. Norwood—E. A. Johnson, Pike, Paze, Medlen, E. G. Johnson, F. P. McCallum, Johns.

Goalkickers.—Port—Kellaway (4), N. Hender (2), O'Regan, Whicker, Johnson, A. Hender. Norwood—W. McCallum and Sorrell (each 2), Biddell, E. A. Johnson, Window.

Close-ups of League Footballers

NO Glenelg ruckman did better than R. Edwards in the match against North. This player is doing great work for the Bay team this year, his knock-outs, general kicking, and marking being distinctly good. G. B. Johnson was also prominent today, but, although effective, he was not spectacular.

WUNDERSITZ, Murphy, and Hill all performed usefully for Glenelg against North, while the veteran, Handby, battled well. Handby did his best work early in the game. Curnow gave a fair display.

LINK, of Glenelg, is probably one of the fastest rovers in the game. He sped in and out of the rushes in the game against North with consummate skill, capping a fine performance with three goals.

PROUD showed his versatility for North today by a skilful game at centre. He went to that position early in the match, following a quiet start by Taylor, and was an immediate success. There is no doubt that Proud is the right type of footballer to make good in an interstate game.