

FOOTBALL
SECTION

Sturt Favored for Big League Final

CONDUCTED
BY
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IMPROVED SHOWING BY GLENELG LIKELY

Plan Needed to Check Unley Team's Highfliers

MUCH DEPENDS ON RUCKS

(By STEVE MCKEE)

Sturt should defeat Glenelg in the league final on Saturday, and so earn the right to meet Port in the battle for the premiership on October 6.

Glenelg can be expected to give an improved performance, but the tigers will need to keep the ball low in order to check the double-blue highfliers, particularly those stationed in the forward line.

Memories of great teams of the past were awakened by the all-conquering effect of Port's brilliant system in opposition to Glenelg last Saturday, and while the failure of the Bay team was a great disappointment it must be conceded that they struck the magpies in irresistible mood.

If Port can reproduce that form in the grand final on Saturday week, the premiership is in their safe keeping.

There was a robot efficiency in many of their cohesive thrusts that would have beaten the strongest defence that was ever built. Never have I seen a team depend more upon scientific dispatch and less upon haphazard forwarding method, and my memory takes me back to the great Norwood side of 1907, led by Albert Bahr, which won the premiership of that season, and routed Carlton, Victorian premiers, a week later at Adelaide Oval.

Other outstanding combinations that one can readily recall were West Adelaide's first premiership side of 1908 under B. Leahy, the red and black champions of 1911-12, led by J. Daily, and Londrigan's Port team, the "unbeatables" of 1914.

These were teams in the truest sense, depending principally upon systematic action, but Port's present 18 does not suffer by comparison with any of them.

PORT'S FINE TEAMWORK

The magpies picked a way through the Glenelg defences with such precision that their play assumed a mechanical aspect. Men moved into positions like clockwork, the ball came speeding like a flash from Quinn, Hooper, Dermody, Bampton, and others with a precision that left the Glenelg backmen standing.

Port were indeed a football machine.

Can the winners of the Glenelg-Sturt final evolve a plan to upset the balance of that machine? That is the question paramount in the mind of the football world.

It must be recognised that Glenelg attempted nothing in the way of a well-planned obstructive scheme against Port. They went into action prepared to pit skill against skill, individual and collective.

Port were immeasurably superior collectively, and additionally they struck a decisive blow at the source of Glenelg's greatest strength by checking Johnston in the packs. And it was very cleverly done. Johnston was rarely allowed to become balanced for that spectacular leap which has so often carried him high above the flying cruses this season. Had he been shielded capably Johnston would have given the biggest crowd of the season a more faithful account of his ability.

The failure to provide that shielding strength clearly exposed Glenelg's ruck weakness, which, unless remedied by the inclusion of taller supports for Johnston, must react adversely on their chance of defeating Sturt.

PLAN NEEDED

It is highly improbable that Johnston, Sallis, and Link will again be kept so quiet as they were against Port, and I believe that the importance of Glenelg's first semi-final occasion had not a little to do with their failure.

But those in charge of the Bay team must evolve a more definite plan of action for their third meeting with Sturt.

The double-blues cannot compare with Port so far as method is concerned. Sturt eliminated Torrens by a rugged acquiescence in joining in the hard bumping game, and the ability of their tall forwards close to goal to get the ball overhead for themselves. Lack of defensive height proved fatal to Torrens. It will spell extinction for Glenelg unless every man behind centre concentrates on getting the ball down to the ground at every opportunity.

Although Sturt cannot match the finesse of Port, they are capable of playing the brand of football that wins matches in the major round—strong, aggressive, and durable. The defensive end is powerful to a point that will trouble Port's attack if they clash in the grand final.

The centre line composed of King, Day, and Treleaven will hold its own against any opposition, and the forwards are capable enough to earn sufficient chances at goal to win any match.

If conditions similar to those of last Saturday are enjoyed, I expect Glenelg to in a measure rehabilitate themselves by an improved performance. But Sturt appear to be the more reliable combination, and if Golding and Robertson are sound they will field a better side than that which defeated Torrens.

Sturt should succeed, and earn the right to contest the grand final with Port.

STURT WILL BE STRONG Good Ruckmen In

STURT expect to be very strong in the rucks for the final against Glenelg on Saturday. Robertson and Golding will return to the side, and they are expected greatly to strengthen the team.

Robertson was not available for the first semi-final because of a knee injury, while Golding had to withdraw, as he had influenza.

It was at first thought that Sturt would have Robertson and Golding together in the first ruck, but indications are that they will not be associated.

Whitehead and Sawatzke are the other ruckmen likely to be included, and as both of them rest in the forward line, it is possible that Sawatzke will go into the first ruck with Robertson in order to change with Whitehead.

It is obvious from the suggestion of Whitehead's inclusion that it is proposed to keep Parsons in a place for the big game. Probably, the double-blue captain will go to full-back to allow Tuohy to move out to centre half-back.

While Tuohy did all that was asked of him at full-back in the semi-final, he is not suited by the crowded work at the goal front.

MUSSMAN MAY NOT PLAY

Sturt are wise to have the high-flier at half-back, for there his dashing clearances will be of great value.

GLENELG'S BIG PROBLEMS

Defence Reshuffle

MANY problems will have to be solved by the Glenelg selectors when they meet tonight to choose the team to face Sturt in the league final at Adelaide Oval on Saturday.

The tigers are confident that they will defeat the Unley team, but there is a distinct possibility that changes will be made in the eighteen to take the field.

Glenelg's main weakness against Port was a lack of height in defence, and it is certain that the selectors will endeavor to alter the side in order to cope with the Sturt highfliers.

Rosewarne is the only member of the side that met Port who will not be available for the final. He is suffering from a shoulder injury. Olliver, the vice-captain of the team, is recovering from a leg injury, but it is doubtful whether the selectors will risk including him in such an important game.

A ruck shepherd will be needed, and this need may force the Glenelg officials to use Wells solely as a shepherd. This would result in a vacancy on the half-back line, but a change on this line would have been likely in any event.

Jacka, who showed fine form at centre half-back for the side earlier in the season, is in training, and it would not surprise if he were allotted the centre half-back post with Whittaker and Brock on either side of him.

SALLIS AT CENTRE

The selectors may consider placing Sallis at centre half-back, but this move would be very ill-advised in view of the necessity of having a strong man at centre to oppose Day. It is doubtful whether the tigers have another man, apart from Sallis, who would have a chance of holding the Sturt man.

If the selectors desired to reshuffle the positions so as to bring another player in at centre half-back, they could well consider giving the position to Goldsworthy. He is a good mark, a strong kick, and has the necessary height to combat the tall Unley men. The centre half-forward position could be allotted to Bergin, and Cornelius, perhaps, included for a place on a half-forward wing.

In order to increase the height of the team, it is possible that only two rovers will be carried. Leak performed brilliantly in a roving capacity against Port, and it would not surprise if he and Link shared the work on the ruck fringes.

Colyer and Shakes are certain to be on the centre wings again, and the tigers expect them to hold King and Johnstone, who are likely to be on the flanks for the double-blues.

Bergin, who comes from Gladstone each week to play, is expected to train with the team tonight, and so McGregor will have all players on the training list working together.

There is a chance that the double-blues will be without Mussman. He was reported this week to be returning to the South-East, and if he does, Sturt will have to reorganise their forward line. If Mussman is not available, it is probable that Morton will go to centre half-forward, and Sawatzke and Whitehead will be rested at the goal front.

Longmore and Biggs seem certain to be allotted the half-forward wings, while Sims and Headon probably will be on the half-back flanks.

There is a possibility that Headon may be used at half-forward if Mussman does not play, and in that case Aistrophe would be retained on the half-back line.

Treleaven is suffering from influenza, and it seems certain that he will not be fit to play. Johnstone has recovered from injury, and he is likely to take the centre wing vacancy. Day will be at centre, and King on the other flank.

Fisher, Smith, and Reeves are still on the injured list, and will not be available.

F. BERGIN, Glenelg recruit from Gladstone, who is expected to do well at half-forward in the final against Sturt.

THE NEWS, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1934

Steve McKee on Football Teams

STURT MAY BE STRONGER IN THE AIR

Glenelg Have Reorganised Side

Favoured by a firm turf, Sturt and Glenelg should provide an attractive contest in tomorrow's final at Adelaide Oval. Sturt will field a stronger eighteen than that which put Torrens out of the competition, and although Glenelg have been forced to leave the important outer defence principally in the hands of inexperienced juniors, they will not have to combat such systematic attacking methods as those that routed them last Saturday.

Glenelg's centre wing difficulty has been increased by Colyer's roving transfer. The veteran Hill has again been pressed into service. He will be opposed by Longmore, one of the fastest men in the game.

Glenelg have reorganised their forces in an attempt to strengthen their defence and rucks, but again a palpable lack of height behind centre will imperil their survival if the tall Sturt forwards are on their highmarking game.

Olliver will replace Rosewarne, who was not available, as ruck shepherd, and Birrell, a junior, more than 6 ft. tall, has been preferred to Wells at half-back right. He has been included to increase the reach of Glenelg's first defensive line. Hill has been given a place at centre wing, so that Colyer can share the roving with Link.

It is unfortunate for Wells and Edwards that they should have lost form at this juncture, after having played so consistently throughout the qualifying round. Both are in reserve.

The return of Robertson and Golding will give Sturt five followers, and make Glenelg's task of preventing a double-blue dominance overhead more difficult.

Cameron has been dropped to nineteenth man, and Treleaven's indisposition made it necessary for Longmore to transfer to centre wing.

Sturt are adhering to the defensive disposition with which they began against Torrens, with Tuohy and Sims manning the principal posts.

Had H. W. Johnston not suffered a recurrence of the strain that has kept him out of action for several weeks, he would have been included by Sturt.

Scanning the placings of the opposing teams it appears probable that Sturt will overcome Glenelg by an aerial superiority, spread over almost every attacking point, and in the rucks.

Sturt kicking up

Griffiths	James	Hale
C. Whitehead	Morton	Baxter
Birrell	Brock	Whittaker
Golding	Mussman	Biggs
Hill	Sallis	Shakes
Longmore	Day	King
Bergin	Goldsworthy	Leak
Aistrophe	Sims	Headon
Owens	Percy	Colyer
Parsons	Tuohy	Wadham

Rucks.—Sturt—Robertson, Sawatzke, Wundersitz; Whitehead, Parsons, Baxter. Glenelg—Johnston, Olliver, Link; Percy, Hale, Colyer.

Reserves.—Sturt—Cameron (19th), Green. Glenelg—Wells (19th), Edwards (20th).



Sturt Downed In League Football Final

CONDUCTED BY PERCY FURLER

GLENELG TO MEET PORT IN DECIDING 1934 GAME

Bay Men Race Away With Last Quarter Change of Tactics

STURT HIGHFLIERS MEET MATCH

Improving as the game progressed Glenelg won the right to meet Port in the football grand final next Saturday by comfortably defeating Sturt at the Adelaide Oval this afternoon before a crowd of 17,281. The Bays finished 13 points ahead.

For the first three quarters there was no change of tactics. The Bays were faster to the ball, but lost the benefits gained in this way by ineffective short passing.

In the last quarter they settled down to long kicking, and the change in tactics was soon justified. Their tall men held their own with the sturt highfliers, and with their forwards showing greater accuracy they quickly established a comfortable lead, and then held Sturt off.

GLENELG.—Backs—Griffiths, James, Hale, Half-backs—Birrell, Brock, Whitaker, Centres—Hill, Sallis, Shakes. Half-forwards—Bergin, Goldworthy, Leak. Forwards—Owens, Percy, Colyer, Buck—Johnston, Olliver, Link, Wells (19th).

STURT.—Backs—Wadham, Tuohy, Parsons, Half-backs—Headon, Sims, Alstrope, Centres—King, Day, Longmore. Half-forwards—Biggs, Mussman, Golding. Forwards—Baxter, Morton, Whitehead, Ruck—Robertson, Sawatzke, Wundersitz, Cameron (19th).

Umpire—L. C. Thomas. Attendance, 17,000.

Sturt were on the field for nearly five minutes before the Glenelg men made their appearance. A fresh breeze blowing across the oval slightly favored the northern goal. On winning the toss Owens decided that Glenelg would kick first to that end.

Sawatzke got Sturt away at the bell, but a free of Sallis held up the attack. Robertson marked safely when Glenelg appeared likely to break away, and Mussman and Baxter drove the ball to the goalmouth. Weak play by Whitehead lost Sturt two chances to score.

Sturt were endeavoring to check Johnston as Port had done, but with less success. He was awarded a free when interfered with while running in for the ball.

Tuohy marked brilliantly to stem a Glenelg advance. The seaiders attacked incessantly for more than five minutes, but the Sturt defenders kept them down to a point from Link.

Sturt eventually broke away, but their efforts met with little better success until Morton handballed to Wundersitz, who was waiting in front of an open goal. The first goal thus appeared after 15 minutes of play.

Percy and Hill put Sturt on the defensive, and when Johnston brilliantly outmarked Tuohy he goaled for Glenelg.

The game was fast, and the oval in excellent condition after the rain.

Sims flew brilliantly to outmark Johnston. A free to Baxter enabled Sturt to attack, but Whitehead could manage only a single after having marked within easy range.

A lightning thrust by Glenelg resulted in Goldworthy goaling with a long shot, and then scintillating play by Longmore enabled Whitehead to goal from an acute angle.

There was little to choose between the two teams, although Sturt were slightly the better in the air.

Hale was playing soundly in Glenelg's last line of defence. Baxter was penalised for holding the ball, and Whitaker cleared. Safe aerial work by Johnston and Goldworthy put Sturt on the defensive, and Glenelg were attacking at the bell.

First Quarter

STURT	2	3	15
GLENELG	2	1	13

Sallis got the ball away from the bounce, and Goldworthy and Bergin rushed it to the goal mouth, where Owens marked and goaled. A hasty shot by Mussman (Sturt) went out of bounds, and James and Whitaker got the seaiders out of a dangerous situation.

The defenders of both teams were doing a great job, and the scoring was kept to a minimum. Four singles from Baxter (2), Longmore, and Morton made the scores 19 points all. Morton missed again with a shot from easy range.

Sims was in the way when Glenelg got the ball away. A brilliant mark by Biggs resulted in Mussman goaling for Sturt.

James, Shakes, and Percy repulsed the next Sturt onslaught, and then Sims marked and cleared with a dash down the centre of the field. Shakes and Percy drove the ball in again and Colyer evaded two opponents to dash in and goal.



L. Sallis

Birrell, who was playing his first game for Glenelg, was proving well worthy of his selection.

Sallis was doing magnificently at centre, and time and again he sent the ball to the Glenelg forwards with long, well-directed kicks.

The pace was a cracker, and Glenelg did not let up for a moment. Parsons and Alstrope were prominent in defence. Tuohy fell in kicking off and appeared to hurt a leg. He was inclined to limp afterwards.

King gave the Sturt forwards a chance but there was nobody in position to receive the ball, which went out of bounds.

Wundersitz showed pace to get the ball out of a scrimmage at centre. His kick was marked by Whitehead, and a goal followed.

Griffiths and Leak gave Glenelg the advantage, and Bergin and Colyer kept the ball moving. Goldworthy had a long shot on the boundary, but only a single resulted.

Hale was in possession at the bell. He had a shot, but the distance was too great.

Half-Time

STURT	4	8	32
GLENELG	4	3	27

Tuohy and Robertson repulsed an early Glenelg thrust, and James and Griffiths did a similar service at the other end. Shakes was having the better of his tussle with Longmore, and twice got Glenelg out of trouble with heady play.

Accuracy was not a strong feature of the forward play. In this quarter Glenelg had so far scored three behinds and Sturt one. Then Goldworthy hit a goal post with a long shot.

There was a cheer when Johnston marked at half-forward, but once more only one flag was raised. Birrell beat two opponents to clear an attack. Leak cleverly hand-balled to Owens, who put Glenelg five points ahead with a goal.

Glenelg supporters went wild with excitement when Colyer raced down the field again and Link picked up to goal again Glenelg were now 11 points ahead.

Tuohy raced from the goalmouth to centre wing with the ball, but a free to Shakes saw the ball returned. Robertson marked on the goal line, and King out-manoeuvred Hill to keep the ball moving to the other end.

Longmore secured in the centre of the field and raced in to goal, and then Morton secured another from a free. Sturt were again a point ahead. Morton marked from Wundersitz and had a long shot, but the wind carried the ball away from the goal. Golding marked and his shot brought a single.

James and Brock cleared, but Sturt came again. A shot by Baxter, who had been roving magnificently, was touched as it passed through the goal.

Longmore was now all over Shakes, and was probably the greatest source of danger to the seaiders. Morton was given a free, but kicked the ball out of bounds. Four more singles were scored by Sturt, whose inaccurate shooting was a big handicap.

Mussman was too elusive for Brock, but Hale tore through to get the ball out of the danger zone, and Colyer raised the hope of the seaiders as he raced to the goalmouth. His kick went astray, and one flag was raised.

Third Quarter

STURT	6	13	49
GLENELG	6	9	45

Both teams looked tired as they took their places for the final term. Hale and Johnston launched an attack, and when a long kick by Goldworthy bounced off the hands of the pack Owens snapped it up and goaled.

That put Glenelg in front, but they did not remain there for long. Morton marked and had a long shot, then

Glenelg Yards Too Fast for Sturt Men

CROWD APPLAUDS BAY TEAM'S GALLANT BID

By Percy Furler

Proving yards too fast and finishing with rare determination, Glenelg advanced another step in their 1934, premiership fight by comfortably defeating Sturt today.

One of the outstanding features of their success was the dashing play by Sallis at centre, who dominated that position throughout the day. The bell rang amid roars of delight from the crowd, who appreciated Glenelg's plucky fight for premiership honors.

Faulty handling of the ball by both sides marred the opening exchanges. Anxiety saw the players overrunning when attempting to pick up.

Glenelg's pace was their outstanding asset. Their small men dashed in smartly to intercept, and, had it not been for the sterling defence of Tuohy Glenelg may have scored freely.

The Sturt forwards were not handling the ball with any degree of accuracy, and threw away frequent opportunities. Sturt were kicking blindly into their forward lines and relying on their superior marking to complete their drives.

Glenelg, instead of attempting to out-mark their taller opponents, showed judgment in jumping to spoil. Glenelg were concentrating on Johnston's ability in the air at the goalfront.

The game was fought at close quarters, hard bumps being frequently exchanged, but neither side could settle down to produce any bursts of helpful system.

LET DOWN BY FORWARDS

Sturt had been badly let down in their forward lines, where Mussman and Morton were very much out of touch. Sallis was holding the centre safely, giving Glenelg a definite advantage at this point.

The Bays were yards too fast, and by better position play had Sturt worried.

A sequence of behinds from point-blank range saw Sturt throwing away opportunities to build up a useful lead.

Glenelg looked easily the better side when Colyer dashed in to score full points. Sturt's big men appeared leaden-footed in comparison with Glenelg's brilliant dash.

a scrimmage in the goal mouth saw Baxter handball to Parsons, who goaled.

Owens heartened Glenelg with another goal. The spectators were at a high pitch of excitement, and roared themselves hoarse as Percy marked in easy range and kicked accurately.

A faulty push by Sawatzke gave Percy a penalty, and a long shot brought another goal. Sims fought valiantly to stem the tide, but Glenelg, seeing victory within their grasp, played like a team inspired.

Johnston, Leak, Bergin, and Goldworthy combined to place Colyer in possession, and the applause was tremendous as his shot sailed straight through the goals. Then Morton marked against two opponents to receive from King, and goaled for Sturt.

Seven goals, five by Glenelg and two by Sturt, had been scored in this quarter without a point.

Tuohy, Sawatzke, and King brought Sturt out of danger and when the position looked critical Olliver gave Sturt a point by kicking the ball through himself.

Aistrope had left the field, Cameron having replaced him.

James held the ball safely when a shot by Wundersitz kept low, and in a flash the ball was at the other end of the field. Leak sent to Link, but Mussman rose to the occasion. The teams were fighting desperately.

Sims held up another attack, but Leak drove the ball direct to Owens. He was a long way out, and could manage no more than a behind.

Glenelg were now doing all the attacking. Goldworthy flew above the bunch to mark from Brock, but Tuohy relieved, and a free to Sims carried the ball to centre. Link sent it back.

Tuohy cleared again, but the ball went direct to Hale. Colyer was given a free in the goal mouth, and Sturt's hopes faded as his kick sailed truly. Morton goaled, but Olliver held up the next Sturt rush with a well-judged mark.

Final	G.	B.	Pts.
GLENELG	12	11	83
STURT	9	16	70

Goalkeepers

Glenelg—Owens (4), Colyer (3), Percy (2), Johnston, Link, Goldworthy. Sturt—Mussman, Whitehead, Morton (each 2), Wundersitz, Longmore, Parsons.

Best Players

Glenelg—Sallis, Shakes, Ling, Goldworthy, Bergin, Colyer, Hill, Griffiths. Sturt—Tuohy, Baxter, Wadham, Mussman, Wundersitz, Headon, Longmore, Sawatzke.

Owens threw away a wonderful opportunity by resorting to stalling. Had he paid more attention to getting possession of the ball than trying to trick the umpire a score appeared certain.

I think Parsons should have moved Day from centre, where he was being badly beaten by Sallis. His eclipse meant much to Sturt.

Sturt had slowed down to a walk under the influence of Glenelg's burst. Producing the best system of the day Glenelg raced away, but weak kicking for goal let them down.

LEAD NOT MERITED

The slender lead of five points which Sturt held at half-time was not merited on the general play, as Glenelg appeared easily the stronger team.

Hill, by his dashing play at centre wing, completed a very strong centre line. Birrell, the Glenelg junior, was fully justifying his inclusion for the first time with strong marking and clearing dashes.

Two quick goals by Glenelg had the sympathetic crowd worked up to a high pitch of excitement. The Bay side, scenting victory, dashed in and attacked relentlessly.

SPIRITED REPLY

A spirited reply by Sturt produced more interest in the game than previously. Better functioning in the Sturt forward lines saw them making a stronger bid for supremacy. Longmore was a big factor in the Sturt rally, and Mussman was playing with more certainty than in the opening stages.

Glenelg had lapsed into uncertainty, enabling Sturt to hold sway. But poor goal-shooting was their downfall. Morton, although dashing into the play with vigor, could not mark or kick with any accuracy.

Johnston was tiring badly, and Glenelg were missing his services in matching Sturt's high marking.

Sturt's players were too slow in getting rid of the ball, which made the task of clearing much easier for Glenelg. Goldworthy was outpointing and outmarking Sims.

The double-blues, now seven points behind, lost all understanding and handled the man unnecessarily.

Remembering Glenelg's brilliant finishes throughout the season, it seemed as though only a magnificent effort could place Sturt in touch.

With Sallis playing just as strongly as when he started, the issue was beyond doubt when Colyer kicked truly, placing his side 19 points in front.

Sturt fought back strongly, but Glenelg always appeared to be going just a little better than the double-blues.

Leak was infusing pace and system into the Glenelg forward lines by his dashing play.

Players In Good Form

SALLIS must be given pride of place for Glenelg today. His clever turning and fast ground play were outstanding. He outpointed Day, and took control at the pivot position.

JOHNSTON thrilled the crowd with spectacular high-marking. Strong ruck work and forceful kicking characterised his play.

COLYER appears to be a potential champion rover. Always in the thick of the fray, he appears to have the knack of avoiding trouble.

BIRRELL performed creditably in his big test. The calm manner in which he rose to the occasion stamps him as a useful player for Glenelg.

GOLDSWORTHY was too strong for Sims. He repeatedly outmarked the Sturt player, but his kicking nullified much of his good work.

HILL and Shakes gave Sallis sound support across the centre. Glenelg's success can be attributed largely to the outstanding advantage shown by their centre line.

LEAK, one of the veterans of football, gave a perfect exhibition of position play after half-time. His lightning dashes and accurate foot-passing often threatened danger.

"BLUE" JOHNSTON sends the ball goalwards and scores full points on Adelaide Oval this afternoon.

