

FOOTBALL SECTION Steve McKee Sums Up Premiership Prospects of All Teams

CONDUCTED BY ROY COLMER

# EVERY SIDE HAS CHANCE FOR THE FINAL FOUR

## North and Sturt in Running

(By STEVE McKEE)

The overthrow of Torrens by Sturt in the holiday game, and Glenelg's first win of the season, at the expense of South, has left every team in the competition with a chance of reaching the major round.

Usually at this stage of the qualifying round one or more teams can generally be named as semi-finalists with a reasonable degree of certainty.

This year every team in the competition has a chance of reaching the final four, and as a result the season promises to be one of the most interesting on record.

The absence of Read and Simpson made the Torrens defence against Sturt more vulnerable than usual.

But after making allowance for the absence of this pair the poor form of Torrens on Monday makes me think that they will be more greatly affected by the slower turf, which midwinter must inevitably bring, than the other teams.

The Torrens half-forwards were out-reached and outmarked by the Sturt half-backs when the ground was soft for the first time this season.

The gold-and-blue attack did not move to position with the dash that distinguished them in earlier games, and when the turf is sloppy and the ball difficult to hold Torrens will find it difficult to build match-winning scores against the heavyweight defence sections that Norwood, Sturt, and other teams will be able to field.

When September comes round again with its faster turf Torrens' systematic methods will come into their own.

Meanwhile they will have to fight all the way to ensure participation in the major round.

North's decisive defeat of Norwood at Adelaide Oval last Saturday has brought them prominently into premiership discussions, particularly as their victory was obtained on the ground where the major honors must ultimately be won.

But North are not a well-balanced combination in all departments. The rucks are first class now that Hay's proving is supporting Walter, Burton, and McInnes so soundly, and Hayden, one of the most improved juniors of the year, completes a following string of good quality.

Farmer's return to his best goal-getting form in itself largely assures competency in the forward lines, and if Burns and Melvin can be stationed permanently on the half-forward flanks their pace will blend with the high marking of Farmer, Burton, and Walter.

If North had a high-marking half-back like Sims they would rank higher in my estimation.

At present there is a weakness in this section, which will be fully apparent only when the rucks and centres are having a bad day.

Sturt, too, are building steadily towards greater power. It was only a matter of time for their defence and centre line to run into top form, and the time has arrived.

Sturt again have the strongest back lines in the competition, and Morton's enforced spell does not affect his goal-getting accuracy, their attack will be lacking only in an element of combative-ness.

Several Sturt men in front of centre are inclined to hang out of the crushes and shirk a bump, and this is a weakness.

Robertson is leading the double-blue rucks capably. He is using his weight and strength more effectively than in former seasons, and, although by no means a stylist, he is of great value to Sturt.

Cameron's remarkable improvement in the past month has played no mean part in the solution of a ruck problem, which was mainly responsible for Sturt's early failures. He should go a long way in the game.

West and South are still troubled by a half-forward uncertainty, and this will always affect their chances of winning if their rucks and centre lines are strongly opposed.

Their outer attack also is not a reliable link, and West and South have been attempting to find their full forwards from long range, an unsystematic method, which greatly simplifies the checking task of the opposing back-men.

Norwood have clearly earned the doubtful distinction of being the least systematic side in the league.

The hard grounds of May, and the calm conditions prevailing, found the redlegs quite incapable of developing system, or preventing opposing teams from exploiting it to the full.

But Norwood will be a more difficult team to defeat on a heavy turf, and if we have a normal winter they will step up higher on the premiership table, particularly as they have more games to play on their home ground than any of their rivals.

There is no apparent weakness in any section of the Norwood team. One or two of the older players are showing poor form, but individually Norwood compare favorably with other combinations.

If the redlegs win the six games they will play at Norwood, by no means an impossibility in view of the manner in which they defeated West and Port, they will have good prospects of gaining a place in the final four.

Port's surprising division of the premiership points at Wayville keeps them well in the fight, and if better fortune attends the magpies so far as their personnel is concerned, I doubt if they will be beaten again at Alberton this season.

Glenelg are only five premiership points behind Torrens, who are at the top of the list, but this is a formidable handicap in a season when it appears that less than 10 wins will suffice to carry a team into the major round.

Glenelg have yet to journey to Norwood twice and they have also to play at Thebarton, and three times at Adelaide Oval against West, South, and North. They have five matches at home.

Glenelg must win all five games on their home ground and at least two away to reach the major round for the first time in 14 years.

It is already evident that home grounds are going to be a big factor in winning matches. Sturt (twice), and Port have lost at home with weak sides, but from now on I feel that the great majority of games will "go with the grounds."

Adelaide Oval is an exception. Although recognised as South's home ground, there is a different atmosphere at headquarters, and it must not be

forgotten that most league players are better acquainted with Adelaide Oval than they are with suburban grounds upon which they rarely appear more than once in a season.

The advantage of a home ground is difficult to explain. It is largely psychological, but results through the years indubitably bear witness that it is a very material advantage.

## PORT STILL WEAK

### Many Men Hurt

Port will field another weakened side against Torrens at Thebarton. Wightman, Eden, and Obst, who have been out of action since the disastrous game against Norwood, are still off the active list, and are not likely to play until after the interstate game.

Wightman and Eden are suffering from ankle injuries, and Obst is undergoing medical treatment for an injured thigh.

West has had the strapping taken off a shoulder injury, but he will not be able to play for at least three weeks. Logan, full back for the side, is out of action because of a rib injury. He will not be able to play on Saturday.

In the absence of Logan Philip will have the job of checking Pontifex. He is a reachy junior, possessing dash and determination, but needs to improve his kicking to make an ideal full back. Kellaway, who did well against West, will be in the side again this week, and there is a chance that Thompson will also be included.

Thompson played with Port a couple of seasons ago. He appeared with the association team on Monday, and played a fine game. His high marking was exceptionally good.

Swanson, another association player, is in line for promotion. He is a centre wingman who adopts tear-through methods in the crushes. It would not surprise if he is given a chance to show his ability in league company in the near future.

Yates, a centre half-back from Gladstone, could not accustom himself to league conditions in his first game, and he may be given a turn with the association team this week. He should not be long in forcing his way back into the senior team.

Bottroff, a half-back from Mannum, trained with the side on Tuesday, and he may be given a run with the second team this week.

## Next Saturday's Games

### LEAGUE

South v. North (Adelaide Oval).  
Norwood v. Glenelg (Norwood Oval).  
West v. Sturt (Showgrounds).  
Torrens v. Port (Thebarton Oval).

### ASSOCIATION

South v. North (Kensington Oval).  
Sturt v. West (Unley Oval).  
Port v. Torrens (Alberton Oval).  
Glenelg v. Norwood (Glenelg Oval).

## OWENS OUT OF ACTION

### Glenelg in Form

Now that Glenelg have broken through the team has hopes of being in the fight for the premiership. The bay side secured its first win for the season against South last Saturday.

Owens is still feeling the effects of a hard bump which he received in the game against Sturt at Unley, and is not likely to play against Norwood.

Glenelg have had an unlucky run so far, but apart from their heavy defeat by Port they have given each of the opposing sides a stiff battle. Torrens defeated them after a hard fight in the last quarter, while a point scored by North on the bell meant that the bay men got one premiership point instead of two.

Against South, Glenelg revealed fine form, especially in a vigorously fought last quarter. They will be meeting a hard-bumping side in Norwood, but officials expect them to do well.

If Sallis can reproduce the form he showed at centre against South, the Victorian centreman will have to be in top form to break even with him on Saturday week.

Sallis played a big part in the first win registered by Glenelg, and he is now showing the form that carried him into the carnival team last year.

Leak is another Bay man doing well, and, with the former Sturt player showing a return to form, the Glenelg full forwards should not lack opportunities.

James was right on his game against South, in which he checked Munro capably. He will be meeting another crack forward in Schultz on Saturday. His fine displays in recent games have increased Glenelg's confidence.

Brock's form at the goalpost is another pleasing feature, for with Owens out of action it seemed that the Bay team might break down in this department. Brock is a strong player, and is able to hold his own in the air with any opposition.

## NORWOOD MEN ARE FIT

### Changes Unlikely

Norwood are not likely to make many changes in their side for the game against Glenelg at the Norwood Oval. The redlegs were overwhelmed by North in their last game, but their form was too bad to be true.

By not changing the side to any extent, Norwood will be following the lead given by Glenelg and West. Both teams suffered heavy defeats in games this season, but proved by subsequent games that the huge margins scored against them were due mainly to the side having a day off.

It is not likely that Norwood will make many alterations, because the two men at present on the injured list—O'Brien and Blanchard—are not likely to be ready to play by Saturday.

O'Brien injured an ankle against Port at Norwood, while Blanchard, who has been out since the game against Sturt at Unley, has only done light work for the past week.

H. Page is nursing a boil on an arm, but this should not keep him out of the next game.

One or two of the team have not yet fully recovered from injuries, but all players except Blanchard and O'Brien should be fit by Saturday.

If the selectors decide to make changes, it is fairly certain that Saxon and Keelan will be considered. Saxon has run into top form at centre half-forward with the association side, and should earn promotion when the first opportunity presents itself.

Keelan is a solid ruckman with the junior side, and his consistent form since the start of the season gives him a good chance of getting into the senior side if a new ruckman is required.

## HOW LEAGUE TEAMS STAND

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Points Prem.	For	Agst.	Pts.
Torrens	6	4	2	—	575	491	8	
North	6	3	2	1	612	522	7	
West	6	3	2	1	650	677	7	
South	6	3	3	—	715	672	6	
Norwood	6	3	3	—	624	669	6	
Sturt	6	3	3	—	500	573	6	
Port	6	2	3	1	689	618	5	
Glenelg	6	1	4	1	597	740	3	



Torrens Win  
By One Point

Highest Score 145 Pts. (North)  
Lowest Score 69 Pts. (West)

All Teams Have  
Chance for Four

CONDUCTED  
BY  
PERCY FURLER

# SECOND VICTORY FOR SEASON TO GLENELG

## Exciting Thebarton Finish Game's Redeeming Feature

As a result of their win over West, Sturt have risen from sixth place on the premier-ship table to third position. Only the slender margin of two points separates the fourth team from the bottom side: all the clubs are in the running for a place in the four.

An exciting finish was the only redeeming feature of a poor game at Thebarton. After having appeared to be soundly beaten, Port played determined football in the last quarter, and failed to overtake Torrens by only a point.

In a hard-fought match marked by many fine aerial exchanges, Glenelg recorded their second outright success for the season. The Tigers finished with a fine burst after having failed to take full advantage of the breeze in the third term.

North recorded a comfortable win over South in a disappointing match. Neither side showed form up to league standard. A strong second quarter rally when they had the advantage of the breeze gave Sturt a grip on the game against West. The task of the double-blues was made easier by the poor kicking of the West forwards.

Goalkickers			
LEAGUE			
		Today	Total
Munro	(South)	9	48
Farmer	(North)	7	44
Bennetts	(West)	6	42
Prideaux	(Port)	4	31
Schultz	(Norwood)	7	30
Link	(Glenelg)	7	26
Owens	(Glenelg)	-	24
Brown	(Norwood)	3	22
ASSOCIATION			
Speck	(North)	3	30
Yeend	(Norwood)	4	29
Wallace	(Port)	6	28

## Stab Kicks And Flick Passes



**B**URTON was the best man on the field at Adelaide. South could not combat his ability in the air, and his strong ruck work often sent North goalwards.

**P**OWERFUL ruck work by Walter gave North a decided advantage in the packs. His clearing knocks from the centre often travelled to the half-forward lines.

**W**ELLS, Griffiths, and Bergin defended consistently for Glenelg. Griffiths' dashing ground play was a feature, while Wells and Bergin handled the ball confidently.

**L**INK played another brilliant game for Glenelg today. His seven goals were the result of fine individual play, and it is unfortunate that he did not strike top form a little earlier. On present form he would be a certainty for the State team.

**S**ALLIS played an important part in Glenelg's victory at Norwood. He effectively foiled Hickman in the air and invariably beat him on the ground.

**B**ENNETTS was one of West's best players, but he was not so accurate as usual, although he secured six goals.

## NORTH BETTER IN THE RUCKS

**I**N a game that was marred by continual scrambling, North easily defeated South at Adelaide. Superiority in the rucks, aided by the wretched shooting of South, accounted for North's win.

	G.	B.	Pts.
NORTH	22	13	145
SOUTH	16	25	121

**Goalkickers.**—North—Farmer (7), Burton (4), Bowman, Hayden (each 3), Walter, Oatway, Hay, Burns, McInnes. South—Munro (9), Tully (3), Rosewarne, Mulcahy, Rusby Wanganen.

**Best Players.**—North—Walter, Burton, Burns, Hayden, Hay, Knuckey South—Munro, Tully, Rosewarne, Cahill, Adair (until hurt) Wanganen.



**W**UNDERSITZ and Treleven were Sturt's most consistent players, Treleven having the better of matters with his wing opponent throughout the match. Wundersitz's dashing roving was a feature of the game.

A. Wundersitz

**S**OUTH Australia's goalkeeper, E. Fisher, was the best of the State representatives at Wayville. He repeatedly cleared dangerous situations. Parry, Tuohy, and

Sims were not often seen, although the latter two were responsible for some excellent bursts.

**G**LENELG and Norwood each lost a capable defender in the first term. Edwards was playing brilliantly for the redlegs when a severe ankle injury forced him to withdraw. Soon after Griffiths left the ground dazed by a blow on the head.

**R**EVAL carried the burden of Port's ruck work with a strong, dashing game. He also checked effectively when resting in a back pocket. Bampton's performance was sound. He did good work at centre after Whitaker was injured.

## TORRENS JUST HOLD OFF PORT

**A**N exciting finish was the only redeeming feature of the game at Thebarton, where Torrens defeated Port by a point. Except for one or two brilliant patches, practically no system was shown by either side.

	G.	B.	Pts.
TORRENS	13	11	89
PORT	13	10	88

**Goalkickers.**—Torrens—Perkins (4), Waite (3), McKnight, Pontifex (each 2), McLoughlin, Wilson. Port—Prideaux (4), Jacquier, Brown (each 2), Wilkinson, Kelleway, Hollingsworth, Hooper, Thompson.

**Best Players.**—Torrens—Quinn, Adcock, Foote, Waite, Bridgman, Coulter, McLoughlin, McKnight. Port—R. Johnson, Dermody, Reval, Bampton, Prideaux, Hollingsworth, Hooper, Brown.

FINAL SCORES				HOW TEAMS STAND					
				P.W.L.D.	For	Agst	Pts	%	
Adelaide									
North	22-13	d.	South	16-25	Torrens	7 5 2 -	664	579	10 53.42
Thebarton					North	7 4 2 1	757	643	9 54.07
Torrens	13-11	d.	Port	13-10	Sturt	7 4 3 -	598	642	8 48.23
Norwood					West	7 3 3 1	719	775	7 48.13
Glenelg	14-17	d.	Norwood	13-21	South	7 3 4 -	836	817	6 50.57
Wayville					Norwood	7 3 4 -	723	770	6 48.43
Sturt	13-20	d.	West	8-21	Port	7 2 4 1	777	707	5 52.36
					Glenelg	7 2 4 1	698	839	5 45.41

## GLENELG TWO POINTS AHEAD

**I**N a thrilling finish, in which the issue was in doubt until the last minute, Glenelg got home ahead of Norwood by two points at Norwood. Glenelg finished with a series of systematic bursts, which left the tiring Norwood men standing.

Link, who got seven goals, was a match-winner for Glenelg, holding the side together at critical stages.

**NORWOOD.**—Backs—S. Chinnery, Wait, Edwards. Half-backs—J. Chinnery, Allington, Page. Centres—Sisson, Hickman, Blec. Half-forwards—Krome, P. McCallum, Saxon. Forwards—Brown, Schultz, Salmon. Ruck—P. McCallum, Woodroffe, Huxtable. Lines (19th).

**GLENELG.**—Backs—Griffiths, James, Rosewarne. Half-backs—Wells, Jacka, Bergin. Centres—Hailstone, Sallis, Shakes. Half-forwards—Cornelius, Brock, Leak. Forwards—Michaelanny, Percy, Colyer. Ruck—Johnston, Hale. Link. Seeley (19th).

Umpire—S. A. D. Hill. Johnston, acting as captain, won the toss for Glenelg, and gave the Bays first use of a fair breeze.

Glenelg attacked so persistently that Norwood did not get the ball past centre until play had been in progress for five minutes. Glenelg handled the ball nicely, but poor shooting for goal from excellent positions saw four singles in a row posted.

Their first goal was scored by Link, who was roving in dashing style. He followed with another soon after. Johnston capped a series of splendid marks with a dazzling leap over Wait in the goalmouth, but he foolishly played on, and lost the ball in the ensuing scrimmage.

Darting in cleverly, Link hoisted his third successive goal. Norwood's attackers were being relentlessly hustled by the Glenelg defenders, and their first score—a single—came up 14 minutes after the start. Brown got their first goal a little later.

Dashing goals from Leak and Colyer gave Glenelg a handy lead at the change.

Edwards (Norwood) and James (Glenelg) had to leave the field during the term.

First Quarter			
	G.	B.	Pts.
GLENELG	5	6	36
NORWOOD	1	3	9

Three goals in as many minutes from Schultz soon after the second term began, put fresh heart into the redlegs. James had not given the Norwood crack a chance in the first term, spoiling him mercilessly.

With the McCallums, Krome, and Allington excelling in the air, and Hickman beginning to turn the tables on Sallis at centre, Norwood took charge.

Two smashing offences yielded full points from Schultz and Salmon before Glenelg replied with another goal from Link, who continued to rove flawlessly.

Maintaining the pressure, Norwood went in repeatedly, but rugged work by Griffiths, Wells and Hale kept them down to five singles.

	G.	B.	Pts.
GLENELG	6	10	46
NORWOOD	6	9	45

Securing in the half-forward area, Link dashed in irresistibly, and a brilliant long snap sailed through. Norwood countered with fierce onslaughts, but Glenelg swept in again after Bergin had cleared in dashing fashion, and Colyer finished off a great mark with a long, accurate dropkick.

TODAY'S CROWDS			
Adelaide			7,558
Thebarton			7,095
Wayville			5,200
Norwood			4,005
			23,858

Sparkling work by Woodroffe carried the redlegs in again, however, and Krome steered the ball through from a scuffle on the goal-line. Woodroffe sent a tall upright rocking when he struck it with a terrific punt.

Norwood took the lead for the first time when in a paralysing burst against the wind that deserved better results they put on 1-3. Schultz was the goalgetter.

Matching the exhilarating pace made by their opponents, the Bays went forward, and Colyer restored the lead with his third goal. They hammered away until the bell, but could manage only four singles, two each from Link and Brock.

Third Quarter			
	G.	B.	Pts.
GLENELG	9	16	70
NORWOOD	8	18	66

Delightful play by Huxtable and Salmon sent Norwood in twice, and Schultz and Brown made the most of their chances. Dazzling marks by Johnston sent the Bays attacking again, and Wells raised both flags.

With Griffiths and Hale resisting doggedly, Norwood burst through again with a great goal from Allington. The Bays were only three points behind when Link snapped full points.

After a sternly fought scoreless spell Brown goaled for Norwood, and Cornelius, from a brilliant mark in front, for Glenelg.

Needing only a goal to win, the Bays went in at great pace, and the brilliant Link put them a point ahead with a magnificent full pointer two minutes before the bell. Another dash saw Colyer raise one flag. Then Wells tore his way through a bunch to goal.

Throwing all their energy into a last desperate rush, Norwood bumped their way to the goalmouth, and Schultz, marking irresistibly, goaled 30 seconds before the end. But Glenelg got the ball away from the bounce and clinched the game.

Final			
	G.	B.	Pts.
GLENELG	14	17	101
NORWOOD	13	21	99

**Goalkickers.**—Glenelg—Link (7), Colyer (3), Wells (2), Leak, Cornelius. Norwood—Schultz (7), Brown (3), Salmon Krome, Allington.

**Best Players.**—Glenelg—Link, Johnston, Sallis, Leak, Griffiths, Jacka, Norwood—Woodroffe, Page, Huxtable, W. McCallum, Allington, Sisson.

## STURT'S FINE LAST QUARTER

**O**VERWHELMING West in the last quarter Sturt gained a decisive victory at Wayville, winning by nearly five goals.

West lost the match in the third quarter, when they outplayed Sturt, but, because of shocking kicking, could manage only three goals out of 10 scoring shots.

The teams were level soon after the last term began. But towards the finish Sturt took command and dominated the play.

	G.	B.	Pts.
STURT	13	20	98
WEST	8	21	69

**Goalkickers.**—Sturt—Mussman (4), Baxter, Whitehead (each 3), Wundersitz, Headon, Shuttleworth. West—Bennetts (6), Jackson, Connell.

**Best Players.**—Sturt—King, Treleven, Longmore, Wundersitz, Fisher, Baxter. West—H. Jarvis, M. Jarvis, Connell, Bennetts, Mattiske, Webber.