

STURT-SOUTH OVERWHELM

PORT-TORRENS

West-Glenelg Just Win

Nearly 18,000 people watched the opening of the 1942 league football season today. Scores were:—

Sturt-South, 24—23 (167 pts.); Port-Torrens, 12—13 (85).
West-Glenelg, 15—17 (107); North-Norwood, 16—9 (105).

Boyall was the hero of the Adelaide Oval game, his ruck play for West-Glenelg being outstanding. The Unley game was hopelessly one-sided, Sturt-South racing the magpies to the ball all day.

REDLEGS FINISH WELL

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
West-Glenelg ..	7—4	12—9	13—14	15—17
North-Norwood ..	4—0	8—1	12—4	16—9

By Vic Johnson

Staging a fine recovery in the second half, after being 32 points down at half-time, North-Norwood could not quite get up, and were beaten by two points in their opening game against West-Glenelg at Adelaide Oval today.

WITHOUT doubt the tigers owe their victory to the superb display of Boyall, the ex-Victorian.

The tall Glenelg player was unbeatable in the air and marked everything within reach. He also gave an intelligent display of hitting out from the ruck.

The football, considering the disadvantages that players have begun under, was surprisingly good.

The recent rains have put the grounds in splendid condition, and the players showed they appreciated it by turning on fine bursts of speed and leaping high for the ball.

NORWOOD-NORTH — Backs: Holmesby, Martin, Pearce. Half-backs: Hogan, Lush, Gower. Centres: Aamodt, Sawley, Hancock. Half-forwards: Foweraker, West, Coleman. Forwards: Williams, Hardiman, Cocks. Rucks: Roads, Eaton, Oatey; Williams, Pearce, Cocks, Bugg (19th).

WEST-GLENELG—Backs: Simons, Waite, Codd. Half-backs: D. Taylor, W. Powell, H. Powell. Centres: Gillespie, Beckman, Robjent. Half-forwards: Crabbe, Masters, Burt. Forwards: Cahill, Boyall, Hender. Rucks: Thatcher, J. Taylor, Coad; Boyall, Codd, Cahill, Souter (19th).

H. Powell (broken nose) replaced by Souter in second quarter.

Umpire: E. J. Hine.
Estimated attendance, 12,000.

Because Keane, Smith, and Hunt could not play, West-Glenelg had to include Masters, W. Powell, and Thatcher. Their ruck superiority was soon in evidence, Boyall-J. Taylor teaming up well and Crabbe proving a sound second string.

It was mainly through the strength of these players that West-Glenelg always seemed to be attacking, and only the fine roving of Oatey and the steadiness of Coleman at half-forward and Hardiman in front of goal kept the northerners within reasonable reach of their opponents.

Sawley at centre figured very prominently in the short recovery of North-Norwood in the second term, but Boyall's clever tactics (when following he hovered between half-forward and half-back) were proving too much for them.

Showed Signs of Wear

North-Norwood obtained greater strength from their ruck after the long interval, and several of the West-Glenelg players who had been prominent in the first half began to show signs of wear.

Sawley, who was palpably short of a run, was shifted to the outer line of attack, and not having so much ground to cover, instantly pepped up that line.

But West-Glenelg still had their trump card unbroken, and Boyall, continuing his fine effort, was instrumental in seeing his side lead by 16 points at the last change.

The last term was a real thrill. Two goals to Burt appeared to place West-Glenelg in an unassailable position, but Sawley and Foweraker, with three goals between them, altered things, and when Williams added another it was anyone's game.

But again a grand effort by Boyall resulted in his driving a long kick towards goal, and from a scrimmage in front Hender booted a point off the ground to give his team victory by only two points.

Goalkeepers—West-Glenelg: Boyall (4), Burt (3), Crabbe, Thatcher (each 2), Cahill, Coad, J. Taylor, Codd. North-Norwood: Hardiman (5), Williams (3), Sawley, Foweraker (each 2), Coleman, Cox, Oatey, Hancock (each 1).

Best Players—West-Glenelg: Boyall (best on ground), J. Taylor, Burt, D. Taylor, Waite, Beckman, Gillespie, and Coad. North-Norwood: Oatey, Hardiman, Coleman, Martin, Cocks, Pearce, Foweraker, and Lush.

BLUES RACE MAGPIES TO THE BALL

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Sturt-Sth.	4:7	10:10	17:17	24:23	167
Port-Torrens	2:5	5:6	7:10	17:13	85

By H. G. B.

MUCH faster to the ball and outclassing the magpies in all parts of the field, Sturt-South romped home with a sweeping 82-point victory at Unley. The blues led throughout a match which produced 36 goals.

For a season's opening game the standard was fairly high, and only the one-sidedness of the score spoiled its entertainment value. Judging by their businesslike system today, the blues should have a most successful year.

STURT-SOUTH — Backs: Wilson, Boyle, A. Williams. Half-backs: Bennett, Jim Dawes, Baker. Centres: Cahill, Templeton, House. Half-forwards: Jack Dawes, Ball, Doherty. Forwards: Scott, Reynolds, Rusby. Rucks: Zucker, Biggs, Langley; Cobiac (19th).

PORT-TORRENS — Backs: Obst, Thomas, Gower. Half-backs: R. Roberts, Cox, MacFarlane. Centres: M. Nicholls, L. Roberts, T. Nicholls. Half-forwards: L. MacLean, Dinnison, Martyn. Forwards: Hoffman, Shaw, Dangerfield. Rucks: R. McLean, Reval, Skelley, Gates (19th).
Estimated attendance, 3,500.

Sturt-South surprised the magpies by their early dash, and forged ahead to a 17-point lead at the first change of ends.

Their ground work was resourceful, and their speed superior. A brilliant burst by the blues brought them four goals in 10 minutes in the closing stages of the quarter. At this stage the magpies trailed by 29 points.

Apart from a few flashes of individual form, Port-Torrens were unimpressive, and it was not until just before the bell that they goaled twice.

The magpies had frequently lapsed into errors, but the willingness of the play kept the crowd on its toes.

The blues continued to out-stride their rivals in the second term, and soon made their lead 24 points.

Their combined play was effective, and their accurate foot-passing was in contrast to the magpies' many futile efforts.

Port's haphazard kicking at the goal front also let them down badly.

The blues consistently scouted well to finish off their drives, and their greater pace put the magpies out of the running. Their system functioned like clockwork.

At half-time Sturt-South led by more than five goals—a fair criterion of the difference in the teams' display.

Dinnison Switched

The magpies made a change on the half-forward line for the second half, Dinnison going to a flank and L. MacLean to centre half-forward.

The experiment brought immediate results, Hoffman capping a quick thrust with full points.

The blues replied with a series of overwhelming rushes which gave them 49 points to 16 for the term. The onslaught put them 67 points in front at lemons.

The highlight of the quarter was a high-flying finger-tip mark by Reynolds for the blues. He clinched the effort with his fourth goal for the quarter and his sixth for the match.

The magpies' expected ruck superiority had not materialised, and there was seldom any doubt about the leads from the crushes.

Little interest remained in the game in the last quarter. Port-Torrens rallied with four goals—two each from Shaw and Hoffman—but they made their run much too late.

The blues had scored three goals in the meantime, and with a nine-goal advantage had the game in safekeeping. Another sixer a minute later made them doubly certain of victory.

Goalkeepers—Sturt-South: Reynolds (8), Rusby (6), Scott (3), Jack Dawes, Doherty (each 2), Biggs, Langley, Cahill. Port-Torrens: Hoffman (4), Shaw (3), Reval, R. MacLean, Skelley, R. Roberts, Dangerfield.

Best Players—Sturt-South: Cahill, Langley, Zucker, Jack Dawes, Reynolds, Templeton, Jim Dawes. Port-Torrens: Dangerfield, Reval, Thomas, Martyn, Hoffman, Skelley, MacFarlane.

Problems For Barrackers

Composite names and the fact that their old favorites were playing in another team's guernseys provided a problem for many football barrackers today.

Supporters at Adelaide Oval could not quite make up their minds for whom to barrack, and cries of "Come on Westies," "You beauties, Bays," "Up the redlegs," "Nice work Norths," were heard.

One girl who became very excited, cried out "Come on Norwoods; no, Norths," and then made a disgusted grimace.

Individual efforts were applauded in the same old way. "Lovely mark, Sturt, well kicked, you bottler," were often heard.

It seems that as soon as football partisans settle down, and learn the new faces and physiques, barracking will be resumed with all its old intensity.

Only Sturt and Port could have been playing at Unley Oval today so far as most of the spectators were concerned.

The spectators disregarded the composite names of the teams entirely after the first few minutes of the game. They were guided solely by the colors. Sturt-South became Sturt, and Port-Torrens were Port.

VICTORIAN LEAGUE—South Melbourne 13—21, Carlton 8—11; Richmond 30—18, Melbourne 18—9; Fitzroy 17—13, North Melbourne 14—10; Essendon 14—8, Footscray 12—16; St. Kilda 16—13, Hawthorn 9—17.