

**SPORTS SECTION**

# PORT SNATCH VICTORY FROM WEST IN CLOSING MINUTES

**PORT** snatched victory from West in the closing minutes of the main league football match at Adelaide Oval this afternoon. They won by seven points after losing the lead in the last quarter.

South sprang the surprise of the day by defeating North at Prospect, and Norwood just scraped home against Sturt. Torrens had an easy win from Glenelg.

## VIGOROUS CITY GAME

By ROY COLMER

**VIGOROUS** man-to-man clashes, patches of grand speed, and, at times, brilliant football made the Port-West game at Adelaide Oval a fine spectacle. Dogged determination and hard work won the match for the magpies.

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Port	4-5	6-10	9-14	12-18	90
West	3-3	5-7	8-10	12-11	83

**I**F any one department has to be credited with the win, it must be the Port rucks. The followers were never able to gain a clear advantage in the packs, but they did the damage with their high marking in the closing minutes.

West must take credit for a really fine display. They gave away all the advantages in the crushes and in the air. Yet they smothered the Port rucks, and with their second ruck string playing the part of a rover, got more knockouts from the magpies than did the Port rovers.

So evenly matched were the teams in most positions that hardly one man could be said to stand out from the others. Two possible exceptions were Burkett and Smith.

Burkett played a brilliant game for West. He not only led the team in many successful attacks, but also stopped Roberts, the Port pivot, from exerting any influence on the game. It was the first time for years that I have seen Roberts so completely outpointed.

The only way Smith could have had more use of the ball was to have taken it home. Whenever the ball went past him he was overpowered by weight of numbers rather than outplayed.

These two players were the starting points for many smooth-working West advances.

West got everything out of their handball and cut through the defence to score repeatedly.

The honors for combined action were with West. They had to be. Otherwise they would not have been able to counter the potential ruck strength of the magpies.

Port had to fight hard to regain the lead every time they were headed. Then it was mainly the work of individuals that enabled them to pick up. They were the surer side in the air, but it was only towards the end of the game that they were able to exploit their strength.

### Nothing in Reserve

The magpies had nothing in reserve in winning. This is illustrated by the fact that only two minutes were left for play when they scored the goal that gave them the lead for the last time.

Growden played a match-winning role in the last five minutes with skyscraping marks in goalkicker crushes.

There was never a dull moment in the game. West demonstrated that they will be a difficult side to beat as their new men settle down. Speed is the main feature of their game, and as they develop their open game they will be an increasingly hard nut to crack.

Umpire Harvey missed too many obvious breaches in his attempt to keep the game moving.

**Goalkickers**—Port: Quinn, R. McLean (3), Mills, Growden (2), Hall, Oates. West: Cannon (4), Atkins (3), Taylor, Coad, Williams, Zeuner, Hill.

**Best Players**—Port: Schumann, McFarlane, Quinn, R. McLean, Nicholls, Growden. West: Burkett, Smith, Taylor, Cannon, Lewis, Williams, Atkins.

## Oatey Was Key To Norwood Victory

By Lawrie Jervis, Jun.

**It is a big thing to claim that any one man could inspire a football side, but Jack Oatey, Norwood captain, did just that against Sturt today.**

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Norwood	2-6	8-10	9-13	16-15	111
Sturt	5-4	8-5	14-9	16-9	105

Norwood supporters might not admit it, but Sturt supporters certainly will.

In two inspired 10-minute bursts of roving, Oatey either got goals, assisted others to get them, or stopped Sturt getting them, and at the final bell the double-blues were down by six points.

In the first quarter Sturt had fully four-fifths of the play, and Norwood looked as if they needed maps and compasses to find their goal.

Across centre—expected before the game to be Norwood's strong point—the unexpected had happened. Lowe, down from Booleroo Centre to play his first game for the season, hardly gave Gallagher (Norwood) a sight of the ball, while on the other wing Trezise shut out Olds.

**For Norwood, Way in the ruck did not exert the influence expected of him, and neither did Jim Schober, of Sturt.**

Right from the bounce at the start of the second term Oatey put on full pressure.

In no time he snapped two goals, and made the openings which gave Williams at centre half-forward two others.

When Dalwood was brought out from the goal front into the ruck, and Way took his place, the redlegs added another two goals from Way.

Sturt's efforts were mainly concentrated on trying to prevent Oatey from

doing any more damage, but they managed to get three goals to keep them within touch of Norwood at half-time.

The redlegs made an important change in positions for the second half, transposing Olds and Gallagher in the centre wing positions.

For 20 of the 25 minutes of the third term Sturt did as they liked.

**Pynor got four goals from the result of beautiful marks, and Merchant and Schober added one each.**

Next to Oatey, Norwood's best at this stage was Giles at centre half-back.

Bel' was the only redleg man to goal for the term.

With more than four goals in hand and travelling as fast as Norwood—the first half pace had been greatly reduced—Sturt thought they had only to coast along to win in the last quarter.

But then Pimpernel Oatey took over again. He did everything short of making an official presentation of the ball to his forwards or delivering it to them on a plate, singling out Williams for favors twice.

**In five hectic minutes away seated Sturt's lead, and in a further five minutes Norwood had almost a two-goal advantage.**

Sturt then threw Ingham into the ruck in a last effort to gain extra power, and the move nearly came off, as Merchant and Ingham both goaled, and with only three minutes to go Sturt could have made the result a tie. However, they could not quite reduce the lead.

**Best Players**—Norwood: Oatey, Giles, Williams, Way, Holbrook, Olds, Gallagher. Sturt: Lowe, Pynor, P. Giles, Headon, Sanders, Merchant.

**Goalkickers**—Norwood: Williams (4), Oatey (3), Dalwood, Way (each 2), Whitford, Drage, Dansie, Johns, Bell. Sturt: Pynor (6), Langley, Merchant (each 3), Cave, Sanders, Schober, Ingham.

## South Had Greater Accuracy

By Ray Barber

**STRAIGHT** shooting for goal and steadiness under pressure in the last quarter helped South to defeat North by eight points at Prospect Oval today.

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
South	4.1	7.2	10.5	14.6	90
North	3.5	5.10	8.16	10.22	82

North bombarded their goal all day with little result, and South made better use of opportunities by playing the ball to position and steadying themselves when kicking for goal.

The tide turned after half-time, when Brown was shifted to centre and Pryor starred in front of goal. It was a triumph for impromptu position changes, for holes had to be patched when Cahill left the field in the second quarter, and Cockburn in the third.

Brown went from half-forward left to centre, and thereafter dominated midfield exchanges with cool handling and passing.

**Goalkickers**—South: Pryor (6), Laphorne (4), Veitch (2), Templeton, Deane. North: Beeching (4), Lehmann, Arbon (2), Hancock, Pash.

**Best Players**—South: Hickinbotham, Brown, Pryor, Laphorne, Smith, Templeton. North: Beeching, O'Leary, Arbon, Bolton (until injured), Hancock, Thomas, Priest.

## 30,134 at Games

**LEAGUE** football maintained its run of good crowds again today. The aggregate attendance for the four games was 30,134, nearly 2,500 more than at the corresponding games last year.

## Premiership Table

	P.	W.	L.	For.	Ag.	Pts.
Torrens	3	3	—	349	236	6
Port	3	3	—	296	265	6
Norwood	3	2	1	303	283	4
South	3	2	1	284	306	4
North	3	1	2	278	257	2
West	3	1	2	267	297	2
Sturt	3	—	3	302	323	—
Glenelg	3	—	3	235	347	—

## Leading Goalkickers

	Today.	Total.
W. Hanks (Torrens)	5	15
Pryor (South)	6	15
A. R. McLean (Port)	3	13
Pynor (Sturt)	6	12
Lehmann (North)	2	10
Williams (Norwood)	4	10
Zeuner (West)	1	9

## BAYS KEPT TORRENS ON MOVE

By Amos Bottroff

**GLENELG** fought hard for three quarters against West Torrens at Thebarton today, but Torrens broke right away in the last term to win by 41 points.

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Torrens	6.3	10.8	12.12	17.15	117
Glenelg	3.5	7.8	10.12	10.16	76

It was expected that Torrens would win easily, but they had to produce all their speed and tenacity for most of the game to keep abreast of Glenelg's fighting efforts.

Torrens had run to a 16-point lead in the first quarter because of their fast, open play forward of centre. Had the Bays used similar long-kicking methods instead of over-doing short passing the game may have had a different complexion.

**Glastonbury, Mehaffey, and Parsons were too fast for the Glenelg back men, and their leading out to position was brilliant.**

On the other hand, Betson controlled most of the ruckwork with good support from Millard at centre, and Chambers at centre half-back, and Torrens were forced to play wide on the flanks in their forward drives.

From the first quarter the even battle continued. Torrens gained only two points in the second term, and Glenelg came to life with a great game in the vital third quarter. They outscored the Thebarton side by six points.

Much of Glenelg's success was attributable to Betson's control of the ruck work, and the unusual quietness of Bob Hank.

### KEPT IN CHECK

Hank did not waste his kicks, and he was brilliant at times, but Millard's great effort kept him well in check.

During the second and third quarters Torrens forced the ball to within range on many occasions, but with no passers in the Bay back lines, and with Hunt and Lowe in top form, they found scoring difficult.

On the other hand, the solidness of Cox, Roberts, and Sully threw back Glenelg challenge time and again.

At one stage in the third quarter there were 15 minutes of fierce play with neither side scoring.

In the final term Glenelg fought on but Torrens finished too strongly for them.

**Goalkickers**—Torrens: W. Hank (5), Mehaffey, Parsons (each 4), Phillips (2), Glastonbury, Hutchinson, Glenelg: Cock Lamin (each 3), Betson (2), Crabb, White.

**Best Players**—Torrens: Glastonbury, Mehaffey, Wood, Cock, Parsons, R. Hank, Glenelg: Betson, Millard, Chambers, Low, Hunt, Trenorden, Haussen.

**NOBODY** has held Bob Hank down this season with such effect as Millard (Glenelg) did at Thebarton today, and possibly no one has been as effective as Chambers in pinning Phillips down.

**PUSHED, bumped, and hustled** in today's game at Thebarton, Glastonbury played a great game for Torrens. He and Mehaffey, who roved well, were largely responsible for the Torrens' success.

**NORWOOD** supporters had a shock to see the form of Sturt wingman M. ("Cocky") Lowe, who was playing his first game for the season. Lowe took the honors from Gallagher throughout the first half. He is from Booleroo Centre, and did not play league football last season, and only one match in 1945. He has kept fit by training and playing in his home town.