

# REDLEGS BATTLE FOR FIVE-POINT WIN

## Unspectacular play in semi-final

By HAYDN BUNTON, as told to Lawrie Jervis, Jun.

Norwood struggled through to a five-point win over Glenelg in the second semi-final at Adelaide Oval today, but there was nothing in the game to say one side was clearly better than the other. One straight kick could have won the game for Glenelg at the end.

|         | 1st | 2nd | 3rd  | Final | Pts. |
|---------|-----|-----|------|-------|------|
| Norwood | 2—4 | 6—6 | 10—8 | 13—10 | 88   |
| Glenelg | 5—1 | 8—4 | 11—4 | 13—5  | 83   |

It was not spectacular football. In fact, from a crowd viewpoint, the main attraction was in the closeness of the scores. It was a battling game, with little or no systematic play.

If anything, Norwood won because of one strongpoint — across centre. With Gallagher, Blackmore, and Olds all in form — these are all State players — they had the edge on the Bays all day.

Apart from centre, where Blackmore was in control, the Bays held or won the other down-the-middle positions.

Don Taylor played a slashing game at centre half-back all day, Bill Prior was far too good for Brian Burke at centre half-forward.

Norwood's only winning point across half-forward was Drage's position at half-forward right.

But the main damage was done by the Redlegs' captain-coach Jack Oatey in the first half, when consistently he hit Way on the chest with rifle-like footpasses.

In the rucks, too, although both teams' followers broke even, Norwood broke away twice to Glenelg's once.

Glenelg's main ruck strength, Allan Crabb, was not up to his usual form and the Bays missed his drive.

Actually, on the form shown today, neither team could expect to beat Port. Norwood are not within five goals of the form they showed when they beat Glenelg twice earlier in the season. But I think Glenelg have improved a few goals.

Umpire Ken Aplin gave a very poor display. If he had only been consistent in his rulings, players and spectators might have been helped.

But he gave many queer decisions—against both teams.

In the first term, Glenelg took the game right up to Norwood, and before the Redlegs had settled down, the Bays had three goals on the board, from Churchett, Potter, and Prior.

Prior quickly showed that he would master Burke, at centre half-back today, in contrast to the last game of the minor round when Burke had things all his way.

Churchett's first goal came from a free right in front. Potter's was a snap, while Prior's kick, after a pass from Crabb, just slipped over the goal line by inches.

### Bays hold initiative

The Bays had the initiative, and forced Norwood off their usual game just as Port did to Torrens last Saturday.

Norwood's first goal, from Way, came when Way was given a free kick from what appeared to be an accidental trip by his team-mate Oatey.

By backing up well in defence, Glenelg made Norwood forwards kick very hurriedly. Brooker hooked their fourth goal before Oatey intercepted a pass from Johnny Taylor, and goaled from a running drop-kick.

Whether rucking or resting, John Marriott was Norwood's best at this stage.

By the end of the quarter, both teams had had six scoring shots, but the Bays were 15 points ahead.

Way struck a bad kicking patch early in the second term, with Oatey still giving him the ball, but then clicked.

After Dalwood—playing his best game since well before the carnival—had goaled, Way could manage only 2—2 from four fairly easy shots.

It was in the second term when Norwood first developed their clear dominance across the centre.

Karutz could not quite match Gallagher. Blackmore was too good for Cock, while McPherson persisted in trying to play Olds from behind, dwelling on him to get the ball and then tackle rather than go for the ball himself.

But Glenelg, by sheer hard battling, managed to stay in front. Churchett, Haussen, and Laffin all got goals, with another from Way the only reply.

At half-time, with a 10-point lead, Glenelg looked in a good position.

Ron Williams, Norwood centre half-forward, was replaced by Gross after half-time. Williams was suffering from influenza. Mayo went to centre half-forward and Gross to half-forward left.

Don Taylor, a logical centre-man, had played so well at centre half-back that it would have weakened the side if he had gone to the pivot.

The third term was simply a repetition of the first two, with neither side establishing any clear-cut margin of superiority.

Norwood, if anything, did most of the attacking, and whittled the Bays' lead to two points by three-quarter time.

When Mayo goaled soon after the start of the last term, Norwood were ahead by four points.

The Bays forced the ball down to their goals, and Hannaford got a point, but then Norwood swept back for another goal by Gross.

### Missed from in front

Churchett, from a free almost dead in front, missed badly when a punt screwed off his boot out of bounds just after light rain fell. He kicked full points from a good mark in front soon afterwards though, and again Glenelg were within four points.

Then Tilbrook weaved through a bunch to kick another goal for Norwood and made the difference 10 points again.

Then with excitement running high, Glenelg forced the ball down again, and after Haussen, from a free kick, sent the ball right in, Kempson picked it up as it came off hands and passed out to Donaldson, who came on when Cock went off at three-quarter time.

Donaldson's long punt went through and once again the margin was only four points with four minutes to go.

Gross had a shot with two minutes to go, but got a point, and although Glenelg attacked again, they could not force the ball past their centre half-forward line.

For Norwood Jack Oatey played a sterling game. His unerring stab passes to the forwards, particularly Way, gave the Redlegs many goals. He roved with dash, and although caught with the ball once or twice, was the drive behind Norwood's moves.

John Marriott rucked well and repeatedly broke Bay attacks when off the ball. On the day, Marriott was the best ruckman afield.

Norwood's centre line — Gallagher, Blackmore, and Olds — was the main strength of the side throughout.

## Port chosen to win

BY HADYN BUNTON

On the form shown today by Glenelg and Norwood, Port would not have much difficulty in beating either term on Saturday in the grand final.

Port's showing last week against Torrens was far higher class football than was seen in the second semi-final today.

I choose Port to win because they have two powerful rovers, in Fos Williams and Ray Whitaker, allied with strong rucks and a very even side.

If Glenelg had had two rovers today who could deliver the ball to their forwards as the Port pair can, they might have won.

From this point, it looks to be a Port-Norwood grand final.

Dalwood, whether rucking or resting, played his best game for some time, while Drage was particularly dangerous in the last half on a half-forward flank.

Don Taylor was Glenelg's best at centre half-back. Like Dalwood, he played his best game for many weeks. He held his position for the match.

Bill Prior turned the tables on Burke this time. From the start, he played in front of Burke instead of trying to come from behind, and won hands down.

Clarrie Window won his half-back position, while Churchett played his position well to get six goals.

Best Players — Norwood — Oatey, Marriott, Gallagher, Blackmore, Olds, Drage, Roberts. Glenelg — D Taylor, Prior, Window, Brooker, Hunt, Churchett, Crabb.

Scorers — Norwood — Way 4.4, Mayo 2.0, Drage 2.0, Tilbrook 1.2, Dalwood 1.1, Oatey 1.1, Hall 1.0, Gross 1.0, Gallagher 0.1, Marriott 0.1. Glenelg — Churchett 6.1, Brooker 2.1, Prior 1.1, Potter 1.0, Haussen 1.0, Laffin 1.0, Donaldson 1.0, Kempson 0.1, Hannaford 0.1.

## Determination won—Oatey

Jack Oatey, Norwood captain-coach, said after the game the grim determination of every player in the last quarter was the telling factor in Norwood's five-point win.

Their determination was especially noticeable in the hard first 10 minutes of that terrific quarter, said Oatey.

"That determination alone pulled Norwood through to their narrow win," said Oatey.

Glenelg captain-coach Johnny Taylor thought Norwood won because of their overall balance in the telling closing stages.

"On the day they were slightly the better side," said Taylor.

"They were a little more steady at the finish than we were."

Taylor, who is in his first season with Glenelg, said Glenelg lost the first semi-final in 1934, when Glenelg made their last appearance in the major round, and then went on to take the premiership.

"We are hoping that we will be able to do the same this year," said Taylor.

Taylor's father, Johnny Taylor, senior, former Port captain and State player—he played with Port from 1915-23—was in the Glenelg room before the game to wish his sons luck.

He recalled that he had also seen Johnny just before the start of the 1947 grand final, when he led West to the premiership.

An interjector in the Glenelg room at half-time when Johnny Taylor was addressing the team was given short shrift by the 200 supporters who had thronged behind the roped-off area.

Bill Prior, Glenelg centre half-forward, was awarded the 'Tigers' trophy for the best player today.

There were no trophies for Norwood players. In accordance with recent practice, all donations were put into their fund for distribution at the end of the season.

# Norwood Outstays Glenelg To Enter League Grand Final

By HARRY KNEEBONE

After trailing Glenelg for most of the league football second semi-final at Adelaide Oval on Saturday, Norwood hit the front in the last quarter, and, despite a Glenelg rally, clung to a five-point lead when the game ended.

Its victory transferred Norwood direct to the grand final. Glenelg and Port Adelaide will play off next Saturday for the right to meet Norwood for the 1950 premiership.

Saturday's was an interesting battle. The result was in doubt until the final siren sounded, and at no stage during the game did either side gain a lead sufficiently great to justify confidence in the outcome.

Glenelg, beginning with great gusto and confidence, rattled on three goals without a behind before Norwood could score. Thereafter—except for a few moments in the second quarter when Norwood led 5.6 to 5.1—Glenelg held a slender lead.

Glenelg's longest lead, after its opening burst, was 16 points early in the third quarter when the scores were 9.4 (58) to 6.6 (42).

It was from that point that Norwood gained the upper hand, although the supremacy was not marked until the early stages of the last quarter when it seemed to have the edge on the opposition for speed.

## Fighting Finish

From that stage early in the third quarter to the finish Norwood scored 7.4 to Glenelg's 4.1. That tells the story of Norwood's victory.

Forced into a desperate position and with its task clearly defined, it produced fighting qualities which have been missing from its performances of

late. Led by its captain-coach (Oatey), who gave one of his best roving displays of the season, it outstayed Glenelg, which has earned a reputation for stamina.

Glenelg was by no means disgraced. It left the field with enhanced rather than damaged prestige. It had set the pace throughout and had been pipped on the post by only five points.

Most telling feature of its play was its fast and purposeful tacking. It gave the opposition no opportunity to balance itself before disposing of the ball and it was only in the last quarter that any Norwood player gained possession unchallenged. For a few vital minutes Glenelg's close-checking broke down then and Norwood had enough speed left to make the most of the breakdown.

Even then, with Norwood leading 12.9 (81) to 11.5 (71) Glenelg gallantly refused to admit defeat. Churchett and Donaldson (a startling effort on the run from a long way out) scored goals to rouse the crowd. It was only because Tilbrook sandwiched a goal between those Glenelg sorties that Norwood was able to hold its lead.

Each side lost key men during the game. Williams (Nor-

wood centre half-forward), obviously feeling the effects of influenza from which he had suffered during the week, did not resume after half-time. He was replaced in the centre half-forward position by Mayo and Gross (19th) took the half-forward left.

Cock, promoted from the association side to take centre for Glenelg, hobbled from the field at the end of the third quarter, being replaced by Donaldson.

Both sides called on their 20th men (Pedder and Miller respectively) in the last quarter. A stretcher was requisitioned to remove Drage, who collapsed with a few minutes to go—the effect of a knock in the abdomen.

## Fine Effort By D. Taylor

Don Taylor, Glenelg centre half-back, was best man afield. At no time could Norwood take the direct route to goal with confidence and generally tried to by-pass that position—a tribute to the completeness of Taylor's dominance of the position.

He smashed countless Norwood attacks and if it had not been for his superb marking and dashing ground play, Norwood would have had the match won much sooner than it did.

The winning side had no player whose form was comparable with Taylor's. Oatey chose the right moments to produce virile, inspiring roving. Marriott, especially when in defence, marked strongly and kicked with greater accuracy and distance than usual.

Roberts (half-back right) and Blackmore (centre) were dashing ground players, and Dalwood (ruck) played one of his best games for the season, his marking being a feature.

Others to play well for the winning side were Olds and Gallagher (wing), Tilbrook (roving), Hall (ruck), Drage (half-forward right), Way (centre forward), and Edwards (half-back).

Taylor received efficient, reliable support on the Glenelg half-back line from Window and Wright. Norwood found it very hard to get past this trio.

Prior held centre half-forward open for Glenelg. He marked with fine judgment and determination.

Crabb (ruck), Churchett (centre forward), Hunt (goal), Karutz (wing), J. Taylor (ruck and defence), Brooker (roving) and Wickham (back pocket) also were prominent.

**FINAL**  
NORWOOD, 13 goals 16 hds. (80 pts.)  
GLENELG, 13 goals 5 hds. (83 pts.)

**GOALKICKERS**—Norwood—Way, 4.4; Mayo and Drage, each 2.0; Tilbrook, 1.2; Oatey and Dalwood each 1.1; Hall and Gross, each 0.0; Gallagher and Marriott, each 0.1. Glenelg—Churchett, 6.1; Brooker, 2.1; Prior, 1.1; Potter, Honson, Laffin and Donaldson, each 1.0; Mannaford and Kempson, each 0.1.

COLIN Churchett's bid to reach his first century of goals in a league season was taken a big step nearer fruition on Saturday when he kicked six goals for Glenelg against Norwood.

Even if Glenelg is defeated by Port Adelaide in the preliminary final next Saturday, Churchett may not be thwarted for he needs only four goals.

Leading goalkickers are—

|               | Goals | Behinds | Total |
|---------------|-------|---------|-------|
| Churchett (G) | 6.1   | 18      | 96.57 |
| Mehaffey (WT) | —     | 18      | 61.37 |
| Williams (N)  | 0.0   | 18      | 59.44 |
| Willis (WT)   | —     | 16      | 53.44 |
| Bradford (WT) | —     | 18      | 41.37 |
| Williams (PA) | —     | 18      | 40.29 |
| Dalwood (N)   | 1.1   | 18      | 40.25 |

GLENELG'S live mascot—a tiger (caged) on loan from a circus—kept the team company all the way up from the Bay on Saturday.

But at the southern entrance gates to Adelaide Oval the mascot failed to get past the gatekeeper, and after an anticlimactic jaunt through the city, returned to tent town near the Morphett street bridge.

<http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-page3192704>

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## Grandstand views of football with 50-inch telescopic lens

OPPOSING ruckmen Marriott and Crabb fly for the knock-out after the bounce of the ball in the ring at Saturday's semi-final game. All these pictures, with the exception of that of Reimann, were taken with a new 50-in. telescopic lens from the members' stand. This lens will be used extensively during the forthcoming first-class cricket matches.



"WHERE DID THAT ONE GO?"—Facial expressions and stances of these players (above) indicate the flight of the ball decided them all. The camera stopped them in ballet-like poses. LEFT and BELOW are Norwood players Reimann and Marriott suspended in the air after flying for the ball.