

# NORTH'S DOOR FIGHT Plugged away to beat Bays in poor game

By HADYN BUNTON, as told to LAWRIE JERVIS, JUN.

In a game singularly undistinguished by any good football, North plugged away more effectively to beat Glenelg by 25 points in the league football preliminary final at Adelaide Oval today.

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
North	4—5	5—9	9—15	10—20	80
Glenelg	1—3	6—6	7—10	7—13	55

If anything, the biggest factor in North's win was Ian McKay's checking of the Bays' crack goalsneak, Colin Churchett.

Churchett got only two goals, and they were both kicked when he picked up some crumbs from the crushes.

Apart from that, Glenelg lost the centre line all day. Vaughan hardly gave Davies a kick at centre, while Griffin made the right wing a winner for North.

Renner, on the other side, was too good for Lord, so Glenelg were actually behind scratch before they started any drive.

As a spectacle, the game was one of the worst I've seen this season. There was little co-ordinated play from either side, and the match early developed into an individual struggle, with every man playing as hard as he could for himself.

When Churchett was so obviously no match for McKay early — the North captain did not give him an inch to move — I thought Johnny Taylor would have brought some alternative plan into operation.

He could have used Don Taylor at centre half-forward to lead up into the forward pocket, as he did so successfully with Laurie Taylor against North last year at the Bay.

As well, Davies was getting such a hiding that Taylor should have made a switch there. He put Don Taylor at centre late in the third quarter, but by then it was too late. North then felt victory in the air, and took some stopping.

The Bays had the best two rovers afield, in Bailey and Brooker, but could make no headway with their efforts.

The Bays' goal-to-goal line was never a force.

Hunt did well enough against North's goalsneak, Stringer, limiting him to three goals. But Brian Wright was not quite good enough to hold Proud, although Proud did not do much.

At centre, Vaughan was a mile in front of Davies. Don Taylor, against Galloway—not a shadow of what he was last week — won well, but Churchett was blanketed by McKay.

So the game had to go round the wings, and that was where North had a clear-cut win.

After North had run to a 20-point lead in the first quarter, the Bays seemed to settle down in the second term.

Umpire Sweeney let the game run in the second term, so much so it looked as if somebody would be badly hurt before the end.

It suited the Bays more than North, and after Stringer had goaled for North, Glenelg came with a rattle. By the end of the quarter, they had overtaken their three-goal lead, and had hit the front.

Then, it seemed, the Bays only had to go on the same way to win.

## Big "kick on"

Aldenhoven gave North the big "kick-on" at the start of the third quarter with two goals.

The second he kicked, at the scoreboard end, brought a big demonstration from people just behind the goals.

The goal umpire declared it correct. After the game Glenelg players near the goals at the time — Ray Hunt, Stan Wickham, Alan Crabb all said the ball hit the post so solidly the post rocked, and the ball ricocheted away.

They said the goal umpire dived for one flag as he saw the ball coming.

and had his head down as the ball hit the post.

The Bays fought back for a while, but when Stringer kicked two goals in a row just before the end of the term, Glenelg looked sunk.

That's the way it turned out. In the last quarter North kicked on like a winning side, while the Bays made even more errors than they had earlier.

## A king pin

Vaughan, at centre, was a king pin for North when he so decisively became Davies' master early in the piece. Vaughan played his best game for some time.

Ian McKay did a magnificent job checking Churchett. He blanketed the Bay crack goalsneak all the way. Churchett's only two goals came from snapshots, away from McKay.

Griffin won his wing handsomely against McPherson. Gilbourne, at half-forward, played well, while Aldenhoven rucked solidly against odds. Renner (wing), Phillips (roving), and Blunden (half-back) also did well.

Bailey, roving, was the Bay's best. In the first half he was always in the game.

Brooker, at half-forward and roving, played a determined game, while Kempson often cleared well from half-back. Crabb went particularly well in ruck in the first half, although he faded a little later.

Best Players — North: Vaughan, McKay, Griffin, Gilbourne, Aldenhoven, Renner, Phillips, Blunden, Glenelg: Bailey, Brooker, Kempson, Crabb, Prior, J. Taylor, D. Taylor.

Scorers — North: Stringer 3.4, Aldenhoven 2.2, Cunningham 2.1, Phillips 1.4, Gilbourne and Proud each 1.2, Kennett 0.3, McKenzie 0.1, rushed 0.1. Glenelg: Brooker 4.0, Churchett 2.5, D. Taylor 1.1, Rundle 0.2, Bailey, Davies, Lamin, J. Taylor each 0.1, rushed 0.1.

## SNAPSHOTS

Alan Aldenhoven, one of the best for North today, was carried off Adelaide Oval on the broad shoulders of three team-mates. One pair of shoulders belonged to Johnny Vaughan, who redeemed himself after a mediocre game last week, by playing like a champion at centre today.

As a last game gesture, Glenelg supporters donated £60 to be divided among the players after the match today. The 20 Tigers "on deck" for the game will receive their £3 each tomorrow.

Money came in freely from North fans, too, and officials did not have to appeal much before they had £50 in the pool. The 20 North players will receive £2/10/.

North half-back flanker Len Hill has made a quick rise in football. Last week he came on in the third quarter against Port in his first league game for the year. Today he was on the field all the time and fully justified his selection. Previously he played in B Grade.

Adelaide Oval attendance today was 25,000. SA Football League secretary (Mr. Hill) said tonight.

Glenelg goalsneak Colin Churchett received a kick at the back of the knee a few minutes after the game started, and this hampered him considerably. He was unable to leap to take his usual high

marks, and had to satisfy himself with picking up the "crumbs" and shooting them goalwards.

Glenelg captain Johnny Taylor was reported for allegedly having struck an opponent in the second quarter of the Adelaide Oval match.

Stan Wickham, Glenelg back pocketman, had to rise before dawn to go to work today as a tram conductor.

Before the match, fellow players found him sound asleep on a table in the dressing room. They took off his shoes and improvised a pillow for him so that he could rest properly.

Stan woke up just before the match started "really in the mood."

## STURT COLTS' 55-PT. WIN

Too fast and systematic for Norwood, in the Senior Colts preliminary final, played as a curtain-raiser at Adelaide Oval this afternoon, Sturt romped home with a 55-point win.

They will play Port in the final next week. Sturt 10-15; Norwood 2-8.

UP, UP they went—but only North's Alan Aldenhoven (right) was really trying to get the ball in this incident from today's preliminary football final at Adelaide Oval. The object of Glenelg's Allan Crabb was just to spoil—and that he did. Grounded in the background is North's Les Cunningham.





**TODAY'S FOOTBALL SPOTLIGHT****BAYS LOOK BETTER OVERALL THAN NORTH**

By LAWRIE JERVIS, jun.

**Position for position, Glenelg look stronger overall than North, and they are my choice to win the league football preliminary final at Adelaide Oval tomorrow.**

But the choice of the Bays is not made with any great confidence, because the Glenelg line-up has weaknesses in some departments which Port did not have last Saturday.

Consequently North are likely to do far better tomorrow than against Port.

Against the Magpies, North's biggest weaknesses were across centre and roving. They had no counter for Boyd, and Williams and Whitaker.

Even though Glenelg will try to force the pace by running three rovers tomorrow — Bailey, McDonald, and Brooker—none of them is of the Williams—Whitaker class.

**Davies chancey**

For that reason, North rovers should at least break even with the opposition.

For Glenelg, Davies at centre is chancey. If the

breaks go his way, he can play devastating football. He moves like the wind, but he covers too much ground and often gets out of position.

Vaughan, by sticking round centre, could easily make the position a winner for North.

The most important wing battle, from the viewpoint of both teams, will be between Lisle Griffin and Glen McPherson.

Much of North's good, systematic football this year has come when Griffin has mastered his opponent, and thereby made Paul Kennett a trump at half-forward right.

If Griffin is shut out, Kennett's game usually suffers, too, from lack of opportunities. The pair, when winning, combine so well that North forwards are given the necessary chances.

**Flank factors**

McPherson has not played many brilliant games for Glenelg this season, but on the other hand, he has very seldom been beaten heavily.

If he is not on top, he can be a very effective neutraliser, so that the opposing side cannot get any decisive break through his wing.

Apart from any other possible team strategy, the centre line and rovers

might well be the decisive factors for the winning team tomorrow.

And if it is flank play which decides the game, the team to win is more likely to be North.

**Strong Bay rucks**

Glenelg have relied a lot on their big, heavy rucks and goal-to-goal strength this year.

All round, their rucks on paper look superior to North's. Johnny Taylor, Crabb, Potter, and Laffin are a powerful group.

To combat North's Aldenhoven, though, it is quite likely Glenelg might try the "big" knock.

They did it against Torrens, sending the ball almost to half-forward by heavy punches.

**Proud better?**

For North, much may depend on how Bob Proud goes at centre half-forward. There's little doubt he is a good footballer, and he now has a league game under his belt.

**HOW TEAMS LINE UP**

(Glenelg kicking up and names underneath)

<b>McKay</b> (28, 6.1, 12.9)		
<b>Churchett</b> (25, 5.11, 13.7)		
<b>Tidswell</b> (21, 6.2, 13.10)	<b>Weston</b> (19, 5.10, 11.6)	
<b>Laffin</b> (24, 6.4, 14.6)	<b>Brooker</b> (29, 5.8, 11.0)	
<b>Blunden</b> (21, 6.0½, 12.0)	<b>Galloway</b> (24, 5.11, 12.11)	<b>Hill</b> (24, 6.0, 13.0)
<b>McDonald</b> (22, 5.10½, 12.0)	<b>D. Taylor</b> (30, 6.0, 12.8)	<b>Rundle</b> (20, 6.0, 11.2)
<b>Griffin</b> (23, 5.10, 11.0)	<b>Vaughan</b> (20, 5.10, 12.2)	<b>Renner</b> (21, 5.7, 10.4)
<b>McPherson</b> (26, 5.6, 11.0)	<b>Davies</b> (20, 6.1, 13.4)	<b>Lord</b> (22, 5.7, 11.4)
<b>Kennett</b> (27, 5.9, 11.8)	<b>Proud</b> (23, 6.3, 12.10)	<b>Gilbourne</b> (20, 5.11, 12.7)
<b>Kempson</b> (20, 5.9½, 11.4)	<b>B. Wright</b> (20, 5.11, 11.6)	<b>Prior</b> (26, 5.11, 12.13)
<b>Cunningham</b> (20, 6.0, 12.0)	<b>Phillips</b> (30, 5.9, 12.10)	
<b>Potter</b> (22, 6.0, 13.0)	<b>Wickham</b> (24, 5.7, 13.0)	
<b>Stringer</b> (22, 6.0, 12.12)		
<b>Hunt</b> (33, 5.10½, 11.7)		

**Rucks—Glenelg:** Crabb (28, 6.2, 14.0), J. Taylor (32, 5.11, 12.12), Bailey (19, 6.0, 10.7); Laffin, Potter, Brooker. **North:** Aldenhoven (20, 6.2, 14.0), Garnett (19, 6.1, 13.0), H. McKenzie (26, 5.5, 10.3); Tidswell, Cunningham, Phillips.

**Reserves—Glenelg:** A. Wright (19, 6.1, 11.6), N. Lasky (22, 6.0, 11.4). **North:** Tanner (19, 6.2, 13.6), Fuller (21, 5.10, 12.8).

**Umpire:** J. L. Sweeney.

Whelan checked him very ruggedly last Saturday, but Proud might find the straight high-flying Brian Wright more to his liking.

If it comes to straight-out high-marking duels, Proud has an advantage of 4 in. in height.

He will have to be at his top to match Wright, though, who has about the safest pair of marking hands in the game, bar John Marriott.

**Goalfront duel**

Another focal point will be the McKay-Churchett duel.

Churchett's eight goals against Torrens was a brilliant feat. He got the ball himself, and led for passes like a bullet.

McKay is a fast-mover, too, and with an even break, could probably beat Churchett in the air.

If McKay shows early he has Churchett's measure, I don't doubt the Bays have an alternative plan worked out.

All in all, the game looks like providing last-quarter thrills.

**Rovers may turn tide for North**

By Jeff Pash

Performances over the whole season favor North in the preliminary final, whereas recent form points to Glenelg.

If the goal-to-goal line gives a slight advantage to the Bays, I should say that North are generally stronger on the flanks.

The McKay - Churchett contest—as is the case with many individual struggles—is likely to be decided further afield than at the goalfront, with fortune playing its inevitable part.

With North's unfortunate loss of Frank Crouch miraculously balanced by the recovery of Alan Galloway, I still see the match as essentially a battle for the rucks.

In the belief that their roving team is likely to prove superior on this occasion, I choose North.

**Wright has ricked back**

Glenelg centre half-back Brian Wright is having heat treatment today for a ricked back.

Glenelg secretary (Mr. H. Clamp) said Wright ricked his back at work helping lift a pianola on Tuesday. It was not until after training on Tuesday night, when he cooled off, that Wright first noticed the hurt.

He moved stiffly at practice last night until he warmed up, when he trained well. Afterwards he was given heat treatment, which will be continued today and tonight.