

NORTH KEEP NORWOOD OUT OF FINAL FOUR

By HAYDN BUNTON, as told to LAWRIE JERVIS, Jun.

North ended Norwood's final four chances by beating them by 27 points at Norwood Oval today in a match which developed into a series of scrambles after the first quarter.

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
North	4—2	6—3	7—3	9—7	61
Norwood	2—3	3—6	4—9	4—10	34

North won because they possessed a more efficient attack than the Redlegs.

Norwood had nothing resembling a good forward line, and dropped into a bad wet weather error of trying to short pass.

Time and again, Norwood worked the ball away from centre to past half-forward, only to see their drive choked off by the North defenders.

In the third term, for instance, Norwood had the ball on their side of centre for 19 out of the first 20 minutes of the term.

All they could score was 1-3, while in the one minute North went into attack they got a goal. North attacked only twice more for the quarter.

It was a pity rain spoilt what was shaping like a great match. It poured down early in the second quarter.

Missed Oatey

The way the game was played Norwood missed Oatey, for his ability to pick up the several stray kicks that went begging from the scrambles close to goal.

Both teams carried some passengers—there were at least two on each side who had about three kicks for the day, and a couple of others did little better.

For North Alan Aldenhoven gave a sterling performance in ruck, and played well when resting.

The job he did is the more creditable, because of his inability to train this week, due to a heavy cold.

Frank Crouch, at half-back left, stopped Norwood in their tracks repeatedly.

Kennett played solidly at half-forward right, while Phillips got four goals, because he knows the value of position play.

Hubert McKenzie roved with plenty of dash, McKay defended well, while Weston improved as the game went on, in a back pocket. Both North wingman, Griffin, and Renner had an edge over their opponents, Trickett and Olds.

For Norwood Marriott was indisputably best. He rucked beautifully all day, and seldom, if ever, missed a knock.

Blackmore, with a captain's responsibilities on his shoulders, drove himself nearly into the ground moving. Gallagher easily beat Vaughan at centre, but missed many chances by trying to handball rather than kick.

Best Players—North: Aldenhoven, Crouch, Kennett, Phillips, H. McKenzie, McKay, Weston, Griffin. Norwood: Marriott, Blackmore, Gallagher, Williams, Potts, Edwards, Reimann.

Scorers—North: Phillips 4.0, Cunningham 2.2, Kennett 1.3, Stringer 1.1, McKenzie 1.0, rushed 0.1. Norwood: Edwards 1.2, Marriott 1.1, Blackmore 1.1, Williams 1.1, Mayo 0.4, Reimann 0.1.

League four

Results in today's league football matches decided the final four—Port, North, Glenelg, and Torrens.

Torrens (fourth) are now four premierships points ahead of Norwood and West and cannot be displaced, with one series of the minor round remaining to be played.

Only possible change now could be in placings.

Should West beat North next Saturday, and Glenelg beat South, Glenelg and North would be level with 24 points each.

Second place would then be decided on percentage.

North's percentage now is better than Glenelg's, and for any alteration, North would have to lose extraordinarily heavily, while Glenelg would need to win by a great margin.

If Torrens were to beat Port, and Glenelg lost to South—an extremely unlikely combination of circumstances—Torrens might take third place on percentage.

Official attendance figures at today's league games were: Norwood Oval 8,500; Adelaide 8,400; Unley 4,000; Thebarton 2,750.

Premiership list

LEAGUE FOOTBALL					
	W	L	for	ag.	pts.
Port	16	1	1496	940	32
North	12	5	1434	1101	24
Glenelg	11	6	1503	1331	22
Torrens	10	7	1438	1233	20
Norwood	8	9	1283	1180	16
West	8	9	1135	1204	16
Sturt	2	15	1109	1693	4
South	1	16	1015	1821	2

Top goalkickers

	Today	Total
Churchett (Glenelg)	5	83
Bradford (Torrens)	1	46
Willis (Torrens)	3	46
Phillips (North)	4	45
Lapthorne (South)	1	42
Brooker (Glenelg)	2	34
Stringer (North)	1	33

EASY GAME TO TORRENS

By LEN SWAN

There were no surprises at Thebarton Oval today, where Torrens won easily from South by 54 points.

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Torrens	4—2	8—2	13—7	14—10	94
South	1—1	4—3	5—3	6—4	40

Conditions were difficult, and with rain beating hard across the ground few players were able to handle the ball with certainty—at times it looked like a soccer game.

Torrens adapted themselves to the conditions better and South players made the error of trying to pick the wet ball up in the crushes instead of kicking it off the ground.

For Torrens, Prior is mentioned first for his unchallenged control of the ruck—his knocking from the crushes was accurate and intelligent.

He is one of the best followers in the league today, and is always looking for a player when directing his knock.

Coverlid showed a return to form and was an able assistant to Prior in the Torrens ruck.

Bob Hank clearly showed that he enjoys the pivot position by displaying many glimpses of his old form.

He was behind a great deal of the Torrens attacks all day.

In Linke, South had the best man on the ground. If it had not been for this player's brilliance in defence, Torrens' score could easily have been doubled.

He cleared well and his judgment could not be faulted.

Deane outstanding

Deane was outstanding in the first half but had less effect on South's play towards the end of the game.

He adapts himself to the conditions quickly and handles the wet ball better than most.

The South stalwart, Lapthorne, retains his pace, and today took full advantage of his limited opportunities. Tabe battled hard.

Best Players—Torrens: Prior, Coverlid, Bob Hank, Bradford, Glastonbury, R. Sully, Cockshell. South: Linke, Deane, Lapthorne, Tabe, Merchant, Abbott, Jones.

Scorers—Torrens: Willis 3.2, Prior 3.2, Bradford 2.2, Bennett 2.0, Coverlid 2.0, Ray Hank 1.2, Cingly 1.1, Bob Hank 0.1, Cockshell hit a post. South: Walker 2.0, Lapthorne 1.1, Veitch 1.1, Merchant 1.0, Tabe 1.0, Jones 0.1, rushed 0.1.

Bays' direct attack beats West

By AMOS BOTTROFF

Glenelg excluded West from the finals by a sound victory—the result of direct and purposeful football in attack and a sound set defence.

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Glenelg	2—3	6—5	8—6	11—8	74
West	2—3	4—6	5—9	5—12	42

But for the rain which began 10 minutes after play started, there is little doubt the result would have been much closer, as West seemed to play a different game in the drier conditions.

But Glenelg must not be discredited for the gallant way in which they adapted themselves to slippery conditions, met the play with the necessary grim determination, and foisted the ball forward, getting as much distance as possible both in defence and attack.

Rucks even early

There was little to choose between the rucks until well after half time when Crabb came into the play to support a stolid effort by Johnny Taylor and Potter.

Strangely, Crabb was hardly seen until after half time. Then he stayed well in the picture until the end of the game.

Across centre Lord had the better of Edwards, but Slattery (West) slightly outpointed McPherson and Lynch played one of his best games for the season at centre.

It was in defence that the Bays strength was always predominant, but a finger must be pointed at West's blunders and weakness in attack.

Time and again early in the second quarter, right through the third, and

again in the last term, West players had chances in attack but through weak kicking and the lack of driving force they came to nothing but an isolated point or two.

Although Brian Faehse fought hard at centre half-forward, he was unable to instil the necessary vim into a side more suited to a drier turf.

West had their main strength at centre and at half back, where Franklin, Lewis, and Hewitt had the upper hand.

With stronger mobility and a gradual ascendancy in the rucks, Glenelg had their trump card in Churchett at the goalfrost.

His uncanny play and soccering of the ball into position didn't give the opposition much chance to catch him in possession.

To cap his play, at least one of his five goals was a brilliant angle shot in the worst of conditions.

Potter gave fillip

Rarely has a player found the ball following him as did Brian Potter today. Both in ruck and defence his effective play added a fillip to the Bay effort. He was possibly best man for his side.

As custodian, Ray Hunt was rarely beaten and his kicking off was all that was required of him.

He must be classed as one of the evergreen players amongst the older ones still in the game.

Kempson played a fine game at half-forward, where he had plenty to do all day.

Colin Churchett's effort with five goals must also rank him high.

Lord played well on a wing, handling the ball well, and Johnny Taylor was always in the thick of play.

Lynch liked mud

For West no one could have done more or in a more effective manner than Lynch, who revelled in the mud at centre, and only once failed to get his kick all day.

Franklin and Lewis defended very solidly, and both players often sent West into attack only to see the ball return soon after.

Cannon was best of the rucks. He suffered quite a lot of buffeting, but finished full of fight.

Faehse did a good job at centre half-forward, and Agius roved with plenty of dash.

Best Players—Glenelg: Potter, Hunt, Kempson, Churchett, J. Taylor, Lord, Crabb. West: Lynch, Franklin, Lewis, Cannon, Faehse, Agius.

Scorers—Glenelg: Churchett 5.3, Potter 2.1, Brooker 2.1, D. Taylor 1.1, Crabb 1.0, Lamin 0.1, Rundle 0.1. West: Agius 1.3, Bern Slattery 1.1, Faehse 1.1, Stewart 1.0, Packham 1.0, A'Court 0.2, Williams 0.1, Cannon 0.1, Thomas 0.1, Lynch 0.1, Edwards 0.1.

Port easily beat Sturt

Port easily defeated Sturt in a low-scoring game at Unley Oval.

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Port	3—3	4—3	7—4	7—4	46
Sturt	0—2	0—4	0—7	4—8	32

The Magpies held a comfortable lead throughout the game mainly owing to a more systematic attack and although held scoreless in the last quarter they won comfortably.

A sodden turf and rain soon after the start of play made conditions impossible for good football early.

Port were kicking into a strong wind but their clever use of handball to the man coming through and the surprising distances reached by Clark driving the ball in from centre half forward gave them an early lead.

The Magpies were too strong for Sturt in most set positions and only in the ruck Thompson and Fitzgerald were combining cleverly to offer plenty of opposition to Port.

The bad ground conditions slowed the game up early and play became a hard slogging affair with both sides checking closely in defence.

The game was a very poor spectacle in the third term. In heavy rain and mud players could not hold their feet and it was a hard job for either side to force the ball into scoring range.

Port were surer in attack than Sturt, who kicked blindly, making the

game easy for the Port defenders. Russell gathered in the wild shots for goals with almost monotonous regularity.

Fitzgerald's fine position play and good disposal of the ball was being backed up by the Sturt attack for the first time in the game, but time was against them, and Port ran out easy winners.

Whelan vigorous

Whelan, fast and vigorous at centre half-back, was outstanding in an even Port side.

Fos Williams, Port captain, gave a great roving display for his side.

Others to show out for Port were Luke, at centre, Russell in the back pocket, and McDonald at centre wing.

Fitzgerald played an outstanding game for Sturt, combining beautifully with Thompson in ruck.

Thompson's marking and kicking were first class.

Best Players—Port: Whelan, Williams, Luke, Russell, McDonald, Abley, Clark. Sturt: Fitzgerald, Thompson, Baker, Downing, Boland, Kitcher, Curnow.

Scorers—Port: Williams 3.1, Clark 2.1, Zucker 1.0, Salvemini 1.0, Batt 0.1, Trowse 0.1. Sturt: Fitzgerald 1.3, Thompson 1.0, Ladd 1.0, Sarre 1.0, Ellis 0.1, Caust 0.1, Southern 0.1, rushed 0.2.

After the Norwood game jubilant North supporters donated enough money for every player to get £1.

South trophy today went to Ray Linke for his brilliant game in defence.

Trophies were awarded to Glenelg players Kempson, Hunt, and Churchett after the Bay's win over West at Adelaide today.