

STRAIGHT KICKING IN TORRENS' 2-PT. WIN

TACKLE WAS LATE — BUT IT WASN'T WASTED

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

In a hard-hitting last term, Torrens outstayed the Bays to win by two points in an exciting game at Glenelg Oval today. Torrens' very accurate goalshooting, plus their fighting spirit, gave them the win.

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Torrens	4-1	10-3	14-4	17-7	109
Glenelg	7-4	10-11	14-14	15-17	107

When the last quarter began, Torrens were 10 points behind, and Crabb got a quick goal for Glenelg. Both sides were feeling the pinch.

But Torrens, with four players going particularly well—Bob Hank, centre; Prior, rucking or resting; Bradford, roving or placed forward; and Charlie Pyatt, on the half-back line—kicked on.

Bob Hank gave them the drive, and Willis, racing far out, took two marks at half-forward which were marked by Bradford and Don Prior close in for goals. That was the turning of the tide.

Debating point

There will be lots of arguments about which side was the better on the day. After-the-game theories are very easily come by, and apply to both sides.

But I think the Bays could easily have won on the way things went most of the day. They missed some easy shots for goal, while Torrens kicked much better than usual.

In the first half, the Bays had the best two players on the ground — Alan Crabb in ruck, and Brian Wright at centre half-back.

Crabb was so effective in ruck, particularly at the centre bounce, that most times Torrens were beginning drives about 25 yards behind scratch.

Brian Wright was in great form, and whenever Bob Hank, at centre for Torrens, couldn't send the ball either round the half-back defence or over Wright, Torrens' attacks were sunk quickly.

In the second half, Crabb tired noticeably and though he was still the best ruckman afield, he did not play the breath-taking game he had earlier.

Potential menace

Churchett kicked only three goals until he was shifted at three-quarter time to centre half-forward, but he was always a big potential menace to Torrens. Two of his goals in the first half were phenomenal left-foot hooks from the boundary almost alongside the behind posts.

Torrens wingmen were well beaten on the day. It's a long time since I've seen the centre half-back, rucks, and wingmen of a team winning so soundly and yet for the team to lose.

In the open going, Torrens showed more system than the Bays when the Thebarton side took the initiative. When the long-kicking game was on with the wind early, it went the Bays' way, because of their reachier side.

Broadstock, playing his first game for the season for Torrens, wasn't in complete touch, but again he showed he is master of

never wasting a kick. His main worth today was in the steady influence he exerted over Torrens half-forwards and forwards.

Johnny Taylor swung Glenelg round a bit for the last term. He brought Churchett out to centre half-forward, sent his brother Don to centre, made Rundle goalsneak, and sent Davies into ruck.

I think it's a mistake to take Churchett away from the goalfront, where he is always likely to turn on a burst of goals.

Early, Davies seemed to lack some interest in the game. After the brilliant debut he made this season, it's a pity to see him apparently taking things easier than he should.

For Torrens, Bob Hank was outstanding at centre. He was the mainspring of most attacks, and was going as well at the end as at the start. Don Prior, although no match for Crabb in the first half ruck battles, played very well when the game broke into the clear.

Rovers fine

Torrens' three rovers, Bradford, Mehaffey, and Ray Hank, all did a good job, and Bradford perhaps best for the way he made position.

Charlie Pyatt turned in his best game for a long time, fighting it out grimly all the way. Alf Roberts (goalkeeper) and Bob Oates (ruck) also played well.

Alan Crabb and Brian Wright took the Bay honors.



TORRENS DEFENDER Phil Bennett just got his foot to the ball in time as Glenelg ruckman Alan Crabb tackled him at Glenelg Oval today. But Crabb's tackle wasn't wasted. Bennett kicked hurriedly and sent the ball out of bounds. Torrens won the match by 17-7 to 15-17, leaving them in fourth place on the premiership table.

Crabb was unbeatable early, and understandably tired later, after carrying his team's packs all the way.

Wright, as far as I can recollect, did not miss a mark that should have been his, and cleared well. McPherson and Lafsky won their wings, while McDonald proved very dangerous in a forward pocket early.

Best Players—Torrens: Bob Hank, Prior, Bradford, Roberts, Pyatt, Mehaffey, Ray Hank, Oates. Glenelg: Crabb, B. Wright, McPherson, McDonald, Rundle, J. Taylor, Lafsky, Hunt.

Scorers—Mehaffey, Willis each 4.1, Bradford 4.0, Prior 2.1, Ray Hank 2.0, Oates 1.0, Bob Hank 0.2, Cockshell 0.1, rushed 0.1. Glenelg: Rundle 4.3, McDonald 4.0, Churchett 3.3, A. Wright 1.3, Davies 1.2, Brooker, Lafsky each 1.0, Crabb 0.3, D. Taylor 0.2, Potter 0.1.

Premiership list

	P.	W.	L.	For	Agst.	Pts.	Pos.
Port	6	6	—	590	366	12	
North	7	6	1	752	487	12	
West	7	5	2	553	539	10	
Torrens	7	4	3	698	624	8	
Glenelg	7	3	4	627	586	6	
Norwood	6	2	4	428	459	4	
South	7	1	6	490	773	2	
Sturt	7	—	7	480	774	—	

Top goalkickers

	Today	Total
Churchett (Glenelg)	3	35
Phillips (North)	4	28
Bradford (Torrens)	4	25
Lapthorne (South)	4	23
Stringer (North)	—	20
Willis (Torrens)	4	19
Brooker (Glenelg)	1	16
Dalwood (Norwood)	—	17

West lead in dull scramble

By BRIAN SHEA

West easily defeated South in a dull scrambling game at Adelaide Oval today.

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
West	2-2	7-6	10-6	15-8	98
South	2-4	4-5	8-9	9-15	69

Honors were with South for three quarters of the game, but their poor kicking in the vital last quarter allowed West to finish all over them.

West met trouble early in the game. Too many players went half-heartedly for the ball.

Their forwards played from behind their opponents, were often caught flat-footed.

South were able to break up most attacks before West got the ball in scoring range.

West's rucks were beaten early, and on the occasions when they did clear the ball from centre Deane, scouting cleverly round the packs, had them covered.

Breeze advantage

South had the advantage of a strong breeze early in the game.

But their wild kicking let them down throughout the game and stopped them gaining full advantage from their good ruck play.

Faehse and Brown defended strongly for West, but most of the side fell away badly.

West could not produce any systematic play to combat the fast moving South team.

It was not until just before half-time that West gained a break over South. A'Court seized control of the ruck despite a leg injury, and his drive from the centre bounce started many West attacks.

Replaced field

West reshuffled their

field after half-time. Faehse went to centre half-back Semmler took over as goalkeeper, and Brown roved.

The small West back pocketman infused system into the attack which earlier had floundered badly.

His cool position play and accurate passing gave West a definite advantage.

South fought back strongly just before three-quarter time and three quick goals to Lapthorne, who scouted cleverly close to goal, brought South back into the picture.

West went away in the last quarter.

They finished the game full of running. A burst of poor kicking by South when goals were badly needed put paid to their hopes of winning.

The more experienced players won the game for West. Faehse, who did not make a mistake all day, was easily the best for his side.

He played grandly as goalkeeper, and continued to win hands down when he took over at centre half-back.

Frank Lewis, West half-back, turned in another great game. He started on a half-back flank and played well when sent to centre.

Others to stand out for West were Brown, in defence and on the ball, and Slattery roving.

Jim Deane was easily South's best. He appreciated his roving commission by beating the West rovers pointless at many of the centre bounces.

North's staying power too good for Sturt

By LEN SWAN

Slightly better staying power enabled North to finish 21 points in front of Sturt at Prospect Oval today.

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
North	3-6	5-8	10-13	14-19	103
Sturt	2-2	8-2	11-3	13-4	82

To half-time the standard of play was poor and, with the exception of a burst by Sturt that produced three goals—two to Cave—the game was a scramble.

Players on both sides fumbled badly and were unable to pass the ball with any direction.

Throughout the game North gave only rare glimpses of their early season form.

Had it not been for sterling work by their stars—Phillips, McKay, and Griffen—they would probably have been beaten.

North, threatened with defeat at half-time, saved the game with improved football in the third

quarter and by making full use of the drive given by Griffen and Vaughan across centre.

Battle to finish

Sturt must be pleased with their improved showing.

They battled the game out to the finish, but eventually weakened under pressure to permit the home side to draw away in the closing stages.

The visitors actually held the lead at one stage in the final quarter, but their defenders, who had done a valiant job for most of the day, tired towards the end of the game.

Although opportunities were lost in front of goal by both sides, Sturt made few mistakes from the set shots and their score of 13-4 is an indication of their accuracy.

Griffen unchecked

Why Sturt did not make a move in an attempt to check Griffen is difficult to understand, as that player gave the home side most of their drive.

Sturt made the added mistake of trying to play through Griffen's wing for most of the day.

For North, Griffen is given first mention for his

consistent and brilliant display at centre wing.

Clever, elusive, and determined, he sent his side attacking at every opportunity.

Phillips, too, was one of the few North players to give his side drive.

He was always in the picture and was a party to most of North's forward moves.

McKay in duels

McKay was the only North ruckman to contest the aerial duels with Thompson, the tall Sturt follower.

Vaughan must be mentioned for gaining command at centre and providing North with a direct road to goal.

Sturt were again well served by Thompson, who gave his side a ruck advantage all day, and generally was difficult to beat in the air.

Curnow, playing his first game for Sturt, was like a rock in the back pocket. He turned many dangerous North advances.

Bagshaw was solid, and did a lot towards giving Sturt the advantage in the ruck.

Best Players—North: Griffen, Phillips, McKay, Vaughan, McKenzie, Crouch, Kennett. Sturt: Thompson, Curnow, Bagshaw, Abbott, Downing, Sanders, Cave.

Scorers—North: Phillips 4.5, McKay 3.1, Cox 2.3, McKenzie 1.3, Kennett, Gilbourne 1.1, Weston, Aldenhoven 1.0, Edwards 0.3, Odgers 0.3, Vaughan 0.1. Phillips hit post. Sturt: Caut, Boland, Cave 3.1, Couis 2.0, Thompson 1.1, Jenkins 1.3, Thompson hit post.