

EFFICIENT AND BUSTLING DEFENCE WON FOR TORRENS

By RAY BARBER

A bustling competent defence and kicking to position in front of centre gave Torrens an eight-point win over Norwood at Norwood Oval today.

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Torrens	4-1	10-5	11-7	13-11	89
Norwood	3-1	8-5	10-10	11-15	81

The game was a thriller — it was anyone's until five minutes to go.

Torrens must be given a bright chance in the major round.

The game was brilliant up to half-time, when 18 goals had been scored.

After half-time rugged defence restricted opportunities, and each side scored only three goals, with 10 points to Norwood and five to Torrens in that session.

Best on ground

Alf Roberts was the best man on the ground. His brilliant goalkeeping had much to do with Torrens' win.

Besides keeping Hines restricted to one goal, he came out — often as far as half-back — to turn Norwood away. As usual, his kicking was long and well directed.

Ron Ashby played another sterling game at centre half-back and had Ash worried all day. Ashby was tenacious on the ground in getting the ball out of danger.

Coverlid had a mighty task in coping with the Norwood giants in the ruck and did much serviceable work. Lynch had a tough one in Gallagher to stand, but he came through with good results.

Bill Hank got out into the open often to set his side going. Head was elusive and effective on the

ball and roving. Slaven did a good job by restricting Olds.

Was dangerous

Walker was one man Torrens had a lot of bother about. He was strong overhead and was dangerous in the field play or resting.

Vivian did not let a couple of heavy knocks prevent him from doing plenty of good work. He was also dangerous when allowed to get the ball within range.

Young faded towards the finish, but he was a strong, cool player who put the ball in the right place from half-forward right.

Fosdike roved well in patches. One of his long dropkicks for goal was a beauty.

Olds, although well matched by Slaven, was able to put drive into the centre line along with Gallagher.

Williams had a lot to do as goalkeeper, but proved a good substitute for Reimann.

Scorers—Torrens: Oehme 3.3, Adams 3.1, Parham 2.1, Head 1.2, Coverlid 1.1, Delo, Lynch, Bob Hank 1.0, W. Hank 0.2, D. Edwards, Prater 0.1. Norwood: Vivian 3.4, Fosdike 2.2, Walker 2.1, Hines 1.3, Young 1.1, Ash, Charnstrom 1.0, Olds, Brown 0.1, rushed 0.2.

Best Players—Torrens: Roberts, Ashby, Coverlid, Lynch, W. Hank, Slaven, Head. Norwood: Walker, Vivian, Young, Fosdike, Olds, Williams, Nicholls.

LADDER TAKES A TWIST

By RAY BARBER

Torrens and Sturt twisted the premiership ladder about with their unexpected wins over Norwood and West respectively in today's league football.

Although Torrens remained in fourth place, they shot Norwood from third to sixth.

North, Torrens, and Sturt now have 14 points, with Norwood two behind them.

North, with a 13-goal win over South, went from fifth to third position.

Port kept Glenelg scoreless in two terms—the first and third—to remain in first position and go a further two points ahead of West, whom they will almost certainly meet in the second semi-final.

Who will play in the first semi-final remains a mystery.

Hard to follow

Form is so hard to follow that anything may happen from now on.

North have two matches at home and have to play Glenelg (bottom) at Glenelg in the remaining four series. They have the best program of any of the four teams seeking the vital third and fourth places.

Match of the day next week is Torrens' meeting with Port at Thebarton. This should give a further guide to Torrens' chances of escaping elimination.

North have a hard match against West at Prospect, even allowing for West's reverse today.

Norwood should get two valuable points at the expense of Glenelg at Norwood, while the same should apply to Sturt against South at Adelaide Oval.

Next week's games are:—

Torrens v. Port (Thebarton).

North v. West (Prospect).

South v. Sturt (Adelaide).

Norwood v. Glenelg (Norwood).

Attendances at today's league games:—

Adelaide Oval .. 9,000

Norwood Oval .. 14,000

Alberton Oval .. 5,500

Prospect Oval .. 4,000

PREMIERSHIP TABLE

Team	W.	L.	For	Ag.	Pts.
Port	12	2	1379	875	24
West	10	4	1200	1090	20
Norwood	7	7	1120	1092	14
Torrens	7	7	1084	1090	14
Sturt	7	7	1083	1227	14
Norwood	6	8	1083	1088	12
South	4	10	859	1110	8
Glenelg	3	11	1016	1219	6

TOP GOALKICKERS

Player	Today	Total
McKenzie (North)	7	59
Rundle (Glenelg)	2	39
Garland (Port)	1	36
Beard (South)	1	33
Fitzgerald (Sturt)	3	36
Hall (Port)	2	28
Paech (Sturt)	1	27
Wright (West)	1	26
Walker (Norwood)	2	26

PORT'S FIRST HALF WON IT

By LEN SWAN

Port's superior play in the first half enabled them to build up a match-winning lead against a weakened Glenelg side at Alberton Oval today.

Glenelg played improved football in the second half.

Port's big men had a feast today against patched Glenelg rucks.

Apart from Miller in goals and Alf Bailey at centre the visitors had few others capable of competing with the tall Port fliers—this is a big handicap for any side.

In the first half Port looked an even, systematic side, well balanced and completely in command.

Closed up game

After half-time Glenelg closed up the game and gave a much better display.

In the last quarter they took charge and did most of the attacking. Glenelg were held scoreless in the first and third quarters.

Port were unchanged, but Glenelg, already weakened by the loss of players, had to replace their captain-coach Pat Hall (leg) at the last minute.

This meant that all Glenelg's representatives in the State training squad were missing from their final 18.

Fos Williams won the toss and sent Port kicking to the Alberton end, which gave them the advantage of a slight breeze.

The story of the first quarter is the story of Port's dominating play.

Glenelg did not have a strong point although

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Port	6-9	9-10	10-16	12-16	88
Glenelg	0-0	2-4	2-4	7-7	49

several players battled valiantly.

Port look well balanced, with great ruck strength and aerial power. They had practically all the play in their forward area and Coldwell was terrific at centre half-forward.

No breakaway

Port won the game in this quarter for Glenelg showed much greater determination for the rest of the game.

In the second quarter Glenelg struggled to break down the Port dominance and they succeeded to the extent that Port did not break away as they did early.

But it was a depressing, uninteresting battle offering nothing as a spectacle; not even Port's earlier brilliance.

After half-time Glenelg completely closed up the game by running Guy loose in defence and crowding the play.

This had the effect of keeping the total scoring for the term down to one goal six points.

The game at this stage became much more interesting due to the individual clashes and vigor of the encounters—it was a relief by contrast to the dull struggle of the second quarter.

Glenelg made a meri-

torious rally in the final term that even Port could not check. In spite of this improvement they never really offered a serious threat to Port.

Alf Bailey's outstanding game at centre was largely responsible for Glenelg's revival—he marked over everyone and kept forcing the ball back into the Bay forward lines.

Rundle co-operated too by bringing down some fine marks and Glenelg for the first time played really good co-ordinated football.

Port lost Jaggard (thigh) in the first quarter and Greer (ankle) at half-time. Their places were taken by Leaver and Dittmar.

Coldwell best

For Port first place is given to Coldwell for a devastating first half. He played the centre half-forward position to perfection and made the Port forward division work like a machine.

Later his opportunities were limited, but he was always in the picture.

Whitehead must be placed next for his fine ruck performance and aerial work when in the open—he hardly missed a knock and

Glenelg had no answer to his strength.

Clift is having a grand year and his well-judged driving clearances made it difficult for Glenelg to penetrate into their scoring area.

Yeo is mentioned first for his brilliance, but for the dogged fearless way he fought from the first to last bell. Whether in defence or up forward he was always in the play giving his best.

Alf Bailey produced the brilliant football that lifted Glenelg in the second half. He can get in the air and knows how to use his pace. Bone did a sound job in defence and worked hard when Port had the pressure on.

Best Players—Port: Coldwell, Whelan, Clift, Leaver, McDonaid, Dittmar, Zucker. Glenelg: Yeo, Alf Bailey, Bone, J. Miller, Edwards, Martin, McPherson.

Scorers—Port: Coldwell 3.2, Johns 2.3, Hall 2.1, Motley 2.0, Williams 1.4, Zucker 1.3, Trowae 1.2, rushed 0.1. Glenelg: Rundle 2.2, Potter 1.0, Yeo 1.0, Edwards 1.0, Leaver 1.0, McPherson 1.0, Potts 0.2, Guy 0.1, Martin 0.1, Millbank 0.1.

From 19th to captain

With Glenelg's captain, Pat Hall, and vice-captain, Alan Crabb, out of the side players elected Glen McPherson as captain for today, and Alf Bailey as his deputy.

Last week McPherson was sitting on the fence as nineteenth man.

North piled goals on in last quarter

By HUBERT BIGGS

An amazing last quarter in which they piled on 10-2 by smart sharpshooting was the highlight of North's 13-goal victory against a patchy South team at Prospect Oval today.

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
North	2-1	7-4	8-5	18-7	115
South	1-3	2-5	2-7	5-7	37

In the first and third quarters South threw out fairly strong opposition, checking closely, and defending so stubbornly that North could muster only three goals in those periods.

When they began the last term North had a handy lead of 34 points.

Few expected the onslaught which was to clinch their victory.

Smashing holes in the South defences repeatedly, and kicking goals from all angles, North turned the game into a debacle.

Despite McKenzie's seven goals for North, my first vote would go to Ron Hewett, their clever wingman. He was always fast and skilfully, and disposed of it safely to give the half-forward plenty of chances.

Neil McCann was outstanding at centre half-back, particularly in the first half, and McKenzie's seven goals from full forward were all hard earned.

After a run of outs lately, he proved by his dazzling second half today that he's back to his best form.

McKay, in goals, and Dunn, as wingman, were the pick of the others in the winning side.

Ray Linke, in defence, was South's best. Had it not been for his sterling clearances in the first half, North would have had a 20-goal win.

Fraser, a promising rover, had as many kicks as anyone in the first quarter, Richards improved his game noticeably when switched over to centre. Allen fought valiantly in the ruck, and Polden was often under notice at half-back.

Best Players—North: McKay, McCann, McKenzie, Hewett, Dunn, Stringer, Lindner, Fuller. South: Linke, Fraser, Allen, Richards, Polden, D. Panizza, R. Panizza.

Scorers—North: McKenzie 7.0, Hill 3.0, Bunton 2.0, Brown 1.2, Lindner 1.1, McKay 1.0, Stringer 1.0, Fuller 1.0, Gilbourne 1.0, Vaughn 0.1, Dunn 0.1, rushed 0.2. South: Richards 2.1, Read 1.2, R. Panizza 1.2, Guy 1.0, Fraser 0.1, rushed 0.1.

STURT RIGHT BACK IN THE FIGHT

By VIC JOHNSON

Sturt put themselves right back into the premiership right with an 11-point victory over West at Adelaide Oval today.

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Sturt	6-3	9-7	14-9	15-12	102
West	1-4	6-9	9-9	13-13	91

The margin was not over-comfortable, but the Blues had enough in hand over most of the game to fight off a desperate last dash by West.

In any case it was not so much the winning margin, but the manner in which it was achieved.

May was best

May was Sturt's best. He followed tirelessly throughout, marked well, and never wasted a kick.

Goodchild gave of his best at centre half-forward, Caust was invaluable in front of goal, and Harrison played well at centre.

Harris, at centre half-back, Phillips at half-forward, Fitzgerald, in ruck, and Sims, roving, also did well.

Plenty of dash

McGregor did a real job for West, whether at full-forward or in ruck, and Williams put plenty of dash into his game in the packs.

Lovegrove, safe and sure in defence, Brown and Wright roving, Lynch at centre, and Bern Slattery, at half-forward, were best of the others.

Best Players—Sturt: May, Goodchild, Caust, Harrison, Harris, Fitzgerald, Phillips, West, McGregor, Williams, Lovegrove, Brown, Wright, Lynch, Bern Slattery.

Scorers—Sturt: Caust 6.0, Fitzgerald 3.2, Goodchild 2.1, Paech 1.3, Kotaris 1.2, Phillips 1.1, Boland 1.1, Sims 0.1, rushed 0.1. West: McGregor 5.2, Bern Slattery 2.1, Richardson 2.0, Williams 1.3, Wright 1.2, Kies 1.2, Lynch 1.0, Brown 0.2, Costello 0.1.

RAY BARBER'S STAB KICKS

Marcus Boyall, Collingwood's boy wonder of prewar days and Margarey Medal winner with Glenelg in 1941, is coaching Sacred Heart College, Somerton.

It's quite on the cards he will be a candidate for a league coaching job next season.

Boyall, like Fitzgerald (Sturt) stood out of SA football for a year and began playing with Glenelg in 1940 as captain-coach. He relinquished both posi-

tions halfway through the season.

In 1948 Boyall returned to the Bays and I can remember nothing better since the war than his game at centre half-back when switched there for the last quarter of the last game — against West at Glenelg—that season.