

Early lead gave Redlegs their victory over Sturt

By RAY BARBER

A good start is handy. Norwood found that out today when, after leading by 39 points in the third quarter, they lasted better to win by six points against Sturt at Norwood Oval.

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Norw'd	4—3	9—7	12—11	15—13	103
Sturt	3—3	5—7	8—10	14—13	97

At half-time Norwood led by 24 points, and by one point more at three-quarter time.

They looked far too accomplished to collapse under any Sturt revival.

But Sturt, getting more drive at centre half-forward from Goodchild, were able to make a thrilling game of it after appearing dispirited and carefree.

The game could have been a draw.

Kotaris, freed on the bell, had a shot from 40 yards out but his shot dropped short to make Norwood's winning margin six points.

Sturt may have been termed unlucky to lose, for they had the last five scoring shots of the game for 2-3.

However, Norwood were required to defend at their best to win—and they did that.

Norwood star

Marriott was Norwood's best man if only for his excellent checking of Sturt's spark-plug, Fitzgerald.

The Norwood captain was also solid whether on the ball or resting.

Reimann kept Caust in hand and played his best

game for the season in meeting the ball with fine judgment.

Applebee could not be left out of the side on today's performance. He was cool and driving at centre half-forward against an up-and-coming defender, Phillips.

Wells looks like settling down at centre after a slow beginning in getting used to the conditions compared with that at Broken Hill. He is a good ground worker.

Young's two goals just before half-time did a lot for Norwood and he played usefully after.

Sure marking

Harris was easily Sturt's best. His high marking was sure and often, and he kicked some nice goals while resting from the packs.

Shanks and Green won their wings with Shanks a little the better because of better disposal. Both showed dash and courage in getting the ball into attack.

Fitzgerald began like a meteor and, although beaten by Marriott on the day, still did many fine pieces of work.

Best Players—Norwood: Marriott, Reimann, Applebee, Wells, Walker, Young, Vivian, Sturt, Harris, Shanks, Green, Fitzgerald, Phillips, May, Sims.

Scorers—Norwood: Walker 4.1, Fox 2.3, Couch 2.1, Young 2.1, Vivian 1.3, Applebee 1.3, Fosdike 1.1, Nicholls 1.0, Nelson 1.0, Sturt: Sims 4.1, Fitzgerald 3.3, Harris 3.1, Kotaris 1.4, Goodchild 1.1, Caust 1.0, Mackareth 1.0, Goldbach 0.2, rushed 0.1.

Magpies clear leaders

By Vic Johnson

Port, unbeaten as yet, are clear leaders on the premiership table by their victory today over West, who are second.

South still keep third position, but Sturt, through their defeat, drop back from fourth to sixth being displaced by Norwood, fourth, and North, fifth, the positions being decided on percentage.

North have moved from bottom to fifth position.

Torrens drop from sixth to seventh, and Glenelg are still bottom.

In the next series of league games South play West at Adelaide, Sturt are at home to Torrens at Unley, North and Glenelg meet at Kensington, and in the country fixture at Port Pirie, Port will play Norwood.

I choose West, Sturt, North, and Port for their respective games.

Official attendances at today's league games were: Adelaide Oval, 20,100; Norwood, 9,000; Prospect, 8,500; Glenelg, 5,000. Total, 42,600.

PREMIERSHIP TABLE

	W.	L.	For	Ag.	Pts.
Port	5	—	571	351	10
West	4	1	396	367	8
South	3	2	386	386	6
Norwood	2	3	412	397	4
North	2	3	400	472	4
Sturt	2	3	367	468	4
Torrens	1	4	338	364	2
Glenelg	1	4	380	476	2

TOP GOALKICKERS

	Today	Total
McKenzie (North)	5	22
Garland (Port)	5	20
Rundle (Glenelg)	6	16
Fitzgerald (Sturt)	3	15
Brown (West)	4	14
Fosdike (Norwood)	1	12
Hall (Port)	3	12

BAYS LOSE TO SOUTH

By LEN SWAN

In a game lacking as a spectacle South defeated Glenelg by 17 points at Glenelg Oval today.

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
South	3—5	10—8	11—8	14—12	96
Glenelg	1—0	5—4	10—6	12—7	79

South displayed much more certainty in their play and held off a spirited Glenelg rally in the third quarter.

The first half was a scramble, while only Glenelg's spirited third quarter fight back gave interest to the remainder of the game.

Umpire Cogell did little to assist the game as a spectacle.

South won because they were better balanced and more consistent while Glenelg were merely lifted in bursts through the individual brilliance of one or two players.

After Pat Hall, Glenelg captain-coach, left the field with a twisted knee, Crabb took over command. If ever a player gave of his best in an effort to rally his side, Crabb did today.

Reserves used

Crabb apparently revelled in responsibility and his game, particularly after half-time, was practically wholly responsible for Glenelg's fighting comeback.

From nearly six goals down to within two points is a good performance against a side that was playing confidently and vigorously.

Both sides found it necessary to use their two reserves which is indicative of the type of game.

Neither side found it necessary to make any last minute changes and Glenelg had choice of ends.

Hitting their straps immediately South bombarded their goal but inaccuracy up forward cost them even a bigger lead than they held at the end of the first quarter.

Beaten across half-forward and half-back, Glenelg looked lethargic and disinterested.

Alf Bailey, Crabb, and Hall were playing lone hands.

Ineffective

I have never seen such ruck combination prove so ineffective. Hall, Crabb, and Laffin got the knock with monotonous regularity only to find the South rovers take over and drive the ball away.

At one stage Crabb, in desperation, was even marking himself or going for the big knock down to half-forward.

After half-time Guy was brought on to the ball as rover and this move

proved more effective.

South progressively forged ahead up to half-time with Hewitt the rock in defence ably supported by Grear, Linke, and Polden.

Alf Bailey was Glenelg's bright spot. In fact, it was nearly all Bailey at this stage.

After the long break the Bay side as a whole appeared more interested, and for the first time chased the player in possession.

Fine defender

Crabb was playing like one possessed, and the side looked a much better combination.

Fine defence work by Linke and a tigerish display by Haussen finally checked Glenelg's run when within two points.

With Crabb exhausted and Alf Bailey off with concussion, the home side just could not carry on.

South resumed their attacking role and finished a good 17 points in front.

The Adelaide side are today well balanced and no longer dependent on a few stars as in past years.

For South Hewitt must be mentioned first in spite of Rundle's six goals. His judgment and effective clearances were first class.

Haussen battled tenaciously all day and his last quarter burst put finish to Glenelg's rally—his two goals were most opportune and spectacular snaps.

Made position

Polden was a solid defender while Fraser was always making position.

Glenelg had two particular stars—Alf Bailey and Crabb.

Bailey at centre was a terrific driving force until injured—he had so many kicks in the first half that they would have been difficult to count.

Crabb was the inspiration after half-time and did a mammoth job on and off the ball.

Rundle, with six goals, did all that could be expected of him. Once he gets possession he rarely misses.

Best Players—South: Hewitt, Haussen, Polden, Fraser, D. Panizza, Linke, Grear, Glenelg: Alf Bailey, Crabb, Rundle, Marshall, Laffin, Guy, Ray Bailey.
Scorers—South: Fraser 3.3, M. Read 3.1, Haussen 2.1, D. Panizza 2.0, Zubrinich, Guy, Austin 1.1, R. Panizza 1.0, Thomson 0.1, rushed 0.3.
Glenelg: Rundle 6.0, King 3.3, Abley, Davies, Bailly, 1.0, McPherson 0.3, Polts 0.1

PORT MADE AMAZING LATE BURST

By VIC JOHNSON

Port remained the only unbeaten league side when they soundly defeated West by 44 points at Adelaide Oval today.

The game was a real thriller until well into the last term, when Port took supreme control and finished all over a tired and dispirited West team.

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Port	4—6	5—13	8—15	16—19	115
West	4—3	6—4	9—10	10—11	71

That last term had to be seen to be believed.

Few of the spectators could have been prepared for the ultimate result, when the earlier trend of the game was taken into account.

Before this demoralising burst by Port, the teams had fought a strenuous and even fight.

Locked together, the result always appeared to be in doubt, but West were left without a kick in them.

Motley best

For Port Frank Motley was best. He was nearly unbeatable at centre half-forward when the ball was played correctly to him. With his sharp dashes to position and safe hands he combined strong kicking.

Trowse gave a good rucking exhibition as did Whelan. Both were very safe overhead.

Jaggard must be mentioned for a good display whether at half-forward or centre wing.

Garland played his part well at full-forward against strong opposition. Abley was most reliable and safe in goal, and Williams again proved an inspiring leader.

Power points

Lynch and Burkett are hard to separate for West. They were the Red-and-Black power points across centre, and each gave a masterly display of safe ball handling.

Lee was safe at half-back and Wright gave a fine roving exhibition. Richardson and McGregor both turned in solid efforts following.

Best Players—Port: Motley, Trowse, Jaggard, Whelan, Garland, Abley, Williams, West, Lynch, Burkett, Lee, Wright, Richardson, McGregor, Elington.

Scorers—Port: Garland 5.4, Hall 3.1, Trowse 3.1, Jaggard 3.0, Williams 1.4, Whelan 1.1, Motley 0.4, rushed 0.2, McDonald 0.1, Hayes 0.1, West: Wright 2.4, Costello 2.2, McGregor 2.0, Packham 1.1, Chynoweth 1.0, Richardson 1.0, Brown 1.0, rushed 0.1, Lynch 0.1, Slatery 0.1.

North leave bottom of premiership list

By HUBERT BIGGS

Superior pace and position play gave North a 30-point win against Torrens at the Prospect Oval, lifting them off the bottom of the premiership list.

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
North	2—3	4—6	9—17	10—19	79
Torrens	1—2	2—4	4—7	6—13	49

North were never headed during the game.

They won on the wings and in ruck, and their footpassing was generally good. Another big factor in the Prospect team's success was the sterling work of the defenders from the first bounce to the final siren. At the goalfront, however, they were not so sure.

Torrens looked only a shadow of their 1953 premiership side.

Best Players—North: McKay, Hewitt, McCann, Aldenhoven, Siringet, Dunn, McKenzie, Buntton, Torrens, Coverlid, Head, Ashby, Livesey, Bill, Hank, Pyatt, Clingley.

Scorers—North: McKenzie 5.1, Shepherd 3.2, Buntton 1.4, Aldenhoven 1.2, Gilbourne 0.2, Griffin 0.1, Hewitt 0.1, Blunden 0.1, Tidswell 0.1, Carlson 0.1, rushed 0.1.
Torrens: Bradford 2.0, Cockshell 1.4, Head 1.3, Coverlid 1.0, Willis 1.0, Pyatt 0.2, Livesey 0.2, Chown 0.1, rushed 0.1.