

Runaway win, Port favorite

By RAY BARBER

Port, with a big win over Torrens at Thebarton today, became favorite for the 1955 league football premiership.

Norwood played their worst football of the year to be surprisingly defeated by West (seventh).

The leading four—Port, Norwood, Sturt, and Torrens—are unaltered, but North came another two points nearer with their defeat of South, and Torrens' defeat.

To get in the four, North have to beat Port at Kensington, and Torrens at Prospect, and Torrens have to be beaten by South and North.

Golden chance

Sturt lost a golden opportunity to make second place by losing to Glenelg. Sturt led well at half-time but Glenelg took over from there for a good 23-point win.

Jeff Pash says Sturt became rattled when Freundt and Fitzgerald went off injured in the third quarter.

Williams again

Vic Johnson says Port won everywhere against Torrens. The replacements who came in for State men Zucker, Hayes, Jaggard, McDonald, and Clift (all injured) all pulled their weight.

Port's best player was again Fos Williams, SA's hero in the Perth matches.

Norwood never looked like getting going against West.

The heavy ground took away all Norwood's pace and West led in the race to the ball nearly all day.

Colin Brown, with five good goals, was West's best, with fine roving.

Caust stays

Caust, Sturt full forward, retained his position at the head of the goal-kicking list.

He got four today to take him to 48—five ahead of Rundle (Glenelg).

Rundle and Chown (Torrens), who are next to him, did not get a goal today.

Pyatt, Torrens' captain, kicked all of Torrens' three goals.

Port and North meet in the match of the day at Kensington next week.

ATTENDANCES

Adelaide Oval	3,000
Thebarton Oval	8,500
Glenelg	5,300
Norwood	5,500
Total	22,300

PREMIERSHIP TABLE

	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	Pts.	Prem. %
Port	12	3	-	1426	1016	24	58.3
Norw'd	9	5	1	1236	996	19	55.3
Sturt	9	6	-	1153	1075	18	51.7
Torrens	8	6	1	1237	1085	17	53.2
North	7	8	-	1137	1189	14	48.8
Glenelg	6	9	-	1114	1203	12	46.8
West	6	9	-	1216	1400	12	46.4
South	2	13	-	841	1338	4	38.5

TOP GOALKICKERS

	Today	Total
Caust (Sturt)	4	48
Rundle (Glenelg)	—	47
Chown (Torrens)	—	37
Clift (Port)	—	32
Lindner (North)	1	29
McKenzie (North)	1	29
Pyatt (Torrens)	3	28
Wright (West)	2	28

Glenelg hang on to defeat weakened Sturt

By JEFF PASH

An excellent first term by Sturt kept them in front until near three-quarter time in their match against Glenelg at Glenelg Oval today.

Injuries to Sturt star ruckmen Freundt and Fitzgerald then allowed the Bays, who had kept doggedly to their task, to dominate the rucks and win at their leisure.

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Glenelg	2-1	2-9	7-10	10-13	73
Sturt	5-3	5-6	6-8	7-8	50

The game was played under difficult conditions. The ground was extremely muddy and under water in patches and swept by a fierce gusty cross-wind.

Heavy rain fell at intervals and a precise combined attack was hardly possible.

Although Fitzgerald won the toss, the Bays were first to attack—through the left wing and the brilliant Hewett—and had two goals quickly on the board.

Then the Sturt ruck took a strong hand—and four lightning thrusts from the centre bounce, starting with Freundt and assisted by Pike and Goodchild, were made to the goal-front.

Three in row

Caust marked and scored brilliantly in the wet to get three goals in a row, and Martin scored a fourth.

Glenelg fought back hard to close up the game, with some success from then on. But at the first change Sturt seemed comfortably placed with a lead of 20 points.

In the second quarter, in possession of the easier

scoring end, although it was not visibly favored by the wind, Glenelg made a much better showing.

However, heavy falls of rain and the now sodden and greasy ball gave them a much harder task.

They battled hard, only to score eight separate points and although much firmer and even work in defence kept Sturt down to a smaller score, the Bays still trailed by 15 points at half-time.

The loss at half-time of Freundt (injured thumb), who had rucked strongly and followed brilliantly, was a disaster for Sturt.

The Bays after the first quarter, had defended well in the rucks, without winning the required advantage—now they gradually gained it.

Took the lead

Wilson, Hall, and Crabb figured in attacks that put Glenelg in front, and, although Sturt snatched back the lead for a brief moment when Goodchild and Pike teamed nicely for a goal, the Bays were not to be denied.

By three-quarter time they had won an eight-point lead and were playing with confidence.

At the last change, Fitzgerald, who had also played skilfully in ruck, was forced to leave the field with a sprained ankle, and Sturt's resistance collapsed almost entirely.

Glenelg, completely in control of the ruck, proceeded to batter away at the enemy defences.

It was only late in the quarter, after a winning lead had been gradually acquired, that Sturt got forward for their second goal since the first quarter—a fourth to Caust.

For Glenelg, Wilson played a strong clever game around the packs.

Crabb, out-knocked fairly often, was still a force to be reckoned with on the ball marking and handling very well.

Hewett, not always allowed much liberty by the defence, was a dangerous worker in attack. Bone defended in excellent fashion, intercepting smartly and clearing strongly.

Baillie had an even tussle with Goodchild, finally blocking the Sturt direct attack.

Alf. Bailey played well at centre, in opposition to Halbert. May, at centre wing, had a fair share of the play from his immediate opponent and initiated some very good attacks.

Newcomer Longman shaped very promisingly, getting two goals at an important time.

Stout defence

For Sturt, Mabarrack defended stoutly in the back pocket, brilliantly in the first half. Kotaras roved well. Rattigan and Hunter were strong and capable in defence.

Freundt was the outstanding player for Sturt in the first half, giving the following division the strength it often takes from May.

Fitzgerald was in good form until injured. The centre line had a fairly even battle with Glenelg on the day; but Halbert, Beckman, and Green were often under notice for good work.

Caust, in getting four goals, gave a fine performance, considering the shocking conditions under foot.

Best Players—Glenelg: Wilson, Crabb, Hewett, Bone, Baillie, May, A. Bailey, Longman. Sturt: Mabarrack, Kotaras, Hunter, Fitzgerald, Rattigan, Halbert, Green, Caust.

Scorers—Glenelg: Hewett 3.2, Wilson 2.3, Longman 2.1, Crabb 2.0, Hall 1.0, Prater, Rundle each 0.2, Potter 0.1, rushed 0.2. Sturt: Caust 4.2, Kotaras 1.2, Martin 1.1, Goodchild 1.0, Fitzgerald, Pike each 0.1, rushed 0.1.

Replacements. — Freundt, Sturt, injured thumb, replaced by Machell at half-time. Fitzgerald, Sturt, sprained ankle, by Shanks, three-quarter time. A. Bailey, Glenelg, injured finger joint by Black, last quarter. Mabarrack, Sturt, cramp, left field just before end of game.



LEGS AND ARMS MUDDIED, Glenelg ruckman Hall flies for a boundary throw-in with Freundt (Sturt) at the Bay game today. Sturt's second rover, Martin (No. 5) awaits the outcome.

TODAY'S FOOTBALL

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
WEST	6-3	7-6	11-11	13-12	90
NORWOOD	1-2	1-4	4-4	8-10	58

Goalkickers: WEST—Brown (5), McKay, Benton, Wright (each 2), Phipps, Faehse. NORWOOD—Fosdike (3), Vivian (2), Walker, Von Einem, Wells.

Best Players—WEST: Brown, A'Court, Pridmore, Eglinton, Lynch, Slattery, Costello. NORWOOD: Marriott, Williams, Roberts, Aish, Olds, Nicholls.

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
PORT	6-4	7-7	10-10	10-11	71
TORRENS	1-0	2-2	2-5	3-9	27

Goalkickers: PORT—F. Williams (3), T. Williams (2), Sawford, Trowse, Johns, Obst, Coldwell. TORRENS—Pyatt (3).

Best Players—PORT: F. Williams, Thompson, Garland, T. Williams, Motley, Whelan, Robinson.

TORRENS: Graham, Pyatt, W. Hank, Parham, Keane, Loades, Clingly.

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
NORTH	0-2	4-6	4-6	7-7	49
SOUTH	1-0	1-4	4-9	4-13	37

Goalkickers: NORTH—Bunton (3), Stringer, Lindner, McKenzie, Brown. SOUTH—Haussen, Fitzgerald, Richards, Brown.

Best Players—NORTH: Bunton, Stringer, McKay, Dunn, Fuller, Cronin. SOUTH: Polden, Murray, Guy, Farrelly, Fitzgerald, Parham.

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
GLENELG	2-1	2-9	7-10	10-13	73
STURT	5-3	5-6	6-8	7-8	50

Goalkickers: GLENELG—Hewitt (3), Wilson, Crabb, Longman (each 2), Hall. STURT—Caust (4), Goodchild, Kotaras, Martin.

Best Players—GLENELG: Wilson, Crabb, Hewitt, A. Bailey, Bone. STURT: Mabarrack, Kotaras, Fitzgerald, Halbert, Beckman, Rattigan.