

**Sturt downed easily**

By Ray Barber

Port, 1955 premiers, showed their undoubted strength by defeating Sturt by 95 points in the opening round of the league football season today.

There were two wins

by less than a goal—Torrens by two points and West by three points.

Norwood looked the winner in the game at Thebarton soon after half-time, but Torrens fought back magnificently to make up a 26-point deficit and win almost on the bell.

**Highest score**

The game in Adelaide was the most even of the day.

Only two points, six points and four points separated the teams in the first three terms.

The defeated teams in those two games were Norwood and North.

Port kicked the highest score of the day (19-26), and Sturt, who went under to Port after a good fight

in the 1956 preliminary final, scored the lowest—6-9.

West had another hectic last-minute win—against North at Adelaide Oval.

In the other game Glenelg surprised to comfortably defeat South, the new-look team with Victorian imports.

**Impressed**

Glenelg led South all day at Kensington.

South gave the impression they will need a while to settle down with their team.

Sam Gallagher was impressed with the way Glenelg went, particularly their new mobile rucks.

McKenzie (North) and Branson (Glenelg) lead the goalkicking list with five each.

The leading four after one round are Port, Glenelg, West, and Torrens.

**Crabb drives Bays to first victory**

By SAM GALLAGHER

Driven into attack from the first bounce by a strong ruck effort by Crabb, who sustained his game to the finish, Glenelg had South struggling all day at Kensington Oval.

South had no counter to the powerful knocking of Crabb, nor to the speed of Bailey and Davies.

The game went exactly according to plan for Glenelg, but South were forced to make a number of changes.

Hewitt at centre, was magnificent. He showed the great value of accurate disposal from this important position, while his marking was superb.

The experiment of changing Bailey and Davies between ruck and half-forward was completely successful.

There is a pirate streak in Alf Bailey which finds its true expression in the opportunist game of the follower. His tearaway speed was valuable too when he was placed.

Of the two, Davies was the more dangerous at half-forward. The combination of their speed and Jones's cleverness on the flank to half-time, made this doubtful line a winner.

South, expected to win across half-forward, were, on the other hand, unable to overcome the close-checking defence of May, Wright, and Bailey.

They were forced to transfer Kitchen to oppose May when Richards found the former Victorian

**Kitchen effective**

Kitchen had a greater share of the play and was South's most consistent and effective forward, but the combined strength of the Bay defence was too solid for his practically unaided effort to turn the tide.

May, cast in the same fearless mould as the celebrated Wally, laid about him like a Samson at centre half-back.

He was ably supported by Wright, who marked brilliantly, and Baillie, whose game was solid and unassuming.

Apart from one period in the second quarter when he broke away from Leahy's close attendance, Judd was not able to provide an aiming point for South's attacks.

At the other end, although Abley was held in check by the consistent Hewitt, who was South's best, Branson's height and strong marking gave Glenelg an effective terminal for its forward moves.

On the credit side for South was a sound performance by Baker. He was used on the ball in an effort to repair some of the damage wrought by Bailey and Davies and in the last quarter, at centre half-back.

He is an adaptable player who gives his best what-

ever the state of the game.

Sullivan on a wing was another South recruit to impress, although Marshall in opposition to him completed a Glenelg centre line which won handsomely on the day.

South's beaten rucks were unable to provide Cox and Farrelly with many opportunities, but even so, Wilson and Longman for Glenelg looked the more accomplished pair.

Jim Deane found Hewitt in irresistible form at centre but made the most of a limited share of the play.

The game was of a surprisingly high standard for so early in the season. It was marred at times by some unnecessary footwork by one or two players.

In the last quarter, when the strain began to tell, several decided it was easier to stand and slug it out than to chase the ball.

All things considered, the game was high in entertainment value.

Glenelg will be better tested when it meets stronger rucks, but the pace of Davies and Bailey in particular will be a headache to any team.

South will be looking to Peucker to make up its roving deficiency and perhaps to Christie to give its half-forward line greater power.

**Bays fight to well-earned 25-pt. victory**

By JOHN MEHAFFEY

In a thrilling game of good, fast, purposeful football, Glenelg won by 25 points at Kensington Oval today.

Glenelg's first quarter burst of fast brilliant play, when they led by four goals three behind, proved to be the match-winning effort.

Glenelg seemed to appreciate a combined effort by all players. They saw opportunities more quickly than South and exploited them with decision and confidence, especially in the first and third quarters.

They led South in the race for the ball and with speedier ground play, especially around the packs, they showed that in their future games they will warrant respect from all sides.

South was not disgraced by any means, as after a ragged start they settled down into a determined side and with their new men showing good form, better things can be expected from them.

**Valuable service**

Baker was often under notice, with safe marking and strong, clearing dashes, and Kitchen was another to give valuable service for four quarters.

Don Hewitt was brilliant at centre, while Ian May

Glenelg	6-1	8-6	11-9	13-10	88
South	1-4	6-5	7-6	9-9	63

closed up South's direct road to goal. His marking was first class.

Glenelg were first into attack, mainly through brilliant marking by Hewitt who was dominating the pivot.

Nullifying Crabb's usually accurate hit-outs, Deane and Cox were able to gather in and despatch accurately, but the Glenelg defence was holding tight.

South were beginning to manhandle their opponents, and Glenelg were capitalising on this foolish football.

Judd had his first look at the ball when he pulled down a high mark which Baker (now on the ball) kicked into him.

He immediately kicked another, after cleverly manoeuvring himself into position to mark.

South gave early evidence of a side of individuals but later settled down to the task of overhauling Glenelg's threatened breakaway with deliberate purposeful football.

Richards, playing a long way out of position, pulled down a beautiful mark right in front, but his hurried kick slid off the side of his boot for a point only.

South had now settled down in a determined effort to halt Glenelg's threatened first-quarter breakaway, and at half-time they had practically bridged the gap. Glenelg were 8-6 to South's 6-5.

Crabb, still controlling the centre knock-out, allowed Glenelg to attack frequently, but the forwards failed to capitalise on his good work.

Davies, still in control at half-forward, marked. His long drop kick once again found the middle.

Play was held up temporarily while tempers cooled down. On resumption Kitchen was unfortunate to hit a post from an angled shot.

Mobile ruckmen Davies and Alf Bailey were giving the South defence a torrid time by fast breakaways from centre.

South were giving

**TODAY'S DETAILS AT A GLANCE**

GROUND: Generally heavy.

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
TORRENS	3-5	4-6	9-8	11-14	80
NORWOOD	3-1	5-12	8-15	10-18	78

**BEST PLAYERS—TORRENS:** Head, Edwards, Ashby, Parham, Taylor, Roberts, Thiele. **NORWOOD:** Hall, Oias, Edwards, Reimann Williams, Smith, Marriott.

**GOALKICKERS—TORRENS:** Tucker, Willis (each 3), Paton, Thiele, Thorsen, Morrell, Slaven. **NORWOOD:** Johnson, Young, Smith, Hall (each 2), Von Einem, Butler.

**REPLACEMENTS—TORRENS:** Taylor (cramp) replaced by Livesey and Head (cramp) by Curtis, both in last quarter. **NORWOOD:** Aish (bruised thigh) replaced by Horsnell in third quarter, and Sawley (slight leg injury) by Skinner in last quarter.

PORT	4-5	6-13	12-19	19-26	140
STURT	3-4	4-5	5-7	6-9	45

**BEST PLAYERS—PORT:** Thompson, Hayes, Motley, Zuvich, Boyd, Tom Williams, Fos Williams. **STURT:** May, Pike, Hale, Freundt, Rattray, M. G. Coffey.

**GOALKICKERS—PORT:** Coldwell, Motley, T. Williams (each 1), Sawford, Obit Zucker (each 2), P. Williams, Garland, Boyd, Stevens. **STURT:** Martin (2), Kotaras, Marshall, May, Caust.

**REPLACEMENTS—PORT:** H. McDonald, injured leg, replaced by K. Tierney in second term; B. Coldwell, injured leg, replaced by J. Sawford in second term. **STURT:** S. Kotaras, injured leg, replaced by W. Boland in first term; J. Halbert, slight concussion, replaced by A. Ellis in last term.

WEST	4-3	8-5	10-12	13-13	91
NORTH	4-1	7-5	10-8	13-10	88

**BEST PLAYERS—WEST ADELAIDE:** McGregor, Cannon, Day, Primore, Brown, Benton, Williams. **NORTH:** Lindner, McKenzie, Stringer, McCann, West, Griffin, Bunton.

**GOALKICKERS—WEST:** Cannon (4), Williams, Day, Chynoweth (each 2), Faehse, McGregor, Benton. **NORTH:** McKenzie (5), Lindner (3), Bunton, Fuller, Brown, Tanner, Yates.

**REPLACEMENTS—WEST:** Day (cramp) replaced by J. Wright. **NORTH:** Hage (ankle) replaced by Linke.

GLENELG	6-1	8-6	11-9	13-10	88
SOUTH	1-4	6-5	7-6	9-9	63

**BEST PLAYERS—GLENELG:** Hewitt, Davies, May, Crabb, Wilson, Alf Bailey. **SOUTH:** Baker, Hewitt, Cox, Kitchen, Deane, Sullivan.

**GOALKICKERS—GLENELG:** Branson (5), Davies (3), Jones (2), Wilson, Abley, Zuvich. **SOUTH:** Judd (3), Deane, Cox, Hunt, Richards, Kitchen, Panizza.

**REPLACEMENTS—GLENELG:** Jones (bruised calf) replaced by Zuvich at half-time. **SOUTH:** Baker (heavy knock) replaced by D. Kimber in last quarter.

HIGHEST	LOWEST
Port 19-26 (140 pts.)	Sturt 6-9 (45 pts.)

**ATTENDANCES**

Adelaide Oval	11,500
Alberton	10,750
Thebarton	10,250
Kensington	5,500
Total	38,000

**PREMIERSHIP TABLE**

	W.	L.	For	Agst.	Pts.	Prem.	%
Port	1	—	140	45	2	75.6	
Glenelg	1	—	88	63	2	58.2	
West	1	—	91	88	2	50.8	
Torrens	1	—	80	78	2	50.6	
Norwood	—	1	78	80	—	49.3	
North	—	1	88	91	—	49.1	
South	—	1	63	88	—	41.7	
Sturt	—	1	45	140	—	24.3	

**TOP GOALKICKERS TODAY**

Branson (Glenelg)	5
McKenzie (North)	5
Cannon (West)	4
Coldwell (Port)	4
Davies (Glenelg)	3
Judd (South)	3
Lindner (North)	3
Motley (Port)	3
Tucker (Torrens)	3
T. Williams (Port)	3
Willis (Torrens)	3

Glenelg too much latitude and by winning the race to the ball, Glenelg once again forged ahead to hold a commanding lead with the start of the final quarter.

**Everything right**

Deane was striving hard to infuse some system of play into the South side but the forwards lacked cohesion, and they were again forced out by May.

Clever play by Sullivan who was doing everything right on a wing, found Cox moving through, but Glenelg were content to block all moves forward.

Both teams were still battling hard, and with Judd goaling after a free in front, South trailed by

13 points with 12 minutes to go.

South were in again, but May, gaining possession booted to Branson, who goaled.

Drizzling rain began to fall with South still in attack, but it now seemed a hopeless task, as they trailed by 18 points.

Zuvich added another goal to cap the result in Glenelg's favor.

**Scorers—Glenelg:** Branson 5-0, Davies 3-2, Jones, 2-0, Wilson 1-0, Abley 1-4, Zuvich 1-1, Powell 0-1, Edwards 0-1, rushed 0-1. **South:** Judd 3-0, Deane 1-1, Cox 1-0, Hunt 1-1, Richards 1-1, Kitchen 1-1, Panizza 1-0, Mortimer 0-1, Baker 0-1, Farrelly 0-2, Longman 0-1.

**Best Players—Glenelg:** Hewitt, Davies, May, Crabb, Wilson, Alf Bailey. **South:** Baker, Hewitt, Cox, Kitchen, Deane, Sullivan.