

SIX IN FIGHT FOR 'FOUR'

Sturt triumph throws out a challenge

By DOUG STEELE

Sturt's 33-point win over North in the league football round today puts six teams in the running for this year's final four.

The teams: Port, Norwood, Torrens, West, North and Sturt.

Today's results — wins by Port, Sturt, Norwood and West — did not alter the premiership placings.

But they brought Sturt equal on premiership points with North.

A better percentage gives North fifth place and Sturt sixth.

But Sturt certainly have a fighting chance for final four inclusion.

• Big test

The big test will come next week, when Sturt play Norwood—the only team to beat Port so far this season.

Sturt will need a win to keep pace with North, who will start hot favorites for their game against South.

West will play Torrens and the result of this game will decide third placing on the premiership list, now held by Torrens by one point.

If Torrens defeat West and North beat South, West and North will be equal on premiership points.

But West's percentage probably will still give them a narrow lead to stay in the four.

• Carried off

At Adelaide Oval, Port played full of determination and spirit to defeat Torrens. They drew with them at their last encounter.

Torrens centre half forward Teasdale was carried from the field in the first 10 minutes of play.

He was later admitted to Royal Adelaide Hospital with stitches in his face and probable concussion. The hospital reported his condition tonight as "satisfactory for the moment."

Port's rovers got them off to an early start and Torrens became unsettled with the hip and shoulder legitimate game Port used.

Port players were booed as they left the field at half-time.

Port were never headed, and in the last quarter they completely swamped a disorganised Torrens defence which had developed into a powerpoint in the third quarter.

• Biggest win

Two doubtful goal decisions brought a roar from the crowd, officially estimated at 19,000.

At Norwood Oval, Norwood won everywhere to record their biggest win for the season—109 points—against South.

Norwood centreman Peter Koerner generated a lot of power for his team and

the numerous field changes South made in an effort to stem an overwhelming drive failed.

Norwood's three rovers also were in fine form, scouting and driving from the packs.

At Unley Oval, North used Lindner as a spearhead in the first quarter. His high leaping unbalanced the Sturt defence.

In the second quarter, after Sturt had put on two goals and the ball had not been near Lindner, he was taken to half-forward.

This move was a failure, says The Sunday Mail chief football writer Vic Johnson.

• Five to Phipps

Sturt gained confidence, which played a big part in helping them to fold up the game.

At Glenelg, the Bays held West scoreless in the third quarter to lead at the last change, but West unwound a brilliant burst to finish on determinedly.

Sharp goalshooting was a feature of their winning burst.

Peter Phipps, their goal-sneak, with five today, maintains his lead at the top of the goalkicking list.

He is nine clear from Port forward Rex Johns, who also got five today.

With seven more club games to play, Phipps has a chance to bag a century this season, but it is likely that he will miss one club game when the State side plays in Tasmania and Victoria.

Barring injury, he has a great chance of topping the goalkicking list in his first full season.

WEST FIGHT TO 8-PT. VICTORY

By GIL LANGLEY, as told to Hubert Biggs

I thought West owed their eight-point win against Glenelg to more purposeful work in their forward lines.

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts
West	2-3	10-5	10-5	14-9	93
Glenelg	5-6	7-6	12-12	12-13	85

Whereas West usually attacked with a fair amount of certainty, Glenelg seemed to be forced into bullocking their way goalwards.

This was most noticeable in the second half.

Several times, when in easy positions, the Bay players kicked off balance, and only singles came.

Conditions were on the muddy side—sticky in the middle, and with a number of water holes elsewhere.

Often fumbled

West were sluggish at the start, and the Tigers in the first quarter looked like getting a tasty victory meal.

They were quicker off the mark, and made the most of their opponents' errors.

The Bays' players held the ball time and again, but West often fumbled.

There was no doubt about which team went better in the opening clashes, and Glenelg earned their lead of 21 points at the first change.

Glenelg's manhandling tactics gave West plenty of frees in the second quarter, and West were on top for the first time.

Their drives were sharper than before, and their score of 8-2 for the term tells its own glad story in West ears.

Brian Wright had been a power of strength for Glenelg, at centre half-forward, but Aldo Rossetto was equally serviceable for West. And both men continued to play with skill and spirit.

At half-time, West had turned the tables to get 17 points ahead.

Held scoreless

They had certainly found some counters to the Glenelg power points, but the issue was still very much in doubt.

Now that Glenelg's game was slowing up, it re-

mained to be seen whether West could hold them at bay for good.

In the third quarter, the game degenerated into a scramble at times, but Glenelg had this in their favor — they held West scoreless and regained the game earned him my first lead with a burst bringing 5-6

It was a blow to the Tigers when Don Hewett had to go off. He had played very serviceably.

The Tigers began the last quarter 3-1 ahead. But West pinned the Bays down to a point, while they made another rally, this time a match-winning one. They looked the part, too.

They clinched the game well, but it must be admitted that Glenelg showed a lot of fight in the final term.

Scoring chances went astray because their forwards were out of position—a contrast to Glenelg's work earlier.

Mud-runner

On today's showing, Glenelg, going out with the will to win, could upset any team in the competition.

West overdid the handball at times, and this could have easily proved disastrous.

They look better suited to drier conditions.

Rossetto's consistent vote, and it certainly paid dividends for West to give him a chance in this game as a mud-runner. Jim Wright backed his roving with good goalgetting.

For Glenelg, Brian Wright was good to watch with his marking and position play, and I liked Richens' game after half-time. But he must make all his kicks count as a rover.

Today's details

GROUNDS: Heavy and greasy.

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Port	5-3	7-6	10-12	16-13	109
Torrens	0-2	5-3	7-4	10-6	66

(At Adelaide Oval)

BEST PLAYERS.—PORT: Whelan, Williams, Garland, Clift, McDonald, Johns, Abley
TORRENS: Paton, Morrell, Head, Livesey, Thorsen, Bob Hank, Fischer

SCORERS.—PORT: (Johns (5.2), F. Williams (4.2), Obst, Whelan (each 2.1), Coldwell (1.2), Jaggard, Sawford (each 1.1), Thompson (0.2), Trowse (0.1). TORRENS: Taylor (2.1), Head (2.0), Ray Hank (1.2), Fischer, Tucker (each 1.1), Livesey, Bob Hank, Cockshell (1.0), Clingly (0.1).

REPLACEMENTS.—TORRENS: Teasdale (probable concussion and stitches to the mouth) replaced by Cockshell in first quarter. Ashby (thigh) replaced by Parham in last quarter.

Sturt	4-0	10-7	11-9	15-17	107
North	6-8	7-10	9-14	10-14	74

(At Unley Oval)

BEST PLAYERS.—STURT: Halbert, Goodchild, Olds, May, Kutcher, Blows, Hocking
NORTH: Rogerson, Barbary, Gilbourne, Stringer, Tanner, Sheppard, Trenorden

SCORERS.—STURT: Blows (3.1), Olds (2.4), Hocking (2.2), Harris, Hunter (each 2.1), Goodchild (1.2), Shanks, Halbert, Kutcher (each 1.0), Dunn (0.4), rushed (0.2). NORTH: Sheppard (2.4), Constable (2.3), Barbary (2.0), Trenorden (1.3), Lindner (1.2), Griffin, Stringer (each 1.0), Bubner, Westley (each 0.1).

West	2-3	10-5	10-5	14-9	93
Glenelg	5-6	7-6	12-12	12-13	85

(At Glenelg Oval)

BEST PLAYERS.—WEST: Rossetto, Wright, Phipps, Eglinton, Brown, Hewitt, Lynch. GLENELG: B. Wright, Richens, Bone, Hewett (until injured), Baillie, Davies, Robinson.

SCORERS.—WEST: Phipps (5.1), Wright (5.0), Rossetto (2.1), McKay, Brown (each 1.0), Benton (0.3), Williams, Day, Lynch (each 0.1), rushed (0.1). GLENELG: B. Wright (4.1), Davies (2.2), Abley (2.0), Richens (1.4), Crowder, Edwards, Hewett (each 1.0), McLeod, Baldock (each 0.2), rushed (0.2).

REPLACEMENTS.—WEST: Wright (cramp), replaced by Tregenza in last quarter. GLENELG: Fraser (knee) replaced by Chisholm at half-time. Hewett (shoulder) replaced by May at third quarter.

Norw'd	9-4	13-8	21-14	26-19	175
South	2-2	6-7	8-8	9-12	66

(At Norwood Oval)

BEST PLAYERS.—NORWOOD: Koerner, Sawley, Dickson, Butler, Walker, Young, Kite, Williams, Reimann. SOUTH: Guy, Atkins, Parkinson, Yates, Polden, Peucker.

SCORERS.—NORWOOD: Walker (5.1), Kite (4.4), Dickson (4.3), Vivian (4.1), Sawley (3.1), Koerner (2.3), Young (2.1), Fosdike (1.3), Skinner (1.1), rushed (0.1). SOUTH: Kitchen (2.2), Polden, Peucker (2.1), Bland (1.1), Richards, Judd (1.0), Atkins (0.2), Deane, Adams, Yates, Farrelly (0.1), rushed (0.1).

REPLACEMENTS.—NORWOOD: Koerner (knee) replaced by Kneebone in last quarter. SOUTH: Polden (shoulder) replaced by Farrelly in third quarter. Judd (fatigue) replaced by Slattery in last quarter.

PREMIERSHIP TABLE

	W.	L.	D.	For	Agst.	Pts.	%
Port	9	1	1	1172	802	19	59.37
Norwood	8	3	—	1082	929	16	53.80
Torrens	6	4	1	967	969	13	49.94
West	6	5	—	1101	941	12	53.91

North	5	6	—	881	906	10	49.30
Sturt	5	6	—	950	1030	10	47.97
Glenelg	3	8	—	934	1124	6	45.38
South	1	10	—	885	1271	2	41.04

LEADING GOALKICKERS

	Today	Matches	Total
Phipps (West)	5.1	11	60.28
Johns (Port)	5.2	11	51.37
Clingly (Torrens)	0.1	10	24.13
Abley (Glenelg)	2.0	10	23.23
B. Wright (Glenelg)	4.1	10	23.13
Peucker (South)	2.1	10	22.27
Richens (Glenelg)	1.4	10	20.28

ATTENDANCE

Adelaide	19,000
Norwood	7,000
Glenelg	4,750
Unley	9,000

Total 39,750

NEXT WEEK'S GAMES

South v. North at Adelaide.
Norwood v. Sturt at Kensington.
Torrens v. West at Thebarton.
Port v. Glenelg at Alberton.

Coventry looks at the Bays

CARICATURIST Lionel Coventry went to Glenelg clubrooms this week to sketch these league footballers. From left—ruckman Colin Hawker, full forward Kevin Abley, full back John Evans, ruckman Graham Milbank, half-back John Robinson, ruckman Ian May, and (below) wingman Milton Edwards.

