

● Eagles downed, but still in four

Sturt tighten grip on third

By SAM GALLAGHER

Sturt's 30-point win over a weakened Torrens at Adelaide Oval today confirmed their third ranking and gave them a firm grip on a place in the major round.

Glenelg overwhelmed South by 90 points to gain a badly-needed percentage lift.

The Tigers are still in fifth place, but trail Torrens by less than 1 per cent.

Although defeated by Port today, Norwood are still within striking distance, trailing Torrens and Glenelg by one win.

South's loss has probably put paid to their faint hope of survival.

Sturt won comfortably after a strong first half by Torrens.

According to Jeff Pash, who saw the Adelaide Oval game, Thompson dominated the ruck for the Blues, who took some time to settle down across half-forward.

Head stars

With Fitzgerald and Goodchild in devastating form, Sturt kicked 8-6 in a decisive third quarter, and held their advantage in an even last quarter.

Head kicked four goals in a brilliant first quarter, and played well throughout, but the absence through injury of Morrell proved too big an obstacle for the Eagles to overcome.

Glenelg kicked the season's highest score—25-15—in outclassing South.

Although ruckman Alexander withdrew before the game, the Bays set up a

commanding superiority in ruck and on the fringes to give them undisputed control, reports Gil Langley.

Roving riches

Herron's debut as a rover was brilliant.

With Richens playing well and Fraser and Howard to return, Glenelg will be embarrassed with riches in this department.

The Bays played four good quarters in compiling their big score.

Most impressive was the performance at full forward, where Cutten and Kernahan between them got 12 goals.

The fight for fourth position between Torrens and Glenelg, with Norwood waiting to pounce, will be tense.

Glenelg, with a slightly easier program, and their confidence boosted by today's big win, will be hard to keep out.

Torrens, drawn against North on Saturday week, will have the chance to regain poise, however.

Ruckman ace

Glenelg, drawn against Port at the Bay Oval in the next series, will probably find Norwood, drawn against South, breathing down their necks.

Beaten in ruck, where Hannaford was too accomplished for the tall but plodding Norwood followers, the Redlegs were never a serious danger at Alberton, says Vic Johnson.

Norwood had a consistent winner in Minervini at centre wing, but Port's all-round power was too much for the Redlegs' thin resources.

Poor kicking, both in the field and for goal, was a feature of the West-North game at Richmond.

Helped by position changes, North finished strongly with the breeze to cut a 50-point three-quarter time deficit to 23 points at the finish.

West had one of those days when a great expense of energy produced nothing impressive on the scoreboard.

An interesting switch by North was the placing of Malcolm Whitford at centre wing.

Hewett played soundly at centre, and it would not surprise to see North persist with Whitford in the new position. He seemed to appreciate the greater freedom.

North's solid ruck team made a big contribution to what was a good performance against powerful opposition.

The strong crosswind made efficient ball-handling and kicking the exception, rather than the rule.

As a result the game was a scrumbly affair with few consistent performances.

West played sound defensive football against the wind in the second quarter, but failed to check in the last, when North added 5-5 and at one stage were only 18 points down.

PREMIERSHIP TABLE

	W.	L.	Points For	Points Agst.	Prem. Pts.	%
Port	10	1	1173	728	20	61.70
West	9	2	1094	774	18	58.57
Sturt	7	4	1180	1030	14	53.41
Torrens	5	6	972	952	10	50.52
Glenelg	5	6	1037	1049	10	49.71
Norwood	4	7	894	1107	8	44.68
South	3	8	783	1122	6	41.10
North	1	10	758	1129	2	40.17

Today's details at a glance

CONDITIONS: Fine

At Alberton Oval

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Port	3-5	6-7	11-15	13-18	96
N'wood	0-1	3-3	5-6	8-7	55

BEST PLAYERS—PORT: Hannaford, Kretschmer, Abley, Key, Luke, Motley, Whelan. **NORWOOD:** Minervini, Kneebone, Aish, Nicholls, Weisner, Butler, Wells.

SCORERS—PORT: Dittmar (4.2), Obst (3.4), Luke (2.4), Potter (1.2), Motley (1.1), Boyd (1.1), Zucker (1.0), Williams (0.1), Cahill (0.1), Whelan (0.1), Hannaford (0.1). **NORWOOD:** Lill (2.3), Dickson (2.1), Davis (1.1), Cousins (1.0), Wells (1.0), Minervini (1.0), Liebelt (0.1), Vivian (0.1).

REPLACEMENTS—NORWOOD: H. Swanbury (hip injury), replaced by D. Butler in second term. D. Barratt (groin injury) replaced by J. Liebelt in second term.

At Richmond Oval

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
West	3-10	4-11	10-23	11-25	91
North	0-2	2-8	4-9	9-14	68

BEST PLAYERS—WEST: Kerley, Wright, Tregenza, Day, Chynoweth, Gates, Ryan. **NORTH:** Johnstone, Marsh, Kent, Gilbourne, Barbary, Carroll, Lindner.

SCORERS—WEST: Wright (3.7), Day (2.2), Chynoweth (2.1), Pfitzner (1.2), Gates (1.1), Ryan (0.3), Benton (0.2), Garnett (0.2), Roach (0.1), Kerley (0.1), Rushed (0.1). **NORTH:** Potts (2.2), Pascoe (2.1), Whitford (1.2), Hewett (1.1), Henningsen (1.1), Hall (1.0), Barbary (1.0), Bubner (0.2), Marsh (0.2), Sheppard (0.2), Rushed (0.1).

At Kensington Oval

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Glenelg	5-7	10-11	17-12	25-15	165
South	3-2	5-5	8-11	10-15	75

BEST PLAYERS—GLENELG: Herron, Cutten, Richens, Hewitt, Dickinson, Linke, Butler. **SOUTH:** Judd, Parham, Baker, Christie, Stafford, Reimann, Jackson.

GOALKICKERS—GLENELG: Cutten (7), Kernahan (5), Pemberton, Herron, Dickinson (each 3), Webber (2), Leahy, Richens. **SOUTH:** Judd, Christie (each 3), Stafford, Kitchen Baker, Harris.

REPLACEMENTS—GLENELG: Edwards (ankle injury) replaced by Abley in third term; Rowett (leg injury), replaced by Leahy in third term. **SOUTH:** Baraglia (ankle injury) replaced by Forrest at half-time; Harris (ankle injury) replaced by Rusby in third term.

At Adelaide Oval

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Sturt	2-5	6-8	14-14	17-21	123
Torrens	6-6	8-10	10-11	13-14	92

BEST PLAYERS—STURT: Thompson, Fitzgerald, Goodchild, Williams, Kutcher, Roberts, Heath. **TORRENS:** Head, Russell, Townsend, Searle, Glenn, Keane, Slaven.

SCORERS—STURT: Douglas (5.6), Fitzgerald (5.3), Dutton (3.3), Williams (2.0), Hunter (1.1), Green (1.0), Goodchild (0.3), Roberts (0.2), rushed (0.3). **TORRENS:** Head (6.3), Dix (3.1), Glenn (2.0), Clingly (1.0), Townsend (1.0), Webber (0.3), Fisher (0.2), Hanrahan (0.2), Edwards (0.1), rushed (0.2).

REPLACEMENTS—STURT: Halbert (leg injury), replaced by Tester in the last term. Green (leg injury), replaced by Sangster in the last term. **TORRENS:** Vaux (ankle injury), replaced by Webber in the first term. Hine (leg injury), replaced by Giddings in the third term. Giddings (heavy knock), was taken off on a stretcher in the last term.

LEADING GOALKICKERS

	Today	Matches	Total
Fitzgerald (Sturt)	5.3	10	40.28
Head (Torrens)	6.3	10	35.27
Dittmar (Port)	4.2	9	34.27
Wright (West)	3.7	10	31.31
Judd (South)	3.7	11	29.36
Sheppard (North)	0.2	11	29.19
Douglas (Sturt)	5.6	7	29.19
Clingly (Torrens)	1.0	11	28.27
Vivian (Norwood)	0.1	11	25.21
Johns (Port)	—	6	24.14

HIGHEST LEAGUE

Glenelg 25-15 (165 pts.) Norwood 8-7 (55 pts.)

SECONDS

Port 14-14 (98 pts.) Cent. Dist. 3-20 (38 pts.)

ATTENDANCES

Adelaide	15,500
Alberton	12,000
Richmond	4,500
Kensington	3,500
Total	35,500

TIGERS CHEW UP PANTHERS

By GIL LANGLEY

Glenelg humiliated the so-called Panthers in a one-sided game at Kensington. The Tigers fairly chewed them up.

Power from a mobile ruck, plus high-class roving, sealed South's doom.

Herron, newly tried as a rover, started the rout, to be followed by a good effort by Richens after warming up.

Glenelg controlled the centre bounces.

The Tigers' ruckmen never gave up at any stage, and are a vastly improved lot from when I saw them last.

No answer

South had no answer against these capable, confident players.

Blackburn, Branson, Cutten, and Webber, plus Kernahan, also more than held their own away from the ruck.

They formed the backbone of a much improved tigerish side for important games to come.

Also, the Bays' forward play was vastly superior to that of South, with finally their half-forwards holding sway.

This was a real team effort, as the score would indicate.

South's form was well below par of any league side. Their players were yards slower than their opponents.

The Panthers had rare spasms of teamwork, the only players trying to infuse system being their half a dozen recruits of the season.

I think it is pitiful to see well-performed players not helping these players—in fact, many times completely ignoring them.

No hurdler

R. Kitchen is a hurdle jockey in Melbourne, but Ron Kitchen of South, does not do any hurdling.

His performance today needed a swab, for he can play much better.

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Glenelg	5-7	10-11	17-12	25-15	165
South	3-2	5-5	8-11	10-15	75

One would say he dug his toes in today.

This game at any stage did not rise to any great heights.

If Glenelg follow this same pattern, especially their final finish, they will still be a force to be reckoned with.

There was not any superiority shown by either side in the opening exchanges.

Both made several costly errors, but the Panthers under pressure could not hold a resolute Glenelg onslaught.

Capitalising on South faults, especially across half-back, the Bays forged ahead.

With a ruck supremacy, and Herron kicking strongly if not to advantage, they gained further momentum.



Hewitt Judd

The Tigers, although having much more of the play kicked inaccurately.

Still combining much better, with South breaking down, Glenelg soon had the margin too great for their spasmodic opponents.

The Tigers' forward work improved immensely, and they had an added dominance across centre.

Hewitt, quiet early, was a strong driving force

with capable wingmen alongside.

A rattled South had no answer to this goal hammering by a confident side.

Still playing go-ahead football which humbled a flat-footed South side, Glenelg did as they pleased.

This was made a lot easier by many South players ignoring leads and kicking blindly.

It became so obvious that once South's opponents gained possession they went ahead unmolested.

South had two real triers in Judd and Parham, and if Judd had been more accurate he could have easily had a nice bag. He hit the goalpost twice.

The Panthers are quite sound in the backlines, but once in attack are found wanting.

South, must show more fire—and they looked an undertrained side. If you're fit you keep going, but they wilted today.

No passengers

On today's effort, a fair recording for Glenelg would be all played well.

Judd was the outstanding player afield under stiff opposition, with fine fighting spirit and little luck in his goalscoring.

The South backs did their utmost to stem the tide, and in Stafford the Panthers have gained a quick thinker and good all-round player.

Special mention goes to Norm Blum of South, who stopped Hewitt's all-conquering first half. But his two efforts with his elbow jolts to opponents smudged his game.