

FINAL FOUR FIGHT IS CLOSING UP

By SAM GALLAGHER

West's 30-point defeat of Norwood at Richmond today has reduced the gap between second and fifth position to two points and the double chance could now be shared with Port by any one of the four contenders.

Beating Sturt by 35 points at Adelaide Oval, Glenelg joined the leaders for the first time this season, moving into fourth place.

PREMIERSHIP TABLE

	W.	L.	D.	For	Agst	Pts.	Prem.	%
Port	14	1	—	1535	899	28		63.06
Norwood	9	5	1	1521	1229	19		55.30
West	9	6	—	1532	1142	18		57.29
Glenelg	9	6	—	1375	1384	18		49.83
Torrens	8	6	1	1258	1071	17		54.01
North	6	9	—	1186	1258	12		48.52
Sturt	3	12	—	1088	1610	6		40.32
South	1	14	—	876	1788	2		33.00

Today's details at a glance

WEATHER: Fine. GROUND: Heavy.

At Richmond

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
West	5-5	10-10	14-11	18-19	127
Norwood	1-3	6-5	10-11	14-13	97

BEST PLAYERS—WEST: Benton, Wright, Day, Thomas, Sara, Bennetts, Brooks. **NORWOOD:** Bowe, Amery, Lill, Feehan, Koch, Minervini, Del-lar.

SCORERS—WEST: Bray 4.3, Benton 4.3, Wright 4.2, DeBroughe 2.0, Hogan 1.3, Garnett 1.3, Thompson 1.1, Day 1.0, Sara 0.2, Thomas 0.1, rushed 0.1. **NORWOOD:** Lill 4.2, Amery 4.0, Minervini 2.2, Bland 2.2, Daly 1.1, Curtis 1.0, Vickers 0.1, Modra 0.1, McMahon 0.1, Gimm 0.1, rushed 0.2.

REPLACEMENTS—WEST: Nil. **NORWOOD:** Vickers replaced by Gimm in last term, Daly replaced by Curtis in last term.

At Alberton

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Port	3-1	4-6	7-13	12-19	91
Torrens	3-1	4-5	7-9	10-11	71

BEST PLAYERS—PORT: P. Obst, Elleway, T. Obst, Virgo, Luke, Marrett, Bates, Philp. **TORRENS:** Searle, Rawson, Landers, Hawke, Butler, Dix, Young, Livesey.

SCORERS—PORT: Johns 3.2, Philp 2.2, Virgo 2.0, Traynor 1.4, P. Obst 1.2, Bray 1.1, Luke 1.1, Marrett 1.0, Huddleston 0.3, Thompson 0.2, Chant 0.1, Gill 0.1. **TORRENS:** Hawke 5.3, Robertson 1.3, Gould 1.1, Young 1.1, Butler 1.0, Porter 1.0, Han-rahon 0.1, rushed 0.2.

REPLACEMENTS—PORT: Tierney (injured leg) replaced by Huddleston in the second quarter. **TORRENS:** Townsend (leg injury) replaced by Wright in the last quarter.

At Kensington

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
South	0-4	1-9	7-12	10-18	78
North	3-4	7-5	8-6	11-9	75

BEST PLAYERS—SOUTH: Kantilla, Skuse, Foster, Shippides, Jackson, R. Roennfeldt, Schmidt. **NORTH:** Potts, Lindner, Kent, Martin, Hammond, Gambling, Whitford.

SCORERS—SOUTH: Skuse 2.6, Backman 2.2, Kantilla 2.2, Ball 2.0, Shippides 2.0, Wilson 0.2, Foster 0.1, R. Roennfeldt 0.1, Gibbs 0.1, Judd 0.1, rushed 0.2. **NORTH:** Martin 5.2, Potts 3.1, Bubner 1.0, Bloch 1.0, Ashby 1.0, Gilbourne 0.3, Power 0.1, Pascoe 0.1, rushed 0.1.

REPLACEMENTS—SOUTH: Foster replaced by Grove late in the last quarter. **NORTH:** Sutter replaced by Paull at three-quarter time.

At Adelaide

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Glenelg	3-7	12-10	15-14	18-19	127
Sturt	1-4	2-5	5-7	13-14	92

BEST PLAYERS—GLENELG: Fraser, Webber, Campbell, Staite, Davies, Westley, Herron, Hunt, Barnes. **STURT:** Kriewaldt, Hicks, Schoff, Rigney, Roberts, Halbert, Enright.

SCORERS—GLENELG: Sinclair 4.2, Webber 3.3, Campbell 3.0, Staite 2.2, Westley 2.2, Davies 2.1, Herron 1.1, French 1.0, Richens 0.4, Cutten 0.1, A. Linke 0.1, rushed 0.2. **STURT:** Hicks 6.4, Kriewaldt 2.3, Halbert 2.1, Smith 1.1, Wiebusch 1.0, Murphy 1.0, Enright 0.2, Sawley 0.1, Rigney 0.1, rushed 0.1.

REPLACEMENTS—GLENELG: Kendall (thigh) replaced by Butler during second quarter, Blackburn (thigh) replaced by Hancock at three-quarter time. **STURT:** Clarke (leg) replaced by McCarthy at three-quarter time, Jones (groin) replaced by G. Hicks during final term.

GOALKICKERS

	Today	Matches	Total
R. Johns (Port)	3.2	15	60.41
Lill (Norwood)	4.2	15	41.29
Hogan (West)	1.3	14	40.27
Kingston (Torrens)	—	11	38.31
Hawke (Torrens)	5.3	14	37.37
Backman (South)	2.2	14	37.21
Hicks (Sturt)	6.4	15	35.35
D. Thomas (West)	0.1	14	34.32
Potter (Port)	—	14	30.28
Sawley (Norwood)	—	14	28.31
Amery (Norwood)	4.0	14	28.26

IN PERTH

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
SA	1-0	7-7	8-8	12-12	84
WA	2-11	3-11	9-14	9-14	68

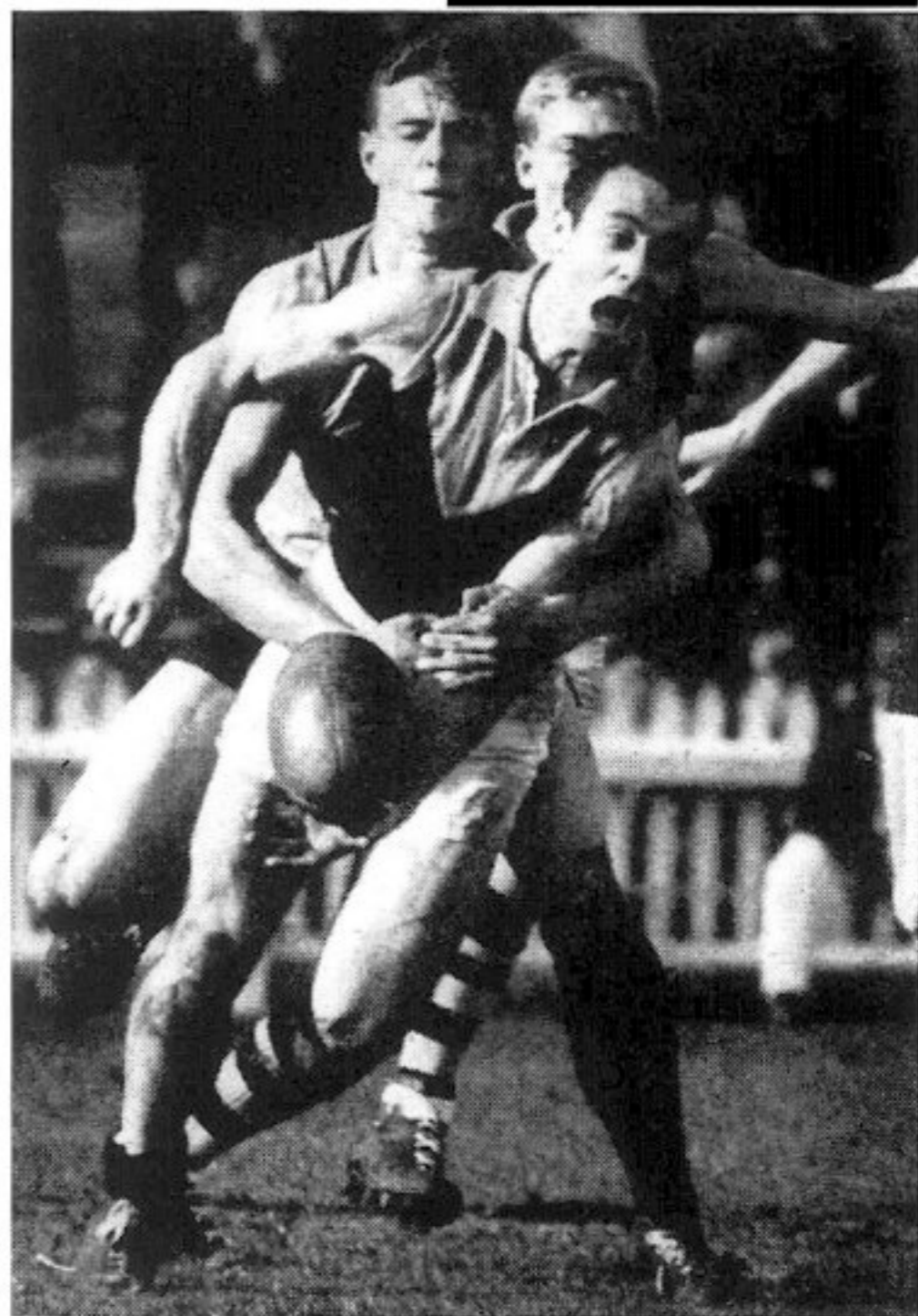
BEST PLAYERS—SA: Shearman, Kneebone, Long, Oatey, Barbary, Hannaford, Bills, Head. **WA:** Mumme, Sorrell, Harper, Cormack, Atwell, France.

SCORERS—SA: Kingston 4.2, Head 3.1, Potter 1.2, Lindner 1.1, Barbary 1.0, Oatey 1.0, Cahill 1.0, Wedding 0.1, Hewett, 0.1, Shearman 0.1, rushed 0.3. **WA:** Gorman 4.2, Cook 1.4, Mumme 1.3, Sorrell 1.0, Macdonald 1.0, John 1.1, Clarke, 0.1, Marshall 0.1, Bagley 0.1, Bunton 0.1.

REPLACEMENTS—SA: Hayes (twisted ankle) replaced by Bills in first quarter, Potter (broken blood vessel) replaced by Kernahan in second quarter. **WA:** Marshall (leg) replaced by John, Cook (leg) replaced by Walker.

Runner-up in doubt

DELAYING TACTICS!



The Tigers are half a game ahead of Torrens, down by 20 points to Port at Alberton after an even three quarters.

At Kensington, South provided the biggest upset of the day, winning their first game for the season by three points from North in a thrilling second-half recovery.

Port's win leaves them 4½ games clear in a commanding position at the head of the premierships table.

Having beaten Torrens today, they meet in the last three minor round games West, Glenelg, and Norwood—the other three challengers for this year's title.

Keen fight

The Magpies are thus in a position to assert strongly their undeniable claim to the flag.

The fight for second position and the double chance could not be more intense.

Norwood, West, and Glenelg all play the same teams in the remaining four minor-round games and each meets Torrens.

Stan Wickham, who saw the West-Norwood game at Richmond, reported West's half-forward line, with Benton outstanding, had a big bearing on the result.

Missing Bill Wedding's drive from the ruck, the Redlegs were unable to generate sufficient power from the centre line or the rovers to seriously challenge West.

The Red-and-Blacks led by 26 points at the first change, 29 at half-time, 24 at three-quarter time, and 30 at the end.

Although full forward Kevin Rowe withdrew with a knee injury, Glenelg were far too good for Sturt at Adelaide.

The Tigers led 18 goals

to seven before Sturt came with a late six-goal burst to make their score more respectable.

Fraser was outstanding on the wing for the winners, who won practically every position.

At Alberton, Peter Obst's fine game at centre was the outstanding feature of a hard-fought game with the defences of both sides generally on top.

Trevor Obst's good form at half-back could not have been more timely in view of the injuries in Perth to Motley and Hayes.

South's first

At Kensington, South finally dashed what lingering hopes North had of finishing the season in touch with the leaders.

The Red-and-Whites at half-time seemed comfortably in control of a poorly attended, uninspiring game.

But South made positional changes and finished full of determination and confidence to convert a 32-point half-time deficit into a three-point winning margin in an exciting fin-

ish. South's dressing room was the scene of great jubilation as the Panthers rejoiced at their first win. The fine form of new rover Skuse was particularly heartening for South. At Thebarton next week, Glenelg meet Torrens in a game that could decide which of these two teams will make the four. The eventual composition of the four, apart from Port, is still obscure but defeat for Torrens could leave them 1½ games behind Glenelg and with only three games remaining, this could be decisive. A big crowd should see this game with both teams strengthened by the return of State players.

Bays cut loose, outclass Sturt

By BOB HANK

Glenelg settled the issue with a brilliant nine-goal second quarter at Adelaide Oval although Sturt put some respectability into their score with a too-late burst of six goals.

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Glenelg	3-7	12-10	15-14	18-19	127
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Until the last quarter, the inexperienced Double Blues were hopelessly outclassed by the confident Tigers and had only two players, Kriewaldt and Hicks, able to match the opposition.

The early play gave no indication of the Glenelg onslaught to follow as the Sturt rucks and rovers were doing well enough to offset the advantage gained by the Tiger centre line through Fraser and Herron.

Glenelg's backmen defended strongly and, when Staite got into his stride in ruck and rovers Campbell and Richens came under notice, the Tigers began to show their superiority on the scoreboard.

Procession

Going to the river end, the Bays really cut loose, and with their half-forward line right on top, the brilliance of Fraser at centre wing was converted to real football value.

Resting ruckman Brian Webber was playing the game of his life, and with Sinclair and Campbell, formed a formidable full forward line that had the Sturt defence in tatters of both.

It was a constant procession to Glenelg's goal, and Sturt were left right on the outer as their occasional thrusts past centre were turned back by the tigerish defence of Barnes and Hunt.

Even the more experienced Sturt players were making bad handling errors. When the half-time



G. Fraser

P. Kriewaldt

like a team, even if the new look came too late to convert utter defeat into an unexpected victory.

After an even third term that saw the defences on top for most of the quarter, the Double Blues began the final run with two quick goals only to see Glenelg reply with three that gave the Tigers a lead of more than 12 goals.

At this stage Sturt could possibly have been excused for calling it a day, but to their credit they per-

served in their efforts which finally bore fruit with a burst that almost equalled the Tigers' effort of the second quarter.

Fraser took top honors for Glenelg with another brilliant game on the wing—he performed similarly against Port a month ago on the Adelaide Oval. His dash and accurate disposal were big factors in the smooth working of a well-performed attacking zone.

Campbell's roving and accurate boot were prominent all day and Des Staite wore the robes of chief ruckman with distinction.

Webber's marking and three goals were well done and Westley and Davies were strong points across half-forward.

Kriewaldt, although kicking only two goals, was the only Sturt player to win his position for a major portion of the game.

His opponent, Kevin Abley is noted for his rugged last line defence, but after a conspicuous opening the Sturt full-forward marked well and combined intelligently with his other forwards—mainly Darryl Hicks.

This player's six goals was a good effort and, although he missed a couple of "sitters" as well, he looked the only other Sturt forward capable of causing Glenelg any concern.