

VITAL ROUND FOR FOUR

In two shock results, Norwood and West Adelaide today convincingly beat league leaders, Torrens and Port, to set the stage for a battle royal at Norwood next week to decide last place in the final four.

Norwood beat the Eagles by 38 points at Thebarton, and the Magpies went down by 23 points at Alberton.

Torrens are in top place, but Port's defeat means their double chance is in jeopardy.

If North beat Sturt at Prospect, the Magpies must win from Torrens at Adelaide to hold second position.

North, who got in by nine points from Glenelg at Kensington, virtually made safe their place in the four.

They can only be ousted now by the unlikely combination of a heavy defeat at the hands of Sturt, who have no real incentive, and a draw between West and Norwood.

At Adelaide Oval, Sturt kicked 8-2 in a match-winning last quarter to convert a four-point three-quarter time deficit into a 29-point winning margin over South.

Looked tired

In the game at Alberton, West's stocks seemed to slump when Ken Eustice, named at centre, was unable to take his place in the side.

The Red-and-Blacks put Day to centre, Bray to centre half-forward, and Garnett to centre half-back.

Led by a brilliant Kerley and with Roach at last striking top form, West were level with the Magpies at half-time.

Stan Wickham, reporting this game said that Port's move of Motley to centre and P. Obst to centre half-forward in the third term reacted in West's favor.

Dogged by inaccuracy, enforced to a large extent by West's quick tackling, Port looked a tired side at the finish.

With nothing tangible at stake, Torrens' approach at Thebarton may have been somewhat lackadaisical. But such a convincing defeat at this stage of the season cannot help their confidence for the big games ahead.

Admittedly the Eagles were bereft of power in their forward positions, but

Norwood, too, had good players looking on.

Accuracy and the ability of their rovers to score freely took North to victory over Glenelg at Kensington.

Bob Hank, who saw Sturt and South at Adelaide, thought that South may have erred in switching Peter Judd away from centre half-back late in the third quarter.

Sturt made position changes and, in what has become something of a habit this year, produced a burst of brilliant football to give the lie to their early poor form.

Ruck duel

Norwood and West at Norwood next week are sure to draw a great crowd.

Stars of today's games, Kerley and Wedding, will be opposed in ruck and the final result could largely depend on the outcome of this clash.

Norwood's rovers look better, but West could have an edge across centre.

When they last met at Kensington, Brian Sawley's game at half-forward played a big part in Norwood's one-point win.

Without him Norwood lack strength across half-forward.

However, a repeat of today's team effort could offset a possible West edge in pace to make this game a real thriller.

At Adelaide, both Port and Torrens will be out to restore confidence after today's joits.

The Eagles' form today was certainly too bad to be true. The return of Kingston will work wonders in their attack, but they will have to approach this game with a much stronger attitude to dispel any lingering fears that this is the start of a slump.

Port likewise have some morale building to do. Close to full strength today they should have won.

LATE BAYS BURST JUST FAILED

By NEIL HAWKE in the absence of Jeff Pash (indisposed)

A great fightback late in the game by the Tigers, when they added five goals in eight minutes, left them only nine points short of the North score at the final siren at Kensington Oval.

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
North	2-3	7-5	12-6	16-9	105
Glenelg	1-5	4-8	7-14	13-18	96

Had it not been for inaccurate forward work for three quarters of the game, Glenelg could well have caused the third upset of the round.

The game began scratchily after Don Lindner had won the toss and chosen the northern end with a cross breeze giving no assistance to either team.

The ground appeared firm, but players found difficulty in keeping their footing when turning quickly and this resulted in many scrimmages and poor passages of play.

Glenelg in the first term had as much of the play as North, but could do little with the ball once in range of goal.

Spurred away

Button's grand mark and magnificent 55-yard goal was the one shining exception and he scored their only goal for the term.

At the other end, the North forwards were finding it difficult to break clear of a tight Tiger defence well led by Abley, Hunt and Haydn Linke.

When May kicked straight just before the first term ended, North led by four points, having kicked 2-3 to the disappointing Glenelg total of 1-5.

The game brightened in the second term when North spurred away to what appeared to be a match-winning lead.

Martin, Thomas Hill, Murch, and Ashby all chipped in with goals, with the only Glenelg answer coming from Westley who took a courageous mark in the goalsquare.

North were winning well in the packs through May and Hill and it was only when Kernahan called himself on the ball midway through the term that the Tigers were able to steady.

Hammond had held Kernahan in check, and, further back Knuckey was dashing in the back pocket and turned away many attacks.

Kernahan's influence on the play enabled the Tigers to get moving again through Richens, Howard, and Fraser, and when Button and Anesbury goaled, the half-time margin was 15 points in North's favor.

Anesbury, after splendid start against Bloch, was shifted to half-forward — a surprising move as the North centreman came very strongly into the game from this point on.

Costly kicking

Any chance which Glenelg might have had, was thrown away in the third term when they could add only 3-6 to the Roosters 5-1.

Glenelg had no answer to the elusive forward work of the North rovers, Paul and Thomas, and they were mainly responsible for the North scoring in this term.

Glenelg was still getting as much play, but could not get the ball through the big sticks and it cost them dearly.

Peek, on his wing was ahead of Barbary most of the day and he sent in deep on many occasions.

Rowe marked magnificently 60 yards out from goal, but, as was the pattern for most of the day, kicked badly and brought up one flag only.

He made amends a little later when he goaled from a free and this sparked the Tigers back to life.

Kernahan goaled after Peek had again driven the ball in, but North, always appearing to have that little in reserve, steadied, and Martin and Thomas restored their handy break.

Glenelg's last goal for the term came from the luckless Howard, who finally steered a good one through after an exasperating run of four successive points.

The Tigers had battled hard to stem the flow and only had themselves to blame for starting for home 22 points down.

The defenders were generally well on top, and it was left to an occasional good individual effort to record goals.

Murch and Martin had been well covered by Linke and Abley, but at the other end Rowe occasionally threatened danger with his high marking. It was unfortunate that he could not convert his opportunities.

The bulk of the Bay scoring came from the smooth striding Ray Button and the cleverness of another promising youngster in Anesbury.

These two were destined to play a big part in the final recovery.

North opened the final term as if they were going to swamp the seaiders.

The rucks and rovers swung into top gear and, with the centreline well on top, and Murch marking powerfully down at full-forward, North rattled on three quick goals.

Hill soccered the first off the ground just to show how easy it was and then Thomas rubbed salt into the wound by goaling grandly from the boundary line at top pace—and from the awkward pocket for a left-footer.

North led by 40 points and it looked all over.

Button revived flagging interest with his third, but this was answered immediately with a running left-footer from Geisler.

Then suddenly it was all Glenelg, and they stormed home with a brand of football which left North floundering.

Peek, Westley, and Fraser converged on everything across centre and, with Blackburn and Payne driving the ball forward, the Tiger attack was flooded with chances.

Rowe marked brilliantly and kicked truly.

Then Anesbury, playing cleverly on his half-forward flank, drove home two more.

The Tigers stormed in again and the crowd came to life as Rowe again goaled.

It was great football—four goals having come in five minutes—and the margin was now whittled down to 16 points.

North tried to steady and strong marks by Hammond and Sutter made the game safe.

Glenelg came again at the finish and Button scored his fourth after some brilliant goal-front play.

The final siren thwarted any further Glenelg attempts but the late challenge restored interest and



Hammond Peek

brought a very satisfactory ending to the game. Spectators were often displeased with the effort turned in by umpire Hall.

It was a game difficult to adjudge best players as few did well over four quarters.

I thought Bob Hammond, for a fine rebound game and closure of the short way to goal, was best for North. He has certainly settled in well in this position.

Malcolm Dixon excelled in some very good passages of play and will be one to watch now that the grounds are firmer.

Young ruckman Brian May is improving with every game and shows surprising pace and agility for a big man.

On the other side, Glenelg were very well served by Merv Peek who had the better of Barry Barbary. He is a great trier and is always doing something useful.

Haydn Linke gave away inches to Murch but unlocked his way through in an effective game.

Doug Blackburn played serviceably for most of the game, and had a particularly brilliant third term to catch the eye.



Kerley wins trophy

West's N. Kerley won the Mildara first prize of 125 gns. today. With one game to be played in the minor round, he cannot be beaten.

N. Kerley (WA)	33 1/2
L. Head (WT)	28 1/2
F. Darley (SA)	27
I. Day (SA)	24 1/2
J. Bray (WA)	24
K. Wedding (N)	23 1/2
J. Potter (FA)	22 1/2
R. Kneebone (N)	21 1/2
M. Hill (S)	20
G. Motley (FA)	20

QUICK LOOK AT LEAGUE GAMES

GROUND: Firm—WEATHER: Fine

AT ALBERTON

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
West	2-0	3-3	6-5	10-6	66
Port	0-3	2-9	2-12	4-19	43

BEST PLAYERS—WEST: Kerley, Roach, Thomas, Benton, Bray, Pope, Bitmead, Shrubsole. PORT: Motley, Cahill, P. Obst, Fabian, Elleway, T. Obst, Potter, Bray.

SCORERS—WEST: Kerley 4.0, Roach 2.0, Benton 1.2, Costello 1.1, Sara 1.0, Reu 1.0, Bray 0.2, Thompson 0.1. PORT: P. Obst 1.1, T. Obst 1.0, Hayes 1.0, Cahill 1.0, Bray 0.4, Johns 0.3, Beaufoy 0.2, Potter 0.2, Gill 0.2, Traynor 0.2, Matters 0.2, rushed 0.1.

REPLACEMENTS—WEST: Johnson (twisted knee), replaced by Brooks in the third term. Day (cramp), replaced by Schramm in the last term. PORT: Hannaford (leg), replaced by Marrett in the third term. Matters replaced by Hayes in the last term.

REPORT: J. Potter (PORT) reported by boundary umpire A. J. Roberts during the third term for allegedly kicking D. Thomas (WEST) in the leg.

UMPIRE—B. A. Lees.

AT THEBARTON

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Norwood	2-4	4-5	12-9	15-12	102
Torrens	0-3	3-7	5-9	8-16	64

BEST PLAYERS—NORWOOD: Wedding, Amery, Turbill, Lawton, Harrison, Oatey, Inglis, McMahon, Kneebone. TORRENS: Shearman, Gibson, Bills, Russell, Head, Graham, Blight, Rawson.

SCORERS—NORWOOD: Turbill 7.0, Oatey 3.2, Amery 3.2, Modra 1.1, McMahon 1.1, Inglis 0.2, Curtis 0.2, Hillman 0.1, rushed 0.1. TORRENS: Head 3.2, Shearman 2.4, Gould 1.2, Connolly 1.1, Morrell 1.0, Sziller 0.2, Russell 0.1, Gilbert 0.1, Butler 0.1, rushed 0.2.

REPLACEMENTS—NORWOOD: Graham (indisposed) replaced by Vickers at half-time. Lawton (ankle) replaced by Daly in last quarter. TORRENS: Payze (pulled leg muscle) replaced by Morrell at half-time. Gibson (possible concussion) replaced by Sziller at three-quarter time.

UMPIRE—K. G. Cunningham.

Premiership table

	W.	L.	D.	For	Agst.	Pts.	%
Torrens	13	5	1	1477	1094	27	57.44
Port	12	7	—	1678	1190	24	60.40
North	11	7	1	1452	1459	23	49.88
West	11	8	—	1424	1237	22	53.51
Norwood	11	8	—	1400	1444	22	49.22
Sturt	10	9	—	1346	1457	20	48.01
Glenelg	5	14	—	1295	1776	10	42.16
South	2	17	—	1297	1892	4	41.85

LEADING GOALKICKERS

	Today	Matches	Total
R. Johns (Port)	0.3	19	54.49
Head (Torrens)	3.2	18	42.44
W. Thomas (North)	4.0	19	42.38
Skinner (Norwood)	—	18	37.22
Langridge (Sturt)	3.2	19	36.29
Potter (Port)	0.2	17	34.24
Backman (South)	1.2	19	33.34
Rowe (Glenelg)	3.1	13	33.15

AT KENSINGTON

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
North	2-3	7-5	12-6	16-9	105
Glen'lg	1-5	4-8	7-14	13-18	96

BEST PLAYERS—NORTH: Hammond, Dixon, May, Paull, Bloch, Knuckey, Pascoe. GLENELG: Peek, H. Linke, Blackburn, Hunt, Anesbury, Button, Abley.

SCORERS—NORTH: Thomas 4.0, Paull 3.1, Murch 2.2, Hill 2.1, Martin 2.1, May 1.1, Geisler 1.0, Ashby 1.0, Barbary 0.2, Bloch 0.1. GLENELG: Button 4.1, Rowe 3.2, Anesbury 3.0, Howard 1.6, Westley 1.2, Kernahan 1.1, Hancock 0.2, Richens 0.1, rushed 0.2.

REPLACEMENT—NORTH: Murch (ankle) replaced by Kent in last term. GLENELG: Nil.

UMPIRE—R. C. Hall.

AT ADELAIDE

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Sturt	3-2	7-4	11-6	19-8	122
South	4-7	9-12	10-16	12-21	93

BEST PLAYERS—STURT: Langridge, Murphy, Hicks, Halbert, Dunn, Short, Wiebusch, Morton. SOUTH: Day, Darley, Ploenges, Judd, Skuse, Kantilla, Silva, Johnston.

SCORERS—STURT: Morton 4.1, Langridge 3.2, Dunn 3.0, Hicks 3.0, Halbert 3.0, Milburn 1.1, Schrier 1.0, Wiebusch 1.0, Rigney 0.2, Saddington 0.1, rushed 0.1. SOUTH: Day 2.3, Foster 2.1, Johnston 2.0, Richards 1.5, Backman 1.2, Silva 1.2, Darley 1.1, Kantilla 1.0, Walker 1.0, Skuse 0.4, Christie 0.2, O'Brien 0.1.

REPLACEMENTS—STURT: Gunn replaced by Burford at half-time. SOUTH: Stewart (leg) replaced by Petersen in last quarter.

UMPIRE—L. J. Davoren.

ATTENDANCES

Thebarton	12,385
Alberton	9,798
Adelaide	6,864
Kensington	4,874
Total	33,921

NEXT WEEK

Port v. Torrens at Adelaide.
Glenelg v. South at Glenelg.
Norwood v. West at Norwood.
North v. Sturt at Prospect.