

MAGPIES OUT OF FOUR

North back on top

Down to Glenelg by 19 points at the Bay, Port Adelaide lost their third game in a row today and slipped one position to fifth place on the league ladder.

North got back into top position with a 10-point win over West at Adelaide.

Torrens, who go ahead of Port into fourth place, just made it by a point in a thrilling finish from Sturt at Unley.

At Norwood, South failed to play on from last Saturday's great win and were comfortably beaten by the Redlegs.

Huge crowd

Although the weather held throughout the afternoon, all games were played in the mud following steady overnight rain.

At all grounds there was intense interest in the game in Melbourne, which was followed on hundreds of transistor radios.

The result was greeted with great roars of approval, and the league can look forward to a huge crowd at the return match at Adelaide Oval on July 6.

At Glenelg, the Tigers outscored Port in every term to increase a narrow quarter-time lead.

Reporting this game, Bob Hank said Beal on the wing was outstanding for the winners.

At centre, Peter Obst leading Port in his first game since May 11, jumped right back into top form but the Magpies had no winners ahead of centre.

Even allowing for the

absence of State team representatives, Port are not going well.

On the unusually heavy grounds, their big men have been out of their element.

Strength across centre was the chief factor in North's win over West.

No doubt the mud was a levelling factor, but West were so seriously hit by injuries and State representation that North could have been expected to win more easily.

Outclassed

Outclassed by Sturt in the first half Torrens finished strongly to snatch the game at Unley.

Sturt lost Langridge at half-time but this was matched by Butler's retirement from the Eagles' ruck at the last change.

Torrens were certainly more heavily committed in Melbourne and their narrow win says a lot for determination and team spirit.

At Norwood, South were quite unable to handle the heavy going.

At Alberton

The Redlegs won across centre and although Darley played well, South were not able to exert their expected pressure in ruck.

On the edges, Amery and Minervini kept Norwood moving.

Next week Port meet Norwood at Alberton and the Magpies will be flat out to get back among the leaders.

Both sides will be stronger, but Norwood's form generally has been more impressive over the past month, and Alberton notwithstanding, the Redlegs should win.

Torrens and West at Thebarton should be another thriller.

Hawke fit would boost the Eagles' chances considerably. Head and Russell are the big dangers apart from him as West's roving strength is slight.

However, West will lift considerably from today's performance and should win.

Two in row

At Adelaide, Glenelg will try to get right into the act by defeating Sturt, at present one game ahead of the Tigers.

Lifted by today's success Glenelg could make it two in a row.

North will go to Kensington with one or two doubts, and South will be glad to get back there, but North should win.

BAY FORWARDS DID THE TRICK

By BOB HANK

Glenelg led Port from start to finish on the muddy Bay Oval and had a superior attack to thank for their sound 19-point win.

Glenelg	2-4	7-5	8-8	10-8	68
Port	2-0	6-1	7-3	7-7	49

With the oval more like a swamp than a playing field, naturally defence held sway over attack.

But the Tiger half-forwards were far more productive than Port's and this was the big difference in the two teams.

Only the stubborn, and at times brilliant defence of Fabian, Cooper, and Ladner kept the Magpies in the fight, for the Tigers made most of the play.

Acting Port captain, Peter Obst, did everything possible to get the Magpies moving, but the defence of Hunt, Linke, and Kendall across Glenelg's half-back line rebounded the ball back into Tiger country.

The first quarter was past the half-way mark before Westley raised Glenelg's first goal, and a further five minutes went by before Johns goaled to give Port their first score in what was to be a low-scoring game.

Rucks even

New Port winger Dennis Errey assisted Obst to initiate most of Port's attacks, but on the other wing Brian Beal held sway, with Anesbury, at centre, accepting any opportunity that slipped past Peter Obst.

The rucks were pretty even, with quick-thinking handball by Glenelg skipper, Doug Long, providing early opportunities for his dashing rovers, Fraser and Howard.



Beal F. Obst

Virgo started quite well for Port on the fringes, but faded after the first term and it was left to Matters to try to match the smoother-moving Glenelg rovers.

Port's best came in the second term when two quick goals to tall ruckman Philp, sandwiched between one each from Matters and Johns, put them well in the fight.

However, the Tigers were right on target, and goals to Fraser (two), Staite, Rowe, and Howard made it five without a miss for the term. Only an easy one missed by Staite just before half-time upset the accurate streak.

Switched

At half-time Glenelg switched Cutten into centre half-forward in place of Button, hoping the taller Cutten would match the safe high marking of Cooper.

They achieved their aim, for the strong bustling play of Cutten unbalanced Cooper somewhat and the Glenelg forward was responsible for many penetrations.

Button later went to full-forward where Rowe was bogged down in the slush and the Tiger attack improved with each move.

The third term produced only one goal from each side although Glenelg always looked more capable of breaking through the strong defence.

Errey was moved on to Beal's wing, but the little Glenelg dasher continued to put the Tigers forward and combined well with Westley further down the flank.

On his own

Placings were back to normal as the final term began and Peter Obst continued to be a lone attacking springboard for the Magpies who made a last desperate effort to catch the Tigers.

The solid Glenelg defenders allowed only two behinds and when rover Frank Howard raced through the half-forward flank to drop-punt a nice goal, the Port cause was lost.

Glenelg were by far the better performed team and in an even line-up little separated Beal and Hunt for sustained brilliance in shocking conditions.

All the Tiger defenders did their job with Linke blocking the direct route. Rovers Fraser and Howard won for most of the day with Westley and Cutten the most prominent half-forwards in the game.

Peter Obst stood alone for Port with Fabian and Cooper brilliant in the first half in defence, and sound thereafter.

Matters worked hard to combat the damaging Glenelg rovers and wingman Errey proved a capable stand-in where Port are struggling to gain stability on one wing.

QUICK LOOK AT LEAGUE GAMES

AT ADELAIDE

North	3-3	4-4	5-6	6-6	42
West	2-0	2-1	4-1	5-2	32

BEST PLAYERS—NORTH: Paull, Trenorden, Barr, H. Lindner, Thomas, Hill, Knuckey. WEST: Bennetts, Costello, Thomas, Reu, Hooper, Brooks.

SCORERS—NORTH: Thomas 3.1, Martin 1.1, Gilbourne 1.1, Dixon 1.0, Hughes 0.2, rushed 0.1. WEST: Thomas 2.0, Bitmead 1.1, Wallace 1.0, Hooper 1.0, Rose 0.1.

REPLACEMENTS—NORTH: Bloch (gashed knee), Gilbourne (wrist) replaced by Page and Bentley in the last quarter. WEST: Sara (shoulder) replaced by Bitmead at half-time.

Umpire D. T. Durbridge.

AT UNLEY

Torrens	0-1	0-5	2-7	5-10	40
Sturt	2-4	4-7	4-8	5-9	39

BEST PLAYERS—TORRENS: Gibson, Payze, Livesey, Butler, Russell, Cowling, Lucas, Blight. STURT: Saddington, Hill, Short, Rigney, Ryan, Cunningham, D. Hicks, Jarrett.

SCORERS—TORRENS: Connolly 2.1, Gould 1.1, Gilbert 1.0, Isaac 1.0, Kingston 0.3, Cowling 0.1, Young 0.1, rushed 0.3. STURT: Morton 2.1, Rigney 1.2, Dunn 1.0, Gunn 1.0, Burford 0.2, Hill 0.1, Ryan 0.1, rushed 0.2.

REPLACEMENTS—TORRENS: Mitchell (dislocated shoulder) replaced by Rankine in the second quarter. Butler (injured shoulder) replaced by Dix in the last quarter. STURT: Langridge (injured shoulder) replaced by King at half-time. Morton (leg injury) replaced by R. Sangster in the last quarter.

Umpire—W. A. Henderson.

GOALKICKERS

	Today	Matches	Total
R. Johns (Port)	2.1	9	30.17
Amery (Norwood)	2.2	9	23.13
Skinner (Norwood)	3.2	9	20.12
Potter (Port)	—	8	20.9
W. Thomas (North)	3.1	9	18.15
Langridge (Sturt)	—	9	17.17
Backman (South)	2.0	9	16.21
Benton (West)	—	8	16.19
Rowe (Glenelg)	2.0	7	16.9
Head (Torrens)	—	8	15.16
Traynor (Port)	—	9	15.12

NEXT WEEK'S GAMES

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

AT GLENELG

Glenelg	2-4	7-5	8-8	10-8	68
Port	2-0	6-1	7-3	7-7	49

BEST PLAYERS—GLENELG: Hunt, Beal, Fraser, Westley, Linke, Howard, Cutten, Long. PORT: Peter Obst, Fabian, Cooper, Matters, Errey, Ladner, Philp.

SCORERS—GLENELG: Howard 3.0, Fraser 2.1, Rowe 2.0, Staite 1.2, Westley 1.0, Anesbury 1.0, Button 0.2, Cutten 0.1, Sinclair 0.1, rushed 0.1. PORT: Matters 3.1, Philp 2.2, Johns 2.1, Virgo 0.2, Marrett 0.1.

REPLACEMENTS—GLENELG: Nil. PORT: Nil.

AT NORWOOD

Norwood	2-1	6-9	7-12	10-16	76
South	1-2	2-3	3-6	4-7	31

BEST PLAYERS—NORWOOD: Amery, Kneebone, Ashby, Skinner, Bowe, Gimm, Inglis, Lawton, Graham (all played well). SOUTH ADELAIDE: Shaw, Darley, Backman, Schmidt, Day, Christie, Ploenges.

SCORERS—NORWOOD: Skinner 3.2, Amery 2.2, Turbill 2.2, Kite 2.0, Graham 1.1, Nelson 0.3, Hillman 0.1, Modra 0.1, Ashby 0.1, Minervini 0.1, McMahon 0.1, rushed 0.1. SOUTH ADELAIDE: Backman 2.0, Lewis 1.0, Wundke 1.0, Ploenges 0.1, Wilson 0.1, Christie 0.1, McFarlane 0.1, Kantilla 0.1, Day 0.1, Walker 0.1.

REPLACEMENTS—NORWOOD: Nil. SOUTH ADELAIDE: McFarlane replaced by Stewart in last term. Johnston replaced by Gibbs in last term.

Umpire—N. L. G. Mackay.

PREMIERSHIP TABLE

	W.	L.	For	Agst.	Pts.	%
North	7	2	731	699	14	51.12
West	6	3	636	530	12	54.54
Norwood	6	3	694	651	12	51.59
Torrens	5	4	607	508	10	54.43
Port	4	5	758	599	8	55.86
Sturt	4	5	643	690	8	48.23
Glenelg	3	6	617	832	6	42.58
South	1	8	563	740	2	43.20

ATTENDANCES

Norwood	5,667
Adelaide	7,485
Glenelg	6,722
Unley	7,616

Total 27,490

HIGHEST, LOWEST

HIGHEST: Norwood 10-16 (76 pts.). LOWEST: South 4-7 (31 pts.).