

BLUES STRENGTHEN CHANCES

Sam Gallagher's football review

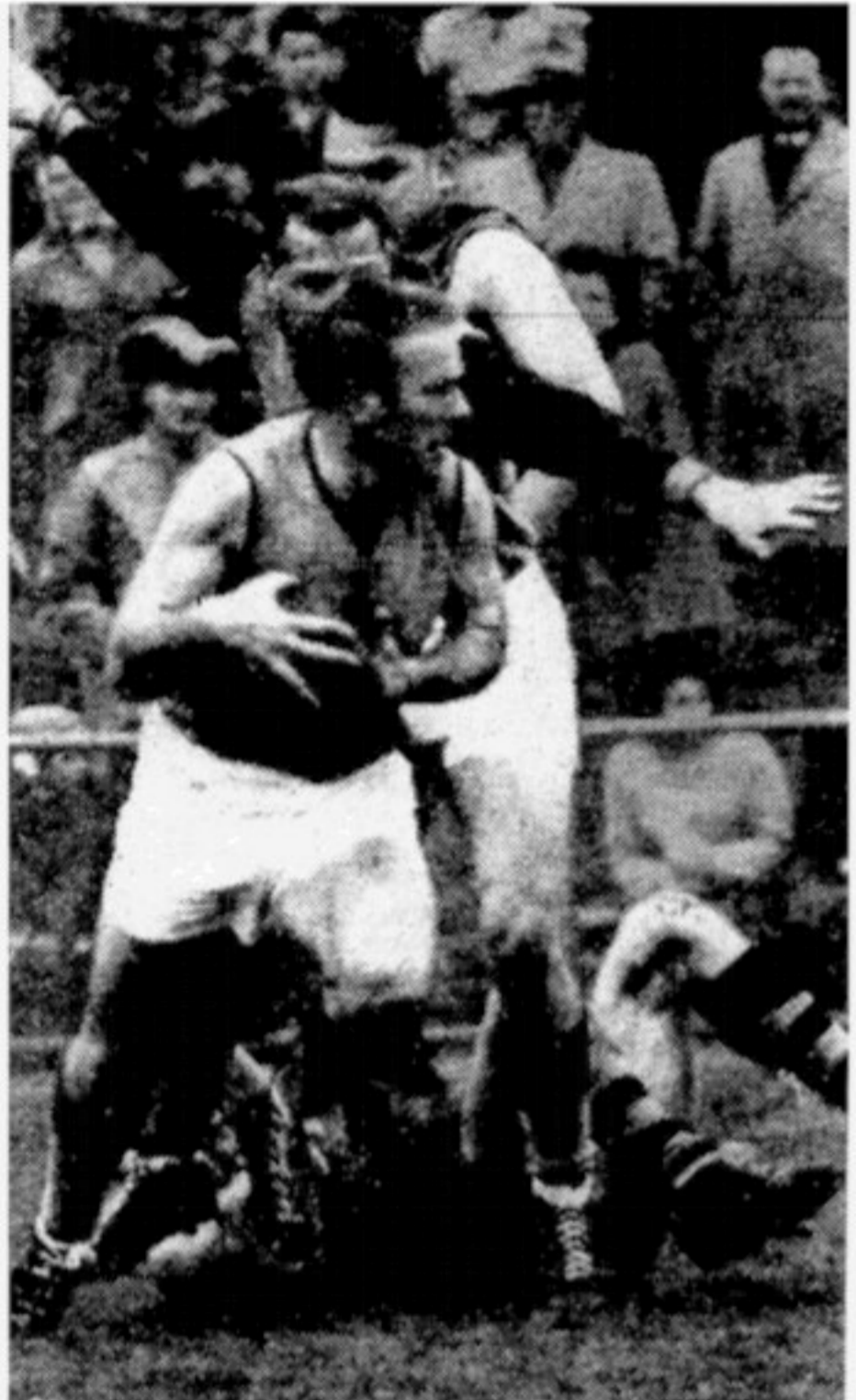


STURT CENTRE HALF-FORWARD Paul Bagshaw looked like a man without a face for this instant during the Glenelg game. The ball (arrowed) blots out his head. Others are Sinclair (Glenelg, left), Sims, and Sturt vice-captain Cunningham. Heading for the ground is Glenelg's Roehrich.

MILDARA TROPHY

Mildara Trophy voting was suspended today with the State team away. Progressive points are:-

13—C. Rice (Glenelg).	rens). Gibson (Torrens).
12—Halbert (Sturt).	8—Backman (South).
McGowan (Glenelg).	P. Darley (South).
10—Kneebone (Norwood).	D. Long (Glenelg).
9—Potter (Port).	7—Wedding (Norwood).
Widdow (Centrals).	D. Hicks (Sturt).
Shearman (Torrens).	Richens (Glenelg).



STURT ROVER Roger Dunn grabs the ball and turns with it, while team-mate Ted Langridge makes sure Glenelg's Hayden Linke does not interfere. Doug Blackburn (Glenelg) is on his back.

QUICK LOOK AT LEAGUE GAMES

AT ALBERTON

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Port	3-5	4-6	5-11	5-12	42
Norwood	0-3	1-9	2-10	4-13	37

BEST PLAYERS.—PORT: Hayes, Gill, McKay, Phillip, T. Obst, Hudson. **NORWOOD:** Vertudaches, Nygaard, Harris, Lawton, Vickers.

SCORERS.—PORT: McKay 2.1, T. Obst 1.1, Hudson 1.0, Philp 1.0, Beaufoy 0.2, Errey 0.2, Gill 0.2, Bray 0.1, Marrett 0.1, Traynor 0.1, rushed 0.1. **NORWOOD:** Vickers 1.1, McMahon 1.1, Martin 1.0, Harrison 1.0, French 0.2, Turbill 0.2, Koch 0.2, Oakley 0.2, Vertudaches 0.1, Gurney 0.1, rushed 0.1.

REPLACEMENTS.—PORT: Bray (cramp) by Spiers, last quarter. Hudson (thigh) by Bates, last quarter. **NORWOOD:** Curtis (ankle) by Bowe, last quarter. Vickers (leg) by Truelove, last quarter. **UMPIRE.—R. C. Hall.**

AT RICHMOND

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
South	4-7	4-8	6-14	8-16	64
West	1-1	2-8	4-10	5-12	42

BEST PLAYERS.—SOUTH: Ploenges, Jackson, White, Roennfeldt, Christie Kerley, Ross, O'Brien. **WEST:** Thomas, Wright, Benton, Campbell, Hughes, O'Driscoll, Thompson, Hooper.

SCORERS.—SOUTH: White 3.1, Skuse 2.2, Ross 1.3, Nason 1.2, Silva 1.1, Backman 0.4, Ploenges 0.1, Judd 0.1, rushed 0.1. **WEST:** Bitmead 3.0, Hooper 1.3, Benton 1.1, Sara 0.2, Miller 0.2, Hinkley 0.2, Shuard 0.1, Bertelsmeier 0.1. **REPLACEMENTS.—SOUTH:** Silva (ankle) by Whitford, third quarter. **WEST:** Nil. **UMPIRE.—D. L. Foster.**

AT GLENELG

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Sturt	5-4	5-4	11-8	14-9	93
Glenelg	2-1	4-8	4-11	10-14	74

BEST PLAYERS.—STURT: Clarkson, Bagshaw, Cunningham, Adcock, Rigney, Langridge. **GLENELG:** McGowan, Abley, Anesbury, Hunt, Linke, Edwards.

SCORERS.—STURT: Rigney 4.1, Bagshaw 3.1, Langridge 3.1, Clarkson 2.0, Dunn 1.0, Hill 1.1, Adcock 0.1, rushed 0.4. **GLENELG:** McGowan 4.1, Anesbury 3.2, Westley 2.1, Sinclair 1.1, Payne 0.2, Kernahan 0.1, D. John 0.1, Sutherland 0.1, rushed 0.4.

REPLACEMENTS.—STURT: Whicker (fractured nose) by McDonald, second quarter. Cunningham (thighs) by Federowytch, last quarter. **GLENELG:** Blackburn (hand) by A. Long, last quarter. **UMPIRE.—B. A. Lees.**

PREMIERSHIP TABLE

	W.	L.	D.	For	Agst.	Pts.	Prem.	%
South	11	2	—	1195	795	22	60.05	
Port	10	3	—	1193	766	20	60.90	
Sturt	9	4	—	1250	1050	18	54.35	
Glenelg	9	4	1	1318	1070	17	55.19	
Torrens	8	5	—	1267	979	16	56.41	
Norwood	7	5	1	1104	940	15	54.01	
North	5	8	—	999	1047	10	48.83	
West	4	9	—	858	1067	8	44.57	
Woodville	2	11	—	761	1381	4	35.53	
Centrals	—	13	—	720	1570	—	31.44	

Bays slip back

Kicking 6-4 in a matchwinning third quarter against Glenelg at the Bay, Sturt beat the Tigers by 19 points to move into third place on the league ladder.

Glenelg slipped to fourth as a result, half a game ahead of Torrens, whose 30-point win over Centrals took them ahead of Norwood.

The Redlegs lost by five points to Port at Alberton in a game which dimmed Norwood chances of making the four.

For both Norwood and Woodville it was a case of what might have been.

Woodville led by 22 points at the last change but went down by three points to North's 3-8 finishing effort with the breeze.

7 TO PLAY

At Richmond, South drove from both wings to set up a decisive lead with the wind in the first term.

Reporting this match, Stan Wickham said South made sure of the game when the ball was dry, and defended strongly against the breeze.

Scores in all games were kept down by the ground and weather conditions.

These factors, and the absence of star players in Perth, also affected attendances.

With the interstate program now completed and

seven games remaining before the finals, the fight for a place in the major round is full of interest.

Sturt boosted their hopes with their good win over Glenelg.

Two points clear at half-time, the Blues took command in the third quarter when Clarkson won the rucks and the half-forwards burst into the game.

For Sturt, however, there is no respite. Next week

they meet Port at Alberton.

At the same time Torrens, only half a game out of the four, meet Glenelg at Thebarton.

If the Eagles are to make the four, a win in this game probably is essential as Glenelg have the easier program in the remaining games.

A win to Norwood over North at Prospect is vital to Norwood's fading hopes of taking part in the major round.

IMPROVING?

The Redlegs went close today to beating Port, and while due allowance must be made for the absence of the Magpies' interstate representatives, Norwood could be on the improve.

At present they are handicapped by a lack of drive provided by Oatey at his best.

For Port the feature of today's game was a great display in defence by Neville Hayes.

Their clash with Sturt next week will be a thriller and should provide a measure of the Blues' premiership hopes.



Neville Hayes... inspired Port.

STURT'S THIRD TERM DECISIVE

Ruck supremacy

By BILL HENDERSON

Playing brilliant football in the third term as a winning ruck brought their half-forward line right into the game, Sturt held off a determined Bay challenge in the last term at Glenelg today.

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Sturt	5-4	5-4	11-8	14-9	93
Glenelg	2-1	4-8	4-11	10-14	74

Tony Clarkson, who had a very good duel with Kernahan in the first half, opened the third term with a typical Bill Wedding-type hit-out.

He commanded the ruck work for the rest of the term to get his team moving in a brilliant run of football that decided the game.

From the start it was obvious Sturt would play through Langridge. This they did in the first term only to play into the hands of Glenelg, who were going to play negative football in the attempt to hold Sturt.

The ground in front of the stand was very sloppy

and when the ball was in this spot it was impossible for players to gather it or even kick off the ground with any decisive result.

Sturt were fortunate early that Abley was kicking out to the eastern wing, as they were able to force the ball forward many a time for Bagshaw and Clarkson to score.

Changed

It did not take Abley long to change to the grandstand side, where most of the play continued.

When rain came at the end of the first quarter Sturt's three-goal lead looked good, but Glenelg played good football in the

second term, if not quite getting results on the board.

Sturt had realised their error of playing the grandstand wing in the first term, and concentrated their play across the mud run.

Glenelg held Sturt scoreless in this team yet from nine shots could manage only two goals.

Most of their shots came from the mud patch, and the forwards were under pressure when kicking.

Combined

The third term was all Sturt. Right from the hit-out of Clarkson, Bagshaw and Langridge came into the game.

These players combined well with effective handball, giving the ball to a man coming through.

This looked pretty football, and certainly gave the player receiving the ball a better opportunity of setting himself to kick for goals.

This showed out with Sturt's very straight kicking, plus the fact they had a dry ball.

In command

Clarkson was running amok on the ball, and I was astounded that Kernahan, who had an even duel in the first half, was not brought against Clarkson for a full 10 minutes.

When he was called on to the ball, Clarkson was in complete command.

The last term was the Bays' best. Anesbury and McGowan tried extremely hard in attack to level the scores, but Sturt, with more balance, and switching Bagshaw into defence, came back to score enough goals to sew up the game.

The game itself was of good standard, considering the conditions, and both teams certainly are worthy contenders for the finals.

Sturt's best player, naturally, was Clarkson. After an even first half his second half was excellent.

Not far behind him was Bagshaw. Left to do most of the scoring early, his third term was good play-on football.

Langridge appeared not to have a kick in the first half, but for a player to come back into the game as he did in the second half, shows his class.

Rigney roved well to a winning ruck while Mal Hill helped Clarkson ably.

Best of the backs was Adcock, who for half the game played loosely, not having an opponent resting on him.

Across centre Sturt, although not in complete control, had a real winner in Nev Cunningham, and his effort was commendable.

For Glenelg, McGowan proved that even under pressure he can kick goals.

He snapped three today when taking a bump from an opponent. A small player should be outstanding in the wet, but I feel McGowan is even more damaging given a firm turf, for his disposal is his best feature.

Kevin Abley at full back has really come back into form. He completely shut out Sawley and his ground play and spoiling were solid.

TOP GOALKICKERS

	Today	Matches	Total
McGowan (Glenelg)	4-1	13	40-25
Dunn (Sturt)	1-0	13	37-19
R. Sawley (Sturt)	—	13	35-22
Kingston (Torrens)	—	9	34-17
Henderson (Torrens)	—	11	32-22
Shearman (Torrens)	—	9	30-35
Skuse (South)	2-2	13	24-38
Rice (Glenelg)	—	12	24-29
Potter (Port)	—	12	24-28
Turbill (Norwood)	0-2	7	22-21
R. Martin (Norwood)	1-0	13	22-11
D. Hicks (Sturt)	—	12	21-24
Backman (South)	0-4	12	21-22

ATTENDANCES

Glenelg	8,688
Alberton	7,495
Adelaide	3,753
Richmond	3,661
Woodville	2,842
TOTAL	26,493

HIGHEST, LOWEST

LEAGUE: Sturt 14-9 (93)	Norwood 4-13 (37)
SECONDS: South 14-17 (101)	Norwood 3-9 (26)

NEXT WEEK

Port v. Sturt (Alberton).
Central v. West (Elizabeth).
North v. Norwood (Prospect).
Torrens v. Glenelg (Thebarton).
Woodville v. South (Woodville).
PAC v. SPSC (Adelaide).