

AT ADELAIDE

Table with 5 columns: Team, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, Final, Pts. West 6-7 8-13 14-16 19-19 133. Torr. 1-2 5-4 10-7 13-9 87.

BEST PLAYERS.—WEST: Hooper, Burkett, Loveday, Sims, DeBrouge, Pfitzner, Roach, Pannenburg. TORRENS: Head, Caldwell, Kingston, Bills, Rawson, Virgo, Howell.

REPLACEMENTS.—WEST: Thompson (shoulder) by Walker in fourth term. TORRENS: Tye (shoulder ligament) by Phillipou in first term. Butler (ankle) by Egan in third term. Kingston (knee).

AT ALBERTON

Table with 5 columns: Team, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, Final, Pts. Sturt 3-2 8-6 13-7 20-8 128. Port 3-10 5-10 11-15 15-16 106.

BEST PLAYERS.—STURT: Tilbrook, Adcock, Halbert, Schwarz, Short, Chessell, Clarkson, Hicks. PORT: Cahill, Obst, Leal, McKay, Holmes, Salmon.

REPLACEMENTS.—STURT: Halbert (leg) by Thomas in last term. PORT: Cooper by Broadbridge in last term. Leal by Pilgrim in last term.

AT ELIZABETH

Table with 5 columns: Team, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, Final, Pts. Glen. 2-7 4-11 6-17 10-24 84. Cent. 3-0 5-1 6-3 7-6 48.

BEST PLAYERS.—GLENELG: McLeod, Moss, Linke, Redford, Marker, Rosewarne, Kerley. CENTRALS: Eustice, Smith, Daly, Morey, Stutley, Phillips, Shortill.

REPLACEMENTS.—GLENELG: Button (concussion) by Moss in first term, Anesbury by Rowe in last term. CENTRALS: Davis by Harris, Hill by Kennedy.

AT WOODVILLE

Table with 5 columns: Team, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, Final, Pts. Nwd. 4-5 10-11 15-14 17-18 120. Wdv. 4-4 6-10 9-13 12-19 91.

BEST PLAYERS.—NORWOOD: R. Oatey, Bunton, Nygaard, Modra, Gregerson, Adams, Page. WOODVILLE: Huppertz, Boscence, Stone, Barbary, Jackson, McKellar.

REPLACEMENTS.—NORWOOD: Sinclair (broken thumb) by Taylor in second term. PORRITT by Martin in last term. WOODVILLE: Roache (cramp) by Reilly in last term. Allen (ankle) by Fillery in last term.

TOP GOALKICKERS

Table with 4 columns: Name, Today, Matches, Total. Sachse (North) 8 8 37-16. Mulvihill (Torrens) 9 9 33-20.

HIGHEST, LOWEST

LEAGUE: West Adelaide 19-19 (133) and Central Districts 7-6 (48). SECONDS: West Torrens 14-16 (109) and Port Adelaide 6-12 (48).

ATTENDANCES

Table with 2 columns: Venue, Attendance. Alberton 20,082. Adelaide 10,608. Elizabeth 6,100. Woodville 5,769.

PREMIERSHIP LIST

Table with 7 columns: Team, W, L, For, Agst., Pts., %. Sturt 8 1 1102 706 16 60.95. North 7 1 891 667 14 57.19.

NEXT WEEK

MONDAY: North v. South (Adelaide). SATURDAY: Centrals v. Norwood (Elizabeth). Glenelg v. Sturt (Glenelg). North v. Torrens (Prospect). West v. South (Richmond). Woodville v. Port (Woodville).

STURT POWER TELLS AGAIN

Before a record crowd of 20,082 at Alberton, Sturt's brilliant last quarter threw back a typically determined challenge by Port and confirmed the Blues' right to top place on the premiership ladder.

At Adelaide, Torrens' hopes of making the finals took a severe jolt when they trailed all the way against West and went down by 46 points.

The Eagles slipped from fourth to sixth position and could drop further as their next two games are against North at Prospect and Norwood at Norwood.

The Redlegs today took control of the game against Woodville after an even first quarter to record their first win at Woodville in three years. Centrals were kept in the game by Glenelg's inaccuracy at Elizabeth, but the Tigers won comfortably at the finish and moved into fourth place as a result.

Tigers in top four

However, their hold on this position is likely to be brief, as they meet Sturt at the Bay next week while Norwood, trailing the Bays on percentage, strike Centrals at Elizabeth.

The record crowd at Alberton saw a great struggle before Sturt raced away in the last quarter. Port lost their chance to set up a match-winning lead when they kicked only three goals from 13 shots in the first quarter.

Up to this stage, the Magpies, with Cahill winning centre and the Port rucks stopping Clarkson from making front position, clearly showed the way.

Sturt's greater efficiency in attack, where Tilbrook was in great form, took them to a 14-point half-time lead.

Cahill took charge again in the third quarter and Port led late in the time-out period.

However, the Blues' class told in the run home when their handball, backing up and long kicking took them away from the tiring Magpies.



By Sam Gallagher

It was Sturt's eighth win straight following their first game defeat by North at Unley.

The Blues' chance to avenge this loss will come on Saturday week at Adelaide.

West's stylish win over Torrens has put the Red-and-Blacks back into final four considerations.

They are only one game out of the four and with their next two games against South and Centrals at Richmond, they could close that gap.

Sturt, North and Port look almost certain finalists but fourth position is still wide open.



John Cahill

Kingston, Button injured

Two State squad half-forwards — Ray Button (Glenelg) and Geoff Kingston (Torrens) — were badly injured in today's league football.

Button suffered concussion and Kingston an injured knee.

Button was carried from the field unconscious late in the first quarter against Centrals at Elizabeth Oval.

He remained unconscious until the end of the third quarter.

Two doctors attended him in Glenelg's dressing room.

He was later admitted to Royal Adelaide Hospital.

Detained

Button will be detained for the night.

A hospital spokesman said tonight Button's condition was satisfactory.

At Alberton, Sturt captain John Halbert was carried off the field in the last term.

He has a probable broken blood vessel in an ankle.

Torrens were seriously hit by injuries.

Half-forward Arthur Tye was replaced in the third quarter with strained shoulder ligaments.

Chris Butler came off with a recurrence of an ankle injury.

Quick tackling worried Bays

By STAN WICKHAM

Glenelg, although never in control at any stage, proved superior in overall strength in accounting for a determined Central Districts side at Elizabeth Oval today.

Throughout the game Glenelg were unable to employ any type of system due to the relentless pressure applied by Centrals mainly by quick tackling.

In the early stages of the first quarter Glenelg attacked consistently mainly due to the advantage set up by McLeod at centre wing.

Although Smith was winning the hit-outs for Centrals, the Bay rovers and followers were carrying the ball away from the packs to give Glenelg the edge.

Midway through this term Eustice took control at centre, Morey won his wing, and Grlusich flashed momentarily in the game for Centrals to add two quick goals from Shortill and Smith.

But, although Eustice continued giving opportunities to the Central forwards, Glenelg took over the attacking as Moss, who had replaced the injured Button, began to prove a headache for the Central defence.

Smith continued to win the hit-outs and Shortill and Kleinig began to capitalise on this advantage to lift the Bulldogs.

Kleinig cleverly weaved past an opponent to boot a long goal, and Bentley booted another shortly after for Centrals to take the initiative and the lead.

The game was developing into one of errors as Glenelg continued their inaccurate goal kicking and Central players made elementary mistakes particularly in ball handling.

Table with 5 columns: Team, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, Final, pts. Glenelg 4-7 4-11 6-17 10-24 84. C'tals 3-0 5-1 6-3 7-6 48.

A goal to Doug Long on the half-time siren saved face for Glenelg and they went to the break with a slender lead.

Centrals made key position changes, switching Grlusich to centre half-back, Stanton to centre half-forward and Hill to full forward.

From an attacking point of view the changes had little effect as Stanton found Linke's strength and vigor too good, Phillis out-classed Hill and Moss proved more than a handful for Grlusich.

However, Glenelg were finding the Centrals' defence hard to penetrate.

Although having most of the play, and eight scoring spots to three, they had increased their lead by only 10 points.

Although Kevin Rowe was leading and marking well, Centrals Phillips had forced him well downfield and it was not surprising a tally of behinds resulted. Centrals were being sent in by Eustice and Morey, but their forwards were failing miserably.

Glenelg were unable to shake off the persistent Bulldogs and it was well into the last quarter before Bruce Long, marking strongly in the goalsquare, goaled.

With both defences dictating the pattern of play, the ball travelled quickly from one end of the ground to the other.

Bentley, side stepping a

Bay defender, calmly drop-kicked a goal on the run to lift the hopes of the Centrals camp.

But the optimism was soon dashed when Marker, proving to be very elusive at half-forward, replied for Glenelg, who tightened their grip on the game.

Eustice was finding the load too much to carry and as his efforts waned so did the Centrals' resistance, with Smith the only player to produce the necessary.

A goal to Colbey late in the quarter put the result beyond doubt.

Glenelg had many players on a par, with only McLeod producing four quarters of sustained football. His effort was full of merit.

Moss, at centre half-forward, was always under notice, but his disposal let him down badly on numerous occasions.

Linke and Redford defended stoutly; Marker gained possession repeatedly at half-forward; Rosewarne played effectively, and Kerley held up repeated attacks when resting in defence.

Undoubtedly best on the ground was Centrals' captain, Ken Eustice. He marked, kicked, and hand-balled well all day and must have travelled miles in trying to set the example for his team mates.

Smith held sway in the rucks, and marked strongly around the ground to rank very high.