

Lapse Near The Finish, But . . .

# Sturt Loses Nothing In Prestige

By GORDON SCHWARTZ

Richmond had the roving talent and stamina to win the Victoria-SA premiers match at Unley Oval on Saturday but Sturt had the skill and courage to make it an entertaining pipe-opener to the 1968 season.

	1st	2nd	3rd	Fnl.	Pts.
RICHMOND	3.4	7.9	12.12	17.19	121
STURT	4.7	7.9	13.14	15.15	105

Although it lost by 16 points after failing to score in the last 18 minutes Sturt lost nothing in prestige.

The Blues contributed to their own downfall with ball-handling errors late in the game — due, seemingly, to weariness after only one trial.

For the crowd of about 15,000 it was a "give-away-nothing" game, although Richmond missed dynamic centreman Bill Barrot and Sturt eased the pressure when ruck-rover Paul Bagshaw was rested in the second half.

Bagshaw had taken five towering marks and had had 13 kicks to be a dominant force.

Headed by Bagshaw, centreman Bob Shearman and new wingman Malcolm Greenslade, Sturt established a convincing 22-point lead six minutes into the second quarter.

This advantage should have been greater as Sturt faltered in front of goal with the breeze, kicking 1.6 at one stage.

But Sturt could not combat clever and nippy rover Kevin Barrot and his pacy colleague Bill Brown who were primarily responsible for Richmond's recover to level at half-time.

To add to Sturt's worries left-footer Blair Campbell appeared after the interval and despite a peculiar habit of kicking at "right angles", he grabbed 11 kicks in the third quarter and bobbed up everywhere again in the last term.

For most of the game one of this trio pierced the Sturt defence with quick darts and dashes.

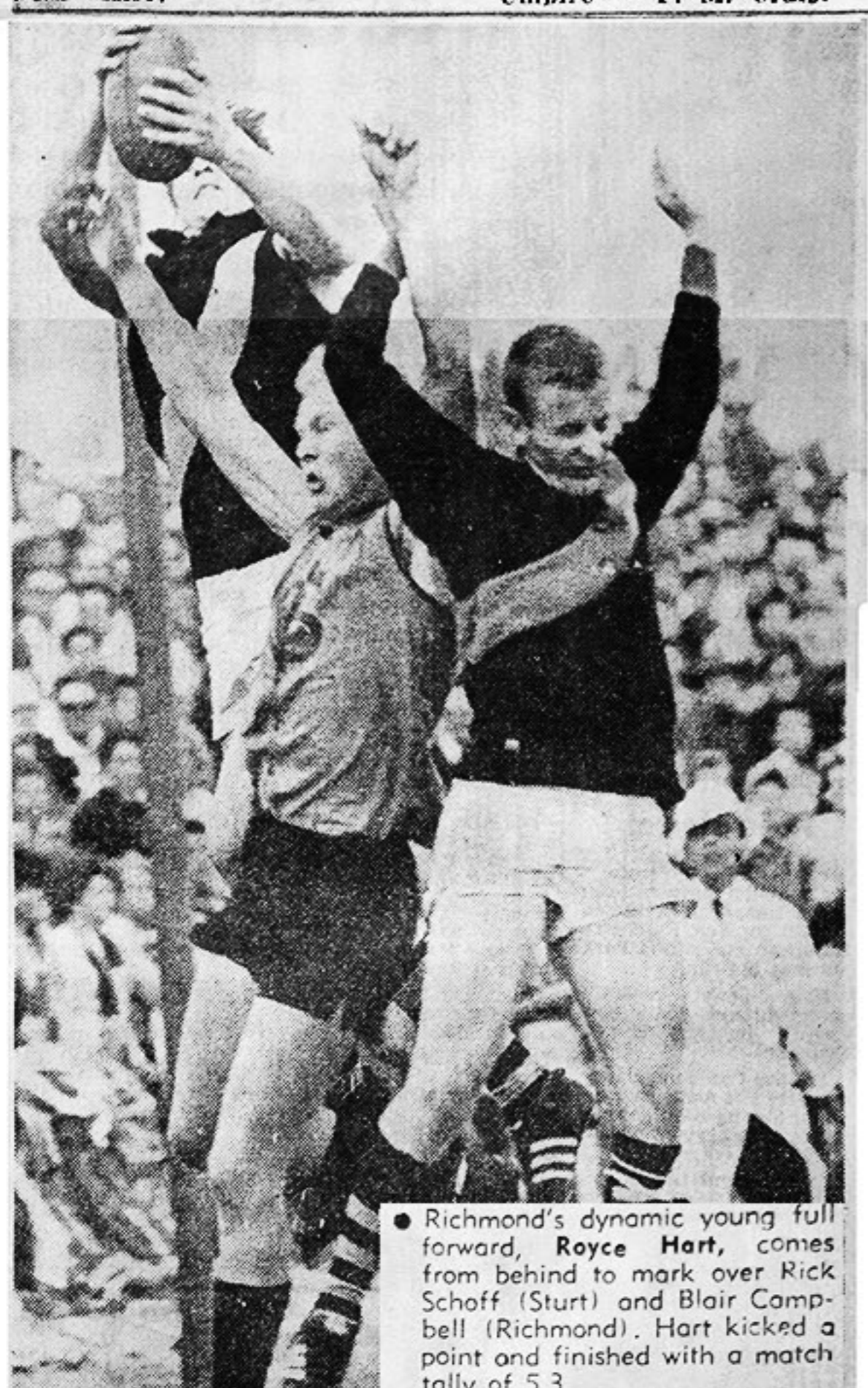
The feature of a keenly fought third quarter was the masterly play of centre half-forwards Paddy Guinane and John Halbert.

Although a tense finish seemed likely when Malcolm Jones kicked his fifth goal to level the scores 14 minutes into the last term, Richmond grabbed the big marks and smoothly shot the ball around to add another 2.4 for a worthy victory.

## Details

**GOALKICKERS:**— Richmond — Hart, 5.3; Brown, 2.2; Bartlett, 2.1; Ronaldson, 2.0; Northey, Campbell, 1.4; Bourke, 1.1; Green, Guinane, Moore, 1.0; Patterson, Clay, 0.1; rushed, 0.2. Sturt — Jones, 5.2; Halbert, 4.4; Schoff, 2.0; Shearman, 1.2; Tillbrook, 1.1; Dunn, Ottens, 1.0; Clarkson, 0.4; Chessell, 0.1; rushed, 0.1.

**BEST:**— Richmond — Bartlett, Guinane, Brown, Campbell, Jewell, Hart, Sturt — Shearman, Clarkson, Greenslade, Bagshaw, Halbert, Jones. Umpire — P. M. Crais.



● Richmond's dynamic young full forward, Royce Hart, comes from behind to mark over Rick Schoff (Sturt) and Blair Campbell (Richmond). Hart kicked a point and finished with a match tally of 5.3.

# Won't Forget This, Says Neil Kerley

PERTH, March 31 — "This was a real thrashing — there's no other way to describe it," Glenelg captain-coach Neil Kerley said yesterday after his team had lost to East Perth by 14 goals at Perth Oval.

"We have heard about the fast, open style of WA club football and we received a first-class demonstration of it.

"We won't forget this defeat when we play East Perth in a pre-season game in Adelaide next year."

Glenelg, after scoring three goals in the first seven minutes of play, fell apart before East Perth's skill and teamwork.

In the second quarter East Perth swung into its smooth team play and eventually was in command in nearly every position.

Young Glenelg full back Geoff Shepherd battled hard against star forward Phil Tierney and was his

team's most effective player.

Graham Cornes, who has played only three league games, was easily the best of the Glenelg ruckmen.

Fred and Wayne Phillis both played steadily. Fred kicked three of Glenelg's 10 goals but lacked opportunities at full forward.

His young brother, opposed to centre half-forward Mal Brown, was in command in the first half.

## 8,000 CROWD

A crowd of about 8,000 saw the match and gate receipts almost covered the outlay for Glenelg's visit.

	1st	2nd	3rd	Fnl.	Pts.
EP	2.4	8.15	14.17	22.24	156
G.	4.5	6.6	7.10	10.12	72

**GOALKICKERS:**—East Perth — Bandy, 5.3; Garnaut, 4.4; Tierney, 3.5; Haughan, 3.0; Brown, 2.2; Whittle, 2.0; Chadwick, 1.3; O'Donoghue, Paulsen, 1.0; Freemantle, 0.2; Evans, Haines, 0.1; rushed, 0.3. Glenelg—F. Phillis, 3.2; Paech, 2.0; Rowe, 1.2; Cornes, B. Long, J. Staite, D. Long, 1.0; Marker, 0.3; D. Staite, 0.2; rushed, 0.3.

**BEST:**—East Perth—Smith, O'Donoghue, Chadwick, Grieves, Haughan, Bandy, Glenelg—Shepherd, F. Phillis, W. Phillis, Kerley, D. Staite, Cornes.

# DEMONS' STRENGTH AND FITNESS OVERCOME PORT

By MERV AGARS

Port Adelaide is rarely beaten by physical strength and superior condition but it happened at Alberton Oval on Saturday when Melbourne outstayed it to win by 26 points.

The match was not decided until the last 10 minutes.

In this period Melbourne's advantage in height and weight and an extra trial game took its toll and it pulled away.

In the first three quarters Port held a clear edge in pace and ballhandling skill and only the unsettling loss of star back pocket Trevor Obst in the second quarter stopped it from leading clearly at half-time.

Melbourne stole two goals while Port was reorganising its defence and led by three points at the interval.

As the edge faded from Port's pace in the second half Melbourne's physical strength and high marking blunted Port's attack.

Then, in the closing stages, the advanced fitness of players like rover John Townsend and centreman Hassa Mann cut holes in the tiring Port defence.

**Townsend Best**  
Townsend's brilliant

roving made him the outstanding player in the match.

Port was given great drive from centre by John Cahill for most of the match, while half-back (later back pocket) Bob Elix played splendidly and ruck-rover Wayne Broadbridge gave promise of a great season with a fine all-round display.

Reg Beaufoy opened up many chances with strong bodywork and slick handball at centre half-forward until banished to defence in the second half.

Melbourne had two great defenders on the last line.

Bob ("Tassie") Johnson controlled the full back position and was given great support by back pocket Derek Feldman.

## Alberton Details

	1st	2nd	3rd	Fnl.	Pts.
Melb.	2.2	7.6	9.6	14.8	92
Port	4.3	7.3	10.4	10.6	66

**GOALKICKERS** — Melbourne—Dillon, 5.0; Townsend, 3.2; Dowling, 2.1; Parke, Mann, 1.1; Clarke, Hardeman, 1.0; Alves, 0.2; Bourke, 0.1; rushed, 0.1. Port Adelaide—Yeo, 2.2; P. Obst, Broadbridge, 2.0; Sweeney, 1.1; Errey, Ebert-Leal, 1.0; Potter, 0.2; Nyland, 0.1.

**BEST** — Melbourne — Townsend, Johnson, Feldman, Dillon, Mann, Parke. Port Adelaide — Cahill, Elix, Broadbridge, Potter, Beaufoy, Spencer. Umpire—M. E. Ducker.