



BLUES MASTERS ALL WAY

Four titles straight

By SAM GALLAGHER

Sturt won their fourth straight premiership at Adelaide Oval today with possibly the greatest exhibition of football ever seen in a grand final.

From the opening bounce the Blues were the masters, increasing their lead each quarter and finishing with an overwhelming 65-point margin.

Although the game lacked the tension of a close-fought contest, the crowd of 55,600 were treated to a superb exhibition of football skill.

The power and precision of Sturt's kicking and their creative hand-ball under pressure, particularly in the first half, have rarely been equalled.

Richmond champion Royce Hart justified his inclusion with an effective game at centre half-forward, but Nelson's persistent opposition kept him in reasonable check.

Hart came strongly into the game in the second half of the first quarter after being in the trainers' hands for several minutes following a heavy knock on the eastern boundary.

He was quiet in the second term, but on the day he and Marker stood out in a Bay attack that was severely restricted for opportunities by Sturt's control in ruck and across centre.

From the opening bounce Sturt established a superiority in ruck that was never seriously threatened.

Kernahan fought for front position at that first bounce and almost

succeeded, but Wild's tap went to Chessell, and the Blues scored within 35 seconds.

Chessell repeatedly put the Blues into attack from the ruck and played a big part in Sturt's important first-quarter break.

Both sides tackled with great speed and vigor at this stage of the game, but Sturt's use of hand-ball under heavy pressure was decisive.

It was this facility that put the Blues in a class apart and cut the Bay defence to pieces.

Nobody was more effective in this aspect of the game than Bagshaw.

Big threat

His superb hand pass to Schoff for a goal in the second term was one example, that stood out among the many that provided the Blues with a source of drive that the Bays were powerless to stifle.

Bagshaw's magnificent marking in the second quarter was a major factor in preventing Glenelg from making any impression on Sturt's first quarter break.

He and Chessell were

also a constant threat at half-forward.

On this line Tilbrook, with the brilliantly creative Hicks in front of him was altogether too much for the Bay defence to handle.

Hicks hardly wasted a kick and Tilbrook once again proved himself a great finals player.

Glenelg's only hope after Sturt's brilliant first half was a repeat of their strong third quarter in the preliminary final.

But the Blues threw themselves into this vital term in a manner that quickly dispelled any thoughts that their lack of match practice over the past five weeks would find them wanting.

Their rovers came strongly into the game to complete Sturt's dominance and the dashing Greenslade at full forward completed a great season with nine goals for a season total of 85 in 16 games.

The Bays challenged bravely but briefly as the last term opened but Sturt's attack ran riot in the closing stages.

For the Blues and coach Jack Oatey it was a triumphant vindication of their emphasis on the essential skills of the game.

For Glenelg it was a disappointing end to a great season. They had few winners today.

Marker was outstanding at half forward. Crabb was the best of a beaten centre line, and Hunt held his own in the back pocket.



THE BIG GAME AT A GLANCE

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Sturt	6-3	10-7	16-12	24-15	159
Glen.	2-3	5-10	8-13	13-16	94

GERRY HARRISON'S BEST PLAYERS—STURT: Tilbrook, Greenslade, Hicks, Bagshaw, Adcock, Nelson, Chessell, Ottens, Wild, GLENELG: Marker, Crabb, Hart, Kernahan, Hunt, Voigt, Hamilton, Pattinson.

SCORERS—STURT: Greenslade 9.4, Tilbrook 4.3, Ottens 2.2, Schoff 2.1, Nunan 2.0, Rigney 2.0, Clarke 1.1, Chessell 1.0, Wild 1.0, Bagshaw 0.1, Shearman 0.1, Nelson 0.1, rushed 0.1. GLENELG: Phillis 5.3, Hart 2.2, Voigt 2.1, Marker 2.1, Eustice 1.0, Rosewarne 1.0, Button 0.3, Hamilton 0.2, Pattinson 0.2, rushed 0.2.

REPLACEMENTS—GLENELG: Button by Cornes at three-quarter time.

UMPIRE—R. Hall.

ATTENDANCE—55,600.

NEXT WEEK—Sturt v. Richmond.

THE MATCH IN FIGURES

Compiled by BILL HENDERSON and BILL SUTHERLAND

STURT'S amazing total of 91 hand-passes, at least 80 of which were effective, gave the Double Blues time to produce fantastic field kicking that eventually won the game for them.

Sturt followers, Chessell, Ottens, Bagshaw, and Wild clearly out-pointed their Bay opponents.

Bob Hall's umpiring was up to the standard he set in the finals. His best feature was his ability in the first and third terms to show great control when it was needed.

STURT STATISTICS

	Kicks	Marks	H/passes	Free
Wild	5	1	1	2
Chessell	17	7	8	2
Ottens	11	5	3	2
Rigney	9	—	7	—
Nunan	16	2	10	4
Greenslade	13	8	—	2
Bagshaw	12	7	15	1
Schoff	13	4	5	1
Tilbrook	16	7	6	1
Clarke	11	1	—	—
Shearman	17	5	8	—
Hicks	15	4	7	—
Brooks	6	5	4	—
Nelson	7	3	5	1
Short	10	4	2	1
Burgan	5	—	5	—
Adcock	21	5	3	—
Jarrett	22	1	2	2
Endersbee	—	—	—	—
M. Hill	—	—	—	—
Total	226	69	91	19

Jarrett's kicks include 16 kick-offs.

GLENELG STATISTICS

	Kicks	Marks	H/passes	Free
Kernahan	7	4	2	—
Kerley	8	3	14	2
Morony	3	—	1	1
Button	6	—	1	1
Pattinson	11	1	4	2
Voigt	24	3	3	1
D. Phillis	12	8	1	1
Marker	21	8	2	1
Hart	21	10	5	1
Hamilton	9	5	2	—
Crabb	14	2	7	2
Eustice	16	2	4	—
Rosewarne	12	2	3	1
Colbey	9	2	2	1
W. Phillis	4	—	2	3
Smith	13	2	3	1
Hunt	13	4	1	—
Rowe	20	5	1	—
Cornes	1	1	1	—
Goldfinch	—	—	—	—
Total	224	62	59	19

Rowe's kicks include 15 kick-offs.

WRITERS' VOTES

Paul Bagshaw (Sturt) was voted best man on the ground in today's grand final by Sunday Mail football writers.

Here is how they voted:
SAM GALLAGHER—Bagshaw (Sturt), Hicks (Sturt), Tilbrook (Sturt).
STAN WICKHAM—Tilbrook (Sturt), Greenslade (Sturt), Bagshaw (Sturt).
BILL HENDERSON—Bagshaw (Sturt), Greenslade (Sturt), Adcock (Sturt).
BILL SUTHERLAND—Bagshaw (Sturt), Tilbrook (Sturt), Greenslade (Sturt).
GERRY HARRISON—Tilbrook (Sturt), Greenslade (Sturt), Marker (Glenelg).
TOTALS—Bagshaw, 10; Tilbrook, 9; Greenslade, 7; Hicks, 2; Adcock, 1; Marker, 1.

BELOW — Tired and disappointed after an unfruitful end to a brave career, Glenelg captain-coach Neil Kerley exemplifies the dark mood in the Glenelg dressing room.

Young ruckman Graham Cornes, who came on in the last quarter, buries his face in his hands.

BEST MAN ON GROUND



Paul Bagshaw



Skill—skill—skill. This has been Sturt's strong point in finals, and it blasted them to their fourth successive premiership.

THEIR half-forward line was dynamic and they handled the ball with supreme confidence, either in the air or on the ground: kicked with precision, whether it be long or short and, in fact, turned on a premier-ship display.

BOB Hall, umpiring in his first Grand Final, was well supported in experience by boundary umpire Billy Neil who was setting an all-time record by running the boundary for his eleventh successive Grand Final.

GLENELG were out first and moved around in a tight group while Sturt loosened by moving two balls around from player to player. Twenty-four white balls were then kicked into the crowd by both teams.

KERNAHAN first hit-out — Chessell first kick — Greenslade first mark and goal—all in thirty seconds.

AFTER Sturt opened brilliantly with three goals in the first five minutes, the early sensation was Hart diving for the ball between two Sturt players and getting knocked cold. He was knocked flat and out for some time.

STURT'S use of hand-ball in the first term was dynamite and they cut great holes in the

Bay's half-back line to crash through for repeated goals. Brilliant stuff.

GLENELG attempted to play through Marker's flank but Brooks was on top of the Glenelg player to cut out any attempted drive.

THE Sturt forward line was wide open but the Glenelg forward area was effectively closed up by the Sturt defence. This was a big reason why Sturt led by four goals at the first change.

GLENELG didn't have too many winners early but Terry Crabb on his wing was clearly their best.

WAYNE Phillis let Sturt in at centre half-back with too many scragging-from-behind frees. Scores resulted each time and Sturt took a good grip on the game.

EVEN before half-time this was going to be Sturt's grand final by a mile. They were handling the ball better, doing more with it, backing up better, and forcing Glenelg into errors.

GLENELG found balance mid-way through the second term, chiefly through flankers Marker and Hamilton who broke

clear, but four successive points ruined excellent chances to get on terms with the Blues.

GLENELG pressed in for the next four minutes but were missing the easy shots to put on three points.

This was the big difference between the two sides. Sturt were getting goals expected of them; Glenelg were only getting points.

INCIDENTS galore happened at the 23-minute mark. Phillis kicked his third goal to break the record (now 135)—kids invaded the ground—boundary umpire Billy Neil limped off and was replaced — Hart was limping badly on his right leg.

SANDY Nelson marked at centre half-back, then set off on a four-bounce sprint away from several lethargic Bay players and, urged on by the crowd, he moved to within goal-kicking distance, but missed for a point. He was roundly applauded.

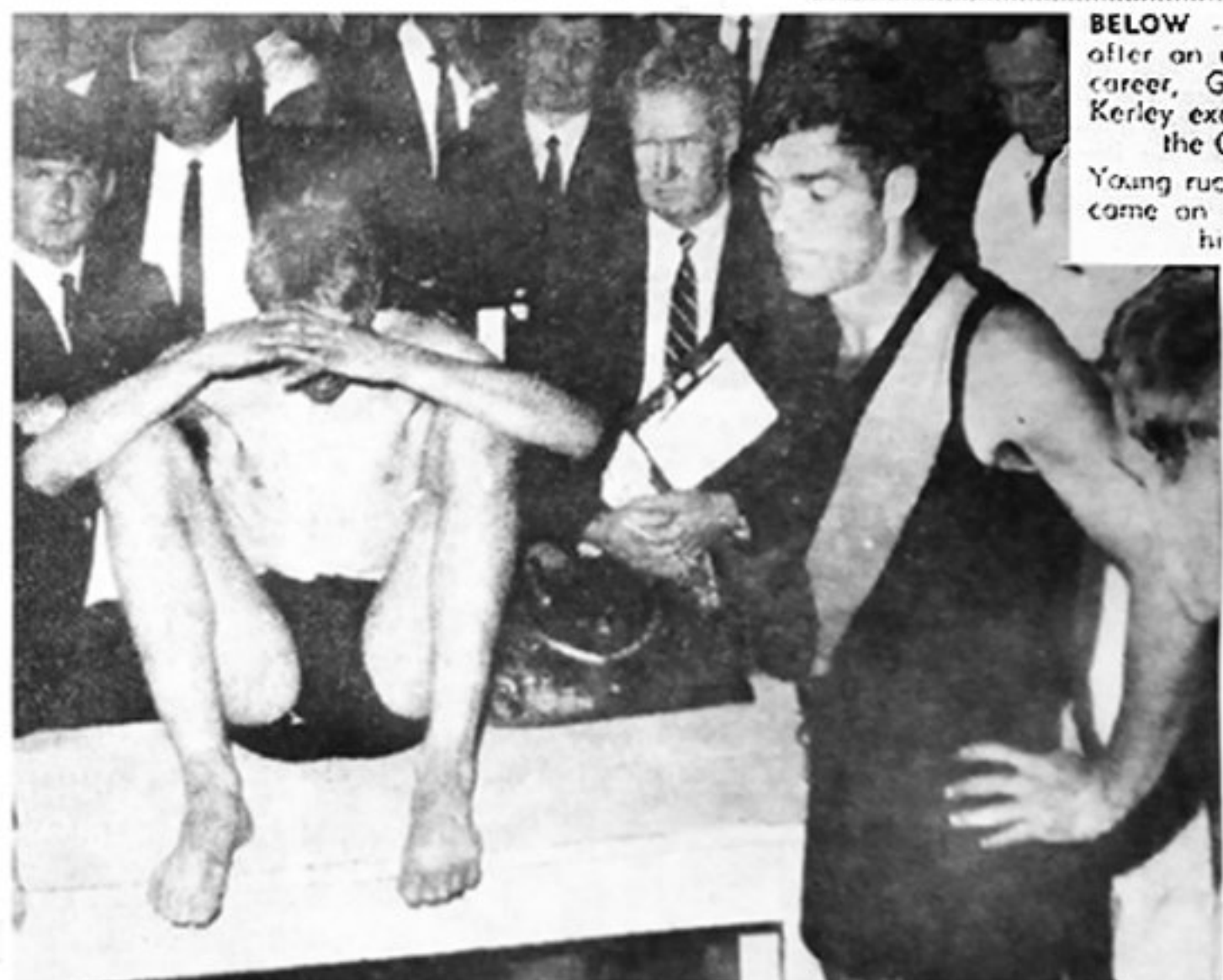
GREENSLADE was getting the ball delivered to him; hence seven goals to three-quarter time, while Phillis was forced to stand shoulder to shoulder to Jarrett and fight physically for possession. He had three goals as a result.

What coaches, captains said

●JACK OATEY (Sturt Coach)—I'm naturally delighted but the supreme team effort of every player was a highlight.

●NEIL KERLEY (Glenelg captain-coach)—We were completely outplayed by a far superior side. They outplayed us in every department. The football Sturt produced is the finest I've seen played on this oval.

●BOB SHEARMAN (Sturt captain)—A wonderful effort by the boys. We've been called this and that through the year but today they proved they have the class and courage to rate with any top-class football team.





Sturt teach Bays lesson

Producing precision football the Sturt machine churned out its fourth successive premiership with a magnificent win over Glenelg at Adelaide Oval today.

The Bays had no answer to the immaculate kicking, constructive handball and perfect understanding of the whole Sturt side for the entire game.

Weather and ground conditions were perfect as the two unchanged sides took the field.

Umpire was R. Hall. Shearman won the toss and Sturt kicked to the scoreboard end favored by a slight breeze blowing to the forward pocket.

From the outset the atmosphere was electric as Sturt burst forward from the first centre bounce through Chessell.

Tilbrook to Greenslade and the Blues had the

first goal on the board after 29 seconds of play.

Nunan cleverly snapped full points and the Blues were on the run as Burgan broke from half-back to spark a passage of play ending in a goal for Rigney.

As the Bays came out of defence Hart stopped a solid knock and lay prostrate on the ground and play was held up.

The pace was a cracker and weight was being used freely as Sturt grabbed the initiative for Schoff to find Ottens for the Blues' fifth goal.

They were in again through Tilbrook and Schoff, but Hunt took a timely mark to save for the Bays.

Glenelg were struggling in attack.

An immaculate pass from Hicks found Greenslade out on a long lead but he could manage only a behind.

A mark and 15-yard penalty into the bargain gave Hart a chance but his kick was safely marked by Nelson.

The Bays remained in attack to rush two behinds as the Sturt defence harassed them all the way.

First quarter scores were—Sturt 6-3, Glenelg 2-3.

A free to Crabb after the centre bounce, and the Bays went straight into attack, but Adcock saved for Sturt.

A free to Ottens at centre half-forward resulted in Sturt's seventh goal, as he drove a powerful dropkick straight through the centre.

SCREAMER

Bagshaw pulled down a screamer at centre wing to send Sturt forward but they failed to score from the attack.

Chessell banged a "lace-out" pass to Greenslade and the latter made no mistake to goal for Sturt and the Blues led by 38 points.

Phillis held a strong mark but could manage only a behind and the Bays struggled vainly to get back into the game.

The Bays had lifted and stormed in again for Marker to accept a handpass and goal on the run.

Glenelg had taken over the attack and looked dangerous as Hart just missed with a long shot from half-forward.

Constructive handball by Bagshaw allowed Schoff to run into an open goal and Sturt led by 34 points.

However the Bays this time had an answer and after Hamilton had made a foolish mistake Rosewarne chipped in to snap full points.

A charity free to Pat- tinson directly in front of goal gave the Bays a golden opportunity to draw closer but he missed badly and the Bays trailed by 27 points at the half-time break.

Half-time scores were Sturt 10-7, Glenelg 5-10.

Blues into attack but the Bays held them up to attack through Marker.

However Burgan intercepted to drive the Blues forward and the attack finished with a goal from Greenslade. han put Glenelg into attack through Rosewarne but Button's long shot hit the post.

PRESSURED

Adcock to Hicks to Chessell to Ottens was champagne football but only a behind resulted.

However, Tilbrook made no mistake when he broke from half-forward to goal with that familiar long screwpunt on the run.

The Blues were in full fight as their handball tore holes in the Bay defence and they opened

up a 51-point lead with a goal from Clarke.

Rosewarne kicked Glenelg in again for Hart to grab a magnificent mark and goal at the 20-minute mark.

Phillis marked to goal and break Farmer's goal-kicking record as at least 50 youths poured on to the oval to congratulate him.

A magnificent falling mark by Hart resulted in a goal but the Bays faced an uphill battle as they trailed by 47 points at the last change.

Third-quarter scores were Sturt 16-12, Glenelg 8-13.

Glenelg replaced Button with Cornes and the latter sent them into attack from the bounce but the reliable Adcock was in the way for Sturt.

Sturt attacked for Tilbrook to grab a magnificent mark then put through a long kick for full points.

Hicks to Greenslade and another Sturt goal was magnificent football as the Blues went further ahead.

Brilliant football by Marker found Phillis out on a long lead for the Bays to goal.

Phillis chipped in to mark strongly and kick his fifth goal but Sturt again replied immediately through Wild.

Marker goaled for Glenelg with a minute of play remaining but there was no doubt that Sturt was the complete master.

Final scores were—Sturt 24-15, Glenelg 13-16.

Records broken, equalled

Sturt broke a record and equalled another today.

Their score of 24-15 bettered the previous grand final best of 23-15 by North against Norwood in 1952.

That was Jack Oatey's last game in league football—as Norwood captain-coach.

Today, he was the triumphant Sturt coach.

Malcolm Greenslade's nine goals equalled another league record held by Sturt.

G. J. R. (Grassy) Green's nine goals in the 1932 grand final against North had not previously been reached.

Streamer fire

Although the result was beyond doubt in the last quarter sensations continued.

Extinguishers had to be called for after smoke bombs caused a fire inside the boundary line near the river end goals.

Streamers lying on the ground ignited and police and spectators were unable to stamp out the flames.

A Glenelg trainer appeared to hit Sturt captain Bob Shearman with an open hand just before the game finished.

Shearman was stopped by opposing captain Neil Kerley when he took off after the trainer.

Spectators in the members' stand booed the trainer.

—RAY BARBER

FRED PRAISED BY OLD MASTER

"It was a great performance by Fred Phillis," Ken Farmer said tonight.

Phillis today broke Ken Farmer's record of 134 goals in the 1936 season. Five goals today gave Phillis 137 for the season.

Farmer said: "Such a number of goals take a lot of getting."

Phillis has had a fantastic season capped by the Magarey Medal.

"It would have been even better if Glenelg had taken their second premiership after getting their first in 1934."

Phillis kicked his 137 from 20 minor round and three major round games.

Farmer in 1936 played in 17 minor round games and two major round games in a shorter season than now.

The comparative goal average of the two champions is Phillis' 5.9 goals a match compared with Farmer's seven goals a match.—RAY BARBER.

DAN RUSSELL

AT THE GRAND FINAL

ROYCE HART MAY BE 'TOP-DRAWER' IN MELBOURNE, BUT HE DIDN'T 'DRAW' THEM HERE—THE EXPECTED RECORD CROWD JUST DIDN'T COME.

HART AND SANDY NELSON MET FOR 'ELEVENSES' ROYCE WAS 'SLOW ON THE DRAW'... BUT THEN HE SHOT THROUGH, AND SANDY PAID FOR THE ROUNDS.

(THE GAME WAS NO MORE A REAL HEART-STOPPER THAN SANDY WAS.)

THE RECORD 67,543
THE PREVIOUS RECORD 58,924
TODAY: 55,600

IT WAS SO ONE-SIDED, ONE WAS REMINDED OF THAT POP GROUP, 'THE EASY BEATS'.

AND, LIKE THE EASY BEATS, THE BAYS WILL BE GIVING NO REPEAT PERFORMANCE IN ADELAIDE—THIS YEAR, AT LEAST.

FULLY JUSTIFYING HIS INCLUSION.

ROYCE HART

WAS GLENELG'S STAR PLAYER.

KEN FARMER'S 1936 RECORD OF 134 GOALS WAS AT LAST BROKEN BY

D.R. FRED PHILLIS

WHO TODAY TOOK HIS SEASON'S TALLY TO 137.

JOHN TILBROOK

WAS IN BRILLIANT FORM FOR THE BLUES.

THANKS, BOTH SIDES, FOR A HARD-FOUGHT GAME—AND BRICKBATS TO THE SMOKE-BOMBS AND FIRE-CRACKERS MOB!

THE BARRACKERS

HOW CAN YOU WIN? YOU'VE GOTTA HAVE SKILL... AND ART!

Four favor Sturt —but one an "if"

Sam Gallagher, Gerry Harrison, and Bill Henderson choose Sturt to beat Glenelg in the grand final next Saturday.

Stan Wickham thinks Sturt will win if Glenelg do not have Royce Hart.

Bill Sutherland favors the Bays with or without Hart

● Sam Gallagher

Glenelg's confidence will have been almost fully restored by today's convincing win.

The Bays obviously appreciate a firm ground and the return of Kevin Rowe to full back has stabilised their defence.

Sturt will be under heavier pressure than they were in the second semi-final but I think their attack will get enough chances from the rucks and Shearman at centre to win.

● Stan Wickham

With no Richmond centre half - forward Royce Hart in the Glenelg side, it's Sturt's premiership.

Tilbrook, Schoff, and Bagshaw present a problem to Glenelg although the Bay half-back line found touch today and Rowe, at full back, raised Glenelg's spirits.

The rucks and rovers even themselves out, but Eustice must direct his kicks to a teammate as Shearman does for the Bays to get full value of his average 20 kicks per game.

● Bill Henderson

Glenelg's win today was due to their ability to capitalise on the many mistakes made by West.

Sturt will not be as easy as West in this regard and I feel they have the strength to win.

Greenslade will make it harder for Kevin Rowe because of the manner the Sturt full forward receives the ball.

● Bill Sutherland

Glenelg will have reaped great benefit from today's match both in confidence and experience.

Although Royce Hart may not play, with Doug Long back in ruck the side looks stronger.

If Kerley freshens the Tigers up in the next few days I expect the Bays to run out winners despite Sturt's record in recent years.

● Gerry Harrison

In what should prove to be a cliffhanger finish I expect Sturt to win their fourth premiership in a row.

Glenelg will undoubtedly improve on their second semi-final form and will match the Blues in most departments.

However, the kicking depth of all Sturt players should give them sufficient opportunities to kick a winning score



SAM GALLAGHER'S pen pictures of GLENELG

Here are Sam Gallagher's comments on players and their likely positions in the league grand final at Adelaide Oval next Saturday.



Morony



Smith



Rosewarne



Marker



Voigt



Pattinson



Button

● BACKS

CHRIS HUNT (26, 5.9, 11.3). Returned to the Bays this season after three years' coaching at Port Augusta, and has made the back pocket a strongpoint. An experienced defender who gives nothing away.

KEVIN ROWE (26, 6.3, 14.0). 1968 Seconds Magarey Medallist as a centre half-forward. Carried on in the same style when switched to full back in league at the start of the season. A prodigious kick who can reach centre from the goal square.

TOM MORONY (23, 6.2, 13.7). Has shown considerable improvement since his inclusion in the side five games before the end of the minor round. A valuable addition to the Bay ruck.

● HALF-BACKS

BRIAN COLBEY (22, 6.0, 12.1). Won all-Australian selection in this year's carnival and has played a leading role in the Bays' rise to the top. His rebound from the half-back line was badly missed when injury kept him on the sidelines after the championships.

WAYNE PHILLIS (19, 6.2, 13.10). In his second year of league football has proved to be one of the most effective half-backs in the game. Fulfills the prime function of a defender in keeping his opponent's kicks to a minimum.

KEN SMITH (22, 5.11, 12.5). His consistency on the half-back flank has been an important factor in the success of the Bay defence — the tightest in the league during the minor round.

● CENTRES

TERRY CRABB (19, 6.1, 12.7). Son of the Bays' former champion ruckman Ala. Crabb and a potential star in his own right. Has a great burst of speed and with experience will develop into a first class player.

KEN EUSTICE (30, 5.10, 11.6). A prolific source of drive from centre, who this season — his second with Glenelg — has reproduced his 1962 Magarey Medal form. Lack of weight tells against him at times but he retains his aggressive approach.

LAURIE ROSEWARNE (21, 5.10, 12.0). On the basis of value for kicks, possibly the most effective of the Bay centre line. Has rarely been beaten this season.

● HALF-FORWARDS

KERRY HAMILTON (20, 5.10, 11.10). After a false start at full forward in 1967, and a broken leg last season has become one of the top half-forwards in the league. Injury late in the season took the edge off his form.

DARRELL MOSS (24, 6.3, 13.7). Despite his uncertain hold on the position, has served the Tigers well at centre half-forward. Not a strong mark, but an extremely mobile big man who can also take a turn in ruck.

PETER MARKER (19, 6.0, 13.7). A brilliant half-forward flanker with the speed and strength needed to break clear and put the ball within scoring range. His success on this line has been a significant factor in the high scores kicked by Glenelg.

● FORWARDS

GRAHAM CORNES (21, 6.2, 12.4). Inability to train with the side has probably retarded the development of this explosive young ruckman, but he has still been a valuable player.

DENNIS (FRED) PHILLIS (21, 6.1, 14.2). The golden boy of the 1969 league season. A tremendously popular Magarey Medallist with a great chance of setting a new record goal tally for the season. A fine team sense makes him an ideal full forward.

REX VOIGT (21, 5.9, 12.0). Equally at home on the wing or as a rover — the position he has held most of the season. Had a four-game spell as a reserve during Glenelg's post carnival slump but regained top form quickly.

● FOLLOWERS

HARRY KERNAHAN (31, 6.3, 13.7). Harry's form after three years' coaching at Whyalla has been considerably better than Glenelg had any right to expect. His skilful ruck work and strong marking in defence have been invaluable.

NEIL KERLEY (35, 6.0, 14.1). The ultimate inspiration and driving force behind Glenelg's bid for their first premiership in 35 years. With Jack Oatey and Fos Williams, Kerley has been a dominant figure in post-war football.

KEITH PATTINSON (24, 5.8, 11.6). His brilliant form early in the season won him carnival selection. Has not consistently reached the same heights since, and the Bays will be looking for a big one from him.

● RESERVES

RAY BUTTON (24, 5.11, 12.7). Mercurial left-footer who has been hampered by knee injury. A matchwinner on his day, he has played successfully this season as a follower.

JOHN GOLDFINCH (20, 6.3, 14.7). Highly promising junior who has been on the verge of league selection throughout the season as a ruckman or defender. Seems certain to become a regular in the near future.

BOB ANESBURY (25, 5.9, 11.3). Reserve rover and half-forward flanker. Lost his place in the side for the preliminary final but has been a matchwinner on his day.