

Sunday Mail
Football
SECTION

Blues find formula again

STURT-BUT BAYS NOT DISGRACED

Although Sturt won comfortably enough at Adelaide Oval today, Glenelg recovered well from the Blues' opening onslaught and made a much more even game of it than was generally expected.

BY  SAM GALLAGHER

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Sturt	5-4	9-11	11-15	14-22	106
Glen.	4-2	7-2	8-5	12-6	78

SCORERS—STURT: Greenslade 3.4, Rigney 3.2, Friedrichs 2.3, Ottens 2.3, Nunan 2.0, Endersbee 1.2, Chessell 1.0, Wild 0.3. **SHEARMAN** 0.2, Tilbrook 0.1, rushed 0.2. **GLENELG:** D. Phillis 3.1, Sandland 3.0, W. Phillis 2.0, Marker 1.0, Moss 1.0, Anesbury 1.0, Voigt 1.0, Pattinson 0.2, Crabb 0.1, Newberry 0.1, rushed 0.1.

BEST PLAYERS. — **STURT:** Bagshaw, Burgan, Shearman, Ottens, Friedrichs, Wild, Brooks, Nunan. **GLENELG:** Colbey, Rosewarne, W. Phillis, Marker, Whittaker, Voigt, Hunt.

REPLACEMENTS—STURT: Bagshaw (back injury) by Yeo, last quarter. **GLENELG:** Eustice (bruised calf) by Newberry at quarter time. Goldfinch (sprained wrist) by Hockridge, last quarter.

UMPIRE—M. Ducker.

The strength of the Sturt rucks, with Bagshaw outstanding in the first half, and consistent drive from Shearman at centre were the most important factors in the Blues' win.

Once again the league leaders were hampered by inaccuracy in kicking for goal.

In all three games this season, Sturt's forwards have kicked more behinds than goals.

Today, 36 scoring shots to 18 indicated a superiority that was not reflected on the scoreboard.

Sturt's early burst brought back memories of last year's grand final, but the resemblance was not maintained.

Glenelg's pre-match switch of Goldfinch for Hockridge in ruck was probably influenced by the weather conditions, and the hope that Goldfinch's strength would be more effective.

On the day however, Wild controlled the hit-outs, and the field play of Bagshaw, Ottens, and

Chessell made Sturt clear winners in this area.

Wayne Phillis was the best of the bays' big men.

He and Rosewarne on the wing were instrumen-

tal in steadying the side in the first term.

Voigt's speed away from the packs was also a factor in getting Glenelg back into the game.

Glenelg effectively countered the threat of Sturt's half-forward flankers, Tilbrook and Endersbee.

After a serviceable first half, Colbey on Tilbrook was impassable in the third quarter in a return to the form that won him carnival selection last year.

Endersbee looked the bigger danger, but he too was closely guarded by Smith.

However, at centre half-forward, Sturt appear to have found another good one in Peter Friedrichs.

He showed an ability to fit into the Blues' play-on game.

Glenelg maintained their first-quarter recovery early in the second, and drew to within two points as Rosewarne continued to dominate a wing and Marker reduced Shearman's influence.

But Bagshaw's skill and Ottens power took Sturt away to a 32-point lead before the Tigers scored again.

Rain hit game

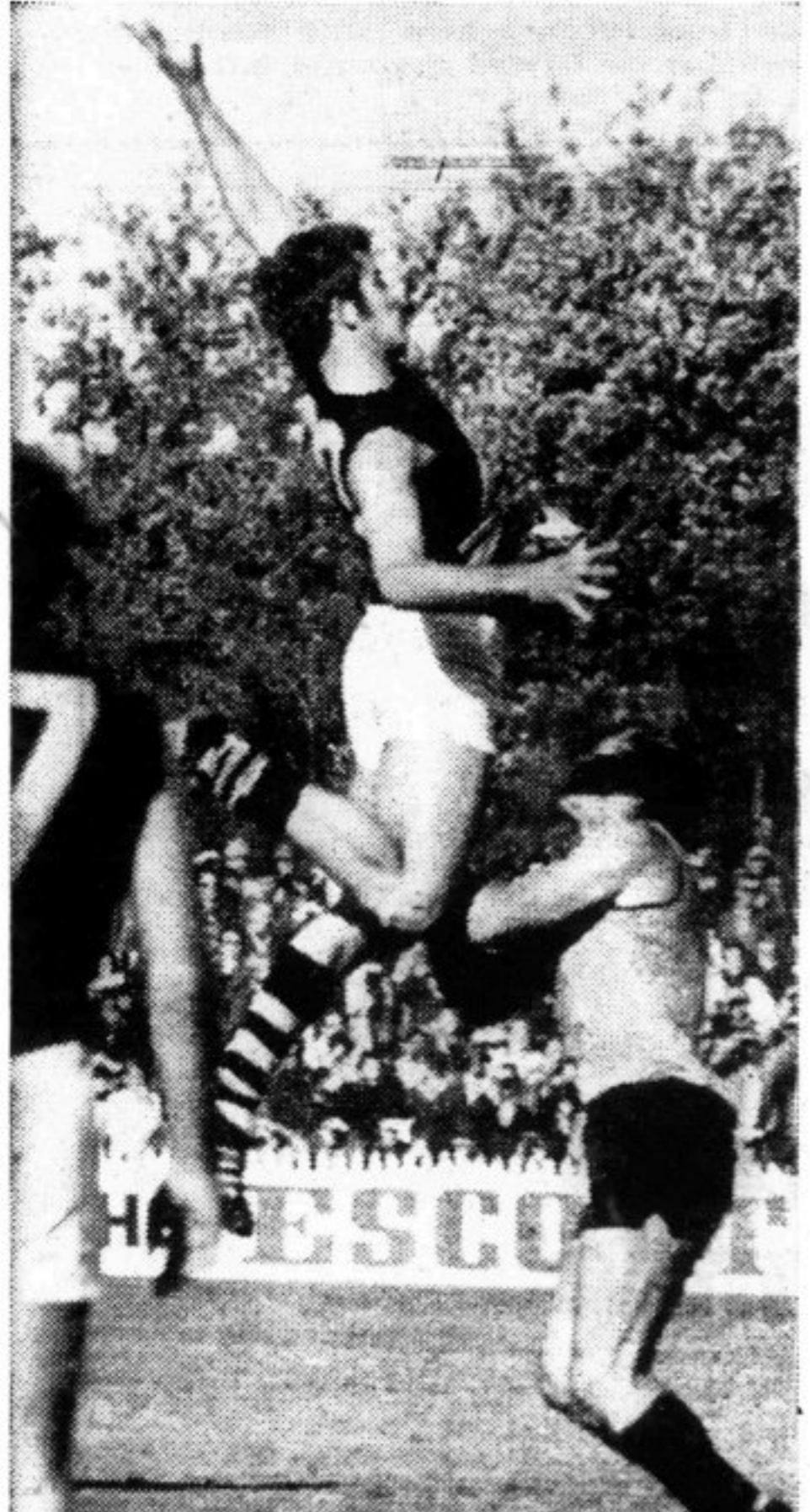
Rain during the third quarter took the pace out of the game.

Sturt's superior handball, one of its main advantages in the first half, was less effective as a result, but the conditions also prevented Glenelg from moving the ball quickly to Fred Phillis at the goalkick.

In their first-quarter recovery, Glenelg had been able to exploit a looseness on Sturt's last line of defence.

The Bays had Marker at half-forward for the start of the third term, but swung him back to centre when Shearman's strength began to tell in the heavier going.

Apart from the rain, Caldwell's stronger second half on Friedrichs, and the well sustained defence of Whittaker on Greenslade kept Sturt's scoring rate down.



GLENELG'S Wayne Phillis put his hand up for the ball... but it wasn't there. An incident in the match against Sturt at Adelaide Oval today. An unidentified Sturt player awaits the outcome.

GERRY HARRISON'S SNAPSHOTS

Magical Sturt coach Jack Oatey has unearthed yet another — only half the first quarter played and newcomer Friedrichs had two goals on the board and looked the "goods" in the process.

TWENTY-FOUR minutes into the quarter the Bays trailed by 24 points, but the Phillis brothers reduced the leeway to six points with three quick ones — two to Fred and one to Wayne.

WILD'S tap down to Shearman — after Glenelg's Kernahan had been shoved out at the first bounce — saw Sturt immediately into attack and Nunan whisk in for Sturt's first goal after 11 seconds of play.

STURT'S back pocket player Adcock was very loose in the early stages, but Pattinson failed to capitalise on the latitude and chances given.

THE Bays were dealt a severe blow when captain Ken Eustice was forced to retire at the end of the first term.

TERRY Crabb's solo effort from half-back wing down over centre back through a wall of Sturt players inspired the Bays into a goal from Sandland.

BURGAN was in fantastic touch at centre half-back, stopping everything Glenelg could fire and rebounding the Blues deep into attack.

BY  SAM GALLAGHER

Although Sturt today gave only very brief glimpses of the form which carried them to the 1969 premiership, they were not in serious danger.

There is at this stage no reason to suppose that they will not be a goals better side at the business end of the season.

This time last year, the Blues were trounced by Glenelg.

The success of Peter Friedrichs at centre half forward was a significant feature of today's game.

It could have the indirect effect of strengthening Sturt's defence and lifting the roving, which so far has not been impressive.

Nelson's return to centre half-back would release Burgan to the defence which looked loose at full back today.

Sturt could then revert to the successful formula of late 1969 with Bagshaw and Chessell changing at half-forward.

Endersbee, in good form, would give the roving a boost.

Distorted

Although Sturt's inaccuracy gives a slightly distorted impression, Glenelg's defence on today's showing seems to be settling down.

Of the two new key position players, Whittaker was impressive at full back on Greenslade while Caldwell recovered well in the second half.

Wayne Phillis indicated Glenelg's confidence that he could handle the transfer to ruck but the Bays still have problems in this division and at centre.

There is no doubt about Marker's ability at the pivot, but his absence from half-forward weakens that line.

The Bays face an important game at Richmond next week.

Sturt and Port, each with three games at home out of the five to be played before they meet at Unley on June 6, could be contesting league leadership in that game.

Meet Peckers

Meanwhile the Blues have the harder program, meeting the improving Woodville at Unley in two weeks' time and North at Prospect on May 30.

The North-Norwood clash at Prospect next week will indicate which of these two sides is the more likely challenger to last season's finalists.

The Redlegs' defence, a weakness last year, has been vastly improved by the inclusion of Kingston and Carman but the loss of Nygaard and Molloy from the attack has reduced its striking power.

AT A GLANCE

PREMIERSHIP TABLE

	W.	L.	Points For	Points Agst.	Prem. Pts.	%
Sturt	3	—	326	196	6	62.45
North	2	1	374	276	4	57.53
Port	2	1	331	271	4	54.98
Woodville	2	1	348	348	4	50.00
Norwood	2	1	248	268	4	48.06
West	2	1	256	294	4	46.54
Glenelg	1	2	365	386	2	48.60
Centrals	1	2	247	274	2	47.40
South	—	3	275	330	—	45.45
Torrans	—	3	276	403	—	40.65

ATTENDANCES

Adelaide 21,954

Season total 150,808

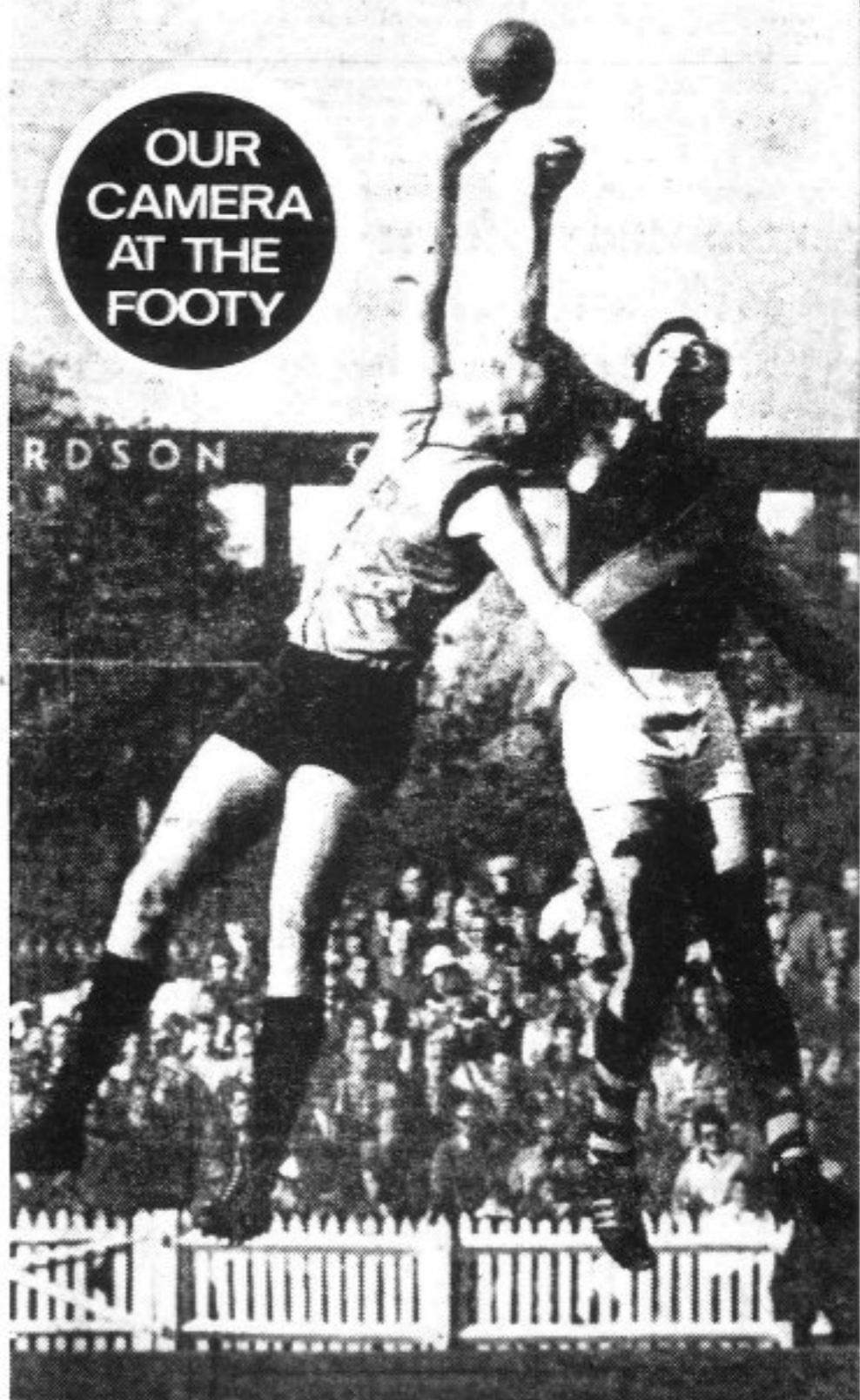
1969 total for three rounds . . . 145,849

NEXT WEEK

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

TOP GOALKICKERS

	Today	Matches	Total
D. K. Phillis (Glenelg)	3-1	3	19-4
Tierney (Torrens)	—	3	14-11
Howlett (South)	—	3	12-6
Greenslade (Sturt)	3-4	3	11-19
Ruth (Woodville)	—	3	11-10
MacVicar (Woodville)	—	3	11-8
Jonas (West)	—	3	11-7



STURT'S Greg Wild gets first hand to the ball during a ruck clash with Glenelg opponent Harry Kernahan at Adelaide Oval today.