

# THE 1976 PRELIMINARY FINAL

## STURT IN THRILLER

### Bays waste chances



ABOVE: The sound Neil Kerley didn't want to hear has just blasted above the roar of the fans at Football Park. The siren has sounded . . . Glenelg have been beaten . . . and Kerley shows the disappointment and despair as he wheels away from the bench to go underground at Football Park.

## Kerley goes into hiding

### Doubts on next year

By Alan Shiell

Neil Kerley may have coached Glenelg for the last time.

"Maybe they need a new coach," a grim-faced, bitterly disappointed Kerley said after yesterday's preliminary final.

He was sitting behind a closed door in the coach's room of Glenelg's dressing rooms.

He had been there for more than half an hour, mostly on his own, reflecting ruefully on how the Tigers had forfeited the chance to play in their sixth grand final in eight years.

Kerley, 42, and King of the Tigers for the past 10 seasons, stared blankly at his players' statistics' sheet and said: "I don't know what I'll be doing next year. I've got plenty of time to think about it."

"I need a break. I'm looking forward to having a rest for at least a couple of months."

"There are so many people and so many workers involved with the club. We've let them down again."

Kerley is being tipped to coach Torrens next season, mainly, it seems, because of his friendship with Eagles' chairman Wayne Jackson.

I'm tipping he will stand out of football next season and, maybe, have a lengthy holiday in England, playing golf and watching part of the Australia-England Test cricket series.

Sturt produced another titanic last-quarter effort to snatch a seven-point victory from Glenelg in a heart-stopping finish to a memorable league preliminary final at Football Park yesterday.

A crowd of 29,202 saw the bold, belligerent Blues belt their way to the lead, then hang on as grimly as they did against Norwood in last week's first semi-final.

Sturt will now play Port in the grand final next Saturday.

It will be their eighth grand final appearance in Jack Oatey's 15 seasons as coach at Unley.

Down 19 points at three-quarter time, Sturt stormed home, outscoring Glenelg 6-4 to 2-2 in a hectic last term.

As with any great struggle, it was unfortunate there had to be a loser.

Glenelg lost the game as much as Sturt won it.

The Tigers can reflect on several wasted opportunities, especially in the last quarter when both sides staggered and stumbled wearily towards the magnificent climax.

Fred Phillis will be blamed, in some quarters, for Glenelg's defeat.

But it would be cruel to heap all the condemnation on the Tiger full forward, who put in more effort than many of his teammates.

He did, however, make two errors in the last quarter. One was inexcusable for a player of his vast experience.

Eight minutes into the last term, Phillis grabbed a strong overhead mark near the goal-square and kicked accurately for his fourth and Glenelg's fifteenth goal.

Two minutes later, Phillis marked powerfully again . . . and missed the set shot from the kick-off line of the goal-square!

### WIPED OUT

A goal would have put Glenelg 23 points clear. As it was, their margin was only 18 points, which Sturt wiped out within seven minutes with a point from half-back Tony Lloyd and goals from Robert Klomp, Rick Davies, and John Murphy.

Tony Burgan kicked the Blues' fourth goal in seven minutes to increase the margin to seven points at the 21-minute mark.

Peter McInerney gaoled for Glenelg two minutes later after Fred Phillis cowered Phil Nelson's attempted clearing kick.

The difference was only one point again.

Fred Phillis gained possession close to goal, swung on to his right (wrong) foot, and kicked out of bounds.

Then Wayne Phillis hauled in a big mark within comfortable range, but his kick was just off-line for a point to tie the scores at the start of the time-on period.

Amid tremendous tension, Sturt charged into attack. Greg Wild marked overhead in front of Greg Croser, and notched his fifth and Sturt's eighteenth and last goal.

Mike Nunan added a



BY

ALAN SHIELL

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Glenelg	6-4	9-6	14-16	16-18	114
Sturt	2-4	10-8	12-9	18-13	121

BEST PLAYERS—STURT: Lloyd, Burgan, Davies, Bagshaw, Miels, Barton, Wild, Howard, Graham. GLENELG: W. Phillis, Carey, Voigt, Cornes, Hodgeman, Weston, Caldwell.

SCORERS—STURT: Wild 5.2, Barton 2.2, Davies 2.1, Nunan 2.1, Bagshaw 2.0, Klomp 2.0, Graham 1.1, Burgan 1.0, Murphy 1.0, Sims 0.1, Lloyd 0.1, rushed 0.4. GLENELG: D. Phillis 4.3, W. Phillis 3.1, Hodgeman 2.3, Caldwell 2.1, MacFarlane 2.0, McInerney 1.2, Cornes 1.1, Copping 1.0, Marker 0.1, Rebbeck 0.1, Anderson 0.1, rushed 0.4.

REPLACEMENTS—GLENELG: Rebbeck by Holst, three-quarter time; Anderson by Hywood, last quarter.

UMPIRE: Des Foster.

CROWD: 29,202—compared with 36,128 at Norwood-Port preliminary final last year.

point to seal the result just before the siren.

Glenelg could point to other misses, apart from those of Fred Phillis.

Peter Marker was credited with only a point early in the second term when he and the closest Sturt defender (Lloyd), believed the ball had gone at least a metre inside the left goal post.

Kym Hodgeman's left-foot snap late in the third quarter was miraculously touched by Sturt full back Colin Casey.

Earlier, Colin Anderson missed a proverbial "sitter" from close range, although on an angle.

The Hodgeman and Anderson misses were two of seven successive behinds

Glenelg scored in the second half of the third quarter.

Sturt had a reliable half-back flanker in Lloyd, gained more from their centre line trio — Tony Burgan, Brendon Howard and Brenton Miels—had Wild contributing at full forward in a welcome return to form, and their rucks and rovers at least broke even with their Glenelg counterparts.

Wayne Phillis, at centre half-forward, and Peter Varey, in ruck, did most for Glenelg, supported ably by back pocket Rex Voigt, rover Hodgeman, centre half-back Paul Weston, and followers Graham Cornes and Nev Caldwell.

## OUR STAR TRIO



1 . . . Tony Lloyd: Masterly half-back display. Frustrated Glenelg repeatedly with determined clearing dashes and strong kicking.



2 . . . Wayne Phillis: Won centre half-forward for Glenelg with typically rugged, unselfish team game, capped by three fine misses.



3 . . . Tony Burgan: Celebrated his 200th game by returning to near-peak form on his wing. Kicked with deep penetration and gave out 14 handpasses.

## WHAT CAPTAINS, COACHES SAID



OATEY

BAGSHAW

JACK OATEY (Sturt coach): Either side could have won. It was that type of game. We found the right effort at the right stage of the game.

PAUL BAGSHAW (Sturt captain): It was a real fighting effort under pressure, because we were the underdogs and it was a challenge to us. We're a real chance next week.



KERLEY

MARKER

NEIL KERLEY (Glenelg coach): Neither side played well, but Sturt kicked the important goals. Sturt closed the game up very well, and their bodywork in the crushes was better than ours.

PETER MARKER (Glenelg captain): I thought we played poorly, but we still could have, and should have, won.



# 1976 PRELIMINARY FINAL STATISTICS

PLAYERS	1st Q.	2nd Q.	3rd Q.	Final Q.	Match Total	HIT OUTS	HAND BALL	FREE FOR	MARKS	GOALS	POINTS
G. WILD	2	5	2	2	11	9	1	2	3	5	2
G. LAUDER	4	2	2	4	12	6	1	1	2	2	2
R. BARTON	3	3	2	2	10	13	1	2	2	2	2
M. GRAHAM	3	3	2	2	10	13	1	2	2	2	2
R. KLIMP	2	4	1	2	9	6	1	1	1	1	1
J. MURPHY	2	4	1	2	9	6	1	1	1	1	1
A. BURGESS	3	3	1	2	9	6	1	1	1	1	1
B. HOWARD	3	3	1	2	9	6	1	1	1	1	1
B. MIELS	3	3	1	2	9	6	1	1	1	1	1
A. LLOYD	3	3	1	2	9	6	1	1	1	1	1
T. SIMS	3	3	1	2	9	6	1	1	1	1	1
C. CASEY	2	2	1	2	7	6	1	1	1	1	1
N. WARK	2	2	1	2	7	6	1	1	1	1	1
R. HILL	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF
P. NELSON	3	3	1	2	9	6	1	1	1	1	1
R. DAVIES	2	6	2	3	13	12	1	2	2	2	2
P. BAGSHAW	2	2	1	2	7	7	1	1	1	1	1
M. NUNAN	2	2	1	2	7	7	1	1	1	1	1
P. SANDERS	4	1	3	2	10	8	1	1	1	1	1
P. HENRICH	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF
TOTALS	52	48	38	46	184	24	88	24	55	18	13

UMPIRE: DES FOSTER ATTENDANCE: 29,202 OVAL FOOTBALL PARK CONDITIONS: GOOD

PLAYERS	1st Q.	2nd Q.	3rd Q.	Final Q.	Match Total	HIT OUTS	HAND BALL	FREE FOR	MARKS	GOALS	POINTS
R. PAECH	2	2	2	2	8	11	7	1	3	3	3
G. CROSER	2	2	2	2	8	11	7	1	3	3	3
R. VOIGT	2	2	2	2	8	11	7	1	3	3	3
J. LIHOU	2	2	2	2	8	11	7	1	3	3	3
P. WESTON	2	2	2	2	8	11	7	1	3	3	3
P. RABY	2	2	2	2	8	11	7	1	3	3	3
J. MACFARLANE	2	2	2	2	8	11	7	1	3	3	3
P. MARKER	2	2	2	2	8	11	7	1	3	3	3
S. COPPING	2	2	2	2	8	11	7	1	3	3	3
C. ANDERSON	2	2	2	2	8	11	7	1	3	3	3
P. CAREY	2	2	2	2	8	11	7	1	3	3	3
A. REBBERG	2	2	2	2	8	11	7	1	3	3	3
P. MCINERNEY	2	2	2	2	8	11	7	1	3	3	3
D. PHILLIS	2	2	2	2	8	11	7	1	3	3	3
N. CALDWELL	2	2	2	2	8	11	7	1	3	3	3
W. PHILLIS	2	2	2	2	8	11	7	1	3	3	3
G. CORNES	2	2	2	2	8	11	7	1	3	3	3
K. HODGEMAN	2	2	2	2	8	11	7	1	3	3	3
S. HYWOOD	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF
C. HERCOCK	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF
D. HOLST	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF	OFF
TOTALS	53	52	57	45	207	35	115	26	88	16	18

UMPIRE: DES FOSTER ATTENDANCE: 29,202 OVAL FOOTBALL PARK CONDITIONS: GOOD

## FOOL FUMBLE COSTS FRED

Fred Phillis' finals nightmare returned to Footy Park yesterday in a painful way.

The Bay full-forward, after taking a great mark in the last quarter 10 metres out straight in front lined up for his ninety-ninth goal of the season.

Then, horror of horrors, he missed. ...

Fred said after the game the ball had screwed off his boot. It was, without trying to be too unkind, a costly miss.

Glenelg were up—and that was after Fred had marked one-handed and notched their first goal of the last quarter—and they would have been 23 points in front if it had gone straight.

You only have to think back to last year's grand final against Norwood when yesterday's recurring bad dream started—Fred was held goal-less, kicking six points.

But getting off Fred's blue day and on to Robert Klomp's golden boots.

Klomp, a not too accurate shot for goal at the best of times only found himself in a position for a crack at the majors twice.

The blond, bearded Blue made no mistake on either occasion. He explained his previous poor kicking for goal by saying that a lot of the time he was caught off balance and didn't think too much about the shot.

"Yesterday I took a little more time and—thankfully—they went through," he added with a smile.

Judge Brebner, SA Football League president, handed out the big tip for next week's grand final—be there early.

"I think we may have to close the gates early," he said.

"Yesterday's clash was a great game although the crowd was a little down."

"But next week it should be a beauty."

## BIG GAME SIDELIGHTS

By Mike Pilkington

THE league must also get a big rap for their half-time entertainment—the brainchild of Don Roach.

SANFL general manager.

Yesterday's was those footballers of the future—the mini league.

The 10 teams, dressed in their club colors, each did a lap of the oval carrying plastic footballs.

Then they sent the crowd ducking for cover when they booted about 700 of the footballs into them.

Another clap for the league with their South Aussie heart.

Twenty-eight members of Carlton were at Footy Park on an end of the season football trip when nine asked a SANFL official if they could tour the members' stand.

The Carlton supporters, who strangely were not at home to see their heroes play in the preliminary final against North Melbourne, were sitting in the outer but the league were happy to oblige and allowed the Vics to have a gander at Adelaide's football show piece.

HOW to kick out on the full without really trying ... that's what happened in three successive incidents in the last quarter.

Rick Davies marked about 30 metres out and promptly sent the ball sailing over the boundary line. Glenelg's Graham Cornes took the

free and did exactly the same thing.

Davies got the free and—wait for it—that's right, kicked it out of bounds on the full.

Sturt's general manager, Ross Tuohy, said the Blues had no special celebrations after their great win.

"But we had a few boys back at the club last night," he said.

Most of them were toasting the Sturt Under-17's Grand Final win.

But Ross said he expected a big crowd next week.

Bay boys commiserated after the game with a few beers in the carpark.

They looked like they enjoyed the drink, but it still didn't bring a smile to many faces.

THEY breed them tough and loyal down Unley way. Malcolm Greenslade's wife, Ann, due to have a baby on Wednesday, was at the game.

THE police, who have worked impressively throughout the finals, were showing their strength today when they brought in the "mounties."

Apart from 35 footmen, there were two mounted police riding through the traffic on the lookout for any jams.



FRED PHILLIS



RICK DAVIES



JACK OATEY

THERE'S no comedy in finals footy ... so let's say it was a drama of errors!

In those last minutes at Footy Park yesterday the pressure was just too much. The mistakes Glenelg made cost them the game.

And after some of the "blues" by Sturt I reckon they were lucky. I don't think anybody at the game could forget it. At one end Freddy Phillis missed a sitter which would have just about sewn it up.

At the other end, Carey reckoned he was hard done by from Foster when he gave a free to Davies for a goal.

A few minutes later Carey marked fairly and squarely in the middle of the ground, and as Foster ran past, he jokingly went to throw the ball to Davies.

Foster let it go, but if he penalised Carey, it could have been the fatal moment for the Tigers.

Then with only points in the balance, Davies had a shot for goal and sent it out on the full.

Cornes took the kick and he sent it back on the full for Davies to have another shot ... out on the full.

I don't think either Kerley or Oatey could see the funny side to it. At one stage, when the heat was on, there were eight trainers on the ground carrying messages which weren't "keep up the good work."

I know what it's like to be playing in a final where there are only minutes to go. But it is a time when experience should show.

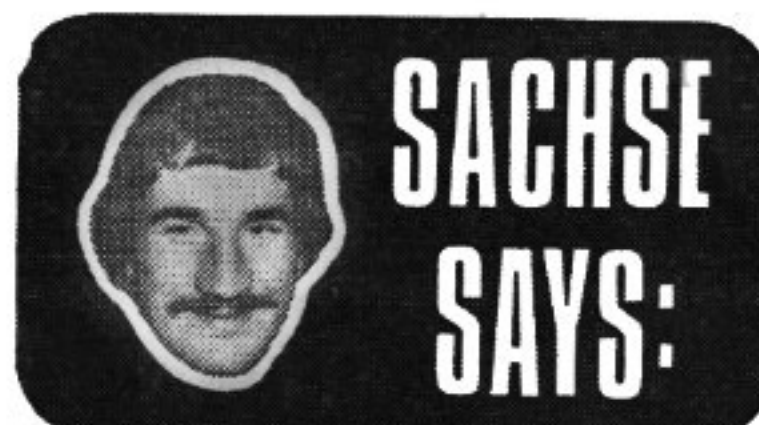
Davies can thank his lucky stars, and Freddy Phillis will have to wait for next season to put another through those northern goals.

ANYWAY, congrats to Sturt. They turned in a fighting game and in the end came out on top.

In any pressure finish, mistakes aside, the winning team deserved praise.

They are a great side when they get moving—almost as quick as

## Finals footy is no comedy



SACHSE SAYS:

As told to TREVOR GILL

Michael Graham's dash down the ground again yesterday—and they'll put in a ripper against the Maggies next week. It was the end of Glenelg for '76 and it does look like the end of Kerls down at the Bay.

We all know about him locking himself away in the rooms downstairs after the game, and he did a lot of hard thinking.

The Bays have promised so much for Kerley, and except for '73, have let him down. What about last year's grand final?

What Kerls needs is a good rest, but there's no way you'll keep him down when we get close to the season again next year.

We've seen reports about him getting out of the game and even going to Collingwood.

But Torrens is the 'go'. He played squash again with Torrens chairman, Wayne Jackson, one night last week and I think there might have been some pretty heavy talking to turn him into an Eagle.

STAR'S KERLS was pretty confident yesterday, though. In fact he was

in a jovial mood when he arrived at the game.

The car in front of his at the VIP entrance was Johnny Cahill's. Kerley gave the attendant a toot, and yelled at him not to let Jack in.

Then when Kerls did drive into the coach's car park, he was nose to nose with Jack Oatey's car.

And I'll bet London to a brick he gave Jack's bumper bar a friendly nudge. STARS

I KNOW how Wayne Phillis felt out there yesterday after the bust-up with Port supporters last week.

You would have thought the ball was a raspberry, because that's what he got from the crowd every time he went near the ball.

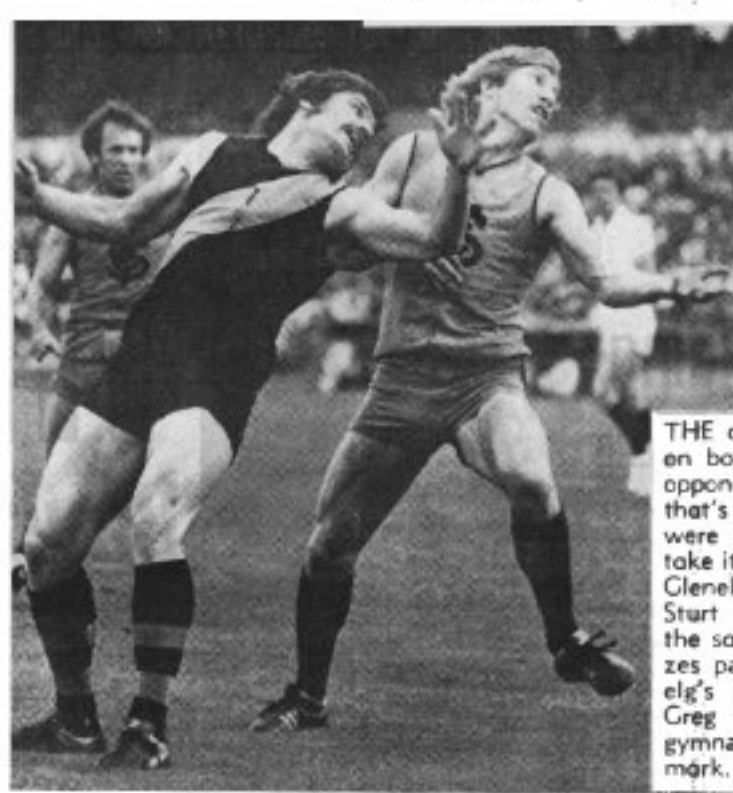
But it didn't worry him. He finished up one of the Bays' best.

And just to have a little bite ... I'm looking forward to seeing Haydn Bunton chewing his seaweed today.

Port all the way next week, but good luck to 'em both.



Sturt ruckman Rick Davies may not have been an outstanding influence on the game while on the ball but he was in there giving his best for the Double Blues. He is pictured getting a kick past Glenelg's Daryl Raby.



THE orders went out to players on both sides ... follow your opponent like a shadow. And that's what these four players were doing—even if they did take it to amazing lengths. LEFT: Glenelg defender Rex Voigt and Sturt rover Robert Barton strike the same pose as the ball whizzes past while (ABOVE), Glenelg's Greg Croser and Sturt's Greg Wild perform the same gymnastics as they attempt to mark.



# BUNTON'S VIEW

## Bunt backs the Bays in seafood

Port are not invincible. They can be beaten. That's why Neil Kerley and Jack Oatey want another crack at Jack Cahill's Magpies tomorrow week.

I'm confident Glenelg will win tomorrow's preliminary final and earn the right to play off with Port for the 1976 premiership.

By Haydn Bunton as told to  
Alan Shiell

I've tipped four out of four so far in these finals. If I don't reel in another winner tomorrow, I'll munch seaweed from the Glenelg foreshore on Channel 9's Football Show on Sunday.

The first four finals have all been of a high standard and have featured some rugged, tight football.

The preliminary final will be no exception. Glenelg and Sturt are experienced finals performers.

And Kerley and Oatey are two old campaigners, who know only too well that Port are not the premiership certainties everyone is proclaiming.

Glenelg and Sturt are psyched up to believe the '76 flag is well within their grasp.

Upsets are always possible in finals, especially grand finals.

Look at the way Norwood fought back last year after losing the second semi-final to Glenelg.

Tomorrow's game will be the third time Glenelg and Sturt have met in the past four weeks.

Both teams have had plenty of opportunities to weigh up their opposition.

Glenelg should win again, partly because they have a more penetrating centre line trio in Stephen Copping, Peter Marker and John MacFarlane.

Marker is back to his best. He beat Russell Ebert last Sunday, and that's no mean feat.

I don't think Sturt centreman Brendon Howard is moving into attack as quickly as he did a year or so ago.

As I see it, the only consistent danger to Glenelg will be Sturt's rovers, Mike Nunan and Rob Barton, who are getting the ball away from centre often enough to cover for some of their teammates.

Sturt are unfortunate in that they are tackling the Tigers without sufficient bait on their hook, due to the injuries to Malcolm Greenslade, Bruce Winter, and Noel Pettingill. I've noticed some signs of tiredness in quite a few Blues in the last couple of matches.

As a result, Sturt's game can slow up for too long in periods.

Glenelg won't fall into the trap of losing concentration at crucial stages of the game as they did against Port last week.

The Tigers' style of game can be more susceptible to error than Sturt's method.

Glenelg often tend to attack around the wings and flanks, while Sturt generally take more short cuts by going straight down the centre.

Both sides are adept in the art of running with the ball and drawing opposing players, then handpassing the ball on to a teammate.

That and more emphasis on accurate disposal are the two big changes in the game in recent years.

I noticed Sturt had plenty of goal-kicking practice on Tuesday night, and I couldn't help thinking about how Jack Oatey is credited with perfecting the reverse or check-side punt kick.

I was led to believe in Perth that a fellow called Ted Oldsworth, who played in the 1930s, invented it. He mis-kicked one day and since then it's been known as the boomerang kick in West Australian football.

Sturt's main problem tomorrow won't be goal-kicking accuracy, but trying to get the ball into attack often enough to kick a winning score.

With Kerley's secret plan to restrict Rick Davies, plus the influence of players like Graham Cornes, Colin Anderson, Peter McInerney, Fred Phillis, and Marker, Copping, and MacFarlane, the Tigers can dispose of the Blues, then go after the big fish — Port.



## BAY-POWER TOO MUCH FOR STURT

By Alan Shiell

Sturt overcame almost insurmountable odds to pull off one of the club's greatest finals victories last week against Norwood.

Tomorrow, without their two best forwards, Malcolm Greenslade and Ken Whelan, and dependable full back, Bruce Winter, the Blues face a gargantuan task trying to defeat Glenelg in the preliminary final.

I expect Glenelg to record their fourth win over Sturt this season, and qualify for their sixth grand final in the past eight seasons.

It still riles Neil Kerley that he has notched only one premiership in five grand finals with Glenelg. Sturt, under Jack Oatey, cost Kerley's Tigers three flags — 1969, 1970 and 1974.

It is additional ammunition with which Kerley can fire his men tomorrow.

Even allowing for Port's second half dominance last Sunday, Glenelg could not perform as poorly again. They had only four consistent contributors—Peter Marker, Peter Carey, Bob Paech and Darryl Rady.

The Tigers can expect much more tomorrow from several key players, including rovers Kym Hodgeman and Peter McInerney, centre half-back Paul Weston, wingmen Stephen Copping and John MacFarlane, followers Graham Cornes, Nev Caldwell and Colin Anderson and full forward Fred Phillis.

Sturt's line-up will be kept a mystery until the start of the game.

I can't believe the Blues' selectors will give first-game player Richard Hill

the unenviable job of trying to contain Fred Phillis. The full-back position is more likely to be entrusted to experienced Phil Nelson or Colin Casey.

With Nelson on Phillis, followers Paul Bagshaw and John Murphy could change in the back pocket on Cornes and Caldwell.

This would allow Phil Heinrich to be included at half-forward right to stand Rady, a player of similar stature and speed.

Glenelg have proved Sturt's masters in three of their four meetings this season. Everything points to the Tigers making it four out of five tomorrow.

## What's the odds?

Port are 10/7 on to win the league football grand final tomorrow week.

And Glenelg are quoted at 10/8 on to beat Sturt (11/10) in the preliminary final tomorrow.

An Adelaide bookmaker has Glenelg at 25/10 to win the premiership.

He has Sturt 32/10.

Glenelg or Sturt will be at shorter odds next week, depending on which side wins tomorrow.



# KERLEY SHOCKS TIGER STARS

By Michael Quirk

**Many senior Glenelg footballers are shocked by Neil Kerley's bombshell decision to quit as Tiger coach.**

**Kerley ended months of speculation when he told Torrens chairman Mr. Wayne Jackson yesterday he would leave Glenelg and coach Torrens.**

Ruckman Graham Cornes said today he believed Kerley would have stayed at the Bay after a special, frank meeting players had with him on Thursday night.

"Maybe he was a bit upset because we were so blunt," said Cornes.

Glenelg strongman Wayne Phillis said: "Money comes into the decision by Kerley to leave Glenelg—I believe the money is pretty big."

## 'Excuses'

Ruckman forward, Peter Carey, said: "I think Neil was looking for excuses when he reportedly blamed some senior players for a lack of dedication during the year."

Glenelg football director, Mr. Harry Kernahan, said: "Kerley has finished . . . bang . . . full stop . . . gone. Now we have to find someone else. That's the way I will treat it."

Asked about Kerley's reported criticism of players for lack of dedication and for his reasons for leaving the club, Glenelg president Mr. John Ellers said: "Neil's problem was that he was stale."



GRAHAM CORNES



WAYNE PHILLIS

Mr. Ellers said Kerley had told him some senior players had lacked dedication.

Graham Cornes said today he believed "a lot of things had been straightened out about



NEIL KERLEY . . . shock move



PETER CAREY

attitude and dedication."

He continued: "We thought we had straightened a lot of this out."

"And not only dedication of the players."

"If there is going to be any finger-pointing about dedication it ultimately has to come back to the coach."

"I am not suggesting the claim that some senior players lacked dedication wasn't right."

"Under our training program we put everything into it, but we felt ourselves we were not training enough or properly."

"If anything I felt Kerley had become a little tired."

Cornes said the players voiced their disappointment at Kerley leaving training at 6 p.m. on Tuesday nights to compere National Football League games at Norwood Oval.

"We said on Thursday night we weren't trained enough and suggested an extra night would be a benefit to us especially during Kerley's National Football League commitments," he said.

"If the same attitudes of the coach were going to prevail next year we are far better off with a new coach."

Cornes said he felt "a bit let down" by the announcement.

"I am extremely disappointed because the 10 years Kerley has been at Glenelg has been the club's most successful period," he said.

"A lot of this has been due to him."

"I am also disappointed because I get on very well personally with him away from football and he is the only coach I have played under."

"However, obviously there has been something lacking in the team's performance and



MR. KERNAHAN

make-up in the past couple of years."

Cornes said he would not be a candidate for the coaching position at Glenelg but would certainly play next year.

Wayne Phillis said: "As far as the criticism of the senior players is concerned, I believe Neil's comments are very poor."

"I suppose he was trying to ease the blow to the club a bit by giving reasons for his leaving."

"I believe his association with the club has been a good one."

"The season is now over, and we are all a bit browned off with football."

Peter Carey said: "I admit the senior players have not done as well as was expected of them during the year."

"However, I wouldn't blame that on a lack of dedication."

"Most senior players did have a poor year—I know I did myself."

## 'No way'

Asked if he would consider applying for the coaching post, Carey said: "No way."

Mr. Kernahan, said he did not expect any players to follow Kerley to West Torrens.

"They would not be cleared anyway," he said. "It's just not on."

Mr. Ellers disclosed today Glenelg were prepared to spend more than \$100,000 to get a new coach.

"We have known for some time that Neil would go if we did not win the premiership," Mr. Ellers said.

"There will be no experimentation with a new coach—we will be after the best established coach available."

"That means we will be paying at least \$20,000 a year, and we will be looking at a contract for up to five years."