

MAIL FOOTBALL.....FIRST FOR FOOTBALL

STURT dynamo Michael Graham, one of the best at Adelaide Oval, still had his problems. All but out after colliding with Tiger Jim Rawson, Graham picked himself up to kick one of his five goals from a free. Rawson was reported in another incident.

# BLUES GRAB No. 1 SPOT



BY  ALAN SHIELL

Sturt are the new leaders of the league football premiership table following their demolition of Glenelg at Adelaide Oval yesterday.

On current form, the Blues are ready to make a bold charge for this year's title.

It is difficult to envisage them folding as meekly as last season when Port kicked them off. Football Park by 67 points in the first semi-final.

The 1976 premiership appears a four-way fight between Sturt, Glenelg, Port and Norwood — a fact that was obvious early in the season. West will probably fill fifth position.

## WIDE OPEN

Interest in the remaining 10 minor rounds will revolve partly around whether West can get into the final five ahead of South, Woodville and North.

The real issue centres on the top four teams and what positions they will hold at the end of the minor rounds.

The minor premiership — and a rest on the first weekend of the finals — is wide open.

So, too, are second and third positions, which carry the much sought-after double chance.

Sturt and Port are near their peak.

Glenelg and Norwood stand to improve most by regaining experienced players from injury.

The Redlegs have rarely shown their premiership form of last season.

## FAIR CROWD

Only a fool would underestimate their potential when, or if, they can settle their side, particularly with the inclusion of wingmen Phil Gallagher and Glen Rosser, who both resumed in the Reserves yesterday after persistent leg injuries.

Yesterday's crowd of 17,108 at Adelaide Oval was almost satisfactory, but the Football Park attendance of 6,590 was poor.

Norwood, with Port, have the biggest following in the league... so where were the North supporters, and where were the Redleg fans?

## Strike charge against Rawson

Glenelg wingman Jim Rawson was reported in yesterday's game at Adelaide Oval.

Rawson will appear before the League Commissioners on Tuesday night on a charge of having struck Sturt half-back Robert Klomp.

Boundary umpire Brian McShane reported Rawson in the last quarter.

Earlier in the game, the umpires were kept busy taming incidents which threatened to erupt.

Sturt ruckman Greg Wild was involved in minor scuffles with Rawson, Reg Pollard, Peter Carey, and Rex Voigt.

Sturt rover Mick Nunan and Glenelg ruckman Peter Carey also had an angry disagreement.

## LEAGUE DETAILS

### ADELAIDE OVAL

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Sturt	3-6	9-10	17-14	20-17	137
Glen.	4-2	5-8	8-10	13-12	90

BEST PLAYERS — STURT: Davies, Nunan, Graham, Bagshaw, Howard, Burgan, Klomp. GLENELG: Lihou, Caldwell, Weston, Voigt, W. Phillis, Hodgeman, McInerney.

SCORERS — STURT: Graham 5.0, Wild 4.0, Nunan 3.3, Schultz 3.1, Pettingill 2.2, Leonard 1.2, Greenslade 1.0, Casey 1.0, Howard 0.3, Burgan 0.3, Davies 0.1, rushed 0.2. GLENELG: D. Phillis 4.0, McInerney 2.4, Cornes 2.1, Rady 2.0, Hercocock 2.0, Hodgeman 1.1, Rebbeck 0.4, Caldwell 0.1, Carey 0.1.

REPLACEMENTS — GLENELG: Obst (flu) by Croser, half-time, Holst by Hercocock early last quarter.

REPORT—Rawson (Glenelg) by boundary umpire McShane for allegedly striking Klomp in the last quarter.

UMPIRE — Peter Mead.

### FOOTBALL PARK

	Nwd.	13-5	17-11	24-17	161
North	1-4	3-4	8-6	12-7	79

BEST PLAYERS—NORWOOD: Nicholson, Parke, Palm, Kerley, Seekamp, Wynne. NORTH: Jaworskyj, Baruzzi, R. Robran, Cloke, Diorio, Smith.

SCORERS — NORWOOD: Michalanney 4.3, Parke 4.1, Palm 3.1, Woodcock 3.0, Nicholson 2.3, Seekamp 2.3, Taylor 1.2, Wynne 1.2, Craig 1.0, Dillon 1.0, Jenkins 1.0, Zubrinich 1.0, Adler 0.1, rushed 0.1. NORTH: Roach 3.2, Smith 3.1, R. Robran 2.0, Cloke 1.1, Jaworskyj 1.1, Baruzzi 1.1, Marsh 1.0, Anderson 0.1.

REPLACEMENTS — NORWOOD: Craig by Adler second quarter; Button by Colesante last quarter. NORTH: Greaves by Eichner third quarter.

UMPIRE — Des Foster.

### PREMIERSHIP TABLE

	W.	L.	For	Agst.	Pts.	Prem.	%
Sturt	8	3	1347	970	16	58.14	
Glenelg	8	3	1493	1129	16	56.94	
Port	8	3	1318	1094	16	54.64	
Norwood	7	4	1328	1059	14	55.63	
West	6	5	1128	1015	12	52.64	
South	4	7	1198	1291	8	48.13	
Woodville	4	7	1127	1322	8	46.02	
North	4	7	1083	1385	8	43.88	
Centrals	4	7	912	1311	8	41.81	
Torrrens	2	9	1016	1434	4	42.18	

### LEADING GOALKICKERS

	Yesterday	Matches	Total
Michalanney (Norwood)	4-3	11	49-27
Whelan (Sturt)	—	9	41-25
Pierson (West)	—	11	43-32
D. K. Phillis (Glenelg)	4-0	10	42-22
Gerlach (Port)	—	11	39-27
Bennett (South)	—	11	37-23

### ATTENDANCES

Football Park	6,590
Adelaide Oval	17,108
Total	23,698

### NEXT WEEK'S GAMES

TUESDAY, JUNE 22

Norwood v. Carlton, Norwood Oval.

SATURDAY, JUNE 26

Norwood v. Sturt, Football Park.

South v. Torrens, Adelaide Oval

Glenelg v. Port, Glenelg Oval.

West v. North, Richmond Oval.

Woodville v. Centrals, Woodville Oval.

## SUNDAY MAIL-WEST LAKES

# \$750 'PLAYER OF THE YEAR'

Sturt ruckman Rick Davies has moved to within two points of Port Adelaide centremen Russell Ebert in the Sunday Mail-West Lakes \$750 Player of the Year award.

Ebert, whose team played in the first half of the split round, is on 19 points with Davies on 17. Their nearest rival is Glenelg rover Kym Hodgeman, six points behind Davies.

### STURT v. GLENELG

R. Davies (St.)	3
M. Nunan (St.)	2
M. Graham (St.)	1

### NORWOOD v. NORTH

G. Nicholson (N)	3
G. Parke (N)	2
B. Jaworskyj (NA)	1

### PROGRESS TOTALS

19—R. Ebert (PA).
17—R. Davies (St.).
11—K. Hodgeman (G).
10—P. Meuret (WA).
9—P. Marker (G).
8—L. Skinner (CD), D. Cahill (PA).
7—R. Cochrane (CD), B. Norsworthy (CD), G. Nicholson (N), M. Graham (St.).
6—M. Taylor (N), R. Robran (NA), M. Greenslade (St.), T. Grimwood (WA), R. Klomp (St.), C. MacVicar (W), P. McInerney (G), B. Jaworskyj (NA).

# A SEASON LOW FOR THE TIGERS

Silky-smooth Sturt wrung Glenelg out like a wet rag for a surprisingly easy 47-point win at Adelaide Oval.

Superstar Rick Davies and his mates overwhelmed the Tigers, who put up their worst performance this season.

Sturt were majestic, almost arrogant, in the way they trampled all over Glenelg.

Fiercely competitive, superbly co-ordinated, the Blues made a mockery of that old "handbag" tag, which, surprisingly, even annoyingly, has dogged them for so long in spite of their renowned skill and class.

Glenelg opened like the league leaders they were, outscoring Sturt 4.2 to 0.4 in the first 22 minutes of the first quarter.

Then, a remarkable transformation swept over the game, with Sturt adding 17.9 to Glenelg's 2.8 until the 25-minute mark of the third term.

The incomparable Davies dominated the ruck-duels to give Sturt a massive break at the centre bounces.

He was supported magnificently by his captain-follower Paul Bagshaw, and rover Mike Nunan, who combined to take the Tigers apart.

Brendon Howard seized control of centre and Michael Graham was at his electrifying best on a wing, from where he kicked five goals — without a miss.

## BLUE ON THE RUN

A MAN who waits for no one is Sturt's Malcolm Greenslade as he takes off with the ball at Adelaide Oval yesterday. All Tiger opponent Paul Weston could do was try and keep up with the burning Blue.

BY  ALAN SHIELL

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## CAUGHT

Sturt were cool, methodical, professional.

Glenelg were caught short for experience and know-how.

Apart from their opening burst, it was only in the time-on period of the third quarter and in the last term that the Tigers resembled the side that had won eight of their first 10 games, in addition to victories over Richmond and Swan Districts.

The reasonably impressive finish, but when it was much too late, was all Glenelg had to recall with any semblance of pride.

From late in the time-on period of the third term until the final siren, they out-scored Sturt 7-2 to 3-3.

Few Tigers came out of the game with their reputations intact.

Half-back flanker Jim Lihou had a fine first half, which confirmed his rich promise. Nev Caldwell was a busy, creative follower

most of the time, Paul Weston battled gamely at centre half-back. Rex Voigt did many good things in the back pocket, Wayne Phillis tried hard, and rovers Kym Hodgeman and Peter McInerney had their moments, although not as many as in recent weeks.

If there was a turning point in the match, it came early in the second quarter when a pass from Peter Carey fell just short of Fred Phillis, leading out from full forward.

Sturt rebounded into attack, goaled, and never looked back.

Davies' dominance of the ruck and field play cannot be over-emphasised.

He was the complete master, a commanding conductor who called the tunes and played them himself.

You could argue for hours about who is the most valuable player for his team — Davies for Sturt or Russell Ebert for Port.

