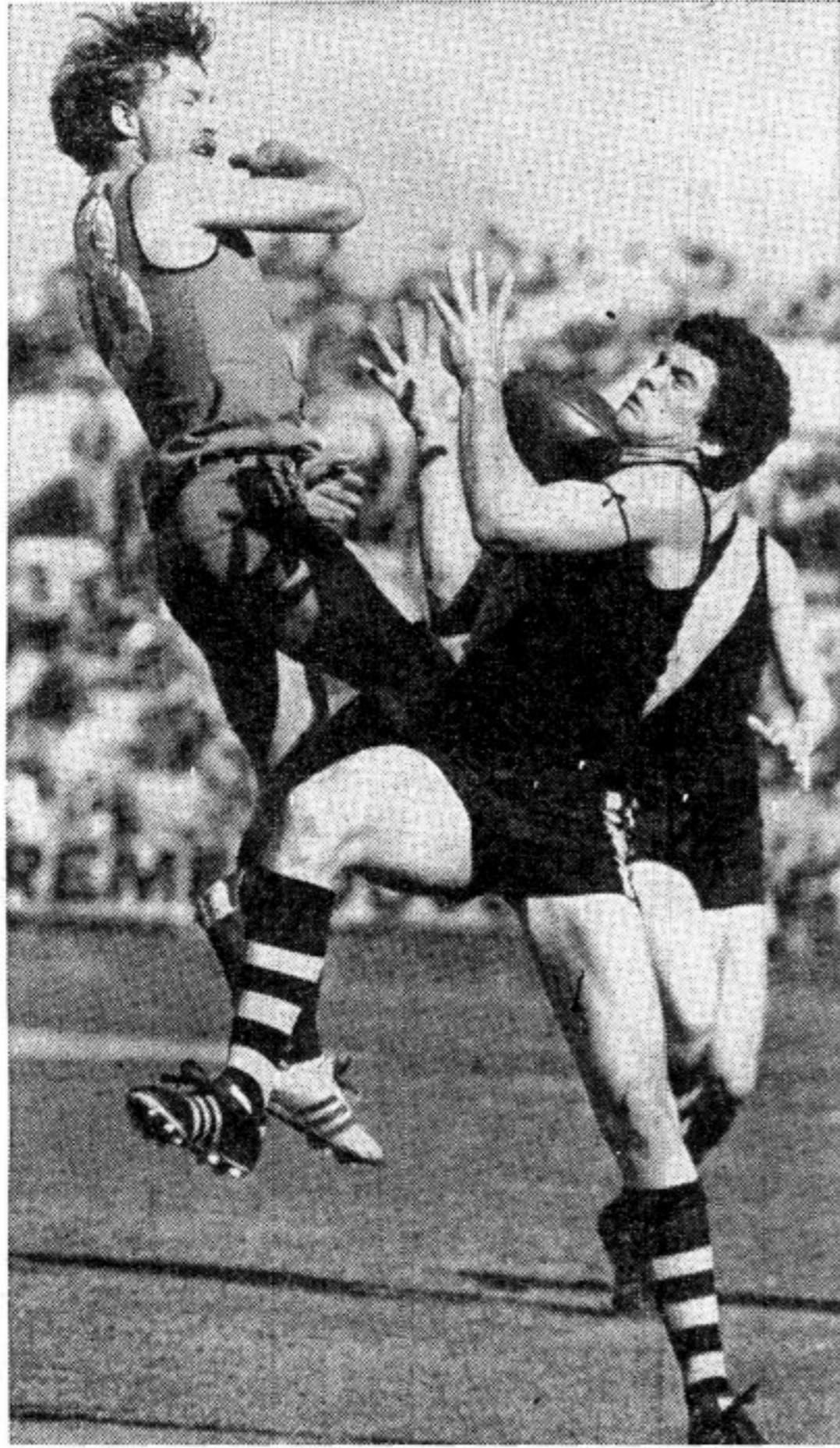


Blues sink into obscurity

Glenelg	3.2	3.4	10.7	12.14	(86)
Sturt	1.5	5.7	7.9	12.9	(81)

Sturt's Robert Barton gets high over his opponent David Bradley to spoil the Glenelg defender's juggled attempt to mark the ball at Football Park yesterday.



By GEOFF KINGSTON

Glenelg's exciting five-point win over Sturt at Football Park yesterday sent the 1976 premiers crashing headlong into 1977 obscurity.

It now seems likely that Sturt will finish in eighth position ... a remarkable and inexplicable slide from top last season.

The only other time it has happened in the history of the game was in 1935 when Glenelg finished bottom of the eight-team competition after winning its first premiership in 1934.

It's only the second time since 1897 that a team has finished worse than fifth after winning a flag the previous season.

The banner hanging from the fence at Football Park yesterday read: "The True Blue Invincible Annihilation Experts."

It must have been an old sign. Actually, Sturt's form yesterday was good and with an ounce of luck it could probably have won.

Before a crowd of 15,061 it started aggressively, unbalanced Glenelg and controlled most of the play in the first quarter, but was off-line in attack.

It went on with the job in the second quarter to kick 4.2 to Glenelg's two points and went in at half-time with a well earned 15-point lead.

Sturt rover Mike Nunan was in sensational touch.

It was almost vintage Nunan as he won the ball from the packs with tremendous courage and moved it with great skill either with handball or kicking.

Rick Davies was doing well in ruck against Peter Carey, but it was Nunan and the followers Tony Burgan and John Hunt that gave Sturt control of the packs.

Glenelg coach John Nicholls, seeing the game getting away from him, was forced into several positional changes that in retrospect probably did most to win the game for Glenelg.

In the third quarter he switched Carey from ruck to full forward with Steve Copping moving to a wing; Neville Caldwell went to centre half-forward from a wing; Wayne Phillis was shifted from centre half-forward to ruck and Graham Cornes was on the ball.

Most of the moves worked as Glenelg, for the first time in the game, looked a worthy major round contender.

It kicked 7.4 in the third term to Sturt's 2.2 and it looked a matter of "how far" Glenelg.

Carey picked up three quick goals against Bruce Winter, Caldwell's pace and big leaping beat Colin Casey, who had done a good job on Phillis, and Cornes's enthusiasm and run further unbalanced Sturt.

Sturt made a last, desperate dive to win the game in the last term and it almost got there.

GOALKICKERS — Glenelg — Cornes, 3.1; Carey, 3.1; Jackson, 3.1; David Johnston, 1.2; Rody, 1.1; Copping, 1.0; Caldwell, 0.3; Wayne Phillis, Marker, Holst, Cox, 0.1; rushed, 0.1. Sturt — Greenslade, 3.2; Hunt, 2.2; Nunan, 2.0; Davies, 2.0; Barton, 1.1; Miels, 1.0; Leonard, 1.0; Klomp, Sims, Burgan, 0.1; rushed, 0.1.

BEST — Glenelg — Marker, Voigt, Caldwell, Hodgeman, Cornes, Bradley. Sturt — Nunan, Burgan, Davies, Hunt, Lloyd, Miels. Umpires — R. Bennet, R. Scholefield.

Premiership table

	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	Pts.	p.c.
PORT ADELAIDE	15	3	1	2418	1627	31	59.8
NORWOOD	12	7	—	2208	1559	24	58.6
GLENELG	12	7	—	2361	1806	24	56.6
WEST ADELAIDE	12	7	—	1893	1695	24	52.8
SOUTH ADELAIDE	11	8	—	2156	1883	22	53.4
WEST TORRENS	8	11	—	1632	2113	16	43.6
STURT	7	11	1	1946	1904	15	50.5
NORTH ADELAIDE	7	11	1	1888	2387	15	44.1
WOODVILLE	5	14	—	1714	2491	10	40.7
CENTRAL DISTRICT	4	14	1	1747	2498	9	41.2

Leading goalkickers

	Sat.	Matches	Total
CORNES (Glenelg)	3.1	17	66.41
COPPING (Glenelg)	1.0	17	62.32
ADLER (Norwood)	1.2	19	58.38
JONES (Central District)	1.2	16	57.19
R. ROBRAN (North Adelaide)	—	18	54.36
T. EVANS (Port Adelaide)	7.3	11	51.29

Crowds

Football Park (WT v. SA)	5066
Football Park (Gl. v. St.)	15,061
Woodville Oval (Wd. v. CD)	2110
Richmond Oval (WA v. NA)	3552
Norwood Oval (PA v. Nr.)	16,906
Season agg.	42,695 / 759,331

This week

SATURDAY	
Football Park (Nr. v. Gl.)	
Elizabeth Oval (CD v. WA)	
Thebarton Oval (WT v. Wd.)	
Unley Oval (St. v. PA)	
Adelaide Oval (SA v. NA)	

Ebert, Craig share voting

Port Adelaide captain Russell Ebert and Norwood centremen Neil Craig now share the lead in voting for "The Advertiser" trophy.

Ebert was adjusted best afield on Saturday for his performance against Norwood — and Craig, his opponent.

They are four votes ahead of Milan Faletic and Trevor Grimwood, who did not poll on Saturday.

Week-end's stars:

FOOTBALL PARK	
M. Nunan (St)	3
P. Marker (G)	2
R. Voigt (G)	1
NORWOOD OVAL	
R. Ebert (PA)	3
T. Evans (PA)	2
J. Clarke (N)	1

FOOTBALL PARK

C. Cock (SA)	3
P. Roberts (WT)	2
B. Miller (WT)	1

RICHMOND OVAL

D. Kennedy (WA)	3
B. Jaworskyj (NA)	2
M. Davoren (WA)	1

WOODVILLE OVAL

R. Cochrane (CD)	3
R. Sewer (W)	2
P. Maylin (W)	1

LEADERS

20—Craig; Ebert
16—Grimwood, Faletic
14—Hateley
13—Carey, Davies
12—Cornes, Stevenson, Bagshaw, Robran
11—Clove
10—Hodgeman, Cunningham, Kinnear
9—Fry, McSparran, McInerney, Cahill

West	3.2	8.5	8.10	12.10	(82)
North	2.4	4.7	5.10	7.13	(55)

Goalkickers — West — Davoren, 4.1; Meuret, 3.0; Pierson, 2.2; G. Hewitt, 1.3; Kennedy, Buckley, 1.0; Gurney, Donaldson, Beswick, 0.1; rushed, 0.1. North — Eichner, 2.2; Hill, 1.2; Lofts, Gum, McCann, 1.1; Stringer, 1.0; Ah Chee, Diorio, 0.1; rushed, 0.4.

Best — West — Kennedy, Davoren, Beswick, Grimwood, Williams, Stevenson, Summerton, Kuhlmann. North — Jaworskyj, Cloke, Palmer, Diorio.

Umpires — L. Argent, C. Steinert.

Woodville	4.5	7.9	9.13	14.19	(103)
Central	2.3	5.6	8.11	10.15	(75)

GOALKICKERS — Woodville — Roberts, 6.3; L. Twelftree 2.5; Sewer 2.4; Ruth 1.3; Tyrrell 1.1; Nicholls, Parker 1.0; Crane 0.2; Brenton 0.1. Central District — Beythien 3.1; Saywell 2.3; Jones 1.2; Jonas 1.1; Norsworthy, W. Cochrane, Wilson 1.0; Skinner 0.3; Hughes 0.1; rushed 0.4.

Best — Woodville — Sewer, Maylin, Stemper, Crane, Dennes, Heaven. Central District — R. Cochrane, Beythien, Nalder, Norsworthy, More, Skinner.

Umpires — R. Magor, T. Thomas.

Port	1.3	4.5	9.11	13.13	(91)
Norwood	5.3	7.7	8.8	12.9	(81)

GOALKICKERS — Port Adelaide — Evans 7.3; Cunningham 2.0; Whatman 1.3; James 1.2; Granger, Sorrell 1.1; Belton 0.2; Blethyn 0.1. Norwood — Michalanne 4.1; Nicholson 4.0; Theil 2.2; Adler 1.2; Gregg 1.0; Craig, Rosser, Zubrinich, Von Bertouch 0.1.

BEST — Port Adelaide — Ebert, Evans, Light, Woite, Spry, James. Norwood — Clarke, Taylor, Kerley, Burton, Woodcock, Adler. Umpires — P. Mead, D. Foster.

Torrens	1.4	4.5	5.9	9.10
South	0.4	1.10	3.12	6.15

Goalkickers — Torrens — S. Pavlich 3.4, G. White 2.0, Faletic 1.1, Floreani, S. White, McSparran 1.0, Kellett 0.2, Ashmead, M. Pavlich 0.1, rushed 0.1. South — Robbins 3.1, Mousley, Hateley 1.2, Hines 1.0, Bennett 0.4, Cox 0.2, Haines, Farrer, Keam 0.1, rushed 0.1.

Best — Torrens — Roberts, Miller, G. White, Dabrowski, S. Pavlich, Rendell. South — Cock, Baynes, Keam, Fry, Haines.

Umpires — R. Charlesworth, D. Rebbeck.