

STURT, BAYS CRASH AGAIN!

AND AT THE LAST CHANGE WOEFUL PECKERS HAD 0-13

by  **GRAHAM FISCHER**

Stunning victories by Centrals and North have transplanted new life into the South Australian football competition.

The upset wins give further problems for last year's premiers Sturt, while Glenelg, with two successive losses, must be concerned with their drop in form.

It was an incredible 30 minutes between 4.25 and 4.55 yesterday afternoon as SA football was thrown into turmoil.

Centrals, inspired by the monolithic presence, sure hands and goal-shooting of Gary Jones turned a 40-point deficit into an amazing three-point victory over Glenelg at Elizabeth.

North, humiliated in their last three games and battling hard with Sturt, slammed on six goals for a decisive and delectable two goal decision over the Blues at Prospect.

Woodville, falling to new depths of ineptitude, managed their first goal of the game at 4.29 before eventually totalling four as West won by 106 points at Richmond.

Norwood, who trailed for most of the last half to a quick tackling, determined South, finally exploded to kick four goals in 10 minutes at the Parade to retain their league lead.

Explosive

When the snake and flame of these explosive final quarters had cleared, the premiership looked a two-horse race with Norwood and Port, effortless winners over Torrens, majestically clear of the opposition.

However, the wins of Centrals and North gave heartening confirmation that the fight for the other three spots in the final five is no longer a formality.

South, in third spot and Torrens in ninth, are separated by only two wins.

Sturt, with only one win (and that was over Woodville) from their past five games, have apparently lost the magic which carried them to one of the gutsiest premiership wins on record last year.

Glenelg's problems have been increased with injuries to Jim Lihou (strained neck muscle), Neville Caldwell (strained groin), Greg Wickens (concussion) and David Holst (badly bruised knee) and there is a doubt about them for next Saturday's game against West.

Woodville's failure to join in the revival of an even competition is disappointing, but coach John McInnes was quite philosophical about yesterday's drubbing.

"We played badly for the first half," he said, in one of the game's major understatements.

"We could not kick straight in the third term and then redeemed somewhat with 4-5 in the last term."

If there can be a bright note in such a debacle. It was not Woodville's lowest score, they could only manage 2-7 in 1966, also against West at Richmond.

ALL LEAGUE DETAILS

NORWOOD OVAL

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Nwd.	2-0	5-6	7-7	13-10	88
South	3-2	5-3	8-9	10-11	71

BEST PLAYERS—NORWOOD: Rosser, Von Bertouch, Clarke, Olsen, Gregg, Button. SOUTH: Cock, Doyle, Mousley, Robbins, Hateley, Fry.

SCORERS—NORWOOD: Palm 3.1, Woodcock 3.1, Michalanney 2.2, Von Bertouch 1.1, Olsen 1.0, Rosser 1.0, Sapwell 1.0, Pope 1.0, Adler 0.2, Craig 0.2, Button 0.1. SOUTH: Robbins 4.2, Bennett 2.1, Fry 2.0, Doyle 1.1, Hateley 1.0, Cox 0.3, Slattery 0.1, Butler 0.1, Minnis 0.1, rushed 0.1. UMPIRE: Robin Bennet.

ELIZABETH OVAL

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Cent.	2-6	7-11	10-14	17-16	118
Glen.	4-5	9-9	14-13	17-13	115

BEST PLAYERS.—CENTRALS: Jones, Saywell, Wilson, Vivian, Beythien, Nicks. GLENELG: Hodgeman, W. Phillis, Carey, Marker, McInerney, Cornes.

SCORERS.—CENTRALS: Jones 7.3, Saywell 3.2, Wilson 1.4, Skinner 1.2, Riley 1.1, Norsworthy 1.1, Beythien 1.0, Mobbs 1.0, Krieg 1.0, Nalder 0.1, rushed 0.2. GLENELG: Cornes 4.1, McInerney 3.1, Hodgeman 3.0, Copping 2.2, Wickens 2.0, Caldwell 1.1, Hoist 1.1, Rady 1.0, Rawson 0.1, W. Phillis 0.1, Avery 0.1, Marker 0.1, Crabb 0.1, rushed 0.2.

INJURIES.—GLENELG: J. Lihou (strained neck muscle) second quarter; Caldwell (strained groin), Wickens (concussion); Hoist (badly bruised knee). UMPIRE: Steve Semmler.

RICHMOND OVAL

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
West	8-5	13-10	17-15	21-22	148
Wdv.	0-1	0-7	0-13	4-18	42

BEST PLAYERS.—WEST: Grimwood, Williams, Hollick, Kennedy, Gurney, Stevenson, Summerton, Pierson. WOODVILLE: Maylin, Heaven, Ruth, Parsons, L. Krieg.

SCORERS.—WEST: Pierson 5.6, Ravlich 3.2, Grimwood 3.1, Hewitt 2.2, Meuret 2.4, Kersten 2.0, Williams 1.2, Hollick 1.0, Kennedy 1.0, Buckley 1.0, Gurney 0.1, Mayne 0.1, Loveday 0.1, rushed 0.2. WOODVILLE: Hutton 1.2, Sewer 1.3, Ruth 1.1, Deards 1.0, Mulvihill 0.4, McInnes 0.2, Schutz 0.2, L. Krieg 0.1, Tyrell 0.1, rushed 0.2.

INJURIES.—WOODVILLE: Ford (hip), Anderson (knee). UMPIRE: Peter Mead.

LEADING GOALKICKERS

Name (Team)	Y'day	Matches	Total
Cornes (Glenelg)	4-1	7	33-28
Alder (Norwood)	0-2	8	33-25
Gerlach (Port)	5-3	6	31-14
Jones (Centrals)	7-3	6	31-7
R. Robran (North)	3-2	8	27-28
Robbins (South)	4-2	8	27-17
Mulvihill (W'ville)	0-4	8	26-17
Copping (Glenelg)	2-2	7	26-11

PROSPECT OVAL

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
North	5-3	10-6	11-8	16-11	107
Sturt	5-3	8-5	10-14	14-15	99

BEST PLAYERS.—NORTH: Stringer, Cloke, Jaworskyj, Hill, Diorio, Robran. STURT: Davies, Bagshaw, Miels, Graham.

GOALSCORERS.—NORTH: Tocaclu 5.0, Robran 3.2, Cloke 2.3, Diorio 2.1, Hill 1.2, Baruzzi 1.1, Jaworskyj 1.0, Doszna 1.0 Crouch 0.1, rushed .01. STURT: Greenslade 4.3, Oatey 2.2, Barton 2.1, Klomp 2.1, Davies 1.1, Bagshaw 1.1, Graham 1.0, Wild 1.0, Leonard 0.1, Miels 0.1, rushed 0.4.

INJURIES.—NORTH: Schmidt (ankle) second quarter. STURT: Wild (head injury) last quarter. UMPIRE: Collin Steinert.

FOOTBALL PARK

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Port	7-3	12-7	16-12	26-16	172
Torrans	4-3	7-6	10-10	15-11	101

BEST PLAYERS.—PORT: Ebert, Cunningham, Porplycia, Whatman, Natt, Gerlach, Granger, Spry. TORRENS: Cousins, Faletic, Manouge, Miller, G. White.

GOALSCORERS.—PORT: Gerlach 8.3, Whatman 6.2, Cunningham 4.5, Granger 3.1, Sorrell 2.2, Cahill 1.3, Ebert 1.0, Porplycia 1.0. TORRENS: Inglis 3.1, Phillipou 2.2, S. White 2.0, McSporran 2.0, Homan 1.2, Marriott 1.1, Faletic 1.0, Manouge 1.0, Dabrowski 1.0, Rendell 1.0, Hamill 0.3, G. White 0.1, rushed 0.1. UMPIRE: — Des Foster.

PREMIERSHIP TABLE

Team	W.	L.	Points		Prem.	
			For	Agst.	Pts.	%
Norwood	7	1	1102	626	14	63.77
Port	7	1	1201	774	14	60.81
South	5	3	887	882	10	50.14
Glenelg	4	4	956	787	8	54.85
West	4	4	870	730	8	54.38
Sturt	3	5	780	880	6	46.99
North	3	5	830	1042	6	44.34
Centrals	3	5	777	989	6	44.00
Torrans	3	5	748	973	6	43.46
Woodville	1	7	697	1165	2	37.43

ATTENDANCES

Football Park	11,750
Elizabeth Oval	5,042
Richmond Oval	2,270
Prospect Oval	5,166
Norwood Oval	9,846
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Total	34,074


NEXT ROUND

Glenelg v. West, Football Park
Centrals v. Norwood, Elizabeth Oval
Torrans v. Sturt, Thebarton Oval
Port v. Woodville, Alberton Oval
South v. North, Adelaide Oval

CENTRALS SNATCH A LAST DITCH THRILLER

Man mountain Gary Jones stood tall at Elizabeth Oval yesterday—kicking four pressure goals in that scintillating last ditch assault by Centrals to eclipse the Tigers.

Quick goals to Glenelg's Graham Cornes (2) and Kym Hodgeman, with a lone major in reply from Mark Norsworthy saw the Tigers cruise to a 33 - point lead 10 minutes into the final term.

by  **ASHLEY MALLET**

From that moment it was all Centrals.

With bulldog tenacity they bustled, bumped, barged and blasted through their opponents.

Their one goal was to pick up and kick as far as they could; for there waiting in the gloom of the northern goalfront was that man Jones.

Jones, who had shown the strength of Atlas in the first quarter, shrugged off the memory of an indifferent third term and took four pressure marks.

He had an enormous influence on Centrals' remarkable fightback.

Peter Beythien and effective "workhorse" Bill Nalder began to shark hit-ups in ruck and the Centrals' little men whisked the ball away from centre.

Peter Vivian, on a wing, David Saywell, who had provided rebound all day for the Bulldogs as he

roamed far and wide from half-back, and Lyle Skinner left the Tigers standing.

And Dean Mobbs, after a stretch on the bench, came back into the fray to pick up telling kicks.

The instruction was clear: "Move the ball forward at all costs, kick it high to Jones — he'll do the rest."

In a matter of minutes Centrals had whittled the lead to three points with desperate football, while the Tigers seemed powerless to stop the eleventh-hour surge of Bulldog power.

Fittingly the burly Jones brought the house down with the last of his spectacular nine marks.

And with seconds remaining, Jones' 12th kick sailed through the tall timbers to give the Bulldogs the lead for the first time.

Worried

An elated Centrals coach,

Gary Window, said: "I thought we were gone at the start of the last term.

"But then Jonesy got those two great goals and young Steve Riley snapped a miraculous goal and I thought we might just do it."

A disappointed John Nicholls said after the game that he was worried at half-time.

"Kym Hodgeman was still suffering from the effects of the flu and we had four other injured men in Jim Lihou (strained neck muscle), Neville Caldwell (strained groin), Greg Wickens (concussion) and David Holst (badly bruised knee)," he lamented.

Nicholls was unimpressed with the performance of umpire Steve Semmler, who carried the whistle for the first time in league company this season.

"His first term was good, but his lack of experience stood out — especially in

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that vital last quarter," he said.

The Glenelg coach was critical of Semmler penalising Tigers ruck star Peter Carey, for "interference."

At least Semmler was consistent with the dropping the ball rule and he allowed the game to flow.

Ex-State umpire Max O'Connell thought Semmler did a good job.

The injuries didn't help the Tigers.

Caldwell "rested" at full forward and Graham Cornes went to half-forward after half-time, with regular spearhead Stephen Copping moving to a pocket.

But nothing can be taken away from the Bulldogs' performance.

They battled hard all day and wore the Tigers

down, until finally Glenelg succumbed to a more desperate ball hungry combination.

Windows warriors were the toast of Elizabeth last night and big Gary Jones was the man just that little above a super team effort — especially in the last term.

Little behind Jones was the 'Bulldogs' Saywell.

He ran all day and kicked three invaluable goals, including one in the last quarter just minutes before that man Jones booted the first of his four majors for the term.

Half-forward Wilbur Wilson showed plenty of dash, but his kicking for goal early in the game let him down.