

STURT STILL CAN DO IT

By Alan Shiell

Sturt refuses to believe it cannot play in this year's finals.

The Blues retained some hope of scrambling into the final five by tossing Woodville by a goal at Football Park yesterday.

And three teams—South Adelaide, Woodville and Norwood—are feeling a little uneasier today.

Central District and Port Adelaide are the only sides certain to be in the finals.

In the remaining three minor round matches, Sturt will play Port (at Unley), Glenelg (Glenelg), and Norwood (Norwood).

Victory in all three would give Sturt 12 wins from 22 games.

South currently has 11 wins. Norwood and Woodville have won 10 matches each, but their superior percentage is worth an additional win over South and Sturt.

Draw for South, Norwood, and Woodville is:

SOUTH — Woodville (Football Park), North (Adelaide), Central (Elizabeth).

NORWOOD — Glenelg (Glenelg), Port (Football Park), Sturt (Norwood).

WOODVILLE — South (Football Park), West (Football Park), Torrens (Woodville).

North Adelaide also retains some chance of squeezing into the five. With nine wins, it plays

They won't give up

Central (Football Park), South (Adelaide), and West (Prospect) in its last three matches.

South is not good enough to win the premiership — not on the way it folded against Port at Alberton yesterday.

And Norwood continues to make a mockery of its premiership-favorite tag.

Central is entitled to rate itself the team to beat for the title.

But, on the way this unfathomable season has gone, the Bulldogs are just as likely to lose to lowly West Adelaide at Football Park today.

So who will win the premiership? I give up.

Port finds star

By ALAN SHIELL

Port Adelaide has found a brilliant new star—17-year-old schoolboy Bruce Abernethy.

He may well be the most exciting Magpie prospect since Russell Ebert burst onto Alberton Oval in 1968.

Wingman Abernethy was best afield against South Adelaide at Alberton yesterday.

It was his third league match and the third time he had been high in Port's best players.

Exceptional balance, fine ball control, pace and an unusually long kick for one so young — Abernethy has all those attributes, and more.

The Woodville High School matriculation student started this season with Port's under 19s, swept through the Reserves, and, along the way, won SA's fairest and best trophy in the Teal Cup (under 17s) carnival in Hobart.

Port coach John Cahill said of Abernethy: "He's still learning about the pace of the game, but he'll definitely be a good player if he keeps improving at the same rate."

"He realises league football is faster, fiercer, and more demanding than anything he has struck before."

LEAGUE DETAILS

THEBARTON OVAL

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Torrens	4-1	6-4	10-9	13-11	89
Norwood	1-2	2-5	3-7	4-8	32

BEST — TORRENS: Rendell, Lindsay, Manouge, Green, McSparran, Giles, Hill. **NORWOOD**: Nicholson, Button, Gallagher, Nunan, Rosser, Taylor.

SCORERS — TORRENS: Giles 3.0, McSparran 2.1, Rendell 2.0, Hewitt 2.0, Lindsay 1.4, Hill 1.1, Wallace 1.1, S. White 1.0, Manouge 0.1, rushed 0.3. **NORWOOD**: Nunan 2.0, Holliday 1.1, Aish 1.1, Thiel 0.4, Wynne 0.1, rushed 0.1.

INJURIES — NORWOOD: Kerley (corked thigh), Armour (back). **UMPIRES** — Des Foster, John Hylton.

ALBERTON OVAL

Port	1-3	5-5	10-8	14-15	99
South	4-1	5-2	7-5	7-8	50

BEST — PORT: Abernethy, Faletic, Belton, Cunningham, Curtis, Cahill, Williams, Giles, Hill. **SOUTH**: Baynes, Palmer, Butler, Hately, P. Brooksby.

SCORERS — PORT: Belton 4.0, Curtis 3.0, Evans 2.1, Cunningham 1.3, Hofner 1.1, Faletic 1.0, Williams 1.0, Kinnear 1.0, Cahill 0.3, Abernethy 0.3, rushed 0.4. **SOUTH**: Schneebichler 1.2, Slattery 1.1, Coleman 1.0, Harradine 1.0, Cox 1.0, Keam 1.0, Collins 1.0, Bennett 0.1, Hines 0.1, Hately 0.1, G. Brooksby 0.1, rushed 0.1.

UMPIRES — Bob Scholefield, Frank McHugh.

PROSPECT OVAL

North	5-4	6-12	9-14	15-18	108
Glenelg	2-6	6-7	9-9	11-10	76

BEST — NORTH: Barrie Robran, Ellis, Hartfield, Rodney Robran, Hill, Pelle. **GLENELG**: Weston, Hodgeman, Wolte, Cornes.

SCORERS — NORTH: Roach 4.3, R. Robran 3.0, Hill 2.2, Hartfield 2.2, Doherty 2.0, Tocaciu 1.1, Conder 1.1, Baruzzi 0.3, Pelle 0.3, Algate 0.1, rushed 0.2. **GLENELG**: Wolte 4.2, Walter 2.2, Davison 1.2, Weston 1.1, Coppin 1.0, Cornes 1.0, Hurley 1.0, Carey 0.1, Hodgeman 0.1, rushed 0.1.

UMPIRES — Rick Kinnear, Trevor Thomas.

FOOTBALL PARK

Sturt	2-1	6-5	7-9	9-14	68
Woodville	2-3	5-3	6-8	8-14	62

BEST — STURT: Davies, Hardeman, Zilm, Lloyd, B. Howard, M. Heinrich. **WOODVILLE**: D. Hewitt, Hutton, Heaven, Howard, Sewer, Scheer.

SCORERS — STURT: Casey 2.1, Wilson 2.0, Davies 1.2, Coulls 1.1, B. Howard 1.1, Sims 1.1, Whelan 1.0, Derrington 0.3, Zilm 0.1, Bagshaw 0.1, Sanders 0.1, rushed 0.2. **WOODVILLE**: G. Hewitt 3.2, D. Hewitt 2.1, Howard 1.1, Sewer 1.0, Roberts 1.0, Crane 0.3, Hutton 0.1, Carty 0.1, Fuller 0.1, Mildenhall 0.1, rushed 0.3.

INJURIES — STURT: Coulls (bruised shoulder), P. Heinrich (bruised buttock). **UMPIRES** — Graham Hilton, Brendan O'Connor.

PREMIERSHIP TABLE

	P.	W.	L.	D.	For	Agst	Pts	%
Cent.	18	12	5	1	1843	1755	25	51.22
Port	19	12	7	—	1642	1672	24	52.42
South	19	11	8	—	1693	1743	22	49.27
Norw'd	19	10	9	—	2042	1711	20	54.41
W'ville	19	10	9	—	1870	1692	20	52.50
Sturt	19	9	10	—	1853	1912	18	49.22
North	19	9	10	—	1819	1958	18	48.16
Torr.	19	7	11	1	1649	1920	15	46.20
West	18	6	11	1	1810	1935	13	48.33
Glen.	19	6	12	1	1767	1891	13	48.31

LEADING GOALKICKERS

	Games	Yest.	Total
G. Hewitt (Woodville)	19	3.2	70.47
Evans (Port)	15	2.1	55.36
Carty (Woodville)	19	0.1	46.23
Luders (West)	17	—	44.34
Pierson (West)	16	—	44.20
P. Heinrich (Sturt)	19	—	42.32
Whelan (Sturt)	16	1.0	39.25
Slattery (South)	18	1.1	38.29
Bagshaw (Sturt)	18	0.1	38.21

CROWDS

Football Park	5047
Thebarton	3818
Alberton	7042
Prospect	3732
Total	19,639

PROGRAM

SATURDAY — North v Central (Football Park), Sturt v Port (Unley), Glenelg v Norwood (Glenelg); **SUNDAY** — Woodville v South (Football Park), West v Torrens (Richmond).

INTERSTATE FOOTBALL

MELBOURNE: Hawthorn 14-11 (95), Melbourne 8-25 (73); Collingwood 14-11 (95), South Melbourne 13-9 (87); Footscray 13-19 (97), Richmond 6-5 (41); Carlton 22-17 (149), St Kilda 6-9 (45); North Melbourne 17-19 (121), Fitzroy 7-12 (54); Essendon 14-12 (96), Geelong 8-8 (56).

TASMANIA — TFL: Sandy Bay 12-11 (83), Clarence 8-7 (55); Glenorchy 29-15 (189), North Hobart 11-9 (75); New Norfolk 10-20 (80), Hobart 10-17 (77); NTFA: Launceston 18-9 (117), City-South 8-18 (56); Scottsdale 17-20 (122), North Launceston 9-7 (61); Longford 18-14 (122), East Launceston 16-6 (102); NWFL: Wynyard 12-14 (86), Ulverstone 11-17 (83); Latrobe 13-21 (99), Penguin 9-8 (62); East Devonport 13-12 (90); Devonport 9-10 (64); Burnie 15-11 (101), Coode 11-7 (73).

PERTH: Claremont 18-19 (127), South Fremantle 12-21 (84); East Perth 23-18 (156), Perth 13-18 (96); East Fremantle 32-23 (215), West Perth 19-12 (126); Swan Districts 10-11 (251), Subiaco 20-7 (177).

SYDNEY — Rugby League: Cronulla 26, Manly 7.

Robran — the fighting general!

Roosters spurred to victory

By John Quitta

Like a general Barrie Robran effectively marshalled his North Adelaide troops to conquer Glenelg by 32 points at Prospect Oval yesterday.

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
North	5-4	6-12	9-14	15-18	108
Glen.	2-6	6-7	9-9	11-10	76

Robran was the instigator of many phases of the Roosters play as they gradually gathered more system and Glenelg turned into a sorry looking sight in the final quarter.

Menace

Octopus-like gesticulations, a terse word or two, which had players back into position nearly as quick as they'd wandered, and a deft stab kick or handpass.

These were all part of a masterful Robran effort which appeared to act like a shot in the arm for other players.

North started confidently enough, but then faltered in the second term and only added 1-9.

Glenelg came menacingly towards the Roosters in the third period and hit the lead. From that moment

North seemed to gain more confidence and took the game away.

Pace, a handful of lucky bounces and some strong passages of play in the last quarter had the Tigers gasping as six goals went on the Roosters' tally, and they could only reply with two late efforts.

On the day, Glenelg were just not good enough, and the remaining matches of the season could be used to blood some of the inexperienced youngsters yet to make league ranks.

Ruckman Brenton Hartfield had a field day.

Desperate

He worked tirelessly, challenged desperately and played a big part in helping North gain some degree of system.

This was something



BARRIE ROBRAN . . . terse words

Glenelg appeared to have left at the Bay.

Malcolm Ellis shined in defence, collected 19 kicks and hardly put a foot wrong. Follower Rodney Robran once again turned in a solid performance and added three goals.

Once again Paul Weston was the best on the ground for Glenelg, with a match tally of 28 kicks, six hit-outs, eight handballs and 13 marks.

Statistics show Glenelg had 37 more kicks, four more handballs and won 15 more hitouts than North, and John Halbert must be wondering where all this possession went.