

Sturt finds that little bit extra

Sturt found a metre in pace and a kilojoule in endeavor in the last 10 minutes at Football Park yesterday to defeat Glenelg by 29 points in a testing qualifying final.

Ruckman Rick Davies and dashing Neil Craig were the midfield generals who marshalled and guided Sturt when Glenelg drew to within a point at the 18-minute mark.

Craig capitalised on Davies's mastery from the square to give the forwards ample opportunities.

Ray Wilson, Kim Klomp, Jim Derrington, Darryl Smith and Phil Heinrich also approached their task with dash and decision to play important roles as the Blues slammed on 4.5 to 0.1 in the remarkable last 10 minutes.

So did Paul Hollis and Trevor Sims, both of whom kicked two goals.

It was ironical that Davies should have been the matchwinner as he gave the impression early that his differences of opinion with umpire Peter Mead could prove costly.

An angry Davies claimed after the match that he had been "harshly treated."

Sturt had a little luck with the "gale."

For 3½ quarters the flags stood starched in a fierce northerly but in the last quarter of an hour it switched to the west, depriving Glenelg of its "rightful" use at the southern end.

But Sturt had a greater hunger for conquest. Players possessed the fire and resolution needed to maintain an unrelenting assault that Glenelg could not counter in the closing stages.



GORDON SCHWARTZ on the final

On the day 39 scoring shots to 25 was proof of Sturt's superiority. And Sturt claimed it received only 18 frees to Glenelg's 29.

The solid skills and unyielding tenacity of Sturt half-backs Gary Hardeman, Mark Heinrich and Geoff Wiseman were other major factors in Sturt's victory.

The flankers took their cue from the experienced Hardeman, who rebounded superbly and barged through regardless of bruises.

Sturt, which led throughout, left no doubt in the minds of the 23,781 spectators that it will be a formidable rival for Port Adelaide in Sunday's second semi-final.

Glenelg coach John Halbert, who ultimately saw his team beaten for pace, urgency and steadiness, said that the third-quarter effort had taken its toll.

"It was a magnificent display to kick three goals into that gale and restrict Sturt to four with it," he said.

Sturt	6.12	8.13	12.16	16.23	(119)
Glenelg	0.2	7.7	10.8	13.12	(90)

GOALKICKERS — Sturt: Hollis 4.1, Sims 3.0, Friedrichs 2.2, Fry, P. Heinrich, Hargreaves 1.2, Klomp, Wilson, Craig 1.1, Davies 1.0, Darrington 0.3, Graham, D. Smith 0.2, Wiseman 0.1, rushed 0.3. Glenelg: Caldwell 2.2, Dean, Copping, MacVicar 2.0, Walter, Hodgeman 1.2, Farquhar 1.1, Carey, Paynter 1.0, Weston 0.3, McInerney 0.1, rushed 0.1.

BEST — Sturt: Hardeman, Craig, Davies, Wilson, M. Heinrich, P. Heinrich, Casey. Glenelg: Farquhar, Hodgeman, Paynter, Weston, Marshall.

Umpires — P. Mead, J. Hylton.

Yesterday's stars

G. Hardeman (St.)	3
N. Craig (St.)	2
R. Davies (St.)	1

"The wind did change in the last term and deprived us of the same opportunities.

"We still had chances towards the finish but we made some bad mistakes."

Glenelg had some stars down on form. Roving ace Kym Hodgeman was credited with 24 kicks but his ball control was less assured than usual.

Paul Weston and Peter Carey played with indefatigable energy but did not have their electrifying effect on the game. Nor did Graham Cornes, who fumbled and did not handball confidently.

On the day Sturt had a more even distribution of strength. At the finish it deserved to win because it probed for and created openings.

Glenelg's failure in the last 10 minutes could be attributed to confused passages in which there was no thought or method.

Players were too edgy and disposed of the ball too haphazardly.

But on reflection teamwork was lacking all day. Glenelg rarely managed a collective threat but rather was forced to put its faith in individuals.

'Stazza' may play against Glenelg

Norwood full back Ian Stasinovsky was concussed on Saturday but is expected to play in the first semi-final against Glenelg.

Defender Frank Stemper also will be considered, having overcome a thigh injury.

Glenelg won its two minor round matches against Norwood — by 39 points at Football Park and by 32 points at Norwood.

Sturt back pocket Brendon Howard will have precautionary X-rays for a twisted knee which forced him out of yesterday's game midway through the third quarter.

Captain Paul Bagshaw withdrew from yesterday's 23 and could be an absentee again this week.

Sturt defeated Port at Unley by four points but was beaten at Football Park by 63 points.



Sturt centre half-back Gary Hardeman punches the ball clear before Glenelg's Stephen Copping can apply a tackle at Football Park yesterday. Hardeman was best on the ground.

Elimination Final

Norwood 18 - 20 d. Torrens 12 - 11

Qualifying Final

Sturt 16 - 23 d. Glenelg 13 - 12