

TWO STURT MEN IN HOSPITAL

Sturt, in its desperate effort to consolidate a place among the league leaders, suffered a cruel series of blows at Football Park yesterday.

Not only was it swiped of a vital victory by Glenelg in the time-on period of the last quarter, Sturt was also inflicted with crippling injuries.

●Ill-fated captain Brendon Howard, who waged a gallant fight back against a hamstring injury in the first half of the season, badly injured a shoulder in yesterday's game and was expected to have surgery at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

●Wingman Peter Friedrichs, one of the prime-movers early in the game against Glenelg, also suffered a bad shoulder injury and underwent an X-ray examination.

Others among the Blues' walking-wounded were rugged defender Trevor Sims, who had stitches in a cut above an eye, and vice-captain Neil Craig who completed the game with a corked thigh.

The injuries were a real shock to Sturt, which must now face its build-up to the finals with restricted playing staff.

South Adelaide, too, incurred a long injury list on its way to beating West Adelaide.

Captain Geoff Baynes broke his nose, Wayne Slattery pulled a hamstring, rover Phil Collins suffered severe bruising of the leg he badly injured early in the season,

By Trevor Gill

and for West Adelaide Grant Fielke injured an ankle. It was a tough, intense round of football yesterday . . . full of heart-stopping action and nerve-wrenching finishes.

The Tigers ripped victory off Sturt in the fading minutes of the game; Port Adelaide came from behind to beat Norwood; South hustled to a win over West; and West Torrens completed the surprise of the day by "pipping" troubled North Adelaide by a point.

Norwood coach Neil Balme admitted the Redlegs now had a tough task ahead making the final five.

Norwood has played in five matches this season where the margin has been less than a straight kick.

Sturt now faces a vital game against West at Unley next week . . . a game which could hold a finals berth in the balance.

Port Adelaide, the 1980 premiers who have pulled themselves from despair, now loom as the giant challengers when it all counts most.

Bay burst paralyses the Blues

Glenelg 15-14, Sturt 14-12

By Trevor Gill

Glenelg stole a sensational victory over Sturt in the time-on period of a nail-biting last quarter at Football Park yesterday.

The Tigers, facing an 11 point deficit and a blustering head-on wind at the last change, launched an all-out blitz on the Blues.

It appeared Sturt would be able to resist the challenge, but a crippling list of injuries took its toll in the dying minutes.

At the 26-minute mark, with Sturt almost on its knees with key players out-of-action, Glenelg hit the front with a goal to half-forward Stephen Copping.

The explosive Copping repeated the effort seconds before the siren and the Tigers inflicted a serious blow to Sturt's efforts to stay in the finals race.

The injuries on Sturt's better players of the day undoubtedly gave the Tigers an edge as both sides slowed almost to a walk in the heavy conditions.

Ill-fated captain Brendon Howard was taken to the Queen Elizabeth hospital for surgery on a dislocated shoulder; Peter Friedrichs was undergoing x-rays last night for a shoulder injury; Trevor Sims needed stitches for a cut over his eye and vice-captain Neil Craig finished the game with a corked thigh.

Glenelg pounced on an early break, out-scoring Sturt by 26 points in the first quarter.

But after play was dramatically interrupted at the start of the second quarter by an injury to goal umpire Geoff Marsland, Sturt was a different side.

Burst

Fired by its best play-maker Neil Craig, Sturt unleashed a six-goal burst to take the lead.

Rovers Phil Heinrich and Jim Derrington matched with Sturt's ever-

Time-on victory

green half forward Michael Graham and the unbeatable defence of Sims and Eddie Fry to complete the take-over in the third term.

But it was Glenelg's masterly captain Paul Weston who, when he went to centre, inspired the comeback.

In the thrill-packed final quarter it was Weston, Peter Carey in ruck, Daryl Rady all over the ground and Stephen Copping at half forward who sealed Sturt's doom.

For Glenelg, Carey was best on ground, David Holst defended strongly, Rady was as always the eager beaver and John Paynter and Ralph Sewer were high in the honors list.

The absolute gloom of the Sturt rooms after the game was in stark contrast to the nervous joy in the Glenelg quarters.

Relieved Tiger coach John Halbert said it was Weston who was a major force in the side's fight-backs late in the third and final quarters.

LEAGUE DETAILS

FOOTBALL PARK

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Glenelg	6-5	7-8	10-12	15-14	104
Sturt	2-3	8-8	12-11	14-12	96

BEST. — GLENELG: Carey, Rady, Holst, Sewer, Paynter, Weston. STURT: Craig, Fry, Sims, Graham, P. Heinrich. SCORERS. — GLENELG: Copping 3.0, Kernahan 2.2, Rady 2.1, Carey 2.0, Paynter 1.3, Sewer 1.1, Symonds 1.0, Weston 1.0, McInerney 1.0, Holst 1.0, Marshall 0.2, Brown 0.1, McDermott 0.1, Cornes 0.1, rushed 0.2. STURT: Graham 5.2, Craig 2.0, Hollis 1.2, P. Heinrich 1.1, Derrington 1.1, Howard 1.0, Friedrichs 1.0, Whyatt 1.0, M. Heinrich 1.0, Leonard 0.1, Brand 0.1, rushed 0.4.

INJURIES.—STURT: Howard (shoulder); Friedrichs (shoulder); Sims (eye); Craig (thigh).

UMPIRES. — Peter Mead, Adrian Forster (injured), Colin Phillips.

NORWOOD OVAL

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Port	2-0	5-4	5-7	8-11	59
Norwood	1-6	3-7	5-9	8-10	58

BEST. — PORT: Clifford, Belton, Giles, Hughes, Abernethy, R. Ebert, Eckermann. NORWOOD: M. Aish, Thomas, Nicholson, Menzel, Jenkins, Gallagher, Thiel.

SCORERS. — PORT: Evans 2.3, Boyd 2.1, Belton 1.1, Kinnear 1.1, Hamill 1.0, Cole 1.0, Johnston 0.1, Martyn 0.1, Bradmore 0.1, rushed 0.2. NORWOOD: Menzel 4.0, M. Aish 2.2, Button 1.1, Fosdike 1.0, Woodcock 0.2, Iuliano 0.1, Bell 0.1, rushed 0.3.

INJURIES. — NORWOOD: Woodcock (knee). UMPIRES. — Rick Kinnear, Bob Scholefield.

THEBARTON OVAL

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Torrens	2-1	5-1	6-2	10-2	62
North	3-2	7-3	7-5	9-7	61

BEST.—TORRENS: Enright, McSparran, T. Hill, Miller, K. Hill, Grambeau, R. Diorio. NORTH: Tiller, Riley, Clisby, Cloke, Redden.

SCORERS.—TORRENS: Diorio 2.0, Grambeau 2.0, oberts 1.1, Rendell 1.0, Hanna 1.0, Buckley 1.0, T. Hill 1.0, Galt 1.0, Johnson 0.1. NORTH: Roach 2.2, Pelle 2.1, Grenfell 2.1, Stanbridge 1.1, Schlien 1.0, Green 1.0, McAdam 0.2.

INJURIES.—NORTH: R. Robran (knee), McAdam (thigh). UMPIRES.—Rick Charlesworth, John Hylton.

ADELAIDE OVAL

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
South	6-5	7-9	12-16	15-18	108
West	3-0	7-5	9-9	14-13	97

BEST.—SOUTH: Baynes, Butler, Mousley, Naley, Fairclough, P. Brooksby. WEST: Bennett, Beech, Hamilton, Kennedy, Wells, Borchard, Meuret.

SCORERS.—SOUTH: Linke 5.4, Harradine 3.0, McIntyre 2.0, Slattery 2.2, Fairclough 1.4, Schneebichler 1.0, Hateley 1.0, Emery 0.2, Naley 0.2, Butler 0.1, Hawkins 0.1, rushed 0.2. WEST: Luders 6.2, Lindner 1.2, Morris 1.1, Bennett 1.1, Wells 1.0, P. Winter 1.0, Watson 1.0, Kennedy 1.0, Rechner 1.0, Beech 0.2, Meuret 0.1, rushed 0.4.

INJURIES.—South: Collins (bruising), Baynes (nose), Slattery (hamstring). West: Fielke (ankle).

REPORTS.—Hayes (West) and Schneebichler (South) (allegedly striking each other). UMPIRES.—Laurie Argent, Neville Thorp.

PREMIERSHIP TABLE

	W	L	D	F	A	Pts	%
Glenelg	12	1	—	1666	1200	24	58.13
South	10	3	—	1475	1100	20	57.31
Port	8	5	—	1301	1279	16	50.43
Sturt	7	5	1	1405	1292	15	52.09
West	7	6	—	1620	1394	14	53.75
†Central	6	6	—	1415	1215	12	53.80
Norwood	5	7	1	1293	1305	11	49.77
North	5	8	—	1354	1508	10	47.30
Torrens	2	11	—	1273	1677	4	43.15
†Woodville	1	11	—	1033	1865	2	35.65

† Play today

LEADING GOALKICKERS

	Games	Yest.	Total
Evans ^b (Port)	12	2-3	46-35
Luders (West)	11	6-2	43-35
Linke (South)	12	5-4	43-35
Hollis (Sturt)	13	1-2	40-34
Slattery (South)	13	2-2	39-20

CROWDS

Football Park	9251
Norwood	12,448
Thebarton	3156
Adelaide	unavailable
Total	24,858

THIS WEEK

Today — Central v Woodville (Football Park). Saturday — Torrens v Norwood (Football Park), South v Glenelg (Adelaide), Central v Port (Elizabeth), North v Woodville (Prospect), Sturt v West (Unley).