



## WHAT A RELIEF—WE'RE FINALISTS



Jubilant is written all over the faces of West's Dexter Kennedy, Peter Meuret and Ian Borchard after the match

## But some were not so lucky

By Ashley Porter

A battered Norwood was licking its wounds and pride after being pulverised by Port Adelaide before a record crowd at Football Park yesterday.

The Redlegs will lose four players for the elimination battle with West Adelaide on Saturday, while David Granger is in doubt for Port for the qualifying final against South on Sunday.

The Redlegs injured were Peter Laughlin who will miss three matches with an ankle injury, Robert Barton who will miss at least one match also with an ankle injury, while Paul Adler and John Gallagher could each miss two with hamstring complaints.

Granger has a strained right elbow and was considered doubtful.

Port's 46-point victory, despite woeful kicking for goal, has seen it as Glenelg's strongest challenger for the flag.

In a thrilling last round which attracted 57,462 people, West held its fifth spot with a surprise win over South at Richmond, while Sturt scored a gallant victory over Glenelg at Adelaide.

## Injuries a blow to flag chances

Central District also saw its finals hopes dashed despite winning when it realised the Wolves had triumphed.

And in the other match, West Torrens handed the Peckers the wooden spoon by toppling North Adelaide at Thebarton.

### Spoon

Glenelg won the minor premiership, but its grip on the Thomas Seymour Hill Trophy has loosened over the past three weeks with losses to Norwood and Sturt.

It was a grand effort by the Blues to upset the Tigers, but it was all in vain.

## 2 players reported

TWO players were reported in yesterday's final minor round.

West Torrens vice-captain Kevin McSparran was reported for allegedly striking an unnamed North player in the opening term at Thebarton Oval.

The report took a lot of the shine off the Eagles' fine 37-point win over the Roosters.

Central District utility Ian McKay also was reported in the match against Woodville at Elizabeth Oval.

McKay was reported by boundary umpire P. Young for allegedly striking an unnamed Woodville player with a clenched fist in the third quarter.

Norwood was forced to omit its captain Phil Gallagher from yesterday's match because of a hamstring injury. He is expected to play this week against West.

Talented follower Michael Aish suffered a bruised wrist after a Port player walked on it, but was able to continue playing. He will be fit for the clash with West.

Port and Norwood attracted 35,213 people, easily smashing the SANFL record for a full minor round match. The clubs attracted 22,738 when they clashed at Alberton in 1977.

The victory saw the Magpies finish second on the premiership table.

## Tigers' September blues ...again?

Glenelg showed signs of the "September blues" when a barnstorming Sturt finished the '81 season with a blinding final-term comeback at Adelaide Oval.

Glenelg — with its forward line in disarray and a defence crumbling under pressure—wilted in the final term to suffer its third loss for the year and its second in three weeks.

Sturt, with nothing to lose and sadly nothing to gain, unleashed a devastating finale to slam nine goals and snatch victory by 13 points.

Trailing by 16 points at three quarter time Sturt hit the front at about the 11-minute mark and survived challenge after challenge from Glenelg.

The ferocity of Sturt's final term stunned Glenelg officials, players and supporters.

Coach John Halbert was less than happy after the loss.

He at first refused to comment on his team's performance and then let fly with a hard hitting criticism.

## blues ...again?

Sturt 22-14; Glenelg 20-13

By Stephen Price

"It was a disgraceful exhibition from a top side," he blurted.

"That's all I am going to say and that's all that needs to be said."

The Tigers led at all changes and looked set to cruise to a confidence boosting and hard hitting warm up to the finals.

But Sturt obviously had other ideas.

The Blues broke from the three quarter time huddle and threw themselves at their Tiger opponents as if the flag and not mothballs depended upon the result.

Eddie Fry — who had played very well for three quarters — cut loose and kicked three goals in the final term to finish with six.

But it was the effort of Neil Craig which typified Sturt's final quarter.

Until three quarter time he had just seven kicks, none in the third term.

He unleashed a brilliant

final 30 minutes to pick up six kicks including a goal.

After finishing a season losing only three games it is impossible to believe Glenelg will again fall in a major round.

But Glenelg is no longer an odds-on certainty to play in the grand final, let alone win the flag!

Halbert and his co-selectors have some hard thinking to do over the next two weeks.

They should start at full forward. Comeback veteran Fred Phillis, was beaten off the ground by Colin Casey.

Phillis was taken off in the second term and again at three quarter time and kicked only one goal.

And having 22 goals kicked against your defence by a side which finished sixth is hardly a confidence boosting entrance into the finals.

## LEAGUE DETAILS

### FOOTBALL PARK

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Port	5-5	9-11	14-18	16-23	119
Norwood	5-0	9-0	10-0	12-1	73

BEST—PORT: Granger, Abernethy, Kinnear, Giles, Clifford, Johnston, Cunningham, Phillips. NORWOOD: Thomas, Jenkins, Nicholson, Thiel, M. Aish.

SCORERS—PORT: Evans 3.4, Abernethy 2.4, Cahill 2.4, Granger 2.2, Belton 2.1, Clifford 2.1, Cunningham 1.4, Martyn 1.3, Kinnear 1.0. NORWOOD: Laughlin 3.0, Hartfield 3.0, Thiel 2.0, A. Aish 2.0, Jenkins 1.0, Adler 1.0, Button 0.1.

INJURIES—PORT: Granger (elbow). NORWOOD: Barton (ankle), Laughlin (ankle), Adler (hamstring), J. Gallagher (hamstring).

UMPIRES—Ric Charlesworth, Bob Scholefield.

### ADELAIDE OVAL

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Sturt	5-4	8-11	13-13	22-14	146
Glenelg	6-5	11-10	16-11	20-13	133

BEST—STURT: Fry, Graham, Casey, Reed, Downes, Hollis. GLENELG: Weston, Copping, Paynter, Kernahan, McInerney, Cornes.

SCORERS—STURT: Fry 6.0, Hollis 4.4, Reed 4.1, Graham 3.4, Craig 2.0, Paech 1.2, Derrington 1.0, Downes 1.0, Heinrich 0.1, rushed 0.2. GLENELG: Weston 4.3, McInerney 2.3, Brown 2.0, Copping 2.0, Kernahan 2.0, McDermott 2.0, Paynter 1.2, Marshall 1.1, Phillis 1.1, Sewer 1.1, Caldwell 1.0, Carey 1.0, Rady 0.1, rushed 0.1.

UMPIRES—Laurie Argent, Des Foster.

### RICHMOND OVAL

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
West	5-5	10-9	16-12	20-14	134
South	1-2	6-3	9-5	12-11	83

BEST—WEST: Bennett, Rechner, Kantilaftas, Grosser, Fielke, Donaldson. SOUTH: Naley, G. Brooksby, P. Brooksby, Bennett.

SCORERS—WEST: Rechner 6.1, Falting 4.2, Luders 3.5, Wells 3.0, Fielke 1.2, Grosser 1.0, Bennett 1.0, Hamilton 1.0, Lindner 0.1, rushed 0.3. SOUTH: Linke 2.2, Slatery 2.1, Naley 2.0, Aitken 2.0, Harradine 1.1, Fairclough 1.1, G. Brooksby 1.1, Baynes 1.0, Collins 0.3, rushed 0.2.

INJURIES—WEST: Beech (shoulder).

UMPIRES—Peter Mead, John Field.

### ELIZABETH OVAL

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Central	5-5	12-9	21-14	26-17	173
Woodville	5-2	10-5	13-9	18-10	118

BEST—CENTRAL: Mobbs, Hart, Platten, Livesey, Krieg, Van Dommele. WOODVILLE: Carty, Fitzpatrick, Lennon, Darcy, Mansfield.

SCORERS—CENTRAL: Krieg 5.1, Platten 4.2, Bavthien 3.1, Moore 3.1, Wilson 3.0, Gillies 2.0, Mobbs 1.3, Wright 1.2, Ruciack 1.1, Livesey 1.1, Van Dommele 1.0, Vivian 1.0, rushed 0.5. WOODVILLE: Hunnatz 3.1, Mansfield 3.0, Hewitt 2.4, Welsh 2.2, Richards 2.2, Carty 2.0, Rainbird 1.0, Bolton 1.0, Darmody 1.0, Close 1.0, rush 0.1.

INJURIES—CENTRAL: O'Brien (calf).

REPORTS—CENTRAL: McKay (alleged striking).

UMPIRES—Ric Kinnear, Trevor Thomas.

### THEBARTON OVAL

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Torrens	8-9	13-14	17-18	23-20	158
North	3-3	8-7	15-9	18-13	121

BEST — TORRENS: Roberts, Phillipou, M. Hewett, McSparran, Igelis, Robson, T. Hill. NORTH: Tiller, McAdam, Antrobus, B. Stringer, Cloke, Green.

SCORERS — TORRENS: Roberts 7.2, Ingalls 5.1, Johnston 3.4, Hewett 2.3, T. Hill 2.0, McSparran 2.0, K. Hill 1.2, Phillipou 1.1, Hanna 0.2, Diorio 0.1, Flew 0.1, rushed 0.3. NORTH: Tiller 5.0, Green 3.1, Antrobus 2.1, Redden 2.0, C. Stanbridge 2.0, McAdam 1.4, Robertson 1.2, Riley 1.1, Wildy 1.0, B. Stringer 0.2, Arnold 0.1, T. Stanbridge 0.1.

REPORTS: K. McSparran (West Torrens) alleged striking.

UMPIRES — Tony Hudson, Neville Thorp.

## PREMIERSHIP TABLE

	W	L	D	F	A	Pts	%
Glenelg	19	3	—	2769	2029	38	57.71
Port	15	7	—	2414	1983	30	54.90
South	15	7	—	2296	2002	30	53.42
Norwood	13	8	1	2430	2096	27	53.69
West	11	10	1	2526	2253	23	52.86
Sturt	11	10	1	2261	2286	23	48.73
Central	11	11	—	2522	2233	22	53.04
North	7	15	—	2173	2558	14	45.93
Torrens	3	18	1	2021	2630	7	43.45
Woodville	3	19	—	1820	3162	6	36.53

## LEADING GOALKICKERS

	Games	Yest.	Total
Evans (Port)	21	3-4	83-66
Luders (West)	20	3-5	66-58
Linke (South)	18	2-2	64-46
Hollis (Sturt)	22	4-4	62-58
Platten (Central)	21	4-2	51-31

## CROWDS THIS WEEK

Football Park	35,213	Saturday — Elimination Final — Norwood v West (Football Park.)
Adelaide Oval	10,699	Sunday — Qualifying Final — Port v South (Football Park.)
Elizabeth Oval	4654	
Richmond Oval	4109	
Thebarton Oval	2787	
TOTAL	57,462	