

Phew! Sturt tips scales

Sturt 16-20, Glenelg 12-21

Top team Sturt overcame a case of the blues and marched to victory in a tense, pressure-packed and absorbing clash with Glenelg at Football Park yesterday.

For Glenelg, it was a case of "the one that got away" as it failed to seize the many opportunities to goal and ultimately win.

Glenelg out-kicked, out-handballed, out-tackled, out-marked Sturt, attacked over centre half-forward more often and, overall, controlled most of the play.

But the Tigers could not go in for the kill and Sturt's persistence and desperation for the hard ball allowed it to escape.

Remarkably, for two sides credited with so much skill, they missed 20 easy shots for goal which players of top league standard should have snared.

Blasted

Chances went begging for both sides, but none more crucial than for Glenelg moments before time-on when two "certain" goals could have swung the result its way. There were cases of poor kicking around the field, but that was mainly due to the intense pressure and fierce tackling both sides applied.

Full marks to Sturt for the way it recovered after half time and took the initiative away from Glenelg.

The turning point of the match was at the four-and-a-half minute mark of the third term when Sturt blasted three quick goals in three minutes to turn a two-point deficit into a 16-point lead.

Glenelg found it hard to recover from that burst and only two goals late in the term kept it within winning touch.

Sturt's chances seem to nosedive at the half-time siren when the incomparable Michael "Flash" Graham was being carried off on a stretcher.

He suffered a kick to an ankle and it was feared he would not resume after half-time.

By Ashley Porter

But out he ran again. And what an influence he had in the third term.

Graham's elusiveness and creativity troubled Glenelg and his overall performance earned him a best-afield rating.

Sturt's backlines deserve much credit for their discipline, teamwork and the rebound they provided.

Weakened by the loss of experienced full-back Colin Casey, Sturt combined well as a unit and was relentless with its pressure and attack on the ball.

Peter Motley and Eddie Fry provided enormous rebound across half-back, while Greg Whittlesea again shone in a back pocket and the evergreen Trevor Sims did well at full back.

There were some interesting duels, especially between ruckman Frank Spiel (Sturt) and Peter Carey (Glenelg).

Both contributed greatly to their respective sides and it was Carey's lift in the last term which offered Glenelg winning hopes.

Attack

Ralph Sewer won the centre for Glenelg in the first half and Sturt's Brendon Howard was shifted to centre half-forward and Tim Paech moved into centre.

Sewer continued to force Glenelg into attack, although Paech played well in his new role.

Rover John Paynter and centre half-back Paul Weston were Glenelg's best.

Paynter worked tirelessly around the packs and took over the roving role from Tony McGuinness who was relatively quiet compared with recent performances.

Weston was superb in defence, especially in the crucial stages when Sturt could have easily got a "run" going.



Sturt's Peter Motley flies high over a Glenelg player in the game



Glenelg's Stephen Kernahan attempts to take in a one-handed mark flying over the back of Sturt's Trevor Sims in the match at Football Park yesterday

Woes of Woodville

Woodville yesterday set a dubious record of its longest losing sequence.

The Peckers' defeat by West Adelaide was its seventeenth in a row, breaking the record it has held since the 1966-7 season.

Woodville faces a distinct chance of not winning a match this season... a dishonor that has not been subjected on a club since Central District in 1964 when both clubs entered the competition.

Woodville is heading for its sixth and third successive wooden spoon made even more certain with the

sudden lift in form by West Torrens which is ninth with four wins.

And to make it harder for the Peckers, they face a very difficult run home to the end of the season.

Their remaining matches are: v South (Football Park); Glenelg (Woodville); Port (Adelaide); Norwood (Adelaide); Torrens (Thebarton); North (Football Park); Central (Elizabeth); Sturt (Unley).

Since the start of last season Woodville has blooded 20 youngsters into league football and hopefully they will be the basis of a successful side in the near future.

Pictures by Dennis Rogers and Kevin Bull

CROWDS

Football Park	11,193
Elizabeth	9405
Woodville	3021
Prospect	734
Thebarton	3642
Total	34,155

FOOTBALL PARK

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Sturt	3-3	6-8	10-14	16-20	116
Glenelg	3-7	6-12	8-17	12-21	93

BEST—STURT: Graham, Motley, Fry, Spiel, Radbone, Smith, Howard. GLENELG: Paynter, Weston, Marshall, Carey, Symonds, Sewer.

SCORERS—STURT: Davies 3.5, Hollis 3.5, Paech 3.0, Zilm 2.6, Pfeiffer 2.0, Howard 1.1, Graham 1.1, Smith 1.0, Spiel 0.1, Derrington 0.1. GLENELG: Symonds 4.2, Ke nahan 3.2, Duthy 1.2, McGuinness 1.1, Hartfield 1.1, McDermott 1.0, Hewett 1.0, Paynter 0.3, Carey 0.2, Weston 0.2, Cornes 0.1, Hoist 0.1, rushed 0.3.

UMPIRES—Neville Thorp, Laurie Argent.

ELIZABETH OVAL

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Port	2-6	9-8	14-11	17-13	115
Central	1-1	4-4	9-4	15-9	99

BEST—PORT: Cunningham, Leslie, Phillips, Bradley, Johnston, Ebert, Huppertz. CENTRAL: Kreis, Vivian, Gillies, Wilson, Norsworthy.

SCORERS—PORT: Evans 6.1, Cunningham 3.3, Ebert 2.0, A. Williams 1.1, Bradley 1.1, Harris 1.0, Ho ne 1.0, Bel on 1.0, Gill 1.0, Errey 0.2, Huppertz 0.1, Kinnear 0.1, rushed 0.3. CENTRAL: Wilson 4.2, Bubner 4.1, Norsworthy 2.0, Vivian 2.0, Platten 1.3, Hart 1.0, Gillies 1.0, Hurn 0.1, Van Donmele 0.1, rushed 0.1.

UMPIRES—Jeff Dry, John Hylton.

WOODVILLE OVAL

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
West	6-4	11-9	17-12	26-17	173
Woodville	2-0	8-1	13-6	16-7	103

BEST—WEST: Burgess, Fielke, Morris, Grosser, Lindner, Smith. WOODVILLE: Matheson, Lennon, McLeod, Pierson, Becroft, Fuller.

SCORERS—WEST: Lindner 6-4, Smith 5-2, Luders 4-0, Morris 3-2, Falting 2-1, Bennett 2-0, Grosser 1-1, Hamilton 1-0, Lamb 1-0, Eorhard 1-0, Rechner 0-1, Fielke 0-1, rushed 0-5. WOODVILLE: Pierson 6-2, Dowsett 3-0, M. Parker 2-0, Koop 1-1, Lennon 1-0, Bolton 1-0, J. Parker 1-0, Scheer 1-0, Simpson 0-1, Fuller 0-1, Matheson 0-1, rushed 0-1.

UMPIRES—Des Foster, Daryl Schramm.

PROSPECT OVAL

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Norwood	4-5	6-9	11-15	14-17	101
North	0-1	4-4	7-5	10-12	72

BEST—NORWOOD: M. Aish, Laughlin, Schmaal, Winter, Turbill, Jenkins, Roberts, K. Thomas. NORTH: Redden, Tiller, Riley, L. Stanbridge.

SCORERS—NORWOOD: Michalannev 2.2, Turbill 2.2, K. Thomas 2.1, Button 2.0, Roberts 1.2, Hein 1.1, Laughlin 1.1, G. Thomas 1.1, Fosdike 1.0, Jenkins 1.0, Fehring 0.2, M. Aish 0.1, rushed 0.4. NORTH: Dietrich 3.0, Owens 2.2, Tiller 1.2, Antrobus 1.1, Phillips 1.1, Little 1.1, Riley 1.0, Lokan 0.1, Clisby 0.1, W. Stringer 0.1, rushed 0.2.

UMPIRES—Peter Mead, Brenton O'Connor.

THEBARTON OVAL

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Torrens	4-3	6-6	9-9	16-10	106
South	2-2	3-6	8-9	13-14	92

BEST—TORRENS: Hanna, Muir, Hodson, Hank, Green, Planagan. SOUTH: Schneebichler, Baynes, Martin, Reynolds, Fairclough.

SCORERS—TORRENS: Planagan 4.1, Phillpou 3.1, Mahar 2.2, Robson 2.0, K. Hill 2.0, Hanna 1.1, McKay 1.1, Downie 1.0, Hank 0.2, Collier 0.1, Muir 0.1. SOUTH: Reynolds 3.4, Schneebichler 3.1, Hewitt 2.3, Rozee 2.0, McInyre 1.1, Martin 1.0, Naley 1.0, Hawkins 0.1, Baynes 0.1, Schutz 0.1, Carty 0.1, Fairclough 0.1.

UMPIRES—Trevor Thomas, Graham Hilton.

INJURIES

STURT: Wiseman (slight concussion, cut eye), Heinrich (torn driving muscle), GLENELG: Maynard (bruised thigh).

CENTRAL: Graham (bruised hip). WEST: Mark Micken (ankle).

NORTH: Stanbridge (twisted ankle), Antrobus (corked thigh).

TORRENS: Planagan (sprained ankle). SOUTH: Carty (strained ligaments in ankle), Naley (suspected broken bones in hand).

REPORTS

CENTRAL: P. Vivian for allegedly striking P. Belton (Port Adelaide) by field umpire J. Hylton and boundary umpire G. Burgess in the first quarter.

PREMIERSHIP TABLE

	W	L	D	F	A	Pts	%
Sturt	12	2	—	1906	1355	24	58.45
Port	10	3	1	1652	1123	21	59.53
West	10	4	—	1867	1553	20	54.59
Glenelg	8	5	1	1781	1500	17	54.28
Norwood	8	6	—	1573	1375	16	53.36
Central	6	8	—	1687	1575	12	51.72
North	6	8	—	1505	1692	12	47.08
South	5	9	—	1346	1519	10	46.98
Torrens	4	10	—	1213	1840	8	39.73
Woodville	—	14	—	1203	2201	—	35.34

LEADING GOALKICKERS

Evans (Port)	14	6-1	73-32
Pierson (Woodville)	14	6-2	59-19
Edwards (Central)	13	—	58-32
Davies (Sturt)	14	3-5	52-32
Reynolds (South)	14	3-4	51-44