

BLUES ROCK BOTTOM: HALBERT

Humiliated Sturt plunged from fifth to seventh in one of two shock defeats in round 15.

And Blues coach John Halbert admitted: "There's no way in the world we can make the five unless there's a big turnaround in form."

FOOTBALL PARK

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Norwood	6-2	10-4	16-6	19-7	121
Port	4-2	7-3	10-5	13-11	89

BEST PLAYERS — NORWOOD: K. Thomas, Gallagher, Aish, Kelly, Menzel. **PORT:** Bragley, Russell, Leslie, Mahney, Belton.
SCORERS — NORWOOD: Payne 5.2, Gallagher 3.0, Menzel 2.1, Kelly 2.0, Aish 1.3, Michalanne 1.1, Hein 1.0, Fosdike 1.0, McIntosh 1.0, Thomas 1.0, Hall 1.0. **PORT:** Evans 4.2, Bradley 3.1, Mahney 2.0, Russell 1.2, Smith 1.1, R. Ebert 1.1, Knight 1.0, Cole 0.1, Belton 0.1, rushed 0.2.
INJURIES — NORWOOD: Keam (serious knee ligament damage).
UMPIRES — Ric Charlesworth, Geoff Bowles.

Friday's match

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
North	6-2	14-9	16-12	20-12	132
Woodville	5-6	7-6	11-10	16-13	109

BEST PLAYERS — NORTH: Tiller, Riley, Redden, Gehling, Hart, Cliby, Jarman, Armfield, Simmons. **WOODVILLE:** Harris, Parker, Jacquier, Koop, Blight, Fuller, McLeod, Haylock, Krzeminski.
SCORERS — NORTH: Dietrich 4.1, Brealey 3.1, Gehling 3.1, Hart 2.3, Jarman 1.3, Campbell 1.1, Riley 1.0, Hill 1.0, Hay 1.0, Phillips 1.0, Simmons 1.0, rushed 0.2. **WOODVILLE:** Parker 5.0, Jacquier 4.2, Harris 3.3, Blight 2.0, Koop 1.0, Fuller 1.0, Wood 0.1, Sewer 0.1, Haylock 0.1, Wilson 0.1, rushed 0.4.
INJURIES — NORTH: Campbell (frbs), Ellis (broken finger), Redden (knee). **WOODVILLE:** Wood (suspected broken bone in right hand), Harris (broken nose).
UMPIRES — Peter Francis, Steve Semmler.

RICHMOND OVAL

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Glenelg	4-4	8-8	12-10	17-15	117
West	4-3	9-6	11-11	14-13	97

BEST — GLENELG: Gibbs, S. Kernahan, Symonds, MacFarlane, McGuinness, McDermott, Russell, Carey, Talbot. **WEST:** Herbert, Bennett, McKinnon, Fielke, Grosser, Summerton, Winter, Williams.
SCORERS — GLENELG: Copping 3.2, Gibbs 3.1, Kidney 3.1, McGuinness 2.1, Symonds 1.2, A. Stringer 1.1, S. Kernahan 1.1, Carey 1.0, Murphy 1.0, D. Kernahan 1.0, Twelftree 0.3, McDermott 0.1, rushed 0.2. **WEST:** Morris 3.1, Miller 3.0, Ryan 2.1, Weideman 1.2, Lamb 1.2, Bennett 1.2, Falting 1.1, Williams 1.0, Burton 1.0, Grosser 0.2, Herbert 0.1, rushed 0.1.
INJURIES — WEST: Weideman (eoked thigh, slight concussion), Falting (ankle), Ryan (bruised hip), Burgess (hand).
UMPIRES — Laurie Argent, Rick Kinnear.

UNLEY OVAL

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Torrens	5-3	11-7	15-11	25-16	166
Sturt	6-2	6-4	9-13	12-16	88

BEST — TORRENS: Sims, Hank, Roberts, Hanna, Payze, Collier, McIndoe, Lindsay, Kellett, Enright, Schimmelbusch. **STURT:** Paynter, Motley, Whittlesea, Barbary, Radbone.
SCORERS — TORRENS: Roberts 10.1, Sims 4.0, Robson 3.0, Taylor 2.3, Collier 2.0, Hill 1.2, KELLETT 1.1, Hanna 1.1, Schimmelbusch 1.0, Dillon 0.2, Payze 0.2, rushed 0.4. **STURT:** Davies 3.3, Radbone 2.1, Smith 2.0, Motley 1.5, Willmott 1.2, Derrington 1.1, Barbary 1.0, Paynter 1.0, Hollis 0.2, Paech 0.1, Brown 0.1.
INJURIES — TORRENS: Dillon (sprained Achilles), Robson (sprained ankle), STURT: Reid (sore eye).
REPORTS — Collier (Torrens) for deliberately striking Sturt's Grant Zubrinich in the final quarter, Zubrinich for deliberately striking Collier in the same incident.
UMPIRES — Mark Mackie, Daryl Schramm.

ADELAIDE OVAL

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
South	7-3	11-9	15-14	17-16	118
Central	1-1	4-5	6-9	10-11	71

BEST — SOUTH: Naley, Dewhurst, Palmer, D. Hewitt, Darren Kappler, White, David Kappler, G. Hewitt. **CENTRAL:** Dearauzo, D. Bubner, McGrath, P. Bubner, Norsworthy.
SCORERS — SOUTH: Harris 3.3, Slattry 3.0, Darren Kappler 3.0, Hateley 2.1, Would 2.0, David Kappler 1.2, Dewhurst 1.1, Naley 1.1, Schneebeichler 1.0, Christie 0.1, rushed 0.7. **CENTRAL:** P. Graham 3.1, Wilson 3.1, Fraser 1.4, Norsworthy 1.1, Platten 1.1, P. Bubner 1.0, rushed 0.3.
INJURIES — SOUTH: Hateley, G. Brooksby (jarred knees).
UMPIRES — Jim Field, John Hylton.

CROWDS

Football Park	1647
(Friday night)	
Football Park	10,832
(Saturday)	
Adelaide Oval	5711
Unley	4104
Richmond	4616

NEXT WEEK

Wednesday — Sturt v Glenelg (Escort Cup semi-final, Football Park). Saturday — Central v West (Football Park); South v North (Adelaide); Port v Glenelg (Alberton); Torrens v Norwood (Thebarton). Sunday — Woodville v Sturt (Woodville).

LEADING GOALKICKERS

	Games	Rd 15	Total
T. Evans (Port)	15	4-2	87-29
R. Davies (Sturt)	15	3-3	69-36
G. Dietrich (North)	14	4-1	67-31
B. Beecroft (Woodville)	12	3-3	60-26
N. Roberts (Norwood)	13	—	51-27
W. Wilson (Central)	15	3-1	51-20

Premiership table

	W	L	F	A	Pts	%
Port	12	3	1926	1489	24	56.40
Glenelg	12	3	1979	1555	24	56.00
Central	11	4	1700	1410	22	51.66
South	10	5	1847	1390	20	57.06
Norwood	7	8	1630	1790	14	47.66
West	6	9	1584	1712	12	48.06
Sturt	6	9	1770	1952	12	47.56
Torrens	5	10	1589	2009	10	44.16
North	3	12	1616	1782	6	47.56
Woodville	3	12	1730	2282	6	43.12

PICTURES: Ray Titus, Kevin Bull

By Gordon Campbell

"Our performance was abysmal... I can't pinpoint the reason for the loss."

The failure, Sturt's seventh from its past eight games, makes the Blues highly doubtful for a finals engagement in September.

Halbert said the loss to Torrens was about the worst this season.

And victorious Eagles' coach Glenn Elliott has not ruled out the chance of Torrens making the five.

"I've never thought we couldn't make the five," Elliott said.

Torrens is now eighth with five wins and only two games behind fifth-placed Norwood, which it meets at Thebarton on Saturday.

The Redlegs stunned the football world with a gigantic form reversal to down premierships favorite Port Adelaide at Football Park.

Desperate

The triumph boosted Norwood's desperate bid to play in its fourteenth consecutive finals series.

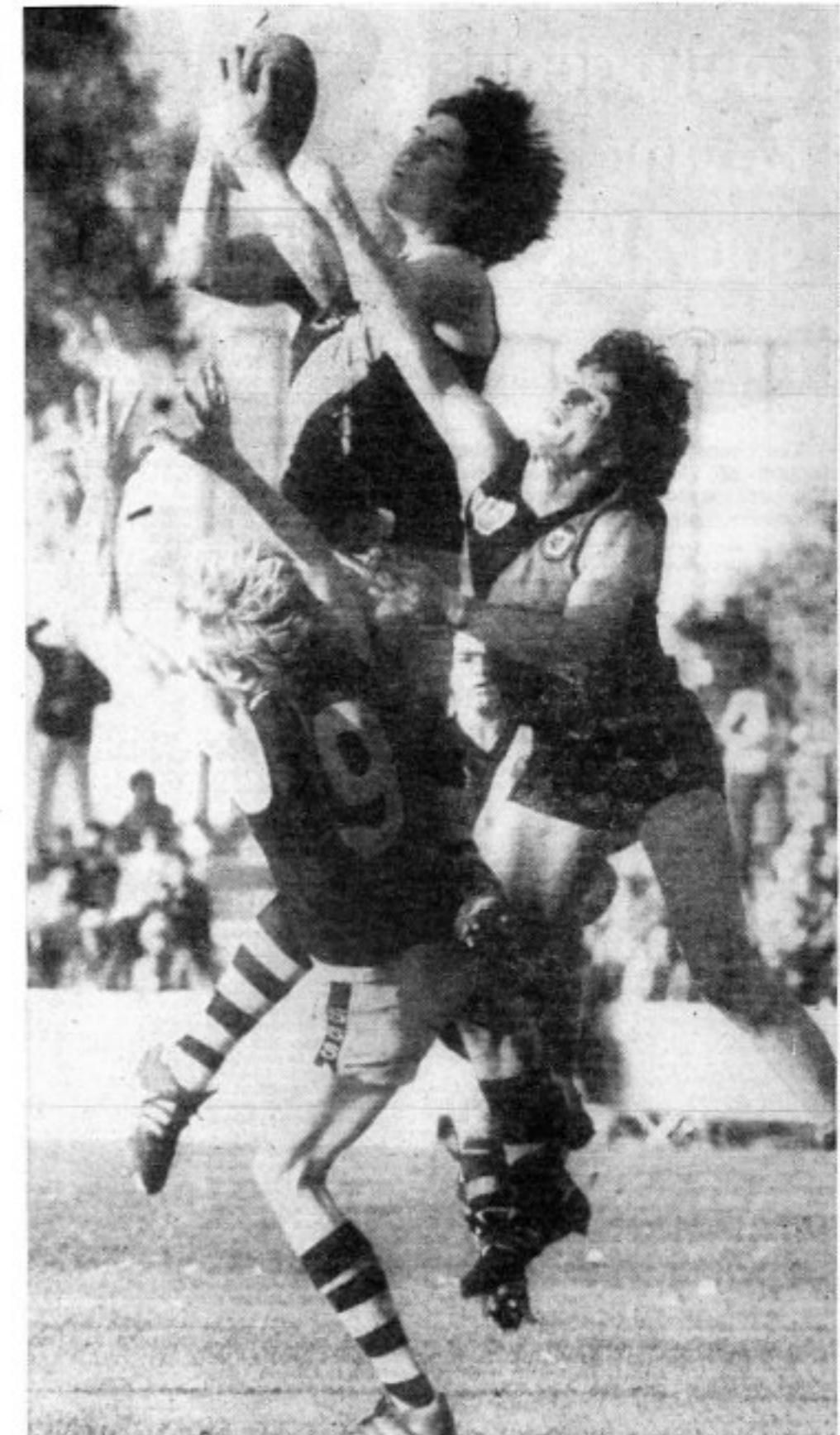
A disgraceful loss to Central District the previous week fired a courageous Norwood revival, led by tiny half-forward David Payne, who returned to top form with five goals.

A gallant West Adelaide remained in sixth spot with a loss to premierships threat Glenelg.

The Bloods failed to fire with a four-goal wind in the final term after matching strides with the Tigers, who won their eighth successive game.

The victory equalled coach Graham Campbell's winning stint with West Perth nine years ago.

And Glenelg will battle with Port at Alberton on Saturday for the right to top billing and premierships favoritism in the match of the season. Port's shock loss was its first in the



Glenelg's Stephen Kernahan takes yet another mark, this time in opposition to West's Grantley Fielke (right) and over the top of team mate Tony Symonds

past five games and jolted the Magpies back to the field.

Glenelg has never filled top position in Campbell's two-year reign.

Its eight successive wins is in stark contrast to its eight straight losses at the start of last season.

South Adelaide won its third game in seven days with a powerful 47-point victory over Central District.

Success boosted the Panthers bid to win the double chance and placed them just one win behind the third-placed Bulldogs.

A whopping 122-point victory over Woodville the week before and yesterday's convincing mar-

gin have lifted South's percentage to the best in the competition.

Champion Panther rover Mark Naley played an important role, as did prolific kick-winner Daryl Hewitt, who has become a key member of the running unit.

South has a reasonably comfortable draw with matches against North Adelaide, West Torrens, and Sturt in its next three games.

The loss was the Bulldogs' second in four days to South.

They folded in a semi-final of the Escort Cup at Football Park on Wednesday night.

North's battling win over Woodville on Friday night lifted it from the bottom and relegated the Warriors to the cellar.

Something to bay about now

Glenelg has not always had a reputation for toughness, for sheer guts and determination.

By Peter Cornwall

But coach Graham Campbell is right.

This Bay side is something different.

Yet again this top combination showed courage and grit when it was really needed, to snare a hard-fought win over finals challenger West Adelaide at Richmond.

That brought up eight wins in succession for Glenelg, and, among those wins, have been similar tough and narrow wins over Norwood, Central District and South Adelaide.

At the three-minute mark of the final term at Richmond, West led by a point and, with a strong breeze at its tail and confidence high, the Bloods looked to be storming home to victory and a final five spot.

But the Bays clearly had other ideas.

Half an hour later they were home, by 20 points, and the talk that Glenelg now had the toughness — both mental and physical — to match the skills of previous years, had proved justified.

Coach Campbell rightly proclaimed: "It was, a very gutsy win."

"We are a tough and hard side now, and that is standing us in good

stead to do well when the going gets tough.

"I was concerned at three-quarter time when we had to kick into a two to three goal breeze and they had their tails up.

"But we were hell-bent on winning. We really found something.

"It was a hard game, but we didn't back away from anything. Our commitment was very strong.

"No one can deny us the right to take top place if we can beat Port next week."

And the Bays could well do so.

The last time they suffered a defeat was at the hands of the Magpies at Football Park in round seven on May 12.

Yesterday's match at Richmond was by no means pretty, but the importance of the game to both sides and the windy conditions saw to that.

It was close to goal-for-goal all day, and the final 20-point margin to the Bays was only bettered once during the game — when Glenelg held a 21-point lead at the 20 minute mark of the first quarter.

Glenelg, whose tough physical approach was once more epitomised by the likes of the Stringer

brothers, Alan and Wayne, Robin Kidney, and Scott Salisbury, gave a solid team performance.

Follower Ross Gibbs was perhaps its best, collecting 18 kicks, seven marks and three goals.

The strong marking skills of ruckman Stephen Kernahan were never more obvious than in the final term when he pulled down some crucial marks to stem the tide.

And Tony Symonds performed extremely well on the wing to gather 18 kicks and eight handballs.

Best for the Bloods was follower Des Herbert, who, after being all but concussed by a hard John Seebohm hip and shoulder in the first term, hit back to collect 19 kicks and 10 handballs.

With eight players missing from last year's grand final winning side, you would have expected the Bloods to have more than a little trouble, and the losses from last week's side of Roger Luders, Mark Dreher and Mike Smith were obviously critical.

"Glenelg worked much harder than we did," West coach Neil Kerley said after the game.