

LEGS, BLOODS FACE UPHILL FIGHT

The first round has almost ended — and so have West Adelaide and Norwood's finals chances.

By Ashley Porter

League details

FOOTBALL PARK

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Central	2-5	8-12	13-16	18-20	128
Sturt	6-5	9-5	11-8	16-11	107

BEST—CENTRAL: Platten, Hannam, Norsworthy, Wright, Wilson, Edwards, Prior, Nolan. **STURT:** Motley, Paech, Davies, Craig, P. Heinrich, Flelke, Barbary.

SCORERS—CENTRAL: Platten 4.3, Wright 4.2, Wilson 3.4, Moulds 2.1, Connelly 1.1, Edwards 1.1, Kreis 1.0, van Doumle 1.0, Roe 1.0, Grant 0.4, Nolan .01, Norsworthy 0.1, rushed 0.2. **STURT:** Davies 6.1, Flelke 4.0, Paech 2.1, Hollis 1.1, Paynter 1.0, Smith 1.0, Zubinich 1.0, Barbary 0.4, Craig 0.1, Downes 0.1, rushed 0.2.

INJURIES—CENTRAL: Cousins (groin), Platten (cramp). **STURT:** Fry (bruised leg), Reid (sprained ankle).

UMPIRES—Laurie Argent, Jim Field.

GLENELG OVAL

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Glenelg	1-2	3-13	10-17	17-20	122
Norwood	3-2	6-4	12-6	16-7	103

BEST—GLENELG: Gibbs, Symonds, Carey, S. Kernahan, Nichols, Twelvetree. **NORWOOD:** Aish, McIntosh, Thomas, Payne, Balme, Fischer.

SCORERS—GLENELG: Nichols 6.4, Gibbs 4.2, Symonds 2.1, S. Kernahan 2.0, McGuinness 1.3, Twelvetree 1.2, Russell 1.0, Talbot 0.2, Carey 0.1, McDermott 0.1, rushed 0.4. **NORWOOD:** Roberts 5.0, Balme 3.0, Maynard 2.1, Payne 2.1, Hein 2.0, Aish 1.2, Thomas 1.0, rushed 0.2.

INJURIES—NORWOOD: Gallagher (hamstring), Jarvis (ankle), Dougall (flu) withdrew from match. **GLENELG:** Marshall (flu) withdrew from match.

UMPIRES—Geoff Bowles, Adrian Forster.

ALBERTON OVAL

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Port	3-1	11-7	15-12	23-15	153
North	7-6	11-7	14-8	19-13	127

BEST—PORT: Clifford, Bradley, R. Ebert, Kinnear, Russell, Belton, Evans, Knight. **NORTH:** Tiller, Dietrich, Redden, Campbell, Hart, Robertson, Armfield, Ellis.

SCORERS—PORT: Evans 7.1, Russell 4.1, Knight 3.2, Mahney 2.0, Belton 2.0, Bradley 1.4, Clifford 1.0, C. Ebert 1.0, Drogemuller 1.0, Harrison 1.0, Kinnear 0.3, R. Ebert 0.2, rushed 0.2. **NORTH:** Dietrich 10.4, Kemp 2.0, Phillips 2.0, Tiller 1.2, Hart 1.1, Redden 1.1, Breaker 1.0, Jarman 1.0, Hay 0.1, Monaghan 0.1, Campbell 0.1, rushed 0.2.

REPORT—PORT: Mahney, for misconduct by field umpire Ric Charlesworth in the last quarter.

INJURIES—PORT: Johnston (elbow). **NORTH:** Monaghan (foot).

UMPIRES—Ric Charlesworth and Rick Kinnear.

RICHMOND OVAL

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Woodville	4-4	11-7	15-10	25-13	163
West	9-2	13-5	19-13	23-15	153

BEST—WOODVILLE: Haylock, Heaney, Koop, K. Harris, Parker, Clift. **WEST:** Winter, C. Williams, Bennett, Luders, Smith, Morris.

SCORERS—WOODVILLE: Harris 4.3, Beecroft 3.1, Heaney 3.0, Heaney 2.2, Koop 2.2, Haylock 2.1, Scheer 2.0, Stanton 2.0, Fuller 1.1, Wright 1.1, T. McDonald 1.1, Parker 1.0, Clift 1.0, rushed 0.1. **WEST:** Luders 6.4, Smith 5.4, Morris 4.1, Falting 2.1, Rechner 2.0, Fielke 1.2, C. Williams 1.0, Mickan 1.0, Grosser 1.0, Herbert 0.1, Bennett 0.1, rushed 0.1.

INJURIES—WOODVILLE: Scott McDonald (dislocated left shoulder).

UMPIRES—Des Foster, Ian Penhall.

CROWDS

Football Park	11,048
Glenelg	9639
Alberton	7679
Richmond	2667

NEXT WEEK

ROUND 10
SATURDAY: West v North (Football Park), Central v Glenelg (Elizabeth), Norwood v Sturt (Norwood), Torrens v Woodville (Thebarton). **SUNDAY:** South v Port (Adelaide)

LEADING GOALKICKERS

	Games	Yest.	Total
T. Evans (Port)	9	7-1	55-15
G. Dietrich (North)	9	10-4	49-21
R. Davies (Sturt)	9	6-1	48-19
G. Nichols (Glenelg)	9	6-1	45-21
N. Roberts (Norwood)	9	5-0	40-17
B. Beecroft (Woodville)	6	3-1	31-11
K. Harris (Woodville)	9	4-3	25-18

PREMIERSHIP TABLE

	W	L	F	A	Pts	%
Port	8	1	1158	883	16	56.74
Central	8	1	1026	850	16	54.69
*South	6	2	981	720	12	57.67
Glenelg	6	3	1159	901	12	56.26
Sturt	6	4	1118	1081	10	51.43
West	3	6	947	1065	6	47.07
Norwood	3	6	1008	1197	6	45.71
Woodville	2	7	1062	1319	4	44.16
*Torrens	2	6	774	1102	4	41.26
North	1	8	992	1109	2	47.22

*To play today

And it is possible the final five has been determined — Port, Central, South, Glenelg and Sturt.

There were the conclusions after four tough matches yesterday, highlighted by Woodville's magnificent 10 points victory over the reigning premier.

The ninth round will be completed today when South Adelaide clashes with West Torrens at Thebarton.

Sturt is the side under the greatest pressure to stay in the five, following its fourth loss to teams above it on the premiership table when it lost to Central District by 21 points.

Tough

But sixth and seventh ranked West and Norwood are not playing good enough football to suggest they could out the Blues.

For the second time in six days the Bloods lost to the bottom side, while Norwood was beaten by Glenelg by 19 points in a tough match at the Bay. West's score of 23-15 was

the highest ever losing score against any side, and Woodville's 25-13 was its biggest score against the Bloods.

Table leader Port tossed North by 26 points at Alberton. North's score of 19-13 was its highest losing tally against the Magpies, and the match total of 280 points made it the highest scoring game between the clubs.

Doubtful

Taking the shine off Port's victory was the fact its young rover, Wayne Mahney, was reported by field umpire Ric Charlesworth in the last term for alleged misconduct.

Woodville's yin was costly. Scott McDonald suffered a shoulder injury and will miss at least eight matches.

Next week's round is indeed interesting and should help determine where some of the teams are headed. It is: West v North (Football Park), Central v Glenelg (Elizabeth), Norwood v Sturt (Norwood), Tor-

'Highest ever losing score'

rens v Woodville (Thebarton), South v Port (Adelaide, Sunday).

Sturt faces another tough match on Tuesday night against Melbourne in a Sterling Cup match at Football Park.

Peter Reid is doubtful with a sprained left ankle, while Eddie Fry is causing some concern with a bruised leg.

Melbourne is in top form and yesterday crushed Footscray by 13 goals.

Top Central District ruckman Richard Cousins was in hospital last night for X-rays and tests on a groin injury.

He was hurt in the second quarter against Sturt and was sent to Royal Adelaide Hospital for examination.

The seriousness of the injury was not known last night but Cousins was expected to stay in overnight.

A tough encounter

By Ashley Porter

Glenelg must be sympathising with Norwood's plight this season because it seemed to be doing everything in its power to lose at the Bay yesterday.

The Tigers allowed Norwood to take the lead three times; allowed it to get within a point going into time-on in the last term after leading by 20 points at the 17-minute mark; and most of all, kicked for goal like crabs, including a 2-11 second term.

They kicked three goals in the dying minutes to camouflage what was an enthralling and tough encounter which, for most of the game, could have gone either way.

Glenelg won the premiership points and plaudits for victory, but Norwood's desperation and sound performance should not go unrecognised.

It was not "pretty" football. Fierce tackling, smothering, and close prevented that.

As an indication, Glenelg's disposals slumped 17 per cent on its season's average, while Norwood's dropped by 23 per cent.

Glenelg's kicking for goal

Glenelg 17-20 (122) d Norw'd 16-7(103)

was not good, but it was mainly due to the intense pressure the Norwood defenders applied.

The turning point of the game came at the 11-minute mark of the third term, Norwood had raced to a 21-point lead and Glenelg was struggling to get its game flowing.

Then wingman Tony Symonds snapped a superb goal from the right pocket. The Tigers immediately lifted. Full-forward Greg Nichols jumped up for two marks and booted two goals and the margin was only three points.

The battle was on in earnest and neither side gave in. Neville Roberts almost lifted Norwood to victory late in the last quarter with three quick goals, followed by a goal from David Payne, who impressed in his league debut.

But Glenelg withstood the pressure going into time-on with a goal from Ross Gibbs.

It was appropriate that Gibbs kicked that goal to make Glenelg's lead seven points at the 27-minute mark because he was largely responsible for the drive generated from the packs.

Glenelg had the edge in the big men department with Peter Carey and Stephen Kernahan in ruck, and Nichols up forward with his well-earned six goals.

Norwood had three outstanding players on the ball — Michael Aish, Garry McIntosh and Keith Thomas — who between them collected 31 per cent of Norwood's total disposals.

But apart from their numerous kicks and handballs, they were responsible for some great tackling and team play, and placed tremendous pressure on the Tigers.

Pleasing aspects for both sides were the performances by first game players David Kernahan (Stephen's brother) and David Payne.

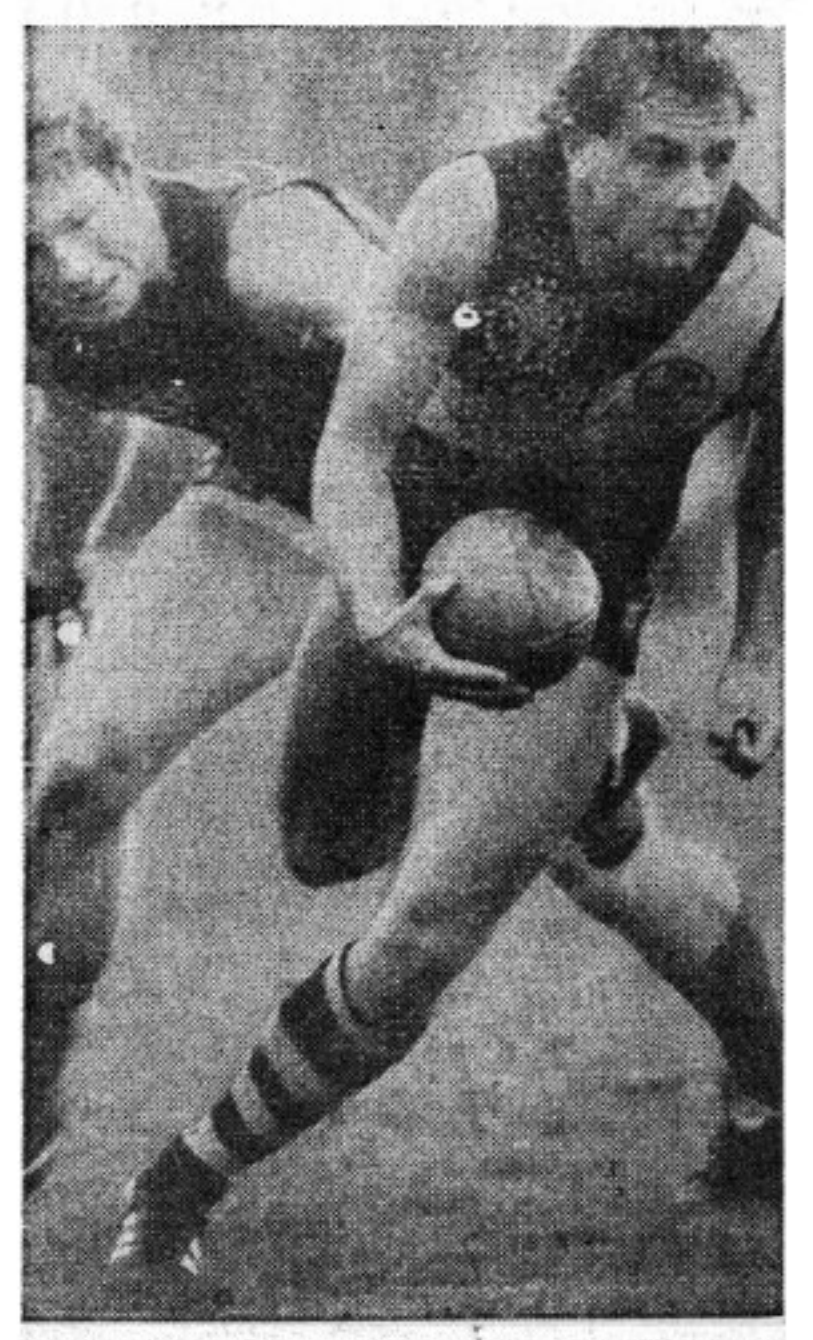
Written in chalk on a big blackboard in the Glenelg changerooms were the words: "Don't rush things . . . goals will come."

The Tigers must have taken notice of coach Graham Campbell's message because their control of the ball was far better in the second half.

Pictures: Dennis Rogers and Kevin Bull



Glenelg's Chris McDermott, assisted by Norwood's Tom Warhurst, takes a dive over Michael Aish, of the Redlegs



Tiger rover Tony McGulness powers away from Norwood defender David Dickinson