After the Rick Davies drama...

STURT UNLEASHES A NEW GOAL WHIZ

...and Cowboy threatens axe

Sturt bounced back from the furore surrounding the Rick Davies affair with a great victory over Woodville at Woodville Oval yesterday.

And it was new full forward Ian Willmott, 21, who led the way with a magnificent 10 goal effort.

Willmott equalled the record number of goals kicked by a Sturt player against Woodville on the Warriors home ground.

Ironically he now joins Rick Davies as joint holder of the record, with Davies collecting his 10 goal bag in 1983.

While things may be looking up for Sturt, Central District coach Cowboy Neale was far from happy after his side went under to West Torrens by 50 points.

Coach

Neale promised the axe would fall, on perhaps six to eight players. He criticism The usually is that the coach can't coach. But I'm beginning to think the players can't play.

"That's two losses in a row. I'm not going to put up with it any longer.

"Some of the blokes have got the talent but they only produce it when they feel like it.

"It seems to have been a problem with the club for the past 20 years."

premiers Reigning Norwood may have beaten South Adelaide by 38 points at Adelaide Oval yesterday, but coach Neil Balme described his team's effort as "pathetic."

"I wasn't happy with the way we played ail day," Balme said.

"We've got to improve a hell of a lot to be anywhere near as good as we want to be."

After yesterday's loss, Don Scott's Panthers are still at the foot of the table and still coming to grips with the style of play Scott is demanding from them.

Scott said the players had to learn how to play premiership football.

"The opposition did it to us and until we learn we'll continue to lose," he



North continued its unbeaten run with a convincing 47-point win over Port Adelaide at Football Park.

It is the Rooster's best start to a season since 1971 - a year the club

went premiers. Port on the other hand are in the unaccustomed position of ninth spot and has the difficult task of making up lost ground.

West coach John Cahill said the half-time injuries to three of his players was a telling factor in the team's 19-point loss to Glenelg at Richmond Oval.

"We lost a couple of players and lost all flexibility," he said.

"We were still in there with a chance in the last quarter, but we were not good enough in the end."

Glenelg coach, Graham Cornes, was happy to get the points from what he described a "hard and tough" game.

Tigers win but Bloods ride high

In a contest where endeavor overlapped skill, Gleneig throughout to eclipse West by 21 points at Richmond Oval.

One always felt the Tigers held sway and had a better method in scoring goals, yet just when the visitors must have felt they had deknockout the livered punch, West picked itself up off the floor.

For much of the game it suffered from injuries some perplexing decisions which ensured a Richmond "roast" for umpires Rick Kinnear and John Hylton.

Consistent kickgetters Leon Grosser and Mike Smith finished on the sidelines and should have been joined by Mark Dreher and Stephen Miller who were forced to accompany Ron Andrews on a full forward line that lacked pace.

These things considered, it was little wonder that Tiger coach Graham Cornes overstayed his welcome on the field at three-quarter time urging his charges

An early goal to Smith was quickly negated by Chris McDermott and the creative Tony Symonds, and a quick Roger handpass to Luders on his own balanced the ledger before the Tigers went ahead through an unbelievable snap by Robyn and Kidney majors by Carey, Hen-Copping and wood, McGuinness.

Knock

At the first change the Tigers, working well as a unit, led by 27 points.

They had a defence that effectively punched the ball away to disciplined players waiting for the expected knock, and clever handball set up the overlap to good effect.

and handsomely beat the four big men opposed to him, and with Grantley Fielke absolutely burning

Mark Mickan took on



all over the field and Ron Andrews using his experience in front of goals, the Bloods clawed their way back in the game.

If Fielke and Conlen had not squandered several easy chances, West could have led at half time instead of trailing by 16 points after goals by Marshall, Carey and Copping.

Derek Shaw became a second skin to Stephen Kernahan who by his exceptional standards had a quiet day, but Glenelg always had other goalscoring avenues, in particular Stephen Copping who added eight to the 10 scored last week.

At three-quarter time, West trailed by five points and had made further progress against the run of the ball.

The Richmond roof nearly took off when Mark Drehar scored what surely must have been one of his rare goals, but almost immediately Alan Stringer, in a brilliant solo burst, notched two timely goals.

Mickan was conspicuously absent from the bounces, and Fielke languished surprisingly away from the action.

Andrews scored his fifth goal and when the nippy Conlen ultimately found the middle of the goals after numerous misses, the Bloods were within one point.

The Tigers answered the challenge with Kernahan finding Copping on a long lead for a goal and then Tony McGuinness made it a dynamic trio as they steadily took Glenelg out of danger.

Under the circumstances, it was a game Glenelg should have won and won well.

That they did not was a tribute to some determined play by a depleted West that lacked nothing in courage and may be seen to better effect in the damp conditions ahead.

Tony Symonds did as much as anyone over four quarters for the Tigers and Wayne Henwood looks a very good acquisition as a versatile playmaker.

Form

McDermott was safe and assured in defence Copping's goals always seemed to come at the right time.

Mickan played a lone hand in ruck and is very close to his form two years ago. Fielke was the spark that ignoted West in the second term.

Des Herbert is a prolific kickwinner and had good quarters four whereas many of his teammates fired

Glenelg took the points but the honors for the day were probably a little

more in Cahill's corner. Glenelg is strong at the moment and deserves its position on the

West has a measure of improvement ahead as it regains some missing players.

premiership table.

One hopes the news about Mike Smith is not as bad as feared as a prolonged absence would certainly be a blow to West.

One man who could certainly understand Cahill's feelings sat impassively in the stand with nautical man bir James Hardy - Nell Kerley.

One gets the feeling he is happy to trade football waves for waves of a different kind.

as told to Bon Hickoy

Club's decision correct idol at Unley and a goal-kicking league

believe Sturt right to tell was Rick Davies it no longer required his services.

But it's quite understandable why the football public — and Sturt supporters in particular — are up in arms over the sacking.

Davies, one of the greatest players produced in SA, was an

popular personality throughout the football world. Because of his close

affiliation with media, it was natural his media friends rallied as one to attack Sturt over the sacking.

I saw Rick play last week against Glenelg and it was hard to believe this was the same player who two years ago had broken the

record.

Admittedly it was the first time I had seen him play this season. But it was enough to

make me understand attitude, be-Sturt's champ cause the turned in a shocker.

He showed all the obvious signs that he was over the hill.

ball today has no room It must have been a for sentiment. tough decision for the Sturt match committee

FOOTBALL PARK

Kerth 9-16 13-17 Pert

BEST-NORTH: Antrobus, Armfield, Tiller, Campbell, Clisby, Robertson, Phillips, Arnold, PORT; Anderson, Curtis, A. Kennedy, Lawson, Russell, Ginever, SCORERS-NORTH: Dietrich 6.2, Antrobus 3.4, Hart 3.0, Parsons 2.0, Simmons 2.0, Robertson 1.2, Brealev 1.0, Jarman 1.0, Campbell 1.0, Phillips 1.0, Tiller 0.1, Hill 0.1, rushed 0.6, PORT: Kennedy 3.1, Lawson 3.0, Smith 2.0, Harris 1.3, O'Brien 1.2, Russell 1.2, Williams 1.1, Anderson 1.1, Ginever 0.1, J. Harvey 0.1, Evans 0.1, rushed 0.4, INJURIES-NORTH: Hart (hip), Hill (hip), PORT: Knight (hip).

REPORTS—NORTH: P. Bennett reported by boundary umpire A. Hopkins for allegedly striking M. Leslie (Port) before the start of play, D. Robertson reported by field umpire R. Scholefield for allegedly striking an unnamed

Port player in the third term. UMPIRES-Laurie Argent, Bob Scholefield.

THEBARTON OVAL

5-5 10-13 15-17 23-19 157 Iorrens 10-6 12-9 16-11 107 Central

BEST.—TORRENS: Schimmelbusch, Eichner, Stretch, Barau, Taylor, Turner, S.ms. CENTRAL; Bubner, Krieg, Platten, Graham, Thomas, Hull. Walters.

SCORERS.—TORRENS: Hill 5.4, Roberts 5.2, Taylor 4.5, Johnston 4.0, Schimmelbusch 2.0, Sims 2.0, E.chner 1.2, Payze 0.1, Hank 0.1, Sarau 0.1, rushed 0.1, CENTRAL: Graham 6.2, Walters 4.0, Pitman 2.0, Platten 1.1, Tring 1.0, Beythien 1.0, Drogemuller 1.0, Hull 0.2, Connelly 0.2, Fraser 0.1, Kreig 0.1, Tushed 0.2, INJURIES.—CENTRAL: Scott Lee, broken collarbone in third quarter, Likely to miss six to eight weeks, UMPIRES.—Geoff Bowles, Steve Semmler,

WOODVILLE OVAL

13-11 19-14 26-18 174 13-3 17-7 Woodville

BEST.—STURT: Motley, Willmott, Spiel, Klomp, Martin, Paynter, Smith, Whittlesea, Keane, WOODVILLE: Beecroft, Sewer, Harris, Dettmann, Heaven, Schwarz.

SCORERS.—STURT: Willmott 10.2, Hollis 4.1, Martin 3.2, Motley 3.1, Viney 2.1, Derrington 1.2, Paynter 1.1, Wark 1.0, Klomp 1.0, Gumley 0.4, rushed 0.4, WOODVILLE: Beecroft 8.0, Blight 5.3, R. Fuller 2.0, Schwarz 1.1, Sewer 1.1, Mackereth 0.1, Butterworth 0.1, INJURIES.—STURT: Derrington (ankle), Martin (cheek), WOODVILLE: McLeod (hamstring), UMPIRES.—Jim Field, Darryl Schramm.

UMPIRES .-- Jim Field, Darryl Schramm.

RICHMOND OVAL

3rd 2nd 7-5 10-9 15-13 23-17 155 Glenelq 8--5 14-14 20-14 136 West

BEST—GLENELG: Symonds, McDermott, Henwood, McGuinness Copping, S. Kernahan, Marshall, Gibbs, WEST: Mickan, Fielke, D. Herbert Conlen, Luders, Meuret, SCORERS—GLENELG: Copping 8.2, McGuinness 3.5, Corea, 2.2, A. Stringer, 2.2, Symonds, 2.2, S. Kernahan, 2.0, Stringer, 2.2, Stri Carey 2.2, A. Stringer 2.2, Symonds 2.2, S. Kernihan 2.0, McDermott 1.1, Henwood 1.1, Marshall 1.0, Kidney 1.0, D. Kernahan 0.1, rushed 0.1, WEST: Andrews 6.0, Luders 3.4, Conlen 3.2, Fielke 2.4, Smith 2.1, Bennett 1.1, Mc-Kinnon 1.0, D. Herbert 1.0, Dreher 1.0, Meuret 0.2, INJURIES—WEST: Smith 'probable broken right collarbone', Grosser (bruised right leg), Miller (corked thigh)

ADELAIDE OVAL

UMPIRES: John Hylton, Rick Kinnear,

Final 3rd 1st South

BEST-NORWOOD: K. Thomas, Taylor, McGrath, Winter, Button, Laughlin, SOUTH: Palmer, Naley, Bennett, Cole, Darren Kappler, David Kappler. SCORERS—NORWOOD: Roberts 4.4, K. Thomas 3.2, Virdanega 3.0, Button 2.2, McGrath 2.1, Taylor 2.0, Michalanney 2.0, M. Aish 1.1, Laughlin 1.0, Heln 0.1, SOUTH: Cole 3.0, Schneebichler 2.2, McIntyre 2.0, Naley 2.0, Stoeckel 2.0, Darren Kappler 1.2, G. Hewitt 1.1, Dewhirst 1.1, Lockman 0.1, David Kappler 0.1, rushed 0.1, INJURIES—NORWOOD: Tom Warhurst (hamstring) and Shane McGrath (thigh).

PREMIERSHIP TABLE

UMPIRES-Mark Mackie, Neville Thorp.

Shane McGrath (thigh).

| | W | L | F | A | Pts | % |
|-----------|---|---|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| North | 5 | - | 782 | 536 | 10 | 54.33 |
| Glenelg | 4 | 1 | 708 | 533 | 8 | 57.05 |
| Norwood | 4 | 1 | 614 | 528 | 8 | 53.76 |
| Torrens | 3 | 2 | 653 | 584 | 6 | 52.79 |
| Central | 2 | 3 | 655 | 673 | 4 | 49,32 |
| West | 2 | 3 | 635 | 709 | 4 | 47.25 |
| Sturt | 2 | 3 | 595 | 670 | 4 | 47.04 |
| Woodville | 2 | 3 | 595 | 670 | 4 | 47.04 |
| Port | 1 | 4 | 587 | 765 | 2 | 43.41 |
| South | - | 5 | 486 | 653 | 0 | 43.82 |

LEADING GOALKICKERS

Games Blight (Woodville) Dietrich (North) (Glenelg) Copping Beecroft (Woodville) J. Roberts (Torrens) Platten (Centrals) Wilmott (Sturt)

Total Yesterday 32.15 27.9 27.7 5.3 6.2 8.2 8.0 22.5 5.2 20.8 18,12 1.1 10.2 18.9 4.0 18.6

Central v

ball Park);

Glenels

Sturt

censed with Sturt's atti-

tude, but with the

money players seek to-

day I can understand

mands a star player can

place on a club can be

The financial de-

wood v Torrens (Norwood);

Port v South (Alberton); North v West (Prospect).

(Adelnide). Nor-

Woodville v

Football Park, 12 260.

Johnston (Torrens)

Adriaide Oval, 6387. Richmond, 6.89. Woodville, 4217. Thebarton, 8588.

and Mervyn Keane to make, but I guess they already have written off their chances of a 1985 premiership and are thinking of next year.

Obviously there is no place for Davies in their

future plans. It was a ruthless, but a brave decision. Foot-

Some years ago I

enormous. Sturt is a great club and most of its decis-

the decision.

ions over the years have been wise ones . . . that's why it has been so successful.

would have been in-SUNDAY MAIL, May 5, 1985-79