

Norwood back from the dead and . . .

# EBERT IS THE MAN FOR PIES

By Ashley Porter

**Port Adelaide last night announced the re-appointment of Russell Ebert as coach.**

The surprise announcement, not expected until Port's last game, was greeted with overwhelming response by the players and members at Alberton.

The one-year re-appointment ends months of speculation on Ebert's future, especially after he was reportedly under pressure when Port struggled midway through the season.

Also, it quashes the widely-spread rumors West Adelaide coach John Cahill would return to the club.

Port's showing of confidence in Ebert was the only bright note in a dreadful day for the Magpies.

The Pies suffered a league record eighth successive loss to Norwood and almost jeopardised a double chance in the finals which kick-off next weekend.

Victory for Norwood, and Central District's loss to North Adelaide, saw the Redlegs snatch a finals berth.

They will play Woodville in Sunday's elimination final. The Warriors-slumped to fourth spot after a surprise loss to South Adelaide and a victory to Glenelg over Sturt.

## Slumped

This means Port and Glenelg will clash in Saturday's qualifying final for the right to challenge North Adelaide in the second semi-final.

The Redlegs were awesome with their skills, pace and fierce desire, and Balme said they finally deserved a place in the finals.

Rover Richard Anderson produced his best form until flattened by a heavy tackle during the second quarter.

He was carried off on a stretcher, but the good news last night was he did not receive concussion and will play next Sunday.

It was a sad sight for Central fans as their side fell out of the finals race, something impossible for them to accept after being in third spot only three weeks ago.

Apart from Anderson's heavy knock, the only other finals players reported to have injuries were North's Mike Redden (thigh) and John Riley (ankle).

## All the details

### FOOTBALL PARK

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts
<b>GLENELG.</b>	1-4	8-9	17-15	20-20	140
<b>STURT.</b>	2-2	4-2	5-4	7-6	48

Best — GLENELG: Symonds, Maynard, W. Stringer, McDermott, Kernahan, Copping, A. Stringer. STURT: Paynter, Craig, Frost, Russell, Spiel, Smith.

Scorers — GLENELG: Copping 4-1, Marshall 3-3, Hodgeman 3-1, Seebohm 3-1, A. Stringer 2-2, Hall 2-0, Kernahan 1-1, Symonds 1-0, Garton 1-0, McDermott 0-3, Maynard 0-2, rushed 0-6. STURT: Benson 2-0, Willmott 1-2, Smith 1-0, Hicks 1-0, Martin 1-0, Dilena 1-0, Klomp 0-2, Whittlesea 0-1, Reynolds 0-1. Umpires — Jim Field, David Crase.

### FOOTBALL PARK

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts
<b>NORTH.</b>	4-6	9-10	16-14	23-18	156
<b>CENTRAL.</b>	1-2	6-5	10-7	15-11	101

Best — NORTH: Hart, Sanders, A. Jarman, Bennett, Tiller, Carlaw. CENTRAL: Bubner, van Dommelle, Robertson, McGrath. Scorers — NORTH: Dietrich 5-4, Poynton 3-1, Parsons 3-0, Hart 2-4, Klomp 2-1, S. Riley 2-0, Fischer 1-2, Carlaw 1-2, Clisby 1-0, Smart 1-0, Bennett 1-0, Sanders 1-0, A. Jarman 0-1, rushed 0-3. CENTRAL: Robertson 4-2, Mandemaker 3-1, Graham 3-0, Bubner 1-3, Thomas 1-1, Roe 1-1, Little 1-0, Beythien 1-0, Sheilds 0-1, rushed 0-2.

Injuries — NORTH: Redden (thigh), J. Riley (ankle). Umpires — John Hylton, Ross Campbell.

### ADELAIDE OVAL

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts
<b>SOUTH.</b>	4-4	11-9	16-13	20-18	138
<b>WOODVILLE.</b>	6-2	8-6	12-8	19-9	123

Best — SOUTH: Naley, Schneebichler, Troy, Carty, David Kappler, Darren Kappler, Bennett, Stoeckel. WOODVILLE: Nichols, Haylock, McDonald, Fuller, Taylor, Rogers, Sewer.

Scorers — SOUTH: Hewitt 4-2, Naley 4-0, Darren Kappler 3-2, Fairclough 3-1, Carty 2-2, David Kappler 1-2, Stoeckel 1-2, Eddy 1-1, Longham 1-0, Campbell 0-1, Troy 0-1, Martin 0-1, rushed 0-3. WOODVILLE: Nichols 10-2, Sewer 3-0, Haylock 2-0, Harris 1-1, McDonald 1-0, Bowman 1-0, Jolly 1-0, Dettmann 0-1, Rogers 0-1, rushed 0-4.

Injuries — South: Dickinson (hamstring). Umpires — Graham Hilton and Rick Kinnear.

### ALBERTON OVAL

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts
<b>NORWOOD.</b>	7-5	17-6	20-9	22-15	147
<b>PORT.</b>	7-1	10-3	15-8	18-10	118

Best — NORWOOD: Aish, K. Thomas, Taylor, G. Thomas, Balme, Fosdike, McIntosh. PORT: Anderson, Leslie, R. Boyd, Russell, Harrison.

Scorers — NORWOOD: Aish 7-1, K. Thomas 4-2, Laughlin 4-2, Anderson 3-0, Roberts 1-3, G. Thomas 1-2, Taylor 1-0, Murdoch 1-0, Ross 0-1, Gallagher 0-1, Kelly 0-1, rushed 0-2. PORT: Russell 3-0, Harrison 2-1, Phelps 2-1, Williams 2-0, Mahney 2-0, G. Boyd 2-0, R. Boyd 2-0, O'Brien 1-3, R. Smith 1-2, D. Smith 1-1, Fiacchi 0-1, rushed 0-1.

Injuries — NORWOOD: R. Anderson. Umpires — Laurie Argent, Neville Thorp.

### RICHMOND OVAL

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts
<b>WEST.</b>	5-2	10-3	15-11	19-15	129
<b>TORRENS.</b>	2-2	4-8	6-10	8-12	60

Best — WEST: Woodhall, Bennett, McKinnon, Mican, Twomey, Larkins, Rennie. TORRENS: B. Lindsay, Robson, Enright, Hank, Hanna, Sims.

Scorers — WEST: Woodhall 9, Bennett 2, Larkins 2, Patterson, Twomey, McKinnon, Herbert, Miller, Grosser. TORRENS: Robson 2, B. Lindsay, Hanna, Payze, Hill, Geyer, Fatia.

### PREMIERSHIP TABLE

	W	L	D	F	A	%	Pts
North	16	6	-	2557	1960	56.61	32
Glenelg	13	9	-	2436	2004	54.86	26
Port	13	9	-	2232	2164	50.77	26
Woodville	13	9	-	2377	2430	49.45	26
Norwood	12	10	-	2341	2329	50.13	24
Central	11	10	1	2199	2386	47.96	23
West	9	13	-	2367	2251	51.26	18
Sturt	9	13	-	2032	2146	48.63	18
South	7	14	1	2194	2335	48.44	15
Torrens	6	16	-	1810	2540	41.61	12

### LEADING GOALKICKERS

	Games	Y'day	Total
S. Nichols (Woodville)	21	10-2	88-33
I. Willmott (Sturt)	18	-	70-38
R. Davies (South)	15	-	62-19
G. Dietrich (North)	10	5-4	61-23
T. Hall (Glenelg)	20	2-0	51-20
S. Copping (Glenelg)	19	4-1	50-21
P. Meuret (West)	19	-	49-24
J. Roberts (Torrens)	12	-	43-23

### CROWDS

Football Park	15,098
Adelaide Oval	4602
Alberton Oval	16,053
Richmond Oval	3070

### NEXT ROUND

Saturday, September 13: Qualifying final — Glenelg v Port (Football Park). Sunday, September 14: Elimination final — Woodville v Norwood (Football Park).

## BALME'S BOYS IN THE HUNT

Neil Balme looked like a happy sumo wrestler that had just won a bout.

But he was hesitant to laugh because his title chances still are 'a little bit squeezey.'

His gallant men had recorded a glorious victory over the Magpies, but no one knew for sure whether the grand effort would get them into next Sunday's elimination final.

Balme, his staff, players, trainers, officials and hangers-on, mingled in the room listening to progressive scores from Football Park where North had to beat Central to guarantee Norwood a finals berth.

### Popularity

It certainly was the longest hour in Balme's football life, and as someone put it: "I never thought we would be cheering on Micky Nunan again".

Nunan, of course, was a Redleg before switching to North. As the results filtered through, with the Roosters increasing their lead, his popularity on the Parade reached an all-time high.

Central lost and Norwood made the finals, and no doubt some people

will claim it didn't deserve to replace the poor Bulldogs after winning only two of its last eight games in the run home.

Only three weeks ago Central looked comfortable in third spot. But that's football: making the finals is a reward for a season effort, not just a purple patch.

And no one who was at Alberton yesterday could dispute Norwood was by far the better side and indeed a worthy finalist.

The Redlegs were awesome. They brushed aside the inept and slow Magpies as if their lives depended on winning the ball.

Some say cricket is a funny game, but it seems incredible that this club, which prides itself in living up to its motto of 'Courage in adversity', is again a premiership threat after being so close to missing the finals for the first time since 1971.

Suddenly the Redlegs are once again a force. Michael Aish is back to his brilliant best, so too are the fearsome Garry McIntosh, and



Porter on Sunday

the speedy rookie rover, Richard Anderson.

It was a tremendous clash, even though most Port fans would disagree. The lead changed six times in the first quarter, and from midway through the opening term until half time, Norwood kicked 16 goals at an average of one every three minutes.

### Highest

The victory was the eighth in succession against Port — a league record by any club against the Magpies.

It's no consolation to their fans, but Port's 18.10 was its highest losing score against Norwood at Alberton, and it was the highest scoring game between the clubs at this ground.

But no amount of statistics could adequately give Norwood the praise it deserves.

If by chance you missed it, you could be in luck because I've got a feeling the Redlegs will play just as well over the next month of cut-throat finals.

## RAGING TIGERS RESTORE FINALS FAITH

Reigning Premier Glenelg had a worthwhile preparation for its qualifying final against Port Adelaide when it thrashed Sturt.

For Tiger coach Graham Cornes it was a vital victory under lights at Football Park.

Indeed, the 92-point triumph enabled it to regain some credibility after two successive losses and more importantly grab the double chance.

Glenelg knew it had its destiny in its own hands before the encounter, after



Graham Cornes

losses earlier in the day to Woodville and Port.

Simply, it had to win to secure a top three spot.

Mervyn Keane's Sturt worried the Tigers in the first term.

But from that point it was all Glenelg, and Sturt just didn't have an answer. In fact the speed, spirit and sparkle with which the Tigers deposited of the opposition, restored the faith in some doubting supporters.

Sturt, after some recent good showings, grabbed the initiative in the first term to lead by four points.

John Paynter, in the centre and Darryl Smith were doing well and in short its players toyed and persisted, but slowly and surely Glenelg gained control.

Alan and Wayne Stringer,



Peter Prime

forward Stephen Copping, Peter Maynard, wingman Tony Symonds and rover Kym Hodgeman, until he was rested in the second term, were all great players.

Any progress Sturt made in that opening quarter quickly vanished in a flood of goals for Glenelg in the second and third terms.

The Tigers booted 7-5 to two goals to lead by 31 points at the long break.

### Blitz

And in a magnificent third quarter blitz, it put on another 9-6 to a paltry 1-2 to bury its foe.

For Sturt, the wheels simply fell off, and it paled by comparison against a ruthless Tiger machine, hell-bent on securing back to back premierships.