

COWBOY: DAY OF DELIGHT

FOOTBALL PARK

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
North	1-4	5-8	13-12	19-16	130
South	6-5	9-9	11-10	13-11	89

BEST-NORTH: Dietrich, Hart, Campbell, S. Riley, Redden, Antrobus, Klomp. **SOUTH:** Darren Kappler, David Kappler, Dewhurst, Davies, Schneebichler, Naley.

SCORERS-NORTH: Dietrich 11.1, Hart 2.2, Antrobus 2.0, Klomp 1.2, S. Riley 1.2, Poynton 1.1, Campbell 1.0, Bennett 0.2, Parsons 0.1, Tiller 0.1, Hay 0.1, rushed 0.3. **SOUTH:** Davies 5.2, Schneebichler 2.0, Hewitt 1.1, Fairclough 1.1, Troy 1.1, Naley 1.1, Stoeckel 1.0, Johns 1.0, David Kappler 0.2, Bennett 0.1, Dewhurst 0.1, rushed 0.1.

INJURIES-SOUTH: Paul Martin (slight ankle strain).
UMPIRES-Ross Campbell, Mark Mackie.

ADELAIDE OVAL

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Sturt	4-8	12-9	16-14	25-16	166
Woodville	4-1	9-4	12-8	16-12	108

BEST-STURT: Wark, Spiel, Smith, Paynter, Dillena, McCarthy, Craig, Martin. **WOODVILLE:** Jolly, Templeton, Sewer, Harris, C. McDonald, Lynch, Toome.

SCORERS-STURT: Wark 7.3, Willmott 6.6, G. Martin 3.4, M. Hogarth 2.0, Underwood 1.0, Moscheni 1.0, Klomp 1.0, Dillena 1.0, Reid 1.0, Derrington 1.0, Craig 1.0, P. Hogarth 0.2, Smith 0.1, rushed 0.1. **WOODVILLE:** Templeton 3.2, Tankosc 2.1, Rechner 2.0, Bowman 2.0, Jolly 2.0, Dettman 1.1, J. Martin 1.1, Lynch 1.0, Nicholls 1.0, Taylor 1.0, Fuller 0.1, C. McDonald 0.1, rushed 0.5.

INJURIES-STURT: Viney (muscle in back before game), Reid (hamstring).
UMPIRES-Laurie Argent, Darryl Schramm.

ELIZABETH OVAL

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Central	3-5	10-7	13-11	15-14	104
Glenelg	3-1	9-4	12-8	14-10	94

BEST-CENTRAL: Krieg, Graham, Flintoff, S. Lee, Robertson van Dommele. **GLENELG:** Maynard, McDermott, Gibbs, Marshall, A. Stringer, Carey.

SCORERS-CENTRAL: Graham 6.2, Robertson 2.5, Collins 2.1, Girdham 1.0, Flintoff 1.0, S. Lee 1.0, Krieg 1.0, Bubner 1.0, Beythien 0.3, Nojar 0.1, Trigg 0.1, rushed 0.1. **GLENELG:** Gibbs 6.0, Woodlands 2.3, Garton 2.1, Hall 2.0, Maynard 1.1, Reid 1.0, West 0.1, A. Stringer 0.1, Marshall 0.1, Kidney 0.1, rushed 0.1.

UMPIRES-David Cras, and John Hylton.

ALBERTON OVAL

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Torrens	4-4	8-6	10-6	16-10	106
Port	1-5	2-8	8-14	9-19	73

BEST-TORRENS: Lindsay, Sims, Hank, Pavze, Harkness, Enright, Economou, Darrin Wilson, Downie. **PORT:** Anderson, Ginever, Baker, Russell, Kennedy, Lawson, Harrison.

SCORERS-TORRENS: Norton 2.3, Barratt 2.2, Downie 2.2, Darrin Wilson 2.0, Foote 2.0, Lindsay 1.1, Sims 1.2, Hill 1.0, Roberts 1.0, Colsey 1.0, Harkness 1.0, Economou 0.2. **PORT:** Borlase 3.1, Ginever 2.1, Russell 1.3, Johnston 1.0, Smith 1.0, Lawson 1.0, Anderson 0.6, Hynes 0.1, Simpson 0.1, R. Boyd 0.1, Growden 0.1, rushed 0.2.

INJURIES-TORRENS: Hill (hamstring). **PORT:** G. Boyd (medial ligament).
UMPIRES-R. Kinnear, D. Weston.

RICHMOND OVAL

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
West	3-2	9-3	14-6	20-8	128
Norwood	7-1	12-1	15-3	18-5	113

BEST-WEST: Lamb, Belton, Williams, Felke, McKinnon, D. Herbert, C. Herbert, Meuret, Grosser. **NORWOOD:** Payne, Anderson, Thomas, Warhurst, Taylor, Winter, Kelly.

SCORERS-WEST: Lamb 6.4, Meuret 5.0, Belton 2.0, Sporn 2.0, D. Herbert 1.2, Ryan 1.0, Mickan 1.0, McKinnon 1.0, Grosser 1.0, rushed 0.2. **NORWOOD:** Thomas 5.0, Payne 4.3, M. Aish 3.0, Anderson 1.1, Pearce 1.1, Renfrey 1.0, Kelly 1.0, Hall 1.0, A. Aish 1.0.

INJURIES-WEST: Mickan (hamstring).
UMPIRES-Graham Hilton, Neville Thorp.

PREMIERSHIP TABLE

	W	L	F	A	Pts	%
NORTH	4	1	763	506	10	60.13
WEST	4	2	714	593	8	51.63
NORWOOD	4	2	742	656	8	53.08
STURT	3	3	703	638	6	51.65
PORT	3	3	599	656	6	47.73
WOODVILLE	3	3	685	820	6	45.51
GLENELG	2	4	751	707	4	51.51
SOUTH	2	4	613	693	4	48.94
TORRENS	2	4	568	689	4	45.19
CENTRAL	2	4	598	758	4	41.10

LEADING GOALKICKERS

	Games	Yest	Total
G. Dietrich (North)	6	11-1	48-11
R. Davies (South)	6	5-2	29-9
I. Willmott (Sturt)	5	6-6	22-10
R. Pearce (Norwood)	5	1-1	20-3
J. Roberts (Torrens)	6	1-0	19-13

FOOTYPUNT

Game	Winner	Pts made	TAB No	Dir
1	North	41-50	15	\$3.05
2	Sturt	51-60	6	\$3.80
3	Central	1-10	1	\$7.30
4	Torrens	31-40	14	\$9.85
5	West	11-20	8	\$4.80

FOOTYTREBLE

TAB Nos—0, 1, 2—\$1300.70. (Winners—Sturt, Central, West)

CROWDS

Football Park	6611
Adelaide Oval	7626
Elizabeth	5467
Richmond	7437
Alberton	7355
Total	31,496

Next round

Next round of SANFL matches is:
May 10: West v Port (Football Park).
May 17: Sturt v South (Football Park), Woodville v Norwood (Woodville).
May 19: Central v Torrens; Glenelg v North (double header at Football Park).
May 13: SA v Victoria (Football Park).

Kevin Neale, eyes glazed and choked with emotion, leapt from the coach's bench and hugged his gallant Bulldogs after they beat Glenelg by 10 points at Elizabeth Oval yesterday.

The scenes were reminiscent of finals glory, but according to the "Cowboy," the triumph — indeed the way they achieved it — meant so much more.

"We won a battle in the fight for survival," Neale explained.

He was not referring to his job as coach, even though the pressure was there with Central District languishing at the bottom of the premiership ladder.

"It was the club striving to survive," he said. "If we continued the way we were going, who knows if the support would have still been there in a couple of years to enable the club to keep going."

There was no question that Neale was still the champ in the hearts of the Bulldog loyalists before the match when they applauded a magnificent banner which read: "We're all behind Cowboy 100% so let's play like it."

And so they did, just as if they really were playing in a grand final. Even the Governor was there.

The times had been tough for Neale with Central winning only one match in five, plus finishing bottom in the Escort Cup series.

Along his road of desperation he had axed some of the biggest names in the game and copped the flak. On the eve of yesterday's match he called a special team meeting in a bid to halt the slide.

Neale asked his men to play desperation football and they obviously responded.

But during those painfully losing moments he said he had never given up hope that his players would fight back.

"I know I was copping a lot of the blame for the losses, so too were the other selectors and the players. Over the past week or two it's been spread around," he said.

Desperation football

"But the players won this game, not me, not anyone else. It's always the players who determine a result and at the moment I feel bloody proud of them."

Neale has always called a spade a spade, and has certainly given his players a tongue lashing in recent weeks.

But moments after the game, when they had finished singing and cheering, he poured heaps of praise on them to their tired faces.

With a mouth full of gum, he told them: "See what we have achieved by having 20 players giving 100 per cent. See what we can do if we play desperation football."

He went on to say: "You were magnificent."

Neale tried everything during the tense battle with the reigning premier. He sent his runner, former club champion Peter Nicks, out 52 times with messages to his players. In contrast, Glenelg coach Graham Cornes sent his runner out 14 times.

Nicks told players to get off the ground, lift their game, but on so many occasions, "well done from the coach."

Cornes said after the match nothing should be taken away from Central's victory. "They deserved it," he said.

But he was also pleased with his men because he felt they put in the effort.

Sure, like any coach he was not impressed with the mistakes which were made, but he still acknowledged that the Tigers certainly did not lack heart.

Neale walked slowly out of the changerooms and said he had a dinner with his fellow Central mates, Peter Page, Kris Grant, and Glenelg football director, Harry Kernahan.

"We arranged this a month ago when we went on a fishing trip," Neale explained. "I reckon Harry will talk about the 40 schnapper we caught."



Ashley Porter

Cahill elated at win

By Gordon Campbell

Elated West Adelaide coach John Cahill last night paid tribute to his victorious players. "They showed a lot of courage — it was the best win in my two seasons with the club."

The Bloods turned a six-goal deficit into a 15-point triumph over highly rated Norwood at Richmond.

And in another two major football shocks, West Torrens convincingly beat Port Adelaide at Alberton, and Central District restored self-respect with a narrow win over reigning premier Glenelg.

The losses were the third straight by both the Magpies and the Tigers and raises doubts about their ability to make the final five, let alone be rated football powers.

But an elated Cahill said: "We were down six or seven goals when Mark Mickan went off — under those conditions it was the best result I've had at West."

WIN DROPS PRESSURE ON CENTRAL

Central District supporters, players and coach Kevin 'Cowboy' Neale can breathe easy today.

The enormous pressure on the club to perform dissipated dramatically after yesterday's sensational 15-14 to 14-10 win against Glenelg at Elizabeth Oval.

Those loyal to the red, white and blue had a point to prove after slumping to the bottom of the premiership table with one victory in the first five rounds.

And Glenelg was made to pay for recent media speculation the Cowboy was in danger of losing his job and the wholesale criticism of most Bulldog players.

The 10-point win was by no means a decisive triumph... but didn't they celebrate after the game.

Support for the Bulldogs always is strong on their home turf, but yesterday the fans found extra voice to help the side through an absorbing 100 minutes of footy.

When Bay forward Craig Woodlands missed a shot for goal from 30m at the 26-minute mark of the last term, the grandstand erupted with a paroxysm of unadulterated joy.

Had Woodlands converted, Glenelg would have taken a one-point lead.

But even that would have been to no avail, because 60 seconds later Peter Bubner ran into an open goal to seal the match.

Bulldog fans almost roared the roof off with



Lawrie McCauley

their victory chantings.

The gutsy and heroic win has to be shared by the fans, players and coach, because all played a major role.

Neale has come under fire for his team's poor performances and the players also have copped a roasting, while supporters of a bottom-placed side always find it harder to maintain their loyalty.

Central may not have lifted itself off the bottom of the table, but today it can bask in the glory of beating last year's premier combination.

Central players threw themselves at the ball with a new-found commitment and desire with Peter Krieg, Phil Graham, David Flintoff and Scott Lee leading the way with some inspirational tackling and running.

Although always in contention, Glenelg never appeared to get into top gear.

Too often players seemed to be waiting for someone else to shape the destiny of the game.

However, Peter Maynard, Chris McDermott, Ross Gibbs, David Marshall and Alan Stringer were persistent triers.

Few players from either side shone out as "star"

Bays go down again

performers—the game was a close-checking, gritty affair where the play became almost as bottled up as the emotions shown by both camps.

Glenelg now has lost three in a row, while Central ended a three-game losing streak.

Both teams played hard, competitive footy, but Glenelg can take no solace from losing by only a slight margin, and Central still has a long way to go to climb the ladder.

The decision to play Ross Gibbs (six goals) in a forward pocket, instead of his more customary back pocket, paid huge dividends.

But Central was able to counter that, and most positive aspects of Glenelg's play, by the return of Phil Graham, who also booted six goals in his first league match of the season.

Central proved it could weather the storm of intense pressure placed on the club — the test now will be to see if Glenelg can respond in the same fashion.