

Bays fall from five

Central District boosted its lead and Glenelg dropped out of the five for the first time this season yesterday in league premiership table reshuffle.

By ASHLEY PORTER

And West Adelaide climbed from ninth to seventh after its shock nine-point victory over Port Adelaide at Alberton.

Only top and bottom places on the ladder did not change and the battle for the final five placings intensified.

The big match this week is between Sturt and North at Adelaide Oval. Sturt won their previous clash in the seventh series at Prospect by three

points and should it win on Saturday it again would prove its ability and bolster its hopes for a double chance in the finals.

But the Blues, which have now won eight of their past nine matches, and Norwood, have the toughest draws in the run to the major round series as they play all of the other candidates.

The remaining draw, for the top six teams, is:

Central (23 premiership points, 60.11 pc.) v West (Football Park), Norwood (Nor.), Sturt (Eliz.), North (FP), Woodville (Adel.), Port (Alb.), Torrens (Theb.).

Norwood (20, 58.64) v Woodville (Wood.), Central (Nor.), Torrens (Nor.), Glenelg (Glen.), Sturt (Nor.), North (Pros.), Port (FP).

Sturt (20, 54.84) v North (Adel.), West (Rich.), Central (Eliz.), Port (FP), Norwood (Nor.), South (Adel.), Glenelg (Glen.).

Port (20, 53.18) v South (Adel.), Torrens (FP), Woodville (Wood.), Sturt (FP), Central (Alb.), Norwood (FP).

North (19, 55.57) v Sturt (Adel.), Glenelg (Pros.), West (Adel.), Central (FP), South (FP), Norwood (Pros.), Woodville (FP).

Glenelg (18, 56.39) v Torrens (Theb.), North (Pros.), South (FP), Norwood (Glen.), Port (FP), West (FP), Sturt (Glen.).

Weary Tigers feel the strain

Central District's best player this season, Greg Smith, sat rugged-up on the bench during the second half against Glenelg at Football Park yesterday.

There was nothing wrong with him, apart from feeling flat after having the flu during the week.

It seemed a brave move by coach Neil Kerley because his side was not playing well and trailed by 12 points.

Some tougher coaches may have persisted with Smith, hoping he would come good and lift the side.

But not Kerley, because at Central these days, names and reputations don't mean a thing. Winning does, and it did it so well against Glenelg by 23 points.

The decision to rest Smith may have also awakened a few of his teammates because Central produced a fine third quarter against the wind to set up the victory. The match won't go down as a classic. The slippery and cold conditions prevented players from producing their skills.

It was, however, a tight and absorbing contest between two sides who, for most of the game, played as if their lives depended on it.

Central's first half was terrible, possibly the worst this season, because of its

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fumbling, lack of quick ball movement and poor passing.

Despite this poor effort — certainly one not expected from a top side — Glenelg struggled to lead at half time.

The Glenelg of old would have swallowed its opposition at that stage. It would have made Central pay dearly for its slump.

Those days, it seems, have gone. Glenelg has lost its bite. It is no longer feared and age and weary legs have caught up with some of its key players.

Sure, it has been dealt harshly by injuries, but this seasonal finalist used to lift to the occasion against all odds.

It has players who are simply not living up to their former standards.

The prime example is Warren Ralph. As harsh as it may seem, he is a \$40,000 flop. He returned to the league side for this match after two weeks in the reserves and spent the last quarter on the bench after kicking 1.1.

Glenelg, for a while in the last quarter when it recovered from a 30-point deficit to trail by 11 points, looked as if it would steal the match.

The lift was largely due to Peter Carey who was shifted from his forward pocket into ruck.

But while his efforts were tremendous, his body simply could not maintain the pace like the old days.

As soon as Carey slowed down, Glenelg's effectiveness from the square was reduced.

Carey, for 18 seasons, has been doing the hard things and most times the side has lifted.

Not this time because Glenelg lacked that zip, tenacity and flair which has made it such a fine competitor.

Central, especially in the second half, played as if it no longer had respect for Glenelg.

Once it used to fear the black and gold guernsey. Nowadays, it treats it with contempt.

It is that touch of arrogance, seen so often in champion sides, which makes it appear a far better side.

There were times against Glenelg when dreadful mistakes were made. But no one dropped their bundle; they merely worked harder to recover and help make up for the mistake.

It was Central's superb team game which again enabled it to come from behind and meet its challenge.

Players like Gilbert McAdam and Trevor Roe on wings, Jamie Thomas at centre, Gavin Chaplin on the ball and defenders including Scott Lee and Mark Prior repeatedly set Central alight with creative play.

Central's forward lines, however, broke down at times but credit should also be paid to Glenelg's defenders.

Ross Gibbs provided plenty of class and rebound from a back pocket while Jim West was cool under pressure at full back.

The loss pushed Glenelg out of the five for the first time this season. For Central, it meant going further ahead on top of the ladder and it is now the only side which has not been lower than fifth spot this season.

Glenelg may well be back in the five next week, but to stay there, it will need to find some of that old vigor, class and, above all, pace which took it into the past three grand finals.

Football Park

CENTRAL	1.3	3.5	8.12	12.13	(85)
GLENELG	3.5	5.5	6.6	9.8	(62)
BEST—	CENTRAL: McAdam, Lee, Thomas, Girdham, Chaplin, Lally. GLENELG: Carey, Gibbs, MacJavish, Marshall, McDermott, Chigwidden.				
GOALS—	CENTRAL: McAdam 3.0, Bubner 2.2, Lally 2.1, Graham 1.2, Girdham 1.2, Hocking 1.2, Chaplin 1.1, Handley 1.0, Smith 0.1, Roe 0.1, rushed 0.1. GLENELG: Mansell 2.1, Maynard 1.1, Ralph 1.1, Marshall 1.0, Seebohm 1.0, Christie 1.0, Kruse 1.0, Chigwidden 1.0, Carey 0.1, Winton 0.1, Salisbury 0.1, rushed 0.2.				
	UMPIRES — David Trembath, David Weston.				

Adelaide Oval

NORWOOD	5.4	8.8	13.14	17.22	(124)
SOUTH	0.0	0.1	1.2	3.2	(20)
BEST—	NORWOOD: Rowe, Aish, Payne, Ducker, Motley, Scanlon, Fosdike, R. Maynard, Kelly. SOUTH: Butler, Honor, Dewhurst.				
GOALS—	NORWOOD: Ducker 5.2, Payne 3.4, Rowe 2.5, R. Maynard 2.1, Fosdike 1.1, McNeil 1.1, Hall 1.0, B. Maynard 1.0, Richardson 1.0, Ross 0.2, Aish 0.1, Anderson 0.1, Balme 0.1, Scanlon 0.1, Staritski 0.1, rushed 0.1. SOUTH: Chapman 2.1, Valente 1.0, Schmid 0.1.				
	INJURIES — NORWOOD: Hall (bruised right knee). SOUTH: Bode (shoulder), McIntyre (leg).				
	UMPIRES — David Elliott, Neville Thorp.				

Alberton Oval

WEST	3.4	7.5	8.8	14.10	(94)
PORT	2.3	7.7	10.9	12.13	(85)
BEST—	WEST: McKinnon, Shaw, G. Fielke, Miller, Herbert, Burgess, Patterson, Bennett, Winter. PORT: Williams, Abernethy, Ginever, D. Smith, Delaney, Johnston, Foster.				
GOALS—	WEST: Miller 3.2, McKinnon 3.0, G. Fielke 2.1, Kreuter 2.0, James 1.1, Herbert 1.0, Harbinson 1.0, Lamb 1.0, Larkins 0.2, Bartsch 0.2, Shaw 0.1, rushed 0.1. PORT: Johnston 3.1, Hodges 2.3, O'Brien 2.0, Hynes 2.0, Harrison 1.1, Foster 1.1, Smith 1.0, Williams 0.3, Hutton 0.1, Ginever 0.1, Taylor 0.1, rushed 0.1.				
	UMPIRES — Ross Campbell and Rick Kinnear (Kinnear was replaced by umpire David Schultz after half-time after injuring a calf muscle).				

Prospect Oval

NORTH	7.3	8.8	11.10	17.13	(115)
TORRENS	3.2	8.4	9.6	11.12	(78)
BEST—	NORTH: Arnold, Redden, Bennett, Burton, Craig, Sims, Roe. TORRENS: Morphett, Robson, Clarke, Spiel, Christensen, Payze, Enright.				
GOALS—	NORTH: Roberts 4.1, Lang 3.1, Kupsch 3.0, Burton 2.2, Sims 2.1, D. Jarman 1.2, Hart 1.0, Barratt 1.0, Sanders 0.1, Craig 0.1, rushed 0.4. TORRENS: Morphett 2.2, Clarke 2.1, Wemer 2.1, Hanna 2.1, Niemann 1.2, McGrath 1.0, Pisani 1.0, Athanasiou 0.2, Payze 0.1, rushed 0.2.				
	INJURIES — NORTH: Clisby (slight concussion), A. Jarman (bruised calf).				
	UMPIRES — John Hylton, Steve Ricketts.				

Woodville Oval

STURT	3.6	11.8	13.9	19.13	(127)
WOODVILLE	3.5	4.6	6.9	7.9	(51)
BEST—	STURT: S. Russell, Schache, Whittlesea, Dilena, Paynter, K. Russell, Kitchik, Popplestone. WOODVILLE: Klug, Negri, McDonald, Parsons, Schwarz.				
GOALS—	STURT: Schache 7.1, Willmott 3.1, Kitchik 3.0, Popplestone 2.0, K. Russell 1.0, Moscheni 1.0, Ey 1.0, Schoell 1.0, Reynolds 0.1, Paynter 0.1, S. Russell 0.1, Smith 0.1, rushed 0.7. WOODVILLE: Klug 3.1, Nichols 1.3, Templeton 1.1, Harper 1.0, Negri 1.0, Klemm 0.1, Panizza 0.1, rushed 0.2.				
	INJURIES — STURT: Reid (bruised left forearm).				
	UMPIRES — Michael Abbott, Laurie Argent.				

Premiership table

	W	L	D	F	A	%	Pts
CENTRAL	11	3	1	1837	1219	60.11	23
NORWOOD	10	5	0	1704	1202	58.64	20
STURT	10	5	0	1772	1459	54.84	20
PORT	10	5	0	1554	1368	53.18	20
NORTH	9	5	1	1502	1201	55.17	19
Glenelg	9	6	0	1650	1276	56.39	18
West	5	10	1	1316	1622	44.79	10
Torrens	5	10	1	1263	1692	42.74	10
Woodville	4	11	0	1480	1822	44.82	8
South	1	14	0	978	2195	30.82	2

Leading goalkickers

	Games	Y'day	Total
J. Roberts (North)	15	4.1	58.33
S. Nichols (Woodville)	13	1.3	57.19
I. Willmott (Sturt)	11	3.1	47.20
L. Schache (Sturt)	15	7.1	44.15
S. Hodges (Port)	14	2.3	40.18
R. Mandermaier (Central)	12	—	39.19
D. Payne (Norwood)	12	3.4	34.18
D. Smith (Port)	14	1.0	32.15
M. Aish (Norwood)	13	0.1	32.11
C. Budarick (Glenelg)	13	—	31.21
D. Kickett (Central)	11	—	30.18
G. Chaplin (Central)	14	1.1	28.19
R. Maynard (Norwood)	15	2.1	28.10
D. Jackson (South)	11	—	25.21
G. Winton (Glenelg)	14	0.1	25.16

* Denotes plays today



A new perspective ... Tiger Chris McDermott watches the game during a spell on the bench

CENTRAL	KICKS					FREES					OTHERS				
	1	2	3	4	TOTAL	M	H/S	FOR	AG	GLS	BHS	H/O			
VAN DOMMELE	4	7	3	3	17	4	11	3	2						
BUBNER	1	2	2	5	10	4	1	1	2	2	2	10			
LALLY	4	3	6	7	20	4	8	3			2	1			
HANDLEY	2	2		1	5	2	5	1	1	1					
GRAHAM	5	3	4	2	14	9	10	2	2	1	2				
GIRDHAM	5		2	4	11	3	15	2			1	2			
McADAM	7	3	5	2	17	8	7	2	4	3					
THOMAS	4	5	4	3	16	5	8	1	1						
ROE	2	7	1		10	4	6	2				1			
SCHWERDT	1	4	1	2	8	2	6		2						
BRADY	2	4	2	3	11	5	9	3				3			
PRIOR	2	1	5	4	12	5	10	1	4						
LEE	4	4	6	3	17	4	6	1							
BOETTGER	1	2	1	1	5	2	3	1							
SULLIVAN	1	3		3	7	2	4	2	1						
LOUNDER	1	1	1	1	4	4	7	2	3			18			
SMITH	2	5			7	3	2	1				1			
CHAPLIN	4	4	4	5	17	8	6	1	5	1	1				
ROBERTSON			3	1	4	6		1							
HOCKING			3	1	4	2	2			1	2				
RUSHED										1					
TOTAL	52	60	53	51	216	80	132	29	27	12	13	31			

GLENELG	KICKS					FREES					OTHERS					
	1	2	3	4	TOTAL	M	H/S	FOR	AG	GLS	BHS	H/O				
CAREY	1	3	3	3	10	9	7	7	1			1	23			
RALPH	2	3			5	2			3	1	1					
CHIGWIDDEN	3	2	6	4	15	4	11		2	1						
A. STRINGER	7		3		10	1	5	3	1							
KRUSE	3	2		2	7	5	7	3	3	1						
MANSSELL	4	5	3	2	14	2		2	2	2	1					
HEWETT	3	4	3		10	2	3	3								
McDERMOTT	3	4	1	7	15	3	17	2	3							
MARSHALL	5	4	1	4	14	1	6	1	1	1	1					
TEMAY	3	2	2	5	12	1	5	3	1							
SEEBOHM	1	1	2	2	6	2	7				1					
GRENVOLD	1	5	1	1	8	5	9				1					
GIBBS	2	10	3	4	19	7	8	1								
WEST	3	1	4	2	10	9	5	1	2							
DONOVAN	2	1	2	3	8	1	1		2							
CHRISTIE	3		2	1	6	4	3	1	1	1		8				
MAYNARD		3	3	5	11	4	6	1			1	1				
MacTAVISH	5	6	4	6	21	6	11	2	4							
SALISBURY	1		3	2	6	4	4	2	2							
WINTON				3	3		2	1								
RUSHED																
TOTAL	52	56	46	56	210	72	117	27	29	9	8	31				