

DOGS IN AGONY

Smith, Roe may miss finals

By ANDREW BOTH

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Brilliant follower Greg Smith and disciplined wingman Trevor Roe were struck down with severe injuries during the match against West Adelaide at Football Park yesterday.

Roe suffered a broken left ankle and Smith fractured his lower right arm in separate incidents only minutes apart in the third quarter. Both were taken to Hutt St private hospital for X-rays last night to determine the extent of the damage.

However, unless the fractures are less severe than indicated, neither seems likely to play again this season.

Utility Peter Krieg is already out for the rest of the year after a knee reconstruction, while star full forward Rudi Mandemaker is still sidelined with a less serious knee complaint.

Three others badly bruised

Yesterday's injuries are a huge blow to the 'Dogs as they prepare for the major round.

In fact, Central finished the game with only 15 fit players. Peter Bubner (calf), Roger Girdham (hip) and Craig Braddy (shoulder) all were suffering from severe bruising but were forced to play out the game.

Central officials hope all three will be fit to play Norwood at Norwood Oval next Saturday.

Eagles win to prove a point

West Torrens administrators were yesterday given a clear message by their players — reappoint Paul Weston as coach.

The Eagles, spurred by a mid-week wrangle between Weston and president Lindsay Head, upset Glenelg by 23 points at Thebarton Oval.

It was clear, very clear, Torrens was full of motivation, a showing of support for Weston.

Rarely this season has it produced the tenacity, skills and fierce winning desire as it did against Glenelg.

And while Glenelg was bitterly disappointed at its loss, the sixth in eight series, it didn't play that badly. It was against a sidewinch had something to prove and it seemed nothing could stand in its way.

Torrens deserves plaudits for the fine victory, coming from 24-points down at half-time.

But while its supporters savored every moment of exhilaration in what has generally been a bleak season, they also asked themselves why their Saturday heroes couldn't produce the same effort every week.

The fact it took an in-club disagreement to spur the players is indicative of its lack of professionalism.

Sure, Torrens was terrific yesterday and proved it can play good footy.

But obviously, it performs like that only when it wants to and until it produces the same effort consistently it will maintain its reputation of being one of the best teams out of the five.

Torrens had 20 committed men. Not one showed a lack of guts, they all tried

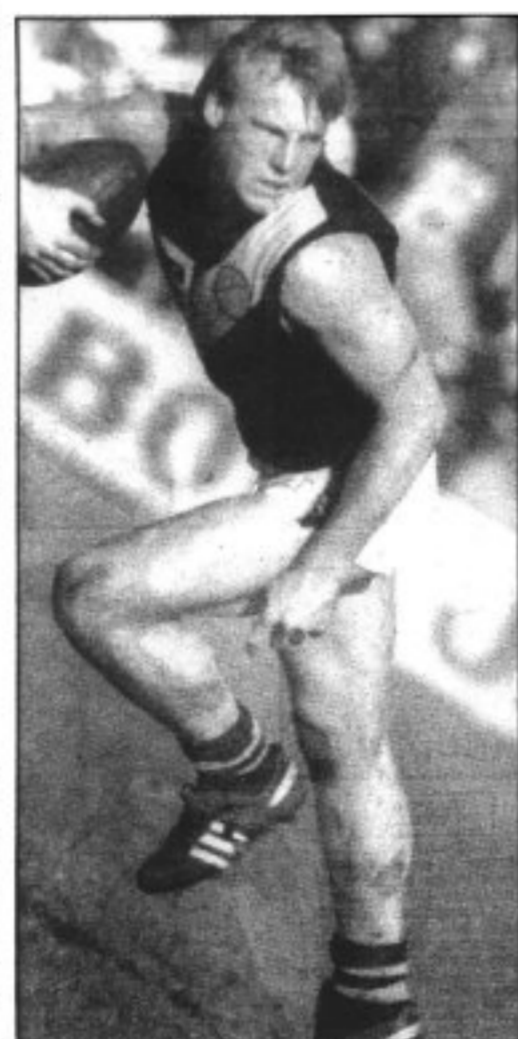
No wonder there were some grim faces in the Central rooms after the match, despite the team's seven-point win over West.

The 'Dogs have a three-point cushion at the top of the table, but face stern tests against Norwood, Sturt and North Adelaide in the next three weeks.

Without two of their best players, the challenge becomes even greater.

West escaped without serious injury, but full forward Stephen Miller was reported by two umpires.

He was booked by field umpire Laurie Argent and boundary umpire Peter Harvey for allegedly striking Central's Paul Sullivan in the final quarter.



Glenelg's David Grenvold is a picture of determination as he races go-ahead at yesterday's Glenelg-Torrens game.

Willmott blow mars Blues triumph

By ASHLEY PORTER

Sturt achieved a fantastic 46-point victory over North Adelaide at Adelaide Oval without full forward Ian Willmott who had an appendix operation early yesterday morning.

He is expected to miss another four matches.

But the pain from the 1 a.m. operation was relieved when he learned Sturt had triumphed in convincing fashion.

And in doing so, the Blues have ridiculed a theory they were merely pretending to be a finals threat.

The victory, plus shock losses by Norwood and Glenelg to Woodville and West Torrens, and the serious injuries suffered by ladder leader Central District, has in fact strengthened their hopes of contesting the grand final on October 1.

Sturt has consolidated itself in third spot, only 0.18 per cent behind Port Adelaide which beat South Adelaide by 159 points at Alberton.

Last season's top three sides — North, Glenelg and Norwood — jeopardised their chances with losses with sixth-ranked Glenelg facing the biggest threat.

It lost to West Torrens by 23 points at Thebarton Oval after leading by 24 at half-time and has now lost six of its past eight matches.

Glenelg's clash with North at Prospect this week may well decide which one misses the finals after dominating in the competition the past three seasons.

Torrens coach Paul Weston claimed the victory "could not have come at a better time for me personally and the club", referring to the in-club bickering involving himself and Torrens president Lindsay Head.

Woodville's shock 24-point victory at home was not without a price.

Defender Steve Jacquier tore a medial ligament in his right knee and will not play again this season. He will have an operation today.

Norwood ruckman John Hall went off the field late in the game, reportedly with continued soreness in a knee.

McDermott produced his usual effort — outstanding — this time with 46 disposals.

His old mate Peter Carey, who started in ruck for the first time in four matches, worked just as hard and was credited with more hit-outs than the opposition.

Mark Hewett did his job on a wing, Scott Salisbury was his battling self while Tony MacTavish tried to put bite into the packs.

But sadly, there were also players who again failed to show their best form including Warren Ralph who kicked two goals.

Confusion sparked spite

The match, at times, was spiteful and this was partly due to the confusion which surrounded some decisions by umpires Neville Thorp and Max Cuzzocrea.

There were some terrific marks, including one from Torrens captain Bruce Lindsay in the last quarter.

The tackles were hard, the team play was good, and overall, it was a first-class contest.

Torrens let itself down badly early in the game with poor kicking, not only for goal, but to opponents.

But it had the mental toughness, the fierce desire to succeed for its coach, to lift itself to greater heights.

The in-club bickering during the week at Thebarton was disappointing but, if nothing else, it helped to achieve a victory for the first time in five weeks.

Maybe the real threat of missing the finals might see Glenelg also lift its game, certainly not before time.

Football Park

CENTRAL	6.7	7.11	12.14	14.18	(102)
WEST	3.0	5.2	8.2	15.5	(95)
BEST—	CENTRAL: McAdam, Lee, Chaplin, van Dommele, Kickett, Prior, Graham. WEST: Lamb, Burgess, Sporn, Bartsch, Miller.				
GOALS—	CENTRAL: McAdam 4.2, Handley 2.3, Bubner 2.1, Graham 2.1, Lally 1.1, van Dommele 1.1, Girdham 1.1, Chaplin 1.0, Smith 0.1, Kickett 0.1, rushed 0.6. WEST: Miller 4.2, Winter 3.0, Twomey 3.0, James 2.0, Shaw 1.0, Herbert 1.0, Sporn 1.0, Harbinson 0.1, Fielke 0.1, rushed 0.1.				
INJURIES —	CENTRAL: Smith (fractured lower right arm), Roe (broken left ankle), Bubner (bruised calf), Girdham (bruised hip), Braddy (bruised shoulder).				
REPORTS —	WEST: Stephen Miller by field umpire Laurie Argent and boundary umpire Peter Harvey for allegedly striking Central's Paul Sullivan in the final quarter.				
UMPIRES —	Michael Abbott, Laurie Argent.				

Adelaide Oval

STURT	7.5	12.8	14.10	20.12	(132)
NORTH	3.3	6.7	10.11	12.14	(86)
BEST—	STURT: S. Russell, Whittlesea, Popplestone, Kitchke, Field, Smith, McWilliam, Dilena, K. Russell, Paynter. NORTH: A. Jarman, Redden, Roberts, Craig, J. Riley, Sanders.				
GOALS—	STURT: Kitchke 6.0, Field 4.3, S. Russell 4.0, Schache 2.2, Ey 2.2, Moscheni 1.0, Welsby 1.0, Dilena 0.1, K. Russell 0.1, Whittlesea 0.1, Schoell 0.1, rushed 0.1. NORTH: Roberts 6.4, Kupsch 2.1, D. Jarman 2.1, Sims 1.1, Sanders 1.0, Burton 0.1, Bennett 0.1, Barratt 0.1, A. Jarman 0.1, rushed 0.3.				
INJURIES —	STURT: Peter Heinrich (sore knee).				
UMPIRES —	David Elliott, David Schultz.				

Alberton Oval

PORT SOUTH	5.4	13.16	19.22	33.24	(222)
	5.1	6.1	10.3	10.3	(63)
BEST—	PORT: Ginever, Johnston, Leslie, Foster, Phillips, Hodges, S. Williams, Kerr, Stringer. SOUTH: Smart, Foster, Dewhurst.				
GOALS—	PORT: Hodges 6.4, Kerr 5.3, Foster 4.2, Johnston 4.1, Hynes 3.1, D. Smith 3.0, Ginever 2.1, Williams 2.1, Abernethy 1.2, Kennedy 1.0, Mahney 1.0, Wharton 1.0, Stringer 0.3, Phillips 0.1, rushed 0.5. SOUTH: Stoeckel 3.0, Kappler 2.0, Dewhurst 1.1, Foster 1.0, Hampel 1.0, Hewitt 1.0, Schmid 1.0, Zoonjens 0.2.				
UMPIRES —	John Hylton, Colin Ricketts.				

Thebarton Oval

TORRENS	4.5	7.8	15.14	18.18	(126)
GLENELG	5.1	12.2	15.4	16.7	(103)
BEST—	TORRENS: Robson, Werner, M. Long, Morphet, Hanna, Graham, McGrath. GLENELG: McDermott, Hewett, Carey, MacTavish, Salisbury.				
GOALS—	TORRENS: Werner 7.2, Hanna 4.1, Morphet 2.1, M. Long 1.2, Robson 1.2, Payze 1.1, Sziller 1.0, Graham 1.0, Clarke 0.1, Pisani 0.1, rushed 0.7. GLENELG: Chigwidden 3.3, Christie 3.0, Ralph 2.2, Hewett 2.1, Kruse 2.0, Gibbs 1.0, MacTavish 1.0, Marshall 1.0, Salisbury 1.0, Mansell 0.1.				
UMPIRES —	Max Cuzzocrea, Neville Thorp.				

Woodville Oval

WOODVILLE	3.4	6.6	12.8	15.8	(98)
NORWOOD	2.2	4.10	5.11	10.14	(74)
BEST—	WOODVILLE: Harris, Negri, Champion, Schwarz, O'Dwyer, Rechner, Klemm. NORWOOD: Rowe, Fosdike, R. Maynard, Scanlon, Anderson, Ross, McNeil.				
GOALS—	WOODVILLE: Nichols 6.0, Harris 3.1, Klemm 3.0, Klug 1.1, Panizza 1.1, Fuller 1.0, Negri 0.1, Harper 0.1, rushed 0.3. NORWOOD: Rowe 3.3, R. Maynard 2.1, Ducker 1.4, Balme 1.1, McNeil 1.0, Anderson 1.0, Payne 1.0, Fosdike 0.1, McIntosh 0.1, Richardson 0.1, rushed 0.2.				
INJURIES —	WOODVILLE: Jacquier (snapped medial cruciate ligament to right knee).				
UMPIRES —	David Trembath, Mark Mackie.				

Premiership table

	W	L	D	F	A	%	Pts
CENTRAL	12	3	1	1939	1314	59.61	25
PORT	11	5	0	1776	1431	55.38	22
STURT	11	5	0	1904	1545	55.20	22
NORWOOD	10	6	0	1778	1300	57.76	20
NORTH	9	6	1	1588	1333	54.36	19
Glenelg	9	7	0	1753	1402	55.56	18
Torrens	6	10	1	1389	1795	43.62	12
Woodville	5	11	1	1578	1896	45.42	10
West	5	11	0	1411	1724	45.01	10
South	1	16	0	1041	2417	30.10	2

Next week

Crowds

ROUND 17							
West Torrens v Port Adelaide (Football Park)	5536						
South Adelaide v Woodville (Adelaide Oval)	13,162						
Norwood v Central District (Norwood)	4188						
West Adelaide v Sturt (Richmond)	4629						
North Adelaide v Glenelg (Prospect)	3999						
TOTAL	31,514						

Leading goalkickers

	Games	Y'day	Total
J. Roberts (North)	17	6.4	70.41
S. Nichols (Woodville)	15	6.0	69.19
S. Hodges (Port)	16	6.4	52.26
L. Schache (Sturt)	17	2.2	48.19
I. Willmott (Sturt)	11	—	47.20
R. Mander (Central)	12	—	39.19
D. Smith (Port)	17	3.0	38.15
D. Payne (Norwood)	14	1.0	36.17
D. Kitchke (Sturt)	17	6.0	36.15
R. Maynard (Norwood)	17	2.1	32.12
M. Aish (Norwood)	15	—	32.11
C. Budarick (Glenelg)	13	—	31.21

TORRENS	KICKS					FREES					GLS	BHS	H/O	
	1	2	3	4	TOTAL	M	H/S	FOR	AG	FOR				AG
SZILLER	4	1	1	1	7	2	1	2	1	1	1			
WERNER	3	2	4	1	10	6		2	1	7	2			
HANNA	2	2	7	2	13	5	3	2	4	1				
CLARKE	2	4	5	2	13	6	8		1					
McGRATH	2	2	1	3	8	3	4	1	2					2
MORPHETT	5	3	4	2	14	6	15	2		2	1			
J. GRAHAM	3	4	3	6	16	6	1	1	1					
CHRISTENSEN	4	6	4	3	17	4	9	3	1					
PAYZE	1	1	3	2	7	3	6		2	1	1			
B. LINDSAY	3	2	2	3	10	5	6		1					
ROBSON	3	4	2	2	11	8	5	1	2	1	2			
GEYER	4	1	2	3	10	4	5							
EICHNER	3	2	2	2	9	4	8		1					
BAKER	1		1		2	1	4		1	3				
ENRIGHT	4	4	2	3	13	6	5		1	2				
SPIEL	1	5	3		9	3	7		3	2				22
PISANI	1	1		2	4	1	4		1	2				
M. LONG	8	4	4	7	23	5	12		2	2				
ATHANASIOU				1	1	1								
TOOHEY		1	4	3	8	7	5							
RUSHED														7
TOTAL	54	49	54	48	205	86	113	24	25	18	18	24		

GLENELG	KICKS					FREES					GLS	BHS	H/O	
	1	2	3	4	TOTAL	M	H/S	FOR	AG	FOR				AG
CHRISTIE	1	3	1	1	6	4		3		3				6
RALPH	1	3	1	2	7	2	1	3		3				2
CHIGWIDDEN	5	4	1		10	1	13		2	1				3
SALISBURY	3	2	2	1	8	3	5		1	4				1
KRUSE	4	1	5	3	13	6	4			2				2
MANSELL	1	1		2	4	4	3							1
HEWETT	6	8	5	3	22	4	6		2					1
McDERMOTT	7	5	3	7	22	11	24		2	1				1
MARSHALL	4	4	2	5	15		5		1	1				
TEMAY	3	4	3	2	12	4	6			1				
SEBOHM	1	3	2	1	7	3	2		1	1				
GRENVOLO	3	3		2	8	4	5		2					
GIBBS	2	2	3	4	11	1	3		2	1				1
WEST	5	1	2	4	12	9	4		1					