

Premiership table

	W	L	D	F	A	%	Pts
CENTRAL	3	1	0	497	302	62.20	6
GLENELG	3	1	0	469	358	56.71	6
PORT	3	1	0	405	365	52.60	6
NORTH	2	2	0	449	345	56.55	4
NORWOOD	2	2	0	389	346	52.93	4
West	2	2	0	364	407	47.21	4
Sturt	2	2	0	405	471	46.23	4
Torrens	2	2	0	345	497	40.97	4
South	1	3	0	321	487	39.73	2
Woodville	0	4	0	381	447	46.01	0

Leading Goalkickers

	Games	Y'day	Total
D. Jackson (South)	4	8.4	16.10
J. Roberts (North)	4	4.4	14.10
R. Mandemaker (Central)	3	7.0	14.4
D. Kitschke (Sturt)	4	6.1	14.3
G. Chaplin (Central)	4	7.2	11.8
D. Smith (Port)	4	0.2	11.7
L. Schache (Sturt)	4	1.1	10.4
D. Kickett (Central)	4	7.3	9.9
C. Budarick (Glenelg)	4	2.1	9.8
D. Payne (Norwood)	4	1.4	9.7
R. Maynard (Norwood)	4	1.0	9.3
R. Handley (Central)	4	7.0	9.2

Football Park

STURT	5.4	8.7	10.12	16.13	(109)
GLENELG	2.4	6.9	9.11	14.14	(98)

BEST— STURT: Underwood, K. Russell, Kitschke, Whittlesea, Ey, Reynolds, McWilliam, Welsby, Reid. GLENELG: Winton, Gibbs, Carey, Symonds, A. Stringer.

GOALS— STURT: Kitschke 6.1, Ey 3.0, Downes 2.2, Schache 1.1, Whittlesea, Heinrich, Popplestone, K. Russell 1.0, Paynter, McWilliam 0.3, rushed 0.3. GLENELG: Winton 5.2, Gibbs 2.3, Budarick 2.1, West 1.1, Chigwidden, Carey, Hewett, Schneebichler 1.0, Maynard 0.3, Donovan, McDermott 0.1, rushed 0.2. INJURIES — STURT: McCarthy (bruised calf), McWilliam (bruised hip). GLENELG: Schneebichler (ankle).

Adelaide Oval

SOUTH	2.3	7.7	13.10	19.12	(126)
WEST	5.6	5.12	9.16	13.19	(97)

BEST— SOUTH: Jackson, Butler, Bennett, Stoeckel, Koppler, Hewitt, Tatterson, McIntyre. WEST: Lamb, Harbinson, Wakefield, Malcolm, Winter, A. Fielke, Belton.

GOALS— SOUTH: Jackson 8.4, Smart 2.2, Page 2.1, McIntyre 2.0, Bode 2.0, Campbell 1.2, Schmid 1.0, Stoeckel 1.0, Tatterson 0.2, Hampel 0.1. WEST: Goss 2.8, Harbinson 2.1, Smith 2.1, Malcolm 2.0, Marshall 1.3, Bennett 1.1, Nicholls 1.0, G. Fielke 1.0, T. Fielke 1.0, Wakefield 0.2, Lamb 0.1, rushed 0.2.

INJURIES — WEST: C. Fielke (shoulder), Kantilaftas (ankle). UMPIRES — David Trembath, Colin Ricketts.

Elizabeth Oval

CENTRAL	10.4	20.6	25.15	35.23	(233)
TORRENS	1.1	2.6	4.8	4.11	(35)

BEST— CENTRAL: Kickett, Chaplin, Handley, Smith, G. McAdam, P. Graham, Mandemaker, Prior, Bubner, Thomas, Louder, Roe. TORRENS: None.

GOALS— CENTRAL: Kickett 7.3, Chaplin 7.2, Mandemaker 7.0, Handley 7.0, Lally 2.1, P. Graham 1.4, Thomas 1.2, Smith 1.1, Sickerdick, Girdham 1.0, Bubner 0.2, G. McAdam, Van Dommele, Roe 0.1, rushed 0.5. TORRENS: Weston 2.0, Werner 1.1, Athanasios 1.0, Christensen, C. Lindsay, G. Hodson 0.2, rushed 0.4.

INJURIES — TORRENS: Taylor (driving muscle), Morphet (concussion), Enright (thigh), Fotia (corked thigh), Eichner (chest and concussion), Werner (dislocated shoulder).

REPORTS — TORRENS: Michael Long reported for allegedly tripping Central's Gilbert McAdam in the third quarter by field umpire Laurie Argent.

UMPIRES — Laurie Argent, David Weston.

Norwood Oval

PORT	2.3	3.4	4.9	9.11	(65)
NORWOOD	3.6	6.9	6.11	7.15	(57)

BEST— PORT: Fiacchi, Phillips, Ginever, Kerr, Abernethy, R. Smith. NORWOOD: M. Aish, Anderson, Hall, McIntosh, Warhurst, Rowe.

GOALS— PORT: Ginever 3.1, Harrison, Kerr 2.0, Hodges 1.2, Brown 1.0, D. Smith 0.2, Simpson, Abernethy, Lumm, Owens 0.1, rushed 0.2. NORWOOD: Payne 1.4, Balme, Thorpe, B. Maynard, Rowe 1.1, McNeil, R. Maynard 1.0, Hall 0.3, Aish, Richardson 0.1, rushed 0.2.

INJURIES — PORT: Harvey, Simpson (concussion). NORWOOD: Payne (ankle), Kloeb (thigh).

UMPIRES — Michael Abbott, John Hylton.

Prospect Oval

NORTH	4.5	12.13	15.17	18.22	(130)
WOODVILLE	1.4	6.4	9.7	12.9	(81)

BEST— NORTH: Reddon, Sims, S. Riley, Clisby, Hart, Bennett, D. Jarman. WOODVILLE: Harris, Rechner, Panizza, Klemm, Stephens.

GOALS— NORTH: Roberts 4.4, A. Jarman 4.1, Burton 3.4, Smart 2.4, Hart 2.2, Bennett 1.3, Carlaw 1.0, Reddon 1.0, Sims 0.2, D. Jarman 0.1, White 0.1. WOODVILLE: Harris 2.2, Stephens 2.1, Klug 2.0, Parsons 1.1, Libbis 1.1, Panizza 1.0, Klemm 1.0, Toham 1.0, Newton 1.0, Martin 0.1, rushed 0.3. INJURIES — WOODVILLE: Fuller (torn calf muscle).

UMPIRES — Ross Campbell, Lesley Harrison.

Next round

ROUND FIVE
SATURDAY, MAY 7

South v Central (Football Park)
Sturt v Torrens (Adelaide)
Port v North (Alberton)
West v Norwood (Richmond)
Woodville v Glenelg (Woodville)

Crowds

Football Park	7252
Adelaide	2743
Elizabeth	6109
Norwood	13600
Prospect	5007
Total	34,711

The boys in blue just mowed 'em down

Sturt's landmark victory was only minutes old, yet anxiety was still Mervyn Keane's closest neighbor.

Comfortably ensconced in Sturt's rowdy, although orderly, changerooms, the Blues coach was painfully careful and purposefully apprehensive while contemplating his club's 11-point win over footballing giant Glenelg at Football Park yesterday.

What was uppermost in Keane's private psyche was not public property. His excitable final siren march onto the oval revealed more than his post-match oration would ever do.

In the speculation-ridden career of Keane, this had been a watershed win against the most accomplished and professional unit in SA football. Sturt had not beaten Glenelg at headquarters since 1983, and if Keane was publicly languid about it all, then certainly his players and officials were not.

Shying away from extravagance, Keane rarely approached the grandiose. His words were predictable, perhaps, but were accompanied by a certain authority and edge, which made them welcomingly different from the trite offerings of others.

Persistence the crucial element

He did allow the occasional glimpse, fleeting though it may have been. Every win was important, he pointed out, but to defeat Glenelg at Football Park, is what Sturt needed, and needs, more often.

"But the ledger shows we're still two-all," was his immediate qualification.

Persistence was the crucial element for Sturt. Each Glenelg surge was met with resolute determination and an enlivening flair, qualities which eventually carried Sturt to its emotional win.

Nobody embodied Sturt's relentless approach than Andrew Underwood who, despite the handicap of being able kick mostly with his left foot, was particularly outstanding against numerous opponents.

The contest, by no means dead, was possibly decided at the eight minute mark of the final, hectic stanza. Frenetic Kym Russell swarmed around his Glenelg opponents, burrowing for a football seemingly destined for Tiger forwards. First a smother off a defenders boot, then a sure pick-up when the numbers tilted dangerously Glenelg's way. Finally a tumble punt snap-shot and Sturt had speared to a 24-point safety zone.

By Leo Schlink

Inspired by Russell's elation and commitment, ever reliable Greg Whittlesea found himself in no man's land. Anticipating brilliantly, an errant Glenelg handball was never destined to find its target. The captain found the ubiquitous Ey, both the target and source of heavy aggression, in space and Sturt led by an unassailable five goals.

If Glenelg was content to wallow in its overconfident lethargy, it should have realised Sturt's intent from the outset. And if that was not a difficult enough task in itself, then umpires Rick Kinnear, to a lesser extent, and David Elliott, in particular, would confuse and anger its attempts to balance and find form.

Glenelg, struggling to reach its full potency, would lead this contest only once, despite its several charges, 214 kicks and 115 handballs — statistics enough to win any match, except this one.

As coach Graham Cornes revealed, Glenelg had enough opportunities to succeed but, for inexplicable reasons was apparently loath to capitalise on them.

Playing with a suitable sense of arrogance, if not execution, Glenelg was expected to stymie an ascendant Sturt with its familiar brand of skill, pace, aggression and team work.

Almost ironically, the hunter became the hunted. Initiative rather reaction became Sturt's domain. Instead of chasing, it was chased. It bullied instead of being bullied. The tempo, muddling as it was, was set early and Glenelg had almost the entire match to haul itself back into contention.

Sturt's Damian Kitschke was the catalyst for his club's remarkable win, an achievement which engendered scenes reminiscent of Grand Final success. Too skilful for James West, Kitschke was allowed to demonstrate his supreme aerial skills almost untethered by defence.

Basking in an avalanche of offerings from Russell, Underwood, Whittlesea and the direct, uncompromising Paul McWilliam, Kitschke's presence materialised itself in Sturt's surprise superiority.

Mervyn Keane may not have said it. He may not have smiled too often. But there was an unmistakable feeling. This had been no ordinary match. No ordinary win.

Eagles count cost

By Ashley Porter

HOT dog! What a sensational, record-smashing victory by Central District over West Torrens which was reduced to 16 men at Elizabeth Oval.

And what stunning victories by rank underdogs Sturt and South.

Central captured top spot by annihilating Torrens 35.23 (233 points) to 4.11 (35).

Torrens was reeling as it had Dominic Fotia (corked thigh), Scott Morphet (in hospital with concussion), Dale Eichner (in hospital for chest X-rays and concussion) and Michael Werner (dislocated shoulder) off the field in the last quarter.

Kevin Taylor (driving muscle) and Rob Enright (thigh) remained on the field hobbling, effectively leaving Torrens with only 14 fit men. Rubbing salt into the wound was the fact wingman Michael Long was reported by field umpire Laurie Argent for allegedly tripping Gilbert McAdam during the third quarter.

● It was Central's highest winning score, surpassing its 34.12 against South in 1973.

● The 198-point margin easily smashed its previous biggest winning margin of 145 points against South in 1971.

● Torrens' 4.11 was a point short of the previous lowest score against Central set by none other than South.

The goalkicking heroes for Central included Rudi Mandemaker, Derek Kickett, Gavin Chaplin and Robert Handley who each kicked seven.

Sturt inflicted Glenelg's first loss (by 11 points), while South stunned West by 29 points, giving coach John Reid his first success in league football.

To make matters worse for West, Craig Fielke last night had X-rays on his injured right shoulder and is doubtful for this week.

The news wasn't good for Woodville. It is languishing at bottom and yet to win a match after losing to North Adelaide by 49 points.

Warrior captain Ron Fuller severely tore a calf muscle and is expected to miss four matches.

What the coaches say

■ MERV KEANE (Sturt): "The win is part of the whole building exercise."

"If we are to do well we have to beat Glenelg at Football Park."

"The most important thing is that we were never far enough in front to be comfortable but we were able to answer them every time."

■ GRAHAM CORNES (Glenelg): "We had enough opportunities to win it but wasn't direct and tended to waste opportunities."

"I don't think they won it, I think we lost it and we weren't disciplined enough."