

SANFL LADDER ROUND 12

	P	W	D	L	For	Agst	Stk	%	Pts
Eagles	11	10	0	1	929	624	9W	59.82	20
Norwood	12	9	0	3	898	810	2L	52.58	18
West Adelaide	11	7	0	4	1029	790	1L	56.57	14
Port Adelaide	10	7	0	3	824	671	1L	55.12	14
South Adelaide	11	6	1	4	740	720	2W	50.68	13
Central District	11	4	1	6	808	802	1W	50.19	9
Sturt	12	4	0	8	949	1002	5L	48.64	8
Glenelg	12	3	1	8	919	1141	2W	44.61	7
Adelaide	10	2	1	7	796	883	1W	47.41	5
North Adelaide	10	1	0	9	596	1045	9L	36.32	2

YESTERDAY

CENTRAL DISTRICT	3.4	4.4	7.6	12.10	82
NORWOOD	2.2	6.4	7.9	8.10	58

INJURIES Nil.
CROWD 3290 at Norwood Oval.

EAGLES	4.0	6.3	13.3	14.4	88
WEST ADELAIDE	0.5	1.6	3.8	10.13	73

INJURIES Willits (West).
CROWD 3639 at Richmond Oval.

GLENELG	7.0	9.1	12.5	16.6	102
STURT	0.1	6.2	11.6	15.7	97

INJURIES/REPORTS Staple, Kirkwood (Sturt); Lonergan (Glenelg, reported twice).
CROWD 3332 at Glenelg Oval.

EAGLES	4.0	6.3	13.3	14.4	88
WEST ADELAIDE	0.5	1.6	3.8	10.13	73
CENTRAL DISTRICT	3.4	4.4	7.6	12.10	82
NORWOOD	2.2	6.4	7.9	8.10	58

BEST
Eagles: Petrenko, Lewis, Schwarz, Von Bertouch, Rowntree, Jarrad.
West: Porplyzia, Hartlett, Caire, Beech, Stevens.

GOALS
Eagles: Wundke 4, Lewis, McGregor 2, Sinor, Petrenko, Rowntree, Borholm, Dunstan, Schwarz.
West: Green 4, Newell, Beech, Stevens, Homburg, Keough, Hardy.

INJURIES
West: Willits (concussion).

UMPIRES
A. Philp, P. Lally, T. Crosby.

CROWD
3639 at City Mazda Stadium.

BEST
Central: T. Schiller, Thomas, Hoskin, Prior, Habel, Kemp, Edmead.
Norwood: Levicki, Webber, Bode, Baulderstone, Wilkins, Dawe.

GOALS
Central: Edmead 4, O'Brien, Hoskin 2, Jansen, Goodrem, Thomas, Presbury.
Norwood: Phillips 3, Panos, Chippendale, Peter, Levicki, Richards.

UMPIRES
R. Hundertmark, T. Burke, L. Hauszen.

CROWD
3290 at Coopers Stadium.

Snook sizzles as Bays back up with another win

REECE HOMFRAY

GLENELG'S gradual improvement is now undeniable after the Tigers won consecutive games and left Sturt's season teetering on the brink yesterday.

Last week's win over powerhouse Norwood was good but the true test was if Glenelg could back it up with consecutive wins for the first time this season. And despite surrendering a 41-point lead in the third term, the Tigers rallied against an undermanned Sturt — who had just one fit man on the bench in the second half — to win a five-point thriller.

Crucially for the Double Blues, one of their injuries was to Magarey Medallist Zane Kirkwood, who copped a corked thigh in the first quarter and didn't return to the field. But it's hard to deny the Tigers who have not lost since coach Matthew Lokan was re-appointed a fortnight ago and have resurrected their season with three wins in four weeks.

Matthew Snook was outstanding with 31-disposals, three goals and seven tackles and after him, there was an abundance of solid contributors for the home side.

"We need to be able to play four quarters of footy and we didn't do that today but to be able to scratch out a win like that and still get the points is pretty positive," Glenelg coach

GLENELG	7.0	9.1	12.5	16.6	102
STURT	0.1	6.2	11.6	15.7	97

BEST
Glenelg: Snook, Agnew, Scott, Nason, Alleway, Howard.
Sturt: Battersby, Crocker, Kurtze, Bruggemann, Penfold.

GOALS
Glenelg: Alleway 4, Snook, Scott 3, Nason 2, Rioli, McNeil, Johansen, Milera. Sturt: Bruggemann, Penfold 4, Beard, Page 2, Battersby, Kurtze, Evans.

INJURIES
Sturt: Staple (concussion), Kirkwood (corked thigh).

REPORT
Glenelg: Lonergan, for alleged rough conduct in second and third quarters.

UMPIRES
M. Sboru, T. Medlin, M. Schramm.

CROWD
3332 at Gliderol Stadium.

Matthew Lokan said. "The external public will answer those questions (whether Glenelg is on the improve).

"I think everyone still doubts where we're at as a footy club. We're slowly putting some consistent efforts together and we need to be able to sustain it for longer which we didn't do today but we're starting to get across the line.

"The competition is pretty even and to be able to perform and come back against a good side like Sturt is really good."

The loss made it five in a row for the Blues, who now find themselves at least two games outside the top five.

With a brave effort to repeatedly claw back a deficit throughout the game with an undermanned side, coach Seamus Maloney could take some positives from the match.

"It was a very disappointing start and to miss as many tackles as we did and panic with the footy like we did in the first quarter was very ordinary," Maloney said. "To the guys' credit they hung in there and got back into the game and probably a big chunk of the last three quarters was the best footy we'd played for a while.

"No doubt we've been down in confidence but I thought guys around the footy really started to get their hands on it and we looked like we could kick a score and keep the pressure on. But the game was up for grabs at three-quarter-time and Glenelg probably wanted it a bit more in the end."

The game started with a minute's silence and the words 'RIP Phil Walsh' written on the scoreboard in memory of the Adelaide coach and the Tigers bootied seven unanswered goals — including Ben Nason's blinder on his left foot — in a blistering first quarter.

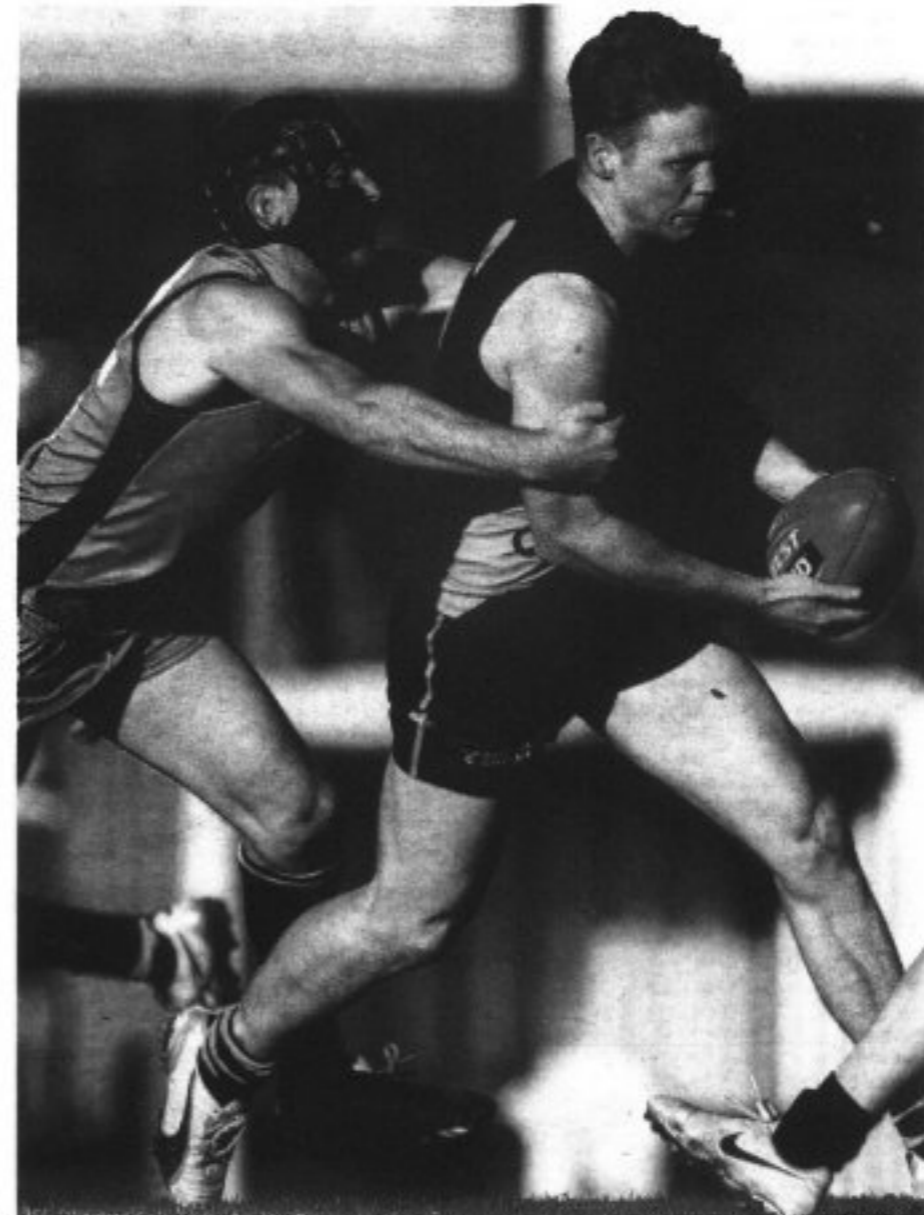
Angus Bruggemann ended Sturt's goal drought 40 seconds into the second quarter.

Top honours for SA talent

WEST Adelaide's wealth of junior talent has been recognised with three players named in the All-Australian under-18 team.

Aaron Francis, used in defence by the Bloods at league level, was named at centre, half-forward, while Riley Bonner was selected on the half-back line and Will Snelling on the interchange. Norwood's Luke Partington was picked in the midfield.

Team — F: Ben Ainsworth (Vic Country), Josh Schache (Vic Country), Jade Gresham (Vic Metro); HF: Darcy Parish (Vic Country), Aaron Francis (SA), Harley Balic (Vic Metro); Midfield: Gach Nyuon (Vic Country), Rhys Mathieson (Vic Country), Luke Partington (SA), Ben Keays (Queensland), Jacob Hopper (NSW/ACT), Kieran Lovell (Tasmania); HB: Jarrod Berry (Vic Country), Jacob Weitering (Vic Country), Riley Bonner (SA); B: Nick O'Kearney (Vic Metro), Kieran Collins (Vic Country), Eric Hipwood (Queensland).



UNDER PRESSURE: Glenelg's Bradley Agnew is tackled by James Watt. Picture: NAOMI JELICOE

Darcy pulls out of match after another tragic loss

REECE HOMFRAY

GLENELG youngster Darcy Bailey was a late withdrawal from yesterday's SANFL clash with Sturt as he mourned the loss of family friend Phil Walsh.

Bailey was named on the interchange bench for the game at Glenelg Oval but both he and the club decided he would sit it out after Walsh's sudden death on Friday.

Walsh was a close friend of Bailey's father Dean and spoke at Dean's funeral last year after the former AFL coach lost his brief battle with cancer.

"Darcy was really close to Phil Walsh and after the tragic

event yesterday we collectively thought it was a good idea that Darcy didn't play today," Glenelg coach Matthew Lokan said last night.

Darcy still attended the game and was surrounded by Tiger team-mates and officials as Glenelg made it two wins on the trot with a five-point triumph over Sturt. Lokan said it was too soon to say whether Bailey would return to league action next weekend when Glenelg plays West Adelaide.

"It's one of those things that we'll just wait and see and assess during the week - it's probably out of our control a little bit," Lokan said.

Cap fits for local football

KYM MORGAN

PAYMENTS to local footballers will be capped at \$500 a match and teams will be allowed to spend no more than \$3000 on players each game from next season under the biggest structural reform in SA local football history.

The SA Community Football League player payments cap is the first of its kind in Australia and local chiefs believe it will save clubs from extinction and ensure the volunteer ethos local football isn't lost forever because of unsustainable player payments.

The changes — released exclusively to the Sunday Mail — were signed off by the SACFL board last week after an overwhelming majority of suburban and country leagues called for urgent action as payments to players ballooned to as much as \$2000 a game.

One club revealed during

an SACFL survey it was paying more than \$250,000 to players a season.

"This is in response to overwhelming feedback from the country leagues and the Channel 9 Adelaide Football League (amateur league) who got their heads together and said 'look this is not sustainable'," said SACFL chairman David Shipway, who was part of a sub-committee which worked on the reforms.

"It was driven by the requests of the leagues who are having to work harder and harder to pay players increasing amounts and that is putting enormous pressure on their volunteers and their communities and leading to burn out."

From next season, no player in the amateur league will be allowed to receive more than \$500 a match.

Country leagues will be allowed to pay one "marquee"

KEY CHANGES

LOCAL FOOTBALL PLAYER PAYMENTS CAP

NO PLAYER to be paid more than \$500 a match.
TOTAL match payments limited to \$3000 a club, each match.
COUNTRY CLUBS allowed to pay one "marquee" player up to \$1000 a match.

player up to \$1000 a match but clubs cannot pay a total of more than \$3000 a match — whether city or country.

Sign-on fees will be banned and clubs will not be allowed to spend more than \$250 a game on post-match awards.

No player will be allowed to receive more than \$150 a game in a performance awards.

Country clubs will be allowed to pay their players a "mileage allowance" on top of match fees but it will be strictly controlled at 50 cents a kilo-

CLUBS paying players more than "hobby" income required to withhold tax, issue group certificates and contribute superannuation.

PLAYERS travelling more than 100km round trip entitled to 50 cents a kilometre mileage allowance.

metre, with clubs having to declare distances travelled.

A player travelling less than 100km — round trip — will not be entitled to a mileage allowance. The SACFL is also seeking guidance from the ATO on what is considered "hobby" income.

It is understood hobby income is between \$4000-\$6000 a year, meaning clubs would have to issue players earning more than this with a group certificate, withhold tax and contribute superannuation.

"Clubs who don't follow this process would be at risk of attention, not from us, but from the tax office, because they are incorporated bodies," Shipway said.

Shipway admitted the cap would be difficult to police but believed it would slowly erase the culture of under-the-table payments and become self-policing because rogue clubs would stand out.

Clubs caught flouting the rules face huge fines and will also be stripped of eight premierships points for the following two seasons. Rogue individuals can also be fined.

Amateur League chief executive John Kernahan was part of the committee that worked on the reforms and said they were a "responsible course of action". "We think it's immature to the sustainability of our competition and the country leagues," he said.