EAGLES FIGHT BACK TO TOP POSITION

THE SUNDAY MAIL *Football Lift Out*

By SAM GALLAGHER

Displaced from top position last week, Torrens bounced back by defeating North by 11 points at Adelaide Oval today.

The Eagles are again one game clear from Port, who have a percentage margin over North, now in third position.

Port's 76-point win over Glenelg at the Bay boosted their percentage to the best in the league.

Norwood joined the leading division again with an easy 65-point win over South at Norwood.

West confirmed last week's return to winning form. They had 22 points to spare from Sturt at Unley.

West and Sturt are now level on points with Norwood in fourth place.

Torrens recovered from a bad first half to take the points from a determined North.

Deprived of drive from their centre line and generally beaten for pace, Torrens were 18 points down at half-time and looked a beaten side.

An improvement across centre, where Slaven and Head provided increasing power, was the chief factor in Torrens' hard-fought win.

The result was in doubt until the last few minutes of a tense last quarter.

West's strong third quarter won the game aaginst Sturt at Unley.

Vic Johnson saw the Sturt-West clash, and he reports that West's better teamwork allowed them to go right away in that term.

After looking very ragged in the third quarter, Sturt shocked West by pulling up to within three points in the last quarter.

Brilliant form

Position changes by West then took effect, and they were comparatively untroubled at the end.

Port had all key position players in attack in brilliant form to overwhelm Glenelg.

Motley controlled centre, recapturing his best form, while Johns and Dittmar got six goals each.

At Norwood, Stephens made it 21 goals in three matches with seven against South.

Next week's matches are full of interest.

Port meet Torrens at Alberton to decide who will take top position.

The Magpies, anxious to reassert the right of supremacy established over the past six years, will be all out to avenge their previous defeat.

Their more efficient attack and greater versatility should enable them to take the points.

Norwood, likewise, will be out to reverse the result of their last meeting with West.

On that occasion the Redlegs went to pieces in the last quarter after being well in it for three quarters.

Since then the big difference in the Norwood side has been that Stephens has found match-winning form.

Determined

This greater certainty in attack should relieve the strain of four quarters concentrated checking that proved too much for the Redlegs at Richmond.

Sturt, struggling now to keep in touch strike North at Unley.

North could quite easily have won at Adelaide today. They are eager and determined and although uncertain in attack, the probable return of Don Lindner should give them sufficient lift to be in front at the end.

South should get out of the bilge by defeating Glenelg at Adelaide.

PORT KNOCKED BAYS REELING

By JEFF PASH

Port were too strong in all departments for Glenelg at the Bay this afternoon. They ran to a long lead in the first quarter and improved from there to win with the greatest of ease.

Glenelg were unlucky to lose key players.

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Port	7—7	11—9	16—13	**20—17**	**137**
Glenelg	1—1	2—5	7—6	**9—7**	**61**

Centreman Herron went off in the second quarter and Kernahan, goalsneak and occasional follower, in the third.

But Port had too much speed and skill about the bounces, too much brilliance in the three key positions in attack, centre, centre half-forward, and full forward, and the safer defence, particularly close to the goals.

The ground was heavy, but there was not enough wind to affect the course of the game and safe handling of the ball was always possible.

Glenelg put the first score on the board, a point to Hewett.

However, Port made a famous start.

In command of the rucks and centre they drove clean through Glenelg's defences for three quick goals which showed the pattern of things to come; Dittmar to Johns for one goal, a second toWhelan, and the third to Dittmar.

Port demonstrated that they had the power up forward to deal with any attack; rucks and centres sent in the ball and the champions improvised and exploited rather than proceeded to any set moves.

In this quarter Johns was not so much fed as feeding others: and for most of the day the goals were to go to the one who happened to be placed in the best spot.

About the rucks Port had Glenelg's rovers well covered; Richens and Howard were given not one yard and they spent most of their time being bear-hugged or forced to kick hurriedly.

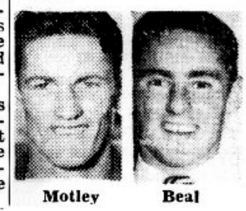
Motley began in brilliant style at centre; he marked safely and sent the ball in long and straight.

Glenelg began with the fumbles, most notably in defence and did not achieve any sort of equality with Port for the whole quarter.

Port ran to 7-4 in quick time before this burst came to an end.

In the second quarter Glenelg tried hard to make a game of it. Branson and Kernahan now caught up with Port's knockout men and for a while attacks were shared equally.

However, Port's defence was too good in itself. T. Obst and J. Abley revelled in the extra activity and Glenelg could not, try as it might, win goal-scoring breaks.



Motley Beal

The Bays lost Herron early in this quarter. He was replaced by Rowett, who now fell for the unenviable task of guarding Motley.

When Port had their turn in attack they went on kicking goals at a reduced rate, but chiefly through Johns and Dittmar who finished the quarter with three apiece.

The Bays could not establish a way down the middle; they tended to go along the wings and were still not out of the hurry and fumble stage.

Even quarter

At half-time Port held a match-winning lead and Glenelg, with 2-5 on the board, seemed to have no hope.

However, the third quarter turned out to be the only evenly fought one of the match.

Three goals from Dittmar were raised in quick time before Glenelg's changes in defence took effect.

In the last quarter Port were untroubled to increase their lead still further.

Port had looked powerful in the first quarter. They now looked something of a good team as well, and at the bell had won by a margin of more than 11 goals.

Safe, strong

For Port, Motley played a splendid game; safe, strong, effective, and always there.

Dittmar and Johns were not far behind: Dittmar, the big winner of the big situation and supplementing goalsneak, and Johns, goalscorer and teamman.

Abley and T. Obst broke the heart of Glenelg's attack, I think, and Whelan and Potter played strongly on the ball.

For Glenelg, Beal played a tenacious and consistent game on a very difficult opponent.

Branson did good knockout and other big-man work on the ball and Hewett (also stoutly opposed) had his victories in a forward line that was not offered much in the way of comfort from attackers in a hurry.

H. Linke and K. Abley had difficult assignments and carried them out well.

Howard and Richens had plenty of attention and yet started many attacks all the same.

★ ★ ★

THE Abley brothers, playing at full back for Port and Glenelg, both turned in good performances.

Kevin for Glenelg had to concede six goals to Johns, but that was fair enough: Johns was in typically nimble, sticky-fingered and accurate form, and Port kept the ball whizzing about his ears most of the time.

At the other end, John was his safe, relaxed self.

TODAY'S DETAILS AT A GLANCE

CONDITIONS: Slippery.

At Glenelg

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Port	7—7	11—9	16—13	20—17	137
Glenelg	1—1	2—5	7—6	9—7	61

BEST PLAYERS—**PORT:** Motley, Dittmar, Johns, J. Abley, T. Obst, Whelan, Potter. **GLENELG:** Beal, Branson, Hewett, H. Linke, Howard, K. Abley, Richens.

SCORERS—**PORT:** Johns 6.3, Dittmar 6.1, Williams 2.3, Boyd 2.1, Tull 1.2, Marrett 1.1, Whelan 1.1, Potter 1.0, Hayes 0.3, Luke 0.1, rushed 0.1. **GLENELG:** Richens 3.0, Grose 2.0, Butler 1.1, Hewett 1.1, Kernahan 1.1, Beal 1.0, Howard 0.2, Payne 0.2.

REPLACEMENTS—**PORT:** P. Obst (leg), replaced by Powell in the last quarter. Potter (heavy knock), replaced by Tierney in last quarter. **GLENELG:** Herron (hand), replaced by Rowett in second quarter. Kernahan (ankle), replaced by Kendall in third quarter.

At Unley

West	7—4	8—6	14—10	17—12	114
Sturt	4—6	7—10	8—11	13—14	92

BEST PLAYERS—**WEST:** Fraser, O'Driscoll, Bray, Garnett, Roach, McLeod, Wright. **STURT:** Goodchild, Marshall, Little, Fenton-Smith, Hunter Halbert, Dunn, Rigney.

SCORERS—**WEST:** Bray 5.3, Wright 2.5, Hogan 2.1, Reu 2.1, McKinnon 2.0, Ryan 1.1, Pfitzner 1.0, Roach 1.0, O'Driscoll 1.0, rushed 0.1. **STURT:** Douglas 4.2, Dunn 3.0, Rigney 1.2, Fitzgerald 1.2, Fenton-Smith 1.1, Halbert 1.0, Thomson 1.0, Sangster 1.0, Goodchild 0.2, King 0.1, Marshall 0.1, rushed 0.3.

REPLACEMENTS—**WEST:** McKinnon (leg), rereplaced by Sims at half-time. **STURT:** G. Williams (leg), replaced by Marshall before play began. Thompson (leg), replaced by Sangster at three-quarter time. Roberts (leg), replaced by Smith in last quarter.

LEADING GOALKICKERS

	Today	Matches	Total
Douglas (Sturt)	4-2	9	31-22
Stephens (Norwood)	7-4	7	27-12
Dittmar (Port)	6-1	8	25-25
Johns (Port)	6-3	7	23-20
Kernahan (Glenelg	1-1	9	22-13
Lill (Norwood)	2-2	9	21-18
Sheppard (North)	2-1	9	21-12
Thomas (North)	2-3	9	17-15
Wright (West)	2-5	9	16-19
Connolly (Torrens)	1-2	9	15-11

At Adelaide

Torrens	2—1	3—6	8—7	10—12	72
North	5—4	6—6	7—11	8—13	61

BEST PLAYERS—**TORRENS:** Russell, Morrell, Hine, Slaven, Rawson, Searle, Head. **NORTH:** T. Lindner, Gilbourne, Gambling, Whitford, Barbary, Hughes, Pascoe.

SCORERS—**TORRENS:** Klaffer 2.2, Connolly 1.2, Kingston 1.1, Morrell 1.1, Young 1.1, Bills 1.0, Gibson 1.0, Head 1.0, Landers 1.0, Townsend 0.1, Livesey 0.1, Russell 0.1, rushed 0.2. **NORTH:** Thomas 2.3, Sheppard 2.1, Codd 2.1, Whitford 1.1, Johnston 1.0, Gambling 0.2, Hughes 0.1, Kent 0.1, Barbary 0.1, Bubner 0.1, rushed 0.1.

REPLACEMENTS—**NORTH:** Hughes (ankle), replaced by Taylor in third quarter. Carroll (heavy knock), replaced by Montgomery in last quarter. **TORRENS:** Nil.

At Norwood

N'wood	2—6	9—7	14—12	17—18	120
South	2—2	5—4	6—7	8—7	55

BEST PLAYERS—**NORWOOD:** Stephens, Kneebone, Sawley, Johnson, Wedding, Bunton, Vickers. **SOUTH:** Panizza, Parkinson, Christie, Kitchen, Ploenges, Morton, Jackson (until injured).

SCORERS—**SOUTH:** Panizza 3.0, Jackson 2.0, Harris 1.2, Baraglia 1.1, Stafford 1.0, Kupsch 0.2, Ploenges 0.1, rushed 0.1. **NORWOOD:** Stephens 7.4, Sawley 3.1, Johnson 2.3, Lill 2.2, Woodhouse 1.2, Vickers 10, Wedding 1.0, Fosdike 0.2, rushed 0.4.

REPLACEMENTS—**NORWOOD:** Wells (leg), replaced by Elder in last quarter. **SOUTH:** Jackson (finger), replaced by Wilson as play started. Polden (leg), replaced by Mortimer in first quarter.

Premiership table

	W.	L.	Points For	Points Agst.	Prem. Pts.	%
Torrens	7	2	695	610	14	53.25
Port	6	3	786	546	12	59.01
North	6	3	743	559	12	57.06
Norwood	5	4	824	682	10	54.71
Sturt	5	4	864	758	10	53.26
West	5	4	739	723	10	50.54
Glenelg	1	8	647	984	2	39.66
South	1	8	469	905	2	34.13

ATTENDANCES

Adelaide	17,500
Unley	11,000
Glenelg	7,000
Norwood	6,500
Total	42,000

COLTS

	1st	2nd	3rd	Final	Pts.
Glen.	3.2	4.5	5.6	8.7	55
Port	0.0	0.2	1.4	1.5	11

Goalkickers—Glenelg: Johnston 2, Gulliver 2, Bessent, Rowe, Bromley, Schupelius. Port: Marsland.

Best Players—Glenelg: Hunt, Parker, Carthy, Roehrich, Ward. Port: Marshall, Deacon, Walters.

JUNIOR COLTS

Woodville 11-11, Centrals 0-0.
South 7-6, Norwood 7-5.
Port 10-5, Torrens 5-8.
North 8-18, Sturt 4-0.
Glenelg d. West.