

DOWN BUT NOT OUT!

By Ashley Porter

West Torrens continued its slump, losing its fifth match in seven weeks, but it is still a big chance to contest its first finals series for nine years.

Torrens' disappointing 52-point loss at Alberton — its best effort this season against the premiership favorites, Port Adelaide and North Adelaide — has placed its final five dreams in jeopardy.

Torrens is now only one win clear of Norwood, which has a far greater percentage, with only six minor rounds remaining.

But the Eagles appear to have an easier draw in the run home, and Norwood, which has not missed the finals for 17 years, could rue its dreadful form at the start of the season.

While Norwood dented Woodville's aspirations with a desperately hard-fought 11-point win at the Parade, Glenelg and Central District consolidated their top five berths with victories over South Adelaide (35 points) and Sturt (20) respectively, and North, as expected, toppled West Adelaide by 43 points.

This Saturday is the big test for Torrens. If it can beat its competitive neighbor Woodville at Thebarton, and North beats

Norwood at the Parade, Torrens will break two wins clear with five games remaining.

But a loss would see it remain under pressure, not only from Norwood, but also from Woodville, which also has a higher percentage.

Who will win the minor premiership, and who will make the final five? It's not easy, judge for yourself.

Goalkickers

	Games	Y'day	Total
R. Mandemaker (Central)	16	5.1	68.43
S. Hodges (Port)	16	6.2	62.46
C. Lindsay (Torrens)	16	5.1	53.15
A. Jakovich (Woodville)	13	4.1	50.41
S. Tasker (North)	16	3.3	43.24
J. West (Glenelg)	16	1.1	42.17
P. Bennett (North)	16	2.1	40.28
P. Harper (Woodville)	16	1.1	39.8
I. Willmott (Sturt)	13	—	38.20
R. Smith (Port)	16	1.2	34.20
S. Sims (North)	16	1.1	32.22
D. Stoeckel (South)	16	1.0	28.26
M. Ducker (Norwood)	10	4.1	28.18
G. McAdam (Central)	15	—	28.15

The run home ...

Round 17 — South v Port (FP), Central v Glenelg (Eliz.), Torrens v Woodville (Theb.), West v Sturt (Rich.), North v Norwood (Pros.).

Round 18 — Norwood v South (FP), Glenelg v Torrens (Adel.), Central v West (Eliz.), Woodville v Port (Wood.), North v Sturt (Pros.).

Round 19 — Torrens v South, West v Woodville (FP), Sturt v Port (Adel.), Norwood v Glenelg (Nor.), North v Central (Pros.).

Round 20 — Central v Torrens, North v Woodville (FP), Sturt v Norwood (Adel.), Glenelg v Port (Glen.), West v South (Rich.).

Round 21 — Glenelg v West, Central v Norwood (FP), South v Woodville (Adel.), Port v North (Alb.), Torrens v Sturt (Theb.).

Round 22 — Sturt v Glenelg, Norwood v Port (FP), South v North (Adel.), Central v Woodville (Eliz.), West v Torrens (Rich.).

Ladder

	W	L	F	A	%	Pts
NORTH	14	2	1875	1115	62.71	28
PORT	14	2	1954	1284	60.35	28
GLENELG	9	7	1390	1483	48.38	18
CENTRAL	9	7	1520	1641	48.09	18
TORRENS	8	8	1429	1631	46.70	16
Norwood	7	9	1542	1526	50.26	14
Woodville	6	10	1458	1567	48.20	12
West	5	11	1467	1678	46.65	10
South	5	11	1266	1681	42.96	10
Sturt	3	13	1297	1592	44.89	6

Football Park

Central	5.2	10.8	13.8	16.11	(107)
Sturt	2.3	8.5	9.7	13.9	(87)

BEST — CENTRAL: Smith, Schwerdt, Robertson, Chaplin, Braddy, Krieg. **STURT:** S. Russell, Paynter, Richter, McPhee, McGown, Radbone.

GOALS — CENTRAL: Mandemaker 5.1, Coffee 3.0, Chaplin 2.2, Robertson 2.0, Thomas 1.2, Smith, Schwerdt 1.1, Bubner 1.0, McGrath 0.1, rushed 0.2. **STURT:** Paynter 3.1, Radbone 3.0, Lennon 2.0, Field 1.1, Reynolds, McGown, Lienert, Downes 1.0, Argus 0.4, rushed 0.3.

INJURIES — CENTRAL: McAdam (late withdrawal with throat infection). **STURT:** Radbone (shoulder).

UMPIRES — Laurie Argent, Mark Mackie.

Adelaide Oval

North	4.6	8.6	10.9	14.12	(96)
West	0.0	3.2	5.4	8.5	(53)

BEST — NORTH: A. Jarman, Sims, Redden, Bennett, Clisby, Klomp, Stone.

WEST: O'Donohue, Shaw, Larkins, Twomey, Patterson, Bennett.

GOALS — NORTH: Tasker 3.3, Bennett, Kupsch 2.1, Burton 2.0, Sims, A. Jarman 1.1, Redden, Klomp, Stone 1.0, Smart 0.3, D. Jarman 0.1, rushed 0.1. **WEST:** Twomey 2.3, Wittwer 2.1, Ward, Shaw, Fitzsimmons, Lesiputty 1.0, Lamb 0.1.

UMPIRES: Michael Abbott, Colin Ricketts.

Glenelg Oval

Glenelg	7.5	8.7	11.12	13.17	(95)
South	3.0	4.2	5.4	9.6	(60)

BEST — GLENELG: Hodgeman, McDermott, Symonds, Marshall, MacTavish, Melican, Russell. **SOUTH:** Whitford, Page, Trevena, Bickley, Bennett, Woodlands.

GOALS — GLENELG: Budarick 4.0, Bow 3.0, Bartlett 2.1, Symonds 2.0, West 1.1, Chigwidden 1.0, Hodgeman 0.3, Marshall 0.2, Maynard 0.2, Donovan 0.1, Mansell 0.1, rushed 0.6. **SOUTH:** Woodlands 4.0, Tatterson 2.0, Stoeckel 1.0, Schmid 1.0, Mitton 1.0, Dewhurst 0.1, Bennett 0.1, Winton 0.1, McIntyre 0.1, rushed 0.2.

INJURIES — GLENELG: Melican (slight ankle). **UMPIRES —** Neville Thorp, Kevin Chambers.

Norwood Oval

Norwood	4.3	11.6	15.7	17.8	(110)
Woodville	3.3	8.5	13.8	15.9	(99)

BEST — NORWOOD: Maynard, Aish, Francis, Warhurst, Pittman, Staritski. **WOODVILLE:** Negri, McDonald, Klemm, Jacquier, Templeton, O'Dwyer.

GOALS — NORWOOD: Ducker 4.1, Pascoe 3.1, Maynard 3.0, Staritski 2.1, Payne 2.0, Francis 1.1, McIntosh 1.0, Scanlon 1.0, Pyke 0.2, Visser 0.1, rushed 0.1. **WOODVILLE:** Jakovich 4.1, Newton 4.0, McDonald 2.1, Harper 1.1, Martin 1.1, Jacquier 1.1, Hicks 1.1, Templeton 1.0, Fuller 0.1, rushed 0.2.

UMPIRES — David Elliott, Rick Kinnear.



PETER PRIME reports

South sinks no-hoper tag

To say South Adelaide coach John Reid is not devoted to his cause is one of football's gross misrepresentations.

The dutiful Reid, in recent times, has taken his players on a social outing to see the baseball movie Major League, a comedy about a US baseball team which suffers a horror run of losses before rallying to win the pennant.

And last week he was even spotted deep in enemy territory, stalking Glenelg Oval in preparation for yesterday's crucial clash against the Tigers.

In the final analysis, Reid's painstaking homework failed to make the difference, with Glenelg defeating South by 35 points.

But to be sure, the Panthers have improved and no longer can be considered the SANFL's easybeats.

Glenelg set up the win with a brilliant first term in which it booted 7.5 to 3.0.

Opportunist half-forward Lynden Bow chipped in with three goals, Craig Budarick was a focal point in attack and the Tiger playmakers were clever and constructive.

But thereafter, it could add just 6.12 in three quarters against a far more competitive South Adelaide which kicked 6.6.

Glenelg's victory was its sixth in seven matches and again it is rocketing into finals calculations.

Pre-season Glenelg was devastated by injury, transfers and retirements, but to the club's credit it has risen from the depths.

The Panthers have made a habit of troubling Glenelg at the Bay, but an upset at no stage looked likely yesterday. Yet South has improved markedly, clawing itself off the bottom of the table and winning matches.

Coach Reid admitted as much after yesterday's contest, claiming his side would have been annihilated by Glenelg last season, given similar circumstances.

Veteran rover Kym Hodgeman prob-

Graham Cornes said:

"It was a game played in patches. We did enough early in the game to win without fully capitalising on our opportunities."

John Reid said:

"It was a pretty average game for us. It was the most pressure we've had on us for a while and we struggled."

ably can take most credit for the Tiger victory with another superb performance. Almost certainly in his last season, the Magarey Medallist is playing some of the best football of his star-studded career.

With the return of courageous Chris McDermott, Glenelg has regained its winning ways.

McDermott is the Tiger's engine-room — its power source and inspiration. Again yesterday he did all the hard things, putting his body deep under packs and providing his teammates with opportunities.

Tony Symonds on a wing won many possessions while centreman David Marshall won that position and was typically clever and constructive.

In ruck, Chris Melican, although hampered by an ankle injury, gave his team first use of the ball, while Tony MacTavish in his back pocket was another superb contributor.

In fact, that defence was virtually impregnable, with Dennis Russell another solid performer.

For South, centre-half-back Michael Whitford stood alone with a grand effort. He eclipsed dangerman Jim West and battled valiantly all day, along with Paul Page, Darren Trevena and Mark Bickley.

Alberton Oval

Port	4.3	13.9	16.14	17.18	(120)
Torrens	2.1	3.2	5.4	10.8	(68)

BEST — PORT: Johnston, Williams, Tregenza, Ginever, Northeast, Hodges, Abernethy, Borlase. **TORRENS:** Robson, Payze, Steve Geyer, Smith, C. Lindsay, B. Lindsay.

GOALS — PORT: Hodges 6.2, Borlase 2.3, Settre 2.0, Williams 1.3, Ginever, Smith 1.2, Obst, Hynes, Brown, Phelps 1.0, R. Boyd 0.2, Johnston 0.1, rushed 0.3. **TORRENS:** C. Lindsay 5.1, M. Edmonds 3.3, McGrath 1.2, Niemann 1.1, rushed 0.1.

INJURIES — TORRENS: McGrath (possible fractured finger).

UMPIRES — David Trembath, Max Cuzzocrea.

Crowds

Football Park	3654
Adelaide	3613
Glenelg	4963
Norwood	6430
Alberton	6296
Total	24,956

Marshall aims at 300

Star Glenelg centreman David Marshall is no stranger to the pressures and tribulations of finals football.

Since making his league debut 11 years ago, Marshall, 29, has played in two Tiger premierships teams — 1985 and 1986 — and four losing grand final teams — 1981, 1982, 1987 and 1988.

Now, more than most, he is hoping the club can play in another finals campaign come September.

One of the Bays' most consistent players, Marshall has 293 league games to his credit... and barring injury and suspension will have played 299 games by the end of the minor round.

Thus, another finals appearance will see the creative centreman reach the magical 300-game mark and join other Glenelg greats Peter Carey, Graham Cornes and John MacFarlane at the milestone.

The Tigers' form has been inconsistent this season. But while many are talking of the awesome performances of North Adelaide and Port Adelaide, Marshall believes the Bays are a definite finals prospect.

"But finals are funny games. You've got to get there first and that's what we're aiming at.

Regarded as one of the most precise disposers of the ball in the league, Marshall puts Glenelg's topsy-turvy form down to the big turnover in players since last season.

Among those missing are 1988 captain Peter Carey and Alan and Wayne Stringer who have all retired.

Warren Ralph returned to Perth, David Grenvold is playing with Essendon and Craig Woodlands and Geoff Winton have been snapped up by South Adelaide.

And in addition champion Chris McDermott has only just returned to the field after major knee surgery and John Schneebichler and Gary Christie have been beset by injury.

"Carey was obviously going to give you first use of the ball, then you've got players like the Stringer brothers with their desperation and will to win which rubs off on the others in the team.

"Chris McDermott was out for the first half of the season and again he plays his football the same way.



David Marshall ... looking forward to another finals campaign with the Tigers.

"You can't replace those experienced guys with young heads," he said.

Married to Bronwyn and with two children, Jordan, three and Courtney, 16 weeks, Marshall said the club was continuing to blood youngsters, especially in the reserves.

"I'm sure it's the way to go. You have to look at your future. We've got a lot of good youngsters in the reserves and our under 19s are doing well at the moment."

Marshall, who signed a two-year contract with the club at the start of the season, has been "reasonably happy" with his form.

"I think moving into the centre for the second game of the season has helped," he said.

"I was struggling a bit on the wing in the Foundation Cup. Obviously losing players like Alan Stringer out of the centre meant the ball wasn't coming out as well as it had been.

"I've found it a bit easier in the centre, being where the ball is, than having to find it myself on a wing."

As one of the experienced players, Marshall says there is more responsibility on his, and some of the other senior players, shoulders.

"You do feel that pressure because you're expected to perform and set an example for the younger guys and those who haven't been around for as long," he said.

He said the return of Chris McDermott to the side had lifted Glenelg.

"He's the leader down at the Bay and everyone's got great respect for the guy.

— By Peter Prime

GLENELG	KICKS					FREES					H/O		
	1	2	3	4	TOTAL	M	N/B	FOR	AG	GLS	BNS	H/O	
GIBBS		2		3	5	1	1						
BUDARICK	3		3		6	6	2		1	4			
HODGEMAN	7	5	4	7	23	6	12	2	1		3		
MANSELL	1	4	4	3	12	5	12	3	2		1	1	
WEST	1	2	1	2	6	5	6	1	3	1	1	17	
CHIGWIDDEN	2	5		4	11	1	12	3	2	1			
BOW	3		1		4	1	6	1	1	3			
MARSHALL	7	2	7	3	19	4	8	1	4		2	2	
SYMONDS	4	8	4	6	22	8	12	1	2	2			
THOMPSON	1	4	3	2	10	3	5	5					
DUTHY	2	1	3	4	10	2	4	3	2			1	
SALISBURY	3	3		1	7	4	13	3					
MacTAVISH	4	6	4	5	19	4	5	3					
RUSSELL	1			2	3	2	5	1					
DONOVAN		1	3	2	6	2	4		1		1		
MELICAN	3	3	1		7	4	5	2				24	
MAYNARD	2		5	1	8	1	7		1		2		
McDERMOTT	6	5	4	2	17	6	12	5	4				
BARTLETT	2	1		1	4	2	3	1	2	2	1	1	
GARTON	1				1		3	1	1			4	
RUSHED											6		
TOTAL	53	52	47	48	200	67	137	36	27	13	17	50	

SOUTH	KICKS					FREES					H/O		
	1	2	3	4	TOTAL	M	N/B	FOR	AG	GLS	BNS	H/O	
MITTON		2	6	3	11	5	6	1	2	1			
STOECKEL	1	1	2	1	5	2	2	1	2	1		3	
TATTERSON	4	3	2	6	15	2	8	2		2			
WINTON	4	1	3	2	10	2	4		3		1		
McINTYRE	2	4	3	1	10	5	6	3	2		1	2	
WOODLANDS	3	2	4	4	13	3	3		4	4			
TREVENA	3	3	4	5	15	5	5	3	4				
BENNETT	2	3	3	5	13	4	5		4		1		
BUTLER	2	4			6	1	2	2					
DEWHIRST	1	6	3	3	13	3	4		2		1		
WHITFORD	3	3	3	5	14	3	3	4	1				
KAPPLER	2	1	1	3	7	2	8	1	1			5	
PAGE		2	6	2	10	5	8	2	1				
SCHMID	1	1	1	2	5	5	3	1	1	1			
SMART	1	5		3	9	2	5	2	4				
HEATH				1	1	1	2	1				11	
HEWITT	4	4	2	2	12	2	2	2					
BICKLEY	4	2	1		7	1	14	2	3				
GATTI	1	2	2		5	1	2		1			2	
FORBES				2	2	2	4		1				
RUSHED											2		
TOTAL	38	49	46	50	183	56	96	27	36	9	6	23	

Flying high

Where have our big marks gone?

They soar with the greatest of ease... footballers whose lofty flights into orbit have inspired, captivated and enthralled multitudes of SA fans.

They're our game's high-flyers; dizzy, daring acrobats who have electrified those both on and off the playing arena.

Who can forget those breathtaking screamers of Ken Whelan, North Adelaide "rockets" Ian McKay, Don Lindner and the magical Barrie Robran and Glenelg's superb aerialist Ray Button.

In recent years Graham Cornes, Malcolm Blight, Roger Luders, Bruce Lindner, Grenville Dietrich, Tony Antrobus, Tony Hall and Ross Gibbs have all defied gravity with some amazing leaps.

Yes, the high mark is a spectacular feature of Aussie Rules, but in these days of football professionalism, are our aerialists a vanishing breed?

Today, the ball is transferred so much more quickly around the ground than yesteryear, thus making it so much more difficult to take that "speckie".

Glenelg coach Graham Cornes was one of the game's high-flyers.

Like the great grab of North Adelaide's Ian McKay back in the 1950's, the marking feats of the Tiger great have been well documented.

"Cornsey" scored a goal after taking a spectacular mark in the final minutes of the 1973 grand final against North Adelaide to help secure the Tiger's second premiership.

Cornes agreed football aerialists were perhaps a dying breed.

He said: "Maybe it's because the ball is moved so much more quickly these days than previously."

Cornes said Sturt forward Ken Whelan, Malcolm Blight and Barrie Robran were among the great high leapers he has seen.

"Grenville Dietrich for a man of his size was capable of taking a big mark while Tony Hall, although not an aerialist as such, was also also a high-flyer.

"But I would have loved to see the likes of VFL greats John Coleman, Dick Pratt and Ron Todd."

When they talk about spectacular marks, Ian McKay's soaring grab will always be quoted as THE LEAP!

McKay was a high-flying Magarey Medallist, acclaimed as one of football's greatest fullbacks and the subject of perhaps the best football picture taken in SA.

And even today — almost 37 years after the event — the mere mention of the North Adelaide supremo will bring memories flooding back for countless South Australians.

The scene was the 1952 grand final between North Adelaide and Norwood on a balmy afternoon before a crowd of more than 50,000 at Adelaide Oval.

It was late in the game with the Roosters romping away to a record victory and, by his own admissions, captain Ian McKay had contributed little to his side's effort.

By Peter Prime

With the football rarely within McKay's area in defence, the Rooster No. 1 was given a run on the ball in the last quarter by coach Ken Farmer.

One of football's greatest moments was about to occur. McKay wanted to do something — anything — to finish with some style — and he soon had the opportunity.

The ball was heading towards Norwood ruckman Pat Hall and it was all the 1950 Magarey Medallist needed.

He raced in from behind, one knee in the small of Hall's back. Then the other went up high between his shoulder blades.

Hall held his position, an obliging step ladder, until McKay held the ball safely. Then, together, they sank almost graciously to the grass.

Just for the record McKay nonchalantly brought up a goal with a towering screw punt from more than 50 metres — North's 23rd and final of the game. The Roosters had won the 1952 grand final.

No more sensational high-flyer has been seen in SA football since World War II than another North Adelaide player, Don Lindner.

Lindner was football's acrobatic sensation of the 1950's and 1960's, affectionately referred to as "Leaping Lindy" or "Daredevil Don", but more commonly as "Butch".

High jumping, tumbling and diving practiced at school and later at Teachers College contributed to his freakish marking.

Lindner said he was "about 17" before he realised he had above-average marking ability.

"At 16, I was a rover with Immanuel College and often opposed to young Haydn Bunton. Then I went back to Renmark and played for the high school and on a half-forward flank for the Renmark A team.

"I grew a foot in about a year and noticed when, playing for Teachers College the next year that I was grabbing a few marks."

Former Advertiser sporting editor Merv Agars wrote of Lindner: "I saw him play his first trial game at Prospect and his immense potential was immediately obvious.

"I was also lucky enough to see him at the peak of his career in the 1961



ABOVE: Graham Cornes shows the style that made him one of the best marks in the game. RIGHT: A classic by North Adelaide great Ian McKay over Norwood ruckman Pat Hall.

Brisbane carnival when he turned a game for SA with his breathtaking marking.

"His inspiring play (plus two fine goals) and the ruckwork of Bill Wedding lifted SA to a thrilling two-point win."

The mercurial Lindner will rank with the unforgettable. An unorthodox mark, he twisted and turned when flying for the ball. But while these "trips into orbit" looked dangerous, Lindner was adamant that he had full control.



Blight



Whelan



Robran



Luders