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**Title:**  
Open Sturt's new grandstand

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Judge Brebner , Your Worship the Mayor of Unley, Mr Morton, Mr Wark, my parliamentary colleagues , ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls :

Thanks very much for asking me here this afternoon to open this new grandstand, which is the result of a lot of hard work by the Sturt Club, Unley Council and the League.

It certainly is a tremendous addition to Unley Oval, and I'm sure all of us who came here today to watch South Australia's top football team --- Norwood , of course ---

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will appreciate the more comfortable accommodation.

I'm very pleased that Norwood will be the first team to play in front of the finished stand , because Norwood and Sturts are old friends . We're old enemies , too, but until the game starts it's better to remember the friendship.

The first game the new Sturts Club played when it was formed in 1901 was against Norwood--- and the Redlegs won. Since then there has been an intense but good natured rivalry between our two clubs.

Sturts have contributed greatly to Australian rules in this State: I don't

think there is anyone who not give credit to the administrators and players from Sturt who have done so much to further the game. Men like Frank Golding, Vic Richardson Len Fitzgerald and my own colleague Gil Langley have all put as much back into the sport as they received from it.

In fact about the only time I have a serious disagreement with Gil Langley is when we start talking football.

I'm very pleased that in the first year of the new national competition the President of the National Football League is Ray Kutcher, who has done so much for South Australian football and for Sturts.

The national competition is a major step forward for the game, because it will make Australian Rules the one code in the country which has a regular, national series of matches. It is an ambitious project, but all of us wish it well. The four teams who will represent South Australia --- Norwood, Glenelg, Port Adelaide and Sturt --- will have an exciting series.

Today's match will give us a taste of that excitement, and none of us could want a more comfortable place to watch it from than this fine new grandstand.

My congratulations to Sturts for pushing ahead with the building of it, and also

for agreeing to be responsible for the care and maintenance of Unley Oval for the next 20 years.

My congratulations as well to the Unley Council for supporting Australian Rules, and all the sporting codes who may use this Oval, by providing this new stand.

The co-operation between Unley Council and Sturt Club will be of great benefit to the whole community, and it gives me great pleasure to declare the grandstand officially open.