

1926 Round 12 Saturday 17th July Sydney Cricket Ground

University 20 Western Suburbs 8 def.

Fullback	Frank McMILLAN (c)
Wing	Jack REDMOND
Centre	Fred YANZ
Centre	Cecil FIFIELD
Wing	Jack HOLMES
Five-eighth	Jerry BRIEN
Half	Eric DOIG
Lock	Jack DREW
Second Row	Bill CARPENTER
Second Row	Jim PARSONS
Front Row	Frank MATTERSON
Hooker	Cecil RHODES
Front Row	Frank SPILLANE
	Wing Centre Centre Wing Five-eighth Half Lock Second Row Second Row Front Row

Jim WARD (2) Jack HOLMES Tries Edward RYAN (2) Frank SPILLANE

BILL FLANAGAN Dick O'BRIEN

Goals Edward RYAN (1) Eric DOIG (1)

Match Description

University: Full-back, H C Finn; three-quarters, R L O'Brien, A F O'Rourke, T Barry, J T Ward; halves, A S Lane, E Wynter; forwards, E J Ryan, C Rowley, J Woods, F Benning, E Ogg and W Flanagan

Western Suburbs: Full-back, F McMillan; three-quarters, J Holmes, F Yanz, C Fifield, T Redmond; halves, J Brien, E Doig; forwards, F Matterson, F Spillane, J Parsons, J Drew, C Rhodes, W Carpenter Referee: W Neill

Though University won 20 to 8 against Western Suburbs at Sydney Cricket Ground, the match was a closely contested one, with both teams having an equal share of success in turn. University opened the score when McMillan, attempting to clear from a forward rush, crashed into Ryan and lost the ball. Ryan seized, and, racing across the goal-line between the posts, scored. He kicked an easy goal. Immediately Wests attacked, and, Brien, receiving in front of goal, sent to Holmes, who scored in the corner. Doig converted. University went ahead again, shortly before half-time, when Carpenter, of West, intercepted a pass and broke through along touch. O'Rourke brought him down just short of the goal line. Barry received in the scrimmage, and, racing through the scattered defence to Brien, sent to Weeds, on to Ryan, who scored a great try. 'Varsity 8-5. West's forwards then made a determined assault, and Spillane, receiving near the goal-line, dived across to score an unconverted try. Half-time scores: University 8, Western Suburbs 8.

Upon resuming Lane received, and sent from O'Rourke to O'Brien. The wingman scored a in the corner. O'Rourke missed a difficult goal. University continued to press, and O'Rourke broke through near half-way. He sent to Ward, who scored in a handy position. O'Rourke failed to goal. From the drop-out 'Varsity attacked, and, Wood receiving, whipped out to Ryan, and on to Ward. He outstripped the pursuers and scored again. Ryan failed at goal. A brilliant passing rush immediately after saw Ward forced out on the corner. Flanagan received from the ruck and dived across to score. Final scores: University 20, Western Suburbs 8. (Sunday Times 18th July 1926)

"Pony" Redmond demonstrated his talents in convincing fashion at the Sydney Cricket Ground last Saturday. He is only 19, but he has already "arrived". Playing last season with Lidcombe Juniors, he gravitated to reserve grade, and this season he secured a permanent post on Wests' wing. Playing against University last Saturday, he dazzled spectators by his lightning-like flashes down the touch-line He is a younger brother of Peter Redmond, well-known track sprinter of pre-war days, and, like the latter, he leaves the mark like a flash once the leather reaches his hands. ... (The Rugby League News 24th July 1926)

Notes: This was a much closer match than the score indicated. University scored points late in a tight game. Bill Carpenter came off the bench pre-game for Roy Liston, Eric Doig was back after Rodolph Wheldon was tried for one game and Fred Yanz made it back into First Grade after seven matches in Seconds. The notable debut, of course, was Cecil 'Johnno" Rhodes, who came in with Lindfield out for one match. He played 16 matches in Reserves in 1926 but then was a regular First Grader until 1933, playing over 60 matches. The dazzling form of 'Pony' Redmond continued in this match as well. Wests had a bye in Round 13.

