



1926 Round 15 Saturday 7th August Sydney Cricket Ground



South Sydney 15

def.

Western Suburbs 12

Alan RIGHTON
 Benjamin WEARING
 Oscar QUINLIVAN
 Vic LAWRENCE
 Harry FINCH
 Alfred BLAIR (c)
 Frank BROGAN
 Albert CARR
 Ernie LAPHAM
 George TREWEEK
 Eddie ROOT
 Arch THOMPSON
 Alf O'CONNOR

Fullback
Wing
Centre
Centre
Wing
Five-eighth
Half
Lock
Second Row
Second Row
Front Row
Hooker
Front Row

Frank McMILLAN (c)
 Dave HEY
 Fred YANZ
 Cecil FIFIELD
 Neil MATTERSON
 Jerry BRIEN
 Eric DOIG
 Jack DREW
 Roy LISTON
 Jim PARSONS
 Frank MATTERSON
 Bob LINDFIELD
 Frank SPILLANE



Tries Albert CARR
 Alf O'CONNOR
 Benjamin WEARING

Jim PARSONS
 Frank SPILLANE

Goals Alfred BLAIR (3)

Frank McMILLAN (3)

Match Description

South Sydney: Full-back, B Wearing, V Lawrence, O Quinlivan, H Finch; halves, A Blair, F Brogan; forwards, E Lapham, A Thompson, G Trewweek, E Root, A O'Connor, A Carr

Western Suburbs: Full-back, F McMillan; three-quarters, F Yanz, D Hey, N Matterson, C Fifield; halves, J Brien, E Doig; forwards, F Matterson, J Parsons, F Spillane, H Liston, R Lindfield, J Drew **Referee: W Neill**

.....From the kick-off the ball flashed hither and thither between the flying Southern forwards and the spectators, stirred in expectation of their usual delightful display. Suddenly the Western defence struck the advancing avalanche, and amidst scenes of thrilling passing, thwarted by magnificent tackling, South went tumbling back. "It could be but a momentary reverse," said the Southern supporter to himself, and as in justification, McMillan kicked straight to the open wing into awaiting hands of Wearing. The wingman slid inside N Matterson (West's winger), and then threw the ball to the flying forwards. In a twinkling, they went storming goal-wards, and Root, cleverly evading the last of the defenders, gave to Carr, in front of goal, with no one in front. The big forward, instantly at his top, outstripped the opposition, and scored between the posts. Blair kicked an easy goal. ... Then Wests' forwards broke away. Wearing beat F Matterson in a dash for the ball when it went in goal, near the posts, but was brought down in the corner. N Matterson snapped up the ball and sent to Parsons flying across to score near the post. Doig missed at goal. ... McMillan made several attempts at a field goal near half-way, but then kicked a good penalty from well out. Western Suburbs 5, South Sydney 5. ... Wests' fullback received the ball again from the drop out, and kicked a splendid field goal. Western Suburbs 7-5. Immediately after Spillane knocked the ball out of Righton's hands, near South's 25, and swooped it up. Racing all out, he just managed to reach the goal-line, when Lapham brought him hurtling down. McMillan kicked an easy goal. Half-time scores: Western Suburbs 12-5.

..... Occasionally South penetrated past half-way, but they were always sent back by McMillan. He fielded the ball faultlessly, and ran and kicked magnificently. But the pace was terrific, and at length South's great speed bore them out. Carr seized the ball nearly half-way, and knocking the defenders aside like nine-pins, burst through. He raced for the corner and sent to Blair. The little man turned in-field, and when tackled, gave to O'Connor, and he struggled across and scored. Blair kicked an easy goal. Western Suburbs 12-10. After a period of magnificent tackling, with the crowd roaring itself hoarse in approval, South Sydney were hurled back, despite herculean attempts to clear. Blair intercepted near half-way and threaded his way through. He eluded McMillan brilliantly, and raced for the goal-line. Yanz sprinted across from the wing and dived for Blair, but the little man sent to Wearing, supporting well, and the flyer scored a great try. Blair again converted. When the final bell went shortly after, South won a thrilling battle 15-12. The most outstanding players were McMillan, Blair and Righton. McMillan's kicking for the vacant spaces and heady running was a glimpse of his best ever. **(Sunday Times 8th August 1926)**

D Hey, who played on the wing for Western Suburbs last Saturday against the Premiers, is the Magpies' latest recruit. He hails from the fair fields of Fairfield, and previously played in the Southern District competition. **(Rugby League News 14th August 1926)**

Notes: Wests were very unlucky to lose this match, the most thrilling of the season. Blair made a break, from an intercept, for Souths with one minute to go against the run of play and they scored a converted try right on the bell. McMillan had another fine game and the match was conspicuous for the debut of Dave Hey, one of the famous Hey brothers. He had quickly moved from President's Cup to Seconds into Firsts. He would play over 20 games in Firsts from 1926-9. He had taken the place of 'Pony' Redmond who had a strained back muscle.