



1927 Round 17 Saturday 27th August Sydney Cricket Ground



St George 17

Frank MEIGHAN
 Frank SAUNDERS
 George CARSTAIRS
 Phil McSORLEY
 Stan BRAIN
 Arnold TRAYNOR
 Len GUEST
 Aub KELLY
 Bill HARDMAN
 Frank BURGE (c)
 Jim WARWICK
 Arthur JUSTICE
 Tom KILLIBY

def.

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

Western Suburbs 8

Frank McMILLAN (c)
 Jack REDMOND
 Ray MORRIS
 Neil MATTERSON
 Ken SHERWOOD
 Dave HEY
 George MASON
 Jack DREW
 Cecil RHODES
 Jim PARSONS
 Frank MATTERSON
 Bob LINDFIELD
 Frank SPILLANE



Tries
 Frank BURGE
 Len GUEST
 Frank SAUNDERS

Bob LINDFIELD
 Frank MATTERSON

Goals
 Len GUEST (4)

Jack DREW (1)

Match Description

St George: Full-back, F Meighan; three-quarters, F Saunders, G Carstairs, P McSorley, S Brain; halves, A Traynor, L Guest; forwards, T Killiby, A Justice, J Warwick, M Hardman, F Burge (captain), A Kelly

Western Suburbs: Full-back, F McMillan (captain); three-quarters, T Redmond, R Morris, N Matterson, K Sherwood; halves, C Rhodes, R Lindfield, J Parsons, F Spillane, J Drew, F Matterson **Referee: J Miller (Sunday Times 28th August 1927)**

St George and Western Suburbs drew 12,158 people to the Sydney Cricket Ground. In the first round..... Frank Burge, with his knee well strapped up, played a frisky game, so that he should be in good trim for the men of the South. In the first half, with the wind, Western Suburbs, in a territorial and every other sense, had the best of the game. They led 8 to nil at the interval, having scored two tries, one converted whereas St George had failed to score. For the greater part of the time, Western Suburbs played one short, N Matterson, the centre three-quarter, being off the field with an injury to his hip, F Matterson coming out of the scrum and playing in the centre. The first try came to Lindfield, a fine type of forward, who got over after the kick by Carstairs had been blocked, Lindfield getting to the rebounding ball and being tackled near the line, to come down and score. Carstairs had dropped back to the full-back position while Meighan was following up his kick, which McMillan returned very sharply. McMillan failed at goal. The twelve were holding the thirteen, and attacking, though the referee was jarring the game by too much interruption from the scrum and play-the-ball breaches. The second try was scored by F Matterson. Following a scrum near the line, left of the goal posts, he fielded from a short grubber kick from the ruck alongside the scrummagers, shot diagonally to the left, found the St George backs inclined to hang off for his pass to the wing, and then swept inside them, fast, to dive across and score in a fair position. Drew kicked a fine goal. Cheers. As West walked off leading 8 to nil at half-time, one felt that St George had kept their best for the second spell.

From the start they buzzed into attack with greater devil, though in the first half their defensive efforts were as virile as possible. The wind changed, the skies darkened, and rain began to drizzle. St George worked close to goal, and there getting the ball from a heel, Guest slipped through alongside the scrummagers, and dived across close to the post. Neat attack, but a screw loose in the defence just there. Guest landed the goal. A little later, a penalty in front gave St George another goal – 8 to 7. A nippy run, a neat side-step, and then a clever right foot cross kick from his wing by Saunders, with a bit of mis-fielding by one of the Westerners, let St George through for Burge to score near the goal-post, and Guest to goal. It looked as though the St George men were off-side before the Westerners touched the ball, but the referee had turned his head to watch Saunders running them on-side, so he must have been certain that everything was right. Pulling themselves together, Western Suburbs, mainly through the forwards, came at St George, but the greasy ball found some of the backs wilting a bit on attack. St George escaped from a Western effort to score from a short, high punt by McMillan from the corner. Hardman being injured in saving this score. Rain was now falling very heavily, and the St George forwards, dribbling through in a horde, wing three-quarters Saunders joined them and scored their third try in good position for Guest to goal. Thus, it ended amidst heavy rain, 17 to 8, St George having put on a second break of 17 points. **(Referee 31st August 1927)**

Notes: Wests led 8-0 at half-time but were over-run in the second half, the pouring rain from half-time seeming to be a factor, although the loss of Neil Matterson and playing most of the match with twelve men was significant. Clarrie Tye was out with an injured foot for St George. Cecil Rhodes made a comeback to Firsts but the forward pack couldn't hold them.