1926 Round 3 Saturday 8th May Pratten Park

University 14   def.   Western Suburbs 8

University		Western Suburbs
Dick O'BRIEN	*Fullback*	Frank McMILLAN
T O'DONNELL	*Wing*	Jack REDMOND
Tom BARRY	*Centre*	Joe MANSTED
Frank O'ROURKE	*Centre*	Cecil FIFIELD
G McGAUGHEY	*Wing*	Gordon STETTLER (c)
Martin CUNNINGHAM	*Five-eighth*	Jerry BRIEN
Alby LANE (c)	*Half*	Eric DOIG
Edward RYAN	*Lock*	Jack DREW
John McINTYRE	*Second Row*	Bill CARPENTER
Frank BENNING	*Second Row*	Jim PARSONS
L POWELL	*Front Row*	Edward COURTNEY Jnr
Isidor SENDER	*Hooker*	Bob LINDFIELD
John WOODS	*Front Row*	Cecil GILBERT

Tries	Frank O'ROURKE	Edward COURTNEY Jnr
	Edward RYAN	Jim PARSONS
Goals	Frank O'ROURKE (4)	Gordon STETTLER (1)

Match Description
University: O'Brien, full-back; O'Donnell, O'Rourke, Barry, McCaughey, three-quarters: Cunningham and Lane, halves; Ryan, Woods, Benning, Powell, Sender, and McIntyre, forwards
Western Suburbs: McMillan, full-back; Stettler, Fifield, Mansted and Redmond, three-quarters: Brien and Doig halves; Parsons, Courtney, Carpenter, Drew, Lindfield and Gilbert, forwards. **Referee: Mick Brannaghan**

University narrowly won a good game against Western Suburbs at Pratten Park by 14 to 8, showing better combination in the three-quarters and better condition in the forwards. Wests attacked early, O'Rourke and O'Brien shining in defence. The full-back has improved greatly this season, his tackling being more effective. Stettler was not happy on the wing, his handling being faulty. University pressed Wests back, Powell and Sender working admirably in the forwards, and soon after, they were awarded a penalty goal in a handy position, and O'Rourke kicked a good goal. University 2 to nil. Wests equalised immediately after, Stettler kicking a penalty goal. They took the lead when University secured from the scrum, but Fifield intercepted and broke through, passing to Drew, and on to Parsons, who scored. Stettler failed to convert. West 5, University 2. University reduced the leeway soon after, when O'Rourke kicked a second penalty goal. They took the lead when O'Rourke secured from the loose well in West's territory, and scored. He missed a good chance to goal. University 7, West 5. Still another penalty goal by O'Rourke put University 4 points ahead, the half-time scores being: University 9, West 5.

In the second period University were called upon to repel attack after attack by Wests' forwards, but determined tackling by O'Rourke and Barry and clever smothering by Lane kept them out, and, finally, the Students burst to attack. McMillan was in rare form at full back, handling and kicking well and tackling like a demon. However, he made one mistake, dropping a high kick for Powell to snap the ball up and send to Ryan, who scored, O'Rourke converted. University 14, West 5. West came again near the close, when Courtney received the ball near University's line and forced himself across to score. Stettler once again failed at goal. University 14, West 8.

Brien played magnificently for Wests at five-eighth, despite O'Rourke's rushing tactics. McMillan had the better of O'Brien, though the 'Varsity man played a great game. Lane, Barry, and O'Rourke were too strong for their opposing three-quarters, whilst McCaughey played well on the wing. Parsons was again a hard worker for Wests in the forwards, and was well supported by Drew. Powell, Sender, and Woods were the best of the 'Varsity forwards. **(Referee 12th May 1926)**

"Tedda" Courtney's "youngster" is displaying dash and sparkle among Wests' forwards, but is not as conspicuous in the fight as his dad. He is an industrious worker, however, and should develop into a front ranker. **(Rugby League News 8th May 1926)**

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Notes: This was another close match, in doubt until close to the end. Joe Mansted was back in Firsts after a stint in the bush and in Seconds. Cyril Flint was on the reserve bench along with a stalwart of Second Grade, Frank Spillane. Frank O'Rourke, for University, was the outstanding player on the field. Rugby League News gave Tedda Courtney Jnr a good wrap for his continuing good form. Wests would now have the bye in Round 4.