



1926 Round 5 Saturday 22nd May Earl Park



Western Suburbs 17

def.

St George 12

Frank McMILLAN
 Gordon STETTLER (c)
 Joe MANSTED
 Cecil FIFIELD
 Jack REDMOND
 Jerry BRIEN
 Eric DOIG
 Edward COURTNEY Jnr
 Jim PARSONS
 Frank SPILLANE
 Cecil GILBERT
 Bob LINDFIELD
 Jack DREW

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

Frank MEIGHAN
 Frank SAUNDERS
 Fred HUME
 George CARSTAIRS
 R CONN
 Arnold TRAYNOR (c)
 Phil McSORLEY
 Aub KELLY
 Bill HARDMAN
 Tom KILLIBY
 Clarrie TYE
 Arthur JUSTICE
 C WHELAN

Tries

Jack REDMOND (2)
 Edward COURTNEY Jnr
 Bob LINDFIELD
 Frank SPILLANE

Arthur JUSTICE
 Arnold TRAYNOR

Goals

Gordon STETTLER (1)

Arnold TRAYNOR (2)
 George CARSTAIRS (1)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back, F McMillan; three-quarters, G Stettler (capt), J Mansted, C Fifield, T Redmond; halves, J Brien, E Doig; forwards, J Parsons, R Lindfield, F Spillane, E Courtney, J Drew, C Gilbert

St George: Full-back, F Meighan; three-quarters, F Saunders, G Carstairs, H Hume, R Cover; halves, A Traynor (capt), P McSorley; forwards, C Tye, A Justice, T Killiby, C Whelan, W Hardman, A Kelly **Referee: A Thornton**

Western Suburbs and St George staged a wonderfully exciting second half at Earl Park. The pace was terrific throughout, and the football of both teams reached a very high standard. During this term fortune fluctuated, and the spectators were kept in a simmer of excitement. St George, with the wind slightly in their favour, kept the black and whites on the defensive, but were unable to score. Their backs missed innumerable opportunities, owing chiefly to lack of cohesion and finish. The inside backs continually jolted the attack, either through faulty handling, being caught in possession, or lack of initiative. Meanwhile, Wests defended with grim determination, and displayed more speed and cleverness in attack. St George's skipper, Traynor, was responsible for 7 of the 9 points registered by his team in the first half. F Hume left the field just before the interval, with a broken collarbone.

The second half provided a succession of thrills, and as the Westerners gradually overhauled their opponents, the excitement was intense. Every individual on the side played above himself, throwing the ball about in bewildering fashion. Those tactics upset their opponents, whose football during the later stages went to pieces. Three of their five tries were registered after half the side had handled the ball. F Meighan, making his first appearance in Sydney football, gave an unblemished display. His catching, kicking, and tackling were all brilliant. Saunders and Covers, the wingers, both played ably, but rarely received the ball from their inside backs. McSorley was the weak link, whilst Traynor played a rattling game at half. Kelly, again, was the best forward on the ground. His tackling was an outstanding feature of a polished display. Hardman and Justice were the pick of the remainder. **(Sunday Times May 23rd 1926)**

Lindfield worked excellently as hooker for the winners, securing the greater share of the ball from the scrums. Wests' backs showed fine combination, Brien and Doig proving too elusive for the weakened opposition in the second period. **(Referee 26th May 1926)**

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Notes: Wests came back to winning form with a solid win over St George at their home ground. Frank Spillane was rewarded for his service in Second Grade with a debut First Grade run. The apparently strong form of the forwards was emphasised with the fact that Frank 'Dutchy' Matterson scored two tries in Second Grade. He was one of many 1925 First Graders who couldn't get a game in Firsts. Bill Carpenter, a reserve for this match, was another such example.