



1927 Round 8 Saturday 11th June Sydney Cricket Ground



Western Suburbs 11

def.

St George 10

Frank McMILLAN (c)
 Ken SHERWOOD
 Dave HEY
 Neil MATTERSON
 Jack REDMOND
 Jerry BRIEN
 Harry OWEN
 Les HAYES
 Jim PARSONS
 Jack DREW
 Frank MATTERSON
 Bob LINDFIELD
 Frank SPILLANE

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

Frank MEIGHAN
 Stan BRAIN
 Eric McCORMACK
 George CARSTAIRS
 Frank SAUNDERS
 Arnold TRAYNOR
 Bill BENSON
 Aub KELLY (c)
 Bill HARDMAN
 Harry FLOWER
 Jim WARWICK
 Arthur JUSTICE
 Clarrie TYE



Tries Jerry BRIEN

Stan BRAIN
Jim WARWICK

Goals Frank McMILLAN (4) 1 field goal

Eric McCORMACK (2)

Match Description

St George: Full-back, F Meighan; three-quarters, F Saunders, F McCormack, G Carstairs, S Brain; halves, A Traynor, W Benson; forwards, C Tye, A Justice, J Warwick, H Flower, W Hardman, A Kelly (c)

Western Suburbs: Full-back, F McMillan (c); three-quarters, J Redmond, K Sherwood, N Matterson, D Hey; halves, J Brien, H Owen; forwards, J Drew, R Lindfield, L Hayes, F Spillane, J Parsons, F Matterson **Referee: H Mills**

St George suffered their firsts reverse against their neighbours, Western Suburbs by the narrow margin of one point – 11 to 10. It was goal kicking that proved the deciding factor for St George scored two tries to one. The accuracy of the boot of Skipper McMillan brought victory. However, the game was one of the most exciting seen for some time. The spectators were kept in a simmer of excitement throughout the whole of the second half. Being seven points in arrears at the interval, Western Suburbs fought doggedly, and, taking advantage of infringements by their opponents, McMillan gradually reduced the margin. Throughout this period the football was first-class, with both teams defending like Trojans. With about eight minutes to go, the brilliant McMillan fielded at mid-field, steadied himself, and with a magnificent kick, sent the ball straight between the uprights, and gained the lead for his side. The field goal was a truly match-winning effort, and it was a fitting finale of the skipper, after the magnificent exhibition he gave during the game. Not to be denied, the Red and White kept up an increased attack for the remaining period of the game. Kelly and Tye were within a fraction of scoring, while the brilliant effort by winger Brain, when he streaked along touch for 30 yards to dive over, only to be recalled, In addition, the losers had two further opportunities with penalties within striking distance. The first, by McCormack, struck the man on the mark, while Carstairs had an opportunity as the bell rang, but his kick fell short.

..... During the second half neither side succeeded in registering a try. The tackling of both teams was deadly. The issue was in doubt right up till no-side, holding the huge crowd to the bell. The titanic struggle waged by both teams was worth going miles to see, and throughout the football was clean, and fought out in fine spirit. Referee Mill, from the South Coast, while adjudicating strictly fair to both teams, missed many breaches. For the winners, Skipper McMillan stood head and shoulders above his colleagues. He gave a brilliant all round display, and at times was like the Rock of Gibraltar in defensive positions..... Justice outpointed hooker Lindfield in decisive fashion... **(Sunday Times 12th June 1927)**

When Frank McMillan kicked that memorable and winning goal for Western Suburbs against St George on Saturday, he got a better grip than ever on the pedestal to which popular opinion had already elevated him..... His field goal from over half-way – the goal that put his side in front and made his aggregate scoring points eight out of the eleven, was a trimmer. He must have been 75 yards from where it was kicked to where it landed.... Just before the final whistle McMillan received a nasty cut over the eyes – one of the ugliest seen for some time. It was bad luck, especially after such a day. **(Rugby League News 18th June 1927)**

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Notes: This was an obviously close, hard-fought game which, surprisingly, Wests won on goal-kicking. Jerry Brien was back after scoring multiple tries in Second Grade, as was Bob Lindfield and Neil Matterson. Wests had now won six out of their first seven matches and were considered one of the premiership favourites. McMillan's field goal was a match-winner and apparently went 75 yards.