



1923 Round 14 Saturday 11th August Pratten Park



Western Suburbs 14

def.

University 8

Frank McMILLAN
 Fred YANZ
 Neil MATTERSON
 Gordon STETTLER
 Wally COLLINS
 William McCABE
 Eric DOIG
 Harold LEDDY
 Louis YANZ
 Jack DREW
 Edward STAPLETON
 Clarrie PRENTICE (c)
 Edward COURTNEY

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

Hubert FINN (c)
 Wal MURPHY
 Tom LINSKEY
 Robert CUNNINGHAM
 Tom BARRY
 Martin CUNNINGHAM
 Maurice UNWIN
 Crawford MUNRO
 Bill DARRAGH
 Robert DUNWORTH
 Jim DUNWORTH
 Horace MOXON
 William FENNELL



Tries Wally COLLINS (2)
 Harold LEDDY
 Fred YANZ

Jim DUNWORTH
 Wal MURPHY

Goals Eric DOIG (1)

Tom LINSKEY (1)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back, F McMillan; three-quarters, N Matterson, G Stettler, W Collins, F Yanz; halves, W McCabe, E Doig; forwards, E Courtney, C Prentice, E Stapleton, J Drew, L Yanz, H J Leddy

University: Full-back, H Finn; three-quarters, W Murphy, T Barry, T Linskey, R Cunningham; halves, M Cunningham, L Unwin; forwards, W Fennell, H Moxon, W H Darragh, R Dunworth, J Dunworth, C H Munro **Referee: J Murray**

In the presence of about 2000 spectators M Cunningham set the ball rolling for University. Western Suburbs' forwards came at their opponents, and forced them back to the line. Each team was playing with spirit, and the game promised to be keenly contested. University kept up a constant pressure, and the home side were kept busy defending their own line. Among close play on the line Munro was almost over, but the opposition held him up. Munro had previously been conspicuous with a good run, in which he had beaten the defence, and short-punted, but the ball went out of touch. The most brilliant movement of this half was started by M Cunningham in his side's own 25. Cunningham secured the ball from a scrummage, and cut right in, taking his supports with him. Backing up well, Linskey took his pass, and sent to Barry, to Murphy, who scored. The players in this movement showed exceptional judgement and handling in their passing. At half-time University led by 8 points to 3. J Dunworth and Murphy scored tries, and Linskey a goal. F Yanz scored for Western Suburbs.

Western Suburbs opened the second half in better heart, and short forward rushes enabled them to reach University's 25. Here Doig spoilt a good position by kicking out of touch. The game then see-sawed. The Western Suburbs forwards were using their weight to good advantage, and the lighter University pack had difficulty in holding their ground. M Cunningham found gaps in the defence of the opposition's inside backs, and broke through freely. University found the speed of the Western Suburbs' attacks a little disconcerting, and this, coupled with the way the home backs played on top of them, had the effect of disorganising their back division. The latter part of the game was brilliant, but the weight and pace of Western Suburbs were too much for their adversaries. University's outstanding players were Cunningham and Finn (backs), Munro and Dunworth (forwards). Among Western Suburbs backs McMillan and F Yanz were conspicuous; Leddy and Stapleton were their best forwards. The scorers for Western Suburbs in this half were Collins (2), Leddy and Doig a goal; the final scores being - Western Suburbs 14 points, University 8. **(The Sydney Morning Herald 13th August 1923)**

A change came over Western Suburbs when play re-opened. The cohesion and pace previously missing was there in abundance, and it was soon evident that they would make up the leeway. The determination of the home team's attacks allowed University no respite, and their defence began to loosen. Western Suburbs were now getting a monopoly of the ball now, and their inside backs were getting through. Cunningham was tackling well, but Unwin (half) was too light. Several times he clung tenaciously to opponents, but they often managed to shake him off. The defence was wilting. It was a long succession of Western Suburbs attacks and desperate defence by University. Four times Western Suburbs threw away tries by faulty handling and passing..... **(The Referee 15th August 1923)**

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Notes: Wests were expected to win this match but struggled early. They were down at half-time and had been out-played but came out strongly in the second half with McMillan and Leddy leading the way. McMillan was rewarded for his outstanding form with selection for NSW at full-back against Queensland. Yanz's try was apparently very doubtful with two players going for the ball.