



1932 Final Saturday 17th September Sports Ground



Western Suburbs 23

def.

South Sydney 8

Frank McMILLAN
 Harold RANKINE
 Ray MORRIS
 Cliff PEARCE
 Alan RIDLEY
 Jack McGLINN
 Les MEAD
 Frank SPONBERG
 Bill RYAN
 Charlie CORNWELL
 Bill BROGAN (c)
 Bob LINDFIELD
 Cecil RHODES

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

Albert SPILLANE
 Benny WEARING
 Jack MORRISON
 Pat MAHER
 Jack WHY
 Percy WILLIAMS
 Jim DEELEY
 Harry EYERS
 Frank CURRAN
 Jack PETERSON
 Frank O'CONNOR
 George TREWEEKE (c)
 Eric LEWIS

Tries

Charlie CORNWELL
 Bill RYAN
 Harold RANKINE
 Ray MORRIS
 Cliff PEARCE

Frank O'CONNOR
 Eric LEWIS

Goals

Les MEAD (3)
 Charlie CORNWELL (1)

Percy WILLIAMS (1)

Match Description

South Sydney: Full-back, A Spillane; three-quarters, B Wearing, P Maher, J Morrison, J Why; halves, P Williams, J Deeley, H Eysers; forwards, G Trewееke (capt), F O'Connor, F Curran, J Peterson, E Lewis

Western Suburbs: Full-back, F McMillan; three-quarters, H Rankine, C Pearce, R Morris, A Ridley; halves, L Mead, J McGlinn; forwards, F Sponberg, W Ryan, C Cornwell, C Rhodes, W Brogan (capt), R Linfield **Referee: L Deane (The Rugby League News September 24th 1932)**

..... Western Suburbs played first from the eastern end with a strong wind to assist. The ground was soft, although it had recovered well from the effects of heavy rain. Further showers fell during the progress of play mostly in the second half and during that term South Sydney was unfortunate that the wind for a time dropped to a mere light breeze. The rain worried the southerners and also hampered the Western Suburbs men who lost two tries when the ball was dropped.... After South Sydney had attacked and Wearing had failed with a penalty shot Mead opened the scoring with an easy penalty goal and Western Suburbs led by two points to nil, when Morrison was carried off.For the remainder of this half Western Suburbs did nearly all the attacking. Chances were missed till Pearce followed on a kick and tackled the fullback Spillane who lost possession and Ryan fielded the ball and easily scored, Mead converting. Another Ridley burst led to the second try, McGlinn passing to Morris who crossed unopposed and ran round behind the posts, Why making no effort to make him touch down in a more difficult position. Mead added the goal and the only other score before the internal was a good penalty goal by Cornwell, Western Suburbs leading by 14 points to nil.

... South Sydney supporters hoped for a recovery, with their team running with the wind in the second half but soon after the resumption Pearce settled their hopes, easily beating weak efforts to tackle and passing three opponents before diving across for an unconverted try in the right corner. South Sydney's response was a try by Lewis after Williams had worked the blind side of a five yards scrum. Western Suburbs, winning the scrums, maintained a strong pressure and after Rankine playing on the left wing, had twice failed to hold the slippery ball, first from a low pass by Morris, and later from a high one by McMillan who had beaten Wearing, Mead commenced a chain off passes which ended in Cornwell scoring. A slashing run by Deeley and a neat in pass to O'Connor led to the forward scoring South's second try and Williams' penalty goal made the scores 20 to 8 but although it was not until the last minute that Rankine scored, after Morris had run well and McGlinn and Brogan had handled the ball, Western Suburbs had much the better of the ensuing play. The veteran Brogan played his best game of the season and led the forwards ably. Sponberg, like his leader, tackled soundly. Mead played brilliantly behind the pack, twice going close to scoring, besides starting many rushes and he brought his points tally for the season to 98, Wearing failing to add to his 93 for South Sydney. Mead's partner McGlinn moved better than he has done for some time. Rankine, playing in his first big game, revealed promising form, defending soundly and showing determination in attack. **(The Sydney Morning Herald 19th September 1932)**

Notes: This final was played in rainy conditions and the ease of Wests' win was surprising, although one of Souths' best players, Eddie Root, was out with a poisoned hand and centre Jack Morrison was off for the second half after suffering a serious concussion, which put him in hospital. Mead was outstanding, taking his season tally to 98 points, while Cliff Pearce was strong and Alan Ridley was clearly the best player on the field. Harold Rankine made his debut from the Juniors, a meteoric rise, but was well up to the task. Wests won the Third Grade Final 10-6 against Easts so would also go to the Grand Final.