



1958 Round 11 Saturday 28th June Sports Ground



St George 24

def.

Western Suburbs 18

Brian GRAHAM
Tommy RYAN
Jack FIFIELD
Merv LEES
Eddie LUMSDEN
Peter CARROLL
Bobby BUGDEN
Brian CLAY
Monty PORTER
Harry BATH (c)
Bryan ORROCK
Peter ARMSTRONG
Bill WILSON

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

Darcy RUSSELL (c)
John THOMPSON
Don MALONE
Barry OWEN
Bernie KELLY
Darcy HENRY
Colin WELLS
Doug JONES
Jack BOWMAN
Bill CARSON
Mark PATCH
Bede GOFF
Nev CHARLTON



Tries

Brian GRAHAM
Eddie LUMSDEN
Monty PORTER
Billy WILSON

Darcy HENRY
John THOMPSON

Goals

Harry BATH (6)

Darcy RUSSELL (6)

Match Description

St George: Full-back: B Graham; three-quarters: E Lumsden, J Fifield, M Lees, T Ryan; five-eighth: P Carroll; half: B Bugden; forwards: B Clay, M Porter, H Bath, B Orrock, P Armstrong, W Wilson

Western Suburbs: Full-back: D Russell; three-quarters: J Thompson, D Malone, B Owen, B Kelly; five-eighth: D Henry; half: C Wells; forwards: D Jones, W Carson, J Bowman, N Charlton, B Goff, M Patch **Referee: C Pearce (as per program Rugby League News 28-29th June 1958)**

Rugby League premiers St George downed Western Suburbs 24 points to 18 in a tight, rough forward duel before a crowd of about 8000 at the Sports Ground yesterday. Referee Col Pearce sent two players - Bill Carson (Wests) and Bill Wilson (St George) - from the field during the tensely fought second half. Though the result was never really in doubt, the crowd, held by the hard play and the chance of Wests pulling off a miracle, stayed in the rain to the finish. The match developed into a gigantic forward clash, bitterly fought and with no beg-pardons. The St George pack had a definite edge in general play and this superiority clinched the issue. Back divisions of both teams were naturally subdued because of the wet conditions. But the St George three-quarters were at least a business-like combination. The makeshift Wests line was just a useless appendage, so far as penetration and point scoring potential was concerned. Carson and Wilson may have been treated harshly when they were sent off by Pearce. Whatever indiscretions they committed were a natural outcome of the slugging play which went on between the rival packs. In each case there was a maimed player involved as mute evidence of the indiscretion. But in each case the injury made a speedy recovery once marching orders had been issued. Carson wielded a very heavy and healthy boot as St George fullback Graham stood to play the ball. This is the usual thing in a play-the-ball, unless, of course, the boot is aimed indiscriminately instead of at the ball - a belief apparently held by Referee Pearce on this occasion. Wilson was sent off when Wests' lock Doug Jones was left on the ground in a melee. Wilson was about the best forward on the ground and had been involved in many a head-on collision with the Western Suburbs players. Jones had a trying match. His duel with his opposite Brian Clay was one of the keenly contested side lights. Jones was flattened three times by Clay's crash tackles and was also cautioned by the referee. None of the second Test aspirants on parade enhance their reputations. Clay played a solid but uninspiring game. Darcy Henry was in trouble from the moment he scored the opening try of the game. Henry scarcely beat a man. If Bugden or Carroll did not get him, Clay did. And Henry had plenty of the ball, as Wests won the scrums 18 to 13. The number of penalties was out of all proportion to what is expected from teams that play to the rules. West had 24 to St George's 13, a total of 37 for the match - or a blast of the whistle for a free kick nearly every 2 minutes. When stoppages just for the 31 scrums are added it is a wonder the game held the interest it did. St. George scored 4 tries to 2. They took the lead midway through the first half and never lost it. The nearest West got in there bid to save the match was when St George led 16-13 in the second half. Each goal kicker had the sort of opportunities they usually only dream about. True, the ball was wet, but not so greasy and therefore controllable. Under these satisfactory conditions Wests' fullback Darcy Russell had 12 attempts to land 6 goals. But St George skipper Harry Bath, had 9, also landing the half-dozen. Wests started in fine style. Their pack had the edge in the opening phases of the ding-dong forward battle which later reached heights unusual for this type of plane. They scored first - the result of a thrilling thrust down the centre by lock man Jones, capped by a try in the right position for Henry, after Wells had been the connecting link. (Truth 29th June 1958)

Notes: Keith Holman, Harry Wells, Peter Dimond and Kel O'Shea were all in Brisbane with the NSW team. Bill Carson was sent off in the second half and by all accounts it was not merited. It affected the final result (16-13 when he was sent off). In a very tough forward clash Nev Charlton stood out among the Wests' forwards. The match was played in pouring rain and Wests tried hard to stay in the match, but the make-shift backline was outplayed.