



1933 Round 5 Saturday 20th May Sports Ground



Western Suburbs 18

def.

South Sydney 5

Frank McMILLAN
 Les MIDSON
 Cliff PEARCE (c)
 Stan TANCRED
 Alan RIDLEY
 Vic HEY
 Les MEAD
 Frank SPONBERG
 Jack MCCONNELL
 Charlie CORNWELL
 Bill BROGAN
 Bob LINDFIELD
 Charlie WRENCH

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

Albert SPILLANE
 Jack MORRISON
 Sid HARRIS
 Jack WHY
 Sid SAMPSON
 Percy WILLIAMS
 Jim DEELEY
 Jack LENNOX
 Frank O'CONNOR
 George TREWEEK (c)
 Frank CURRAN
 Eddie ROOT
 Eric LEWIS

Tries

Alan RIDLEY (2)
 Les MIDSON
 Charlie CORNWELL

Percy WILLIAMS

Goals

Charlie CORNWELL (3)

Percy WILLIAMS (1)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: F McMillan; three-quarters: L Midson, C Pearce (capt), S Tancred, A Ridley; halves: V Hey, L Mead; forwards: F Sponberg, C Cornwell, J McConnell, W Brogan, R Lindfield, C Wrench

South Sydney: Full-back: A Spillane; three-quarters: J Morrison, J Why, S Harris, S Sampson; halves: P Williams, J Deeley, J Lennox; forwards: G Treweeke (capt), F O'Connor, E Lewis, E Root, F Curran **Referee: L Deane (Rugby League News 5th June 1933)**

The ground although very soft, was not nearly so bad as might have been expected after so much rain, but further rain fell throughout the match and the ball was soon heavy and slippery. Western Suburbs played the better game under the conditions and also employed successful tactics to counter South Sydney's extra-back formation. South Sydney was without Wearing and Quinlivan, who were injured. Why moved from centre to wing, and Sampson came into the team on the other flank. Playing six forwards against five, West won the ball from the majority of scrums, and when South Sydney backs did obtain possession they found opponents standing well up on them and tackling soundly. South Sydney fought hard, and occasionally the players handled the heavy ball cleverly, but a try was missed after Williams had gone through the crush and Treweeke passed forward to Curran. For the remainder of this half Western Suburbs had the better of matters, the forwards rucking hard and taking the ball through at the toe, and the inside backs often kicking to beat the defence. Cornwell kicked two penalty goals, the second from near the right wing, McMillan having previously kicked wide. After a punt by McMillan, Spillane dropped the ball when heavily tackled, and Midson, on the left wing, kicked through Lennox might have forced the ball, but failed to grasp it, and Midson scored, Cornwell failing to convert. Soon afterwards the West five-eighth, Hey, made a great dash from a scrum in South territory, and got almost to the goal-line where he passed the ball. It struck Cornwell but Ridley, on the right wing, caught it and crossed for a try.Then from a scrum near the left wing and in the West 25 yards area, the ball was heeled to Williams, who tricked the defence with a clever feint to pass and went through to score, slightly improving his position. Morrison could not goal and at half-time Western Suburbs led by 10 points to 3.

..... Brogan and Sponberg then combined, and Pearce reversed the play the ball being handled by Wrench and Cornwell, who scored in a good position, but McMillan missed with the kick. Cornwell goaled from a penalty well out and then Williams kicked a goal for South from a good position. Western Suburbs led by 15 to 5, and followed with the best try of the day. Inside halfway Midson ran infield and passed to Tancred, who burst through brilliantly, and sent the ball to Ridley, who took it while going at top pace, and raced over, scoring near the right wing. Wests were pressing at the end, Midson being pushed out by Sampson in the South 25. McMillan was not worried by the conditions. His handling was faultless, and he played with intelligence. In the second half particularly he frequently kicked the ball, remembering that South Sydney had an extra back, and also recognising that Spillane and some of the opposing inside backs were not handling safely. Pearce, in the centre, did his best work in defence but two smart young players in Hey (five-eighth) and Tancred (inside centre) both roused the crowd with a couple of fine dashes. Mead played well both in defence and attack, and the wingers Ridley and Midson, were successful, Midson's speed being valuable in defence. The West forwards were a fine bunch. Sponberg tackled soundly, and McConnell and Wrench were often conspicuous, while the veteran Brogan was always striving to get the backs going. **(The Sydney Morning Herald 22nd May 1933)**

Notes: This match was played in steady rain and Wests simply hammered Souths in the wet for the whole game. McMillan was outstanding as usual in the wet although he was taken off goal-kicking duties after two misses. Mead and Ridley both starred, helped greatly by Lindfield's usual dominance in the scrums.