



1932 Round 6 Saturday 18th June Pratten Park



Western Suburbs 15

def.

St George 5

Clyde CANT
 Alan RIDLEY
 Ken SHERWOOD
 Ray MORRIS
 Alan BRADY
 Jack McGLINN
 Les MEAD
 Frank SPONBERG
 Charlie CORNWELL
 Frank SPILLANE
 Bill BROGAN (c)
 Bob LINDFIELD
 Charlie WRENCH

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

Norm TIPPING
 Joe BRENNAN
 Jack LENNOX
 Stan BRAIN (c)
 Fred GARDINER
 Tom CAREY
 Len BRENNAN
 John BRIERLEY
 Joe SHARP
 Henry PIERCE
 Charlie HYLAND
 Arthur JUSTICE
 Reg SCHUMAN

Tries

Les MEAD
 Ken SHERWOOD
 Ray MORRIS

Tom CAREY

Goals

Les MEAD (2)
 Charlie CORNWELL (1)

Tom CAREY (1)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: C Cant; three-quarters: A Ridley, K Sherwood, R Morris, A Brady; halves: J McGlinn, L Mead; forwards: C Cornwell, F Sponberg, F Spillane, C wrench, R Lindfield, W Brogan (capt)

St George: Full-back: N Tipping; three-quarters: F Gardiner, S Brain, J Lennox, J Brennan; halves: L Brennan, T Carey; forwards: J Brierley, J Sharpe, H Pearce, R Schuman, A Justice, B Hyland **Referee: L Deane (Rugby League News 25th June 1932)**

Though St. George scored five points to three in the second half the home team did not at any stage look like losing. Bad handling resulted in both sides missing chances, while Western Suburbs' inside backs on occasions held on too long and neglected the wingers. Western Suburbs was without the services of W. Ryan and C. Rhodes, who have leg injuries, and their places were taken by C. Wrench and F. Sponberg, from the reserves. St. George, whose first three full-backs are injured, tried out N. Tipping, the reserve grade five-eighth in that position, Western Suburbs scored first when Mead landed an easy penalty goal, and then that player starred in the best effort of the day. St George was pressing and Gardiner got to the Western Suburbs 25 and sent to Carey who threw a pass infield. Mead dashed through to intercept, swerved past Tipping and raced off. The speedy Ridley ran alongside him at the half-way line and as St George men drew closer Mead veered out towards the touch line with Ridley close up. Mead lasted long enough to score in the corner. Many held the opinion that Ridley had obstructed St George players but though Mead would not have scored without his aid, Ridley did not deliberately interfere and showed good judgment in his running with the half back. Cornwell capped that effort with a great goal from the touch-line and Western Suburbs led by 7 points to nil. Just before half time the scores became 12 to nil when J Brennan dropped the ball in his own 25 and Cornwell sent Morris over for Mead to goal.

St George opened the second half well and Gardiner was nearly in when McGlinn kicked weakly. Cant saved and was called upon soon after when Justice dribbled through but Western Suburbs went further ahead. Brogan combined with Sherwood and Morris to send the latter across. Hard even play followed till Carey opened for St George with a penalty goal and he scored a try almost immediately going over in the corner after Brierley had shone. This ended the scoring but Morris crossed the line, only to be recalled for a forward pass. Rough play marred the concluding stages and several players were fortunate to escape with cautions. Mead was a star for Western Suburbs but McGlinn played a disappointing game and kicked too much. Morris ended promising moves by hanging on when men stood by waiting for the transfer. Rarely did the ball reach Brady or Ridley. Gardiner played a dashing game for St George but was well marked, while J Brennan on the other wing was a failure and fumbled often when in a good position and an error just before half time gave Western Suburbs five points. L Brennan again showed to advantage as five eighth and Carey displayed improved form at half back. Cant overshadowed Tipping. The latter is a determined tackler but is not accustomed to the fullback position, Sponberg, a Junior player last year, did great work in the Western Suburbs pack with Brogan and Cornwell prominent. Justice had slightly the better of the scrum exchanges and shone in the loose ably supported by Schuman and Hyland. **(The Sydney Morning Herald 20th June 1932)**

Notes: There was significant personnel change in this match with Clyde Cant replacing McMillan and Morris in for an injured Pearce. Frank Sponberg made his debut for the injured Bill Ryan. This was a meteoric rise for Sponberg who had been playing Canterbury Bankstown Juniors the previous year. Charlie Wrench also made an appearance for the injured Rhodes. Bob Linfield and Arthur Justice continued their epic hooking battles with the honours pretty even for this match. Les Mead was the superior player on the field, his try being judged the best of the season so far. On the other hand, Jack McGlinn had another poor game. The extent of the injuries Wests were facing was highlighted by the return of Dick Vest and Neil Matterson to play Thirds. Dick hadn't played a First Grade game since 1923! Neil Matterson was the coach, a position he eventually relinquished as the need for him to play again became evident. He hadn't played since 1929 but was still very fit.