



1960 Semi-Final Saturday 20th August Cricket Ground



St George 31

Brian GRAHAM
Johnny KING
Reg GASNIER
Dave BROWN
Eddie LUMSDEN
Brian CLAY
Bobby BUGDEN
John RAPER
Monty PORTER
Kevin RYAN
Kevin BROWN
Ken KEARNEY (c)
Bill WILSON

def.

Western Suburbs 7

Darcy RUSSELL
Ian MOIR
Harry WELLS
Dick POOLE (c)
John MOWBRAY
Bill BROWN
Keith HOLMAN
Bill TONKIN
Kel O'SHEA
Garry RUSSELL
Denis MEANEY
John DAWSON
Nev CHARLTON



Tries

Reg GASNIER (2)
Eddie LUMSDEN (2)
Bobby BUGDEN
Kevin RYAN
Johnny KING

Bill BROWN

Goals

Brian GRAHAM (5)

Darcy RUSSELL (2)

Match Description

St George: Full-back: B Graham; three-quarters: E Lumsden, D Brown, R Gasnier, J King; five-eighth: B Clay; half: B Bugden; forwards: J Raper, M Porter, K Ryan, W Wilson, K Kearney (c), K Brown

Western Suburbs: Full-back: D Russell; three-quarters: I Moir, H Wells, R Poole (c), J Mowbray; five-eighth: W Brown; half: K Holman; forwards: W Tonkin, K O'Shea, G Russell, D Meaney, J Dawson, N Charlton **Referee: C Pearce (The Sun 20th August 1960)**

Australian World Cup candidate for England, Bobby Bugden, yesterday was ordered off the field for an offence that is regarded the worst in the Rugby League code – a stiff arm tackle. He was playing for St George who outplayed and out-brawled Western Suburbs 31-7 in the first semi-final. ... Normally a “stiff-arm” culprit would be suspended for several matches. Bugden was hooted all the way to the dressing room by the irate crowd. ... Bugden’s applause was to knock Wests’ captain Dick Poole to the ground with a stiff arm tackle. In any case, Bugden’s offence yesterday was not the only blot on the game. There were times in the second half when it fell to the status of back-lane thuggery. Players of both sides used their knees, boots and fists, roaming around the rucks with downright larrikin intent. Unfortunately, while thugdom reigned supreme out in the middle of the SCG before nearly 40,000 spectators, referee Col Pearce was content to issue merely a “caution”. The referee’s timidity, not to send blatant offenders off the field, was hard to follow. When Bugden was ordered off, seven minutes after the second half began, St George already had the game in the bag with a lead of 18-2. The referee issued no fewer than seven warnings to belligerent players. It began in the closing stages of the first half when Porter “kneed” Dawson. Wells flattened Porter with a stiff arm. In the melee that followed, O’Shea and Gasnier were cautioned. O’Shea’s knees worked in pistol-like precision. So did Gasnier’s fists. Then big Nev Charlton was cautioned for using his knee. In the second half Ryan was cautioned for punching Charlton. O’Shea “jobbed” Clay and Clay “jobbed” Brown, who was carried off the field, and this led to the Bugden incident. Fists began to fly everywhere. Garry Russell was cautioned. Lumsden made a brilliant run and he too was cautioned. Those were some of the incidents that gave the crowd a regular feast of dirty football to hoot. St George were always masters of the situation and they scored no fewer than seven tries to one which Wests scored only 13 minutes before full-time. The Saints began their domination five minutes from kick-off when Bugden sent Gasnier through for a glorious run before passing wide to winger Lumsden for the try. St George crossed the line twice again before half-time. Holman widely threw a long pass from a loose ruck and Brown dropped the ball upon which Bugden swooped to score unopposed. The third try came after some rough-house rucking when Raper found the gap, sent to Ryan, who raced through 30 yards unopposed to score. St George led 15-2 at half-time and the lead increased to 18-2 three minutes after resumption. Wests raised an effort and after a rousing attack Brown pushed off Graham to score their only try in the corner. ... **(Sunday Mirror 21st August 1960)**

Notes: In what had become all too typical, this match was an absolute roughhouse affair. Bobby Bugden was sent off for a vicious stiff-arm tackle on Dick Poole. Numerous cautions were issued, including to Charlton, O’Shea and Garry Russell. The use of roughhouse tactics had worked for St George before and they worked again. St George dashed to an 18-2 lead and although Wests battled bravely they couldn’t overcome the deficit. Johnny Raper and Reg Gasnier both had outstanding games. Brian Clay knocked out Bill Brown, who was carried off, while Darcy Russell was lucky to stay on the field after throwing a wild punch. Most commentators agreed that Ian Moir should have been awarded a penalty try.