1930 Semi Final Saturday 20th September Sports Ground

Western Suburbs 9   def.   South Sydney 5

Frank McMILLAN	*Fullback*	Alan RIGHTON
Alan BRADY	*Wing*	Mick MANNING
Ken SHERWOOD	*Centre*	Jack WHY
Cliff PEARCE	*Centre*	Alby WHY
Harold RIGBY	*Wing*	Sid RIDDELL
Jack ROSA	*Five-eighth*	Alf BLAIR (c)
Jim CRAIG (c)	*Half*	Harry KADWELL
Vince HUGHES	*Lock*	Jackie JONES
Bill CARPENTER	*Second Row*	Charlie LLOYD
Frank SPILLANE	*Second Row*	Charlie FENNELL
Bill BROGAN	*Front Row*	Fred CHAPLIN
Jack PETERSON	*Hooker*	George TREWEEK
Cecil RHODES	*Front Row*	Frank O'CONNOR

Tries	Cliff PEARCE	Fred CHAPLIN
Goals	Jim CRAIG (3)	Alf BLAIR (1)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back, McMillan; three-quarters, Brady. Pearce, Sherwood, Rigby; halves, Rosa, Craig; forwards, Spillane. Carpenter. Brogan, Peterson, Rhodes, Hughes.

South Sydney: Full-back. Righton; three-quarters. A. Why. Manning J. Why, Riddell; halves. Jones, Kadwell, Blair; forwards. Lloyd, Fennell. Chaplin. Treweek. O'Connor. **Referee: W. Fry.**

Conditions at the Sports Ground for the semi-final game between Western Suburbs, the minor premiers and South Sydney, were ideal. The early morning rain had taken the fire out of the ground, while there was hardly any breeze. The attendance was about 15,000 when the big game started. Western Suburbs won the toss, and had the slight breeze with them. They started with a burst, and reached the South Sydney 25 where the defenders were penalised. Craig landed the goal, and Western Suburbs led by 2 to nil. Manning and Lloyd took the ball to Wests' 25 where Wests were penalised for interference. Blair landed a goal, although one touch judge was against him. The scores were then Wests 2, Souths 2. .. ….. Play was very solid in the rucks. …. Penalties for breaches close to the scrum were frequent. …. There was a stir as Brogan crashed through and passed to Sherwood, to Rigby, who hesitated slightly and then went for the corner, but Righton got him and saved brilliantly, the two diving into the corner pole. South Sydney forwards, with … South Sydney lost Jack Why right on half-time. He and Sherwood were in an Incident that resulted in Why being sent off. Half-time scores:—South Sydney, 2.Western Suburbs, 2.

The breeze was still light when the second half began, with South Sydney playing 12 men. ….. Blair kicked downfield to McMillan, who foolishly, ran Into Manning. The ball was played. Chaplin got it, and scored an easy try. Blair missed the goal, and South Sydney led by 5 to 2. …… Then, from the centre of the field, Western Suburbs scored. Craig got the ball to Rosa from a scrum. Sherwood had it next, and the centre broke through and passed to Pearce, who went on and scored between the posts. Craig kicked the goal, and Western Suburbs led 7 to 5. .. A moment later there was a stir as Hughes got the ball to Sherwood, who went through and sent it onto Spillane. There was nobody in front, and he looked sure to score, but Riddell came fast and dropped him magnificently from behind. Western Suburbs now had the upper hand with their extra man. …… …… Why was again injured, and then Sherwood was also hurt. South Sydney made another dash, Jones, Blair, Kadwell and Manning handling the ball, but the last-named hung on too long. Following a kick by Craig, Western Suburbs went to the attack. Souths were hard put to it and were penalised almost in front of the coal. Craig kicked the goal, and Western Suburbs led by 9 to 5. Western Suburbs, with Craig, Hughes, Rosa and Brady handling, looked dangerous, but Jones got the ball away. Then McMillan' knocked on near his 25, but Craig's line kick regained the ground. Chaplin and Lloyd toed the ball back. Full-time came with Craig running into touch. Full-time scores: Western Suburbs 9 South Sydney 5. **(The Sun 20th September 1930)**

Two prominent absentee members of Wests against Souths, F Matterson and C Cornwell, were on the injured list and their omission and the absence of Bob Lindfield completely altered the formation of the Magpies' scrum. However, the substitutes, Jack Peterson and Vince Hughes, both promoted from the reserves, did their part valiantly, and helped in no small measure to achieve the desired result…… **(Rugby League News 27th September 1930)**

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Notes: This was a game that featured ferocious tackling and a lot of scrum penalties. Wests were without Charlie Cornwell (injured) and Bob Lindfield (suspended) but Jack Peterson and Vince Hughes filled in very well. Souths' Jack Why was sent off before half-time after an altercation with Sherwood so Wests played 12 men in the second half. Jimmy Craig was again the General, with his line kicking being a feature. This meant they were one game from being Premiers, having to face a St George side who won the other semi-final against Easts 11-10 with a match-winning goal hitting the posts.