

## Frank McCauley

..... had his first taste of grade rugby league when he made a single appearance in Wests Reserve Grade team in 1921. However, it was not until 1924 that Frank made his name known in the grade ranks. He played two games in Reserve Grade and then played the last five games of the regular competition in First Grade. Frank then played for Wests in three of the five City Cup matches that were contested at the end of the year.

When he was promoted from Reserve Grade to First Grade in 1924, he moved from the wing to five-eighth and had an immediate impact, as the news article in the Northern Champion newspaper reported.

The improved form of Western selectors have been looking for. He Suburbs is attributed a great deal to possesses a wonderful sense of anticipation, sidesteps beautifully, and the wonderful play of F. McCauley, knows when to cut in and when to get rid of the ball. His versatility who has been doing great things in the five-eighth position. There are many who predict a great future for this player and assert that he is the combination of the back division the five-eighth the N.S. Wales selection. Wests commenced the sea-

The Northern Champion 9 August 1924

In 1925, Frank McCauley played eight of the eleven First Grade games that Wests contested. Wests finished second on the competition table behind an undefeated South Sydney. In an unusual move, the 1925 competition finished early due to the unassailable position of Souths, and the fact that the NSW Rugby League wanted to bring forward the popular City Cup competition. Frank McCauley played in the one City Cup match that Wests contested.

Frank played in the pre-season trials in 1926 but did not play with Wests after that. No record has been found of him playing rugby league in 1926.

It is evident that Frank attended Sydney University in 1927 as he trialed with the University team at the start of the season. He tried out as a five-eighth, the position that he played when at Wests but he was not a success according to an article in the Truth newspaper. Frank was undaunted, and shifted to fullback and on the wing that season where he achieved success. He was selected to represent Sydney University against Brisbane University later that year.

Frank McCauley, tried out at five-eighth, was not a success, and may not beat Deacon for the position, whilst McCormack may make good at full-back.

The Truth 10 April 1927

At the end of that season Frank retired from Grade football to focus on his professional career. Frank maintained his interest in rugby league and coached the Enfield Federals junior rugby league team in 1931. A number of the players he coached went on to play with Wests.

Frank McCauley died at Manly NSW in December 1974. He is buried at Frenchs Forest Cemetery, Davidson, NSW, Section RC Row : H3, Plot 75.