

1973 Round 22 Sunday 19th August Lidcombe Oval

St George 20

def.

Western Suburbs 16



Lindsay DRAKE

Roy FERGUSON

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

Replacement

Tony FORD
Stephen SATTERLY
Stephen KNIGHT
Robbie PARKER
Russell MULLINS
John HEYWARD
Tom RAUDONIKIS (c)
Jim MYERS
Geoff FOSTER
John SHERDIAN
John O'BRYAN
Shane DAY
Jim MURPHY

Stephen KNIGHT Stephen SATTERLY

Neville SINCLAIR

Goals Graeme LANGLANDS (7) Tony FORD (5)

Match Description

Tries

Western Suburbs: Full-back: A Ford; three-quarters: S Satterly, S Knight, R Parker, R Mullins; five-eighth: J Heyward; half: T Raudonikis (c); forwards: J Myers, G Foster, J Sheridan, J O'Bryan, S day, J Murphy

St George: Full-back: G Langlands (c); three-quarters: K McFarlane, R Ferguson, G Pethybridge, J Chapman; five-eighth: J Peard; half: T White; forwards: L Drake, G Sams, R Reddy, H Eden, C Rasmussen, P Fitzgerald **Referee:** B Cross (The Sun 17th August 1973)

An ankle injury did not stop St George Rugby League captain-coach Graem Langlands from becoming the season's leading points-scorer at Lidcombe Oval. Langlands kicked seven goals from eight attempts in the windy conditions to tally 169 points and pilot Saints to a 20-16 win over Western Suburbs. He finished only four points ahead of Canterbury-Bankstown's Henry Tatana and his winning goal came only eight minutes from the end. Langlands injured his left ankle when tackled early in the game and he was limping quite a few times during the match. "It's a bit sore And it will be sore tomorrow, but I didn't need a needle at half-time ... I'll be right for next weekend," Langlands said later. Langland's kicking was the difference between the sides but Saints did not enthuse their supporters with a rather flat performance on the eve of the final series. Wests' prop Jim Murphy commanded most respect in the forwards where Wests had the edge over the lighter St George pack. Murphy most certainly enhanced his Kangaroo tour chances. The match showed again that Saints will need their heavier props, Brian Norton and Barry Beath, back in the front row to have any real chance in the games ahead. Billy Smith's scheming and variation was missed around the rucks, although John Peard took over this role quite well. Norton, who has a shoulder ligament injury, has been out for several weeks but club officials are certain he will play against Cronulla-Sutherland at the SCG next Saturday. Langlands said yesterday that he doubted whether Beath, who dislocated his shoulder, would be back at all. In the meantime, lightweight Peter Fitzgerald is expected to hold down his prop spot on yesterday's performance with Harry Eden dropping back to the reserves. Smith said that he would be ready to play after suffering a kidney injury. Former Walgett player, snowy-haired Tony White, 20, showed yesterday he is a capable replacement and will not let the club down if needed in the higher grade. The other casualty, winger Ted Goodwin, still has his injured ankle in plaster but it is not a bad break and club officials have medical advice he will be right in two weeks. From a Kangaroo point of view, former World Cup back Steve Knight showed in patches yesterday that he must still be considered for a place in the 26. (Sydney Morning Herald 20th August 1973)

St George finished third on the Rugby League competition table by beating Western Suburbs 20-16 at Lidcombe Oval yesterday. Wests' full-back Tony Ford, landed five goals from seven attempts but was overshadowed by Graeme Langlands. The St George captain landed seven goals from eight attempts to give him 169 points for the season. This made him the leading scorer in the competition, four points ahead of Canterbury prop forward Henry Tatana. Eastern Suburbs yesterday swamped Parramatta 41-10 at Sydney Sports Ground in a match which had no bearing on the semi-final positions. (Daily Telegraph 20th August 1973)

Notes: Jim Murphy demonstrated his value in this game and how much he had been missed during the season because of injuries. He outmuscled the St George pack and Wests were unlucky to lose this game. Stephen Knight was also very dominant, his 70-yard try a beauty. The difference was Graeme Langlands; as Knight said after the match: "He's a freak!" He kicked seven goals and stopped numerous try-scoring movements. The season on paper was disappointing, but the level of injuries had been debilitating.

WESTERN
SUBURBS