

def.

St George 16

Dan MUNRO

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

Dick JOHNSON Jack SNARE Ron WILLIAMS **Bob ANDREWS** Alf CARDY **Eric BENNETT** Jack RUSSELL Arthur CLUES Jim SEERY **Cliff PEIME** Jack WALSH (c)

Western Suburbs 5



Walter MUSSING **Terry BEERS** Dave ROSS **R DEVINE** Les DOYLE Pat QUINN Russell MADDEN F BEAZLEY Jim HALE (c) Dick HEALY **Reg JAMES Ray WALDON** Jack McPHERSON Wal TAYLOR **R DEVINE** Ron WILLIAMS Tries Les DOYLE lim HALF Walter MUSSING Dan MUNRO (2) Goals Ron WILLIAMS (1)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: R Johnson; three-quarters: A Cardy, R Williams, R Andrews, J Snare; halves: J Russell, E Bennett; forwards: A Clues, J Seery, C Peime, J Walsh, R Waldron, W Taylor

St George: Full-back: D Munro; three-quarters: W Mussing, T Beers, D Ross, R Devine; halves: L Doyle, R Quinn; forwards: R Madden, F Beazley, J Hale, R Healy, R James, J McPherson Referee: R Smyth (The Sun 14th July 1945)

Displaying great cohesion and speed, both back and forward, St. George sprung one of the season's upsets by completely outplaying and trouncing Wests 16 to 5 at Hurstville. Hero of the match was "Gentleman" Walter Mussing, the dusky St. George wing three-quarter. He had the 6000 fans on their toes repeatedly, and is the biggest crowd-pleaser since Horder and Wearing. Scoring a fine try, making another with the judgment of an international, he nonplussed his opponents frequently as he made his resolute, sorties goal-wards. He was mobbed by the small fry at lemons, and at full-time he sat down on the playing area signing his autograph. Ray Quinn, at the scrum base, was the pivot of all Saints' attacking movements. F. Beers made a conspicuous debut as centre, while R. Devine was nippy and alert. One of the biggest surprises was the way Saints' new custodian, D. Munro, put at 'acrost' Dick Johnson. Skipper Jim Hale was the leader of a dashing and fiery pack, who bustled and outplayed their opponents in all departments. R. Healy and F. Beazley were the pick of the remainder. R. Williams, the Army centre, who played his first game in Sydney, was Wests' outstanding player. A. Clues, C. Pieme, forwards, and R. Andrews, back, were most prominent of the other players. (Truth 15th July 1945)

..... The winners were woefully weak in playing the ball, and invariably gave Wests possession. Wests, however, made no use of their chances. Wests' goaling was bad. E Bennett, J Seery, and C Peime were exceptions, but, with a man short, this trio was not capable of checking St. George's better team-work. W Taylor (W.S.) was sent off for kicking 15 minutes before the interval. J McPherson, who received ambulance attention when Taylor was sent off, was a tireless forward, and had a gruelling day. (The Daily Telegraph 15th July 1945)

About 6000 were present to see the kick-off. Keen Interest was taken in the form of Len Williams, from Queanbeyan, who was making his first appearance with Western Suburbs. C. Maxwell, Injured in a Service match on Wednesday, was omitted from West's back line. ... (The Sun 14th July 1945)

Maxwell may be lost to Western Suburbs - Western Suburbs' centre, Colin Maxwell (R.A.A.F.), is awaiting a posting to a battle station. Maxwell's vicious tackling has been the outstanding feature in Western Suburbs' displays in recent weeks. If he is unavailable for the semifinals, Wests will have difficulty in finding an efficient replacement. Maxwell has been tentatively chosen in the Services team to meet New South Wales at the SCG on Saturday week. (The Daily Telegraph 8th July 1945)

Notes: Colin Maxwell was out, injured in a mid-week Services match and he was replaced by an Army centre from Queanbeyan, Ron Williams, who was the best player on the field. Mysteriously, this was his one and only match for Wests so one can assume he was called up for service. Wal Taylor was sent off in the first half so Wests played the match with only 12 men for 60 minutes. Even so, they were completely outplayed by St George all across the park in what was considered a big upset.

.....