



# 1933 Round 12 Saturday 5th August Pratten Park



## South Sydney 10

def.

## Western Suburbs 5

Les McDONALD  
 Benny WEARING  
 Alby BLACK  
 Harry EYERS  
 Harry FINCH  
 Percy WILLIAMS  
 Jim DEELEY  
 Sid HARRIS  
 Eric LEWIS  
 George TREWEEK (c)  
 Joe JACOBS  
 Frank CROWE  
 Erroll COLLINS

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

Tom MAGNUS  
 Les MIDSON  
 Sen BLACK  
 Stan TANCRED  
 Alan BRADY  
 Les HANDCOCK  
 Albert McGUINNESS  
 Frank SPONBERG  
 Jack McCONNELL  
 Bert GREEN  
 Bill BROGAN (c)  
 Bob LINDFIELD  
 Charlie CORNWELL



**Tries** Harry FINCH  
 Harry EYERS

Les MIDSON

**Goals** Percy WILLIAMS (2)

Bill BROGAN (1)

### Match Description

**South Sydney:** Full-back: L McDonald; three-quarters: B Wearing, A Black, H Evers, H Finch; halves: P Williams, J Deeley; forwards: E Lewis, G TrewEEK (capt), J Jacobs, F Crowe, E Collins

**Western Suburbs:** Full-back: T Magnus; three-quarters: S Black, A Brady, S Tancred, L Midson; halves: L Hancock, A McGuinness; forwards: F Sponberg, B Green, J McConnell, W Brogan (capt), R Lindfield, C Cornwell **Referee: H Irvine (The Rugby League News 19th August 1933)**

The match opened sensationally with Wests raising the hopes of their supporters, only to fail to clinch a great advantage after Brogan had set up a movement. .... In another bright movement Brogan, Brady, Sponberg and Lindfield handled before the movement ended when the hooker's pass went astray. .... Wests were first to score and deserved the honour. They had been doing all the attacking when Brady penetrated once again and sent out to Midson, who showed speed and resolution and scored in the corner. Cornwell missed the goal. Wests 3, Souths nil. Souths responded with an equally dazzling try. They were defending when Ellis shot through, attended by Deeley. Passes were exchanged down the ground till Evers received to dash across. P. Williams converted.....Williams missed another penalty and then Wearing failed when Green was penalised for off-side play. Although Souths were winning the ball from the scrums, Wests were most threatening. .... When Brogan took the next penalty himself, a good goal roused a great cheer. Wests 5, Souths 5. After Magnus was applauded for a line kick, Brogan had another penalty kick, and this time it was a grubber. Play was fast and hard, and feeling way running high in the rucks. Souths were twice penalised for scrum infringements, but the bell went with the score unchanged. Half-time scores:—Western Suburbs, 5, South Sydney 5.

After 10 minutes give-and-take in the second half, Collins was caught offside, and Magnus had a shot but missed. Souths pressed hard, Deeley and Harris toeing through. Then Wearing sprinted after a short punt by Black, but Cornwell kicked the ball dead. ....Although Souths had been in Wests' territory for 20 minutes it was with a vengeance that Wests drove them out. Souths, with a characteristic finish, broke through. Midson, defending fiercely, threw the ball to Magnus, but missed him, and Finch, rushing through, dived on the ball and carried it over to score. Williams missed the goal. Full-time scores: South Sydney 10, Western Suburbs 5 (**The Sun 5th August 1933**)

Mr E McFayden, V.P. President, Western Suburbs: - "Dear Ray Morris has passed away. One that cannot be forgotten; his manliness and sportsmanship could not be surpassed." (**Rugby League News 19th August 1933**)

**Notes:** Frank Sponberg was back from injury to play in a game that was exciting right to the end, and certainly a game that Wests threw away. Sponberg blew a certain try when he tried to improve his position in-goal and put a foot in touch, and late in the game Midson threw a wild pass that Finch fell on to score. The game was overshadowed, of course, by the news of the death of Ray Morris on the 10th August in Malta. Ernie McFayden, along with all other officials gave glowing tributes. The nature of his death was unusual. Unknowingly, he had burst an eardrum after receiving a blow in a boxing training session on board. The pain gradually worsened and he was hospitalised on board until there was an emergency stop at Malta to have an operation in a hospital there. By this time the infection in his ear had turned to meningitis and he died of complications from the surgery. When his body was returned to Sydney, his Memorial Service at Sydney Town Hall was the largest ever seen and the photos of the crowds are quite remarkable. His casket was carried by Charlie Cornwell, Bob Lindfield, Cecil Rhodes and Charlie Wrench of Wests and four others from University. The passage of the hearse to Waverley Cemetery saw the streets lined all the way with a huge crowd. Many comments were made of the complete silence which accompanied the hearse as it passed through the throng. His headstone can be found at Waverley Anglican Cemetery, Section 15, Row 24, Grave number 6636. Les Handcock, a very interesting character, as outlined by researcher Brent Knowles, played his only First Grade game.