

Goals Ray PRATT (5) Noel JONES (1) Neville SMITH (1) Bill KEATO (2)

Match Description

St George: Full-back: R Pratt; three-quarters: O Campbell, J Lindwall, G Hart, N Jones; halves: R Hasson, A McAndrew; forwards: W Tyquin, N Smith (capt), L Kelly, C Montgomery, H Gilbert, L Spencer

Western Suburbs: Full-back: W Keato; three-quarters: B Brown, N Parkinson, J Whitehurst, C Fewtrell; halves: L Mead, A McGuiness; forwards: J Rutherford (capt), T Slattery, F McKean, J Schuback, K Lock, J Piper Referee: J O'Brien (Rugby League News 24th May 1941)

In a game full of dash and fire till the last, St George beat Western Suburbs 35-13, at Pratten Park. Still, it wasn't as lop-sided as you think from the scores, because Wests went down fighting before a team of masters. The Magpies missed a lot of chances. There were many good movements which carried play into Saints' quarter, but there Wests missed the bus and points went begging. It would have taken a team of champions, however, to floor the Dragon-killers on the day. There was pep in everything they did. Again the trio behind the pack; McAndrew, Hasson, and the inside centre, N Hart, were dynamic. Hasson was the star of the game. He handed out more dummies than the father of quintuplets and chalked up a grand try. He gathered up a low pass right on his toes and at his top. A dummy left the west men standing and then a side-step took him infield like a streak of lightning. With only Keato to beat, it was all over bar the shouting....... Magpies were in a spot with 17 points up to their five at the spell but like the Anzacs they were never beaten. For a few minutes tempers were frayed and there were no "beg pardons". It was, however, a remarkably clean game.

"On today's form, I think we are going to be very hard to beat in the competition, Nev Smith, St. George League captain, said this after his team had beaten Western Suburbs 35-13 at Pratten Park yesterday. As St. George last week defeated South Sydney 41-13, Smith has good reason to be optimistic. St. George played superlative football yesterday. They led 17-5 at half-time through brilliant football. ... Wests' only points came from McGuinness, who kicked a penalty goal, and Whitehurst, who doubled around Fewtrell to score in the corner. Wests' officials should recognise the futility of having a playing coach and a captain in the one team. L. Mead is playing coach and J. Rutherford captain. The divided control yesterday merely added to Wests' embarrassment. If it is decided to keep Mead in the team, he should be made captain. Neither showed first-grade form yesterday. **(Daily Telegraph 11th May 1941)**

...... Western Suburbs was best served by McKean and Rutherford (forwards) and McGuiness and Whitehurst (backs) (The Sydney Morning Herald 12th May 1941)

Notes: Wests battled hard in this game but were outplayed by a superior team. The Telegraph highlighted the problem of the playing coach,

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Les Mead, in the team and Jim Rutherford as captain. It seemed to be disorganising the team.