



1966 Round 6 Saturday 7th May Cricket Ground



St George 30

Graeme LANGLANDS
Eddie LUMSDEN
Bruce POLLARD
Billy SMITH
Johnny KING
Brian CLAY
George EVANS
Johnny RAPER
Barry BEATH
Dick HUDDART
Kevin RYAN
Ian WALSH
Robin GOURLEY
Elton RASMUSSEN

def.

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

Western Suburbs 2

Dave BARSLEY
John ELFORD
Rob McGUINNESS
Gil McDOUGALL
John MOWBRAY
Denis PITTARD
Pat THOMAS
Jim CODY
John HAYES
Alan ALLISON
Denis MEANEY
Noel THORNTON
Noel KELLY (c)
Bill HANSEN



Tries

Robin GOURLEY
Johnny KING
Dick HUDDART
Kevin RYAN
Graeme LANGLANDS
Eddie LUMSDEN

Goals

Graeme LANGLANDS (6)

Pat THOMAS (1)

Match Description

St George: Full-back: G Langlands; three-quarters: E Lumsden; B Pollard, W Smith, J King; five-eighth: B Clay; half: G Evans; forwards: J Raper, R Huddart, B Beath, K Ryan, I Walsh (c), R Gourlay

Western Suburbs: Full-back: D Barsley; three-quarters: J Elford, R McGuinness, G MacDougall, J Mowbray; five-eighth: D Pittard; half: P Thomas; forwards: J Cody, J Hayes, A Allison, D Meaney, N Thornton, N Kelly (c) **Referee: C Pearce (The Sun 7th May 1966)**

St George Rugby League full-back Graeme Langlands, with a double whisky under his belt, yesterday played the game of his life at the Sydney Cricket Ground, where Saints crushed Wests 30-2. St George hit top gear for the first time this season and once again have grabbed the premiership highlight. None of their players yesterday had a mightier game than Graeme Langlands. Langlands went onto the field against doctor's orders. Up all night after eating a "bad" sandwich he was vomiting his heart out right until he ran out on to the ground. Going against the club doctor's orders, Langlands told the St George selectors that he wanted to play in the match. The selectors poured a double whisky down their full-back's throat, told him to hold his breath and to "get out there and give it a go." It wasn't long before Western Suburbs were wishing Langlands had followed the doctor's instructions. The St George camp reckons Graeme should be Australia's Test full-back instead of Test centre. On yesterday's performance Langlands must just about be the best custodian in the world. He scored a try, he kicked six goals and he ran like a wild hare. When he wasn't making the extra man in attack, he was up behind his pack "ferreting" after the ball. His clearing kicks were grand, his side-stepping was memorable and his tackling was immaculate. But I don't want to sound "Langlands mad." It was a great St George all-round display. And in the second half, the lengthening black shadows from the stands provided an aptly coloured backdrop for a "Magpie" slaughter. ... The defence had to crack and eight minutes into the second half it did. Then it was "shut the gate." The brilliant Langlands started a move that culminated in big Robin Gourlay diving over for a converted try under the posts. St George aren't the sort of side to let any team off the hook once they gain a 13-point break. They piled on the pressure and rattled up another 17 points as the crowd headed for the exits. As they murmured in the grandstand: "If Gasnier and Raper had played, St George would have won 50-2. Raper did play – for 33 minutes. The champion lock got up rubber-legged after a hard tackle on Wests' line. He couldn't go on though, was taken off with concussion and replaced by Elton Rasmussen. ..Poor Wests were woeful. Although their hooker Noel Thornton was shadowed only 7-5 in the scrums, you would have thought the scrum count read more like the score. When Wests did get the ball, they lost it. And the St George defence – look at the scoreboard – was impregnable. The Saints' powerhouse pack played like one for a change, and their backs reaped the benefits and ended up running riot. For the first time this season in the dressing room after the game, St George's captain-coach, Ian Walsh, looked a really happy man. His forwards had done the job expected of them. Walsh had had his best game this year. "On today's performance we must be something to beat for the premiership again," Ian said, smiling. Wests were walloped – backs and forwards. If any of them came out of it with his reputation not badly dented, it was little five-eighth Denis Pittard, who never gave up trying. **(Sunday Telegraph 8th May 1966)**

Notes: Wests ran into a red-hot St George and, with Langlands at his brilliant best, they were outplayed all over the paddock. Eddie Lumsden broke the try-scoring record with his 135th try and to make things worse Jim Cody broke his right thumb but played on bravely. Denis Pittard was able to hold his head high with a strong performance. Bill Hansen is included as a replacement in this game since he was certainly a replacement in a First-Grade game during the season and this is the logical game, although there is no corroborating evidence to show that he actually played in this match.