



1922 Round 14 Saturday 5th August Pratten Park



Western Suburbs 5

def.

Balmain 3



Frank McMILLAN
 Wally COLLINS
 Neil MATTERSON
 Dick VEST (c)
 Cyril BELLAMY
 Arthur MENDEL
 Eric DOIG
 William JOASS
 Louis YANZ
 Edward COURTNEY (c)
 Jack DREW
 Clarrie PRENTICE
 Harold LEDDY

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

Des PONCHARD
 Dud MILLARD
 Jack ROBINSON
 William COONAN
 Billy VRAIG
 Jimmy LOVE
 George ROBNSON
 Reg LATTA (c)
 Mick RUSSELL
 Alf FRASER
 Roy LISTON
 Bill LUCAS
 Bill SCHULTZ

Tries Cyril BELLAMY

Billy CRAIG

Goals Eric DOIG (1)

Match Description

Balmain: D Ponchard, fullback; W Coonan, J Robinson, D Millard, W Craig, three-quarters; J Love, five-eighth; G Robinson, half-back; W Schultz, W Lucas, M Russell, A Fraser, R Liston, R Latta, forwards

Western Suburbs: F McMillan, fullback; W Collins, R Vest, N Matterson, C Bellamy, three-quarters; A Mendel, five-eighth; E Doig, half-back; L Yanz, C Prentice, W Joass, E Courtney, J Drew, H J Leddy, forwards **O Dickenson, referee**

In a hard and willing struggle Western Suburbs defeated Balmain, thoroughly deserving the victory, being on the day sounder in every department. McMillan, back, was the outstanding player. His remarkable handling of the greasy ball, combined with his accurate kicking, and the manner in which he kept his feet on the treacherous turf, stamps him as a player much above the average. He played no small part in the win. G Robinson, half, was undoubtedly the best player on the losing side. He was clever, and always alert to open up the game to the advantage of his side. The visitors had a slight advantage in the scrummages, which was more than neutralised by the effective tackles of the Black forwards. The slippery nature of the ground prevented the backs participating in the combined movements. Territorially, anyway, the Blacks had much the better of the play. Desperate forward play ensued. Near centre Prentice sent out a pass to Bellamy, who, running grandly, and evading several tacklers, crossed in a good position. Western Suburbs 3 to nil.

The brightest piece of individual play was accomplished by Vest. A concerted attack by the Black and Gold was terminated on the goal line, where Vest secured, and ran to his opponents' 25, after having cleverly dodged determined tacklers throughout. His effort would probably have led to a try had he elected to pass instead of kicking for the defence was beaten. Latta obtained from the ruck at centre, transferred to Craig, who ran over with a try. 3 all. A few minutes later Doig kicked the winning goal. Western Suburbs 5 to 3. **(Sunday Times 6th August 1922)**

Notes: This was another upset win for Wests and continued their good run of form. McMillan was again the main factor, being regarded in most quarters as the best player on the field. This was part of a very volatile round of football. Wests continued their run of send-offs with Clarrie Prentice going this time but Alf Fraser of Balmain went with him. Three players were also sent off in the Souths-Newtown match so it appeared the referees had an order to crack down on violent play. This match also saw the return of Dick Vest after suspension and he went back to the captaincy. This set up the match of the round against the Premiers, North Sydney, in Round 15.