



# 1958 Round 1 Monday 7th April Cricket Ground



## Western Suburbs 24

def.

## South Sydney 16

Darcy RUSSELL  
 John THOMPSON  
 Harry WELLS (c)  
 Rees DUNCAN  
 Peter DIMOND  
 Darcy HENRY  
 Keith HOLMAN  
 Doug JONES  
 Bill CARSON  
 Jack BOWMAN  
 Jack MANTLE  
 Bede GOFF  
 Nev CHARLTON

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

Clive CHURCHILL (c)  
 Ian MOIR  
 Arthur LANG  
 Ron TAYLOR  
 Dale PUREN  
 Danny BYRNE  
 Col DONOHOE  
 Brian HAMBLY  
 Bernie PURCELL  
 John COTTEE  
 Fred NELSON  
 Ernie HAMMERTON  
 Dick POWELL

### Tries

John THOMPSON  
 Harry WELLS  
 Keith HOLMAN  
 Peter DIMOND

Ian MOIR  
 Fred NELSON

### Goals

Darcy RUSSELL (6)

Bernie PURCELL (5)

### Match Description

**South Sydney:** Full-back: C Churchill; three-quarters: I Moir, A Lang, R Taylor, D Puren; five-eighth: D Byrne; half: C Donohoe; forwards: B Hambly, B Purcell, J Cottee, F Nelson, E Hammerton, D Powell

**Western Suburbs:** Full-back: D Russell; three-quarters: J Thompson, H Wells (c), R Duncan, P Dimond; five-eighth: D Henry; half: K Holman; forwards: D Jones, W Carson, J Bowman, N Charlton, B Goff, J Mantle **Referee: C Pearce (The Sun 7th April 1958)**

Western Suburbs Rugby League team, withstanding a spirited rally by South Sydney in the second half, won by 24 points to 16 at the SCG yesterday. Darcy Henry gave a dazzling display at five-eighth for Wests. Wests led 20-8 midway through the second half and had scored four tries to none. But Souths, inspired by its captain-coach full-back Clive Churchill, put on two tries during a 15-minute onslaught and had Wests, particularly the forwards, rattled. Souths got to 16-22 but Bernie Purcell fozzled a conversion from near the posts, and Wests hit back with a sixth goal by Darcy Russell. ... West had shown a lot of enterprise in the first half and had deserved a bigger lead than this. Souths' players disputed a try awarded to Wests' left winger Jack Thompson early in the second half. Full-back Russell dashed into a great rush to make the extra centre. He sent to Thompson who got away from one tackle but was thrown against the corner post by Churchill. Churchill claimed that Thompson was in mid-air when he hit the post. Wests' players said Thompson had touched down with one hand before hitting the post. The touch judge did not flag Thompson out. Coach Vic Hey was concerned that Wests conceded 20 penalties. South gave away 14. But Hey was grateful that hooker Bede Goff was only two scrums behind experienced Ernie Hammerton 15-17. This enabled Wests' inside backs to show combined superiority. The advantage was marked around the scrum, where Keith Holman and Henry outshone Col Donohoe and Danny Byrnes. ... Harry Wells was aggressive in the centre for Wests and Rees Duncan solid in defence until they lagged when the pressure came. Henry was great. He gave a remarkable display of footwork and speed. He was too fast for his own centres at times. His defence yesterday was so good that he looked to be an improved player. He provided a wonderful thrill in the first half when Souths' centre Ron Taylor who played his best game ran to Russell and sent right winger Dale Puren racing down the touchline. Puren seemed to have the goal-line at his mercy, but Henry "came from the clouds" in a terrific burst across field and gloriously tackled Puren into touch a few yards from the corner. Holman was very good. He made Wests' first try and scored one himself. Second-rower "Buddy" Bowman was Wests' best forward. ... After 16 minutes Holman ran across field on the blind-side of a scrum. He got the ball in to new winger Peter Dimond who scored. Seven minutes later Wells, served by Bowman, got away from Moir and Churchill and scored. Thompson's disputed try came after seven minutes of the second half. Later, Holman got a return pass from Bowman and dashed over the line. Souths' first try came after Churchill, Taylor, Moir and Donohoe combined, Moir accepting a return from Donohoe and sprinting through. Then Hambly made a slashing run and sent Nelson in for a try. **(The Sydney Morning Herald 8th April 1958)**

**Notes:** Kel O'Shea and Mark Patch had both received three match suspensions for their send-off in the 1957 Semi-final against Souths. They would be out for the first three matches of the season. Wests had three new recruits in Jack "Buddy" Bowman, ex-Canterbury and State rep, Rees Duncan, ex-Manly International and Doug Jones, the lock from Newcastle, but the match also marked the debut of 19-year old Peter Dimond from Dapto. He scored the first of his many bustling tries. Darcy Henry was also in sparkling form for a revenge win after the 1957 loss. Souths made a comeback in the second half but the forwards, led by Buddy Bowman, tackled ferociously. This was a good win for the new coach, Vic Hey, and new captain, Harry Wells.