



1954 Round 11 Saturday 19th June Pratten Park



North Sydney 25

def.

Western Suburbs 13

Alan ARKEY
 Peter O'BRIEN
 George MARTIN
 Vince EMERY
 Horrie TOOLE
 Bob SULLIVAN (c)
 Don BURGE
 Peter DIVERSI
 Ben HASLAM
 Col LAY
 Don EVENDEN
 Norm STRONG
 Joe CASEY

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

Eddy WYNN
 John THOMPSON
 George BAIN
 Jack FITZGERALD
 Barry OWEN
 Don GRAHAM
 Keith HOLMAN (c)
 Keith LENNARD
 Nev CHARLTON
 Bill OWENS
 Max CALDWELL
 Jim FLEMING
 John HARRISON



Tries Ben HASLAM (2)
 Don BURGE
 Horrie TOOLE
 Peter O'BRIEN

Jack FITZGERALD

Goals Alan ARKEY (5)

George BAIN (5)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: E Wynn; three-quarters: B Owen, J Fitzgerald, G Bain, J Thompson; five-eighth: D Graham; half K Holman (c); forwards: K Lennard, N Charlton, W Owens, M Caldwell, J Fleming, J Harrison

North Sydney: Full-back: A Arkey; three-quarters: P O'Brien, G Martin, V Emery, H Toole; five-eighth: R Sullivan; half: D Burge; forwards: P Diversi, B Haslam, C Lay, D Evenden, N Strong, J Casey **Referee: C Pearce (as per program Rugby League News June 19th 1954)**

North Sydney scored five tries to one in beating Western Suburbs by 25-13 at Pratten Park. The scores give a false picture of the game for it was only in the closing stages when Norths added two quick tries that supremacy was strikingly established. North led 13-9 at half-time. At no time did the North three-quarters function smoothly. They persisted in running across field and crowding one another. Their movements were so patently orthodox that the Wests defence was made to look outstanding. Keith Holman was the best footballer on the ground. Both in his captaincy and his playing he inspired his team to offer a serious challenge to North. **(The Sun-Herald 20th June 1954)**

North Sydney defeated Western Suburbs 25-13 at Pratten Park. It was a scrappy game and Norths gave its worst display this season. Norths led 13-9 after a pathetic first half. Wests also gave a disappointing display but Norths' form was a complete reversal of its recent efforts. Only Norths' men to play well were second-row forward Ben Haslam, half Don Burge and full-back Alan Arkey. Haslam scored two tries through backing up and did a lot of tackling. Burge who scored a late try and Arkey, who kicked five good goals, were outstanding. Arkey reached his 100points for the season with his first goal. Captain Keith Holman tried hard with West, but always lacked support. West centre Jack Fitzgerald was game enough and scored his team's only try. The player who made the try, reserve-grader Keith Lennard, showed a little dash. **(The Daily Telegraph 20th June 1954)**

Forward Ben Haslam and fullback Alan Arkey starred in North Sydney's 25-13 win over Western Suburbs Rugby League side at Pratten Park yesterday. Haslam backed up brilliantly to score two tries, while Arkey notched five goals. Scoring five tries and goals, Norths deserved their victory over Western Suburbs, who scored only one try. Wests' other points came from five goals by fullback George Bain. With the scores 15-13 in North's favour, and Wests playing inspired football for 15 minutes of the second half, the winners had some anxious moments. But Norths added two snap converted tries in a burst to clinch victory. Test half-back Keith Holman stood out in the match with a classical display. Holman repeatedly cut holes in the defence, and, in addition, tackled fiercely. Arkey's handling, kicking and positional play were features of the game. Norths' halves D. Burge and Bob Sullivan were the pick of the remainder. North's forwards C. Lay, D. Evenden and P. Diversi each shone in patches. Don Graham, stand-off half for the locals, played a big game, with Bain also conspicuous. Nev Charlton, K. Lennard and J. Harrison were best forwards for Wests. **(Truth 20th June 1954)**

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Notes: The final scores don't really tell the story of this game as Wests were attacking strongly with ten minutes to go and only down 15-13 but Norths scored two late converted tries. The pack, which was disorganised due to continuing injuries, was overpowered, although Nev Charlton, once again, stood out. The backs, however, played quite well led by Keith Holman who almost boringly, was again the best player on the field. He was in very rare form and was ably helped by Don Graham who had one of his best games.