1961 Round 11 Sunday 2nd July Sports Ground

Western Suburbs 25

def.

Canterbury-Bankstown 7





Harry WELLS (c) Dave BARSLEY **BILL MARTIN** Bill BROWN Peter DIMOND Keith HOLMAN Don MAI ONF Kevin SMYTH John HAYES Kel O'SHFA Denis MEANEY **Noel KELLY** Nev CHARLTON

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

BILL PETLEY Ross KITE Dick PICKETT **Barry SMITH** Peter ATKINSON Ray GARTNER Ron THORNTON Col BROWN **Kevin BROWN** Mick VAUGHAN Brian DAVIES (c) Fred ANDERSON Ken DAWSON

Dave BARSLEY (3)

Peter DIMOND **Denis MEANEY**

Goals Keith HOLMAN (5) **Barry SMITH**

Brian DAVIES (2)

Match Description

Tries

Canterbury-Bankstown: Full-back: W Petley; three-quarters: P Atkinson, R Pickett, B Smith, R Kite; five-eighth: R Gartner; half: R Thornton; forwards: C Brown, M Vaughan, K Brown, K Dawson, F Anderson, B Davies (c)

Western Suburbs: Full-back: H Wells (c); three-quarters: D Barsley, W Martin, W Brown, P Dimond; five-eighth: K Holman; half: D Malone; forwards: K Smyth, J Hayes, K O'Shea, D Meaney, N Kelly, N Charlton Referee: L Bruyeres (as per program Rugby League News 1-2nd June 1961 + Newspaper validation Daily Telegraph 3rd June 1961)

Injuries defeated Canterbury Rugby League team yesterday in the important match against Western Suburbs. Wests won 25-7 at Sydney Sports Ground. In the first half Canterbury full-back Bill Petley tore a thigh muscle and winger Peter Atkinson dislocated his collar-bone. Despite these setbacks for Canterbury, Wests only had a 10-5 lead at half-time. Early in the second half Canterbury winger Ross Kite and second-rower Kevin Brown suffered shoulder injuries. The Canterbury line-up looked miserable from then on. Petley changed positions and hobbled on the left wing while Atkinson, on the other flank, had only one useable arm. Kite was in the centre with one useable arm and Brown plodded about in the forward lines with a similar disadvantage. Centre Barry Smith had to go to full-back. Smith had caused Wests a lot of worry in the first half with full-blooded bursts up the middle. Wests' winger Dave Barsley damaged shoulder muscles and second-rower Kel O'Shea ricked an ankle. But Wests had the match won when its setbacks came. Wests clinched victory in the first 15 minutes of the second half while the disabled Canterbury men were floundering in their changed positions. Wests added 13 points in this period. Wingers Peter Dimond and Dave Barsley and front-rower Denis Meaney scored the tries. Five-eighth Keith Holman converted two of them. Barsley scored three tries in all, two of them in the first half. Uninspired football and monotonous breaches made the match the drabbest of the season. Referee Laurie Bruyeres blew his whistle for 82 breaches during the match. Bruyeres did not miss a thing. But he could have over-looked many minor breaches in which neither side gained material advantage. After the match several star players declared that the growing tendency of referees to stop play for trivial breaches was "killing League". The time is long overdue for the League to make a move to spare crowds from excessive whistle-blowing. Bruyeres left no doubt at the start of yesterday's match that he was on the warpath for scrum infringements. He cautioned rival hookers Fred Anderson (Canterbury) and Noel Kelly (West) in the first scrum. Despite the warning Bruyeres could not get the clean scrummaging he wanted. Eighteen of the 38 penalties that Bruyeres ruled were for scrum breaches. Referees should prevent such monotonous scrum breaches by ordering hookers from the field. (Daily Telegraph 2nd July 1961)

..... Wests and Canterbury have two of the finest exponents in Australia – Kelly and Fred Anderson. Wests, however, have not been winning the ball in a majority of matches. They thought they had solved the problem when Kelly became available. But last Saturday against Newtown, Kelly was badly beaten by Greg Ellis 17-11. The strange thing is that although Wests have lost the scrums, they have scored the greatest number of points in the premiership. Their backs have scored all the tries. It is felt that more possession of the ball will go a long way towards Wests checking St George's premiership record of five successive years........ (Sunday Mirror 2nd July 1961)

Notes: Canterbury suffered a number of injuries and Wests took advantage to run out easy winners. Barsley and O'Shea also had injuries but they didn't stop Wests from running riot in the first 20 minutes of the second half, where they put on 13 points with tries from Dimond, Barsley and Meaney. Laurie Bruyeres, the referee, went berserk with the whistle, blowing 82 penalties! Eighteen of the penalties were for scrum breaches, the bane of Kelly's existence!