



1961 Round 12 Saturday 8th July Pratten Park



Western Suburbs 26

def.

South Sydney 12

Harry WELLS (c)
Fred NORDEN
Joe RYAN
Bill BROWN
Peter DIMOND
Keith HOLMAN
Don MALONE
Kevin SMYTH
John HAYES
Kel O'SHEA
Denis MEANEY
Noel KELLY
Nev CHARLTON

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

Kevin LONGBOTTOM
Eric SLADDEN
Arthur LANG
Ron TAYLOR
Darrel CHAPMAN (c)
Mick FALLA
Billy STOKES
John GUDGEON
Fred NELSON
Bill SUMMERHAYES
Jack COYNE
Les BROACH
Charlie GIBSON

Tries

Kel O'SHEA (2)
Peter DIMOND
Keith HOLMAN (penalty try)
Fred NORDEN
Joe RYAN

Eric SLADDEN (2)

Goals

Keith HOLMAN (4)

Ron TAYLOR (2)
Kevin LONGBOTTOM (1)

Match Description

South Sydney: Full-back: K Longbottom; three-quarters: D Chapman (c), R Taylor, A Lang, E Sladden; five-eighth: M Falla; half: W Stokes; forwards: J Gudgeon, W Summerhayes, F Nelson, J Coyne, L Broach, C Gibson

Western Suburbs: H Wells (c); three-quarters: F Norden, J Ryan, 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: C Brown (as per program Rugby League News 8-9th July 1961 + newspaper validation Daily Mirror 8th July 1961)**

Western Suburbs Rugby League team yesterday overcame a series of injuries to defeat South Sydney convincingly at Pratten Park. Wests won 26-12 in a ragged match. Wests had three near-cripples for most of the match. They were half-back Don Malone, five-eighth Keith Holman and full-back Harry Wells. After Malone injured his back he moved into the lock position, and Holman played half-back with lock Kevin Smythe at five-eighth. Although Wests were deprived of a lot of its strength around the scrum base, its powerful pack of forwards steered it to an easy win. Souths lost centre Ron Taylor with an injured collarbone midway through the second half. Souths had held Wests most of the first half, but Wests were able to run right away after half-time. A brilliant individual try by winger Peter Dimond gave Wests a commanding 11-5 half-time lead. Dimond scored from an intercept after the half-time bell had sounded. Souths were attacking strongly when lock Gudgeon moved inside the 25-yard line and attempted to draw Dimond before passing to Taylor. Dimond fooled Gudgeon into passing too early, and the Wests' winger intercepted and ran the 75 yards to touch down. Centre Norden and winger Ryan had scored tries for Wests earlier in the first half. Souths' only first-half points came from a try from winger Sladden and a penalty goal by Taylor. Wests were attacking strongly when Sladden got his chance to score. Full-back Harry Wells came through at top speed to take a ball from forward Hayes and raced down centre-field. Wells' pass to Dimond was knocked down by Sladden, and Souths' full-back Longbottom gained possession. Longbottom kicked downfield for Sladden to follow through and gather for a try. **(Sunday Telegraph 9th July 1961)**

Wests, playing with a team disrupted by injuries, scored a convincing 26-12 victory over Souths at Pratten Park yesterday. Keith Holman, Wests' five-eighth, and Harry Wells, full-back were injured after only five minutes play. Don Malone, the half, joined the casualty list 10 minutes from the interval. Wells suffered a probable cracked rib, Holman strained a leg muscle and jarred his shoulder, and Malone bruised his back. Trailing only 5-8 Souths were attacking strongly when John Gudgeon, the lock, sent a loose pass which Peter Dimond, Wests' winger, intercepted. With the crowd roaring, Dimond streaked 75 yards to score wide out, sending his team to the dressing rooms with a commanding 11-5 lead. Big Kel O'Shea wrapped up the match for Wests with two quick tries early in the second half. Cliff Brown, the referee, awarded Wests a penalty try in the second half when Billy Stokes, Souths' half-back, held Holman back as the former Test star was streaking after the ball near Souths' line. Sladden scored Souths only two tries. Noel Kelly, who beat Les Broach 20-16 in the scrums, shared the forward honours with O'Shea. **(Sunday Mirror 9th July 1961)**

Notes: Wells and Holman were both injured early in the match so this was a very good win against the odds. Fred Norden, a dashing full-back from Reserves, made his debut and scored a good try. Kel O'Shea and John Hayes had a field day, skirting wide and causing havoc to the cover defence. Holman was awarded a penalty try when he was held back from chasing a kick over the goal-line.