

1951 Round 13 Saturday 7th July Leichhardt Oval

Balmain 12 def. Western Suburbs 9

Ray LEES **Fullback** Jack RUDD Robert LULHAM (c) Wing George BAIN Jack FITZGERALD Ron BATTYE Centre Joe JORGENSON Centre **Bob DIMOND** Russell SMITH Wing **Dev DINFS Bruce HOPKINS** Five-eighth Frank STANMORE (c) Stan PONCHARD Half Keith HOLMAN Roy DYKES Lock Keith CULLEN Ray MOON Second Row Peter LONG Tom TYRRELL Second Row Arthur COLLINSON Jim THOMSON Front Row Kevin HANSEN Johnny O'BRIEN Hooker Alan HORNERY Front Row Bill HORDER Terry BROGAN

Tries Roy DYKES Dev DINES

Jack MOON

Goals Joe JORGENSON (3) Dev DINES (2)

Keith HOLMAN (1)

Match Description

Balmain: Full-back: R Lees; three-quarters: R Lulham (c), R Battye, J Jorgenson, R Smith; five-eighth: B Hopkins; half: S Ponchard; forwards: R Dykes, T Tyrrell, J Moon, J Thomson, J O'Brien, T Brogan

Western Suburbs: Full-back: J Rudd; three-quarters: D Dines, R Dimond, J Fitzgerald, G Bain; five-eighth: F Stanmore (c); half: K Holman; forwards: K Cullen, P Long, A Collinson, K Hansen, A Hornery, W Horder Referee: D Lawler (Rugby League News 28th July 1951)

Rugby League "wooden-spooners" Balmain yesterday scored a shock 12-9 win over Western Suburbs. The victory surprised the Leichhardt Oval crowd because: *Wests' hooker Alan Hornery won the set scrums, 34-7 *Wests received 19 penalties to Balmain's nine. *Wests had Test halves Keith Holman and Frank Stanmore behind the heaviest pack in the competition. *Wests had the advantage of the wind in the first half, but although it won the scrums 17-1 it trailed 4-7 at half-time. After 20 minutes of the second half D Dines scored in the corner to give West its first try. Dines also kicked two goals in the first half, after Bain and Holman had failed five times. With such a feast of the ball from the scrums West gave a poor display of attacking football. The centres were caught too often with the ball, or would knock-on when an overlap was gained. In the second half the honours were even, a try and a goal to both sides, although Wests won the scrums 17-6 and was favoured with the penalties 9-3. Test halves Keith Holman and Frank Stanmore did not take advantage of Hornery's success. There was very little variation in their play. The ball would be constantly passed to the centres, although it was obvious they were covered. Stanmore appeared to be wary of injury, as several times he passed the ball wildly when an opponent came at him. Kevin Hansen was the outstanding forward for Wests. He constantly made ground from bumping runs, but lacked support when an opening appeared. Although losing the scrums, the (The Daily Telegraph 8th July 1951)

Balmain Rugby League Club stalled off a strong challenge to beat Wests 12-9 at Leichhardt. Phenomenal hooking by Hornery gave Wests a 34-7 majority in the scrums. International halves Holman and Stanmore had an off day, and Balmain substitute half B. Hopkins shone as the best back on the field. Best for Balmain were Hopkins, Ponchard. Dykes and Moon, while for Western Suburbs, Hansen. Hornery and Dines were outstanding. (Truth 8th July 1951)

Jack Rudd is showing very good form since his elevation to the firsts and a big future is predicted for Jack Two newcomers to First Grade in Peter Long and Keith Cullen are improving with each game and should prove very hard to displace in the higher grade....now that Frank Stanmore and Keith Homan are back we should sew up a place in the semi-finals. We have the players. (Rugby League News 7th July 1951)

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Notes: This was again considered a big upset. Balmain were the potential wooden-spooners and Wests had Alan Hornery, Frank Stanmore and Keith Holman back. Hornery won the scrums an incredible 34-7 but the halves, possibly tired after the heavy representative schedule, failed to take advantage. Wests also missed many shots at goal (Don Worne was kicking plenty in Reserve Grade). The one bright spot was the continued outstanding form of Kevin Hansen.

