



1956 Round 13 Sunday 8th July Sports Ground



Western Suburbs 25

def.

Eastern Suburbs 6



Ray ALDRICH
 Cliff SMAILLES
 Harry WELLS
 Darcy HENRY
 Ernie HILLS
 Ian JOHNSTON
 Keith HOLMAN (c)
 Nev CHARLTON
 Kel O'SHEA
 Bill CARSON
 Mark PATCH
 Jim FLEMING
 Ron WATSON

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

Les THOMAS
 John SELLGREN
 Tony PASKINS (c)
 Graham JONES
 Brian ALLSOP
 Barry O'CONNELL
 Reg CURRAN
 Dick SEE
 Jack GIBSON
 Bruce SULLIVAN
 Kevin HANSEN
 Maurie O'BRIEN
 John MUDGE

Tries Bill CARSON (3)
 Keith HOLMAN (2)
 Ernie HILLS (2)

Goals Ray ALDRICH (2) Tony PASKINS (3)

Match Description

Eastern Suburbs: Full-back: L Thomas; three-quarters: J Sellgren, T Paskins, G Jones, B Allsop; five-eighth: B O'Connell; half: R Curran; forwards: D See, J Gibson, B Sullivan, K Hansen, M O'Brien, J Mudge

Western Suburbs: Full-back: R Aldrich; three-quarters: E Hills, H Wells, D Henry, F Delaney; five-eighth: I Johnston; half: K Holman (c); N Charlton, W Carson, K O'Shea, M Patch, J Fleming, R Watson **Referee: K Parkinson (as per program Rugby League News July 7-8th 1956 + newspaper changes)**

The rejuvenated Western Suburbs Rugby League team yesterday outclassed Eastern Suburbs 25-6 at Sydney Sports Ground. Wests scored seven tries to none. After a dismal first round in the competition Wests has kept its line intact in four of its last five matches. North Sydney was the only team to cross Wests' line during this period. Parramatta, Canterbury-Bankstown, Newtown and Easts all failed to score tries against Wests. West officials yesterday claimed the decision to switch Nev Charlton from the second-row to lock, Ian Johnston from centre to five-eighth, and Darcy Henry from five-eighth to centre is responsible for the team's current defensive record. Charlton and Johnston, with Test half Keith Holman, were the best players on the field yesterday. Charlton, with splendid defence, crashing runs to open up play and constructive football, played his way into running for selection in the State team, which selectors will choose next Saturday. His game was the best I have seen from a lock in club football this season. The match was drab. Wests led only 9-6 at half-time, but got a dominating grip early in the second half with two tries within the first nine minutes. **(Daily Telegraph 9th July 1956)**

Western Suburbs scored a 25-6 win over Eastern Suburbs in a drab, one-sided match at the Sports Ground yesterday. Easts could only offer token resistance and never appeared likely to score a try. Easts' only points came from three goals by centre Tony Paskins during the first half. It was the fourth consecutive match in which Western Suburbs has not had its line crossed. Yesterday, Wests played the more constructive football to score seven tries. Easts surprisingly held Wests to a 9-6 lead at half-time, although Wests' points came from three tries. But after half-time, with the sun at their backs and running with the breeze, Wests put the match well beyond doubt within a few minutes. Wests' seven tries were scored by three men – second-row forward Bill Carson, half-back Keith Holman and winger Ernie Hills. Carson scored three tries, half-back Holman and Hills two each. The State selectors who watched yesterday's match must have been interested in the performances of Western Suburbs players Ian Johnston and Nev Charlton. Johnston, the five-eighth and Charlton, the lock, excelled in cover defence and were always dangerous in attack. Wests' officials claim that it is this combination in cover defence that is preventing tries being scored against the team. Johnston played an outstanding game yesterday, and his elusive running started two try-scoring movements. His clash with South Sydney five-eighth John Dougherty next Saturday will be very interesting. Western Suburbs centres Harry Wells and Darcy Henry did little to enhance their reputations yesterday. Wells made several crashing runs early, but was very quiet for most of the match. Eastern Suburbs finished with 12 men after full-back Les Thomas had been carried off the field with an injured leg muscle midway through the second half. **(Sydney Morning Herald 9th July 1956)**

Notes: This wasn't a very exciting game but it was an important win for Wests. After a drab first half, Wests let loose with the wind and sun at their backs and Ian Johnston and Nev Charlton took charge and let the ball flow freely. Bill Carson backed up beautifully to score three tries and Holman and Hills also ran in for a brace each.