



# 1931 Round 14 Saturday 15th August Pratten Park



## Balmain 20

Arthur TOBY (c)  
 Mal FALLON  
 Alby BLACK  
 Harold MATTHEWS  
 J O'DOWD  
 J RICKETTS  
 J STAPLETON  
 George MULLINS  
 S MARTIN  
 Arthur ROBERTS  
 Wal MAIZEY  
 George BISHOP  
 Jim McMENAMIN

def.

## Western Suburbs 16

Richard DAVIS  
 Alan RIDLEY  
 Ken SHERWOOD  
 Ray MORRIS  
 Alan BRADY  
 Harry OWEN (c)  
 Harry CAMERON  
 Frank MATTERSON  
 Bert GREEN  
 Charlie CORNWELL  
 Bill BROGAN  
 Bob LINDFIELD  
 Cecil RHODES



### Tries

Alby BLACK  
 Harold MATTHEWS  
 Jim McMENAMIN  
 Arthur TOBY

Ray MORRIS  
 Harry OWEN  
 Cecil RHODES  
 Ken SHERWOOD

### Goals

Mal FALLON (4)

Harry OWEN (2)

### Match Description

**Balmain:** Full-back, A Toby; three-quarters, H Matthews, A Black, M Fallon, J O'Dowd; halves, J Ricketts, J Stapleton; forwards, G Mullins, S Martin, A Roberts, J McMenamin, W Maizey, G Bishop

**Western Suburbs:** Full-back, R Davis; three-quarters, A Ridley, R Morris, K Sherwood, A Brady; halves, H Cameron, H Owen; forwards, F Matterson, B Green, C Cornwell, W Brogan (capt), C Rhodes, R Lindfield **Referee: W Neill (Rugby League News 22nd August 1931)**

There was a crowd of about 3000 when Stapleton kicked off for Balmain. C. Pearce was an absentee from Wests. R. Morris replaced him. Keen interest was taken in the reserve grade match on account of its bearing on the teams to qualify for the semi-finals. Wests, who had the services of C. Cant, the former Western Suburbs Union player, were, however, beaten after an excellent game. .... Wests kept up the pressure and Rhodes fell on the ball over the line after a couple of Balmain men had fumbled. Owen converted. Wests 5, Balmain nil. .... Balmain now attacked, but solid tackling kept them out. Fallon opened their account with a nice penalty goal. .... Cameron then broke through, but was unsupported, and Toby saved. Wests followed with a fine try. Owen received from a scrum and sent to Matterson, to Cameron, to Sherwood, who cut through nicely to cross well out. Owen kicked the goal. Wests 10, Balmain 2. Balmain soon reduced the leeway. The ball went from Ricketts to Black, to O'Dowd, who kicked and, recovering the ball again, sent to Black, who scored near the posts. Fallon missed an easy kick. Wests 10, Balmain 5. Half-time scores:—Western Suburbs, 10, Balmain, 5.

Balmain opened in fine style after the resumption. Matthews broke through in the centre and kicked over the full-back's head. McMenamin was handy, and picked up, to score. Stapleton failed with the kick. Wests 10, Balmain 8. Balmain's team had been altered from that of the first half, Toby coming up to centre and Stapleton going to full-back. Balmain were over again a minute later. Maizey picked up and sent to Roberts, to Matthews, to Fallon, on to Toby, who made a great run, to score wide out. Fallon converted. Balmain 13, Wests 10. .... Some hard play took place here, and Bishop and Brogan were sent off. Balmain were soon over again. Ricketts sent to Matthews, who dummied his way over in the corner. Fallon failed. Balmain 16, Wests 10. Wests now came with a great burst, Davis fielded the ball at half-way and sent to Brady, who made a great run before sending to Sherwood on to Owen, who scored in the corner. Cornwell failed with the kick. Balmain 16, Wests 13. Fallon put his side further ahead when he landed a great penalty goal from half-way. Balmain 18, Wests 13. Toby made a dash from half-way, but Cameron saved. Then Sherwood illegally tackled Stapleton, and Fallon landed another great goal. Balmain 20, Wests 13. Full-time scores: — Balmain 20, Western Suburbs 13. **(The Sun 15th August 1931)**

Western Suburbs are feeling the loss through injury of Frank McMillan if only for his ability to kick goals. Last year's premiers are sadly lacking in this respect, and have lost several games through not having a consistent goal kicker. Cornwell saved the day against Eastern Suburbs, with a goal, but only after five other players in the team had been tried and found wanting. .... What would Wests give for a Lynch or an Ellis? **(Referee 19th August 1931)**

**Notes:** This was a second loss in a row and Wests were still feeling the effects of injuries, with Cliff Pearce out injured. They were also disadvantaged with Harry Cameron going off with an injured eye and Bill Brogan sent off for fighting. He wasn't subsequently suspended. As pointed out by the Referee goal-kicking was significantly affecting their results. Wests finished equal second overall and the semis were Wests v Easts and St George v Souths. Clyde Cant, ex Wests Union player, made his debut in the Seconds. He would become a significant First Grade player.