



1952 Round 14 Saturday 19th July Pratten Park



Western Suburbs 22

def.

Eastern Suburbs 10

George BAIN
 Bill CALLINAN
 Dudley BEGER
 Gerry LOWE
 Col RATCLIFF
 Ron SMITH
 Leo TREVENA
 Peter McLEAN (c)
 Ron WATSON
 Don SCHOFIELD
 Bill HORDER
 Bede GOFF
 Don STAIT

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

Ron BOOTH
 Don WHITE
 Ken SAWYER
 Ray THOMAS (c)
 Maurice KERMOND
 Pat CARROLL
 John PERRY
 Barry BLUNDELL
 Frank BURKE
 Reg BEATH
 John BELL
 Don SINCLAIR
 Bruce EDWARDS

Tries Bill CALLINAN (2)
 Leo TREVENA
 Ron WATSON

Maurice KERMOND
 Ray THOMAS

Goals George BAIN (5)

Reg BEATH (2)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: G Bain; three-quarters: W Callinan, D Beger, G Lowe, C Ratcliffe; five-eighth: R Smith; half: L Trevena; forwards: P McLean, D Schofield, R Watson, D Stait, B Goff, W Horder

Eastern Suburbs: Full-back: R Booth; three-quarters: M Kermond, R Thomas, K Sawyer, D White; five-eighth: P Carroll; half: J Perry; forwards: B Blundell, R Beath, F Burke, B Edwards, D Sinclair, J Bell **Referee: C Brown (Rugby League News 16th August 1952)**

Western Suburbs full-back George Bain, who kicked five goals yesterday at Pratten Park, needs only four points to bring his season's total to 100. In a dull game, Wests defeated Eastern Suburbs 22-10, after the scores had been 5-all at half-time. Bain came up regularly to make the extra man in the three-quarter line, and jarred the attack. He crowded the three-quarters. Wests are competition leader, but at no time played like it. In the first half Wests won the scrums 18-13. But bad handling by the backs spoilt this advantage. In the second half. West hooker B. Goff out-raked his rival, Don Sinclair, at the rate of 2-1 and Wests added three tries to Easts' one. But Wests missed several chances to score because of bad handling and loose passing at critical moments. Easts' players, however, were no better. Twice, centre Ray Thomas broke through the defence but his passes to his supports hit the ground. Easts winger M Kermond scored his team's only try in the second half a minute before the bell. With Bain out of position he followed through a loose kick, gathered the rolling ball and scored between the posts. Wests' winger Bill Callinan was always a danger, and scored two good tries. He scored the best try of the match in the second half. After receiving from half-back Trevena from the blind side of a scrum Callinan made a 35-yard dash down the line. He side-stepped Easts' fullback Ron Booth to score near the posts. With Callinan, centre Gerry Lowe and Trevena were Wests' best backs, and lock Peter McLean and second-rower Watson the best forwards. ... **(The Daily Telegraph 20th July 1952)**

... In an endeavour to strengthen the attack, West switched Ratcliff from the wing to centre, and Beger went to Ratcliff's position on the wing. The move was an immediate success. Wests backs penetrated for the first time, and in the final thrilling 20 minutes, put the issue beyond doubt. Up to this stage, both sides played poorly, missing many easy passes and showing little initiative in attack. W. Callinan, Wests' winger, was the star of the match. He was always dangerous when in possession, and scored West's first try. Near the end, after a brilliant run, he beat East's full-back Booth with a tricky sidestep to score under the posts. Ron Smith played well at five-eighth, but received a severe buffeting from the opposition. R. Watson was outstanding among the winner's forwards, with Horder and McLean also doing good work. Ratcliff did well in the centre to sharpen the attack in the closing stages, and G. Bain was safe at full-back. **(The Sunday Herald 20th July 1952)**

..... Wests' hooker, Goff, won 40 of the 64 scrums. Lowe, in the centre, constantly jolted movements with his handling. Tiny Ron Smith, Wests' five-eighth, was the star performer. He repeatedly left Easts' defence flabbergasted with side-stepping and weaving runs only to see opportunities hit the dust with dropped passes. Winger Bill Callinan was second pick of the winning side. He scored two tries, each through sheer determination. **(Truth 20th July 1952)**

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Notes: This was another lack-lustre game where Wests, after a dull display for 60 minutes, let loose in the last 20 minutes to score 15 points. Col Ratcliff moved in from the wing and provided the spark. Ron Smith, given a chance in First Grade, played brilliantly and was backed up by Bill Callinan on the wing, who was always dangerous. Peter McLean was back from injury and took up the captaincy again.