

Match Description

Canterbury-Bankstown: Full-back: W Petley; three-quarters: N Collie, R Kite, K Rowlands, E Gilligan; five-eighth: R Gartner; half: R Thornton; forwards: N Evans, K Brown, B Davies (c), B Nelson, F Anderson, K Cox

Western Suburbs: Full-back: D Russell; three-quarters: I Moir, H Wells, R Poole (c), P Dimond; five-eighth: D Henry; half: K Holman; forwards: K O'Shea, W Carson, J Bowman, M Patch, B Goff, N Charlton Referee: L Samuelson (as per program Rugby League News 5th July 1959 - no newspaper changes)

Canterbury-Bankstown Rugby League team yesterday played its best football of the season. Canterbury held Western Suburbs to a 10-all draw at Belmore Oval. Wests had led 7-5 at half-time. Canterbury dominated the game territorially. A competent goal-kicker would have placed the side ahead by a wide margin. Canterbury captain Brian Davies persisted with Ken Rowlands after he had missed four goal attempts in a row. Although Canterbury showed improved form, Wests' display was below first-grade standard. Centres Harry Wells and Peter Dimond occasionally made ground with strong runs. Wests were handicapped by a leg injury to captain Dick Poole. He pulled a hamstring muscle in the first half and was forced to move to the wing. Brian Davies played his best football of the season. In the second half tempers became frayed. Several times players rolled on the ground punching and kicking at one another. **(Daily Telegraph 6th July 1959)**

Western Suburbs Rugby League team were held to 10-all draw by Canterbury-Bankstown at Belmore Oval yesterday. Wests' captain and centre, Dick Poole, pulled a hamstring muscle and he might not be fit again to play this season. He certainly will not play before the semi-finals. It was not the leg which Poole hurt previously this season. After being injured early in yesterday's game he went to the wing, and Peter Dimond moved to centre. Canterbury, showing great improvement in the forwards, stemmed Wests' strong finish. Full-back Darcy Russell missed an easy goal near the end, after Nev Charlton had scored for Wests near the posts. In a tough and exciting forward struggle there was much heavy tackling and body clashing. Brian Davies led the rearranged Canterbury forwards in fine style. These forwards, especially Cox, Brown, Nelson and Evans, more than held their own with the powerful Wests' set. It was only in the last 10 minutes that Wests' forwards gained temporary supremacy. There was nothing better in the game than the two tries scored by half-back Thornton. The crowd was thrilled with the great display of tackling and wholehearted support given by Cox, the Canterbury prop. Cox, despite a battering and injuries requiring ambulance attention, played strongly to the end. Wests generally confirmed the impression that they lacked teamwork. Crowd 5,422 **(Sydney Morning Herald 6th July 1959)**

Notes: This game was a very tough forward struggle where Canterbury played well above their position on the premiership table. Wests gave a lacklustre display, although a leg injury to Dick Poole stymied the backline attack. For the second week in a row Wests were lucky that the opposition gave a poor goal-kicking display, where a competent goal-kicker would have won the match. Dick Poole, because of his injury, was forced out to the wing and Peter Dimond went into the centre.

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