1958 Round 17 Saturday 9th August Pratten Park



def.





Darcy RUSSELL (c)
John THOMPSON
Don MALONE
Peter DIMOND
Bernie KELLY
Darcy HENRY
Keith HOLMAN
Doug JONES
Jack BOWMAN
Bill CARSON
Nev CHARLTON
John DAWSON
Jack MANTLE

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

John SLADE
Colin ALTERATOR
Ken STUBBS
Bob HANSEN
Ray PRESTON
Ted TOSH
Doug MOORE
John PATTERSON
Bruce MANN
Matt JOHNSON
Roy FISHER (c)
Bill RAYNER
Lindsay ARMOUR

Peter DIMOND Keith HOLMAN Bob HANSEN Ray PRESTON

Goals Darcy RUSSELL (7)

Ken STUBBS (4) Bob HANSEN (1)

Match Description

Tries

Western Suburbs: Full-back: D Russell (c); three-quarters: J Thompson, D Malone, P Dimond, B Kelly; five-eighth: D Henry; half: K Holman; forwards: D Jones, J Bowman, W Carson, N Charlton, J Dawson, J Mantle

Parramatta: Full-back: J Slade; three-quarters: C Alterator, K Stubbs, B Hansen, R Preston; five-eighth: E Tosh; half: D Moore; forwards: J Patterson, B Mann, M Johnston, L Armour, W Rayner, R Fisher (c) Referee: R O'Donnell (The Sun 9th August 1958)

Western Suburbs Rugby League team yesterday scraped home 20-16 against Parramatta at Pratten Park. Wests took the lead only in the last five minutes. Keith Holman gave Wests the lead when he scored an individual try. Even after the bell Parramatta could have won when a young spectator impeded the progress of winger Ray Preston. Preston changed direction to miss the boy and was caught with the line wide open. Parramatta played spectacular football to overshadow the home side in the first half. Parramatta led 14-11 at half-time. Wests came back strongly after the break. It tried to 'steamroll' its opposition, but was well met. The Parramatta backs functioned well. Centres Stubbs and Hanson's running was good and their tackling sound. Wests' efforts came from individuals rather than team combination. Dimond, Henry and Holman each ran determinedly. Henry in particular was elusive. The Parramatta forwards showed up well throughout the match. They outplayed their opponents early and withstood the rushes of the second-half. Hooker Bill Rayner gave a non-stop display. (Sunday Telegraph 10th August 1958)

Test half-back Keith Holman scored a dazzling try 10 before full-time to give Western Suburbs a 20-16 win over Parramatta at Pratten Park yesterday. The try made the scores 16-all and Darcy Russell's goal put Wests in front for the first time in the match. Parramatta counter-attacked vigorously and winger Preston claimed a child standing near the line robbed him of a try. It was sensational finish to a spirited match because earlier Darcy Henry crossed the try-line but was recalled for a breach back on West's 25. It was a hard-fought game with sporadic burst of brilliant play. Peter Dimond side-stepped his way through Parramatta defence for a grand try in the first half. But Bill Rayner dominated scrums and Parramatta held a lead of 14-11 at half-time. N Charlton (W) and Roy Fisher (P) were the best forwards on the field. Attendance was 4,711. (Sun-Herald 10th August 1958)

...... Wests' selectors were lucky to get away with the gamble of resting star players like Kel O'Shea, Mark Patch and Bede Goff. Coach Vic Hey and Secretary Lou Moses wore broad grins of relief when Wests clinched victory with seconds to spare. No doubt the stars were put away with the idea of bringing them up fresh for the semi-finals and in the belief Wests would beat Parramatta easily. But the trend of play scared the daylights out of the Western Suburbs team, their officials and supporters. Parramatta fought every inch of the way and went down with colours flying. Their defence was superb and their pace and eagerness to the man with the ball an object lesson. They bowled the Western Suburbs players over like ninepins to stop movement after movement. ... Wests scored two tries, neither the result of team-work, but pure individual effort. (Truth 10th August 1958)

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Notes: Once again, Keith Holman came to the aid of Wests, scoring a lone try 10 minutes from full-time. Wests had gambled, resting Bede Goff, Mark Patch and Kel O'Shea before the semi-finals and were very relieved to get away with a close win. Parramatta were able to stifle the Wests' attack which was starved of possession, with the team not getting the share of ball that Goff usually provided.