



1954 Round 18 Saturday 21st August Leichhardt Oval



Balmain 37

def.

Western Suburbs 32

Ray LEES
George FIFIELD
Jack FIFIELD (c)
Bill GARVIN
Geoff LEE
Ron DALEY
John CAMPBELL
Neville WATT
John MACKENZIE
Bill MARSH
Jack MOON
Clarrie JEFFRIES
Kevin HUMPHREYS

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

Eddy WYNN
Barry OWEN
Jack FITZGERALD
Bill LOWE
John THOMPSON
Bill BROWN
Keith HOLMAN (c)
Nev CHARLTON
Bill CARSON
Bill OWENS
Pat TOOHEY
Hec FARRELL
John HARRISON



Tries

Jack FIFIELD (2)
George FIFIELD
Kevin HUMPHREYS
John MACKENZIE
Neville WATT
Jack MOON

Nev CHARLTON (4)
Bill BROWN
Bill CARSON
Keith HOLMAN
John THOMPSON

Goals

Neville WATT (8)

Keith HOLMAN (3)
Eddy WYNN (1)

Match Description

Balmain: Full-back: R Lees; three-quarters: G Fifiel, J Fifiel (c), W Garvin, G Lee; five-eighth: R Daley; half: J Campbell; forwards: N Watt, W Marsh, J Mackenzie, J Moon, C Jeffries, K Humphreys

Western Suburbs: Full-back: E Wynn; three-quarters: B Owen, J Fitzgerald, B Lowe, J Thompson; five-eighth: W Brown; half: K Holman; forwards: N Charlton, W Owens, W Carson, P Toohey, H Farrell, J Harrison **Referee: D Lawler (The Daily Mirror 21st August 1954)**

Lock-forward Neville Watt kicked Balmain to victory yesterday against Western Suburbs at Leichhardt when he only missed one goal from nine attempts. Balmain led by 19 points to 8 at half-time and went on to win by 37 points to 32. Western Suburbs scored eight tries to Balmain's seven, and marred three more tries by bad handling. Holman initiated a try from the scrum close to the Balmain line, sending N. Charlton over for the first of his four tries. Balmain, who were using the strong wind, then came into the game, taking advantage of Wests' mistakes to score three tries. Watt kicked five goals from six attempts in the first half. The second half saw Balmain continually on the defensive. Wests, using the strong wind, scored three tries to bring them within two points of Balmain. A sudden burst of scoring by Balmain changed the game in their favour. Balmain centres W. Garvin and J. Fifiel played soundly. Wests' forwards played excellent football in the second half. Pat Toohey having his initial first-grade game, was tireless, and he received grand support from W. Carson. N. Charlton combined well with Keith Holman, who set Wests on the attack. J..... **(The Sun-Herald 22nd August 1954)**

Thirty-six points were scored yesterday in the final 13 minutes of the Balmain-Western Suburbs Rugby League match. Balmain defeated Wests, 37-32, after leading 19-8 at half-time. The final scoring burst reduced the match to a near-shambles. Despite the quick series of tries, spectators streamed from the ground in protest at the ragged play. With 13 minutes remaining, Balmain led Wests 19-17. Then Balmain winger Jack Fifiel scored a runaway try and started the scoring riot. In the next few minutes Balmain scored 13 points, and led 32-17. Wests countered with three dangerous rushes and narrowly missed scoring two tries before Nev Charlton barged over. Play then swept in bewildering fashion from one end of the ground to the other. Balmain led 37-22 with five minutes to play. But Wests gave it a scare by scoring two tries and two goals in effortless fashion. The complete lack of defence in the final stages marred what had been a hard, close match. Forwards lumbered 60 yards and more, and were met with feeble tackling from the opposing centres. Test half Keith Holman tried hard for Wests, and made each of Charlton's four tries. He took over the goal-kicking after four weak attempts by full-back Eddy Wynn Holman landed two out of four attempts. ... **(The Daily Telegraph 22nd August 1954)**

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Notes: Hec Farrell was back after suspension and Bill Brown and Pat Toohey made their debuts. Wests scored eight tries to seven but Neville Watt kicked 8/9 goals. The game exploded with 13 minutes to go when Balmain led 19-17. Thirty-six points were scored in the last 13 minutes. Nev Charlton was rewarded for his great form, scoring four tries which all came from Keith Holman breaks. In a form reversal, the forwards had very strong games.