1935 Round 2 Saturday 27th April Cricket Ground

Western Suburbs 14

Jim SHARMAN Vince SHEEHAN Ron KNIGHT Alan BRADY Alan RIDLEY Vic HEY Les MEAD (c) Bill McLEOD Athol SMITH Max GRAY Ron EATON Gordon PUGH Alan BLAKE

Alan RIDLEY (4)

Les MEAD (1)

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

def.

Stan RIDGWAY (c) Chris SCHIEMER Johnny ABEL Doug DEITZ Grantley BENNETT Rex HARRISON Roy THOMPSON A LYONS Ray GILLAM Eric BENNETT Noel FERRIER Fred NOLAN William O'TOOLE

Grantley BENNETT

Roy THOMPSON (3)

North Sydney 9



Match Description

Tries

Goals

Western Suburbs: Full-back: J Sharman; three-quarters: A Ridley, A Brady, R Knight, V Sheehan; halves; V Hey, L Mead (capt); forwards: W McLeod, A Smith, M Gray, A Blake, G Pugh, R Eaton

North Sydney: Full-back: S Ridgway (capt); three-quarters: G Bennett, D Deitz, J Abel, C Schiemer; halves: R Harrison, R Thompson; forwards: A Lyons, E Bennett, R Gillam, N Ferrier, F Nolan, W O'Toole Referee: J Murphy (Rugby League News 1st June 1935)

Football with a zip! Displaying extraordinary dash in scoring four glorious tries, international winger Alan Ridley was the big reason why Wests beat Norths 14-9 at the Cricket Ground yesterday. Norths were stiff as a board to strike the big winger in such rare form, for there is not another man in the game in Sydney who could have scored tries the way Ridley did. Not one fan in a thousand had an idea that Norths would even make a game of yesterday's fixture, but they had the premiers gasping with amazement when they held them to 3-2 at 'lemons,' and later ran to the front. Astounding was the improvement shown by the losers. A couple of weeks back they looked a hopeless proposition in a trial game against Easts, but yesterday, so keenly had coach Frank Burge worked on them, they held the Premiers to the last gasp. Just a wee bit of luck and a slice of extra determination by Deitz and Abel and Norths might have won. ... In addition to Allan Ridley, Wests had much for which to thank Jimmy Sharman and Knight. Sharman used to be one of those real Rugby Union types of full-backs, catch-stand-and-kick, but yesterday he came right out of his shell, ran so much that he could hardly walk off the field, and made more than one try possible. Knight was in everything, but his star performance was when he was pressed in to the wing with apparently no chance of getting out. Drawing the tacklers to him he threw a high pass inside to Ridley, who was unmarked, and simply walked over for the try. Play had been going only a few minutes when Ridley was sent away down the wing with Ridgway in a great position to come across to stop him. The big winger astounded the fans when he stepped on it and left Ridgway flat. Wests 3-0. Exciting lone runs by Abel and Lyons gave Norths the upper hand, but luck was dead against them; they simply could not score until Thompson potted a nice goal to make it Wests 3-2. Right on the interval Norths lost a golden chance when Deitz and G. Bennett were away with only Sharman ahead. Indecisive action robbed Norths of the fruits of victory and at the interval Wests were still ahead 3-2.

First big attack of the second session was a run by Sharman which brought play right into Norths' territory, and it was not long until Wests were in the money. A thriller, in which Sharman, Ridley, Hey and Knight took part, left Knight apparently in a hopeless position on the wing, but how he got out of it to give Ridley a try has been described earlier. That gave Wests a 6-2 lead. Undaunted, Norths came back and a cross kick by Harrison saw Mead fumble and Grantley Bennett dash into the picture to snap up the ball and dive over at the corner. Wests 6-5. A penalty goal by Thompson gave North a 7-6 lead, but it was wiped out when Norths mulled and let dangerous Ridley get the ball. Veering away from G. Bennett, Ridley brushed Ridgway aside and then eluded Schiemer's dive, to score under the posts, Mead's goal making it Wests 11-7. Norths had many easy shots at goal but elected to try for the try with high punts, with no result. Then a penalty right in front moved Thompson to pot a goal, Wests now being 11-9 in front. Norths were definitely in the running until Ridley again upset their applecart. Running right past four would-be tacklers, the big winger left them all lamenting, to score at the corner and land Wests the winner's end by 14-9. **(Truth 28th April 1935)**

Notes: This was an unexpectedly close match where Norths came at Wests all day. The difference was the brilliant form of Kangaroo, Alan Ridley who scored four brilliant tries. In each one of them he showed blistering pace and determination to score tries that didn't seem to be on when he received the ball. Bill McLeod came up from Seconds to replace the injured Jack Kingston (pulled thigh muscle). This was the best match so far by Jim Sharman where he decided to run freely and made many breaks. This match was played in a quick two-day turnaround after Anzac Day.

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