



1951 Round 5 Saturday 28th April Cricket Ground



South Sydney 36

def.

Western Suburbs 14

Clive CHURCHILL
Johnny GRAVES
Harry WELLS
Kevin WOOLFE
Cliff SMAILES
Gregory HAWICK
Bill STEWART
Les COWIE
Jack RAYNER (c)
Ray NEILSEN
Denis DONOGHUE
Ernie HAMMERTON
Bryan ORROCK

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

Don WORNE
Jack WALL
Dev DINES
Bob DIMOND
Pat LEAL
Frank STANMORE
Keith HOLMAN
Peter LONG
Kevin HANSEN (c)
Arthur COLLINSON
Don STAIT
Alan HORNER
Bill HORDER



Tries

Jack RAYNER (2)
Johnny GRAVES (2)
Kevin WOOLFE (2)
Denis DONOGHUE
Ray NEILSEN

Keith HOLMAN
Bob DIMOND

Goals

Johnny GRAVES (6)

Don WORNE (4)

Match Description

South Sydney: Full-back: C Churchill; three-quarters: J Graves, K Woolfe, H Wells, C Smailes; five-eighth: G Hawick; half: W Stewart; forwards: L Cowie, J Rayner (c), R Neilsen, D Donoghue, E Hammerton, B Orrock

Western Suburbs: Full-back: D Worne; three-quarters: P Leal, R Dimond, D Dines, J Wall; five-eighth: F Stanmore; half: K Holman; forwards: A Collinson, P Long, K Hansen (c), W Horder, A Hornery, D Stait **Referee: G Bishop (Rugby League News 2nd June 1951)**

South Sydney ran Western Suburbs into the ground, and then mopped up the remains, to win the Rugby League match of the day at the Cricket Ground yesterday, 36-14. Yet 12 minutes after the start of the second half, it had appeared that a tense finish was possible. That was when Dimond's try, after a short kick by Holman, had put Wests within four points of the Souths total. Then South Sydney really turned it on. For 10 minutes the Western Suburbs line was hammered without break. For nine minutes of that time the Wests' defence held. Then the inevitable happened. South centre Kevin Woolfe flashed through to score and start the almost complete disintegration of the opposition. From this point it was hardly a race, and the game ended with Souths' captain Rayner loping over for his second try, on the bell. The Wests' weakness was in the lack of mobility of its big forwards — and the lack of intelligence of some of them — as well as South Sydney superiority in the centres. One of the bright men of the day was Woolfe, whose displays this season put him well into running for representative honours. He had the defence in trouble throughout yesterday's game and his two tries were fitting reward for his constructive contribution to the South Sydney attack. He's young (21 to-morrow), tough and fast. He's also intelligent, as he showed in scoring his first try. As he shot over toward the left wing in a back-line movement, winger Graves went fast inside him but was cluttered by defenders. Realising it, Woolfe held his pass and left two defenders standing and scored. His partner in the centre, the promoted Harry Wells, made a good first grade debut. With the rugged Hawick inside them, they gave the Wests' defence more of a testing than it could cope with. The man who should get the biggest handout of the game, however, is West five-eighth Frank Stanmore who did the work of four men in defence. The crashing runs of Souths' five-eighth Hawick are enough to soften anyone. But they didn't soften Stanmore and he kept mowing down South Sydney players throughout the match. It was a wonderfully game performance and, in addition, it was when he or Holman were on the move that the team looked most dangerous. The other Wests' backs showed none of the tenacity of the two Test halves, and it made it pretty tough for those players. The big forwards took some handling and they often pushed Souths off the ball in the scrums but their play lacked leadership and intelligence. You want more than beef and slow force to cope with a good football team, and South Sydney is all that. 28,369 people saw the match — the best crowd of the season. (**The Sun 29th April 1951**)

Notes: Played before the biggest crowd of the season, 28,000+, Souths finished strongly as their more mobile forwards got on top. They scored 13 points in the last 14 minutes to put Wests away. Frank Stanmore was outstanding in defence, finishing the match with blood pouring from a facial wound. The match was notable for the debut of Harry Wells for Souths, who combined brilliantly with Kevin Woolfe to get on top of Dimond and Dines. Johnny Graves was also at his brilliant best and, with Churchill at full-back, this was a very formidable Souths team