



# 1961 Round 6 Sunday 14th May Sports Ground



**Western Suburbs 25**

**def.**

**Balmain 2**

Don PARISH  
 John MOWBRAY  
 Harry WELLS(c)  
 Bill BROWN  
 Peter DIMOND  
 Keith HOLMAN  
 Arthur SUMMONS  
 Kevin SMYTH  
 John HAYES  
 Kel O'SHEA  
 Denis MEANEY  
 John DAWSON  
 Nev CHARLTON

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

Bobby BARRETT  
 Bob MARA  
 Bill BISCHOFF (c)  
 Bobby HENSBY  
 Terry O'SULLIVAN  
 Brian BRAILEY  
 Laurie FAGAN  
 Peter PROVAN  
 Rex PERCY  
 Bob BOLAND  
 Harry RAVEN  
 Bede GOFF  
 Gordon GOLDSMITH



**Tries** Denis MEANEY (2)  
 Nev CHARLTON  
 Peter DIMOND  
 John MOWBRAY

**Goals** Don PARISH (5) Bob BARRETT (1)

### Match Description

**Balmain: Full-back:** B Barrett; three-quarters: B Mara, B Bischoff (c), B Hensby, T O'Sullivan; five-eighth: B Brailey; half: L Fagan; forwards: P Provan, R Percy, B Boland, H Raven, B Goff, G Goldsmith

**Western Suburbs:** Full-back: D Parish; three-quarters: J Mowbray, H Wells (c), W Brown, P Dimond; five-eighth: K Holman; half: A Summons; forwards: K Smyth, J Hayes, K O'Shea, D Meaney, J Dawson, N Charlton **Referee: C Pearce (as per program Rugby League News 13-14th May 1961 + team validation Sydney Morning Herald and Daily Telegraph 15th May 1961)**

Western Suburbs, following their 25-2 win over Balmain at the Sports Ground yesterday, share the lead in the R.L. competition table with St George. Balmain hooker Bede Goff was taken to hospital after the game for an X-ray on a suspected broken leg but was allowed to go home. Two other Balmain players were injured during the match. Lock Peter Provan hurt a leg, and full-back Bobby Barrett received a hard blow on the jaw. Wests scored 20 points in the final 22 minutes. A dropped pass enabled Wests' winger Peter Dimond to score and gave his side a 5-2 lead at half-time. The match was tight, with great defence from each team, until Wests finally broke down their opposition to run riot in the final stages. Wests' full-back Don Parish had a convincing game and kicked five goals from nine attempts; Holman and all the Wests' forwards played well. **(Sydney Morning Herald 15th May 1961)**

Rugby League Test centre Harry Wells, injured in yesterday's Western Suburbs v Balmain match, is in doubt for the Australian tour of New Zealand next month. Wests defeated Balmain 25-2 at Sydney Sports Ground. ... Wells, playing for Wests, displaced a knee cartilage 19 minutes from the end of the match. Ambulancemen carried him from the field. Wells was still in pain last night. He said he would have no idea until tomorrow how long he would be out of football. ...In another tragic mishap in yesterday's match, Balmain's State hooker, Bede Goff, suffered a badly damaged shin. Goff suffered from injury in the second scrum of the second-half, but completed the match. No-one was aware of the injury until after the match. Ambulancemen who examined Goff in the dressing-room thought he had a splintered shinbone. They put Goff's leg in splints, and sent him to St Vincent's hospital. Doctors X-rayed the shin and told Goff to report for another X-ray tomorrow, when they hoped the swelling would be reduced. ....Goff's injury caused yesterday's match to swing heavily Wests' way. ... Balmain's monopoly of the ball enabled it to hold Wests, which was by far the most impressive team when chances came its way. Wests led only 5-2 at half-time. When Goff injured his leg in the second scrum of the second half, Wests began to dominate the scrums. Wests' hooker Johnny Dawson won the second-half scrums 15-4. Balmain held Wests for the first 19 minutes of the second half despite the sparse share of the ball. .. Balmain cracked in the 19th minute of the second half, when Wests' front-rower Denis Meaney crashed through to score from a ruck near the goal-posts. The try, which full-back Don Parish converted, gave West a 10-2 lead. Wells left the field two minutes later, but Wests had gained an unbreakable grip on the game. Wests, with 12 men but still powerful, raced away from Balmain and added 15 points in the last 17 minutes. **(Daily Telegraph 15th May 1961)**

**Notes:** Balmain suffered a number of injuries in this game, particularly to ex-Wests hooker, Bede Goff. Wests also had a significant injury with Harry Wells damaging a cartilage in his knee. Replacement hooker, John Dawson, finally won the scrums and the surfeit of the ball helped Wests to a strong win. The strength of the forwards told in the end when Wests scored some late tries, one of them to dashing new winger, John Mowbray.