



1954 Round 6 Saturday 24th April Pratten Park



Western Suburbs 18

def.

Canterbury-Bankstown 13



George BAIN
 John THOMPSON
 Jack FITZGERALD
 Dev DINES
 Barry OWEN
 Don GRAHAM
 Keith HOLMAN (c)
 Nev CHARLTON
 Doug SMITH
 Bill OWENS
 Max CALDWELL
 Hec FARRELL
 Eddie HOOPER

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

Brian WHITMORE
 Barry STENHOUSE
 Allan SCHWEBEL
 David SCHIEMER
 Wally BROWN
 Ray GARTNER
 Keith HUDSON
 Jack BRADLEY (c)
 Barry NELSON
 Ken CHARLTON
 Mick KEEVERS
 Fred ANDERSON
 Kev O'CALLAGHAN

Tries John THOMPSON (2)

Keith HUDSON
 Dave SCHIEMER
 Barry STENHOUSE

Goals George BAIN (6)

Brian WHITMORE (1)
 Jack BRADLEY (1)

Match Description

Canterbury-Bankstown: Full-back: B Whitmore; three-quarters: B Stenhouse, A Schwebel, D Scheimer, W Brown; five-eighth: R Gartner; half: K Hudson; forwards: J White, J Bradley (capt), B Nelson, K Charlton, A Keevers, F Anderson, K O'Callaghan

Western Suburbs: Full-back: G Bain; three-quarters: J Thompson, J Fitzgerald, D Dines, B Owen; five-eighth: D Graham; half: K Holman (capt); forwards: N Charlton, D Smith, W Owens, M Caldwell, H Farrell, E Hooper **Referee: C Brown (as per program Rugby League News 24th April 1954)**

Canterbury-Bankstown scored three tries to two but lost 13-18 to Western Suburbs in the Rugby League game at Pratten Park yesterday. Canterbury-Bankstown led at half-time by 11 points to 7. Had Canterbury been able to take full advantage of its chances at goal it would have had a commanding lead at half-time. But both J. Bradley and B. Whitmore were well off the target with their goal-kicking. In a game which was manifestly mediocre, brilliant individual efforts intervened. B. Stenhouse, the Canterbury representative winger, scored a try of outstanding merit from one of the few real chances he received. Stenhouse pulled a muscle at the back of his leg early in the second half and was unable to take advantage of scoring on at least three occasions and so clinch a win for his team. K. Holman displayed his international class when he broke through constantly from the scrum base and the rucks. He often lacked support, and was unlucky not to gain tries on at least three occasions. **(The Sun Herald 25th April 1954)**

... Both West tries were brilliantly scored by Union "convert" winger John Thompson. His first try came when he swerved past Canterbury full-back Brian Whitmore. He scored near the posts with winger Barry Stenhouse clinging to his legs. Thompson's second try came ten minutes before the end when the scores were level, 11-11. Half-back Keith Holman made the opening which gave Thompson the over-lap for his try in the corner. Holman brilliantly led Wests and was the best player on the ground. He constantly made openings from the scrum base, but lacked support. At times Holman sidestepped his way through the Canterbury forwards, but the move would stop through lack of support. On two occasions Holman was unlucky not to score. The first occasion he ran 50 yards through the defence, and kicked over full-back Whitmore's head. **(The Daily Telegraph 25th April 1954)**

Rejuvenated by the return of International League Test halfback Keith Holman, Western Suburbs scored a lucky win over Canterbury-Bankstown 18-13 yesterday at Pratten Park. ... Despite an early leg injury, Wests' hooker Hec Farrell won the scrums 29-15. Wests' centres were woeful and Holman made many tries, only to lack support. Rugby Union convert John Thompson scored two determined tries for Western Suburbs. The Magpies' custodian G. Bain, who has made a successful comeback after serious injury last year, kicked six goals. ... After the game, Wests' centre, Jack Fitzgerald, was declared unfit for Monday's round with an injured right leg. **(Truth 25th April 1954)**

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Notes: In a close match, George Bain's six goals was the difference. Keith Holman was back and completely dominated the match. He made numerous breaks, set up two tries and nearly scored two himself. The problem, however, was a disturbing lack of support. Many of Holman's breaks led to nothing as he looked for other runners. Nev Charlton also had a big game against his old club, clashing head-on with his brother Ken. Jack Fitzgerald injured a leg late in the game and wouldn't be playing in the Monday match.