



1952 Round 6 Friday 25th April Cricket Ground



Western Suburbs 8

def.

Manly-Warringah 7

George BAIN
 Bill CALLINAN
 Col RATCLIFF
 Gerry LOWE
 Jack FITZGERALD
 Frank STANMORE
 Keith HOLMAN
 Peter McLEAN (c)
 Arthur COLLINSON
 Don SCHOFIELD
 Bill HORDER
 Bede GOFF
 Kevin HANSEN

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

Ron BEAUMONT
 Ron ROWLES
 Warren SIMMONS
 Gordon WILLOUGHBY
 Jack LUMSDEN
 Jim SULLIVAN
 Ken ARTHURSON
 George HUNTER
 Jack HERBERT
 Jack HUBBARD
 Fred BROWN
 Kevin SCHUBERT (c)
 Roy BULL

Tries Gerry LOWE
 Don SCHOFIELD

Roy BULL

Goals George BAIN (1)

Ron ROWLES (2)

Match Description

Manly-Warringah: Full-back: R Beaumont; three-quarters: R Rowles, W Simmons, G Willoughby, J Lumsden; five-eighth: J Sullivan; half: K Arthurson; forwards: G Hunter, J Herbert, J Hubbard, F Brown, K Schubert (capt), R Bull

Western Suburbs: Full-back: G Bain; three-quarters: W Callinan, C Ratcliffe, G Lowe, J Fitzgerald; five-eighth: F Stanmore; half: K Holman; forwards: P McLean (c), D Schofield, A Collinson, W Horder, B Goff, K Hansen **Referee: A Oxford (Rugby League News 7th June 1952)**

Injured Western Suburbs Rugby League centre Gerry Lowe yesterday scored a brilliant try which gave his team a lucky win over Manly. Wests won 8-7 at the Sydney Cricket Ground, and took the lead in the competition. Until yesterday Wests and Manly were the only unbeaten teams. Lowe, an importation from Tamworth, was playing at Sydney Cricket Ground for the first time. He scored his try 13 minutes from the end while playing as a winger. He had sprained his left ankle two minutes after the match had started, and Wests decided at half time to switch him from centre to the left wing. He had also suffered a hard knock on his nose. Officials believe the nose may be broken. Because of his sprained ankle Lowe's winning try required great courage in a 20-yards run to the corner. West's 16-stone front-row forward, Kevin Hansen, had scooped up the ball which had rolled away loosely after two Manly forwards had collided in midfield. Hansen, second-rower Arthur Collinson, and centre Col Ratcliff handled the ball in a short-passing rush before Hansen got it. Hansen drew Manly fullback Ron Beaumont and gave Lowe an open run to the corner. In the dressing-room after the match, Lowe, worrying, more about his nose than his sprained ankle, said: "It was do or die. I just had to get there." Manly missed a great chance of victory. Undoubtedly Manly would have won if its five-eighth and captain, Wally O'Connell, had played. O'Connell, who had suffered a badly bruised left thigh last Saturday, decided not to play after a special try-out yesterday morning. Manly seemed to have the match won when at half time it led, 5-3. Wests' forwards had been playing so listlessly that a total collapse seemed inevitable. Second-rower Don Schofield had scored Wests' try. Manly's points had come from a penalty goal by Ron Rowles and a try by front-rower Roy Bull. At half time, Wests' coach Tom McMahon heatedly lectured his forwards for their looseness. He told them their only chance was to "get in and ruck." They did. Big front-rower Kevin Hansen was magnificent, with charging runs from the rucks. Lock Peter McLean's defence around the scrums was the best seen at Sydney Cricket Ground this season. When Rowles kicked his second penalty goal, 12 minutes, after half, time to increase Manly's lead to 7-3, Manly closed up the play. Half-back Ken Arthurson shrewdly fed the ball back to his forwards to keep the game tight. Two unlucky breaks ruined Arthurson's ideas. First, a Manly forward got offside in a ruck, and Wests' full-back George Bain kicked the goal from the penalty. Then came the dropped ball which led to Lowe's winning try. In a desperate bid to regain the lead, Manly did everything but score during the last 10 minutes. Winger Jack Lumsden slipped while trying to swerve past Lowe in the corner. Champion kicker Rowles failed with three shots at goal which he normally would have kicked. The heavy, greasy ball upset Rowles' attempts at goal. Manly front-rower Bull and half-back Arthurson, and Wests forwards McLean and Hansen were the stars of the match. Bull, in brilliant form, seems certain to regain his place in the State team this year. **(The Daily Telegraph 26th April 1952)**

Notes: Heavy rain had forced the cancellation of many sport events on this Anzac Day game and it was played on a typical Sydney Cricket Ground bog. Kevin Hansen revelled in the heavy conditions, leading charge after charge into the unbeaten Manly pack. Peter McLean also gave a tremendous tackling display. The winning try was scored by Gerry Lowe who had been sent to the wing with a sprained ankle so it was a very courageous 20 yard run to score. Again a narrow win!