



1959 Round 8 Sunday 10th May Sports Ground



Western Suburbs 22

def.

Eastern Suburbs 19

Darcy RUSSELL
 Ian MOIR
 Harry WELLS
 Dick POOLE (c)
 Peter DIMOND
 Darcy HENRY
 Keith HOLMAN
 Kel O'SHEA
 Ray McDERMOTT
 John CONNA
 Nev CHARLTON
 Bede GOFF
 John TAUNTON

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

Ray MILLINGTON
 Don DAVIES
 Bob LANDERS
 Bill RONEY
 Brian ALLSOP
 Barry O'CONNELL
 Ken HARDY
 Bob McDONAGH
 Dick SEE
 Jack GIBSON
 Ken DAWSON
 Ron STEWART
 Terry FEARNLEY (c)

Tries

Darcy HENRY (2)
 Ian MOIR
 Nev CHARLTON

Brian ALLSOP
 Bill RONEY
 Ron STEWART

Goals

Darcy RUSSELL (5)

Bob LANDERS (5)

Match Description

Eastern Suburbs: Full-back: R Millington; three-quarters: D Davies, B Landers, W Roney, B Allsop; five-eighth: B O'Connell; half: K Hardy; forwards: B McDonagh, R See, J Gibson, K Dawson, R Stewart, T Fearnley (c)

Western Suburbs: Full-back: D Russell; three-quarters: I Moir, H Wells, R Poole (c), P Dimond; five-eighth: D Henry; half: K Holman; forwards: K O'Shea, R McDermott, J Conna, J Taunton, B Goff, N Charlton **Referee: F Erickson (as per program Rugby League News 9-10th May 1959 + changes validated Sun-Herald 10th May 1959)**

Western Suburbs Rugby League team gave a disappointing performance in beating Eastern Suburbs 22-19 at the Sports Ground yesterday. The crowd of 8,295 which braved the wintery weather and rain to watch the match, must have left the ground feeling let down by Wests' showing. Wests will have to show remarkable improvement if it is to be give any chance against the powerful St George combination. Wests led 15-0 at half-time but wilted badly under pressure in the second half, when Easts scored 19 points to Wests' seven. There could be no excuse for Wests' disappointing play. Hooker Bede Goff gave his team a 25-9 share of the ball from the scrums – 24-6 in the first half and 11-3 in the second half. With this share of the ball, Wests' star-studded back-line should have been able to pile up the points in the second half. But Easts, with its forwards running well from the rucks and the backs throwing the ball about, dominated the second half. Wests became rattled and frequently Easts' players stormed through the defence, leaving a trail of half-hearted tacklers stretched behind. Big Easts' centre Bob Landers pulled out of tackles by Darcy Russell and Dick Poole, pushed off Darcy Henry, and ran right over the top of Peter Dimond. Landers passed the ball to left winger Brian Allsop, who raced over for a try under the posts. In the first half of the match West played brightly to score three tries, and appeared set for a runaway win. Wests increased its lead to 20-4 midway through the second half but then Easts began a determined fight-back. ... Wests' five-eighth Darcy Henry provided one of the few bright spots in his team. He repeatedly sliced through the defence and backed up well to score two tries. ... Wests' prop forward Nev Charlton was the best of his team's forwards. He suffered a gashed eye-brow during the second half which required three stitches, but returned to the field to play lock. Later, he backed up and took a pass from centre Harry Wells and brilliantly stepped around full-back Millington, to score. **(Sydney Morning Herald 11th May 1959)**

Star-studded Western Suburbs Rugby League team yesterday luckily survived a shock fightback by battling Eastern Suburbs. Wests won 22-19 after having led 15-0 at half-time. Easts' fight-back was not thrilling, but it was interesting enough to hold a crowd of 8295 in their seats in bleak weather at Sydney Sports Ground. It was an upset for punters, who conceded Easts 20 points start at evens. Some punters, who had West at 6/1 on, were lucky to escape big payouts. Wests, third in the competition and considered to be a major threat to St George, played like a team which thought victory was a foregone conclusion. Yesterday, it sadly missed tough forwards Mark Patch and Bill Carson, who are under suspension. John Taunton and John Conna, who deputised for them, fell far short of traditional Western Suburbs first-grade standard. Five-eighth Darcy Henry, half-back Keith Holman, lock Kel O'Shea, front-rower Nev Charlton and hooker Bede Goff were the only Wests' players to produce the form expected of them.....**(Daily Telegraph 11th May 1959)**

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Notes: John Conna and John Taunton came in for the suspended Mark Patch and Bill Carson and made little impression. Overall, it was an unimpressive effort by Wests who led 20-4 midway through the second half and had to survive a fightback. The match was played with rain falling throughout which may have been a factor. In the conditions, Nev Charlton was a standout in the forwards.