



1952 Round 8 Saturday 7th June Cricket Ground



Western Suburbs 33

def.

North Sydney 13

George BAIN
 Bill CALLINAN
 Col RATCLIFF
 Gerry LOWE
 Jack FITZGERALD
 Ron SMITH
 Leo TREVENA
 Peter McLEAN (c)
 Arthur COLLINSON
 Ron WATSON
 Bill HORDER
 Hec FARRELL
 Don STAIT

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

George MARTIN
 John McCLEAN
 Keith MIDDLETON (c)
 Vince EMERY
 Peter O'BRIEN
 Robert SULLIVAN
 Jim GILLON
 Peter DIVERSI
 Ben HASLEM
 Don EVENDEN
 Alan FITZGERALD
 Cec WATERS
 Lloyd HUDSON

Tries

Jack FITZGERALD (2)
 Col RATCLIFF (2)
 Arthur COLLINSON
 Peter McLEAN
 Bill CALLINAN

George MARTIN
 John McCLEAN
 Peter O'BRIEN

Goals

George BAIN (6)

Peter DIVERSI (1)
 Jim GILLON (1)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: G Bain; three-quarters: W Callinan, C Ratcliffe, G Lowe, J Fitzgerald; five-eighth: R Smith; half: L Trevena; forwards: P McLean (c), R Watson, A Collinson, W Horder, H Farrell, D Stait

North Sydney: Full-back: G Martin; three-quarters: J McClean, K Middleton (capt), V Emery, P O'Brien; five-eighth: R Sullivan; half: J Gillon; forwards: P Diversi, D Evenden, B Haslam, L Hudson, C Waters, A Fitzgerald **Referee: A Oxford (Rugby League News 28th June 1952)**

Western Suburbs maintained their unbeaten record by beating North Sydney 33-13 at the SCG yesterday. With four of their regular first grade side out, Wests were faced with a hard task. However, they took charge of the game soon after the start and never looked likely to lose. The match was of very poor standard, and the crowd of 19,181 never became excited. Wests were without half-back Keith Holman, five-eighth Frank Stanmore, and forwards Kevin Hansen and D. Schofield. Wests won the scrums by a three-to-one margin and by more construction in attack were able to dominate the game. North Sydney, after their series of wins in club games before the representative matches, were expected to give Wests stiff opposition, but their football lacked dash and intelligence. Most impressive of the Western Suburbs team was full-back George Bain, who, on his game yesterday, offers a serious threat to Ron Willey as second full-back to Clive Churchill for the Kangaroo team. Bain made two mistakes throughout the match, but showed anticipation to take a pass from forward Watson to make a try for Collinson. Bain's handling and kicking were first class and in addition he tackled well. Wests' captain Peter McLean also showed that he is a sound lock and does not fall down. He backed up well in attack and defence and never lost an opportunity to probe the defence. Wests' coach, former international referee Tom McMahon has done a good job in teaching his team the fundamentals of football. That is what carried the day. Perhaps the brightest spot was the fact that both of Wests wingers scored in the opposite corner. Later on the ball came from a ruck and Wests Captain Peter McLean ran through an opening on the right side of the field. He looked for support and sent a pass to left winger Fitzgerald to score a try. Young centre Col Ratcliff showed that he still has plenty of promise and by his showing yesterday maybe wanted by the selectors before they pick the side for England. **(The Sun 8th June 1952)**

Making full use of a feast of the ball from the scrums; their first taste of scrum supremacy this season, undefeated Rugby League leaders, Western Suburbs, annihilated North Sydney in the match of the day at the Sydney Cricket Ground yesterday 33-13. Wests won the set scrums by the huge margin of 26 to 10. For 25 minutes in the first half, Norths did not know what it was to see the pill heeled to them. Wests have chased the ball in every other match this season, and Test half Keith Holman and his partner Frank Stanmore, sitting in the stand, must have been kicking themselves for not being in the bean feast. Deputising for Holman and Stanmore, Trevena (half) and Smith (five-eighth) played splendidly, with Smith doing a ton of work both in attack and defence. But the brains behind Wests' win was lock forward and skipper Peter McLean who continually harassed the inside North Sydney backs with punishing tackles and repeatedly fired the ball to his backs from the rucks. **(Truth 8th June 1952)**

Notes: Wests were without Frank Stanmore, Keith Holman and Kevin Hansen due to representative duties and Don Schofield out injured. Ron Smith and Leo Trevena, as replacement halves, both played very well but once again George Bain, Col Ratcliff and Peter McLean were the dominant stars. Hec Farrell also won the scrums, setting the backs into action. This was now eight wins in a row to start the season.