



1952 Round 9 Saturday 14th June Belmore Oval



Western Suburbs 10

def.

Canterbury-Bankstown 8

George BAIN
 Bill CALLINAN
 Col RATCLIFF
 Gerry LOWE
 Jack FITZGERALD
 Frank STANMORE
 Keith HOLMAN
 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

Ron WILLEY
 Col COOPER
 Cec COOPER
 Allan SCHWEBEL
 Frank FLYNN
 Brian BARNES
 Laurie WHITE
 Pat RANKIN
 Jack BRADLEY
 Alan HOCKLEY
 Cedric de BELLE
 Fred ANDERSON
 Ken CHARLTON (c)

Tries

Col RATCLIFF
 Don STAIT

Cec COOPER
 Frank FLYNN

Goals

George BAIN (2)

Ron WILLEY (1)

Match Description

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), R Watson, A Collinson, W Horder, H Farrell, D Stait

Canterbury-Bankstown: Full-back: R Willey; three-quarters: Col Cooper, Cec Cooper, A Schwebel, F Flynn; five-eighth: B Barnes; half: L White; forwards: P Rankin, J Bradley, A Hockley, C De Belle, F Anderson, K Charlton **Referee: J O'Brien (Rugby League News 5th July 1952)**

Western Suburbs Rugby League team was hard-pressed to maintain its unbeaten record at Belmore Oval yesterday. Wests defeated Canterbury – Bankstown 10-8 after having led 8-3 at half-time. The game was a "thriller," despite the appalling conditions. Both teams threw the ball around as if it were dry. Brilliant tries were scored by Wests' centre Col Ratcliff and Canterbury centre Cec Cooper. Ratcliff's try started in West's 25. Half-back Keith Holman received the ball five yards from his goal-line and beat two opponents. He then short-kicked, regained the ball, and passed to Ratcliff, who outpaced the opposition in a 75-yards run. Cooper's try also came after the home side had been defending in its 25. Canterbury full-back Ron Willey altered the trend of play when he gathered a loose ball, beat two opponents, and found touch past half-way. From the scrum the ball reached Cooper. He fended off opposing centre G. Lowe, broke through the tackle of fullback George Bain, and scored near the posts. With 15 minutes to go, and Wests leading 10-8, Canterbury attacked strongly and just failed to score. On one occasion winger P. Flynn dived over in the corner, but the ball had been passed forward. Wests' half-back Holman was the inspiration of his side. He repeatedly ran through the defence, and tackled solidly. He saved a certain try when he dived to bring down winger Col Cooper. Five-eighth Prank Stanmore, resuming after a spell caused by a pulled muscle, was closely watched by his opponents. He rarely ran with the ball and was content to pass it. Wests' full-back Bain shaded Willey. He handled the greasy ball with confidence. ... Wests' second-row forward A. Collison was always up with the play. But he spoilt his good work by giving away penalties. **(The Daily Telegraph 15th June 1952)**

Rugby League competition leader Western Suburbs was hard pressed to beat Canterbury-Bankstown 10-8 on a quagmire at Belmore Oval yesterday. Winning a major share of the ball from the scrums, Canterbury was constantly on the attack, and only a stout Western Suburbs defence kept the scoring down. Western Suburbs enjoyed a handy first-half lead of 10-3 after Don Stait - a front-row forward substituting for Kevin Hansen, had scored a try, following a run by Col. Ratcliff down the centre. Ratcliffe scored the second try for Wests after centre Gerry Lowe had sliced through the opposition. Lowe repeatedly cut through the centre to give Ratcliff the chance to use his speed. Lowe was always dangerous when in possession. Keith Holman played intelligently, repeatedly turning the ball back into the forwards. Western Suburbs was well served in the forwards by Ron Watson and Arthur Collison, while Don Stait was always prominent. Frank Stanmore gave his leg a thorough trial and finished the game without inconvenience to the injured muscle. Stanmore said after the game that he was quite fit, and expected no further worry from his injured leg. Cec. ... Tour candidates Ron Willey, of Canterbury-Bankstown, and George Bain, of Western Suburbs, had an interesting duel. Willey appeared to appreciate the conditions better than Bain and was more certain in his handling of the greasy ball. Bain at times became flustered under pressure and several times mishandled. **(The Sunday Herald 15th June 1952)**

Notes: Holman and Stanmore were back for this match and Wests had to battle hard to beat the lowly Canterbury. Canterbury attacked very strongly in the last fifteen minutes but great tackling kept them out. Keith Holman again demonstrated his class and Col Ratcliff scored a runaway 75yd try; quite an achievement on a quagmire field. Bill Horder was a tower of strength in the forwards and George Bain handled the tricky conditions quite well.