



1959 Round 9 Saturday 16th May Cricket Ground



Western Suburbs 26

def.

North Sydney 21

Darcy RUSSELL
Ilan MOIR
Harry WELLS
Dick POOLE (c)
Bernie KELLY
Peter DIMOND
Keith HOLMAN
Kel O'SHEA
Jack BOWMAN
John CONNA
John TAUNTON
John DAWSON
Nev CHARLTON

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

John JONES
Ken IRVINE
David HOLMAN
Paul CUNEO
Brian CARLSON
Ken McCAFFERY (c)
Ray LOVE
Barney MCEVOY
Jack BROWN
Harold BLINKHORN
Doug McKINNON
Norm STRONG
Jack BLINKHORN

Tries

Peter DIMOND
Kel O'SHEA
Ilan MOIR
Jack BOWMAN

Ray LOVE
Doug McKINNON
Ken McCAFFERY

Goals

Darcy RUSSELL (7)

Johnny JONES (5)
Brian CARLSON (1)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: D Russell; three-quarters: I Moir, H Wells, R Poole (c), B Kelly; five-eighth: P Dimond; half: K Holman; forwards; K O'Shea, J Bowman, J Conna, J Taunton, J Dawson, N Charlton

North Sydney: Full-back: J Jones; three-quarters: B Carlson, D Holman, P Cuneo, K Irvine; five-eighth: K McCaffery; half: K McCaffery; forwards: B McEvoy, J Brown, H Blinkhorn, D McKinnon, N Strong, J Blinkhorn **Referee: D Lawler (The Sun 16th May 1959)**

Western Suburbs beat North Sydney by 26 points to 21 in the big Rugby League match at the SCG yesterday, after being down 2-15 six minutes before half-time. It was one of the most remarkable recoveries witnessed at the ground. Although there was some clumsy work, mainly in the first half, the match proved to be a thriller for the crowd of 26,870 (takings £3,006.. In the second half Wests' heavyweight inside centre Harry Wells smashed down Norths' midfield defence. Wests put on two converted tries late in the first half, and maintained a lot of pressure in the second half. This was made possible by an excellent service from promoted hooker John Dawson. Dawson, well down early, recovered to be slightly in arrears to Norm Strong 7-9, at half-time. But, with a better application of weight by his second-row, he won the first seven scrums in the second half and finished the day ahead by 18-13. Moreover, it was Dawson who made a dash towards the left wing early in the second term and served winger Ian Moir, who scored a glorious try. Wests' famous half-back Keith Holman played through some of the second half with a strained cartilage in his ribs. Medical opinion was that Holman may be fit to play against St George at Henson Park next Sunday. Holman yesterday showed again that he lacks some of his former dash. But he gave a typical whole-hearted display in the second half, and made some great tackles. Full-backs Darcy Russell (Wests) and John Jones (Norths) played important parts. Russell kicked seven goals from 12 attempts, and smartly joined in several attacks. Jones, taking over after some failures by Carlson, succeeded with all five kicks at goal; one in the second half was a magnificent effort from the left touchline. There was some wild passing and some faulty handling by Wests in the first half. Peter Dimond, substitute five-eighth, was having trouble with Norths' promoted Ken McCaffery. Because of this, and because Wells was unhappy, Dickie Poole, midway through the first half, went into five-eighth, moving Dimond to outside centre. They stayed in those positions. Poole did not play a bright part in attack; but he looked after McCaffery. However, McCaffery, in his initial first grade game of the season, was credited with a good effort. Harry Wells, through his rousing bursts in the second half, could cause the Sydney selectors second thoughts about leaving him out of their first team tomorrow night. Moir is still our No. 1 winger. He is having a fine season, with impressive "finishing" in attack and alertness in defence. West's consistent prop Nev Charlton was the outstanding forward - he was splendid all through. Lock Kel O'Shea did a tremendous amount of work and maintained recent improved form. He clinched the win with his try at the end, when he broke from a scrum near North's goal line.....After Russell had reached 100 points for the season with an easy penalty goal, North moved the ball about nicely..... Norths, 15-2 after 27 minutes looked to have the match in hand. But Dawson improved in the scrums; Wests rallied, and found Norths' defence wavering. Poole, playing five-eighth, sent a long pass to Wells, who cut through between Norths' centres and sent to Dimond, who scored behind the posts. A few minutes later Holman slipped a quick pass to "Buddy" Bowman, who also crossed in. Wests, 12-15 at the interval, went about the second half in a businesslike way..... **(The Sun-Herald 17th May 1959)**

Notes: John Dawson came in for the injured Bede Goff and had a very strong game, even making a clean break to set up a try. Wests came back very strongly after being down 15-2. Led by a rampaging Nev Charlton, the forwards eventually got on top and the ball flowed to Moir, Wells and Poole. Darcy Russell's rare form with the boot continued and his seven goals was a big factor in the comeback.