



# 1956 Round 9 Monday 4th June Pratten Park



## Western Suburbs 23

def.

## Parramatta 0

Ray ALDRICH  
 Fred DELANEY  
 Harry WELLS (c)  
 Peter HARGREAVES  
 Ernie HILLS  
 Ian JOHNSTON  
 Keith HOLMAN  
 Nev CHARLTON  
 Kel O'SHEA  
 Bill CARSON  
 Mark PATCH  
 Bede GOFF  
 Bill OWENS

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

Charlie McNAMARA  
 Ray BURKE  
 Peter THOMPSON  
 Jack GRAHAM  
 Al KIRKLAND  
 Graham LAIRD (c)  
 Don TOSH  
 Ken SLATTERY  
 Brian McNAMARA  
 Bruce MANN  
 Ron NEWHAM  
 Bill RAYNER  
 Alan CAMERON

### Tries

Ernie HILLS (3)  
 Harry WELLS  
 Keith HOLMAN  
 Peter HARGREAVES  
 Ray ALDRICH

### Goals

Keith HOLMAN (1)

### Match Description

**Western Suburbs:** Full-back: R Aldrich; three-quarters: E Hills, P Hargreaves, H Wells (c), F Delaney; five-eighth: I Johnston; half: K Holman; forwards: N Charlton, K O'Shea, W Carson, M Patch, B Goff, W Owens

**Parramatta:** Full-back: C McNamara; three-quarters: R Burke, P Thompson, J Graham, A Kirkland; five-eighth: G Laird; half: D Tosh; forwards: K Slattery, B McNamara, B Mann, R Newham, B Rayner, A Cameron     **Referee: D Lawler (as per program Rugby League News 4th June 1956 + newspaper changes)**

Harry Wells, former Australian Rugby League centre, yesterday showed good form in his return to football following injury. Wells was playing for Western Suburbs, which defeated Parramatta 23-0 in a mud bath at Pratten Park yesterday. Wells showed no sign of injury which has kept him out of football for a month. Wells, who played solidly in defence and attack, scored a try with a slicing run. Australian selectors Scotty McRae and H Brazil must have been heartened by the form shown by Wells and Holman. Holman scored a try and kicked a goal. (**Daily Telegraph 5th June 1956**)

Western Suburbs outclassed Parramatta in all departments at Pratten Park and won 23-0. Wests' seven tries were all scored by backs as a result of the team's determined efforts to open up play despite the muddy conditions. Wests forwards Mark Patch and Bill Owens were always in the thick of play, and their efforts in the rucks frequently won Wests possession. Harry Wells was sound in the centre without being brilliant, and half-back Keith Holman, although injured early, was clever in attack. Parramatta lost Bruce Mann with an arm injury early in the game. He came on the field in the second half, but his right arm was of little use. (**Sydney Morning Herald 5th June 1956**)

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**Notes:** Wests, with the bulk of their stars back, finally put it together and thrashed Parramatta in a Monday match. Harry Wells seemed to have finally shaken off his leg injury and displayed close to his Test form. Keith Holman also had a typical dominant display, tackling hard and setting the backs going. Ernie Hills, also battling injuries, showed his class with three fine tries. Holman was taking over the goal-kicking duties for George Bain and the lack of goals was an obvious problem. Persistent rain had been falling in Sydney and Pratten Park was its usual mud-bath under those conditions.