



1951 Semi-Final Saturday 8th September Cricket Ground



Manly-Warringah 37

def.

Western Suburbs 9

Ron BEAUMONT
Jack LUMSDEN
Warren SIMMONS
Gordon WILLOUGHBY
Ron ROWLES
Wally O'CONNELL (c)
Ken ARTHURSON
George HUNTER
Jack HERBERT
Jack HUBBARD
Fred BROWN
Kevin SCHUBERT
Roy BULL

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

Don WORNE
Jack WALL
Jack FITZGERALD
Keith CULLEN
Bob DIMOND
Leo TREVENA
Keith HOLMAN
Peter McLEAN (c)
Peter LONG
Kevin HANSEN
Eddie HOOPER
Alan HORNERY
Don STAIT



Tries Gordon WILLOUGHBY (3)
Fred BROWN (2)
Roy BULL
Wally O'CONNELL
Ron ROWLES
Warren SIMMONS

Bob DIMOND
Keith CULLEN
Don WORNE

Goals Ron ROWLES (5)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: D Worne; three-quarters: R Dimond, J Fitzgerald, K Cullen, G Bain; five-eighth: L Trevena; half: K Holman; forwards: P McLean (c), P Long, K Hansen, E Hooper, A Hornery, D Stait

Manly-Warringah: Full-back: R Beaumont; three-quarters: J Lumsden, W Simmons, G Willoughby, R Rowles; five-eighth: W O'Connell (c); half: K Arthurson; forwards: G Hunter, J Herbert, J Hubbard, F Brown, K Schubert, R Bull **Referee: G Bishop (Rugby League News 23rd September 1951)**

Two brilliant first-half tries by international centre Gordon Willoughby paved the way for Manly-Warringah's crushing 37-9 win over Western Suburbs in the Rugby League semi-final at Sydney Cricket Ground yesterday. Almost half the crowd of 29,444 walked out later as Wests gradually slumped into a hopeless position. The exodus of the crowd in droves was ironical. League officials had agreed to a request from the Transport Department not to finish the match until 5.10 p.m. — about 20 minutes later than usual. The Transport Department wanted to clear race crowds from Randwick before the football finished. Many of the disgusted football fans who left early could not get transport, and had to walk to the city. ... Wests had a bad day. It started under a handicap, having a stop-gap five-eighth and second-row forward - replacements for injured regular players. The usually consistent goal-kicker, full-back Don Worne, could not kick a goal from six attempts - each missing narrowly. Lock Peter McLean and winger Bob Dimond suffered bad injuries. McLean split the back of his head while making an unsuccessful dive for the try-line five minutes after the start. He completed the match in a semi-blackout. McLean collapsed in the dressing-room at half-time and officials had to stimulate him with brandy before he could return to the field. Strangely, McLean was Wests' best forward. He led attacking moves and his tackling at the scrum base nullified many chances that looked like going Manly's way. Dimond scored West's first try before he injured his left knee. Because of the dash he had been showing, Wests switched him from the wing to the centre. After the injury he had to return, a hopeless case, to the wing on which Manly scored three tries. ... Manly's country imported winger, Ron Rowles, who scored a try and kicked five goals, set two records. .. Still, his five goals raised his tally for the season to 88 — two more than the post-war record, which former Wests' full-back Billy Keato had set last season. ... Wests' crash began early in the second half, when Manly added eight points; in the first 10 minutes. West's defence, apart from that of half-back, Keith Holman, became pathetic. Holman almost ran himself to a standstill trying to cover his failing teammates. Finally the gallant little half-back was so tired that he could not run down Manly front-row forward Roy Bull, in a 50-yard race to the corner. **(The Daily Telegraph 9th September 1951)**

Notes: Wests went into this match confident, but it was a team out of form and without key players like Frank Stanmore and Dev Dines. Leo Trevena struggled against an International and Kevin Hansen was still not match fit. Peter McLean played in a blackout but was still Wests' best forward. He had to be revived with brandy at half-time! Bob Dimond also injured a knee and was a passenger out on the wing. In a fast spectacular open game of football Keith Holman put in a super-human effort but to no avail as the Manly forwards assumed control against a weakened pack and ran riot in the second half. Worne also failed to kick a goal from six attempts.