

## 1983 Round 12 Sunday 15th May Belmore Oval

## Canterbury 22 def. Western Suburbs 8

**Greg BRENTNALL Fullback** Warren BOLAND (c) **Chris ANDERSON** Steve BROUGHTON Wing **Chris MORTIMER** Centre **David GREENE** Centre **Ross CONLON** Wayne SMITH Andrew FARRAR Wing Jeff CASE **Brett DAVIDSON** Garry HUGHES (c) Five-eighth Steve MORTIMER Half Trevor COGGER Mark HUGHES Lock John COGGER Steve FOLKES Second Row Michael DUKE Tas BAITIERI Second Row **Brian BATTESE Geoff ROBINSON** Front Row John DONNELLY **BILLY JOHNSTONE** Hooker Arthur MOUNTIER John COVENEY Front Row **Bruce CLARK** Mick PITMAN Replacement **Brett GALE** Replacement Michael NEIL

Tries Steve FOLKES Brett DAVIDSON

Chris ANDERSON Andrew FARRAR

Goals Ross CONLON (5) David GREENE (2)

## **Match Description**

Western Suburbs: Full-back: W Boland (c); three-quarters: S Broughton, W Smith, D Greene, J Case; five-eighth: B Davidson; half: T Cogger; forwards: J Cogger, M Duke, B Battese, B Clark, A Mountier, J Donnelly

**Canterbury-Bankstown:** Full-back: G Brentnall; three-quarters: C Anderson, C Mortimer, R Conlon, A Farrar; five-eighth: G Hughes (c); half: S Mortimer; forwards: M Hughes, S Folkes, T Baitieri, G Robinson, W Johnstone, J Coveney **Referee: G Annesley (The Sun 16th May 1983)** 

Club spirit is still alive and well in rugby league .... Just ask any of the exhausted Western Suburbs players who finished luckless 22-8 losers to Canterbury at Belmore Sports Ground yesterday. In these days of an ever-increasing hard-nosed professional attitude to the game, the Wests players really showed there still is a smattering of that rare quality in the game. The Magpies not only gave their all on the field, but off the paddock as well, said Wests' secretary Ray Bernasconi. Mr. Bernasconi revealed the players had worked nearly eight hours non-stop, and unpaid, at the club's fund-raising fete only 24 hours earlier. After completing a Saturday morning training session, the entire first grade side gave up a free afternoon to assist Wests in its bid to beat its financial crisis. "Guys like Brian Battese, John Donnelly and Bruce Clark were absolutely marvellous," said Mr. Bernasconi. The players' effort were rewarded with \$6,000 profit – at least twice as much as the club had hoped, or probably, prayed for. Second-rower Battese's tireless effort continued yesterday. The former Queensland forward turned in a remarkable performance against the Bulldogs. Not only did he produce 32 tackles, but he made repeated bullocking charges at the defence. Battese, Donnelly and the other Wests' forwards more than matched their Canterbury opposites in the hard-fought match. Sadly, it was one of the Wests' pack who could have cost the side a win. While Magpie lock John Cogger was cooling his heels in the sin-bin for 10 minutes, the Bulldogs scored two tries to grab a 16-2 lead. Wests fought back strongly to be down 16-8 early in the second session. But for two narrow misses – prop Clark was held up over the line and centre David Greene was crashed into touch when he was also over the try-line – Wests could have grabbed the lead, and possibly an upset win. Canterbury sealed victory nine minutes from the end when lock Steve Folkes scored. (Daily Telegraph 16th May 1983)

Ted Glossop hopes to have some say in choosing the NSW teams to play Queensland. "The selectors will pick a good side, but I'd like to have a say, if only in a consulting role," he said after his Canterbury-Bankstown players had disposed of a gutsy Western Suburbs 22-8 in yesterday's game at Belmore. With Australia's coaching job up for grabs, Glossop, who stands or falls by NSW's results, quite rightly feels he should have a say on which players he wants. Yesterday's score-line was terribly deceptive as a yardstick to Canterbury's superiority. Len Stacker, the Wests' coach, was spot on when he said: "Each team got the ball over the line three times, but we got it down only once." A much-improved Wests staged a spirited fight-back after trailing 0-16. (The Sun 16th May 1983)

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**Notes:** With eight changes from the previous week's debacle, the team showed real grit and power in the forwards and were unlucky to not be right in the match. Two of Canterbury's tries were scored off bombs and Wests were held up twice. The torrid clash between John Donnelly and Geoff Robinson was a highlight.