

1972 Round 15 Sunday 25th June Belmore Sports Ground

Canterbury 24 def. Western Suburbs 9

Chris ANDERSON Fullback Tony FORD Jon CLARK Peter Van GULIK Wing Bernie LOWTHER John HEYWARD Centre John GREAVES (c) Centre **Rod SMITH Russell MULLINS** Wayne PECKHAM Wing Tom RAUDONIKIS (c) Alan BURWELL Five-eighth Les HUTCHINGS Half **Brian WINNEY** Dennis SCAHILL Lock John BAKER Geoff CONNELL Second Row John ELFORD Ron COSTELLO Second Row **Barry BRYANT** Norm THOMAS Front Row John O'BRYAN **BILL NOONAN** Hooker Jim CROUCHER **Dennis MANTEIT** Front Row John WALKER Gary DOWLING Replacement Ken STONESTREET Ray PAYNE Replacement Steve WINTER

Tries Chris ANDERSON John BAKER

Geoff CONNELL John GREAVES Ray PAYNE

Goals John GREAVES (6) Tony FORD (3)

Match Description

Canterbury-Bankstown: Full-back: C Anderson; three-quarters: P Van Gulik, B Lowther, J Greaves (c), W Peckham; five-eighth: A Burwell; half: L Hutchings; forwards: D Scahill, G Connell, R Costello, N Thomas, W Noonan, D Manteit

Western Suburbs: Full-back: A Ford; three-quarters: J Clark, J Heyward, R Smith, R Mullins; five-eighth: T Raudonikis (c); half: B Winney;

forwards: J Baker, B Bryant, J Elford, J O'Bryan, J Croucher, J Walker Referee: K Holman (The Sun 23rd June 1972)

Canterbury-Bankstown, the club with contract players "under the microscope", played strongly to beat Western Suburbs 24-9 at Belmore Sports Ground yesterday. Canterbury's pack, with second-rowers Geoff Connell and Ron Costello producing top-class performances, dominated the match throughout. Wests, a couple of weeks ago considered a chance for the semi-finals, failed miserably under the pressure of the Canterbury forwards. Wests still hold fifth place on the ladder but are seven points behind the "four." Teenage full-back Chris Anderson capped a fine game with a clever try 30 minutes into the second-half. (Sydney Morning Herald 26th June 1972)

Canterbury selectors today stuck to the policy of easing the big names out of their side by dropping two more after yesterday's 24-9 win over Wests at Belmore. Out of the side are winger Wayne Peckham and five-eighth Alan Burwell and promoted are two young local products, Terry Murphy and Grahame Herring. Yesterday's improved display by the "older boys" failed to dislodge Canterbury officials from their plan to give youth a go. "The policy has been set and we won't change," club secretary, Mr Peter Moore said today. Murphy will play on the wing, Herring second-row, Geoff Connell goes to lock and Dennis Scahill to five-eighth. Canterbury's big-name players vowed "we will not give up without a fight" after grounding Wests' semi-final hopes well and truly into the Belmore mud. "We want to embarrass them," one player claimed. The latest score is that Canterbury will re-sign Bill Noonan, Alan Burwell is retiring and Ron Raper wants to leave at the end of the year. Other than that, little is known. One thing is certain after yesterday's match, the players are not taking the decision calmly. "They've told us we're not capable, let's show them," one player urged. They all agreed there is plenty of money to be earned before the end of the year and they want to make the most of it. But Canterbury officials can afford to smile - their decision seems to have had the desired effect. "It's not nice to be made to look like idiots," one official claimed, having been a part of the 16-man committee who agreed to ease the players out. In fact, phase one of Canterbury's "retrenchment program' went into operation immediately. Gary Dowling, 20, and Ray Payne, 22, were used as replacements during the game. Payne was particularly effective and scored a bustling try late in the second half. Wests lost the match in the forwards. It was as simple as that. They made too many mistakes to be ever considered as a semi-final hope. In a match that was conspicuous for the number of cautions (15), John Heyward, Brian Winney, John Baker and John Elford played well for Wests. John Greaves, with six goals, Chris Anderson, Les Hutchings, Dennis Scahill, Bill Noonan and Geoff Connell were Canterbury's best. (The Sun 26th June 1972)

Notes: In a match where the referee Keith Holman played a major part (32 penalties and 15 cautions), Wests were thoroughly outplayed by the Berries. The Canterbury pack, led by Connell and Costello, dominated a disappointing Wests' pack, although Elford and Baker played well. John Greaves also dominated in the centres, but John Heyward and Brian Winney held their own.

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WESTERN SUBURBS