1966 Round 8 Saturday 21st May Pratten Park

Western Suburbs 13

def.

Eastern Suburbs 4





Dave BARSLEY
Ken BRAY
Roy FERGUSON
Gil MacDOUGALL
John ELFORD
Denis PITTARD
Pat THOMAS
John WALSH
John HAYES
Bill HANSEN
Denis MEANEY (c)
Noel THORNTON
Brian KOWALD
Don MALONE

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

John BISSETT
Terry GALLAGHER
Ron GALLAGHER
Ron SADDLER (c)
Cliff BOYD
Gwyl BARNES
Kevin JUNEE
Kevin ASHLEY
Terry MATTHEWS
Colin SCOTT
Ron PHEENEY
Ken ASHCROFT
Tom HIGHAM

Tries Gil MacDOUGALL

Goals Dave BARSLEY (5)

Gwyl BARNES (2)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: D Barsley; three-quarters: R Ferguson, K Bray, G MacDougall, J Elford; five-eighth: D Pittard; half; P Thomas; forwards: J Walsh, J Hayes, W Hansen, D Meaney (c), N Thornton, B Kowald

Eastern Suburbs: Full-back: J Bissett; three-quarters: T Gallagher, R Gallagher, R Saddler (c), C Boyd; five-eighth: G Barnes; half: K Junee; forwards: K Ashley, T Matthews, K Ashley, R Pheeney, K Ashcroft, T Higham **Referee: L Bruyeres (The Sun 21st May 1966)**

Referee Laurie Bruyeres will charge Gil MacDougall, Wests' centre, with deliberately kicking a player in the face in yesterday's game at Pratten Park. Bruyeres charge against MacDougall is one of the most serious made against a player in recent years. The player involved was Easts' centre Ron Saddler, who came from the field at the end of the game with a lump on his forehead. MacDougall, the only player to score a try in a drab game, was sent off 10 minutes after the start of the second half. Both sides finished with 12 players, Easts losing its other centre Ron Gallagher eight minutes into the second half with a head gash which required two stitches. Easts were forced to play with 11 men soon after Gallagher went off, because Kevin Ashley, its lock, was absent for more than 10 minutes while three stitches were inserted in a cut above the eye. But despite the injuries and MacDougall's marching orders, the game was a docile affair which hardly drew a murmur from the small crowd that braved the freezing conditions. Both sides played poor football and it was a first grade game in name only. MacDougall scored the lone try after 28 minutes play in the first half. Dave Barsley, Wests' full-back, landed five goals to clinch the game. Wests, battling against a buffeting wind, led 7-2 at half-time but received a set-back when Ken Bray, the winger, was unable to return. Bray, having his first game in first grade after injury, broke his nose shortly before half-time and was replaced by Don Malone. Gwyl Barnes, Easts' five-eighth, opened scoring midway through the first half with a penalty goal. His second goal, soon after the interval, was Easts only other points. Neither team used the strong following wind to best advantage. Barsley kicked deep into Easts' territory only once when he had the wind behind him, but soon gave this tactic away. Easts, although getting a fair share from the set scrums, didn't use the wind to advantage in the first half. There seemed to be no purpose or fire in either side. One exception was Wests' second-rower Bill Hansen who ran strongly throughout the game but lacked support. Pat Thomas, the Wests' half, made a number of constructive breaks, only to have to go to ground with the ball for lack of support... Gwyl Barnes played his usual solid game and was ably supported by Kevin Ashley and Ken Ashcroft. Bob Pheeney, Easts' prop, played strongly in the first half but injured his ribs and didn't play in the second half. St George will move into second place in the premiership if it beats South Sydney at the Showground today. South Sydney will field a young side which is regarded as having little chance against the 10 times premiers. Parramatta has to beat Manly at Brookvale Oval today to keep its semi-final hopes alive. The game is vital to both sides, because Manly on six points is only one point ahead of Parramatta. A defeat will mean the end of semi-final hopes. North Sydney and Canterbury share second last place on the ladder and their clash at North Sydney Oval today could end any remote chances of making the final. Canterbury will be without its star prop, Mervyn Hicks, and Norths is very hard to beat at home. (Sunday Mirror 22nd May 1966)

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Notes: This was a very poor quality match but was notable for the sending off of Gil MacDougall on the serious charge of kicking an opponent in the head. Wests' officials said it was an accident that occurred as he tried to hurdle a fallen player. Denis Meaney was made captain and played well, with Bill Hansen continuing his good form. Roy Ferguson also played a blinder in the centres but poor Ken Bray, coming back after a long lay-off with injury, broke his nose, and was replaced by Don Malone.