



1945 Round 10 Saturday 7th July Pratten Park



Western Suburbs 29

def.

Canterbury 14

Dick JOHNSON
 Jack SNARE
 Bob ANDREWS
 Colin MAXWELL
 Alf CARDY
 Eric BENNETT
 Jack RUSSELL
 Arthur CLUES
 Jim SEERY
 Cliff PEIME
 Jack WALSH (c)
 Ray WALDON
 Wal TAYLOR

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

Lin JOHNSON
 John HARDING
 Edgar NEWHAM
 George ENDYCOTT
 Vince WHALE
 Jim COLLINS
 Les BENNETT
 Ernie BRIGHT
 George ELLEY
 Bob HOBBS
 Bob FARRAR
 Roy KIRKALDY
 Eddie BURNS (c)

Tries

Jack SNARE (3)
 Jack RUSSELL (2)
 Alf CARDY
 Arthur CLUES

Ron BAILEY
 George ELLEY
 Edgar NEWHAM
 Vince WHALE

Goals

Dick JOHNSON (4)

George ENDYCOTT (1)

Match Description

Canterbury-Bankstown: Full-back: L Johnson; three-quarters: E Newham, R Bailey, G Endycott, V Whale; halves: J Collins, L Bennett; forwards: E Burns, R Kirkaldy, R Farrar, G Elley, R Hobbs, E Bright

Western Suburbs: Full-back: R Johnson; three-quarters: J Snare, R Andrews, C Maxwell, A Cardy; halves: E Bennett, J Russell; forwards: A Clues, J Seery, C Peime, J Walsh, R Waldron, W Taylor **Referee: T McMahon (The Sun 7th July 1945)**

Two magnificent tries at a vital stage by Western Suburbs' scrum half, Jack Russell, paved the way to his team's 29-14 win over Canterbury-Bankstown yesterday. Russell's tries were scored midway through the second half with the scores 18-14 in favour of Wests. Gaining possession on the 25-yardline, he cut through the Canterbury defence like a knife, to score under the posts. Five minutes later he scored another fine try in the corner, after a 30-yardside-stepping run. After an inglorious display in the first half, being down 16-3, Canterbury-Bankstown came with an amazing burst to get within four points of Wests. At this stage Canterbury looked like pulling the game out of the fire. Two tries by Bailey and Whale were the result of perfect team work, both men getting the overlap to score. Then came Russell's two tries, to put the issue beyond doubt. Canterbury coach Billy Kelly was first man to congratulate Frank McMillan, Wests' coach, after the game. "I think Wests are the best team in the competition They have a grand pack, their backs are fierce tacklers, and they play as 13 men." said Kelly. Kelly's views are mine. Apart from their lapse after half-time, I have never seen Wests play with such fine teamwork Winger Snare scored three runaway tries after 50-yard runs. Dick Johnson played his best game this year, completely outplaying his brother Lin. Maxwell had a fierce tackling encounter with Ron Bailey, but was overshadowed by the State's best centre. Eric Bennett had a quiet day, and I have never seen Jack Russell play so brilliantly. Wests won the game with their virile pack of forwards, who must rank with the best in the competition. Clues, apart from a grand game in the open, surprised by his destructive tackling at the scrum base. Apart from Bailey, Jimmy Collins was the instigator of most of the Canterbury rushes. He repeatedly ran through with no support. Edgar Newham, down from Queensland, on leave, was a last-minute selection. With few opportunities, he scored a nice try. Bob Farrar shone like a star among the Canterbury forwards. **(The Daily Telegraph 8th July 1945)**

Displaying remarkable cohesion Wests completely overwhelmed Canterbury-Bankstown, 29 to 14, yesterday, at Pratten. Down 16 to 3 at lemons the Berries staged a wonderful recovery, exhibiting superlative football to add 11 points to 2 in a 10 minutes orgy of scoring. It was a case of 'shutters' after that as Wests, who were momentarily rattled commenced to throw off their lethargy and give the pill the air. Believe us, this well balanced Wests' combination, without the semblance of a weak link looks a best bet for the premiership. ... **(Truth 8th July 1945)**

Jack Russell played his best game last week. Jack is improving with each game, and it is many years since the club has seen a half-back who moves so fast from the base of the scrum. His two tries against Cantabs were gems..... Bob Andrews suffered a blackout in the second half last week. After a hard tackle, he did not remember anything for at least 20 minutes. He was telling me that he got the shock of his life when he saw the score 21-14, as the last score he remembered was 18 to 3. **(Rugby League News 14th July 1945)**

Notes: Jack Russell starred for Wests in a brilliant game of football. When Canterbury came back hard at Wests to trail only 18-14, Russell put the foot down and scored two scintillating tries. Alf Cardy's try was also one of the best of the season. Bob Andrews played a lot of the game with concussion, adding merit to the victory. Wests were now being talked about as Premiership favourites.