

87th 1st XV Traditional v Wellington College at Silverstream 6 June 2018

Won 46 – 0 for the Ken Gray Cup



Luke Mannix on the charge

Photo Mike O'Leary

St Patrick's College, Silverstream has retained the Ken Gray Memorial Trophy by trouncing Wellington College 46-0 in muddy, soggy conditions in Upper Hutt this afternoon.

Silverstream's margin of victory is the largest in the annual traditional fixture which stretches back to 1931.

The host's power and athleticism up front was overwhelming for the visitors, struggling in size and confidence.

Silverstream's superiority was best illustrated by their third try. Prop Chris Hemi breached the first line of defence prior to barreling the fullback like an angry bull on the loose in Pamplona. Hemi's burst ended marginally short of the line, but wing Fritz Raysi wouldn't be stopped from the next phase.

Hemi was a towering presence throughout, ploughing through a handful of tackles for the opening try and completing a double in the second spell, collecting a deft pass from fellow prop Luke Chisholm.

Silverstream led 27-0 at halftime and the pack was responsible for five of the eight tries. In addition to Hemi, flanker Iona Apineru and lock Neyla Masima played with authority and flair and were both rewarded on the scoresheet.

Silverstream shifted first-five Sam Clark to fullback allowing Riley Forbes (the leading points scorer in Premier I last season) a chance to run the cutter. Both boys were heavily involved and used their quick instincts to cross the chalk.

Head to Head

Played: 87

Silverstream Won: 48

Wellington Won: 32

Draws: 7

By Adam Julian (1999-03)