



1950 Round 10 Saturday 17th June Pratten Park



Western Suburbs 5

drew with

St George 5

Bill KEATO
 Dev DINES
 Bob DIMOND
 Jack WOODS
 Jack LACKEY
 Frank STANMORE (c)
 Leo TREVENA
 Peter McLEAN
 Don MILTON
 Kevin HANSEN
 Jack WILLIAMS
 Alan HORNERY
 Bill HORDER

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

Doug FLEMING
 Matthew McCOY
 Ronald ROBERTS
 Noel PIDDING
 Doug McRITCHIE (c)
 Ernie MORT
 Noel HILL
 George JARDINE
 Trevor WHITEHEAD
 Noel MULLIGAN
 Jack HOLLAND
 Frank FACER
 Bob BOWER

Tries Peter McLEAN

Doug McRITCHIE

Goals Bill KEATO (1)

Noel PIDDING (1)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: W Keato; three-quarters: D Dines, J Woods, R Dimond, J Lackey; five-eighth: F Stanmore (c); Half: K Holman; forwards: P McLean, K Hansen, D Milton, W Horder, A Hornery, J Williams

St George: Full-back: D Fleming; three-quarters: N Pidding, M McCoy, D McRitchie (c), R Roberts; five-eighth: E Mort, half: N Hill; forwards: G Jardine, T Whitehead, N Mulligan, J Holland, F Facer, R Bower **Referee: T McMahon (Rugby League News 1st July 1950)**

Members of the Western Suburbs League team which played a 5-all draw against St. George at Pratten Park yesterday may receive a special bonus for the achievement. Secretary Lou Moses said after the match that he would recommend this to the committee. The match was played under wretched conditions and the players were almost unrecognisable soon after the start. The stench from the mud as the players washed themselves under the hot showers was overpowering. The 6500 spectators also deserve a bonus. They stood in the pelting rain for the last half-hour while both teams struggled in the slush and hardly a person left the ground. Conditions could hardly have been worse and many were of the opinion the match should not have been played. Referee Tom McMahon said the conditions were worse than he had seen on the last tour of England by the Kangaroos. Players like McCoy, Roberts, Dimond and Mulligan battling for representative honours had no chance of showing their ability. ... Pidding had a chance to put St. George in from five minutes from the finish, but the ball was too heavy to lift. Keato also had several shots at goal, but the conditions beat him. The play was brilliant for the first quarter of an hour and then it developed, of necessity, into a slogging match in the forwards. The last half-hour was a mud epic. The packs fought it out bitterly with little between them. Stanmore was the pick of Wests backs, and he was unfortunate that several of his well-judged kicks brought no results. Horder was outstanding in the forwards, and was well supported by McLean, and Milton. ... **(The Sun 18th June 1950)**

Yesterday's League game between Western Suburbs and St. George at Pratten Park was staged despite strong opposition by Lou Moses, Wests' secretary. The game ended in a 5 all draw. Moses contended that impossible playing conditions warranted a postponement, but the teams took the field despite his objection. As it turned out, though much of the ground was in excellent condition, neither side showed any inclination to keep play in the dry area. Throughout the first half an exceptionally large crowd was treated to fine-weather football, sure handling by both sets of backs and forwards, and a number of good passing movements. Using his weight throughout, Hansen, easily the best player on the ground, frequently turned the tide in Wests' favour and started several good movements, Horder usually being with him. St. George early had three points on the board when McRitchie skated 10 yards to fall on a rolling ball near the corner. Pidding missed this and half-a-dozen other kicks by inches. Tackling was hard, with Wests throwing the ball about freely. McLean, picking up in a ruck, swerved through the defence to even the scores, three-all. Roberts, on the wing, ran strongly, but was usually blocked by a well-planned cover defence, with Stanmore and Woods saving Keato a lot of work. As the second spell progressed the game developed into a sustained battle between two well-conditioned packs. In the last 10 minutes Wests seemed likely to pull it out. **(Truth 18th June 1950)**

Notes: Lou Moses tried to get this match postponed. Most sport in Sydney was washed out and Pratten Park was in a poor condition. It eventually was played in a quagmire and there was driving rain in the last twenty minutes. Moses suggested a bonus be paid to the players. Bill Horder needed to have his fringe cut because it was so caked with mud!! Even so, it was an open match early on until the conditions forced a forward struggle where Kevin Hansen stood out like a colossus. One team list had Holman playing but he injured a leg in the Monday Test against England and all newspaper reports had Leo Trevena playing. Keato had ten shots at goal but could only manage one with the extremely heavy ball.