



1948 Round 10 Saturday 26th June Pratten Park



Western Suburbs 10

def.

Eastern Suburbs 5

Bill KEATO
 Pat LEAL
 Eric BENNETT
 Colin MAXWELL (c)
 Jack LACKEY
 Frank STANMORE
 Keith HOLMAN
 Peter McLEAN
 Kevin HANSEN
 Don MILTON
 Jack WALSH
 William BROWN
 Jim SEERY

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

Vic BULGIN
 Pat QUINN
 Kevin ABRAHAMSON
 Jack RUTHERFORD
 Norm ROGERS
 Ted ROBINSON
 Ken McCAFFREY
 Bill SULLIVAN
 Ted LEVY
 Gordon HASSETT
 Sid HOBSON (c)
 Arthur OXFORD
 Bill BRAY

Tries Jack LACKEY
 Peter McLEAN

Norm ROGERS

Goals Bill KEATO (2)

Ken ABRAHAMSON (1)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: W Keato; three-quarters: J Lackey, C Maxwell (c), E Bennett, P Leal; five-eighth: F Stanmore; half: K Holman; forwards: P McLean, K Hansen, D Milton, J Seery, W Brown, J Walsh

Eastern Suburbs: Full-back: V Bulgin; three-quarters: P Quinn, K Abrahamson, N Rogers, J Rutherford; five-eighth: E Robinson; half: K McCaffrey; forwards: W Sullivan, E Levy, G Hassett, W Bray, A Oxford, S Hobson (c) **Referee: J O'Brien (Rugby League News 17th July 1948)**

Kangaroo Rugby League captain Col Maxwell was cautioned twice by referee J. O'Brien in the Western Suburbs-Eastern Suburbs match at Pratten Park yesterday. Western Suburbs, which Maxwell led, won 10-5 after baring trailed by five points midway through the second half. Maxwell and the other shock selection in the Kangaroo team, Eastern Suburbs full-back V. Bulgin, had a bad day. During the game Maxwell: received cautions for second and illegal tackles; dropped a perfect pass five yards from the line after the defence had been beaten; jolted the Western Suburbs attack by not passing; failed to shake off Rutherford or Rogers in "crashing" runs, and was repeatedly caught in possession. After the game Maxwell made no excuses. He said: "Probably I was too keen. I'm toughening up for the English tour. Bulgin "gave" McLean the try that swung the game in Wests' favour. He was standing too deep when winger Lackey dropped a kick five yards in front of him. Bulgin stood flat-footed, and allowed Lackey to regain the ball, and then, with a weak tackle, failed to stop Lackey. Bulgin's line-kicking was good, but on the day was shaded by the veteran West full-back, W. Keato. East led 3-0 at half-time, and had a try disallowed early in the second half. East led 5-0 after a goal by Abrahamson. Then Lackey scored, and from then on West was always attacking. West was without the services of J. Seery throughout the second half. He tore the ligaments in his right shoulder in the first 10 minutes. He returned after treatment, but did not resume after half-time. **(The Daily Telegraph 27th June 1948)**

About 8000 were present when Holman kicked off. From the second scrum Wests were awarded a penalty. From about five yards inside half-way Keato tried for goal, but the ball fell short. Seery was taken to the sideline for ambulance attention, and eventually was escorted from the field. Then Eastern Suburbs scored a neat try when Rogers went over well out, but Abrahamson failed to goal. East led 3 to nil. Half-time scores Eastern Suburbs 3, Wests nil. Seery did not resume play after half-time, and Western Suburbs was a man short. Then Rogers was injured and received ambulance attention. Wests were penalised about five yards inside half way, but Abrahamson's kick at goal was wide. **(The Sun 26th June 1948)**

Congratulations to Col Maxwell on his selection in the Australian team to tour England with the added honour of being appointed captain. Col is the second player from Western Suburbs to captain an Australian touring team, Frank McMillan having this honour in 1933.....Keith Holman gets his chance with the Firsts today. Make every post a winner, Keith...Pat Leal, back in the Firsts today, played his best game this season last Saturday with the Reserves. **(Rugby League News 26th June 1948)**

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Notes: This match was significant for two reasons. Firstly, Colin Maxwell had just been selected as Kangaroo Captain amid controversy over the dropping of Len Smith. He was also selected as Captain of Wests over Jack Walsh. By all accounts he had a quite poor game, unlike the other Wests backs who were dominant. Secondly, and more importantly, Keith Holman made his First Grade debut with Neville Hogan out injured. It was his only First Grade appearance for 1948 but started the dazzling career from 1949-1960. Jim Seery was injured early with torn ligaments in a shoulder. He tried to return but Wests played most of the match with 12 men. With that in mind, it was a strong performance to come from down 5-0 to win convincingly.