



1956 Round 12 Sunday 1st July Henson Park



Western Suburbs 14

def.

Newtown 6



Ray ALDRICH
 Cliff SMAILLES
 Harry WELLS
 Darcy HENRY
 Fred DELANEY
 Ian JOHNSTON
 Keith HOLMAN (c)
 Nev CHARLTON
 Kel O'SHEA
 Bill CARSON
 Mark PATCH
 Jim FLEMING
 Bill OWENS

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

Barry BRADSTOCK
 Bill BAILEY
 Ray KELLY
 Kevin CONSIDINE
 Laurie McMAHON
 Tony BROWN
 Bobby WHITTON
 Peter RYAN
 Frank NARVO
 Henry HOLLOWAY (c)
 Les HAMPSON
 Greg ELLIS
 Don STAIT

Tries Ray ALDRICH
 Keith HOLMAN

Goals Ray ALDRICH (4) Laurie McMAHON (3)

Match Description

Newtown: Full-back: B Bradstock; three-quarters: W Bailey, R Kelly, K Considine, L McMahon; five-eighth: T Brown; half: B Whitton, P Ryan, F Narvo, H Holloway (c), L Hampson, G Ellis, D Stait

Western Suburbs: Full-back: R Aldrich; three-quarters: E Hills, H Wells, D Henry, C Smailles; five-eighth: I Johnston; half: K Holman (c); forwards: N Charlton, W Carson, K O'Shea, M Patch, J Fleming, W Owens **Referee: C Brown (as per program Rugby League News June 30th 1956 + newspaper changes)**

Western Suburbs Rugby League team yesterday gave a dashing display in scoring a shock win against Newtown at Henson Park. Wests won 14-6 after having led 5-4 at half-time. Play was very hard throughout with both sides tackling fiercely. Wests gave its best display of the season. Wests scored two grand tries and did not have its line crossed. Newtown's points were scored from three penalty goals which winger Laurie McMahon kicked. Wests' backline, with Holman the spearhead, combined brilliantly and were always dangerous when in possession. Wests' forwards played as a unit, rucked hard, and gave their backs excellent service. There was a lack of understanding among the Newtown backs. The guidance of captain-coach Dick Poole was sadly missed. Poole suffered a broken nose in Saturday's Test against New Zealand and Ray Kelly replaced him. International half-back Keith Holman was the pivot of all Wests' attacking movements. His cover defence was outstanding. **(Daily Telegraph 2nd July 1956)**

Western Suburbs showed its best form of the Rugby League season in a shock 14-6 win over Newtown at Henson Park yesterday. Newtown was weakened by the absence of test men Gordon Clifford and Dick Poole, winger Ray Preston and hooker Greg Ellis. Five-eighth Tony Brown sprained his right ankle early in the match but foolishly carried on. Keith Holman repeated his performance of the Third test on Saturday. He spearheaded most of the Wests' attacks and scored an early try after a break-through by Harry Wells. Newtown played without purpose. The centres Kevin Considine and Ray Kelly lacked thrust and the forwards played sluggishly. Newtown missed half-a-dozen easy goal-kicking opportunities in the first half and Tony Brown once lost the ball when over the line under the posts. Wests' centre Harry Wells made one or two bursts, but he is still overweight and lacking in fire. Wests' full-back Ray Aldrich scored 11 of his team's 14 points. He joined in the final rush and scored under the posts. Winger Cliff Smailles turned in his best performance of the season for Wests. He ran strongly and made a number of stiff tackles. Henry Holloway was disappointing for Newtown. Possibly the duties of captain worried him. Western Suburbs prop, Bill Owens, sustained torn rib cartilages. He will be out for several weeks. Newtown captain Dick Poole said he will play next Saturday. He had his nose broken in the Third test. **(The Sydney Morning Herald 2nd July 1956)**

Notes: Cliff Smailles came in to replace Ernie Hills and played one of his best games so far for Wests. Newtown had two of their best players out but this was still a good performance by Wests. It was a big upset which, once again, gave them a sniff at a semi-final spot. The Wests' forwards got right on top of the opposing pack and this gave Holman a free reign to play at his brilliant best. He was having a stellar season.