



# 1951 Round 16 Saturday 11th August Erskineville Oval



**Western Suburbs 24**

**def.**

**Newtown 19**

Don WORNE  
George BAIN  
Jack FITZGERALD  
Keith CULLEN  
Bob DIMOND  
Dev DINES  
Keith HOLMAN  
Peter McLEAN (c)  
Arthur COLLINSON  
Peter LONG  
Eddie HOOPER  
Alan HORNERY  
Don STAIT

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

Gordon CLIFFORD  
Horrie KESSEY  
Jack HAMILTON  
Stan LARKINGS  
Jack TROY  
Col GEELAN  
Bob WHITTON  
Vic CARTER  
Jack WHITE  
Tom PITMAN  
Ron CURRIE  
Frank JOHNSON  
Frank FARRELL (c)



**Tries**

Keith HOLMAN (3)  
Arthur COLLINSON (2)  
Peter LONG

Jack HAMILTON (2)  
Ron CURRIE  
Jack TROY  
Bob WHITTON

**Goals**

Don WORNE (3)

Gordon CLIFFORD (2)

**Match Description**

**Newtown:** Full-back: G Clifford; three-quarters: J Troy, S Larkings, J Hamilton, H Kessey; five-eighth: C Geelan; half: R Whitton; forwards: V Carter, T Pitman, J White, F Farrell (c), F Johnson, R Currie

**Western Suburbs:** Full-back: D Worne; three-quarters: R Dimond, J Fitzgerald, K Cullen, G Bain; five-eighth: D Dines; half: K Holman; forwards: P McLean (c), P Long, A Collinson, E Hooper, A Hornery, D Stait **Referee: J O'Brien (Rugby League News 1st September 1951)**

Rugby League Test half-back Keith Holman scored three tries yesterday at Erskineville Oval and suffered severe concussion in the final minute of one of the season's most exciting matches. Holman was playing for Western Suburbs against Newtown. Western Suburbs won 24-19 after having led 15-6 at halftime. Newtown's Test winger Jack Troy injured a knee mid-way through the first half and retired. He will play no more football this season. Five minutes from the end, Newtown led 19-18 after full-back Gordon Clifford had converted a brilliant try by half-back Ron Whitton. In the final five minutes Western Suburbs forwards Arthur Collinson and Peter Long forced passages through the leg-weary Newtown pack and scored tries that made Wests safe. Newtown captain Frank Farrell said: 'Horry' Kessey lost the ball after crossing, and Tom Pitman grounded the ball two inches from the line. Troy's injury compelled me to switch lock-forward Vic Carter to the wing." Thereafter, Keith Holman had an easier passage. Early in the second half, Newtown trailed, 6-18 before Wests added to its score. Newtown scored three tries and two goals. Newtown five-eighth Col Geelan was the spearhead in that great 20 minutes, in which the Wests' backs were run ragged. It was during this offensive that Kessey's misfortune cost Newtown probably five points. Wests' captain Peter McLean said: "I don't want that one over." Holman was so groggy he asked why Stanmore wasn't at five-eighth." Stanmore did not play. Dev Dines was five-eighth yesterday. Holman was still in a blackout in the dressing-room half an hour after the game finished. Wests officials said his display was his best for the club this season. His second try was a gem of quick thinking. Holman received the ball from a set scrum 20 yards from the Newtown line, and had scored before the packs had broken up. He scored his first and third tries by backing up in moves by the Wests' backs. Col Geelan turned on a great display for Newtown. He repeatedly pushed off Wests' five eighth Dines and made half a dozen runs of 50 yards. McLean's return has strengthened the Wests' pack. Yesterday, he and former Newcastle second-row forward Arthur Collinson combined in a number of moves from set scrums. **(The Daily Telegraph 12th August 1951)**

... With the bell ringing, forward Peter Long landed a speculator try to put the issue beyond doubt. The game, however, was a triumph for that brilliant 'little Wests' half, Keith Holman who finished the match in a blackout. He was injured in a hard tackle by Newtown fullback Clifford. In the dressing-room after the game he did not know whether Wests had won or lost. Holman's three tries were all great individual efforts. He was just as great in defence. In the first half he came from the clouds to nail Kessey inches from the line, with the Wests' defence otherwise completely riddled. The rival five-eighths, Dev Dines (Wests) and Col. Geelan (Newtown), turned in classy displays. Though Geelan had a few handling lapses early, it would be difficult to separate them. Return of lock-forward Peter McLean to Wests' pack made a big difference. But, well as McLean played, the two best West forwards were Collinson and Peter Long. ... **(Truth 12th August 1951)**

**Notes:** This was an important win for Wests and kept them in the hunt for fourth place. As usual, with Wests/Newtown matches, it was a roughhouse affair with frequent forward clashes and cautions galore. Collinson and Long were in the thick of it and both scored crucial tries in the last five minutes. Holman had been easily the best player on the field in both attack and defence but he was heavily tackled and suffered concussion for hours after the match. He kept asking where Frank Stanmore was, although Frank was still out for the season!