



1950 Round 16 Saturday 12th August Sports Ground



Western Suburbs 14

def.

Newtown 5

Bill KEATO
Jack LACKEY
Dev DINES
Jack WOODS
Jack WALL
Frank STANMORE (c)
Keith HOLMAN
Peter McLEAN
Kevin HANSEN
Don MILTON
Jack WILLIAMS
Alan HORNERY
Bill HORDER

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

George DEBNAM
Horrie KESSEY
Mick MULLANE
Herbert POOLE
Jack TROY
Col GEELAN
Keith FROOME
Roy DYKES
Bernie DREW
Tom PITMAN
Alf GIBBS
Frank JOHNSON
Frank FARRELL (c)

Tries Dev DINES
Jack WALL

Col GEELAN

Goals Bill KEATO (4)

George DEBNAM (1)

Match Description

Newtown: Full-back: G Debnam; three-quarters: H Kessey, M Mullane, R Poole, J Troy; five-eighth: C Geelan; half: J Baxter; forwards: R Dykes, T Pitman, B Drew, A Gibbs, F Johnson, F Farrell (c)

Western Suburbs: Full-back: W Keato; three-quarters: J Wall, J Woods, D Dines, J Lackey; five-eighth: F Stanmore(c); Half: K Holman; forwards: P McLean, K Hansen, D Milton, W Horder, A Hornery, J Williams **Referee: J O'Brien (Rugby League News 26th August 1950)**

Three Rugby League internationals were injured yesterday when Western Suburbs defeated joint-competition leader Newtown, 14-5, at Sydney Sports Ground. Newtown Test winger Jack Troy, who was carried off the field on a stretcher, may not play again this season. Troy took a battering. He suffered a slightly dislocated left shoulder 10 minutes after the start, but continued to play on although in pain. Midway through the second half the hapless Troy was felled by Wests' five-eighth Frank Stanmore and wrenched his left knee. The other injured internationals were: *Newtown hooker Frank Johnson who pulled a thigh muscle during the first half. He completed the game limping badly. * West, half-back Keith Holman suffered a badly swollen right thigh 10 minutes from the end. Spectators thought Wests' players "chaired" Holman off the field after the match in celebration of his magnificent play. But Holman was a real casualty and could walk only with great pain. Wests had the game well in hand before Newtown lost Troy. Full-back Billy Keato, with his "1000-dollar boots" had kicked three magnificent long-range goals, and winger Jack Wall had scored a try, to give West a 9-nil lead. "Those boots are worth their weight in gold," shouted a West supporter when Keato kicked his third goal. Maybe that spectator had something. This season Keato has scored 136 points — just half of West's total of 272. Despite Wests' solid grip on the game at the time of Troy's departure, Newtown was looking likely to overtake the leeway. The move in which Troy was injured ended in lock-forward Roy Dykes dashing for the line, only to be stopped inches short of it by a flying tackle by Keato. Nine minutes after Troy had left, the depleted Newtown team did get there. Spindly legged centre Mick Mullane had got the ball 20 yards from the line. Mullane stuck out his chin in determination, shook off three rivals who tried to grab him by the shoulders, and got to within a yard of the line. Gathered in by Keato, Mullane slipped the ball infield to five-eighth Col Geelan, who had virtually flown down the centre of the field. Geelan juggled the ball on his fingertips and fell over the line with four Wests' men on top of him. One of them impolitely put his foot on Geelan's face, and the little Newtown hero's face became smeared with blood from a cut over his left eye. That was the end of Newtown's dash. ... Holman just ran and ran. It was he who, although he was limping badly at the time, started the move that clinched victory for Wests two minutes from the end. Holman got the ball away to Stanmore, who shot through from half-way. Stanmore split Newtown's defence wide open before he passed the ball infield to centre Jack Woods. When Woods got the ball he didn't seem to be able to make up his mind which way to go. Spotting winger Jack Lackey unmarked, he threw a long overhead pass to him. Lackey crossed the line in the corner, and Keato converted the try with another magnificent kick from the touchline. After the match Newtown supporters were annoyed about Lackey's try. The club's assistant-secretary, Bert Hudson, and former centre Lin McLean, who had been sitting opposite the move, claimed that Lackey was offside when he took the pass. But Newtown's captain, Frank Farrell, said he had no doubt that the try had been fairly scored. **(The Daily Telegraph 13th August 1950)**

Dev Dines did everything asked of him last Saturday and capped it all by finishing off a brilliant movement to score the try that put the issue beyond doubt. **(The Rugby League News 19th August 1950)**

Notes: This critical win, the fourth in a row, made it likely Wests would make the semis which had seemed unlikely the month before. The form of Keith Holman was the deciding factor. He was simply brilliant in a match again marred by penalties and cautions, although he was certainly helped by the Newtown lock, Dykes, being forced off the field injured. The only bad note was Holman injured his leg late in the match.