

## **Match Description**

Western Suburbs: Full-back: F McMillan (capt); three-quarters: A Ridley, A Brady, S Tancred, V Sheehan; halves: V Hey, L Mead; forwards: F Sponberg, C Cornwell, J McConnell, R Hancock, G Sherry, A Blake

Newtown: Full-back: A Spring; three-quarters: G Braybrook, R Parkinson, J Alleyne, F Gilmore; halves: K Ellis (capt), E Cadman; forwards: J Thornton, L Bull, C Stevenson, J Davies, A Folwell, C Tupper Referee: L Deane (Rugby League News 26th May 1934)

..... Standing right out was the work of Hey and Mead, that grand 'Kangaroo' combination that has shown Sydney fans what is in football close to the scrum.. 'Why don't yer stop Hey?' was the question hurled at the Blues by a fan who was tired of seeing Vic go through them. Stop Hey, why you might just as well try to pin down a drop of mercury. Newtown did everything to stop him and didn't mince matters at all. Whether he had the ball or not, down he went, and the surprising thing was that the touch judges did not go in more often to report breaches of the rules and spirit of the game. Yet, despite all this attention, he was never flurried; he played his best game since his return, his will-o'-the wisp runs tying his rivals in knots all day. ..... Tancred, who played better than he has done all the season, was next in the firing line, but most of his support was cut on by the Newtown habit of tackling on suspicion. This brought Wests' first score, however, when Ridley was downed on spec, and Mead potted a goal to make it two-all. Alleyne returned the compliment and the Blues were in the lead by 4-2. But not for long, for elusive Hey tangled his rivals up so much that they didn't know whether it was a dark night in Sussex or Pancake Day, and a pass to Cornwell, on to Allan Ridley, did the rest to make Wests lead by 5-4. Surprisingly. 'Snowy' Folwell wasn't having a mortgage in the scrums, and when he did win it; his mob mostly punted it back to Wests, who must have thought Daddy Xmas had arrived. During all this the crowd was showing what it thought of the fare dished up by yelling and barracking in good old-time style and when Gilmore caught the ball for almost the first time of the day, flashed through the defence to the open and sent it on to big Tupper there was just one continuous yell of delight. Barging through went the big policeman, further and further down the field until at last he was faced with Sheehan. Out went the pigskin, deadly true, to the flying Braybrook who stepped inside Sheehan to score a dandy try and give his side the lead by 7-5. Followed the Mead-Hey bit of trickery recounted earlier in the piece and again the seesaw favoured Wests with a lead of 8-7. That was the half time tally.

Up to this time the teams had taken it in turn to score but early in the second spasm Cornwell spoiled the sequence by landing a goal that made it Wests 10-7.Then came a time when Wests' brilliant passing and handling paralysed Newtown. Mead started it and though Hey fell over at the outset he was able to recover himself and on went the move until Brady outpaced the crowd to dive over near the corner and lift Wests' lead to 13-7.Referee Deane was now becoming very hot on illegal interference, and penalties to Wests drove the invading Blues back time after time, and undid the stirring work they were putting in. It was anybody's game, and Wests, who had lost Hancock in the middle of the half with an injured leg, were up against it. Amidst great enthusiasm they weathered the storm, and when Alleyne erred in playing the ball Mead took full advantage and potted a goal, the last score of the game, that handed Wests a win 15-12. **(Truth 13th May 1934)** 

**Notes:** The same front row as the last game was selected and they went a bit better, especially with George Sherry holding his own against an experienced hooker in "Snowy" Folwell. Ray Hancock went off in the second half with an injured leg, so Wests had to finish the game with 12 men. Once again, Vic Hey was the deciding factor. He was virtually unstoppable, to the lament of Newtown supporters. Cliff Pearce and Bob Lindfield were both in Lewisham hospital while this game was played.

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