



# 1952 Round 4 Monday 14th April Erskineville Oval



## Western Suburbs 20

def.

## Newtown 19

George BAIN  
 Bill CALLINAN  
 Col RATCLIFF  
 Gerry LOWE  
 Jack FITZGERALD  
 Frank STANMORE  
 Keith HOLMAN  
 Peter McLEAN (c)  
 Arthur COLLINSON  
 Don SCHOFIELD  
 Bill HORDER  
 Hec FARRELL  
 Kevin HANSEN

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

Gordon CLIFFORD  
 Horrie KESSEY  
 Dick POOLE  
 Col GEELAN  
 Ray PRESTON  
 Alan METCALFE  
 James WHITTON  
 Don SOLAH  
 Tom PITMAN (c)  
 Vic CARTER  
 Jim EVANS  
 Stan ARCHER  
 John LIGHTFOOT

**Tries** Bill CALLINAN (2)  
 Col RATCLIFF  
 Frank STANMORE

Col GEELAN  
 Dick POOLE  
 Don SOLAH

**Goals** George BAIN (4)

Gordon CLIFFORD (4)  
 Alan METCALFE (1) Field Goal

### Match Description

**Newtown:** G Clifford; three-quarters: H Kessey, R Poole, C Geelan, R Preston; five-eighth: A Metcalfe; half: R Whitton; forwards: D Solah, V Carter, T Pitman (capt), J Lightfoot, S Archer, J Evans

**Western Suburbs:** Full-back: G Bain; three-quarters: W Callinan, C Ratcliffe, G Lowe, J Fitzgerald; five-eighth: F Stanmore; half: K Holman; forwards: P McLean (c), D Schofield, A Collinson, W Horder, H Farrell, K Hansen **Referee: J O'Brien (Rugby League News 10-11th May 1952)**

Joint competition leader Western Suburbs, was lucky to win yesterday's Rugby League match against lowly team Newtown at Erskineville Oval. West won by only one point — 20-19 — after the scores had been 12-all at half-time. With only five minutes left Newtown led 19-15, but Wests took the lead 20-19 with a try and a goal. Between then until fulltime, Newtown full-back Gordon Clifford missed with two penalty kicks at goal. Yesterday Newtown almost succeeded with its tactics of pinning down Wests' Test five-eighth, Frank Stanmore. Newtown's five-eighth, Alan Metcalfe, and inside-centre, Col Geelan, concentrated on Stanmore. This jolted Wests usually smooth-working three-quarter line. The only time in which Wests, scored from a set scrum was when its Test half-back, Keith Holman, got the ball and cut out Stanmore with his pass. Holman sent the pass to lock-forward Peter McLean and the ball went right along the three-quarter line to winger Bill Callinan, who scored. Callinan's try gave Wests a one-point lead — 15-14 — midway through the last half. With 15 minutes play left, Newtown took the lead 19-15 when centre Ron Poole scored and Clifford kicked the goal. Callinan's winning try for Wests was the result of smart work by Holman. Holman picked up a loose ball on Newtown's 25 yards line and passed to forward Arthur Collinson, who made ground, drew the defence and then passed to Callinan. **(The Daily Telegraph 15th April 1952)**

At Erskineville a decision by Referee Jack O'Brien after the bell enabled West to retain its 20-19 lead, and had Newtown beaten in the dying minutes of play for the third time this season. The bell for full-time had sounded as Newtown full-back, Clifford, prepared to take a long penalty kick at goal. The ball fell short of the posts. Wests' full-back Bain ran with it and then kicked it into touch on the full. O'Brien blew his whistle for the end of the match, and Newtown skipper, Tom Pitman, rushed to him gesticulating and appealing for a penalty kick, close to Wests' posts. Pitman claimed that Bain had infringed a "new rule" which provides that a player must not deliberately kick out on the full at cessation of play. However, O'Brien stated that the rule had not yet been ratified by controlling bodies, and was not in operation. After 12-all at half-time, Newtown led 19-15 with six minutes left for play. Wests rallied desperately, but lock Peter McLean was recalled for a fumble near the goal-line. Then half-back Keith Holman showed the touch of class by cleverly sweeping up a dropped ball and shooting it to alert right winger Callinan. Callinan darted over for his second try and Bain, from a fair position, kicked the winning goal. I have no doubt West can do better than it did yesterday. Holman and Stanmore were cramped and Stanmore's kicking in the first half was ill-judged. His tackling, as usual, was formidable. **(The Sydney Morning Herald 15th April 1952)**

**Notes:** Wests were lucky to win this game but it was still a good performance. They were down 19-15 with five minutes to play but a late Callinan try after a brilliant Holman pass gave them a last minute win. There was controversy at the end of the match when George Bain deliberately kicked into touch even though a new rule had been passed saying a penalty should have awarded for the action. Referee O'Brien however, ruled that the new rule was not yet ratified and so Newtown didn't get the potential match-winning penalty. Keith Holman superbly summed up the Newtown tactics of bottling up Frank Stanmore by throwing well-timed cut-out passes, one of which led to Callinan's first try.