



# 1948 Round 6 Saturday 5th June Cricket Ground



## Western Suburbs 19

def.

## Balmain 18

Bill KEATO  
 Jack LACKEY  
 Colin MAXWELL  
 Eric BENNETT  
 Mick THORNTON  
 Frank STANMORE  
 Neville HOGAN  
 Peter McLEAN  
 Kevin HANSEN  
 Don MILTON  
 Jack WALSH (c)  
 William BROWN  
 Jim SEERY

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

Dave PARKINSON  
 Robert LULHAM  
 Tom BOURKE (c)  
 Joe JORGENSON  
 Arthur PATTON  
 Ken STEPHEN  
 Stan PONCHARD  
 Jack HAMPSTEAD  
 Sid RYAN  
 Fred De BELIN  
 Herb GILBERT Jnr  
 Bob CRANE  
 Jim THOMSON

### Tries

Colin MAXWELL  
 Peter McLEAN  
 Frank STANMORE

Arthur PATTON (4)

### Goals

Bill KEATO (5)

Joe JORGENSON (3)

### Match Description

**Western Suburbs:** Full-back: W Keato; three-quarters: J Lackey, C Maxwell, E Bennett, M Thornton; five-eighth: F Stanmore; half: N Hogan; forwards: P McLean, K Hansen, D Milton, J Seery, W Brown, J Walsh (c)

**Balmain:** Full-back: D Parkinson; three-quarters: R Lulham, J Jorgenson, T Bourke (c), A Patton; five-eighth: K Stephen; half: S Ponchard; forwards: J Hampstead, F De Belin, S Ryan, H Gilbert, R Crane, J Thompson **Referee: T McMahon (Rugby League News 12th June 1948)**

Western Suburbs and Balmain turned on a last-minute thrill yesterday which intoxicated a crowd of 20,511 on Sydney Cricket Ground when Wests won in the last stride by 19 points to 18. It was the first time in 14 matches that Balmain had bitten the dust. .... With 20 minutes to go, Wests were in the lead by 17 points to 13, and they were putting such envenomed enthusiasm into their work. Then came another thrilling moment. Stephen set all the backs in motion with a snappy run that began near half way. The crowd sensed that here again was Balmain's chance to snatch a last-minute victory, and as the ball was shot along the line from one player to another, the roar of the crowd reached its highest pitch. Arthur Patton took a perfect pass at top speed near the 25 line. He ran as though he was inspired, and his speed left the opposition standing. The crowd waited in breathless silence as Jorgenson set the ball for the kick at goal which, so the crowd thought, was to make all the difference between victory and defeat. Jorgenson's kick sailed through the posts, and the crowd orchestrated its enthusiasm as the points went up, Balmain 18, Western Suburbs 17. This surely was the end. Less than two minutes remained. But the cheers were renewed a few seconds later when Bill Keato, who had already landed four goals for Wests, took a kick at goal from 40 yards out wide. This goal would have put Wests in front again. As he shaped up for the kick, West's officials led by their secretary Lou Moses, with the League President Mr. 'Jersey' Flegg in the party offered up a silent prayer! But the ball fell short. It was all over now. Balmain had snatched the match away. But heigho! Balmain was penalised for a scrum breach just on the final bell. Keato ran up smartly, and placed the ball for another kick at goal from a position 30 yards out and wide of the posts. Mr. Lou Moses and his party performed another hurried exhortation to the gods of chance. Keato's kick went through the posts, and Wests had won in a pulsating finish by 19 points to 18. Wests, in fact, won the game around the base of the scrum where Hogan and Stanmore excelled. But undoubtedly the outstanding player for Wests was Jack Walsh, front row forward. .... Wests won because their forwards were stronger and because of Balmain's off-side play. De Belin and Hampstead alone held their own in the forwards. **(Truth 6th June 1948)**

Keith Holman struck brilliant form at Oberon last week-end, scoring three grand tries and figuring prominently in many clever moves. **(Rugby League News 22nd May 1948)**.....Keith Holman, the former Dubbo half-back, is playing excellent football in the Reserves. Keith is making a habit of scoring a try in each game he plays. **(Rugby League News 29th May 1948)**

**Notes:** A number of the top players came back from injuries in this match. Bill Keato came in for the unlucky Wally Tebbutt who had played very well and kicked plenty of goals. Kevin Hansen, Jack Walsh and Bill Brown were back, Bill Brown from a broken jaw in Round 1!! Jack Lackey also came in for the injured Leal. In a torrid forward clash, Jack Walsh was at his brilliant best, charging into the rucks. Stanmore and Hogan were dominant at the scrum base and the last twenty minutes were the most exciting seen at the Cricket Ground for many years. Keato missed a goal with two minutes to go but kicked one from a scrum penalty from 30 yards out, on an angle, to win right on the bell, although Jorgensen had an attempt after the bell which scraped the underside of the cross-bar. It was a thriller which gave Balmain their first defeat in 14 matches. In Reserve Grade, a young up and comer, Keith Holman, was making a huge impression!