1948 Round 8 Monday 14th June Hurstville Oval

Western Suburbs 23

def.

St George 13





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

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

Geoff PULLEN
Matthew McCOY (c)
Stan ROOT
Lew EVANS
Kevin HARMEY
Ernie MORT
Les MORLEY
George JARDINE
Mick FAHEY
Charlie BANKS
Vince SOORLEY
Frank FACER
James MURRAY

Jim SEERY (2) Don MILTON Eric BENNETT Peter McLEAN Charlie BANKS George JARDINE Stan ROOT

Goals Bill KEATO (4)

Geoff PULLEN (2)

Match Description

Tries

St George: Full-back: G Pullen; three-quarters: K Harmey, M McCoy, S Root, L Evans; five-eighth: E Mort; half: L Morley; forwards: G Jardine, M Fahey, C Banks, V Soorley, F Facer, J Murray

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) Referee: G Bishop (Rugby League News 3rd July 1948)

Attendance was about 4500 when Keato kicked off for Wests. Facer kicked through the mud and Keato miss-kicked the ball, which went out on the full ten yards from the line. St. George scored when Jardine received a pass in West's 25, passed infield to Banks, who scored near the posts. Pullen converted. St. George 5-nil. St -George was in again when Soorley picked up in the ruck, sent to Jardine, who pushed several men off and went over between the posts. Pullen goaled. St. George 10-nil. Half-time scores :St. George 10, Western Suburbs nil.

From some loose play, Mort sent to McCoy, who ran along the touchline for passing to Root, who scored wide out. Pullen missed with the shot at goal. St. George 13-0. Maxwell kicked towards the corner, where Pullen fielded the ball, Milton dashed through, grabbed the ball out of Pullen's hand, and dived over well out. Keato kicked a good goal. St. George 13-5. Keato kicked a grand penalty goal from near touch when St. George was penalised for a scrum breach. St. George 13-7. (The Sun 14th June 1948)

Rugby League competition leader Western Suburbs scored 23 points in the last 30 minutes of its game against St. George at Hurstville Oval yesterday and won 23-13. St. George had led 10-0 at half-time, and 13-0 five minutes after the resumption. In the second half, West's forwards tightened their play, and immediately showed vast improvement. The forwards scored four of its team's five tries. Full-back W. Keato kicked four goals. Wests' captain (Jack Walsh) provided the best try–scoring move of the match. He began a barging run at half-way, and bumped off tackler after tackler until he was only 10 yards from St. George's line. There he passed to J. Seery, who scored. (The Daily Telegraph 15th June 1948)

Bill Keato's nine goals out of 13 attempts in the two games over the week-end was a grand effort, more especially as on Monday the ball was wet and greasy ... Eric Bennett is another player whose claims for consideration in the Australian team has been enhanced by the excellent form he is now showing. Eric has an added advantage insofar as that he can play in any position in the backs.... the happiest man in the Western Suburbs' dressing room after the game last Monday was Jim Seery; it was not only because we had won, but of the fact that Jim had scored two tries, the first time in his football career he had ever performed this feat....lock forward, Peter McLean, is improving with every game. Peter's cover defence against St George saved several certain tries. (Rugby League News 19th June 1948)

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Notes: This was a remarkable win for Wests. Backing up from Saturday for this Monday match, they were down 10-0 at half-time and 13-0 five minutes into the second half. Then the forwards, led by powerhouse Jack Walsh, took control and stormed home, piling on 23 points in 30 minutes. Jim Seery scored two tries for the first time in his career and other forwards, McLean and Milton, also scored strong tries. Bill Keato continued his accurate goal-kicking.