



1949 Round 8 Saturday 28th May Pratten Park



Western Suburbs 44

def.

Eastern Suburbs 15

Bill KEATO
 Jack WOODS
 Jack FITZGERALD
 Colin MAXWELL (c)
 Dick McKELVEY
 Frank STANMORE
 Keith HOLMAN
 Peter McLEAN
 Don MILTON
 Kevin HANSEN
 Bill HORDER
 Alan HORNERY
 Jim SEERY

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

Kevin ABRAHAMSEN
 Mick PHELAN
 Milton ATKINSON
 Paul TIERNEY (c)
 Strachan ROBINSON
 Ted ROBINSON
 Col DONOHOE
 Frank BURKE
 Brian HOLMES
 Ian VERRENDER
 Jack ARNOLD
 Arthur OXFORD
 Dick HEALY

Tries

Kevin HANSEN (2)
 Dick McKELVEY (2)
 Keith HOLMAN
 Alan HORNERY
 Don MILTON
 Peter McLEAN
 Jim SEERY
 Jack WOODS

Strachan ROBINSON
 Paul TIERNEY
 Ian VERRENDER

Goals

Bill KEATO (7)

Kevin ABRAHAMSEN (3)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: W Keato; three-quarters: R McKelvey, C Maxwell (capt), J Fitzgerald, J Woods; five-eighth: F Stanmore; half: K Holman; forwards: P McLean, D Milton, K Hansen, W Horder, A Hornery, J Seery

Eastern Suburbs: Full-back: K Abrahamson; three-quarters: S Robinson, M Atkinson, P Tierney (capt), J Phelan; five-eighth: E Robinson; half: C Donohoe; forwards: F Burke, B Holmes, I Verrender, R Healy, A Oxford, J Arnold **Referee: A Oxford (Rugby League News June 11th 1949)**

Western Suburbs Rugby League team scored the highest first-grade total yet recorded this season in beating Eastern Suburbs, 44-15, at Pratten Park yesterday. Western Suburbs led 26-5 at half-time. After the match West secretary, Lou Moses, said that the win had completely vindicated the first-grade selectors and playing-coach, Kangaroo Col Maxwell. On Tuesday, representatives of Wests players had complained to the club of the omission of Eric Bennett, the first-grade team selection, and the coaching of Maxwell. On Thursday, differences were smoothed out at a conference between players' representatives, selectors, and the club executive. During yesterday's match * F Stanmore (West) played for an hour in a blackout *Maxwell refused to leave the field after his eye was injured *a dog ran on the field three times, and each time held up the game *An Eastern Suburbs forward received a caution for kicking a Western Suburbs player *the crowd heckled Maxwell for several mistakes. Western Suburbs' half-back, Keith Holman clinched the game for his team in the first 15 minutes. Hornery, Wests hooker, won the early scrums, and the weak Eastern Suburbs cover-defence allowed Holman to run from the scrum base. Holman made the openings from set scrums that gave West its first two tries. Hansen then crossed from a penalty on the line before East had taken up position. West, in all, scored six tries in the first half. ... Wests seemed to ease up in the second half. In this half, however, Holman scored a try which was the best of the match. The try followed a magnificent passing burst, started by Maxwell, in which play was reversed three times. Generally, the Wests' forwards were on top with Horder, Hansen, and Milton outstanding. Maxwell, despite early lapses, played his best game of the season, while wingers McKelvey and Fitzgerald were in good form. **(The Daily Telegraph 29th May 1949)**

Dick McKelvey, who is given his opportunity in the Firsts today, has had a varied career with Wests, having played most of his football in second and third grade as a centre or winger. It is pleasing to see him given a chance in the top grade. **(Rugby League News 28th May 1949)**

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Notes: Dick McKelvey came back to Firsts after playing one game in 1946 but had been a stalwart in Reserve Grade. He scored two tries, including one after a 70 yard run. Alan Hornery dominated an experienced hooker in Arthur Oxford, two to one, and this allowed Holman to take control early in the match. Kevin Hansen and Col Maxwell were then able to run riot and had their best games of the year. Frank Stanmore was also brave, playing on concussed. The controversy with Eric Bennett continued with his omission bringing on a player revolt which was only quelled on the Thursday after a series of meetings.