



# 1950 Semi Final Saturday 9th September Sports Ground



**Western Suburbs 28**

**def.**

**Balmain 10**

Bill KEATO  
Jack WALL  
Dev DINES  
Jack WOODS  
Jack LACKEY  
Frank STANMORE (c)  
Keith HOLMAN  
Peter McLEAN  
Don MILTON  
Kevin HANSEN  
Bill HORDER  
Alan HORNER  
Don STAIT

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

Ray LEES  
Russ SMITH  
Jack FIFIELD  
Joe JORGENSON  
Bobby LULHAM  
Leo NOSWORTHY  
Bruce HOPKINS  
Jack HAMPSTEAD  
Tom TYRRELL  
Bill MARSH  
Fred De BELIN (c)  
Ken FOGARTY  
Jack SPENCER



**Tries** Jack LACKEY (2)  
Kevin HANSEN  
Jack WALL

**Goals** Bill KEATO (8) Joe JORGENSON (4)  
Ray LEES (1)

### Match Description

**Western Suburbs:** Full-back: W Keato; three-quarters: J Wall, D Dines, J Woods, J Lackey; five-eighth: F Stanmore (c); half: K Holman; forwards: P McLean, D Milton, K Hansen, D Stait, A Hornery, W Horder

**Balmain:** Full-back: R Lees; three-quarters: R Smith, J Fifield, J Jorgenson, R Lulham; five-eighth: L Nosworthy; half: B Hopkins; forwards: J Hampstead, T Tyrrell, W Marsh, F De Belin (captain), K Fogarty, J Spencer **Referee: T McMahon (Rugby League News 16th September 1950)**

Western Suburbs scored 19 points in ten minutes late in the League semi-final game at the Sports Ground yesterday to bury Balmain 28-10. It was an anti-climactic ending to a game that, at times, rose to great heights. .. It was a sad day for the Balmain "Tigers," who are now out of the final for the first time since 1943. There are excuses for Balmain's disintegration but it would be unfair to take any credit from the virile West team. Wests' big, young and tough pack finally beat the Balmain six into the ground. It did all but cremate them. Balmain finished with a full team in numbers only. Second, rower Marsh injured his right shoulder a few minutes after the start and only his courage kept him on the field, nursing the arm. It is thought that he has chipped the collarbone. Early in the second half hooker Fogarty suffered a dislocated left shoulder and was a passenger from that point, although a courageous one. The result was that Wests won the scrums 21-4 in the second half and finally the defence of even Balmain wilted under that handicap. Wests' youngsters, Hansen, Horder, McLean and Stait, were kept out for a hectic ten minutes but finally the defence crumbled completely, as it had to under the circumstances. It was then that the feast of scoring took place with Keato, not much of a fullback but a superb kicker, rubbing salt in the wounds. Keato kicked eight goals from 12 attempts, including the last five in a row. Hansen, Horder and Stait gradually bashed the virility out of their opponents and finally hooker Hornery was racing round like a centre-three-quarter. But it was the little Test half-back Keith Holman who took the individual honours of the day. He had a feast of the ball, but he certainly made use of it and had the Balmain defenders ragged trying to stop him and Stanmore. It was not only in attack that Holman shone. He's only a little man but he kept flattening Balmain forwards and backs with vigorous tackles. The weak man in the Wests' attacking scheme was centre Woods, who had the wrong pattern. He had a bad day both in handling and in his anticipation of team moves. Actually, West didn't look so impressive for a period late in the first half, a fact which Stanmore admitted after the game. He said: "We were ragged for quite a time in the first half and it's something we'll have to remedy." They came good again however, and I think we will make it awfully tough for Souths." .... A crowd of 33,542 saw the game after police had closed the grandstand area gates. Many fans, after paying their admission, left the ground because they could not get a reasonable position from which to see the game. 'There is no doubt that the game would have drawn a crowd of 50,000 had it been played at the Cricket Ground. It emphasised once again Sydney's sad lack of an exclusive football ground capable of seating a real crowd. Statistics of the match: West won the scrums 34-14 and Balmain had a 15-13 advantage in the penalties. **(The Sun 10th September 1950)**

Congratulations to Don Stait on his elevation to First Grade. Don is one of the most honest forwards in the club, and the only regret is that our outstanding reserves have lost such an outstanding player. But as Reserve Grade coach D Taylor remarked, the club comes first and his loss is the First Grade's gain. **(Rugby League News 9th September 1950)**

**Notes:** The huge crowd was not able to be accommodated because of lease problems with the SCG and most predicted it would have been a 50,000+ crowd if held there. Wests' big forwards gradually wore down Balmain and Wests scored 19 points in the last 10 minutes. Keith Holman's crunching tackles were a feature of the match, as well as Hansen's sensational bumping 25 yard try. Keato's first goal was kicked from his side of half-way. Don Stait made his debut in place of Jack Williams.