



1972 Round 21 Saturday 12th August Henson Park



Newtown 24

John FLOYD
 Lionel WILLIAMSON
 David OLIVERI
 Ken WILSON
 John BRADSTOCK
 Des O'CONNOR
 John BONHAM
 Neil PRINGLE
 Paul DAWSON
 Gary SULLIVAN
 Oscar DANIELSON
 Mark ROBERTSON
 Dennis GARDINER

def.

Western Suburbs 18

Russell MULLINS
 Don ROGERS
 Wayne MERRY
 John HEYWARD
 Stephen SATTERLY
 Neville SINCLAIR
 Tom RAUDONIKIS (c)
 John BAKER
 Rod SMITH
 John ELFORD
 George SKEERS
 Peter HANDCOCK
 John O'BRYAN
 Brian WINNEY
 Terry MULLINS



Tries

John BRADSTOCK (3)
 Neil PRINGLE
 Gary SULLIVAN
 Ken WILSON

John ELFORD
 Terry MULLINS
 Don ROGERS
 George SKEERS

Goals

John BONHAM (2)
 Ken WILSON (1)

Stephen SATTERLY (3)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: R Mullins; three-quarters: D Rogers, S Knight, J Heyward, S Satterly; five-eighth: Neville Sinclair; half: T Raudonikis (c); forwards: J Baker, J Elford, R Smith, J O'Bryan, P Handcock, G Skeers

Newtown: Full-back: J Floyd; three-quarters: L Williamson, D Oliveri, K Wilson, J Bradstock; five-eighth: D O'Connor; half: J Bonham; forwards: N Pringle, P Dawson, G Sullivan, O Danielson, M Robertson, D Gardiner **Referee: K Page (The Sun 11th August 1972)**

Newtown Rugby League team kept alive their faint semi-final chances with a scrambling and unconvincing win over Western Suburbs at Henson Park yesterday. Trailing 9-18 midway through the second half, Newtown piled on three tries in a 12-minute scoring spree to finish the 24-18 winner. Newtown's win has put the pressure right on South Sydney in their match today against Balmain at Redfern Oval. If Souths win, they are the fourth semi-finalist. If they are beaten, the semi spot may not be determined until the final round. Newtown looked anything but semi-finalist as they floundered through most of the 80 minutes yesterday. Though they scored six tries to Wests' four, the match was not really safe for them until four minutes from the end, when John Bonham landed a penalty goal. Wests led 15-6 at half-time, after running with the strong breeze, then 18-9 after 15 minutes of the second half. The Blues' break came 20 minutes from the end when young lock Neil Pringle backed up neatly to take a pass and "stroll" over for a try. After this try Newtown "fired" for the first time in the match. In four minutes, nimble-footed winger John Bradstock crossed for two of his three tries. Newtown's task was made so much easier with their second-half domination of the scrums and the aid of near gale-force winds. They kept the pressure right on Wests with some deep kicks. Wests lost their hard-working skipper and half-back Tom Raudonikis in the first half, winger Steve Satterly at half-time and prop John O'Bryan before full-time. Raudonikis hurt his knee and went off rather than risk aggravating the injury. Satterly also suffered an injured knee and O'Bryan a possible fracture of the left hand. Newtown in the first half looked a very ordinary team; a non-tackling group that let Wests in for a couple of tries that really should not have been scored. The Blues sparkled a bit in the second half. They showed the only real football skill of the dreary 80 minutes when they hurled the ball around to score the match-winning trio of tries. These final three tries provided the only relief in an otherwise cold and dreary afternoon. Some reputations suffered. Boom lock Neil Pringle did not play well, despite his try, while second-rower John Elford was particularly quiet. Gary Sullivan scored Newtown's first try and played fairly well. He now looks set to be available for the World Cup, following the breakdown in his negotiations to buy a milk-run. Wests have offered coach Don Parish another two-year term with the club. ... **(The Sun-Herald 13th August 1972)**

Notes: Wests led 15-6 at half-time and seemed in control but a string of injuries allowed Newtown to surge back into the match. Tom Raudonikis went off, replaced by Brian Winney; Stephen Satterly was replaced at half-time by Terry Mullins and John O'Bryan went off late in the match with a suspected broken jaw. At least Wests had been very competitive against a team that was still a chance of making the semi-finals..