



1961 Round 1 Saturday 15th April Henson Park



Western Suburbs 25

def.

Newtown 15

Ken BRAY
 Don PARISH
 Harry WELLS (c)
 Bill MARTIN
 Peter DIMOND
 Keith HOLMAN
 Arthur SUMMONS
 Kevin SMYTH
 Kel O'SHEA
 John HAYES
 Denis MEANEY
 Bill CARSON
 Nev CHARLTON

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

Don WILLIAMS
 Dudley TOWERS
 Graham FROST
 Ron WRIGHT
 Norm ALLEN
 Tony BROWN (c)
 John GRIFFIN
 Keith ALLEN
 Graham WILSON
 John BURLAND
 Keith HALL
 Greg ELLIS
 Brian MCGREAL



Tries Peter DIMOND (2)
 Harry WELLS (2)
 Ken BRAY
 Keith HOLMAN
 Kel O'SHEA

Kevin ALLEN
 Dudley TOWERS
 Graham WILSON

Goals Ken BRAY (2)

Don WILLIAMS (3)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: K Bray; three-quarters: D Parish, H Wells (c), W Martin, P Dimond; five-eighth: K Holman; half: A Summons; forwards: K Smyth, J Hayes, K O'Shea, D Meaney, W Carson, N Charlton

Newtown: Full-back: D Williams; three-quarters: D Towers, G Frost, R Wright, N Allen; five-eighth: A Brown (c); half: J Griffin; forwards: K Allen, G Wilson, J Burland, K Hall, G Ellis, B McGreal **Referee: L Samuelson (Sun 15th April 1961)**

Playing for most of the second half with 11 men, Western Suburbs Rugby League team rose to the occasion brilliantly to defeat Newtown 25-15. Wests led 9-5 at half-time. Wests' front-row forward Denis Meaney was sent from the field for alleged fighting early in the second half. In the same incident second-row forward John Burland was cautioned. Western Suburbs threw the ball about in brilliant style to score three tries in the first 15 minutes of play. Winger Peter Dimond scored the first try when he took a pass from lock Kevin Smyth to dive over in the corner. Second-row forward Kel O'Shea scored three minutes later. Five-eighth Keith Holman scored Wests' third try when he gathered a ball at half-way. With a change of pace, Holman ran through the Newtown forwards towards the wing, then suddenly veered infield and dived over to score. Full-back Ken Bray missed the three attempts at goal. Newtown then hit back with a brilliant try, which winger Dudley Towers scored. Just before half-time Keith Holman left the field with a probable dislocated shoulder. **(Sunday Telegraph 16th April 1961)**

Western Suburbs Rugby League side beat Newtown 25-15 yesterday in a match marked at times by very rough play. Wests gave a splendid exhibition of fast, open football. There were two sensational incidents midway through the second half which led to Wests' front-row forward Denis Meaney being sent off, and Peter Dimond being cautioned. Wests had taken play down to Newtown's goal-line when Towers gathered the ball and weaved his way right across the field to the opposing wing. Dimond made a high tackle and Towers fell to the ground. Meanwhile, play had gone back to mid-field, where the Newtown half John Griffin gained possession. Wests' forwards came in for the tackle with Denis Meaney on top. Fists flew and soon a number of forwards were throwing punches. Referee Samuelson called a halt and immediately gave Meaney his marching orders. While this was going on, linesman Hedger had gone infield and Dimond was called out for cautioning as a result of the Towers incident. Towers had four teeth knocked out. ... Wests suffered a major blow right on half-time when Holman dislocated his shoulder and was forced to retire. He was taken to hospital for treatment and stayed overnight. Holman yesterday was expected to be out of action for about a month. Holman had been playing with marked success in his new role as five-eighth, and scored a solo try soon after start of play. ... There was always more method in Wests' attacks, and there were always two or three players there to carry the ball after a tackle. ... **(The Sun-Herald 16th April 1961)**

Notes: John "Chow" Hayes came into First Grade after a stellar career already in the lower grades. Kevin Smyth (ex-Balmain), Bill Martin (from Port Macquarie) both debuted, as well as the great Don Parish on the wing. Wests had lost two good players in Darcy Russell going to Dapto and John Conna to Junee. The team that took the field was a good one however, but Denis Meaney was sent off for throwing a punch and Keith Holman had a possible dislocated shoulder and left the field before half-time. This left Wests with 11 men and they battled strongly, under the inspirational leadership of Harry Wells, to hold on in a very impressive start to the season.