



1966 Round 17 Saturday 6th August Pratten Park



Western Suburbs 10

def.

Newtown 5

Ken BRAY
 John MOWBRAY
 Peter DIMOND
 Gil MacDOUGALL
 John ELFORD
 Rob McGUINNESS
 Pat THOMAS
 Jim CODY
 Glen BROWN
 Barry BRYANT
 Denis MEANEY
 Noel THORNTON
 Noel KELLY (c)

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

Brian GRAHAM
 Dick QUINN
 Brian MOORE
 Bob KEYES
 Bob LANIGAN
 Bob CARNEGIE
 Peter NOBBS
 Les BOYLE
 Graham WILSON
 Paul CUNEO
 Bruce OLIVE
 Clarrie JEFFREYS
 Paul QUINN (c)

Tries Gil MacDOUGALL
 John MOWBRAY

Graham WILSON

Goals Ken BRAY (2)

Bob LANIGAN (1)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: K Bray; three-quarters: J Mowbray, P Dimond, G MacDougall, J Elford; five-eighth: R McGuinness; half: P Thomas; forwards: J Cody, G Brown, B Bryant, D Meaney, N Thornton, N Kelly (c)

Newtown: Full-back: B Graham; three-quarters: R Quinn, B Moore, B Keyes, R Lanigan; five-eighth: R Carnegie; half: P Nobbs; forwards: L Boyle, G Wilson, P Cuneo, B Olive, C Jeffreys, P Quinn (c) **Referee: L Samuelson (The Sun 6th August 1966)**

A hotly disputed try was blamed for Newtown's defeat by West at Pratten Park yesterday. Newtown officials claimed after the game that West's winger, John Mowbray, has sent a forward pass to team-mate Gil MacDougall, who scored late in the first half. Ken Bray, West's full-back, converted the try to give his team a 10-0 lead and the five points margin that ultimately won the game. Referee Les Samuelson was right on the spot and had no hesitation in awarding MacDougall a try. Mr Jack Carey, the Newtown secretary, said he had no doubt Mowbray's pass to MacDougall was forward. "The pass was definitely forward and as things turned out, we could have finished the game on level scores with Wests," Carey said. Mr Bill Beaver, the Wests' secretary, said in his opinion the pass was perfectly all right. "There was a Newtown player in between Mowbray and MacDougall while they were running towards the line and the ball went in front of him," Beaver said. "If the pass was forward it would have hit the Newtown player, so as far as I'm concerned the pass was good." Wests kept its semi-final hopes alive with the win and Newtown now has a real fight on its hands to make the final four. Newtown is in equal third place on the competition table with Manly, but it meets Balmain and St George in the last two rounds. Wests are now equal fourth with South Sydney, but Souths gets its chance to move ahead, when it meets Canterbury today. The Wests' players threw the game right up to Newtown from the opening whistle and it was always a rugged, bruising affair. Ken Bray put Wests in the lead after 21 minutes with a well-judged penalty, and then Wests had the upper hand for the rest of the first half. Johnny Mowbray, the winger, scored Wests' first try, 27 minutes into the first half, with a weaving run from about 20 yards that left four Newtown defenders stranded. Two minutes later, Mowbray again figured in the try scored by MacDougall, after Peter Dimond had started a movement on halfway. Dimond, in the centre, was the driving force in the Wests' backs; whenever he was in possession the Newtown defence was in trouble. Before giving the ball to Mowbray, who ultimately passed to MacDougall, Dimond had bumped off about three Newtown players. Bob Keyes and Brian Moore, Newtown's representative centre pair, were kept at bay by the hard-tackling Dimond and MacDougall. .. **(Sunday Mirror 7th August 1966)**

.....A superb two-minute burst in the first half in which Wests scored two tries gave the team its win. ... The two-minute scoring burst was one of the few bright moments in the otherwise tough, relentless, but rather colourless match. Referee Samuelson allowed far too much latitude with the five-yard play-the-ball rule. The five-yard margin shrank considerably during the match and consequently the close-marking defence prevented any consistent open play.... Bob McGuinness, Wests' late selection as five-eighth when Denis Pittard withdrew, had a good match. He varied his attack nicely, used the kick ahead several times and gave a great defensive display. **(The Sun-Herald 7th August 1966)**

Notes: This match was all about the disputed Gil MacDougall try. Newtown players and coach Dick Poole were adamant that the pass from John Mowbray to MacDougall was forward but the referee Les Samuelson was close to the action and had no doubt it was a legitimate pass. Bill Beaver, West's secretary, predictably said there was no forward pass but Wests were still the better team in a bruising affair. Denis Pittard was a late withdrawal but Bob McGuinness, his replacement, played very well. Glen Brown debuted in the second-row in place of the injured John Hayes. The win kept Wests on track for an unlikely semi-final berth.