

1941 Round 2 Saturday 26th April Cricket Ground

Eastern Suburbs 16 def. Western Suburbs 13

Fullback BILL KEATO Bruce BROWN Wing Jack WHITEHURST Centre Centre Norm PARKINSON Wing Colin FEWTRELL Five-eighth Jack GRAHAME/KNOX Half Albert McGUINESS Lock Jack HUXLEY Second Row Jim RUTHERFORD (c) Second Row Fred McKEAN Front Row Tom SLATTERY Hooker Ken LOCK Front Row Jack SCHUBACK

Tries Sel LISLE (2) Norm PARKINSON (2)
Joe PEARCE Colin FEWTRELL

Lionel PAWLEY

Doug BARTLETT

Lionel PAWLEY

Rod O'LOAN

BILL BREW

Dick DUNN

Andy NORVAL

Henry PIERCE

Don GULLIVER

John CLARKE

Ray STEHR (c)

Joe PEARCE

Fred MAY

Sel LISLE

Goals Doug BARTLETT (1) Bill KEATO (2)

Bill BREW (1)

Match Description

Eastern Suburbs: Full-back: D Bartlett; three-quarters: R O'Loan, L Pawley, W Brew, R Dunn; halves: F May, S Lisle; forwards: D Gulliver, J Clarke, R Stehr (Capt), S Pearce, H Pierce, A Norval

Western Suburbs: Full-back: W Keato; three-quarters: C Fewtrell, B Brown, N Parkinson, J Whitehurst; halves: J Grahame, A McGuiness; forwards: J Huxley, J Rutherford (capt), F McKean, T Slattery, K Lock, J Schuback Referee: J O'Brien (Rugby League News 10th May 1941)

"Two ton" Whacko. It took a blitz, by the Premier's 'two-ton' pack, staged well in the second half, to stop Western Suburbs at the Cricket Ground when Easts downed Wests 16-13. Wests took the lead shortly after play started and hung to their advantage like British Spitfires. At half-time they led by 10 to 8. It was a game of thrills and spills; and to crown the effort two tries, one by Lisle (Easts) and the other by Fewtrell (Wests) came right on full time. Wests had just kicked off after Lisle's try and the ball was gathered and shot out to Parkinson. He went like a streak in the fading light and beat the bell by a whisker. The game was chockablock with classy football. There were mistakes aplenty, but play swung from end to end of the field with such speed that errors were overshadowed. Giant Easts forwards towered above the smaller men of the Magpies' pack. They used every pound they had, and with it they coupled speed. Yet they failed to win the ball in the scrums, where Wests played a five pack. It was hard from 'go' to' whoa' and there was a constant string of minor casualties. Few lists flew but only once did the referee, J. O'Brien, caution players. Tackling by Easts' forwards and Wests' backs was deadly, and it took good football to find the gaps. The game was full of thrills. Twice men were recalled for breaches after touching down. Parkinson's first try was a gem. Wests won the ball and every man in the Maggies' back line handled. Later he made it a brace with another sterling effort. West's back line moved like a machine. Winger Brown was always in it. On the other wing Col. Fewtrell missed little. Their centres, especially Parkinson, took and gave everything. McGuinness was a star behind the pack. He took a hiding from Norval but was still in the attack at the end of the day. McKean was probably the best of the forwards. Western Suburbs fullback, W. Keato, took a pounding and tired towards full time. Twice he speculated with a group of tricolored forwards around him like a ring of savages. Luckily it came off each time. Easts would have been in a spot had it not been for their forwards. They turned the game in the tricolors' favour and held it there. (Truth 27th April 1941)

The most improved player is winger Col Fewtrell who, by the way, is showing the form that he gave promise of in 1938. The last try last Saturday certainly made him look a speedster, but he did not run 70 yards.....Jacky Grahame was very unfortunate in sustaining an injury to his knee, as it is likely to keep him out of the game for some weeks......."Schu'y" Jack Schubert was very loud in his condemnation of that ball that would not rise 3 inches for him last Saturday and so deprived him of seeing his name in front as a try-getter. Never mind Jack, there will be other opportunities. (Rugby League News 3rd May 1941)

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Notes: This was a split round played on the Friday, Anzac Day, and the Saturday. It was a thrilling game from start to finish where McGuinness again starred for Wests as well as Col Fewtrell on the wing. Norm Parkinson (from Cessnock) finally found his form and scored two exciting tries. Colin Fewtrell scored a try as the final bell sounded. Wests played a 5 man pack but Easts were the stronger pack. Jack Grahame was injured and was out for a few weeks.

