

Newtown 18 def. We

Tom KIRK Bruce RYAN William RYAN Jack DANZEY Athol STEWART Tommy NEVIN Percy WILLIAMS (c) Charles CAHILL Gordon McLENNAN Keith PHILLIPS Jim HALL George STONESTREET Frank FARRELL

Bruce RYAN (2)

Keith PHILLIPS

William RYAN

Tom KIRK (2)

Percy WILLIAMS (1)

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

Western Suburbs 14

Bill KEATO Colin FEWTRELL Norm PARKINSON Jack WHITEHURST Bruce BROWN Les MEAD Albert McGUINESS Jim RUTHERFORD (c) Fred McKEAN Tom SLATTERY Jack SCHUBACK Ken LOCK Jack PIPER

Colin FEWTRELL (2) Bruce BROWN Jack SCHUBACK

Bill KEATO (1)

Match Description

Tries

Goals

Newtown: Full-back: T Kirk; three-quarters: B Ryan, W Ryan, J Danzey, A Stewart; halves: T Nevin, P Williams (capt); forwards: C Cahill, G McLennan, K Phillips, J Hall, R Street, F Farrell

Western Suburbs: Full-back: W Keato; three-quarters: B Brown, N Parkinson, J Whitehurst, C Fewtrell; halves: L Mead, A McGuiness; forwards: J Rutherford (capt), F McKean, T Slattery, J Piper, K Lock, J Schuback Referee: P Lee (Rugby League News 17th May 1941)

One of the best crowds in recent years, about 10,000, was present when Williams kicked off, Newtown having lost the toss. McLean, who was injured last week, dropped out of the Newtown three-quarter line, Danzey taking his place. W. Ryan secured the rolling ball and gave Stewart a neat pass, but the winger was heavily tackled by two forwards. Whitehurst sent his backs into action, but Parkinson's transfer to Brown was ruled forward. Newtown came again when Williams whipped the bail to Nevin, onto B. Ryan, who was firmly held by Brown. Kirk earned applause with a grand line kick which gained 50 yards. Soon after, Williams opened the visitors' account with a goal, Newtown 2, Western Suburbs nil. Williams, W. Ryan, and B. Ryan handled in a sparkling Newtown burst, but B. Ryan was held by Parkinson. A grubber kick by Kirk took play near Wests' line, where Williams looked dangerous, but Keato relieved. Rutherford started a nice passing burst, Parkinson and Whitehurst handling before McGuiness secured. The half-back veered infield, but Kirk tackled him hard. Wests took the lead when Slattery got the rolling ball, sent to Parkinson, who whipped a pass to Fewtrell. He raced 15 yards to score in the corner. Keato missed the goal. Western Suburbs 3, Newtown 2. A pass to W. Ryan resulted in his cutting through to score in the corner. Kirk missed the goal, but Newtown led 5-3.Then came a great Western Suburbs try, when practically the whole team handled before Fewtrell, who had come across field, passed to Brown, who ran around near the posts. Keato missed an easy goal. Western Suburbs 6, Newtown 5. Within two minutes B. Ryan secured on Wests' 25 and. after a barging run, scored near the posts. Williams missed the goal. Newtown 8, Western Suburbs 6. Half-time Scores: Newtown 8, Western Suburbs 6.

Wests looked dangerous when McGuiness picked up near half-way and, after a weaving run, passed to Brown, who was downed near the line by Kirk. W. Ryan put Newtown on the attack when he cut through a bunch of Wests forwards, but his pass to Nevin was charged down by Mead, who relieved. Wests went into the lead when, after several backs had handled, Brown secured and coming to the full-back kicked towards the corner. B. Ryan and Fewtrell raced for the ball, but the bounce favoured Fewtrell who dived over in the corner, Keato goaled and Wests led 11-8. The ball went along the Newtown back line, B. Ryan taking a pass and diving over near the comer. Kirk landed a great goal and Newtown had gone into the lead, 13 to 11. Another Newtown try soon followed. Nevin, after a solid run, was held- near the line by Keato, but a transfer to Phillips, who had come up in support, ended in his scoring between the posts. Kirk goaled. Newtown 18, Wests 11. W. Ryan then thrilled the crowd with a 40 yards dash, but he was stopped by Parkinson. With a few minutes to go. Mead whipped the ball to Brown, in to Schuback, who ran over in the corner. Keato's kick failed, and Newtown led 18-14. **(The Sun 3rd May 1941)**

Notes: This match was played before a very large crowd, Wests officials suspecting it was a ground record. It was a high-level thrilling match from start to finish. Jack Piper was back after suspension but the significant comeback was the mighty Les "Mousey" Mead, who had come back as coach after being a dairy farmer on the North Coast, but had decided to pull on the boots. He didn't seem as settled at five-eighth as at his natural half position. Wests missed a try with a dropped pass and an open field with minutes remaining so they had their chance.

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