



1940 Round 5 Saturday 18th May Leichhardt Oval



Balmain 25

Hec DAY
Sid GOODWIN (c)
Tom BOURKE
Darcy KEARNEY
Frank JOHNSTON
Jim QUEALEY
John REES
Jack REDMAN
Athol SMITH
Bill JOHNSON
Dawson BUCKLEY
George WATT
Frank GRIFFITHS

def.

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

Western Suburbs 7

Bill KEATO
Bruce BROWN
Doug ROGERS
Colin FEWTRELL
Jack WHITEHURST
Jack TISDALE
Albert McGUINNESS
Max GRAY (c)
Jack PIPER
Don GULLIVER
Ken LOCK
Edward MEWTON
Stan SIMPSON



Tries

Jim QUEALEY
Darcy KEARNEY
Sid GOODWIN
Hec DAY
Tom BOURKE

Albert McGUINNESS

Goals

Jim QUEALEY (4)
Bill JOHNSON (1)

Bill KEATO (2)

Match Description

Balmain: Full-back: H Day; three-quarters: S Goodwin (capt), T Bourke, D Kearney, F Johnston; halves: J Quealey, J Rees; forwards: J Redman, A Smith, W Johnson, D Buckley, G Watt, F Griffiths

Western Suburbs: Full-back: W Keato; three-quarters: B Brown, C Fewtrell, D Rogers, J Whitehurst; halves: J Tisdale, A McGuiness; forwards: M Gray (capt), D Gulliver, J Piper, K Lock, E Mewton, S Simpson **Referee: G Bishop (Rugby League News 1st June 1940)**

Though pressed for a major part of the game, Balmain disposed of Wests easily at Leichhardt Oval, 25-7. The 'Tigers' came with a hurricane effort, and at the finish ran the 'Magpies' right off their legs. Referee Bishop called the pivot men together before the game, and what George said is nobody's business. However, the crowd, more especially the locals, failed to appreciate the continual blast of the whistle, and never ceased telling him what they thought of affairs. The first half was devoid of thrills but a great effort by Hec. Day, when he came up from the clouds to take a lightning pass from Bourke, after Rees, Quealey, and Kearney had handled, roused the crowd out of its critical mood. The locals, playing with a strong breeze led at the interval by 10 points to 7. 'Podgy' McGuinness scored West's one try in a sensational manner. The little half, who was the best player on his team, picked up the pill when Day lost possession near half-way, and after a glorious run—in which he took the shortest route—calmly placed the ball under the bar. He was given a great reception. The second half provided dour football; both sides watched the other, like the cat and the mouse, with a result that passing moves were rare. However, with 15 minutes to go, Quealey broke loose and lifted the game out of the doldrums. Balmain scored 10 points in three minutes—Quealey was responsible for seven of them. When Athol Smith (B.) caught the ball from a half-way kick, evaded player after player, then sent on to Quealey, the crowd cheered the little five-eighth as he cleverly fooled his way over the line. Shortly after, these two were again prominent in a stirring move, sending Kearney over the line. The forwards of both teams were 'spotting' far too much and this feature, no doubt, accounted for the many penalties. Had Keato had his kicking boots on, there might have been another story. Rees, playing his initial first-grade match, did well behind the pack and tried hard to get his backs moving. Quealey was the best player on the field; he pierced the defence again and again. Tisdale, his vis-a-vis, was outclassed. Other backs to show out for the winners were Kearney and Bourke. ... Wests' best were McGuiness and Whitehurst (backs), while Mewton stood out in the forwards. Gulliver and Lock were also prominent in the heavy work. (**Truth 19th May 1940**)

Balmain displayed improved form to beat Western Suburbs by 25 to 7 at Leichhardt. The first half was marred by an unusual number of penalties mainly from scrum infringements. Keato landed a penalty goal for West after many attempts and McGuiness scored a grand try when Day, Balmain's full back, lost possession near half-way. Day however was the outstanding player in this half and besides kicking with rare judgment scoring a try. Racing through at his stop he gathered a pass and then employed a clever change of pace. At half-time Balmain led 10-7. Neither side could get moving on resuming and forward work predominated until towards the end when Balmain was in the ascendancy. ... The losers' best were McGuiness half-back, Gulliver, Mewton and Lock forwards. (**The Sydney Morning Herald 20th May 1940**)

Notes: In an unusual move, the referee pulled out both hookers before the match and gave them a stern warning. Balmain played with a strong breeze in the first half and led 10-7 at half-time. McGuiness was the best player for Wests, while Ted Mewton was the best forward. Bill Keato missed many shots at goal and the match turned into a forward struggle in the second half where Balmain gradually got on top.