



## 1959 Round 1 Saturday 28th March Sports Ground



### St George 18

Brian GRAHAM  
 Brian MESSITER  
 Ray SMITH  
 Johnny RILEY  
 Eddie LUMSDEN  
 Brian CLAY  
 Bobby BUGDEN  
 Peter PROVAN  
 Norm PROVAN  
 Monty PORTER  
 Billy WILSON  
 Ken KEARNEY (c)  
 Kevin BROWN

def.

### Western Suburbs 17

Darcy RUSSELL (c)  
 Ian MOIR  
 Bill BROWN  
 Peter DIMOND  
 Bernie KELLY  
 Darcy HENRY  
 Keith HOLMAN  
 Jack BOWMAN  
 Kel O'SHEA  
 Bill CARSON  
 Mark PATCH  
 Bede GOFF  
 Nev CHARLTON



#### Tries

Johnny RILEY  
 Norm PROVAN  
 Monty PORTER  
 Brian MESSITER

Peter DIMOND

#### Goals

Eddie LUMSDEN (3)

Darcy RUSSELL (7)

#### Match Description

**Western Suburbs:** Full-back: D Russell (c); three-quarters: I Moir, W Brown, P Dimond, B Kelly; five-eighth: D Henry; half: K Holman; forwards: J Bowman, K O'Shea, W Carson, M Patch, B Goff, N Charlton

**St George:** Full-back: B Graham; three-quarters: E Lumsden, R Smith, J Riley, B Messiter; five-eighth: B Clay; half: B Bugden; forwards: P Provan, N Provan, M Porter, W Wilson, K Kearney (c), K Brown **Referee: C Pearce (The Sun 28th March 1959)**

A last-minute blunder by Western Suburbs Rugby League Test star Peter Dimond yesterday allowed St George to escape with a lucky 18-17 win at Sydney Sports Ground. Dimond, playing as a centre, kicked the ball as a sure try was coming up for Wests. Five minutes earlier, St George had been in a perilous position. It was down 13-17. Big Test forward Norm Provan rescued St George from that situation with a try, which winger Eddie Lumsden converted. Wests hit back. It was in this late sortie that Dimond made his costly blunder. Wests' half-back Keith Holman started the drive 30 yards from St George's line. He fired the ball to five-eighth Darcy Henry, who sent it on to Dimond. Dimond shot towards the left corner with winger Ian Moir speeding down the flank in support. Big winger Ed Lumsden was St George's only remaining defender. And he was between Dimond and Moir. Dimond unexpectedly stab-kicked towards the corner. St George full-back Brian Graham, who had moved across smartly to cover, dived on the rolling ball. The roars of the Wests' supporters became groans. In the dressing-room later Dimond, still gasping from the effects of a heavy blow in the stomach he suffered a few seconds after his blunder, said: "I thought Lumsden had Moir covered." Moir said he would have scored had he got the ball. Lumsden himself said; "Dimond would have scored himself if he had not kicked. I could not have reached him. I couldn't believe my eyes when he kicked." St George deserved its win despite the lucky break. It scored four tries to one. Wests seldom looked like breaking down the solid St George defence. Full-back Darcy Russell kept Wests in the game with magnificent goal-kicking. He landed seven goals from eight attempts. Wests were a battered team at the finish. Front-rower Nev Charlton played from midway through the first half with a bruised shoulder which is almost sure to keep him out of tomorrow's match. Lock Buddy Bowman suffered a deep cut over his left eye late in the match. A doctor later inserted a stitch in the wound. ... Wests will be a much better team when Test stars Dicky Poole and Harry Wells come into the centre. Wests yesterday badly lacked a penetrating inside-back, and winger Moir seldom touched the ball. Half-back Holman was far below his best. Many experts said that he was "over the hill." This criticism is probably premature. Holman yesterday certainly lacked the speed to capitalise on gaps that a couple of years ago he would have been through like a bullet. But his kicks to the open spaces and general-ship at the scrum-base still are incomparable. **(The Sunday Telegraph 29th March 1959)**

**Notes:** Harry Wells was a late withdrawal with a damaged nerve in a bruised shoulder. Dick Poole was not yet available for selection as he was not residentially qualified. With new recruit, Test winger Ian Moir, Wests had a potentially lethal backline. Most reports showed that Wests would have won the game except for a blunder by Peter Dimond late in the game when he kicked instead of scoring himself or setting up Moir. Darcy Russell continued his fine kicking from 1958 when he kicked seven goals. Keith Holman played with a heavy cold and was below his best. Bede Goff won the scrums 18-10 against Test hooker Ken Kearney while Darcy Henry was potent in attack. There was some dispute over whether Jack Bowman or Peter Dimond scored Wests' only try but both the Sun-Herald and Rugby League News with its official results give the try to Dimond.