



1970 Round 1 Monday 30th March Lidcombe Oval



Parramatta 24

Bland LILES
 Malcolm MOSS
 Barry RUSHWORTH
 Ron GRAHAM
 Dave IRVINE
 John WILSON
 Ivor LINGARD
 Keith CAMPBELL
 Ron LYNCH (c)
 Denis FITZGERALD
 Barry LEANEY
 John McMARTIN
 Bob O'REILLY

def.

Western Suburbs 21

Tony FORD
 John FISHER
 Wayne MERRY
 John ELFORD
 Peter FLANDERS
 Tom RAUDONIKIS
 John MAXWELL
 Rod SMITH
 John BAKER
 Barry BRYANT
 Steve WINTER
 Ken STONESTREET (c)
 Tony ANTUNAC
 John WALSH



Tries

Ron GRAHAM
 Bland LILES
 Bob O'REILLY
 Barry RUSHWORTH

Ken STONESTREET
 Rod SMITH
 Tom RAUDONIKIS

Goals

Keith CAMPBELL (6)

Tony FORD (6)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: T Ford; three-quarters: J Fisher, W Merry, J Elford, P Flanders; five-eighth: T Raudonikis; half: J Maxwell; forwards: R Smith, J Baker, B Bryant, S Winter, K Stonestreet (c), T Antanuc

Parramatta: Full-back: B Liles; three-quarters: M Moss, B Rushworth, R Graham, D Irvine; five-eighth: J Wilson; half: I Lingard; forwards: K Campbell, D Fitzgerald, R Lynch (c), B Leaney, J McMartin, R O'Reilly **Referee: L Samuelson (Rugby League Week 4th April 1970)**

Parramatta, despite several lapses, defeated Western Suburbs 24-21 in a Rugby League match at Lidcombe Oval yesterday. The lapses allowed Wests to get back into the match. Parramatta led 12-2, 10 minutes before half-time after tries by centre Ron Graham and front-rower Bob O'Reilly. Then, in one of Parramatta's lapses, Wests scored two converted tries in two minutes. First lock Rod Smith scrambled across the line after a five-yard scrum. Then hooker Ken Stonestreet sold the defence a dummy and crossed near the posts. This burst stirred Parramatta and centre Barry Rushworth scored a try near half-time to regain the lead. The defence from both teams was thin in the first half as the 17-14 half-time score indicates. Scoring slowed in the second half, but both teams continued to play attacking football. Wests five-eighth Tom Raudonikis was the best player on the field. He capped a great game with a fine individual try in the second half. Raudonikis, who transferred to Wests from Wagga last season, tackled strongly and was constantly on the alert for openings. ... A penalty goal by Campbell a minute from full-time sealed the match for Parramatta. **(Daily Telegraph 31st March 1970)**

Parramatta certainly deserved the match-of-the-day after a grand game with Wests at Lidcombe Oval yesterday. The score see-sawed, some outstanding tries were scored, and every one of the 8,550 fans went away happy. Referee Les Samuelson intelligently handled a flowing game in which seven tries were scored. Parramatta's new \$3,000 buy from New Zealand, full-back Bland Liles, scored a great try to snatch victory in the dying minutes. Liles handled the ball three times in a 70-yard movement in which he was knocked to the ground twice. But he rose to his feet each time and backed-up to half-run, half-stumble to touch down in the corner as the defence made a desperate lunge to stop him. At one stage Parramatta led 12-2 and appeared certain to over-run the flimsy Wests' defence. And before you could say "Jack Robinson" Wests had two tries on the board and were leading 14-12. The score then fluctuated - Parramatta 17-14, Wests 21-17. Liles' converted try 10 minutes from the end was the "sealer" but, on the bell, Keith Campbell kicked another goal for good measure. Parramatta have "discovered" two backs who will be their trumps this season. Liles is one and centre Ron Graham, who has finally been allowed to show his worth, the other. Graham showed how good a footballer he is by scoring the first try in a 40-yard dash, then setting up a try for his centre partner Barry Rushworth with another bumping run. Wests played bright football too, their best players being non-stop five-eighth Tom Raudonikis and his young inside partner, half John Maxwell. **(Sydney Morning Herald 31st March 1970)**

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Notes: Tony Antunac (transfer from Manly) made his debut while Wayne Merry came in for the injured Roy Ferguson. In a very fast, flowing game Tom Raudonikis highlighted his Representative potential with a best-on-field performance. Both kickers landed six goals in an accurate goal-kicking display. The game was unusual in this era since there were no field goal attempts. A late try by NZ import Bland Liles for Parramatta sealed the game in a very tight first round match.