

def.

St George 27

Tony QUIRK Paul MILLS Roy FERGUSON Robert FINCH John CHAPMAN Barry HULBERT Billy SMITH (c) Stephen HURWORTH Barry BEATH Rod REDDY Henry TATANA Stephen EDGE Russell COX Fullback Wing Centre Centre Wing Five-eighth Half Lock Second Row Second Row Front Row Hooker Front Row Replacement Replacement John DORAHY Ron GITEAU Stephen KNIGHT Robbie PARKER Russell MULLINS Ken HEY Geoff SMITH Chris WELLMAN Mick LIUBINSKAS Geoff FOSTER John DONNELLY Shane DAY

Jim MURPHY (c)

John HEYWARD

Trevor SCARR

Ron GITEAU

Ken HEY

Western Suburbs 20





Tries

Goals

Roy FERGUSON (2) Barry HULBERT Rod REDDY Henry TATANA

Henry TATANA (6)

John DORAHY (4)

Mick LIUBINSKAS

Chris WELLMAN

Match Description Western Suburbs: Full-back: J Dorahy; three-quarters: R Giteau, S Knight, R Parker, R Mullins; five-eighth: K Hey; half: G Smith; forwards: C Wellman, M Liubinskas, G Foster, J Donnelly, S Day, J Murphy (c)

St George: Full-back: T Quirk; three-quarters: P Mills, R Ferguson, R Finch, J Chapman; five-eighth: B Hulbert; half: W Smith (c); forwards: S Hurworth, B Beath, R Reddy, H Tatana, S Edge, R Cox Referee: G Cook (Rugby League Week 31st May 1975)

St George showed the vast gulf between a team of Rugby League tradesmen and a team of apprentices yesterday when they toppled Western Suburbs 27-10 at Kogarah Oval. ... The pressure Wests were able to muster in the second half was too often nullified by their own mistakes in handling and passing. "I should give each of them a football to take home so they can realise the value of possession," said a disappointed Wests' coach Don Parish after the game. Parish had reason to be disappointed after watching his team recover from being down 19-5 to trail only five points, 22-17 with ten minutes to go. Wests certainly mounted enough pressure and had enough chances to snatch a win during the exciting second half. But dangerous-looking attacks often broke down at critical times with mishandling or because of a wild pass. A classic example came after they had reduced Saints' lead to five points and stormed back into the attack with full-back John Dorahy making a scintillating 40 metre run. For some reason best known to himself, Dorahy, when he was finally tackled, hurled a long pass infield and it was gratefully dived on by a St George player about 20 metres from the St George line. And Saints ended up a couple of minutes later scoring at the other end to wrap up the result. Prop John Donnelly was one of the main offenders with his handling, failing to take a half dozen passes, although his strong defence saved him until five minutes from the finish. Parish replaced him and Wests played out the last desperate minutes with a centre, John Heyward, packing down as lock. But that wasn't the worst of it. Superb breaks by Wellman and hooker Shane Day "up the centre" and Robbie Parker wide out, yielded nothing as Wests worked to get back into the game. ... Wests gave their supporters their first glimpse of hope midway through the second half when second-rower Geoff Foster slipped the ball to five-eighth Ken Hey who squeezed between two Saints' defenders to dive over. Dorahy converted and Saints led 12-5 but shot away to 19-5 after another penalty from Tatana, then a converted try by Reddy. Wests scored seven points in the last 10 minutes to keep Saints within their sights. Winger Ron Giteau scored after Saints new full-back Tony Quirk had spilled a high up-and-under close to his line. Wests quickly let St George know they were in for a tough battle in the second half. In one burst, Knight was actually over the line but was pushed back by the combined weight of three Saints' defenders. Ferguson and Reddy made good runs and from dummy half Tatana thrashed his way over and Saints led 22-14. Three tries were scored in the last 10 minutes, two by Wests and one by Saints, with Wests reducing the lead to 22-17 after Foster slipped a pass to Liubinskas who dived over. .. (The Sun-Herald 25th May 1975)

Notes: Wests had another reshuffled team for this game, with Foster and Liubinskas back and Jim Murphy moving to the front row. Although Geoff Smith had a good game, it was obvious that Wests were still missing Tom Raudonikis badly. Down 19-5, they fought their way back to 17-22 with 10 minutes left but poor handling let them down when tries seemed on offer. Roy Ferguson, as he often did, had a blinder against his old club.

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