



1989 Round 11 Sunday 4th June Orana Park



Western Suburbs 12

drew with

Gold Coast 12

Brett DOCHERTY
 Wayne SIMONDS
 Garry SCHOFIELD
 Jason STAFFORD
 Graham MACKAY
 Ellery HANLEY (c)
 Trevor COGGER
 Brendon TUUTA
 Cameron BLAIR
 Dave GALLAGHER
 Dave WOODS
 Alan FALLAH
 Kelvin SKERRETT
 Gary BUKOWSKI
 Danny PEACOCK
 Stuart RAPER

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

Terry DANDENGO
 Ben GONZALES
 Ron GIBBS
 Peter BENSON
 Scott MIENI
 Graham STEADMAN
 Mark GEE
 Bob LINDNER (c)
 Chris CLOSE
 Greg WHITBREAD
 Jim COWELL
 Billy JOHNSTONE
 Peter SMITH
 Joe VITANZA
 Michael SEARLE
 David CHAPMAN
 Geoff BAGNALL

Tries Wayne SIMONDS

Graham STEADMAN
Ben GONZALES

Goals Graham MACKAY (4)

Peter BENSON (2)

Match Description

Gold Coast: Full-back: T Dardengo; three-quarters: B Gonzales, R Gibbs, P Benson, S Mieni; five-eighth: G Steadman; half: M Gee; forwards: R Lindner (c), C Close, G Whitbread, J Cowell, B Johnstone, P Smith

Western Suburbs: Full-back: B Docherty; three-quarters: G Mackay, G Schofield, J Stafford, W Simonds; five-eighth: E Hanley (c); half: T Cogger; forwards: B Tuuta, C Blair, D Gallagher, D Woods, A Fallah, K Skerrett **Referee: N Almond (Rugby League Week 7th June 1989)**

A try by five-eighth Graham Steadman two minutes from full-time enabled the Gold Coast to snatch a draw with Western Suburbs in the swimming carnival disguised as a Rugby League match at Orana Park yesterday. The game was played in pouring rain on a field under 5cm of water. Steadman, 27, an off-season recruit from Featherstone Rovers, was playing his first full first-grade game for the Giants and played down his contribution by saying it was a lucky try. "We had three or four chasers when Mark Gee put up the bomb and the ball came off the full-back's shoulders onto my arms and I put it down," he said. "I was fortunate." Centre Peter Benson converted the try to level the scores. The Giants deserved to at least share the points after the Magpies had scored a controversial try seven minutes from half-time. From the centre of the field, Wests' winger Wayne Simonds scooped up the ball dropped in the Gold Coast backline and galloped through the slush to score in the corner. Gold Coast prop Jim Cowell was cautioned for a late tackle on Simonds. Immediately after, Wests' winger Graham Mackay steered the difficult conversion over the bar, the referee moved to the centre of the goalposts and awarded Wests a further penalty. Mackay had no difficulty in landing the extra goal and in a twinkling the Magpies had turned a 4-0 deficit into an 8-4 half-time lead. For Wests it was their consecutive narrow miss since the side was bolstered by expensive English imports Ellery Hanley, Garry Schofield and Kelvin Skerrett. Hanley, who contributed very little to yesterday's effort, said the conditions he has faced since joining the club have been against him. "I am a dry-weather player," he said. Gold Coast started the match disastrously when they lost prop Peter Smith with a broken leg after only four minutes. However, his replacement, Geoff Bagnall, who moved into half-back, was instrumental in their opening try. Bagnall split the defence and galloped 50m upfield before being dragged down from behind by Hanley 10m out. During the first half Chris Close from Gold Coast and Alan Fallah from Wests spent 10 minutes in the sin-bin for fighting, after the match erupted into an all-in brawl in the 23rd minute. **(Sydney Morning Herald 5th June 1989)**

Notes: This match was played on an absolute bog and most probably should have been postponed. Two inches of water covered the entire field, but remarkably the football was quite good quality. Wayne Simonds was awarded an eight point try and there was also an all-in brawl for good measure. Gold Coast forced a draw with a converted try in the last two minutes. Ellery Hanley showed his versatility with 29 punishing tackles.