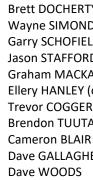
## 1989 Round 11 Sunday 4th June Orana Park

## 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 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 GFF Bob LINDNER (c) Chris CLOSE **Greg WHITBREAD** 

Jim COWELL **Billy JOHNSTONE** Peter SMITH Joe VITANZA Michael SEARLE David CHAPMAN Geoff BAGNALL

Wayne SIMONDS **Graham STEADMAN** Ben GONZALES

Peter BENSON (2) Goals Graham MACKAY (4)

## **Match Description**

Tries

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 fullback'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 dryweather 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 form 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.

