1975 Round 12 Sunday 8th June Cumberland Oval

Western Suburbs 23

def.

Parramatta 19





John DORAHY
Trevor SCARR
John HEYWARD
Robbie PARKER
Russell MULLINS
Tim MURPHY
Tom RAUDONIKIS (c)
Chris WELLMAN
Jim MURPHY
Geoff FOSTER
Pat HUNDY
Shane DAY
John DONNELLY
Ron GITEAU

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

Jim PORTER
Mal McMARTIN
Eddie SULKOWICZ
Ollie PRATTL
Dave COTTER
Denis PITTARD
Terry REYNOLDS
John BAKER (c)
Ray HIGGS
Denis FITZGERALD
Steve WILLIAMS
John McMARTIN

Bob O'REILLY

Tries

Russell MULLINS (2)
John DORAHY

Steve WILLIAMS (2)
Denis PITTARD

Goals

John DORAHY (7)

Dave COTTER (3)
Denis PITTARD (2)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: J Dorahy; three-quarters: T Scarr, J Heyward, R Parker, R Mullins; five-eighth: T Murphy; half: T Raudonikis (c); forwards: C Wellman, J Murphy, G Foster, J Donnelly, S Day, P Hundy

Parramatta: Full-back: J Porter; three-quarters: M McMartin, O Prattl, E Sulkowicz, D Cotter; five-eighth: D Pittard; half: T Reynolds; forwards: J Baker (c), R Higgs, D Fitzgerald, S Williams, J McMartin, R O'Reilly Referee: D Braybrook (Daily Telegraph 14th June 1975)

Wests' coach Don Parish wants his full-back star John Dorahy to end his travelling days. Dorahy covers more miles in a week than the Flying Doctor, travelling from his home in Wollongong to Lidcombe for training and matches. Parish claims his football will improve if he settles in Sydney. It would be hard to convince Cumberland Oval fans that he could better his brilliant match-winning performance yesterday. Dorahy scored 17 points in Wests' well-earned 23-19 win over Parramatta. He was easily the best player on the field and at times embarrassed his opposition with his classy play. Parish claims Dorahy is the best full-back in Australia. "He's freakish and is getting better all the time – I wish he would give himself the chance of going all the way by eliminating his travel each week," Parish said. Wests have the side to repeat last season's barn-storming run to the semi-finals. The Magpies never looked like being beaten yesterday and had Parramatta's measure all the way. Four early scrum wins by Shane Day saw two brilliant tries up the blind-side – the first when Dorahy split the defence and the second when Tom Raudonikis and Chris Wellman worked a simple half to lock move close to the Eels' line. Lanky winger Russ Mullins was well-positioned both times to score. Both sides scored three tries and Parramatta, while outplayed, never gave up. Props Bob O'Reilly and Steve Williams toiled hard, with big Williams scoring two tries and showing heaps of natural ability. The match was tough and referee Braybrook found the pressure a bit too much in his first full game in the top grade. (The Sun 9th June 1975)

Western Suburbs full-back John Dorahy yesterday turned in another dazzler to get the Magpies into the Rugby League top five for the first time this year. Dorahy mesmerised Parramatta at Cumberland Oval in Wests' 23-19 win. Dorahy contributed 17 of the 23 points, scoring one try and brilliantly setting up another. His 17-point tally rushed Dorahy past Manly's Graham Eadie and into the lead as the season's top points scorer. Dorahy has scored 120 points in the 12 rounds to Eadie's 116. Afterwards, "Joe Cool" scooped the pool in the man-of-the-match awards – and rightly so. His class, great goal-kicking and brilliant running put him head and shoulders over anyone else on the field in a tough, but untidy match. Cheers resounded around Wests' room afterwards when news of Newtown's win filtered through........ The game was Wests' almost all the way. They played with more purpose, moved up quicker in defence and hung on to the ball much better than Parramatta. Dorahy triggered them off early with a fleet-footed burst on the blind-side of a scrum which brought a try for Russell Mullins. (Daily Telegraph 9th June 1975)

Notes: John Dorahy was again the star in a brutal tackling Wests' performance where they blotted out many Parramatta moves. Early scrum wins by Shane Day allowed Wests to score two brilliant blind-side tries by Mullins, one a superb set-up, after a break by Dorahy. Robbie Parker blew a try after dropping the ball in a one-handed put-down. Tom Raudonikis rose to the occasion in front of the Australian selectors with another dominant performance.