



1967 Round 13 Sunday 18th June Sydney Sports Ground



St George 15

Dennis PRESTON
 Stan GORTON
 Graeme LANGLANDS
 Reg GASNIER
 Johnny KING
 George EVANS
 Billy SMITH
 Johnny RAPER
 Dick HUDDARDT
 Elton RASMUSSEN
 Ian WALSH (c)
 Graeme SIMMONS
 Barry BEATH

def.

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

Western Suburbs 9

Dave BARSLEY
 John MOWBRAY
 Peter DIMOND
 Roy FERGUSON
 John ELFORD
 Denis PITTARD
 Ross GOODMAN
 Barry BRYANT
 Jim CODY
 John ARMSTRONG
 Doug WALKADEN
 Ken STONESTREET
 Noel KELLY (c)



Tries

Billy SMITH
 Stan GORTON
 Graeme LANGLANDS

Denis PITTARD

Goals

Dennis PRESTON (3)

Dave BARSLEY (3)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: D Barsley; three-quarters: J Mowbray, P Dimond, R Ferguson, J Elford; five-eighth: D Pittard; half: R Goodman; forwards: B Bryant, J Cody, J Armstrong, D Walkaden, K Stonestreet, N Kelly (c)

St George: Full-back: D Preston; three-quarters: S Gorton, R Gasnier, G Langlands, J King; five-eighth: G Evans; half: W Smith; forwards: J Raper, E Rasmussen, R Huddardt, I Walsh (c), G Simmons, B Beath **Referee: L Bruyeres (as per program Rugby League News 17th. 18th June 1967 + newspaper validation).**

St George shot to the Rugby League competition lead with a convincing 15-9 win over Western Suburbs at the Sports Ground yesterday. In the vile conditions Saints scored three tries to Wests' one, which was registered early in play. Saints' left winger Johnny King was disappointed when ruled off-side by referee Laurie Bruyeres as he received a pass from Johnny Raper and so was recalled after crossing the goal-line in the first half. This was the seventh such incident in which King has been involved this season. The winners were the more decisive with the ball and combined more purposefully. Their rise to the top of the points ladder follows progressive improvement on the uncertainty of the early rounds. All things considered, it was a good game and Wests, with a determined effort in the slush, shared in the honours. There was a good deal of mishandling – often the heavy, greasy ball was jolted out of the hands of the man who had been tackled – and many scrums resulted. The Sports Ground arena was as bad as I have seen it. The mucky area extended from one 25 yard line to the other. This used to be our best wet weather ground! ... Simmons won the first half scrums 10-3. Noel Kelly moved to counter Walsh's efforts in the scrums later and Wests Ken Stonestreet led 9-4 into the second-half. But after full-back Dennis Preston had beautifully converted Saints' third try, 12 minutes before the end to give them a six-point lead, Wests weakened and Saints won several scrums. Simmons led 18-11 for the match. Even in the slime, St George's extra "class" was apparent, especially with Reg Gasnier, Billy Smith and Johnny Raper. One of the outstanding efforts, however, was that of West's five-eighth Denis Pittard, 21. Big second-rower Elton Rasmussen is usually good in the heavy going and he had a strong game for Saints. Prop Barry Beath worked well and Raper was the consistent tackler. Preston shaped well again and he and opposing full-back Dave Barsley, who recovered from early mistakes in catching, each landed three goals from four attempts. Half-back Ross Goodman had his best game for Wests. Second-rower John Armstrong had a very good first half; lock Barry Bryant combined well with his halves. Bryant served Pittard with a pass after seven minutes' play, and Pittard, though tackled by Raper at the goal-line, twisted over and touched down. Wests led 5-nil; but St George were 10-7 by half-time. After a scrum burst by Gasnier, Raper sent to Smith from a ruck, and the half-back went fast through a bunch of defenders to score near the left wing. Later, when Beath had been flattened, the penalty against Peter Dimond took Saints into an attacking position. There, from a scrum, Gasnier cut through superbly and sent Graeme Langlands in for a try. Half-back Goodman was held up over Saints' line in the second half, and the only try in that term came when Beath and Huddart combined in close work and right winger Stan Gorton scored. **(Sydney Morning Herald 19th June 1967)**

Notes: Wests were right in this match until the last 10 minutes. Played on a boggy, slippery ground, the match wasn't much of a spectacle and turned into a forward slog, although the brilliance of Gasnier and Langlands was a key factor. Ross Goodman and John Armstrong both had very strong games under the conditions.