



1978 Round 13 Sunday 18th June Kogarah Oval



St George 21

def.

Western Suburbs 11

Steve BUTLER
Mitch BRENNAN
Graham QUINN
Ted GOODWIN
Michael SORRIDINI
Tony TRUDGETT
Ken KEARNEY
Grahame BUCKLEY
John JANSEN
Rod REDDY
Craig YOUNG
Steve EDGE (c)
Robert STONE

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

John DORAHY (c)
Don MOSELEY
Ron GITEAU
Wayne SMITH
Buddy CAIN
Peter ROWLES
Alan NEIL
Graeme O'GRADY
Steve BLYTH
Trevor REARDON
John DONNELLY
Shane DAY
Bruce GIBBS



Tries Tony TRUDGETT
 Rod REDDY
 Mitch BRENNAN

Alan NEIL

Goals Ted GOODWIN (5)
 Ken KEARNEY (1)

Peter ROWLES (4)

Match Description

St George: Full-back: S Butler; three-quarters: M Brennan, G Quinn, T Goodwin, M Sorridini; five-eighth: T Trudgett; half: K Kearney; forwards: G Buckley, J Jansen, R Reddy, R Stone, S Edge (c), C Young

Western Suburbs: Full-back: J Dorahy (c); three-quarters: D Moseley, R Giteau, W Smith, E Cain; five-eighth: P Rowles; half: A Neil; forwards: G O'Grady, T Reardon, S Blyth, J Donnelly, S Day, B Gibbs **Referee: J Danzey (Rugby League Week 24th June 1978)**

Test man Rod "Rocket" Reddy yesterday produced another rip-roaring second half as Rugby League premiers St George beat competition leaders Wests. Saints came sailing home on a flood of second-half possession to wear down Western Suburbs 21-11 at Kogarah. Reddy capped a devastating second 40 minutes with a classic solo try down the right touchline. Wests foundered on a heavyweight penalty and scrum count against them in the second half. Just before half-time the Magpies led 11-4. But the match turned dramatically 60 seconds from the break when Reddy sent five-eighth Tony Trudgett over for a vital try. In the second half, Wests simply ran out of ball. Referee Jack Danzey hammered them for a variety of offences, leading to a penalty count of 12-2 in the second half. Steve Edge won the ball 7-3 after the break – so Saints had enough possession to win a handful of games. They made no mistake – dominating the second half and keeping alive the St George dream of another premiership in 1978. A glance at the ladder shows that Saints are still back equal seventh – four points off fifth spot. But they are starting to look like an irresistible force after their effort of the past six weeks. Since May 13 Saints have beaten Penrith 26-9, drawn with Newtown 6-6, beaten Canterbury 25-15. Balmain 45-14, Manly 22-13 and Wests 21-11 – a total of 145 points for and 68 against. In most of the games they have powered home in the second half after struggling early. By the 35th minute mark Wests had got to 11-4, through four goals from Peter Rowles and a nice try from a set piece scored by Alan Neil and created by forwards Gibbs and Reardon. St George had "blown" their only real chance in the first half when winger Mitch Brennan paid the penalty for trying to improve his position behind the tryline – and had the ball knocked from his grasp. Later, Brennan was to redeem himself to some extent with a good second-half try, set up Graham Quinn. Wests failed to protect their 11-4 lead, and the Trudgett try just before half-time was a tremendously important one. Still, things looked pretty good for the Magpies, who had the prospect of a strong following breeze in the second half. But for 40 minutes Wests hardly got a scent of the ball. There were mutterings afterwards about the penalty count which was 5-3 Wests' way in the first half and 2-12 against them in the second. The big games came from Reddy, Graham Quinn, Ken Kearney and Stephen Butler. Wests stuck on doggedly, hitting hard in the forwards where big Bruce Gibbs made an occasional exciting charge up midfield. **(Daily Telegraph 19th June 1978)**

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Notes: Shane Day's ear was nearly torn off in an ugly stomping incident but to the chagrin of Wests' players only a penalty was awarded. Wests led 11-9 at half-time but they battled the entire second half against a heavy scrum and penalty count. Graeme O'Grady, for instance, made 7 tackles in the first half and 22 in the second. Bruce Gibbs was also a tower of strength as Wests battled to contain the St George attack. It was obvious that Wests missed the influence of Raudonikis around the rucks.