



1977 Round 16 Sunday 10th July Lidcombe Oval



Penrith 14

Kevin DANN
 Terry QUINN
 Brian HENDERSON
 Glenn WEST
 John RYAN
 Ken WILSON
 Terry WICKEY
 Zac OLEJARNIK
 Paul MERLO
 John KING
 Ross CALE
 Mike STEPHENSON (c)
 Tim SHEENS
 Ross GIGG
 Brad WAUGH

def.

Western Suburbs 2

John DORAHY
 Peter ROWLES
 Ron GITEAU
 Gavin MILLER
 Wayne SMITH
 Ken HEY
 Tom RAUDONIKIS (c)
 Graeme O'GRADY
 Steve BLYTH
 Mick LIUBINSKAS
 John DONNELLY
 Shane DAY
 Peter YOUNG
 Bob COOPER
 Les BOYD



Tries

Kevin DANN
 Paul MERLO

Goals

Ken WILSON (4)

John DORAHY (1)

Match Description

Penrith: Full-back: K Dann; three-quarters: T Quinn, B Henderson, G West, J Ryan; five-eighth: K Wilson; half: T Wickey; forwards: Z Olejarnik, P Merlo, J King, R Cale, M Stephenson (c), T Sheens

Western Suburbs: Full-back: J Dorahy; three-quarters: W Smith, R Giteau, G Miller, P Rowles; five-eighth: K Hey; half: T Raudonikis (c); forwards: G O'Grady, M Liubinskas, S Blyth, J Donnelly, S Day, P Young **Referee: K Roberts (Rugby League Week 16th July 1977)**

Penrith coach Don Parish yesterday gained sweet revenge when his Panthers steam-rolled a butter-fingered Western Suburbs unit 14-2 at Lidcombe Oval. Parish, who joined Penrith after an unhappy time with Wests, was most impressed with his team's performance. For the second week in succession the Panthers kept their line intact. For Wests, it was the second premiership match in a row in which they have been unable to score a try. Wests' ball-handling was woeful and the Panthers thankfully dived on everything that fell loose. Magpie hooker Shane Day won his side a glut of possession but the backline continually threw bad passes and lost the ball. Most of the first half was spent deep in Penrith's territory but the Magpies bombed at least half a dozen tries with poor handling. Ken Wilson opened the visitors' account in the eighth minute after a Wests' defender was penalised for a late tackle on winger Terry Quinn. Shortly afterwards captain Mick Stephenson made a short break before unloading to prop Tim Sheens who sent a reverse pass to Kevin Dann who side-stepped his way over under the posts. Wilson added the extras and Penrith dashed to a 7-nil lead. For Wests, the second half was the same as the first, and they spilled ball after ball. Second-rower Paul Merlo crossed for a well-earned try late in the half. He took the final pass in a quick backline movement to cap off a great game. Magpie captain Tom Raudonikis, who took the field with his ribs heavily bandaged, turned in yet another sterling effort. The tough little half-back was held up over the line in the dying moments. **(Daily Telegraph 11th July 1977)**

A try by second-rower Paul Merlo five minutes from full-time clinched a well-deserved 14-2 win for Penrith over Western Suburbs in the Rugby League match at Lidcombe Oval yesterday. Western Suburbs hooker Shane Day won the second-half scrums 7-3 but Penrith's excellent defence held the Magpies out. With time running out and Penrith leading 9-2, Merlo joined in as the ball swept along the backline and scored near the posts. Wests looked flat after their 27-7 win over St George in the Amco Cup quarter-final last Wednesday night. Several times their wingers dropped the ball on the first or second tackle..... Both teams are still in the Amco Cup but on yesterday's form Wests would have little chance against Penrith. The match produced one moment of sparkling football when Penrith prop Tim Sheens put full-back Kevin Dann over for the first try of the game after 13 minutes. Sheens propped just inside the quarter and slipped a beautiful pass to Dann who side-stepped one player then swerved neatly around full-back John Dorahy to touch down under the posts. **(Sydney Morning Herald 11th July 1977)**

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Notes: In a very spiteful game, Wests simply gave away silly penalties and dropped too many balls to be competitive. Wests were coming off a mid-week Amco Cup win over St George 27-7 and seemed to have their minds on that rather than the Premiership. Shane Day won the scrums 12-7 and Tom Raudonikis again demonstrated his courage, playing with heavily strapped ribs.