



# 1977 Round 17 Sunday 17th July Cumberland Oval



## Parramatta 33

def.

## Western Suburbs 2

Mark LEVY  
 Neville GLOVER  
 Michael CRONIN  
 Ed SULKOWICZ  
 Graeme ATKINS  
 John PEARD  
 John KOLC  
 Ray PRICE  
 John BAKER  
 Ray HIGGS (c)  
 Geoff GERARD  
 Ron HILDITCH  
 Graeme OLLING  
 Greg MOORE

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

John DORAHY  
 Marshall ROGERS  
 Gavin MILLER  
 Ken HEY  
 Trevor SCARR  
 Peter ROWLES  
 Tom RAUDONIKIS (c)  
 Graeme O'GRADY  
 Les BOYD  
 Mick LIUBINSKAS  
 John DONNELLY  
 John PURCELL  
 Doug LUCAS  
 Bob COOPER  
 Geoff SMITH



### Tries

John PEARD (2)  
 Ray HIGGS  
 Michael CRONIN  
 Graeme ATKINS

### Goals

Michael CRONIN (9)

John DORAHY (1)

### Match Description

**Western Suburbs:** Full-back: J Dorahy; three-quarters: M Rogers, G Miller, K Hey, T Scarr; five-eighth: P Rowles; half; T Raudonikis (c); forwards: G O'Grady, L Boyd, M Liubinskas, J Donnelly, J Purcell, D Lucas

**Parramatta:** Full-back: M Levy; three-quarters: N Glover, M Cronin, E Sulkowicz, G Atkins; five-eighth: J Peard; half: J Kolc; forwards: R Price, R Higgs (c), J Baker, G Gerard, R Hilditch, G Olling **Referee: G Brain (Rugby League Week 23rd July 1977)**

West's Test half-back Tom Raudonikis will be x-rayed today for a possible broken left hand after one of the worst batterings of his career against Parramatta at Cumberland yesterday. Raudonikis, injured in the first half, was forced to complete the match after Wests lost lock Graham O'Grady and second-rower Les Boyd against a merciless opposition. Parramatta's big guns, relieved of the burden of representative football, opened out with an awesome display to blitz Wests 33-2. Wests used both their replacements immediately after half-time when O'Grady broke his ankle and Boyd injured his right thumb. Raudonikis, with his left hand useless, soldiered on and so did a couple more Magpie casualties who would have been replaced under normal circumstances. After recent campaigns, Parramatta's representative stars were given a week off from training and they showed their appreciation yesterday. The Eels looked premiership material to the bootlaces. Parramatta's defence would have stopped a Panzer division, and they put on tries at will. It was form at the right end of the season, and the Cumberland horde never stopped roaring. ...Cronin scored 21 points from a try and nine goals, while Peard helped himself to a touchdown double. Olling had probably his best game of the season. Stepping like a centre, "Shovels" made a mess of the Wests' forwards... Wests kept their line intact until Cronin scored a try in the 38th minute, but that was the end of the section. **(The Sun 18th July 1977)**

Parramatta yesterday threw off last week's lethargy to wallop Western Suburbs 33-2 at Cumberland in a game which left the Magpies' dressing room looking like a hospital casualty room. Last weekend Parramatta scrambled home by a point against lowly-placed South Sydney, but yesterday the Eels' machine was back in top gear..... Wests, out of the premiership race but in the fight for the Amco Cup, were down five first-graders before the match. A possible knee fracture by lock Graham O'Grady has heightened their injury woes. O'Grady, one of Wests' best players in recent weeks, was carried from the field on a stretcher late in the first half and will have x-rays today. Wests had used their two replacements when full-back John Dorahy (head cut) came off with 15 minutes left and the Magpies were forced to play out the game with 12 men. Second-rower Les Boyd hobbled off earlier but prop John Donnelly played the whole match with a deep gash on his forehead..... **(Daily Telegraph 18th July 1977)**

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**Notes:** This match was a total disaster for Wests, before, during and after. Reports came in that Russell Mullins had had a serious life-threatening operation in the week before and was definitely out for the season. Then, before the match, Wayne Smith and Ron Giteau were late withdrawals (Marshall Rogers debuted in Smith's wing position). During the match Raudonikis played on with a possible broken hand because Graeme O'Grady (broken ankle) and Les Boyd (badly injured thumb) had both been replaced. Dorahy and Donnelly both played on with injuries, Donnelly forced off eventually with a deep head cut, leaving Wests with 12 men. It was not surprising that in the second half Parramatta ran all over them, Ken Hey offering some stout resistance in the centres.