



1970 Round 17 Sunday 19th July Kogarah Oval



St George 20

def.

Western Suburbs 7

Billy SMITH (c)
 Geoff CARR
 Ken MADDISON
 Dennis BRANDLEY
 Warren THOMPSON
 Phil HAWTHORNE
 Ross STRUDWICK
 Peter FITZGERALD
 Barry BEATH
 Apisai TOGA
 Keith MADDISON
 Col RASMUSSEN
 Grahame BOWEN

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

Peter FLANDERS
 Don ROGERS
 Roy FERGUSON (c)
 Tim MURPHY
 John ELFORD
 Tom RAUDONIKIS
 John MAXWELL
 Rod SMITH
 John BAKER
 Kevin TIMBS
 John ARMSTRONG
 Ken STONESTREET
 Barry BRYANT



Tries Grahame BOWEN
 Warren THOMPSON

Kevin TIMBS

Goals Ross STRUDWICK (6) One field goal
 Phil HAWTHORNE (1) Field goal

Peter FLANDERS (2)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: P Flanders; three-quarters: D Rogers, R Ferguson (c), T Murphy, J Elford; five-eighth: T Raudonikis; half; J Maxwell; forwards: R Smith, J Baker, K Timbs, J Armstrong, K Stonestreet, B Bryant

St George: Full-back: W Smith; three-quarters: G Carr, D Brandley, Ken Maddison, W Thompson; five-eighth: P Hawthorne; half: R Strudwick; forwards: P Fitzgerald, B Beath, A Toga, Keith Maddison, C Rasmussen, G Bowen **Referee: L Bruyeres (Rugby League Week 20th July 1970)**

International Billy Smith posed a problem for St George Rugby league selectors yesterday with an outstanding game at full-back against Wests. Smith captained St George to a 20-7 win at Kogarah Oval. St George's regular full-backs, Graeme Langlands and Frank Ryan were both unavailable when the team was chosen last week, and Smith was the surprise replacement. Smith, returning after injury, had never played full-back before, but no-one at yesterday's game would have known. He handled the position superbly and reaffirmed that he is one of the classiest and most versatile footballers Australia has produced. Smith was safe at all times and checked two likely scoring moves with low tackles. He handed several high kicks safely in the tricky wind and started the movement that resulted in winger Wayne Thompson scoring. A doctor has assured Langlands he will be fit for next week's clash with Souths, and Smith seems likely to be switched to the centres. Ross Strudwick, who replaced Smith at half-back, is playing well, and selectors will probably take the opportunity to give centre Ken Maddison a rest. Maddison has been troubled by a hamstring injury for some time, but has continued to play because of injuries to other players. St George took 35 minutes to get on top of a determined Wests, but then the result was never in doubt. A defensive lapse by Wests five minutes from half-time let front-rower Grahame Bowen in for a try under the posts. The try, which was converted by Strudwick, sapped Wests' confidence and they were not nearly as impressive in the second half. Thompson scored St George's second try mid-way through the second half. Wests got back to 7-14 when second-rower Kevin Timbs scored a try which Peter Flanders converted but three quick goals made St George safe. ... **(Daily Telegraph 20th July 1970)**

St George Rugby League team beat Western Suburbs 20-7 at Kogarah Oval yesterday but are worried about their latest casualty, John Wittenberg. Wittenberg is believed to have the mumps and he could be out of action for several weeks. ... But despite Wittenberg's late withdrawal yesterday (replaced in the front-row by Keith Maddison) and the loss of the scrums 15-13, Saints held the edge in general play and scored two tries to Wests' one. Half-back Ross Strudwick, with five easy kicks from almost in front, posted 10 points to clinch the win, while Phil Hawthorne landed two field goals near the end to rub salt into Wests' wounds. Wests' eagerness to run down an anticipated field goal attempt by Hawthorne shortly before half-time more or less sealed their defeat. As Hawthorne called for the ball, the Wests players converged on him and "dummy-half" Graham Bowen quickly summed up the situation and ran 15 yards through a big gap to touch down. The game was close in the early stages but far from exciting. **(Sydney Morning Herald 20th July 1970)**

Notes: Wests were well in the match until half-time but faded badly in the second half. Many players, including John Armstrong, seemed to be badly out of form and Wests were heading for the wooden spoon unless the form could be turned around. Even the Maxwell/Raudonikis combination, who had both been form players, were outplayed by the Hawthorne/Strudwick combination. On the wing, at least, John Elford had one of his strongest games.