



# 1980 Round 17 Sunday 27th July Belmore Oval



## Western Suburbs 29

def.

## Canterbury 9

Wayne SMITH  
 John RIBOT  
 Jim LEIS  
 Ron GITEAU  
 Warren BOLAND (c)  
 Terry LAMB  
 Alan NEIL  
 Ken HEY  
 Paul MERLO  
 Bob COOPER  
 John DONNELLY  
 Jack JEFFRIES  
 Tom ARBER

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

Stan CUTLER  
 Lee POMFRET  
 Chris MORTIMER  
 Greg BRETNALL  
 Steve GEARIN  
 Garry HUGHES  
 Steve MORTIMER  
 Mark HUGHES  
 Peter SMITH  
 Graeme HUGHES  
 Geoff ROBINSON  
 George PEONIS (c)  
 John COVENEY



**Tries** Wayne SMITH (2)  
 John RIBOT (2)  
 Jim LEIS  
 Ron GITEAU

Lee POMFRET

**Goals** Ron GITEAU (5)  
 John DONNELLY (1) Field Goal

Steve GEARIN (3)

### Match Description

**Western Suburbs:** Full-back: W Smith; three-quarters: J Ribot, J Leis, R Giteau, W Boland (c) ; five-eighth: T Lamb; half: A Neil; forwards: K Hey, P Merlo, R Cooper, J Donnelly, J Jeffries, T Arber

**Canterbury-Bankstown:** Full-back: S Cutler; three-quarters: L Pomfret, C Mortimer, G Brentnall, S Gearin; five-eighth: G Hughes; half: S Mortimer; forwards: M Hughes, P Smith, G Hughes, J Coveney, G Peponis (c), G Robinson **Referee: J Danzey (The Sun 28th July 1980)**

Western Suburbs surged back to the head of the rugby league competition table yesterday and dealt out the biggest home-ground hiding to Canterbury for years. Wests bounced back after two successive match losses to give the Bulldogs a 29-9 hammering at Belmore. The Magpies set the stage for a record Lidcombe Oval crowd next Saturday for their clash with joint leaders St George. Roy Masters' men beat Canterbury at its own game yesterday. Wests, renowned for their hard and physical style of play, did an about-face and turned on sparkling, free-flowing football. The side ran in six fine tries. Wests travelled to Belmore expecting a tougher match from Canterbury, which had won its last six premiership matches in a row. But they found the Canterbury defence a little weak, particularly up the middle, where Wests' big men made a lot of ground. Wests went into the game without centre Ron Brodrick, and in a late change coach Masters shifted big Jim Leis from lock to join Ron Giteau in the centres. Ken Hey, a real goer who is not under a contract, came into the side in the lock spot. Leis was very effective in the centres and Masters will consider leaving him in the position for the match against St George. Prop John Donnelly had one of his best games and kicked his second field goal of the season. He was decked in a late tackle in the first half, but bounced back after treatment and consistently made ground with the ball. Full-back Smith produced two of the biggest side-steps of the season, which resulted in tries for the Magpies. Twice he stepped past Canterbury full-back Stan Cutler to score tries; but any full-back in the game would have been battling to stop him. ... Bets players for the Magpies were Donnelly, Smith, winger John Ribot and Terry Lamb, while for Canterbury, Steve Mortimer and prop Geoff Robinson worked hard. **(Daily Telegraph 28th July 1980)**

The Western Suburbs Rugby League team went to Belmore Sports Ground yesterday figuring that they were owed a win. The Magpies had been confident of beating the Bulldogs on June 16 when this was one of the five second round matches washed out by rain. Canterbury at that time had a long injury list and had three of their key players, the captain and hooker, George Peponis, the centre Greg Brentnall, and the winger Chris Anderson, in New Zealand with the Australian team. Motivated by this, Wests turned on dazzling, attacking football yesterday to crush Canterbury 29-9 and re-join St George on 24 points at the top of the premiership table. .... **(Sydney Morning Herald 28th July 1980)**

**Notes:** This was a postponed washed-out match from June 16th which Wests wanted to play at the time, so the win had a touch of revenge about it. They completely outplayed Canterbury; the forwards making many breaks up the middle. Ron Brodrick was a late withdrawal and Jim Leis went into the centre and Ken Hey at lock. Wests played fast, open-flowing football, featuring two audacious side-stepping tries by Wayne Smith. Ribot and Lamb also had great games, but it was John Donnelly who was the star, having easily his best game of the season, including another cheeky field goal.