



1980 Round 2 Saturday 5th April Lidcombe Oval



Western Suburbs 27

def.

Penrith 24

Wayne SMITH
 Jeff CASE
 Ted GOODWIN
 Ron GITEAU
 Warren BOLAND (c)
 Peter ROWLES
 Alan NEIL
 Jim LEIS
 Paul MERLO
 Bob COOPER
 Bruce GIBBS
 Jack JEFFRIES
 John DONNELLY

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

Kevin DANN
 Ken WOLFE
 Ray BLACKLOCK
 Peter SCHOFIELD
 Kevin POBJIE
 Steve MARTIN
 Terry WICKEY
 Wayne SHEENS
 Lew ZIVANOVIC
 Wayne DUCKER
 Darryl BROHMAN (c)
 Jamie JONES
 Ross CALE



Tries

Jim LEIS (4)
 Ron GITEAU

Ray BLACKLOCK (2)
 Peter SCHOFIELD
 Kevin DANN

Goals

Peter ROWLES (6)

Peter SCHOFIELD (6)

Match Description

Penrith: Full-back: K Dann; three-quarters: K Wolfe, P Schofield, R Blacklock, K Pobjie; five-eighth: S martin; half: T Wickey; forwards: W Sheens, W Ducker, L Zivanovic, D Brohman (c), J Jones, R Cale

Western Suburbs: Full-back: W Smith; three-quarters: J Case, E Goodwin, R Giteau, W Boland (c); five-eighth: P Rowles; half: A Neil; forwards: J Leis, P Merlo, R Cooper, J Donnelly, J Jeffries, B Gibbs **Referee: K Roberts (The Sun 3rd April 1980)**

Western Suburbs' new boy Jim Leis yesterday performed heroic deeds amid the bumbling and fumbling that punctuated his team's 27-24 win over Penrith. Leis was a four-try hero at Lidcombe Oval, confirming that a new lock forward star has arrived in Sydney football. Wests' coach Roy Masters called it a "coronary game" after watching the lead change hands eight time in 80 minutes. But Masters was smiling after watching the team he has had to rebuild this year win their second game in a row. Smiling too were Leis and five-eighth Peter Rowles, the two men who provided the necessary rescue operation for Wests yesterday. Only news of the worrying injury suffered by teenage winger Jeff Case took the edge of the sweet taste of success for Wests. For Tamworth boy Jim Leis, it was a grand day. He was Johnny-on-the-spot four times in 80 minutes – scoring the first try and the last, and couple in between. The quiet days at Tamworth were far behind him as TV interviewers clamoured to get to him after the game. Strongly built with good hands, an impressive low defensive technique and lashings of football intelligence, Leis is a player to watch. Few country boys make their mark as quickly as he has this year. Peter Rowles' scratchy but effective goal-kicking provided the second half of the good news for Wests. Rowles barely got the ball more than a foot higher than the cross-bar in his seven kicks – but still managed six vital goals. He is working to correct a slice which has developed in his kicking style and yesterday slowed down his run-up – with effective results. Penrith's Peter Schofield mirrored his performance, kicking six goals from seven shots, and adding a try for good measure. Loose passes and missed tackles were a dime a dozen as the game galloped along at a tearaway pace. It was no game for the purist. But among the nine tries (Wests five, Penrith four) there were some real dashers. Penrith again lived up to their unwanted reputation as the team who have not yet learned to win. Last week they had Manly done to a turn but were beaten on the bell. At the 60-minute mark in yesterday's game they had turned an 18-14 half-time deficit into a handy 24-20 lead. Again, they couldn't consolidate. Peter Rowles put up a bomb and Wayne Smith turned a pass back inside for Leis' fourth try. Rowles kicked the goal for 25-24, and from that point on Wests were never going to lose. Needing a rally, Penrith failed, with even more errors creeping into their game in the tense final 15 minutes. But there was a ray of sunshine for the Panthers in the gloom of their second narrow defeat. Twenty-two-year-old Henry Foster, a half-back replacement for Terry Wickey in the second half, turned in an eye-catching performance. Peter was untidy at the scrum base, but sharp as a tack when he got the ball in his hands. He set up one try (Schofield's), broke into clean ground on half a dozen occasions – and brought off a grand covering tackle on his opposite number, Alan Neil. **(Sunday Telegraph 6th April 1980)**

Notes: Jim Leis put his stamp on the Sydney competition with a dazzling four try display. In a very exciting game, that had lots of missed tackles and dropped passes, the lead changed eight times. Warren Boland, relishing his new role as captain, also had another strong game. The minus for Wests was a serious back and hamstring injury to winger Jeff Case.