

1970 Round 21 Sunday 16th August Sports Ground

South Sydney 26 def. Western Suburbs 7

Eric SIMMS **Fullback** Peter FLANDERS Don ROGERS Mike CLEARY Wing Arthur BRANIGHAN Centre Roy FERGUSON (c) Centre **Paul SAIT** Derek BROUWER **Bob HONAN** Wing John ELFORD Ray BRANIGHAN Five-eighth Tom RAUDONIKIS **Bob GRANT** Half John MAXWELL Ron COOTE Lock Barry BRYANT **Gary STEVENS** Second Row John BAKER **Bob McCARTHY** Second Row **Kevin TIMBS** John O'NEILL Front Row John ARMSTRONG Elwyn WALTERS Hooker Ken STONESTREET John SATTLER (c) Front Row Jim CODY **Greg NORGARD** Replacement Tim MURPHY

Tries Bob GRANT Don ROGERS

Bob HONAN Bob McCARTHY Paul SAIT

Goals Eric SIMMS (7) Two field goals Peter FLANDERS (2)

Match Description

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

South Sydney: Full-back: E Simms; three-quarters: M Cleary, G Norgard, P Sait, R Honan; five-eighth: R Branighan; half: R Grant; forwards: R Coote, G Stevens, R McCarthy, J O'Neill, E Walters, J Sattler (c)

Referee: L Bruyeres (Rugby League Week 22nd August 1970)

Full-back Eric Simms yesterday played the star role in South Sydney Rugby League team's 26-7 win over Western Suburbs at the Sports Ground. Simms kicked five goals and two field goals to take his season's total to 199. He missed with a long-range field goal attempt just on full-time which would have enabled him to break the 200 barrier for the third successive season. Simms has struck top kicking form at the right time with the semi-finals only two weeks away. He is also certain to be the leading points scorer for the season. Simms has a 10-point lead over Cronulla front-rower George Taylforth. Second-rower Bobby McCarthy retained his position as the season's leading try-scorer when he scored shortly before half-time. It was McCarthy's 15th try of the season and he now leads North Sydney's winger Ken Irvine by one try. McCarthy was the best forward on the field yesterday and caused havoc with his running out wide. He also defended well. A knee injury to centre Arthur Branighan took some of the gloss from Souths' win. Branighan suffered a recurrence of the injury which kept him out of football for a month earlier this year. He left the field in the first half and was replaced by Greg Norgard. Branighan said he did not think the injury was as serious this time and he was confident of being available for selection in the team to play Manly next weekend. Souths yesterday were too strong all round for Wests. They scored steadily throughout the game and Wests were a defeated team after the first 15 minutes. Only a lopsided penalty count of 15-6 against Souths prevented them from increasing their winning advantage. Souths led 14-2 at half-time after tries by winger Bobby Honan and McCarthy. Honan's try followed a 65-yard break by substitute five-eighth Ray Branighan. Branighan had an absorbing duel with Wests' State player Tom Raudonikis, with the honours shared. Raudonikis' only blemish was in failing to tackle Branighan when he set up Honan's try. Souths' winger Mike Cleary did well with limited opportunities. Cleary and Wests' rugged winger John Elford kept a close watch on one another and neither lost anything in the clash. .. (Daily Telegraph 17th August 1970)

.. Souths scored four tries to one against Wests, and the result was never in doubt after 15 minutes. A lop-sided penalty count of 15-6 against them hampered Souths' attack, but the teamwork and understanding expected of premiership favourites two weeks from the semi-finals were missing. Only two of Souths' tries showed any signs of teamwork. Against stronger teams, this reliance on individuals could be disastrous, as was proved in last year's Grand Final. And Simms' goal-kicking efforts would be nullified by conceding 15 penalties to any team with a reasonable kicker. (Rugby League Week 22nd August 1970)

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Notes: Peter Flanders was back from an ankle injury and played well at full-back. Wests, except for Bryant and Armstrong, were completely out-played. Mike Cleary had a strong game and out-pointed John Elford on the day. Eric Simms, having his goal-kicking boots on, also didn't help the Wests' cause.

WESTERN SUBURBS