



1974 Round 22 Sunday 25th August Endeavour Field



Western Suburbs 20

def.

Cronulla-Sutherland 8

John DORAHY
 Stephen SATTERLY
 Stephen KNIGHT
 Robbie PARKER
 Russell MULLINS
 Russell WORTH
 Tom RAUDONIKIS (c)
 Warren SNODGRASS
 Mick LIUBINSKAS
 Geoff FOSTER
 Pat HUNDY
 John PURCELL
 Brian ISBESTER
 Jamie MYERS

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

Rick BOURKE
 Bob WEAR
 Stephen EDMONDS
 Bill BENYON
 David WAITE
 Barry ANDREWS
 Fred DENNEHY
 Greg PIERCE (c)
 John MAGUIRE
 Greg ALLEN
 Graham BOWEN
 Ron TURNER
 Vince FARRAR



Tries Stephen SATTERLY (2)
 Stephen KNIGHT
 Tom RAUDONIKIS

Rick BOURKE
 Bob WEAR

Goals John DORAHY (4)

Barry ANDREWS (1)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: J Dorahy; three-quarters: S Satterly, S Knight, R Parker, R Mullins; five-eighth: R Worth; half: T Raudonikis (c); forwards: W Snodgrass, M Liubinskas, G Foster, P Hundy, J Purcell, B Isbester

Cronulla-Sutherland: Full-back: R Bourke; three-quarters: D Waite, S Edmonds, W Benyon, R Wear; five-eighth: B Andrews; half: F Dennehy; forwards: G Pierce, J Maguire, G Allen, G Bowen, R Turner, V Farrar **Referee: G Hartley (Rugby League Week 31st August 1974)**

Western Suburbs Rugby League coach Don Parish tipped his team of "whiz kids" to make the Grand Final after they had stormed into the semi-finals at Endeavour Field yesterday. Starved for possession and trailing 7-8 at half-time, Wests pounded Cronulla-Sutherland into submission with a dynamic second-half display and won 20-8. ... Parish, the left side of his jaw still badly swollen after being hit by a stray golf ball last Thursday, was a proud man as he surveyed his tired but triumphant team. "They were mighty, they never let up," he said. "The way they are playing and the enthusiasm they are showing in their game could carry them right into the Grand Final. I think we'll beat South Sydney on Sunday and I think the only real problem to get to the Grand Final will be Canterbury. I really believe we have the answer to Manly, who aren't playing as well as they were last year." It was a great moment for Wests when the final siren sounded to signal their first semi-final appearance in 10 years. ... Wests started with a top side at the beginning of the year and the season looked certain to be one of their best, until injuries carved into their playing strength. The selectors went for some of the youngsters to boost the team and Mick Liubinskas, Pat Hundy, John Purcell and Brian Isbester started to pop up in firsts. And yesterday, the "Kids" came good with a display of vigorous football that outclassed the more experienced Cronulla pack. Cronulla did win one vital aspect of the game, possession from the scrums. ... Yet Wests' younger brigade were excellent themselves. Their incredible stamina enabled them to produce a class defensive effort one minute and a crashing attacking run the next. ... Wests' sole try was a dive over from dummy half by Tom Raudonikis but the signs were there that Wests would be hard to contain. And they did not waste any time in asserting their authority in the second half, slipping away to an 11-8 lead after two penalties. Their forwards, although playing splendidly, were fairly well contained by the Cronulla pack, who were without flu-hit second-rower Ken Maddison. So, Wests switched play and it was here they ultimately took complete control. Steve Satterly took a neat pass from Stephen Knight and stepped around full-back Rick Bourke to score. Then Raudonikis, having another top game, fired out a wide pass to Russell Mullins, who raced upfield. Dorahy backed up and Satterly was there again to take the pass and score. To wrap up the game, big centre Stephen Knight used his tremendous pace to race around the defence and score wide out. That made it three tries in 12 minutes ... and a semi-final berth for Wests. There is also some worry over rangy second-rower Liubinskas, who came off midway through the second half with damaged shoulder ligaments. Dorahy again excelled yesterday with his ability to chime in just at the right time. Raudonikis was a splendid general and hard worker, while Hundy had a powerful game in the forwards and Robbie Parker was an alert worker in the centre. **(Sydney Morning Herald 26th August 1974)**

Notes: Wests charged back into the semi-finals after 11 years with a powerhouse second half display where they scored three scintillating tries. Raudonikis led the charge, with Dorahy and Knight also dominant. Stephen Knight seemed to be improving with every match. Dorahy's forays into the backline caused problems for Cronulla every time he chose to do so. Brian Isbester came in for the injured Elford with Mick Liubinskas going to the second row. The loss of the scrums 15-5 was a concern going into the semis.