



1980 Round 22 Sunday 31st August Henson Park



Newtown 23

Graeme O'GRADY
 Ken WILSON
 Brian HETHERINGTON
 Mick RYAN
 Mark OGILVIE
 Les COOLEY
 Tom RAUDONIKIS (c)
 Trevor RYAN
 John MACKAY
 Craig ELLIS
 Geoff BUGDEN
 Bill NOONAN
 Steve BOWDEN
 Mick PITMAN
 Doug van VILET

def.

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

Western Suburbs 20

Wayne SMITH
 John RIBOT
 Mark BEAVEN
 Michael DUKE
 Warren BOLAND (c)
 Terry LAMB
 Alan NEIL
 Jim LEIS
 John McLEOD
 Bob COOPER
 Tom ARBER
 Alan LATHAM
 Brian COOK
 Tony ARMSTRONG



Tries

Ken WILSON
 Brian HETHERINGTON
 Geoff BUGDEN
 Steve BOWDEN

John RIBOT (3)
 Jim LEIS

Goals

Ken WILSON (6) One Field Goal

John RIBOT (4)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: W Smith; three-quarters: J Ribot, M Beaven, M Duke, W Boland (c); five-eighth: T Lamb; half: A Neil; forwards: J Leis, J McLeod, R Cooper, B Cook, A Latham, T Arber

Newtown: Full-back: G O'Grady; three-quarters: K Wilson, B Hetherington, M Ryan, M Ogilvie; five-eighth: L Cooley; half: T Raudonikis (c); forwards: T Ryan, J Mackay, G Ellis, G Bugden, W Noonan, S Bowden **Referee: J Danzey (The Sun 1st September 1980)**

Referee Jack Danzey's decision to disallow a fair John Ribot "try" yesterday probably cost Wests the minor premiership, but coach Roy Masters is not complaining. The Magpies had to beat Newtown at Henson Park to take the minor premiership, but went down 23-20 after leading by 13 points during the second half. Winger Ribot scored three slashing tries yesterday and should have been awarded four. He crashed over close to the corner post early in the game, but linesman Barry Cross signalled to Danzey that he had gone out. A video replay showed a Newtown defender knocking down the corner post and Ribot clearly in. Masters was pleased in a way that his team didn't take the minor premiership after watching them slip so badly in the second half. "We have plenty of work to do and we have to play next weekend," Masters said. In a crushing blow for Masters, Wests have lost centre Mark Beaven for the season with a depressed fracture of the cheekbone. The Magpies will be keeping their fingers crossed, hoping that centre and goal-kicker Ron Giteau will be fit to return next week. Props John Donnelly (suspended) and Bruce Gibbs (injured) were sadly missed by Wests yesterday. Any team that leads by 13 points with 20 minutes to go and then gets beaten would normally not have much of a future in semi-final football. Masters has an enormous job to lift the players for the game against Canterbury next Saturday at the SCG. For the first 40 minutes yesterday, the Magpies looked premiership material, but in the second half they played more like wooden-spooners. Their face-saver was that Ribot scored 17 points from three tries and four goals in his new role as kicker. While Wests have to be criticised for their weak second-half performance, the Jets deserve plenty of credit. ... **(Daily Telegraph 1st September 1980)**

It nearly wasn't, but in the end, it was big Bill Noonan's day. "We wanted to send him out a winner and we did it," the Newtown coach Warren Ryan said. The 34-year-old New Zealan prop called it a day yesterday after a decade of first grade football in Sydney and a reputation as one of the game's most consistent players. It was a typical no-frills performance from him yesterday – even though there were a couple of times when it appeared that he had opted for an early shower. Noonan, as he sat surrounded by his team-mates and enjoyed his well-earned cigarette and beer, was adamant that he would be retiring..... **(Sydney Morning Herald 1st September 1980)**

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Notes: Wests were in deep trouble for the coming semi-finals. They led 20-7 with 20 minutes to go but couldn't hold off a rampaging Newtown. John Ribot scored three slashing tries (two of them 50 and 70 yard efforts), but he had one disallowed which replays showed was a definite try. Coach Roy Masters was saying he had no props or centres left after Mark Beaven was carried off with a badly broken jaw. The injury and suspension list included Brodrick, Beaven, Gibbs, Giteau, Goodwin, Donnelly, Merlo, Leabeater and Jeffries. When Beaven left, Wayne Smith went into the centres and Tony Armstrong came on as full-back.