



1977 Round 3 Sunday 3rd April Lidcombe Oval



Western Suburbs 33

def.

South Sydney 4



Wayne SMITH
 Trevor SCARR
 Gavin MILLER
 Ron GITEAU
 Russell MULLINS
 Graeme O'GRADY
 Tom RAUDONIKIS (c)
 Neville SINCLAIR
 Mick LIUBINSKAS
 Steve BLYTH
 John DONNELLY
 Shane DAY
 Peter YOUNG
 Ken HEY

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

Greg PURCELL
 Terry FAHEY
 Glen BISHOP
 Paul O'BRIEN
 Steve LITTLE
 Brian WALL
 Bob McMILLAN
 Trevor REARDON
 Graham WEST
 Paul SAIT (c)
 Ian MACKAY
 Ken STEWART
 Bill ANNABEL
 John BERNE
 Glen PORTER

Tries Ron GITEAU (3)
 Steve BLYTH
 Wayne SMITH
 Russell MULLINS
 Gavin MILLER

Goals Ron GITEAU (3)
 Wayne SMITH (2)
 Gavin MILLER (1)

Graham WEST (2)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: W Smith; three-quarters: T Scarr, R Giteau, G Miller, R Mullins; five-eighth: G O'Grady; half: T Raudonikis (c); forwards: N Sinclair, M Liubinskas, S Blyth, J Donnelly, S Day, P Young

South Sydney: Full-back: G Purcell; three-quarters: S Little, G Bishop, P O'Brien, T Fahey; five-eighth: B Wall; half: R McMillan; forwards: T Reardon, G West, P Sait (c), I Mackay, K Stewart, W Annabel **Referee: B Bradstock (Rugby League Week 9th April 1977)**

Western Suburbs stylish young backs went on a 30-point scoring spree as the Magpies tore South Sydney to shreds at Lidcombe Oval yesterday. Spurred on by a half-time chiding by coach Keith Holman, Wests crossed for five tries after the break to crush Souths 33-4. Centres Ron Giteau and Gavin Miller, 17, racked up four tries and four goals between them in a lop-sided match. Giteau bagged a second-half try hat-trick to head the scorers' list, ahead of full-back Wayne Smith (try, two goals), Miller (try, goal) and winger Russell Mullins (try). Wests were in command from the start, but it was only after Holman's half-time pep talk that they went in for the kill. During the break, Holman told his players he thought "they were running dead." "I got really stuck into them and they did just what I wanted in the second half," Holman said. At the break Wests led 12-4 after tries by Miller and Mullins, but loose handling cost them more. Holman's order to captain Tom Raudonikis to give the backline more ball, sent Souths reeling. With Raudonikis the spearhead and improved ball handling, Wests' backs played havoc against Souths flat-footed defence. It was a lack-lustre Souths' effort after last week's solid win over Balmain. The loss was compounded even more with injuries to Greg Purcell (twisted knee) and Paul Sait, who took a knock late in the first half. **(Daily Telegraph 4th April 1977)**

Western Suburbs left the bottom of the Rugby League competition ladder with a 33-4 win over a depleted South Sydney side at Lidcombe Oval yesterday. The Magpies scored seven tries to nil with captain and half-back Tom Raudonikis prominent in four. Souths were without key players prop Herb Timms and winger Geoff Hissett and then lost full-back Greg Purcell in the opening minute and captain and second-rower Paul Sait at half-time. Following a great 16-14 win over Balmain last week, Souths were expected to give Wests a torrid time. But injuries and a staggering 18-9 scrum deficit were too much to overcome. With possession coming so freely from hooker Shane Day, the Wests' three-quarters had a field day. Centre Ron Giteau crossed for three tries and with three goals from seven attempts he finished with a personal tally of 15 points. Goal-kicking was a problem for Wests, and they used three kickers with varied success. Giteau landed three tries from seven, centre Gavin Miller two from four and full-back Wayne Smith was successful with both his attempts. Best players for Wests, apart from Raudonikis, were Smith and second-rower Mick Liubinskas. **(Sydney Morning Herald 4th April 1977)**

Notes: Wests finally found some form with a thrashing of a depleted Souths. After a half-time rev-up from Keith Holman, Raudonikis spun the ball wide to the backline, who ran riot, Ron Giteau scoring three second-half tries. It also helped that Shane Day won the scrums 18-9. Apart from Raudonikis, who was the best player on the field, Wayne Smith and Mick Liubinskas also had big games.