



1983 Round 4 Sunday 20th March Lidcombe Oval



Western Suburbs 14

drew with

Newtown 14

Greg COX
 Steve BROUGHTON
 Wayne SMITH
 Michael DUKE
 Warren BOLAND (c)
 Terry LAMB
 Scott GALE
 Mark BEAVEN
 Brett GALE
 Brian BATTESE
 John DONNELLY
 David HALL
 Bill HILLIARD
 David GREENE
 Ian FREEMAN
 Trevor COGGER

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

Ron SIGSWORTH
 John FERGUSON
 Dean LANCE
 Mark SNUGGS
 Mal GRAHAM
 Michael SPEECHLEY
 Ken WILSON (c)
 Paul MORRIS
 Allan GEELAN
 Ray DOWNIE
 Craig ELLIS
 Mark BUGDEN
 Peter KELLY
 Chris DOYLE
 John BIRD
 Gary WEBSTER

Tries Steve BROUGHTON (2)

Ron SIGSWORTH
John FERGUSON

Goals Greg COX (3)

Ken WILSON (3)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: G Cox; three-quarters: S Broughton, W Smith, M Duke, W Boland (c); five-eighth: T Lamb; half: S Gale; forwards: M Beaven, B Gale, B Battese, W Hilliard, D Hall, J Donnelly

Newtown: Full-back: R Sigsworth; three-quarters: J Ferguson, D Lance, M Snuggs, M Graham; five-eighth: M Speechley; half: K Wilson (c); forwards: P Morris, A Geelan, R Downie, C Ellis, M Bugden, P Kelly **Referee: M Stone (The Sun 21st March 1983)**

A young physiotherapist who spends each day rehabilitating injured sportsmen wrecked the chances of the Newtown Jets at Lidcombe Oval yesterday. Wests' lock Mark Beaven, 24, lifted the battling Magpies to a 14-all draw and their first premiership point of the season. Beaven, who quit football last year to tour Australia, starred in a wet-weather thriller. Wests officials rated Beaven's performance as his best ever for the Magpies. "He's the new Jim Leis out west," secretary Ray Bernasconi said. Magpies' coach Len Stacker said the strong-running Beaven had solved one of his team's biggest positional headaches. "We really didn't know who was going to take over from Jimmy Leis – everyone had forgotten Mark was going to turn out with the club this season," he said. Stacker was adamant yesterday's result had laid to rest the problems that plagued Wests in the first three competition rounds. "We were resigned to the fact many of our players would take time to settle in," he said. "We were happy to take the one competition point and we'll be a lot stronger outfit in weeks to come." Newtown had a chance to pull the match out of the fire when Jets' prop Peter Kelly snapped a field goal attempt in the dying minutes. The kick went astray and with it went Newtown's chance of victory. Newtown coach Brian Moore said key Jets' kicker Ken Wilson had not been spotted in position near the ruck because of the dull and wet conditions. ... For Wests, Beaven and fellow forwards Brett Gale and David Hall, along with full-back Greg Cox, were outstanding. Wests were promised a \$250,000 five-year sponsorship deal after the game by an independent car agent. The agent is a former Wests' junior who has recently returned from Darwin. **(Daily Telegraph 21st March 1983)**

A wayward pass resulting in an intercept try to Western Suburbs winger Steve Broughton cost Newtown a valuable competition point in a Rugby League match played in torrential rain at Lidcombe Oval yesterday. After a dour struggle, the match finished in a 14-all draw after Newtown had led 12-8 at half-time. The try, scored six minutes after the break, put Wests in front 14-12 and was the second for Broughton. ... It was an expensive mistake and a tough punishment for Speechley, who had an otherwise splendid game both in attack and defence. Newtown had a great chance to snatch a win ten minutes from full-time when winner Mal Graham burst into the clear with only full-back Greg Cox to beat. "I thought I was in," he said later. "But just as I looked like going on I stumbled and fell." Wests' classy five-eighth Terry Lamb dived on to Graham to tidy up. Lamb then had a chance to take full points for Wests five minutes later, but his field goal attempt with the rain-soaked ball barely got above waist level. **(Sydney Morning Herald 21st March 1983)**

Notes: Played under very wet conditions, both sides tried to break the deadlock in the last 10 minutes, each side having two field goal attempts. Terry Lamb was pulled down literally inches from the line and Steve Broughton's first try was brilliant in the difficult conditions. Played before a very small crowd (1,365), Mark Beaven had his best game for Wests and seemed to be filling the big boots of Jim Leis. Greg Cox was also very strong at full-back.