1974 Round 5 Saturday 27th April Kogarah Oval

Western Suburbs 17   def.   St George 7

Western Suburbs	Position	St George
Tony FORD	*Fullback*	Ted GOODWIN
Stephen SATTERLY	*Wing*	John CHAPMAN
Stephen KNIGHT	*Centre*	Gary PETHYBRIDGE
Robbie PARKER	*Centre*	Roy FERGUSON
Russell MULLINS	*Wing*	Paul MILLS
John HEYWARD	*Five-eighth*	Barry HULBERT
Tom RAUDONIKIS (c)	*Half*	Billy SMITH (c)
Warren SNODGRASS	*Lock*	Graeme SAMS
Geoff FOSTER	*Second Row*	Bruce STARKEY
John ELFORD	*Second Row*	Peter SULLIVAN
Jim MURPHY	*Front Row*	Barry BEATH
John PURCELL	*Hooker*	Col RASMUSSEN
Steve RIGNEY	*Front Row*	Gary SOUTER
Pat HUNDY	*Replacement*	Barry STUMBLES

Tries	John PURCELL	Roy FERGUSON
	Jim MURPHY	
	Stephen KNIGHT	
Goals	Tony FORD (4)	Barry HULBERT (2)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: A Ford; three-quarters: Stephen Satterly, R Parker, S Knight, R Mullins; five-eighth: J Heyward; half: T Raudonikis (c); forwards: W Snodgrass, J Elford, G Foster, J Murphy, J Purcell, S Rigney

St George: Full-back: T Goodwin; three-quarters: J Chapman, G Pethybridge, R Ferguson, P Mills; five-eighth: B Hulbert; half; W Smith (c); forwards: G Sams, B Starkey, P Sullivan, B Beath, C Rasmussen, G Souter   **Referee: K Page**   (Rugby League Week 4th May 1974)

St George yesterday slipped yesterday into the "also run" category of the Rugby League premiership after a 17-7 hiding from Western Suburbs. Saints have now lost three of their five games and languish on four points, behind six teams. Yesterday, Wests conformed what St George officials and supporters have suspected – the Dragons' fire is just about out. Wests tossed Saints around like an old rag doll. Sticking to instructions, Wests knocked over half Billy Smith at every opportunity, killing Saints' momentum. Without Smith calling the shots and without injured Graeme Langlands, Saints were lost. Even winning the scrums 15-10 and the penalties 10-3 (including 3-1 in the second half) made no difference. Wests controlled the match from the opening whistle and only over-anxiousness prevented them increasing the winning margin. They piled on four tries to one from St George, when in the final minute of the match Smith escaped vigilance long enough to spark a break. Two ridiculously easy tries, both from mistakes by St George full-back Ted Goodwin, gave Wests a 10-nil lead at half-time. Goodwin, standing in for Langlands, fumbled a high kick under pressure and from the resulting ruck Robbie Parker sent Stephen Knight in under the posts. Thirteen minutes later Ted Goodwin lost the ball in a tackle near his own line and hooker John Purcell dived over. The try was a just reward for Purcell who turned in a strong performance in the open. **(Sunday Telegraph 28th April 1974)**

Western Suburbs called the tune throughout when they beat St George 17-7 in the Rugby League match at Kogarah Oval yesterday. At half-time St George trailed 10-0. Former Australian Rugby Union captain Peter Sullivan, made a quiet entry into first grade football. Playing in the second-row, Sullivan was used as dummy half when Saints were on the attack and often missed his man when defending. Full-back Tony Ford, playing his 100th First Grade game, led Wests on to the field. Wests opened the scoring in the ninth minute when prop Jim Murphy and centre Robbie Parker combined to put centre Stephen Knight in for a try, converted by Ford. It came a couples of tackles after five-eighth John Heyward kicked down-field and raced through to regather. Wests had a try disallowed in the 14th minute. After 26 minutes Wests went further ahead when hooker, John Purcell, wrenched the ball from Saints' full-back Ted Goodwin when he was heavily tackled. Purcell raced over for a try which caught Saints by surprise. Murphy backed up and handled twice in a move to score a try which was converted by Ford to put Wests ahead 15-4 after 67 minutes. Saints' only try came a minute from full-time when Smith, Bruce Starkey and replacement second-rower Barry Stumbles, combined**. (Sunday Mirror 28th April 1974)**

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Notes: Tony Ford led the team onto a heavy mud-splattered field for his 100th match but it was the forwards who got on top early. Jim Murphy was particularly strong in this period and made sure that Billy Smith had no room to move. John Purcell was in as hooker for Shane Day who was in hospital in traction for a neck injury. Robbie Parker seemed to relish the muddy conditions, making many breaks straight up the middle.