



## 1975 Round 6 Sunday 27th April Lidcombe Oval



### Western Suburbs 20

def.

### Parramatta 3

John DORAHY  
Don ROGERS  
Stephen KNIGHT  
Robbie PARKER  
Trevor SCARR  
Tim MURPHY  
Tom RAUDONIKIS (c)  
Chris WELLMAN  
Jim MURPHY  
Geoff FOSTER  
John DONNELLY  
Shane DAY  
Mick LIUBINSKAS

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

Phillip MANN  
Dave COTTER  
John VINCENT  
Ray STRUDWICK  
Jim PORTER  
Ted SULKOWICZ  
John KOLC  
John QUAYLE  
Ray HIGGS  
Geoff GERARD  
Graham OLLING  
Ron HILDITCH  
Denis FITZGERALD (c)  
Bob O'REILLY

**Tries** Don ROGERS (2)  
Robbie PARKER (2)  
John DORAHY  
Trevor SCARR

John VINCENT

**Goals** John DORAHY (1)

#### Match Description

**Parramatta:** Full-back: P Mann; three-quarters: D Cotter, J Vincent, R Strudwick, J Porter; five-eighth: T Sulkowicz; half: J Kolc; forwards: J Quayle, R Higgs, G Gerard, D Fitzgerald (c), R Hilditch, G Olling

**Western Suburbs:** Full-back: J Dorahy; three-quarters: D Rogers, S Knight, R Parker, T Scarr; five-eighth: T Murphy; half: T Raudonikis (c); forwards: C Wellman, J Murphy, G Foster, J Donnelly, S Day, M Liubinskas

**Referee: L Bruyeres (Rugby League Week 3rd May 1975)**

Western Suburbs justified the faith coach Don Parish had in them when they played their way off the bottom of the Rugby League competition table with a spectacular 20-3 win over Parramatta yesterday. A record Lidcombe Oval crowd of 16,687 watched Wests recapture the form that carried them into last year's final. While Wests (4 points) have conceded a big start to competition leaders St George (10) and the five teams on eight points, their display gave the club hope that the season will not be as bleak as first appeared. Despite some shabby performances in recent matches, which earned them one win from five games, Parish resisted the temptation to sack players. He reasoned that they were top young players who could produce the football and he looked for the reason for their form loss. Last week Parish changed the training methods. For the first two training sessions he did not run the side with the ball but concentrated on hard, grinding fitness work. Perhaps Wests were not fit enough for those first games .... perhaps they were a little mentally stale .... but whatever the reason, they shrugged off their previous poor form and came up with a super six tries to one effort...It was a different looking Wests to the one that surrendered so meekly to Eastern Suburbs las weekend. The half-hearted and indecisive work in attack and defence was gone and in its place some of the old Wests' fire. They pounded the Parramatta attack with bruising defence that allowed only one try and their attack had more authority and drive. One of the big factors was the loss of hooker John McMartin with a rib cartilage injury, a legacy of a mid-week Amco Cup match. Wests won the scrums 13-7, including a decisive 9-4 margin in the vital second half. Wests scored two tries in the first half but with a big share of possession in the second half, their attack took command and put on another four tries. There were some fine tries in their overdue return to form with centre Robbie Parker, winger Don Rogers and full-back John Dorahy providing some class. Parker had a top match, scoring two tries and gave the final pass for three others. But his best work was in setting up Rogers' first try before half-time. The move followed a surging run by Dorahy and, from the play the ball, went out to Parker and on to Steve Knight. Parker doubled round to take the next pass and send Rogers over. He also had a major hand in Rogers' second try and the spectacular try scored by winger Trevor Scarr, who hurdled a covering tackle by Rob Hilditch to touch down. Parker's tries were impressive efforts, the first coming from a neat pass from Jim Murphy after only 10 minutes and the second when he sliced through the defence in a 30-metre run. Dorahy was dangerous, making a number of strong runs and in one he pulled clear of two defenders to score. In the forwards, John Donnelly had a top game, bruising the opposition with his defence and powerful running. ... **(Sydney Morning Herald 28th April 1975)**

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**Notes:** Wests finally put it together in this match. With Shane Day winning the scrums 12-6, the backs, led by a rampaging Robbie Parker, blew Parramatta away. Parker had his best game so far for Wests, while John Donnelly, with 28 effective tackles, was a powerhouse in the forwards. The forward defence of Wests was brutal in the first 20 minutes. Don Parish used the unusual tactic of training without the ball, to obvious effect. Dorahy only kicked 1/8 goals in the only dampener.