



1979 Round 6 Sunday 29th April Lidcombe Oval



Canterbury 15

def.

Western Suburbs 9

Stan CUTLER
 Chris ANDERSON
 Peter MORTIMER
 Greg BRENTNALL
 Steve GEARIN
 Garry HUGHES
 Steve MORTIMER
 Mark HUGHES
 Peter CASSILLES
 John ABBOTT
 Geoff ROBINSON
 George PEPONIS (c)
 John COVENEY
 Terry McCARTNEY

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

Don MOSELEY
 Wayne SMITH
 Ron BRODRICK
 John DORAHY
 Warren BOLAND
 John HEYWARD
 Tom RAUDONIKIS (c)
 Graeme O'GRADY
 Ray BROWN
 Les BOYD
 Bill CLOUGHESY
 Jack JEFFRIES
 Bruce GIBBS
 Mark BEAVEN
 Bob COOPER



Tries George PEPONIS
 Peter MORTIMER
 Chris ANDERSON

Wayne SMITH

Goals Steve GEARIN (3)

John DORAHY (2)
Don MOSELEY (1)

Match Description

Canterbury-Bankstown: Full-back: S Cutler; three-quarters: C Anderson, P Mortimer, G Brentnall, S Gearin; five-eighth: G Hughes; half: S Mortimer; forwards: M Hughes, P Cassilles, J Abbott, G Robinson, G Peponis (c), J Coveney

Western Suburbs: Full-back: D Moseley; three-quarters: W Smith, R Brodrick, J Dorahy, W Boland; five-eighth: J Heyward; half: T Raudonikis (c); forwards: G O'Grady, L Boyd, R Brown, W Cloughesy, J Jeffries, B Gibbs **Referee: G Hartley (Rugby League Week 3rd May 1979)**

Canterbury stands alone as leaders of the rugby league premiership for the first time in nine years after a match yesterday which left referee Greg Hartley nursing a sore shoulder and jaw. The Bulldogs bounded home 15-9 against Western Suburbs, defying the long-standing Lidcombe "curse". Six weeks ago, Canterbury were 33-1 bolters in premiership betting; this morning they are on top on their own with 10 points. Except for a one-point defeat by Parramatta they could be four points ahead of the field. Not since 1970 have Canterbury led the competition on their own. Yesterday they grabbed the lead with another enthusiastic stylish display of team football which eventually humbled Wests on their home ground. Wests had won 13 matches straight on the ground since their last loss, late in the 1977 season. ... It was a match which referee Greg Hartley won't quickly forget. Hartley injured a shoulder as he fell while scrambling to award a second-half try to Canterbury skipper George Peponis. Hartley had to award the try in a decidedly unconventional manner – sitting behind a cluster of players on the ground. Late in the match Hartley took a solid, and accidental, knock on the jaw as he dived in to quell a flare-up. Hartley momentarily reeled back holding his jaw and then had further work to do when George Peponis, Geoff Robinson and John Hayward battled it out. .. Canterbury controlled much of the game, particularly the second 40 minutes and scored three tries to one. The single Wests' try came in the 78th minute, with the game long gone. "I am bitterly disappointed," said Masters. "For the second successive week we have been outplayed and outclassed. I have to find some answers." Wests were back-peddalling yesterday from the third minute when Chris Anderson skipped away from Don Moseley's tackle, dummied to Les Boyd, and scored. It was Anderson's 66th try for the Bulldogs, beating Eddie Burns' long-standing record. With plenty of ball and the strong breeze at their backs Wests had every chance to control the game in the first half. They didn't. John Dorahy kicked two scrum penalty goals, but at 5-4 at half-time the Magpies' hopes of preserving the Lidcombe Oval record were looking very fragile indeed. They never looked to have a ghost of a chance in the second half. George Peponis stretched the lead to 10-4 with a dummy-half try in which he somehow managed to find an opening through a wall of defenders, and Canterbury's lively running and backing-up plus swarming defence had the Magpies under constant pressure. Wests looked a tired side in the second half and obviously the Amco Cup activities on Wednesday night had taken something out of them. The battle of the halves, everybody's big talking point before the game, didn't really happen. Tommy Raudonikis and Steve Mortimer rarely met head-to-head; afterwards they exchanged a quick handshake. ... **(Daily Telegraph 30th April 1979)**

Notes: Wests looked very jaded after their mid-week match against Balmain. They found it very hard to get into the match and it became their first loss in 13 games at Lidcombe Oval. There were a number of changes for this match, again an aftermath of the mid-week game. John Heyward came into the team at five-eighth with Graeme O'Grady going to lock after Bob Cooper was dropped. Les Boyd struggled with a shoulder injury until replaced in the 60th minute. Ron Brodrick also went off with an ankle injury, allowing Mark Beaven to make his debut.