



1983 Round 6 Sunday 3rd April Lidcombe Oval



Western Suburbs 9

def.

Parramatta 2

David GREENE
 Steve BROUGHTON
 Wayne SMITH
 Michael DUKE
 George GHOSN
 Terry LAMB
 Trevor COGGER
 Mark BEAVEN
 Brett GALE
 Brian BATTESE
 George FAHD
 Arthur MOUNTIER
 Bill HILLIARD (c)

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

Paul TAYLOR
 David LIDDIARD
 Michael CRONIN
 Will HARRIS
 Bard WILLIAMS
 Brett KENNY
 Steve ELLA
 Ray PRICE
 John MUGGLETON
 Don DUFFY
 Chris PHELAN
 Steve EDGE (c)
 Geoff BUGDEN



Tries Terry LAMB

Goals George GHOSN (2)
Terry LAMB (1) Field Goal

Michael CRONIN (1)

Match Description

Parramatta: Full-back: P Taylor; three-quarters: D Liddiard, M Cronin, W Harris, B Williams; five-eighth: B Kenny; half: S Ella; forwards: R Price, J Muggleton, D Duffy, C Phelan, S Edge (c), G Bugden

Western Suburbs: Full-back: D Greene; three-quarters: S Broughton, W Smith, M Duke, G Ghosn; five-eighth: T Lamb; half: T Cogger; forwards: M Beaven, B Gale, B Battese, G Fahd, A Mountier, W Hilliard (c) **Referee: G Annesley (Sun 5th April 1983)**

In 1971, there were fears of a savage beer tax rise in Sydney, China was admitted to the United Nations, and Parramatta Rugby League team beat Western Suburbs, at Lidcombe Oval. Parramatta have not won at Lidcombe since. Yesterday looked the ideal day to break the hoodoo. But Wests, who had not won a match this year, upset the premiers, 9-2, in drizzling rain. Parramatta coach Jack Gibson paid tribute to Wests' strong tackling. "We found it so hard to score due to their good defence," he said. "They might even beat us next week if we played them." Parramatta's customary exciting bursts of attacking football did not eventuate as Wests' defenders stood their ground resolutely and swooped to stifle their opposing numbers before they could make ground. Working in packs of three or four, Wests also made certain that their Parramatta opponents could not slip a pass away and create an overlap. Second-rower, Brian Battese, a former Illawarra and Brisbane player, impressed with his fearless running to continually beat Parramatta's first line of defence. He was superbly backed up by many others, particularly front-rower George Fahd and full-back David Greene. With the wet ball also affecting Parramatta's usually immaculate handling, the Eels repeatedly lost possession by being hustled into error. Parramatta's long kicking was also below par. Several badly directed bombs and other kicks lost ground while Wests' Wayne Smith and David Greene gained enormous yardage with astute kicks for the line. It was a bomb in the 50th minute that gave Wests victory. With the score at 2-2, Smith kicked toward the Parramatta goal-posts from about 40 metres out. In the chaos that followed, Wests' five-eighth Terry Lamb pounced on the skidding ball and shot over to score the only try of the match. During the next 30 minutes Parramatta tried frantically to find the elusive opening that would give them a try. Despite working the ball wide continually, the Eels could find no weakness in Wests' wall. And in the 70th minute Lamb made Parramatta's task even harder when he potted a field goal from 20 metres out to make the score 9-2. It was the end for Parramatta. **(Sydney Morning Herald 4th April 1983)**

... Wests tackled the Eels out of the match, and employed a vastly superior kicking game through Wayne Smith and Terry Lamb. The big hero for the Magpies was second-rower Brian Battese, who joined the club from Wynnum-Manly in Brisbane simply because no other Sydney club made him an offer. He brought off some big hits in defence and invariably made ground with his strong running. "They came straight up the centre, so it was easy to line them up," Battese said bluntly. "We knew their strength in the backs," Lamb said. **(The Sun 5th April 1983)**

Notes: Wests caused the biggest upset of the season, beating the previously unbeaten Parramatta with smothering tackles on a wet day. Brian Battese led the charge with 36 tackles, closely supported by Bill Hilliard's Captain's knock. In the backs, Terry Lamb was outstanding, his late field goal sealing the match. A feature of the game was the tactical kicking by Smith and Greene which continually back-pedalled Parramatta.