



1987 Round 7 Sunday 12th April Orana Park



Western Suburbs 17

def.

Eastern Suburbs 4

Steve McCOY
 John ALLANSON
 Phillip DUKE
 Ian NADEN
 Allen GEELAN
 Doug RAWLINGS
 Trevor COGGER
 Ian SCHUBERT (c)
 John ELIAS
 John BILBIJA
 Ian FREEMAN
 Alan FALLAH
 Les WHITE
 Wayne LAMBKIN
 Scott TRONC
 Bruce CLARK
 Terry DONNELLAN

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

Gary WURTH
 Steve MORRIS
 Gary PROHM
 Tony MELROSE
 Wayne CHALLIS
 Brendan HALL
 Laurie SPINA
 John TOBIN
 Hugh McGAHAN (c)
 Trevor GILLMEISTER
 Peter JOHNSTON
 Kevin HASTINGS
 Brad TESSMANN
 David SMITH
 Steve HARDY
 Brad TASSELL

Tries Doug RAWLINGS
 Allen GEELAN
 John ELIAS

Gary PROHM

Goals Ian SCHUBERT (2)
 Ian NADEN (1) One Field Goal

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: S McCoy; three-quarters: J Allanson, P Duke, I Naden, A Geelan; five-eighth: D Rawlings; half: T Cogger; forwards: I Schubert (c), J Bilbija, J Elias, I Freeman, A Fallah, L White

Eastern Suburbs: Full-back: G Wurth; three-quarters: S Morris, G Prohm, T Melrose, W Challis; five-eighth: B Hall; half: L Spina; forwards: J Tobin, T Gillmeister, H McGahan (c), B Tessman, K Hastings, P Johnston **Referee: W Harrigan (Rugby League Week 15th April 1987)**

West's fullback sensation Steve McCoy, whose attacking skills have wowed Magpie supporters this year, turned his talents to defence yesterday. The Ginger Meggs lookalike saved **FOUR** tries with copybook tackles as Wests soared back to the winners' circle in a 17-4 spanking of Easts at Orana Park. With the Roosters attacking desperately in the last 10 minutes, the Central Coast custodian threw himself at the legs of on-rushing ball carriers with tries looking certain. Steve Morris, Hugh McGahan, Darren Smith and Laurie Spina were dropped like ducks in a shooting gallery by the little man who is fast gaining the biggest reputation in Campbelltown. "Fullback is my favourite position and defence is a vital part of my job," McCoy, 22, said later. "Tackling doesn't worry me in the slightest and I owe my technique to Keith Cook, the former Balmain prop who coached me up at Terrigal last year. "He taught me to move in on the ball carrier at the last moment and that's the secret. If you don't move in, you're flat-footed and can look silly if the guy steps." In just seven rounds of the Winfield Cup, McCoy has shown he is a player who oozes class and it's obvious why six clubs, apart from Wests, chased his signature in the off-season. "I joined the Magpies because I wanted to play first grade," he said. "If I went to a club such as Parramatta, I would have had to serve an apprenticeship in the lower grades where I don't think I'd have learned as much." Wests made a mockery of their lowly standing on the competition table with three tries to one rout of the one-time competition ladder. They made Easts look second-rate with an enthusiastic, swarming defence while in attack there was skill, enterprise and, at times, a marvellous sense of daring. Smart tries by second-rower John Elias and five-eighth Doug Rawlings paved the way for a 12-0 lead after 20 minutes and the signs were everywhere the Roosters were in for another afternoon of feather ruffling. ... Wests changed at 12-4 and grew in confidence when centre Ian Naden steered over his fifth field goal of the year. ... Some of Easts' late attacking raids looked certain to register points – others were downright pathetic. Magpie centre Phillip Duke capped an impressive debut when he sent winger Allen Geelan over with a clever flick pass three minutes from the bell. "I thought we should have scored two or three more tries but who's counting?," chirped effervescent Wests' coach Steve Ghosn in the dressing room. "Seriously, it was a top effort all round and I was particularly pleased with our defence. We worked hard on it all week and the results were obvious." Wests had wall-to-wall heroes including McCoy, centre Ian Naden, winger John Allanson and hard-working forwards John Bilbija and Ian Freeman. **(Daily Mirror 13th April 1987)**

Notes: Wests came back to form with an enthusiastic performance. John Elias, back from suspension, led the way with 33 tackles. They led 12-0 and then went on with it on the back of a strong defensive effort. Trevor Cogger's kicking was crucial and Steve McCoy saved at least four tries with last-ditch tackles. Phillip Duke was very impressive. Terry Donnellan debuted as a replacement.