



1979 Round 8 Sunday 13th May Henson Park



Western Suburbs 19

def.

Newtown 16

Buddy CAIN
 Wayne SMITH
 Mark BEAVEN
 Col ENSOR
 Warren BOLAND
 Don MOSELEY
 Tom RAUDONIKIS (c)
 Graeme O'GRADY
 Les BOYD
 Ray BROWN
 John DONNELLY
 Jack JEFFRIES
 Bruce GIBBS
 Bill CLOUGHESY

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

Phil SIGSWORTH
 Chris DOYLE
 Mick RYAN
 Brian HETHERINGTON
 Mark OGILVIE
 Ken WILSON (c)
 Barry WOOD
 John RIBOT
 Des DYKES
 Trevor RYAN
 Steve HAGE
 Barry JENSEN
 Bill NOONAN
 Craig ELLIS

Tries Jack JEFFRIES
 Ray BROWN
 Warren BOLAND

Mick RYAN (2)
 John RIBOT (2)

Goals Don MOSELEY (5)

Ken WILSON (2)

Match Description

Newtown: Full-back: P Sigsworth; three-quarters: C Doyle, B Hetherington, M Ryan, M Ogilvie; five-eighth: K Wilson (c); half: B Wood; forwards: J Ribot, D Dykes, T Ryan, S Hage, B Jensen, W Noonan

Western Suburbs: Full-back: E Cain; three-quarters: W Smith, M Beavan, C Ensor, W Boland; five-eighth: D Mosley; half: T Raudonikis (c); forwards: G O'Grady, R Brown, L Boyd, B Gibbs, J Jeffries, J Donnelly **Referee: J Gocher (Rugby League Week 17th May 1979)**

"Do you think you'll play for Australia this year, Tom?" piped the cheeky voice from the cluster of tiny well-wishers. Wests' battle-worn captain stubbed out a cigarette, winked and replied, "I hope so mate but I won't care as long as Wests are winning." Then, turning attentions to the press, Tom Raudonikis said, "When the kids stop asking for autographs, I'll know I'm gone." As always, Raudonikis' first thoughts were for his Magpies and not for a meeting a few hours later by Sydney representative selectors. Raudonikis, in his best display for many weeks, had driven Wests to a 19-16 win over Newtown at Henson Park, in a match that saw the Jets tally four tries against three. "You don't realise how desperate it has been for us," added Raudonikis. "We didn't play well but at least we won and where would we have been if we lost to Newtown?" The win ended a three-match losing streak for Wests – but only just. The scoreboard wasn't an indication that Newtown, for much of the game, played better football. The normally reliable boot of captain Ken Wilson let Newtown down on a blustery day. Wilson's two goals from five attempts, compared to Don Moseley's five from six for Wests was the difference. And one of Wilson's misses was a heart-breaker from almost in front that would have given Newtown a 10-9 lead. A couple of Newtown tries were crackers, but little consolation for another week without change to their premiership standing. Centre Mick Ryan streaked 60 metres for a try from a planned move involving five players, and lock John Ribot once again proved he was easily the fastest forward in the premiership, blitzing the defence for a "double." But there was no better player than versatile Wests' forward Ray Brown. Brown, who capably handles hooker, second-row or lock, virtually won the game for Wests. At 11-all, 19 minutes from the end Brown swooped on a grubber kick by Moseley to score and then a few minutes later backed up a Les Boyd break that resulted in hooker Jack Jeffries crossing. Brown also uses the ball well and has proved in his first Sydney season to be one of the real value buys. **(The Sun 14th May 1979)**

Western Suburbs coach Roy Masters claimed that winning two premiership points was the only satisfaction he got from yesterday's 19-16 victory over Newtown at Henson Park..... The Magpies looked set for a comfortable win after a converted try by winger Warren Boland and two penalty goals to Moseley sent them to a 9-3 lead at half-time..... Brown, Moseley and skipper Tommy Raudonikis were the main forces behind the Magpies' win. Masters stated afterwards it was Raudonikis' best game for a month..... **(Daily Telegraph 14th May 1979)**

Notes: Overall, this was a pretty ordinary performance but the two competition points were valuable. Les Boyd was fired up all day but his second-row partner, Ray Brown, was the best forward on the field. He scored a late try and set up the other to cap a fine game. Tom Raudonikis was also at his desperate best. Don Moseley's accurate goal-kicking was also a major factor in the win. Col Ensor debuted in the centres.