



1972 Round 8 Saturday 6th May Penrith Park



Western Suburbs 23

def.

Penrith 5

Tony FORD
Don ROGERS
Stephen KNIGHT
Wayne MERRY
Stephen SATTERLY
John HEYWARD
Tom RAUDONIKIS (c)
John BAKER
John ELFORD
Barry BRYANT
John O'BRYAN
Jim CROUCHER
John WALKER

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

Mike LEARY
David IRVINE
David APPLEBEE
Ian McKECHNIE
Reg WALTON
Zac OLEJARNIK
Noel SING
Phil KLIENDIEST
Ron LYNCH (c)
Gary HARVEY
Tim SHEENS
Ron WORKMAN
Mike JONES

Tries

John BAKER
Barry BRYANT
Wayne MERRY

Zac OLEJARNIK

Goals

Tony FORD (7)

Reg WALTON (1)

Match Description

Penrith: Full-back: M Leary; three-quarters: D Irvine, D Applebee, I McKechnie, R Walton; five-eighth: Z Olejarnik; half: N Sing; forwards: P Kliendienst, R Lynch (c), G Harvey, T Sheens, R Workman, M Jones

Western Suburbs: Full-back: A Ford; three-quarters: D Rogers, S Knight, W Merry, S Satterly; five-eighth: J Heyward; half: T Raudonikis (c); forwards: J Baker, B Bryant, J Elford, J O'Bryan, J Croucher, J Walker **Referee: B Barnes (The Sun 5th May 1972)**

Last year's Rugby League wooden-spooners, Western Suburbs, have surpassed their entire points total for last year, after only eight rounds of the competition. Wests comfortably beat Penrith 23-5 at Penrith Park yesterday to earn nine points for the season thus far – one more than their entire total last year when they were wooden-spooners. The win, Wests' third in a row, will probably earn Wests their first SCG match of the day for three years. Wests play St George next weekend and Saints win over Souths yesterday, makes it the most attractive game of Round 9. Western Suburbs are moulding into quite a formidable combination and no doubt they will finish a long way from the wooden spoon they took last year. Coach Don Parish, with a sprinkling of new players, has injected new life into the team. On top of that, half-back and captain Tom Raudonikis, playing at his best, is inspiring the other players to lift their game and Wests are not only winning their matches at present – they are winning them easily. Wests' 23 points scored yesterday, bring their tally to 80 in the last three matches. Raudonikis was the man most responsible for Penrith's downfall as he set up two tries with long probing runs, which split the Penrith defence wide open. The switch from centre to second-row for John Elford has been a great tactical move by the Magpies. He is such a strong runner and bruising defender that he has made an impression with each of his games in the forwards. **(The Sun-Herald 7th May 1972)**

Wests laid claims for their first match of the day recognition when they beat Penrith 23-5 in the Rugby League game at Penrith Park yesterday. Wests have won their last three games and are drawn to meet competition leaders St George next week. The Magpies were always in control yesterday and consolidated a 12-0 lead at half-time. They added a third try late in the game by centre Wayne Merry to wrap up proceedings. Earlier, Tony Ford had shut Penrith out of the match with a grand kicking display, landing seven goals from 11 attempts. Penrith's lone try came in the 50th minute when Olejarnik handled twice before scoring himself. A crashing 35-yard burst by second-rower John Elford led to the first Wests' try, 11 minutes after the kick-off. Elford beat several tackles and sent Barry Bryant over beside the posts. Tony Ford converted. Wests were again on the attack from the kick-off and Penrith fullback Mike Leary saved when he caught a high ball with Wests' attackers converging. Two good runs by Penrith prop Tim Sheens relieved the position. Ford put Wests 7-0 with a tremendous 40-yard shot following a scrum infringement. Soon after Wests were in again. Raudonikis dummied and raced 40 yards to send lock forward John Baker over. Ford made no mistake and Wests led 12-0. A minute before half-time Wests lost a scoring chance when prop John Walker dropped the ball on the Penrith try line. **(Sunday Mirror 7th May 1972)**

Notes: Wests continued their winning form with an easy win over Penrith at their home ground. Wests were always in control in a very dominant display. Tom Raudonikis was again outstanding, setting up two of the tries with long breaks. John Elford was now establishing himself as one of the best second-rowers in the League. Wayne Merry came into the centres in place of the dropped Allan Ashmore.