



1974 Round 9 Thursday 13th June Lidcombe Oval



Western Suburbs 20

def.

Canterbury-Bankstown 3



John DORAHY
 Stephen SATTERLY
 Stephen KNIGHT
 Robbie PARKER
 Russell MULLINS
 Russell WORTH
 Geoff SMITH
 Jim MYERS
 Warren SNODGRASS
 John ELFORD (c)
 Pat HUNDY
 John PURCELL
 Mick LIUBINSKAS
 Geoff FOSTER

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

Garry DOWLING
 Chris ANDERSON
 Peter WINCHESTER
 Terry MURPHY
 Max COLE
 Don MOSELEY
 Phil YOUNG
 Doug LAUGHTON
 John PEEK
 Brian LOCKWOOD
 Henry TATANA
 Barry PHILLIS
 Bill NOONAN (c)

Tries Russell MULLINS (2)

Chris ANDERSON

Goals John DORAHY (7)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: J Dorahy; three-quarters: S Satterly, S Knight, R Parker, R Mullins; five-eighth: R Worth; half: G Smith; forwards: J Myers, J Elford (c), W Snodgrass, P Hundy, J Purcell, M Liubinskas

Canterbury-Bankstown: Full-back: G Dowling; three-quarters: C Anderson, P Winchester, T Murphy, M Cole; five-eighth: D Moseley; half: P Young; forwards: D Laughton, J Peek, B Lockwood, H Tatana, B Phillis, W Noonan **Referee: L Bruyeres (Rugby League Week 20th June 1974)**

Former Country full-back John Dorahy finally "arrived" in Sydney Rugby League when he engineered Western Suburbs' surprise 20-3 win over Canterbury-Bankstown yesterday. Dorahy, the man rated "the best since Langlands" on the South Coast, kicked seven goals from nine attempts on a heavy Lidcombe Oval. His general play was excellent too and it is no coincidence that his first two games for Wests in his rightful position at full-back have resulted in wins over Cronulla-Sutherland and Canterbury. Canterbury never really broke out of a trot against the enthusiastic Western Suburbs youngsters and suffered their third successive defeat. The Berries now share equal second place on 14 points with Newtown and North Sydney with Manly-Warringah capable of reaching 14 points at the "half-way" mark when they play their postponed match against Penrith. Dorahy, still only 19 years old, broke his thumb at the start of the season and was played in the centre and on the wing because Tony Ford was going so well at full-back. Yesterday was only his fifth first grade game and he had Wests' two competition points docked up by half-time. The ground was heavy, without being muddy, but Canterbury obliged by giving away silly penalties and Dorahy kicked his goals from all angles, including one from 50 yards out. Wests led 8-0 at half-time and went to 10-0, 20 minutes into the second-half and 13-0 a few minutes later when right winger Russell Mullins touched down. Lock Jim Myers took advantage of a bustling run by centre Stephen Knight and neatly drew Canterbury full-back Gary Dowling before slipping the ball inside to Mullins. Canterbury's right winger Chris Anderson scored his team's only points after 33 minutes when he beat several defenders after an orthodox three-quarter line movement. But five minutes later Dorahy and Mullins combined for a great try to finish the match 20-3. Dorahy kicked high into the Canterbury "in-goal" and Mullins judged the bouncing ball perfectly as he flung himself through the air and pulled the ball to his chest on the half-volley. Canterbury's forwards looked jaded after tough games against Newtown and Eastern Suburbs and maybe one or two could have missed this match because of injury. Lock Doug Laughton was dangerous several times in the first half but faded in the last 40 minutes. **(Sydney Morning Herald 14th June 1974)**

Canterbury-Bankstown suffered its third defeat in four matches and their premiership hopes nose-dived when they were outclassed 20-3 by Western Suburbs at Lidcombe last night. Canterbury's much-vaunted pack fell to pieces under Wests' persistent attack and obviously are feeling the strain of recent tough matches. Careless handling and bad judgement cost Canterbury tries in the first 20 minutes but when Wests settled down their attacking play completely disorganized Canterbury. **(The Sun 14th June 1974)**

Notes: Wests put themselves back into semi-final possibility with a convincing win over Canterbury in this postponed match. Tom Raudonikis was out on Test duties, allowing Geoff Smith to make his debut. This was a very strong forward tackling performance with Myers, Hundy and Liubinskas to the fore. However, the real star of the match was John Dorahy, who stamped his full potential in only his fifth First Grade match. Russell Mullins also played well and scored a spectacular diving try near full-time, even though the field was still heavy from continuing rain.