



1964 Round 14 Saturday 25th July Pratten Park



Western Suburbs 12

def.

South Sydney 7

Rob McGUINNESS
 Jim GIBSON
 John ARMSTRONG
 Gil MacDOUGALL
 Peter DIMOND
 Roger BUTTENSCHAW
 Pat THOMAS
 Kevin SMYTH
 John HAYES
 Jim CODY
 Denis MEANEY
 Noel KELLY (c)
 Ken OWENS

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

Kevin LONGBOTTOM
 Mike CLEARY
 Arthur BRANNIGAN
 Jim LISLE (c)
 Greg McMILLAN
 Mick FALLA
 John ROBINSON
 Ron COOTE
 John SATTTLER
 Bill OWEN
 Richie POWELL
 Fred ANDERSON
 Bob McCARTHY

Tries Rob McGUINNESS
 John ARMSTRONG

Greg McMILLAN

Goals John ARMSTRONG (2)
 Rob McGUINNESS (1)

Greg McMILLAN (2)

Match Description

South Sydney: Full-back: K Longbottom; three-quarters: M Cleary, A Brannighan, J Lisle (c), G McMillan; five-eighth: M Falla; half: J Robinson; forwards: R Coote, J Sattler, W Owen, R McCarthy, F Anderson, R Powell

Western Suburbs: Full-back: R McGuinness; three-quarters: J Gibson, J Armstrong, G MacDougall, P Dimond; five-eighth: R Buttenschaw; half: P Thomas; forwards: K Smyth, J Hayes, J Cody, D Meaney, N Kelly (c), K Owens **Referee: J Bradley (The Sun 25th July 1964)**

A Western Suburbs team of spare parts convincingly beat fancied South Sydney in a stirring match at Pratten Park yesterday. It was well-deserved win for unlucky Wests, which, because of injuries to key players, took the field with a team of make-shift, and in some cases, untried players. The crowd of nearly 6000 was on its toes late in the second half as Wests came from five points behind to win with fine tries by John Armstrong and Rob McGuinness. With about 15 minutes to go McGuinness, playing as a make-shift full-back in place of the injured Ken Bray, took an inside pass from Peter Dimond to score in the corner. That made it 7-5 for Souths and from then on there was no stopping Wests. Seconds later, 19-year-old John Armstrong, filling in for Roy Ferguson, levelled the scores with a goal from half-way. The crowd seemed to sense a Wests' victory. This urged the Magpies on. McGuinness kicked through the ball rebounded from a Souths' player on to Peter Dimond He kicked at it before it hit the ground..... and Armstrong beat two Souths' players in the race for the ball to score the winning try. Five minutes from the end Armstrong wrapped it up with an angled goal from 40 yards out. South Sydney was not disgraced. The players tackled vigorously throughout, but a few lapses gave Wests its chance. ... Noel Kelly, Wests' Captain, played a rugged match and kept his team going when the chips were down. Kelly was cautioned twice by referee Jack Bradley. Kelly said afterwards he was impressed with the form of the two young players in the team – John Armstrong at centre and Pat Thomas at half. "We had a good talk before we took the field and they knew what was expected of them. They played well under pressure," Kelly said. ..Peter Dimond and Mike Cleary, Test wingers, who opposed each other, enhanced their reputations. Both frequently left their wings to come in-field and tackle the centres. Unfortunately, they saw little of the ball. John Hayes, Wests' second-rower, and Bob McCarthy, his South counterpart, both played soundly. So did Gil MacDougall and Ron Coote. **(Sunday Mirror 26th July 1964)**

.....Within three minutes McGuinness sealed Wests' win with a quick bit of thinking. He linked up with his backs and kicked ahead, catching Longbottom out of position. The ball bounced over the Souths' line with lock Ron Coote desperately striving to save a Wests' score. As Coote lunged at the ball, Wests' centre John Armstrong appeared to push him, enabling Armstrong to touch down. Although Souths' supporters howled in disgust, referee Jack Bradley had no hesitation in ruling a try. Although crippled with injuries in past weeks, Wests still retains a slender chance of a semi-final berth. McGuinness, lock Smyth, and winger Dimond stood out in the hard-worked Wests' line-up..... **(Sunday Telegraph 26th July 1964)**

Notes: This was tremendous win by Wests. Continuing injuries had devastated the team and this was a real make-shift group of players. Rob McGuinness went to full-back to replace Ken Bray, who had been concussed three matches in a row. Don Malone was a late withdrawal and Pat Thomas, who had been picked on the wing, went to five-eighth to make his debut. Jim Gibson also made his debut on the wing, while 19-year-old John Armstrong went into the centres and scored the thrilling match-winning try. The game marked the return of Kevin Smyth back from a serious leg injury and he played solidly.