



1987 Round 2 Saturday 7th March Orana Park



Western Suburbs 32

def.

Parramatta 16

Rod PETHYBRIDGE
 Steve McCOY
 Brett GALE
 Ian NADEN
 Allen GEELAN
 Brett DAVIS
 Trevor COGGER
 Ian SCHUBERT (c)
 John ELIAS
 John BILBIJA
 Les WHITE
 Alan FALLAH
 Garry WEBSTER
 Ian FREEMAN
 Wayne LAMBKIN
 Craig ELLIS
 Doug RAWLINGS

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

Graeme ATKINS
 Tony CHALMERS
 John MUGGLETON
 Steve ELLA
 Louis TAKAIRANGI
 Brian JACKSON
 Peter STERLING (c)
 Mark LAURIE
 Steve SHARP
 Peter WYNN
 Terry LEABEATER
 Michael MOSELEY
 Geoff BUGDEN
 Jeremy LILLIS
 Graham SETTREE
 Glenn MANSFIELD

Tries

Allen GEELAN (2)
 Ian SCHUBERT
 Rod PETHYBRIDGE
 Steve McCOY
 Ian NADEN

Steve ELLA
 Graeme ATKINS

Goals

Ian NADEN (4) Two field goals
 Brett DAVIS (1)

Steve ELLA (4)

Match Description

Parramatta: Full-back: G Atkins; three-quarters: T Chalmers, J Muggleton, S Ella, L Takairangi; five-eighth: B Jackson; half: P Sterling (c); forwards: M Laurie, S Sharp, P Wynn, T Leabeater, M Moseley, G Bugden

Western Suburbs: Full-back: R Pethybridge; three-quarters: A Geelan, I Naden, B Gale, S McCoy; five-eighth: B Davis; half: T Cogger; forwards: I Schubert (c), J Bilbija, J Elias, L White, A Fallah, G Webster **Referee: W Harrigan (Rugby League Week 11th March 1987)**

Western Suburbs celebrated the move to their new ground at Orana Park yesterday with one of their finest wins in recent years when they completely outplayed the premiers Parramatta and won 32-16. The convincing nature of the win, when Wests – whose captain Ian Schubert put on a superb display – actually outplayed Parramatta in almost every department has again raised the question whether Parramatta are on the slide. ... Yesterday's win was a massive lift for Wests, especially in their new district, but coach Steve Ghosn is looking for a lot more than that. "It's no use winning one match and then losing the next," Ghosn said. "We must win two or three good matches in succession and then we can stand up and be counted." His team stood up yesterday and they showed there is a lot of football in them. "We worked hard for that and we can play football," captain Ian Schubert said. "We were a lot more disciplined than we have been, which you have to be to beat a team like Parramatta." Wests had a firm grip on the match by half-time, after two tries by Allen Geelan which gave them a 12-4 lead. Whatever chance Parramatta had was destroyed in the first 19 minutes of the second half when Wests scored three spectacular tries to boost their lead to a match-winning 26-4. Parramatta gave their supporters a little to cheer about when Steve Ella and then Graeme Atkins scored to cut Wests' lead to 26-16, but there was never a chance of them snatching a win. Just to confirm their superiority, Wests scored the final try when fullback Rod Pethybridge toed a ball through from a scrum win and then won the desperate race for the ball. Wests' players relished the sloppy Parramatta defence, backing each other up to keep the attack alive and Parramatta on the defensive. There was an abundance of good players in Wests' team, with Geelan outstanding with his strong work in attack and some fine defence. He was there to take a superb round the back pass from the impressive Ian Naden after 14 minutes to score, and four minutes later he followed up and dived on the ball after Louis Takairangi dropped the ball and Brett Gale toed it ahead. Schubert seemed certain to score a couple of minutes into the second half but did not see two supporting players. He joined in from the play the ball and flicked out a pass to Naden, who dived over wide out. Schubert, who had a super game, scored the best try of the match after 15 minutes when he handled three times before taking the final pass to triumphantly dive over. **(The Sun-Herald 8th March 1987)**

Notes: In their first premiership game at Orana Park, Campbelltown, Wests caused a huge upset, thrashing the highly fancied Parramatta. John Bilbija and John Elias set the foundation, allowing Les White to have another big game and Ian Naden to be at his blockbusting best. Allen Geelan also had his best game for Wests, in a match where Wests found the discipline lacking against Penrith. Coach Ghosn had to bring them down from Cloud Nine to play Norths in a mid-week Panasonic Cup match.