



1966 Round 4 Saturday 23rd April Cumberland Oval



Parramatta 11

def.

Western Suburbs 0

Ken THORNETT (c)
Len STACKER
Fred PICKUP
Barry RUSHWORTH
Jim BROPHY
Ivor LINGARD
Ern GILLON
Ron LYNCH
Mike JONES
Dick THORNETT
Vic COLLINS
Bill RAYNER
Brian HAMBLY

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

Dave BARSLEY
John MOWBRAY
Gil MacDOUGALL
Rob McGUINNESS
Peter DIMOND
Denis PITTARD
Pat THOMAS
Jim CODY
John HAYES
Bill HANSEN
Denis MEANEY
Noel THORNTON
Noel KELLY (c)
Graham BEVAN



Tries Barry RUSHWORTH
Ivor LINGARD
Jim BROPHY

Goals Len STACKER (1)

Match Description

Parramatta: Full-back: K Thornett (c); three-quarters: L Stacker, F Pickup, B Rushworth, J Brophy; five-eighth: I Lingard; half: E Gillon; forwards: R Lynch, R Thornett, M Jones, B Hambly, W Rayner, V Collins

Western Suburbs: Full-back: D Barsley; three-quarters: J Mowbray, R McGuinness, G MacDougall, P Dimond; five-eighth: D Pittard; half: P Thomas; forwards: J Cody, J Hayes, W Hansen, D Meaney, N Thornton, N Kelly (c) **Referee: J Bradley (The Sun 23rd April 1966)**

Parramatta Rugby League team yesterday lifted itself out of the football doldrums to score an upset 11-0 win over Western Suburbs at Cumberland Oval. Spearheaded by a magnificent Ken Thornett, Parramatta changed from last week's rabble to a smooth-functioning highly promising side. Two fine tries in the first ten minutes of play, in which Thornett had a major hand, was a crippling start for Wests. There was just no comparison between the Parramatta side beaten so decisively last Sunday by Norths, to yesterday's team. One man, the amazing Ken Thornett, brought about the transformation to give Parramatta its first win of the season. He was injured last week, but yesterday, his knee better and fresher after the week's spell, he wasted no time in letting Wests know just who was boss. For the first 15 minutes of the match Parramatta had most of the possession and Thornett, running, propping, swerving and bumping his way through the defence, brought havoc to Wests. But he wrecked what could have been a perfect game when he received a caution on a touch judge's report in the second half after a scuffle with a Wests' player. Parramatta deserved its win And deserved to win in the convincing fashion it did. There was no doubt that it was the superior team, both in attack, but particularly in defence. Failure of Wests' forwards to move up quickly in the rucks left gaps which the eager Parramatta men quickly exploited. Young Parramatta forward Mike Jones was one to relish this slackness. The match was an enjoyable one, with referee Jack Bradley taking a pat on the back for his intelligent handling in allowing play to flow along. Both teams were anxious to throw the ball about as much as possible, but Parramatta's ability to hang on to it when in a scoring position was another telling factor. In these opening 10 minutes when Parramatta launched its non-stop barrage, Wests had two chances, but a knock-on and a player being pushed into touch saw possession again go to Parramatta. It was thrilling action in the opening minutes of the second half when Wests went out determined to lessen Parramatta's 8-0 lead. Five minutes after the start Wests' winger John Mowbray crossed, but it was ruled "no-try" on a linesman's decision when he knocked the corner flag down before grounding the ball. Almost immediately, it was Parramatta's turn and some neat work saw Lingard toe through a loose ball, regather, but when he was downed by a desperation tackle two yards from the line he passed the ball from the ground and was penalised. Parramatta also had other unlucky breaks when two "tries" were correctly disallowed by Bradley. But there was no doubt about its two early tries, the first a determined effort by Barry Rushworth and the second by Lingard. Wests were unlucky to lose its strong winger Peter Dimond after 20 minutes of the first half and prop Noel Kelly suffered a recurrence of a shoulder injury. Kelly, despite the injury, played strongly and tried to liven up his team with some excellent runs from the rucks. ... **(The Sun-Herald 24th April 1966)**

Notes: Injuries again played a role as Peter Dimond pulled a hamstring in the first 20 minutes and was replaced by Graham Bevan. Noel Kelly also had a recurring shoulder injury but still led most of the forward charges in yet another inspiring display. With Dimond absent, ex-Wests winger Jim Brophy had a strong match but the difference, as was often the case in Wests/Parramatta clashes, was Ken Thornett at full-back who again was a powerhouse in defence and attack. Dave Barsley also played all over the field, bobbing up in attack but being very strong in defence. Jim Cody also showed himself to be the emerging forward leader, with another rousing defensive display.