



1984 Round 6 Sunday 15th April Kogarah Oval



St George 17

Brian JOHNSON
 Steve MORRIS
 Brian JOHNSTON
 Michael O'CONNOR
 Steve GEARIN
 Michael BEATTIE
 Perry HADDOCK
 Graeme O'GRADY
 Pat JARVIS
 Chris WALSH
 Craig YOUNG (c)
 Richard JONES
 Robert STONE

def.

Western Suburbs 14

Wayne SMITH (c)
 Steve BROUGHTON
 Brett DAVIDSON
 Gerald CELARC
 Mick PINKERTON
 Trevor COGGER
 John McARTHUR
 Mark HARRIGAN
 Allen GEELAN
 Garry WEBSTER
 John COVENEY
 Pat ENGLISH
 Greg McELHONE
 Matt CARTER



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

Tries

Steve GEARIN
 Steve MORRIS
 Brian JOHNSON

Mick PINKERTON (2)
 Steve BROUGHTON

Goals

Steve GEARIN (2)
 Craig YOUNG (1) Field goal

John McARTHUR (1)

Match Description

St George: Full-back: B Johnson; three-quarters: S Gearin, B Johnstone, M O'Connor, S Morris; five-eighth: M Beattie; half: P Haddock; forwards: G O'Grady, P Jarvis, C Walsh, C Young (c), R Jones, R Stone

Western Suburbs: Full-back: W Smith (c); three-quarters: S Broughton, B Davidson, G Celarc, M Pinkerton; five-eighth: T Cogger; half: J McArthur; forwards: M Harrigan, A Geelan, G Webster, J Coveney, P English, G McElhone **Referee: G O'Donnell (Daily Mirror 16th April 1984)**

St George can thank the Craig Young passport mix-up last week for yesterday's last-gasp win over Wests at Kogarah. The Dragons finished the match lucky 17-14 winners and would certainly have gone down if it hadn't been for a superb second-half effort from the Test second-rower. And had "Albert's" passport been in order for him to take his place in the Oceania side that played Europe on Saturday, there's no way Wests would be on the bottom of the table today.In a match in which the better side lost, Wests held the lead for the majority of the match, only to lose to a superb length-of-the-field try, six minutes from full-time. The try, scored by speedy winger Steve Gearin, was one of the few moments of joy for Saints' fans in one of the side's worst performances of the season. ... Wests stunned St George with an opening attacking flurry that saw the Magpies post two tries within the first 20 minutes. Forwards Gary Webster and Allen Geelan combined to send winger Mick Pinkerton over in the 13th minute and opposite winger Steve Broughton was on hand to finish a fine backline move six minutes later. Half John McArthur couldn't convert either try from difficult positions and Steve Gearin put Saints back in the game at 8-2 with a penalty goal in the 22nd minute. A 60-metre burst by lock Graeme O'Grady after a blatant forward pass resulted in the Dragons' first try to winger Steve Morris 12 minutes before half time. Saints then drew level soon after the resumption when centre Brian Johnston was on hand to snap up a perfect Young grubber kick to the corner. Gearin missed the conversion but Saints hit the front for the first time 11-10 when Young potted a field goal with a wobbly left-footed kick from a difficult angle. But the Magpies showed plenty of heart to regain the lead when Pinkerton scored his second try after a break by McArthur from a Wests' scrum win against the head in the 62nd minute. The Magpies looked set to post their first win of the season, 14-11 ahead, before Saints got their act together six minutes from the finish. Centre Johnston did the initial damage, putting fullback Brian Johnston into the clear inside the Dragons' quarter. Johnson sent the ball out to winger Gearin, who just beat the flying McArthur in a thrilling 70-metre dash to the corner. "It won't be long before Wests win their first match," Masters said in praise of his former charges. "They made it hard for us and hustled us into committing a lot of errors with the ball. The boys all relied on Craig and if he hadn't had such a powerful second half, we would have been in all sorts of trouble." Wests' job wasn't made any easier by referee Giles O'Donnell, who caned the Magpies in the penalties 11-6. It took Wests 19 minutes of the first half and 20 minutes of the second to earn their first penalties from O'Donnell's whistle. McArthur, switched to half-back by coach Gentle to add greater penetration around the rucks, was the best player on the field. As well as having a hand in two tries and saving one with a superb tackle count with 30 in a remarkable performance. ... (**Daily Mirror 16th April 1984**)

Notes: Wests were very unlucky to lose this match. They led 14-11 with five minutes to go before a runaway 70 metre try by Steve Gearin against the run of play. Even though losing the penalties 11-6, Wests were in control for most of the game, with John McArthur, switching to half-back, playing a blinder with many breaks and topping the tackle count (30).