



# 1976 Round 15 Sunday 27th June Lidcombe Oval



## Penrith 25

Peter NEWSOME  
 Terry QUINN  
 Ross GIGG  
 Ray BLACKLOCK  
 Brian REEVE  
 Ken WILSON  
 Terry WICKEY  
 Peter LANGMACK  
 John KING  
 Bill ASHURST  
 Tim SHEENS  
 Frank MARINO  
 Bob O'REILLY (c)  
 Mick KELLY

def.

## Western Suburbs 2

John DORAHY  
 Trevor SCARR  
 Ron GITEAU  
 Ken HEY  
 Wayne SMITH  
 Graeme O'GRADY  
 Tom RAUDONIKIS (c)  
 Neville SINCLAIR  
 Les BOYD  
 Steve BLYTH  
 John DONNELLY  
 Geoff SMITH  
 Jim MURPHY  
 John HEYWARD  
 Geoff GARDNER



### Tries

Ray BLACKLOCK (2)  
 Ross GIGG  
 Peter NEWSOME  
 Brian REEVE

### Goals

Ken WILSON (3)  
 Bill ASHURST (2)

Ron GITEAU (1)

### Match Description

**Western Suburbs:** Full-back: J Dorahy; three-quarters: T Scarr, R Giteau, R Parker, W Smith; five-eighth: G O'Grady; half: T Raudonikis (c); forwards: N Sinclair, L Boyd, S Blyth, J Donnelly, G Smith, J Murphy

**Penrith:** Full-back: P Newsome; three-quarters: T Quinn, R Gigg, R Blacklock, B Reeves; five-eighth: K Wilson; half: T Wickey; forwards: P Langmack, J King, W Ashurst, T Sheens, F Marino, R O'Reilly **Referee: B Bradstock (Rugby League Week 3rd July 1976)**

Penrith dished out a five-try hiding to Wests at Lidcombe Oval yesterday and played more like potential grand finalists rather than a team ninth in the competition. The Panthers ran out 25-2 winners to send Wests down the ladder into equal fourth spot. Wests, second in the premiership race three weeks ago, looked a spent force and, apart from captain Tom Raudonikis, played like a bunch of nomads. They have now conceded 25 tries in four matches and coach Don Parish is a confused and worried man. The Magpies, minus stars Russell Mullins, Robbie Parker, Geoff Foster and John Purcell, had no purpose in attack and their defence was second rate. "Any team in Sydney would have beaten us today," a disgruntled Parish said after the game. And Wests could find themselves out of the five next Sunday afternoon when they meet Canterbury with their tails in the air after upsetting leaders Manly yesterday. Penrith took the field without their skipper and hooker Mike Stephenson, but produced a first-class game of Rugby League. They ran with determination and their defence, which held Easts to 12-5 last week, never looked like cracking. Stand-in captain Bob O'Reilly and second-rower Bill Ashurst controlled play in the middle and a speedy three-quarter line finished off the good work with five tries. Ashurst, whose form has been indifferent this season, had a sensational day with boot. He found the Wests' backs out of position six times with his long tactical kicks and added two long-range penalty goals – one from halfway. The Panthers' first try came after a scrum-base move worked by half Terry Wickey and lock Peter Langmack to send flying winger Brian Reeves over. Five minutes before half-time Penrith's new wing "find" Aboriginal Ray Blacklock, scored a spectacular try. He backed up a good break made by centre Ross Gigg and took a one-handed pass to dive over in the corner. A minute before the break Ashurst lined up his first goal attempt of the season from halfway and raised the flags to put Penrith ahead 10-2 at half-time. Penrith capitalised on a 12-6 scrum majority from replacement hooker Frank Marino to run riot in the second half. (**Daily Telegraph 28th June 1976**)

**Notes:** Wests played a mid-week Amco Cup match against Parramatta where they were thrashed 22-2 and had some further injuries. In a game where the forwards were over-powered, at least Steve Blyth had his best game of the season. The experiment of using five-eighth Geoff Smith at hooker backfired as Wests lost the scrums 15-6. A further problem for Wests was the news that Tom Raudonikis had been cited for admitting that he bit Manly's John Gibbs in the previous match.