



1974 Round 17 Sunday 21st July Henson Park



Western Suburbs 25

def.

Newtown 7

John DORAHY
 Stephen SATTERLY
 Stephen KNIGHT
 Ron GITEAU
 Russell MULLINS
 Russell WORTH
 Tom RAUDONIKIS (c)
 Jim MYERS
 Geoff FOSTER
 John ELFORD
 Pat HUNDY
 John PURCELL
 Mick LIUBINSKAS
 Geoff SMITH

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

John FLOYD
 Bill FEGGANS
 Peter GORDON
 Martin MURPHY
 John BRADSTOCK
 Ken WILSON
 Paul HAYWARD
 Neil PRINGLE
 Chris DAWSON
 Gary SULLIVAN (c)
 Tom MELVILLE
 Terry WELSH
 Col CASEY

Tries

Russell MULLINS (2)
 John DORAHY
 Geoff FOSTER
 Ron GITEAU

Ken WILSON

Goals

John DORAHY (5)

Ken WILSON (2)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: J Dorahy; three-quarters: S Satterly, S Knight, R Giteau, R Mullins; five-eighth: R Worth; half; T Raudonikis (c); forwards: J Myers, J Elford, G Foster, P Hundy, J Purcell, M Liubinskas

Newtown: Full-back: J Floyd; three-quarters: W Feggans, P Gordon, M Murphy, J Bradstock; five-eighth: K Wilson; half: P Hayward; forwards: N Pringle, G Sullivan, C Dawson, T Melville, T Welsh, C Casey **Referee: J Danzey (Rugby league Week 27th July 1974)**

Western Suburbs players yesterday received their first-ever bonus after they thrashed Newtown 25-7 at Henson Park. Each player and coach Don Parish received \$50 from the licensed Western Suburbs Leagues Club. The win lifted Wests into clear fifth place on the premiership table. The scene is set for a "battle royal" next Saturday when Wests meet Eastern Suburbs at Sydney Cricket Ground, although there is a possibility Wests may be without captain and half-back Tom Raudonikis. Raudonikis suffered badly bruised chest muscles in yesterday's game. He was given a rousing ovation as he left the field following a whole-hearted effort for his club after a Test match performance the previous day. Wests played with great precision and scored some spectacular tries. The backs, brilliantly led by Raudonikis, frequently split the Newtown defence which has lost most of its potency. Gangling winger Russell Mullins and stocky full-back John Dorahy punted the ball high and deep into the Newtown goal-mouth. Newtown's usually dependable full-back John Floyd fumbled the ball and Wests' centre Ron Giteau dived on it to score. Dorahy scored the next try in the 10th minute when he raced between his five-eighth and centre to slice the defence. With Test winger Lionel Williamson sidelined, Newtown lacked a spearhead, but in the 21st minute referee Jack Danzey deprived Newtown of a try when he penalized Ken Wilson for pushing a Wests' player over. Dorahy had dropped a kick from Wilson and Newtown hooker Terry Welsh touched down. Wests increased their half-time lead of 13-2 when Dorahy raced 70 metres and fired a pass to Geoff Foster which led to another try. Dorahy had only one man to beat in that 70-metre dash, which underlined the laxity in the Newtown defence. Wests scored a snap try early in the second half and this was the last straw for Newtown. Winger Steve Satterly kicked off to the side, away from the Newtown forwards. Mullins sprinted after the ball and claimed it before racing over for another try for Wests. Mullins was over again two minutes later after he came inside from his wing and took a tidy pass from Russell Worth. **(Daily Telegraph 22nd July 1974)**

..... Dorahy set up many Wests attacks in the first half by calmly gathering high kicks from Newtown's five-eighth Ken Wilson, who had the wind at his back, and then making 40 or 50 metres with side-stepping runs. He was caught out of position in the second half when Floyd intercepted but he made amends with an amazing turn of speed and caught and brought down Floyd with a great tackle that saved a certain try. One of the top tacklers for Wests was hooker John Purcell, who continually stopped Newtown's dummy-half with ankle tackles. ... **(Sydney Morning Herald 22nd July 1974)**

Notes: Tom Raudonikis was backing up from an Ashes match against Great Britain the previous day but he was still the best player on the field and the architect, along with John Dorahy, of all the attacking moves. He left the field in the 77th minute with a severely bruised chest, to the standing ovation of every spectator. Two early tries unsettled Newtown and they were never in the match. In a fast, open game, Russell Mullins scored two brilliant tries, one from the second-half kick-off. In the middle of the rucks, John Purcell was a tackling machine.