

BLAME THE SELECTORS

NSW selectors must take full blame for the mauling by the ACT in Canberra last week.

Given an open purse and a mandate to come up with the best players, they failed dismally.

Last year two very precise steps forward full recognition by the A.F.C. with first class wins over Queensland and the Victorian Seconds.

The clincher would have been a convincing win over the A.C.T. But the super confident selectors went in half-~~cocked~~ the result is history and the NSW cause has been set back at least four years.

And we might have been put down lightly in that three Canberra stars, Ted Lees, Chris Fowler and captain-coach, Tom Allison were all out with injuries.

The state selectors did not get together to watch two games: Canberra v South Wests then Farrer v South West.

South West surely must have made

some impression when they got within 10 points of Canberra. Yet there were only six players added to the State Squad from outside Sydney, and yet only three, Ross Elwin (Leeton), Bruce Forbes (Griffiths) and Geoff Ward (North Wagga) played.

Certainly they spent a fair amount of money getting what they considered a top side together but widespread their sprats in a section of the oceans where they knew there were very few big mackerel. Farrer, South West, Murray, Hume, Central Riverina, Barellan & Dists., Northern Riverina, Coreen, Tallangatta and all the other areas should have been fully considered.

The Board of Management is to go to the Riverina to meet leagues and clubs at the end of this season to discuss the 1974 programme. Surely they can come up with a solution. Possibly that should be a new selection committee.