



1996 Round 11 Sunday 16th June Campbelltown Stadium



Western Suburbs 14

drew with

South Sydney 14



Ken McGUINNESS
Darren WILLIS
Kevin McGUINNESS
Andrew LEEDS
Aseri LAING
Andrew WILLIS
Craig COLEMAN
Steve GEORGALLIS
Paul LANGMACK (c)
Damian KENNEDY
Darren CAPOVILLA
Ciriaco MESCIA
John SKANDALIS
Brandon PEARSON
Justin DOOLEY
Darren BURNS
Chad HARRIS

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

David PENNA
Danny O'KEEFE
Phil HOWLETT
Marty MOORE
Paul MELLOR
Darrell TRINDALL
Craig FIELD
Paul QUINN
Jason TASSELL
Peter DRISCOLL
Martin MASELLA
Geordi PEATS
Craig SALVATORI (c)
Adam McEWAN
Tyran SMITH
Jason BELL
Shaun WALLISS

Tries Kevin McGUINNESS
Aseri LAING
Steve GEORGALLIS

Paul MELLOR (2)

Goals Andrew WILLIS (1)

Craig FIELD (3)

Match Description

South Sydney: Full-back: D Penna; three-quarters: D O'Keefe, P Howlett, M Moore, P Mellor; five-eighth: D Trindall; half: C Field; forwards: P Quinn, J Tassell, P Driscoll, M Masella, G Peats, C Salvatori (c)

Western Suburbs: Full-back: Ken McGuinness; three-quarters: D Willis, A Leeds, Kevin McGuinness, A Laing; five-eighth: A Willis; half: C Coleman; forwards: S Georgallis, P Langmack (c), D Kennedy, D Capovilla, C Mescia, J Skandalis **Referee: M Lewis (Big League 16th June 1996)**

South Sydney half-back Craig Field accused referee Mick Lewis of costing his team victory yesterday's 14-all draw with Western Suburbs. Both teams were unhappy with Lewis' performance but Field's words rang loudest. In a crucial moment of a tight match, Field put replacement centre Tyran Smith over the tryline minutes from full time. But referee Lewis ruled the pass forward much to Field's disgust. "He was 20 metres away and back with the Wests' defence", Field said. "The ref was just in no position to judge. If that pass was forward, I'll give the game away." Souths put a major dent in the Magpies' finals aspiration with a gutsy performance at Campbelltown yesterday. Although Wests scored three tries to two, Souths were in the driving seat for much of the game and were probably fractionally the better side. A late try to talented young centre Kevin McGuinness snatched a draw for Wests and they should really have had better than that. McGuinness crossed the tryline out near the corner post but beat several defenders in a weaving run and planted the ball only metres from the posts. But Wests' fans could only groan when Andrew Willis' conversion attempt hit the right upright, leaving the scores tied at 14-all. Willis landed only one goal from four attempts but after the match coach Tom Raudonikis refused to blame him for the defeat. "He didn't lose me the game," Raudonikis said "We were dreadful and dropped too much ball to win it. We played very poorly and it was disappointing all round. We knew Souths would come out full of enthusiasm but we failed to get on top of them." Souths who have been in fine form since receiving a dreadful 62-0 thrashing from Sydney City in April, were well satisfied with their performance. "Our commitment has been very good for the last five or six games and the boys are playing with plenty of pride," Souths' coach Ken Shine said. ... Souths' aggressive young forwards took the battle to Wests, with Martin Masella and Jason Tassell outstanding. ...Winger Paul Mellor confirmed his ranking as one of the game's best finishers with a powerful performance on the left flank. ... Wests were well below their enthusiastic best, with only young forwards Damian Kennedy and Justin Dooley showing any fire up front. The Magpies did suffer from the loss of hooker Cherry Mescia, the victim of a crunching Masella tackle early in the match. Centre Brandon Pearson, dropped from the team for a late start to training on Saturday, made a difference when thrown into the fray midway through the second half. The McGuinness brothers showed touches of class and their enterprise out wide will be a key factor in the Magpies' finals campaign. But Raudonikis will be looking for a lot more spark up front when the Magpies meet Gold Coast at Campbelltown again next Sunday in a bid to get back on track. **(The Daily Telegraph 17th June 1996)**

Notes: Wests felt there were a number of refereeing decisions went against them in this game, most notably a forward pass that Craig Coleman was adamant wasn't forward. They still should have won when Kevin McGuinness scored a try five minutes from the end and ran around under the posts only for an Andrew Willis conversion to hit the upright. Justin Dooley was very strong off the bench, while Brandon Pearson, who had been dropped to reserves for being late to training, was dynamic when he came on late in the match.