



1986 Round 11 Sunday 18th May Lidcombe Oval



Western Suburbs 35

def.

Cronulla-Sutherland 18



Rod PETHYBRIDGE
Brett CLARK
Wilfred WILLIAMS
Ian NADEN
Paul SHEAHAN
Trevor COGGER
Deryck FOX
Ian SCHUBERT
Geoff DILLON
John BILBIJA
Craig ELLIS
Alan FALLAH
Lee CROOKS (c)
Craig CLARKE
Allen GEELAN
Grant FYVIE
John HENDERSON

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

Jim SEE
Phil DOTTI
Andrew ETTINGHAUSEN
Michael SPEECHLEY
Greg DAVIES
Mark ELLISON
Paul KENNEDY
David HATCH (c)
Craig DIMOND
Jim LEIS
Malcolm WHEELER
Chris WITHALL
Michael PORTER
Brad PERRY
Greg NIXON
Glen MORTIMER

Tries

Rod PETHYBRIDGE (2)
Ian NADEN (2)
Paul SHEAHAN
Craig ELLIS

Jim LEIS
Andrew ETTINGHAUSEN
Craig DIMOND

Goals

Lee CROOKS (5) One Field Goal
Ian SCHUBERT (1)

Mark ELLISON (3)

Match Description

Cronulla-Sutherland: Full-back: J See; three-quarters: P Dotti, A Ettinghausen, M Speechley, G Davies; five-eighth: M Ellison; half: P Kennedy; forwards: D Hatch (c), C Dimond, J Leis, M Wheeler, C Withall, M Porter

Western Suburbs: Full-back: R Pethybridge; three-quarters: B Clark, W Williams, I Naden, P Sheahan; five-eighth: T Cogger; half: D Fox; forwards: I Schubert, G Dillon, J Bilbija, L Crooks (c), A Fallah, C Ellis **Referee: B Harrigan (The Daily Mirror 19th May 1986)**

It had been such a bad week for the Magpies' fullback Rod Pethybridge that when he opted to play yesterday, nobody at Wests doubted he would carve up Cronulla. A slip of the blade on Friday almost cost Pethybridge the index finger of his left hand, but, with six stitches to close the wound, the Homebush butcher took to Lidcombe Oval as if it were a slaughterhouse. With Pethybridge, 22, running amok to score two tries and set up a third, Wests won 35-18. "I wasn't going to play, but when I taped up the finger it was all right," Pethybridge said. But it seemed no amount of success yesterday could console him for having messed up his representative prospects in Wests' previous match, a 34-8 loss to Illawarra. "I'm just a bit disappointed it didn't come a week earlier," Pethybridge admitted. "I thought I'd done enough to get into one of the City sides, but then I had a shocking game last week." That sort of honesty seems to be an extension of his play. Nothing too cute: essentially a bullocking performer in the Graham Eadie or Garry Dowling mould and with the same capacity to knife through defensive walls. For really devious sleight-of-hand, Wests look to English prop Lee Crooks, who helped set up two tries yesterday, and centre Ian Naden, who also had a spectacular afternoon, scoring twice and making the initial break for another. Wests scored six tries to Cronulla's three, a convincing statistic, although embattled Magpies' coach Steve Ghosn pondered: "Are they going to call this an upset too? We know what we're doing." Certainly, opposing coach Jack Gibson was not denying the facts. "The scoreboard says they were twice as good as us. The scoreboard doesn't lie," said Gibson. To its credit, Cronulla never quit yesterday, and Andrew Ettinghausen, in particular, was always dangerous in broken play. But without robust hooker Chris Withall and second-rower Jim Leis departing prematurely with shoulder injuries, and four others concussed, the Sharks struggled for momentum. Happily, the biggest problem now facing Wests is where to play Brett Clark. He was moved to wing to make way for English international half-back Derek Fox who was a big success. But English Test winger Des Drummond is due at Lidcombe today. **(Daily Telegraph 19th May 1986)**

Notes: Wests came roaring back to form on the back of Coach Ghosn's decision to play Deryck Fox at half-back and in-form Brett Clark on the wing, much to the dismay of fans. Fox answered the call, leading the tackle count and setting up most of the attack. Ian Naden and Rod Pethybridge were both outstanding on the back of the good service, Pethybridge playing with six stitches in his hand which he cut at work on the Friday.