

1983 Round 11 Sunday 8th May Lidcombe Oval

def.

Illawarra 28

John SPARKS Owen SAUNDERS Shane McKELLAR Brian HETHERINGTON Lee POMFRET John DORAHY (c) Steve TOPPER Terry WESTBLADE David BANKS Craig PURCELL Rod HENNIKER Michael BOLT Mark BROADHURST Russell HOLDSWORTH

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

Western Suburbs 10

Warren BOLAND (c) Steve BROUGHTON **Paul BEAVEN** Mark BEAVEN David GREENE Michael NEIL Terry LAMB Greg COX Michael DUKE Brian BATTESE Mark MASSONE Arthur MOUNTIER **Bill HILLIARD** John COGGER David HARRIS Bruce CLARK



Tries

Goals

Lee POMFRET (2) Steve TOPPER Shane McKELLAR Mark BROADHURST

John DORAHY (4)

Greg COX (3)

Terry LAMB

Match Description

Illawarra: Full-back: J Sparks; three-quarters: O Saunders, S McKellar, B Hetherington, L Pomfret; five-eighth: J Dorahy (c); half: S Topper; forwards: T Westblade, D Banks, C Purcell, R Henniker, M Bolt, M Broadhurst Western Suburbs: Full-back: W Boland (c); three-quarters: S Broughton, M Beaven, P Beaven, D Greene; five-eighth: M Neil; half: T Lamb;

forwards: G Cox, M Duke, B Battese, M Massone, A Mountier, W Hilliard **Referee: G West (The Sun 9th May 1983)**

Illawarra winger Lee Pomfret had "sweet revenge" when he scored two tries and set up another in the Steelers' 28-10 win against Western Suburbs in their Rugby League match at Lidcombe Oval. Pomfret, who suffered a fractured jaw as a result of an all-in brawl in a game against Wests last year, said after the game he had been give orders to roam the field looking for defensive gaps. Ten minutes from half-time, Pomfret put up a well-judged kick near the Wests' quarter line with half-back, Steve Topper scoring the first try of the game. One minute after halftime, with the scores locked at eight-all, Pomfret was on hand to score after centre Brian Hetherington had made a long run from inside his own half. "Although some people might have thought it was going to be a grudge match, I'm glad it was not," Pomfret said. "I thought the previews would bring up last year's game, but really, all the players involved from Wests had left the club," he said. Apart from Pomfret, former Magpies' John Dorahy added salt to the wounds with a great captain's game for Illawarra. He continually set up play with astute passes and his kicking in general play always found the open spaces. The match deteriorated in the second half and Illawarra Coach, Allan Fitzgibbon, was far from impressed by his team's performance. "We played twice as well as that last week but lost," he said. Centre Shane McKellar, Topper and Kiwi prop, Mark Broadhurst, scored tries for Illawarra with Dorahy landing four goals. Half-back Terry Lamb scored the only try for Wests, while lock Greg Cox scored three goals. … **(Sydney Morning Herald 9th May 1983)**

A crowd of fewer than 2500 watched Illawarra romp home 28-10 against Western Suburbs in probably the scrappiest rugby league game of the year at Lidcombe Oval yesterday. Both coaches, Allan Fitzgibbon (Illawarra) and Len Stacker (Wests) blasted the standard of play with Stacker promising sackings over the display. "It was a poor game – the worst of the season," he said. Fitzgibbon was hardly more enthusiastic but happy to have Illawarra record its second win of the season. Illawarra scored the first try of the game when half-back Steve Topper, in a set move, followed a grubber kick by winger Lee Pomfret to dive over under the posts. The Magpies levelled the scores at 8-all just before half-time when half Terry Lamb won the fight for a bomb and dashed over in the corner. (Daily Telegraph 9th May 1983)

Notes: This was clearly Wests' worst performance of the year, played before a paltry crowd of 2,500, and Coach Len Stacker hinted at changes. In the match at half-time with the score 8-8, the small Wests' forwards were no match for the Steelers. David Greene was the standout for Wests while Michael Neil put in a strong performance after being heavily concussed in the previous week.

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