



# 1991 Round 12 Sunday 16th June Campbelltown Stadium



## Balmain 21

Garry JACK  
 David ANDERSON  
 Tim BRASHER  
 James GRANT  
 Steve O'BRIEN  
 Will ROBINSON  
 Brian SMITH  
 Martin MASELLA  
 John ELIAS  
 David BROOKS  
 Gary McFARLANE  
 Ben ELIAS (c)  
 Shane O'GRADY  
 Peter PHILLIPS  
 Wayne SING

def.

## Western Suburbs 8

Shaun O'BRYAN  
 Stephen BURNS  
 Jamie AINSCOUGH  
 Andrew FARRAR  
 Tony COSATTO  
 Trevor COGGER  
 Jason TAYLOR  
 Jason LIDDEN  
 Bob LINDNER  
 Graeme WYNN  
 David GILLESPIE  
 Joe THOMAS (c)  
 Darren BRITT  
 Reece WEBB  
 Brett DOCHERTY  
 Steve JACKSON  
 Ron GIBBS



**Tries** Brian SMITH  
 James GRANT  
 Gary McFARLANE

Jason LIDDEN

**Goals** Brian SMITH (5) One field goal

Jason TAYLOR (2)

### Match Description

**Balmain:** Full-back: G Jack; three-quarters: D Anderson, T Brasher, J Grant, S O'Brien; five-eighth: W Robinson; half: B Smith; forwards: M Masella, J Elias, D Brooks, G McFarlane, B Elias (c), S O'Grady

**Western Suburbs:** Full-back: S Devine; three-quarters: S Burns, A Farrar, J Ainscough, T Cosatto; five-eighth: T Cogger; half: J Taylor; forwards: J Lidden, G Wynn, B Lindner, D Gillespie, J Thomas (c), D Britt **Referee: E Ward (Big League 19th June 1991)**

... But the excitement of yesterday's gutsy win over the Magpies finally put a smile back on the face of Elias and the rest of his Tiger teammates. "It really was a terrific win considering all the players that were missing," Elias said. "It's a funny thing – no-one gave us much of a chance but we were always very confident we could beat them." It was the brilliant skills of halfback Brian Smith and the determination of four rookies that helped Balmain to its third win of the season. Before a record Campbelltown crowd of 14,705, former rugby star Smith turned in a five-star performance, fully justifying Jones' decision to name him in the side ahead of Kiwi star Gary Freeman. Smith continually drove Western Suburbs backwards with an immaculate kicking game and scored a top try shortly after halftime to put the Tigers on the road to victory. But it was the performance of four rookies – five-eighth Will Robinson, winger David Anderson, lock Martin Masella and prop Shane O'Grady – that epitomised the never-say-die Tigers' spirit. "We had a lot of no-names out there today but they were outstanding," Jones said. ... Jones appeared to get more satisfaction out of yesterday's victory than any of Balmain's previous wins this season. He couldn't resist taking a swipe at the critics who have called for his sacking and hammered the players' efforts throughout the season. "I've really become sick and tired of comments made about me and this team," he said. "We've been downright unlucky in a lot of games this year and considering all our injuries we've done a fairly good job. This wasn't the best we've played all year. We've played as well in other games but lost because of other circumstances." Wests' coach Warren Ryan was at a loss to explain Western Suburbs' pathetic form. "That was our worst performance by far and I'm really mystified. We didn't play well at any part of the game. I suppose the Tigers deserve a lot of credit and we can't use the State of Origin or anything as an excuse. We had some pretty handy names out on the field and they should have gone better than they did." We had a good preparation for the game. Darren Britt and Tony Cosatto were the only two players to go well. There was a big gap to the rest of them." **(Daily Telegraph Mirror 17th June 1991)**

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**Notes:** Played before a record crowd of 14,705, the score was 2-2 at half-time but the continuing injury crisis saw Balmain get on top in the second half and run away with the match. Bob Lindner was back after injury and winger Wayne Simonds made a good comeback in reserve grade. They were missing the organisational skills of Ivan Henjak and the attacking thrust of Devine. The Tigers neutralising Jason Taylor in the second half was a major factor and coach Warren Ryan felt it was the worst performance of the year. Darren Britt and Tony Cosatto were Wests' best.