



1974 Round 12 Tuesday 25th June Leichhardt Oval



Balmain 12

Mark LEVY
 Trevor FORWOOD
 Frank RAGEN
 Tim MURPHY (c)
 Paul SOMMERVILLE
 Jeff SHIELD
 Phillip MOASE
 Trevor RYAN
 John SPENCER
 Steve SMITH
 Dennis MANTEIT
 Peter BOULTON
 Jim FIDDLER

def.

Western Suburbs 7

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

John DORAHY
 Stephen SATTERLY
 Stephen KNIGHT
 Robbie PARKER
 Russell MULLINS
 Russell WORTH
 Tom RAUDONIKIS (c)
 Jim MYERS
 John ELFORD
 Geoff FOSTER
 Pat HUNDY
 John PURCELL
 Mick LIUBINSKAS
 Ron GITEAU



Tries

Goals

Jim FIDDLER (6)

Robbie PARKER

John DORAHY (2)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: J Dorahy; three-quarters: S Satterly, S Knight, R Parker, R Mullins; five-eighth: R Worth; half: T Raudonikis (c); forwards: J Myers, J Elford, W Snodgrass, P Hundy, J Purcell, M Liubinskas

Balmain: Full-back: M Levy; three-quarters: T Forwood, F Ragen, T Murphy (c), P Somerville; five-eighth: J Shield; half: P Moase; forwards: T Ryan, J Spencer, S Smith, D Manteit, P Boulton, J Fiddler **Referee: B Cross (Daily Telegraph 25th June 1974)**

England's Rugby League selectors did Balmain a great service when they by-passed prop-forward Jim Fiddler for the tour of Australia. Fiddler was the architect of Balmain's surprise 12-7 win over Western Suburbs, at Leichhardt Oval last night. The result was sweet revenge for Balmain who suffered a humbling 62-5 defeat in the first round. A strong and intelligent player, Fiddler completely dominated the play with his great goal-kicking and superb kicking for the lines. His goal-kicking alone was worth the two competition points. He kicked six of his seven attempts, but his outstanding play came in the second half when he frequently gained 30 metres with his intelligent grubber-kicking for the line. Balmain played well, showing some lively form, although Wests scored the only try of the match. This came after 10 minutes, but it should not have been allowed. The try was scored by centre Robbie Parker, but full-back John Dorahy knocked-on before passing to Parker, who raced over. Western Suburbs centre Robbie Parker, who took a heavy knock 10 minutes from the finish, collapsed in the dressing-room and was taken to hospital by ambulance. **(Sydney Morning Herald 26th June 1974)**

English import Jim Fiddler last night played a hero's role in Balmain's 12-7 defeat of Western Suburbs at Leichhardt Oval. Fiddler scored all Balmain's points with six penalty goals from seven attempts. The result was a sensational turnabout after Western Suburbs' massacre of Balmain in the first round. The transformed Tigers have now beaten Parramatta and Western Suburbs and drawn with North Sydney and Newtown in the last five weeks. Their spirited football is proving a major embarrassment to the semi-final aspirants. Western Suburbs took an early lead with a try by Robbie Parker but Fiddler booted Balmain to a 4-3 lead at half-time. Four more penalty goals from the Englishman's boot sealed Western Suburbs' fate in the second half. This match was a thriller, with tough exchanges and the Balmain side giving a tigerish tackling display. Balmain's Peter Boulton won the scrums 13-10 and his fellow-forwards Trevor Ryan and Steve Smith had outstanding games. Phillip Moase and Jeff Shield repeatedly swept Balmain into the attack with sharp bursts from the rucks. Western Suburbs made a tremendous effort to turn the tide but stern tackling frustrated their hopes. In the willing forward encounters, the young front-rowers Pat Hundy and Mick Liubinskas had robust games. Wests' Test half, Tom Raudonikis, played with plenty of dash but conceded some costly penalties in his scrum feeding. **(Daily Telegraph 26th June 1974)**

Notes: This match was played on a Tuesday after being postponed from the 16th June. It was a thrilling, close match which was decided by the goal-kicking of Jim Fiddler, who kicked six out of seven. He was aided by a string of scrum penalties against Tom Raudonikis. Pat Hundy and Mick Liubinskas led a number of stirring front-row clashes. Robbie Parker collapsed in the dressing room after this match and was taken to hospital.