



1985 Round 12 Sunday 26th May Lidcombe Oval



Cronulla-Sutherland 36 def.

Western Suburbs 18

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| Johnathan DOCKING | Fullback |
| Mark McGAW | Wing |
| Dean CARNEY | Centre |
| Gary HAMMOND | Centre |
| Wayne SMITH | Wing |
| Mark ELLISON | Five-eighth |
| Mark WAKEFIELD | Half |
| David HATCH (c) | Lock |
| Craig DIMOND | Second Row |
| Kurt SORENSEN | Second Row |
| Paul MERLO | Front Row |
| Steve ROBINSON | Hooker |
| Michael PORTER | Front Row |
| Andrew ETTINGHAUSEN | Replacement |
| Barry RUSSELL | Replacement |
| Gary WALKER | Replacement |

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| John McARTHUR |
| Greg DUVAL |
| Brett GALE |
| Wayne WIGHAM |
| Mick PINKERTON |
| Trevor COGGER |
| Michael NEIL |
| Dave STAFFORD |
| Craig CLARKE |
| Lee CROOKS |
| Terry LEABEATER (c) |
| Alan FALLAH |
| Bruce CLARK |
| Gerald CELARC |
| Allen GEELAN |
| Geoff SUTTON |



Tries

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| Wayne SMITH (2) |
| Johnathan DOCKING (2) |
| Kurt SORENSEN |
| Paul MERLO |
| Gary HAMMOND |
| Dean CARNEY |

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| John McARTHUR |
| Dave STAFFORD |
| Trevor COGGER |

Goals

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| Dean CARNEY (1) |
| Mark ELLISON (1) |

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| Lee CROOKS (3) |
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Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: J McArthur; three-quarters: G Duval, B Gale, W Wigham, M Pinkerton; five-eighth: T Cogger; half: M Neil; forwards: D Stafford, C Clarke, L Crooks, T Leabeater (c), A Fallah, B Clark

Cronulla-Sutherland: Full-back: J Docking; three-quarters: M McGaw, D Carney, G Hammond, W Smith; five-eighth: M Ellison; half: M Wakefield; forwards: D Hatch (c), C Dimond, K Sorensen, D Sorensen, M Porter, P Merlo **Referee: B Barnes (The Daily Mirror 27th May 1985)**

Despite Cronulla's walloping of Western Suburbs to the tune of 36-18 at Lidcombe Oval yesterday, Sharks' coach Jack Gibson was far from happy. Gibson didn't take kindly to the fact that Cronulla let Wests score some simple tries after leading 28-nil at half-time. "Some players played with no discipline at all and when that happens it leads to mistakes," Gibson said. Gibson also surprised all and sundry in the dressing room after the game when he told the press that big Cronulla centre Dean Carney was not injured and he had in fact hauled him from the paddock. "The only thing Carney hurt out there today was his reputation, he knows what he did wrong but he'll bounce back." From the press box it was hard to fathom Gibson's reasons for replacing the big centre. In the first half, when Cronulla launched attack after attack on the Wests' line, Carney played strongly to score a try and have a hand in a couple of others. ...The match deteriorated as a spectacle in the final 40 minutes as Wests hit back when the Cronulla players seemed to tire after their hard game last Wednesday night against Manly. In fact, the National Panasonic Cup seemed to play a large part in this match with plenty of the Wests' players not having their minds on the task at hand yesterday. That could be put down to their semi-final clash with Balmain on Wednesday. ... The Cronulla forwards paved the way for the win, with hooker Michael Porter carrying on last Wednesday night's win. Porter was ably assisted by lock David Hatch who made 29 tackles while the Sorensen brothers also proved a handful for the Wests' defence. ... In a very disappointing Wests side, English import Lee Crooks shone out like a beacon with his solid defence, making 28 tackles, while he did everything in his power to spur the Magpies in attack. Overall, it was pretty bleak day for coach Ken Gentle to celebrate his birthday and he summed up the match succinctly: "When we play bad, we play terrible." **(Daily Mirror 27th May 1985)**

Notes: Wests seemed to have the Wednesday Panasonic Cup semi-final against Balmain on their minds as they forgot how to tackle in the first half and were down 28-0 at half-time. With a much better share of possession, they won the second half 18-8 to regain a small bit of reputation. Mick Pinkerton was back after a knee cartilage operation, while Lee Crooks was again Wests' best, kicking three out of three and making 28 tackles. Ex-Wests' players, Wayne Smith and Paul Merlo, both scored tries against their old club.