

Shaun DEVINE Stephen BURNS Andrew FARRAR Jason LIDDEN Tony COSATTO Bronko DJURA Jason TAYLOR **Bob LINDNER** Graeme WYNN David GILLESPIE Steve JACKSON Joe THOMAS (c) Darren BRITT Ivan HENJAK Ron GIBBS Wayne SIMONDS

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

Cronulla-Sutherland 8

Jonathan DOCKING Greg CARBERRY Mark McGAW Paul BELL Leo TANOI Jeff MARTIN Barry RUSSELL Alan WILSON Gavin MILLER (c) Les DAVIDSON Danny LEE **Dan STAINS** Craig DIMOND **Dave BROUGHTON Craig TEEVAN** Ken EBB John McKELLEHER



Tries

Goals

Jason TAYLOR (3)

Bronko DJURA

Greg CARBERRY

Greg CARBERRY (2)

Match Description

Cronulla-Sutherland: Full-back: J Docking; three-quarters: G Carberry, Mark McGaw, P Bell, L Tanoi; five-eighth: J Martin; half: B Russell; forwards: A Wilson, G Miller (c), L Davidson, D Lee, D Stains, C Dimond

Western Suburbs: Full-back: S Devine; three-guarters: S Burns, A Farrar, J Lidden, T Cosatto; five-eighth: B Djura; half: J Taylor; forwards: B Lindner, D Gillespie, G Wynn, D Britt, J Thomas (c), S Jackson Referee: G McCallum (Big League 26th June 1991)

Western Suburbs half-back Jason Taylor shut out the heckling of boisterous Cronulla fans to land a magnificent penalty goal and give the Magpies a 10-8 win at Caltex Field yesterday. Sharks' fans worked overtime trying to put the youngster off his kick as he moved into the 39m goal attempt. Taylor's kick never looked like missing and took with it the hopes of Cronulla supporters who would have happily settled for a draw. "I could hear the crowd as I was walking back for the kick," Taylor said. "But I didn't notice it after I walked back. It sort of drowned itself out. There's more chance of you being put off if it's only one bloke calling out. You tend to pick that up more than when everyone is jeering." Controversy surrounded the winning goal after referee Greg McCallum penalised a Cronulla player for reefing the ball out of Andrew Farrar's arms. "It's a cruel way to lose a game," said Sharks coach Allan Fitzgibbon who disputed the penalty. "The guys played their hearts out today. You couldn't have asked for anymore." Wests started strongly and led 8-0 after 26 minutes through a try to Bronko Djura and two Taylor goals. The Magpies had the better of play early, but some powerful Cronulla defence forced them to push passes and the mistakes followed. Les Davidson, Gavin Miller and Craig Dimond all stood up to the Magpies forward pack which looked a more formidable line-up on paper. Cronulla stormed back into contention midway through the second half when Greg Carberry pounced on a grubber kick to score in the corner before landing a super conversion from the sideline. The stage was set for a thrilling finish at the 8-all deadlock and both sides had chances to steal a win. Wests' coach Warren Ryan refused to be critical of his side even though handling errors let them down at critical stages. "They certainly made it exciting," Ryan said. "I thought we made plenty of breaks. It's almost as if we're clawing our way to the semi-finals." For Wests, Taylor picked up the players' player award, while Joe Thomas, Bob Lindner, David Gillespie and Shaun Devine played strongly. Five-eighth Djura did well in his return to the big time. Cronulla also had plenty of strong performers including Davidson, who probably played his strongest game for the club. The former international made plenty of ground in attack and unloaded well. Cronulla's chances weren't helped when Jeff Martin and Alan Wilson were both replaced before halftime with injuries. (Daily Telegraph Mirror 24th June 1991)

Notes: In a very dour game, the return of Shaun Devine proved a game-changer in attack. Jason Taylor kicked the winning goal in the last minute after a hotly disputed penalty awarded against Cronulla for stripping the ball. On the other hand, Cronulla scored their only try while Graeme Wynn was in the sin-bin. Bronko Djura debuted in Wests' first grade and played well, while Joe Thomas, David Gillespie and Bob Lindner were all workhorses in the forwards.

.....