



1996 Round 13 Saturday 29th June Mt Smart Auckland



Auckland 32

Greg ALEXANDER (c)
 Marc ELLIS
 Anthony SWANN
 Richie BLACKMORE
 John KIRWAN
 Gene NGAMU
 Stacey JONES
 Mark HORO
 Stephen KEARNEY
 Denis BETTS
 Andy PLATT
 Syd ERU
 Joe VAGANA
 Brady MALAAM
 Sean HOPPE
 Mark CARTER
 Tea ROPATI

def.

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

Western Suburbs 16

Ken McGUINNESS
 Darren WILLIS
 Andrew LEEDS
 Brandon PEARSON
 Kevin McGUINNESS
 Andrew WILLIS
 Craig COLEMAN
 Steve GEORGALLIS
 Paul LANGMACK (c)
 Damian KENNEDY
 John SKANDALIS
 Ciriaco MESCIA
 Justin DOOLEY
 Aseri LAING
 Jason BENGGE
 Andrew HICK
 Bill DUNN



Tries
 Stacey JONES (2)
 Greg ALEXANDER
 John KIRWAN
 Sean HOPPE
 Syd ERU

Kevin MCGUINNESS
 Ken MCGUINNESS
 Andrew LEEDS

Goals
 Gene NGAMU (4)

Andrew LEEDS (2)

Match Description

Auckland: Full-back: G Alexander; three-quarters: M Ellis, A Swann, R Blackmore, J Kirwan; five-eighth: G Ngamu; half: S Jones; forwards: M Horo, S Kearney, D Betts, A Platt, S Eru, J Vagana

Western Suburbs: Full-back: Ken McGuinness; three-quarters: D Willis, A Leeds, B Pearson, Kevin McGuinness; five-eighth: A Willis; half: C Coleman; forwards: S Georgallis, P Langmack (c), D Kennedy, J Skandalis, C Mescia, J Dooley **Referee: P McBlane (Daily Telegraph 30th June 1996)**

Auckland Warriors, playing with enthusiasm and defending with aggression, downed Western Suburbs 32-16 at Ericsson Stadium last night. In slippery conditions, the Warriors scored six tries to three with half back Stacey Jones grabbing a brace for the home side. Hard working props Andy Platt and Joe Vagana led the forward effort for the Aucklanders, who played with intensity before 17,500 fans. The Warriors raced to an 8-0 lead after nine minutes through tries to Jones and winger John Kerwan. **(The Sunday Telegraph 30th June 1996)**

The Magpies broke several golden rules against Auckland last Saturday night and paid the penalty. In difficult conditions, Wests let in two tries in the opening 10 minutes, as well as tries just before and after half time. "You can't expect to win a game against a good side like Auckland when you do that," said coach Tom Raudonikis "But, apart from that, we played OK and got some positives out of the game." Pumped up after receiving a pasting in the local press leading into the match, the Warriors turned on one of their best ever displays.... It was a case of David and Goliath when winner Kevin McGuinness opposed giant Warrior John Kirwan last week. Honours finished fairly even, with both players scoring tries and causing each other problems. Ken McGuinness also got on the score sheet for Wests, with the brothers approaching top form at the right time. "The tries by the McGuinness boys were probably the best two tries of the match," Bullock said Englishman Harvey Howard is set to arrive in Sydney soon to boost the Magpies' ranks in the running to the semi-finals. A talented ball-playing forward from Leeds, Howard came to terms only hours before the June 30 transfer deadline last Sunday night. Howard showed his skills during a short stint with Sydney City in 1993 and will be a handy addition to the club. Wests are only too aware that they are in a similar position to last season, firmly entrenched in the top eight but facing a horror run home. **(Big League 3rd July 1996)**

Notes: Played in very slippery conditions, Wests let in two tries in the first 10 minutes and then another two just before and after half-time. For the rest of the match they held their own, with the clash of Kevin McGuinness against the giant Kiwi winger John Kirwan, a highlight.