

1994 Round 16 Sunday 17th July Wollongong Showground

def. **Western Suburbs 18**

Fullback Andrew LEEDS Paul SMITH Wing Damien McGARRY Centre Centre Paul McGREGOR Ken McGUINNESS Wing Darren WILLIS Five-eighth Steve GEORGALLIS Half Josh WHITE Andrew FARRAR Lock Paul LANGMACK Second Row Stephen KEARNEY Second Row Glenn GRIEF Peter JOHNSTON Front Row **Neil TIERNEY** Dean CALLAWAY Hooker Jim SERDARIS (c) Front Row **Brent STUART** Replacement Mark AFFLICK Keith BEAUCHAMP Replacement Peter SHIELS

Tries **Rod WISHART** Josh WHITE (2) Barry WARD

Mark TAYLOR **Nigel ROY** Paul McGREGOR Darren FRITZ Dean CALLAWAY

Illawarra 40

Mark TAYLOR

Rod WISHART

Nigel ROY

Craig SIMON

John SIMON

Neil PICCINELLI

John CROSS (c)

Darren FRITZ

Ian RUSSELL

Barry WARD David WALSH

Brett RODWELL

Darren WILLIS

Jason EADE

Rod WISHART (6) Andrew LEEDS (3) Goals

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: A Leeds; three-quarters: P Smith, D McGarry, K McGuinness, D Willis; five-eighth: S Georgallis; half: J White; forwards: P Langmack, G Grief, S Kearney, N Tierney, J Serdaris (c), B Stuart

Replacement

Replacement

Illawarra: Full-back: M Taylor; three-quarters: R Wishart, B Rodwell, P McGregor, N Roy; five-eighth: C Simon; half: J Simon; forwards: A Farrar, N Piccinelli, J Cross (c), P Johnston, D Callaway, D Fritz Referee: P McBlane (Daily Telegraph 18th July 1994)

Caretaker coach Wayne Ellis was asked after Western Suburbs 42-18 loss to Illawarra at Steelers Stadium yesterday if he was a contender for the full time post next year. "After that?" he said, grinning. ... "I was pretty pleased with the effort; although, of course, 40 points is a worry," Ellis said. "I didn't see anyone give up though. They were trying their arses out." Ellis said he had given his players "a little bit" more freedom than they might have been used to, and was confident they would use it better over the next six weeks. The Magpies led six-nil early after the first of two tries by halfback Josh White, that could easily have been well on the way to victory following some early ineptitude from the Steelers. White's opposite, Kangaroo hopeful John Simon, made up for his teammates' error rate by tackling himself to a standstill and coming up with two crucial intercepts. When Illawarra's reply came, it was hard earned. Hooker Dean Callaway took an inside pass after a long break by centre Brett Rodwell after a similar manoeuvre involving the two had broken down. Rodwell again kicked out of some desperate lunges near halfway in the 25th minute, winger Nigel Roy backing up to put newly-capped international Paul McGregor across for 10-6. Rodwell took no further part in the match after an apparent head clash with Wests' Kiwi second-rower Stephen Kearney as he passed the ball. Illawarra will view the incident on video today before deciding whether to lodge a complaint. It became apparent Wests' post-Ryan era was destined for a losing start when Illawarra's 28-year-old rookie fullback, Mark Taylor, scored soon afterwards with lead up from Lady Luck. Taylor grubbered into the Wests' in-goal, where Magpie fullback Andrew Leeds seemingly had the ball covered. But it skewed off the left upright, presenting Taylor with the most fortuitous of four-pointers. Wests never recovered, while Simon just got better. At one stage, while in possession, he was confronted by Wests' 105kg Kiwi Test prop Brent Stuart. Simon just kept going, trampling right over the top of him. "I wish he wouldn't do that," said coach Graham Murray. "I wish he'd run around them sometimes." White, a late inclusion for the injured Jason Alchin, looks set for a long stay in the top grade at Campbelltown. ... (Sydney Morning Herald 18th July 1994)

Notes: Wests were very energised in the first fifteen minutes and led 6-0 after a Josh White try. Darren Willis scored a dazzling, pace-filled solo try but two crucial intercepts by Illawarra changed the tone of the match. The big news during the week was the sacking of the Coach, Warren Ryan, and his temporary replacement by Wayne Ellis. There was talk that Tommy Raudonikis had been approached to be the coach in the following year.

.....