



1997 Round 18 Saturday 2nd August Campbelltown Stadium



Western Suburbs 26

def.

St George 6

Andrew LEEDS
 Darren WILLIS
 Aseri LAING
 Ken McGUINNESS
 Brett HODGSON
 Adam DOYLE
 Steve GEORGALLIS
 Paul LANGMACK (c)
 Shane MILLARD
 Damian KENNEDY
 Harvey HOWARD
 Kevin McGUINNESS
 John SKANDALIS
 Bill DUNN
 Andrew WILLIS
 Darren CAPOVILLA
 Shayne McMENEMY

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

Jamie AINSCOUGH
 Lee MURPHY
 Mark COYNE (c)
 Daniel WAGON
 Damien SMITH
 Steven PRICE
 Ben KUSTO
 Wayne BARTRIM
 Andrew TANGATA-TOA
 Lance THOMPSON
 Colin WARD
 Nathan BROWN
 Corey PEARSON
 Luke FELSCH
 Dean RAPER
 Brad SMITH
 Darren RAMEKA

Tries Kevin McGUINNESS
 Adam DOYLE
 Ken McGUINNESS
 Bill DUNN

Jamie AINSCOUGH

Goals Brett HODGSON (5)

Wayne BARTRIM (1)

Match Description

St George: Full-back: J Ainscough; three-quarters: L Murphy, M Coyne (c), D Wagon, D Smith; five-eighth: S Price; half: B Kusto; forwards: W Bartrim, L Thompson, A Tangata-Toa, C Ward, N Brown, C Pearson

Western Suburbs: Full-back: A Leeds; three-quarters: D Willis, A Laing, Ken McGuinness, B Hodgson; five-eighth: A Doyle; half: S Georgallis; forwards: P Langmack (c), D Kennedy, S Millard, J Skandalis, Kevin McGuinness, H Howard **Referee: P McBlane (Big League 3rd August 1997)**

Wests kept their slim semi-final hopes alive with a 26-6 win over St. George last night. With the scores locked at 6-all at half time, the Magpies raced in three second half tries which all but ended the season for last year's grand finalists. Adam Doyle put the nail in Saints' coffin with a late try but by that stage the game was over anyway. Winger Brett Hodgson kicked five goals from 6 attempts - his only miss hitting the post. With four rounds remaining the Magpies have a tough run through to the finals but, on 18 points, at least they are alive. The stage is now set for what should be a great game when they play premiers Manly next Sunday at Brookvale. Coach Tom Raudonikis said: "We play the premiers next week. If we play like we did in the first half, we'll be behind by 30 points. The good thing is the enthusiasm is back. I thought Kenny McGuinness was outstanding as hooker." ... Wests went into the game without hooker Cherry Mescia who was forced to pull out because of headaches - the result of being knocked out in each of his past five games. Des Hasler also did not play. Mescia's place was taken by McGuinness, who switched from centre to hooker with Aseri Laing moving from the bench into the three-quarters. The Magpies' veteran fullback Andrew Leeds played his 100th first-grade game. In was an unfortunate start, a mix-up saw a proposed pre-match presentation to him called off and then he was supposed to lead his team on the field but this too fell flat when Paul Langmack was in fact the first player to greet the roars of the vocal crowd. At least Leeds was able to leave the ground with a big grin on his face after the Magpies' strong second half. **(The Sun-Herald 3rd August 1997)**

.... The McGuinness brothers were again key figures in the Magpies' impressive win. Centre Ken celebrated a rich new contract, signed only hours before the game, with a starring performance out wide. And younger brother Kevin, shifted to hooker in the absence of regular rakes Des Hasler and Cherry Mescia, excelled in his new role. **(Daily Telegraph 3rd August 1997)**

Notes: The news of the re-signing of Harvey Howard and Ken McGuinness to three-year contracts seemed to revitalise the Magpies, and, after being 6-6 at half-time, they ran riot in the second half. With Cherry Mescia and Des Hasler out injured/sick, Kevin McGuinness went into hooker/dummy half and had an outstanding game, running off Harvey Howard's bustling breaks. Andrew Leeds celebrated his 100th game while Brett Hodgson demonstrated his kicking skills.