



# 1996 Round 19 Saturday 10th August QE11 Stadium



## Brisbane 36

Robbie ROSS  
 Michael HANCOCK  
 Darren SMITH  
 Steve RENOUF  
 Willie CARNE  
 Kevin WALTERS  
 Allan LANGER (c)  
 Peter RYAN  
 Shane WEBCKE  
 Brad THORN  
 Andrew GEE  
 Kerrod WALTERS  
 Glenn LAZARUS  
 John PLATH  
 Ben WALKER  
 Chris JOHNS

def.

## Western Suburbs 6

Andrew LEEDS  
 Darren WILLIS  
 Aseri LAING  
 Brandon PEARSON  
 Paul SMITH  
 Steve GEORGALLIS  
 Andrew WILLIS  
 Paul LANGMACK (c)  
 Damian KENNEDY  
 Bill DUNN  
 Justin DOOLEY  
 Michael O'NEALL  
 Harvey HOWARD  
 Darren CAPOVILLA  
 Chad HARRIS  
 Ken MCGUINNESS  
 Mark AFFLICK



**Tries** Michael HANCOCK (2)  
 Darren SMITH (2)  
 Shane WEBCKE  
 Allan LANGER

Andrew LEEDS

**Goals** Willie CARNE (6)

Andrew LEEDS (1)

### Match Description

**Western Suburbs:** Full-back: A Leeds; three-quarters: D Willis, A Liang, B Pearson, P Smith; five-eighth: S Georgallis; half: A Willis; forwards: P Langmack (c), D Kennedy, B Dunn, J Dooley, M O'Neall, H Howard

**Brisbane:** Full-back: R Ross; three-quarters: W Carne, M Hancock, S Renouf, D Smith; five-eighth: K Walters; half: A Langer (c); forwards: P Ryan, S Webcke, B Thorn, A Gee, K Walters, G Lazarus **Referee: D Manson (Daily Telegraph 11th August 1996)**

Wendell Sailor may have to dust off the headgear and look for a position in the pack if he is to make a successful return to the Brisbane Broncos this season. Coach Wayne Bennett, speaking after the Broncos 36-6 win over Wests yesterday, indicated that Sailor is being considered for a back row spot when he returns in a fortnight. While far from getting carried away with yesterday's performance, which prop Glenn Lazarus later described as no more than 60% of the Broncos best, Bennett said he was happy enough for the three players at the back to keep the formula going. It might be considered that fullback Robbie Ross would be the player most under pressure- with Willie Carne and Michael Hancock secure on the wing - however Bennett was thinking along other lines. "Putting Wendell in the forwards is something I won't be casting aside now because the other three guys at the back are doing such a good job," Bennett said. "Wendell was very impressive there last year, which is a credit to the way he adapted because not many guys can go from the wing to the forwards. But it'll probably mean the headgear has to come back out, I suppose we can live with that." The Broncos were rarely extended yesterday, a 20-minute period at the start of the second half taking the game away from Wests. In that period, as well as the minute before halftime, Brisbane took the score from 12-60 to an unassailable 36-6. However, the last 20 minutes of the match showed everything that worries the Broncos players. "We just need to get our attitude right," Lazarus said afterwards. "We need to get our attitude right as far as coming out of our own 50 metres. It's just ridiculous at the moment." Bennett was less critical, a quiet confidence in his words: "I thought Balmain was a low point, I thought we improved against Penrith and I thought we were a bit better again today," he said. "We're in pretty good shape. But just looking forward to the next three weeks and then the semi-finals." The Broncos are still suffering from the mental lapses that have cursed their game throughout the middle part of the season, however the players still give the indication they're playing within themselves - doing just enough required to win. It coincided yesterday with the Wests' performance that appeared as though the Magpies thought they had done enough by halftime. Gone was a side from the first 40 minutes, the team that took chances and, except for a Darren Smith try against the run of play a minute before the break, looked to be every bit in the match. Throughout the second 40 minutes Wests fell off tackles, dropped easy passes and generally competed without effort. "They went missing on me in the second half," coach Tommy Raudonikis confirmed. "I'm a bit disappointed in that. We weren't attacking the edges. But we can regroup from it. I'll have a look at the video." **(The Sun-Herald 11th August 1996)**

**Notes:** Wests were well in the game at half-time, after a whole-hearted effort but fell away in the second half, with dropped balls and missed tackles the norm. Harvey Howard was again impressive up front, taking on the big Brisbane forward pack. It was obvious that the team was seriously missing the suspended Cherry Meschia.