



1992 Round 2 Saturday 28th March Campbelltown Stadium



Eastern Suburbs 18

def.

Western Suburbs 4

Rod SILVA	Fullback
Mark PROTHEROE	Wing
Brendan HALL	Centre
James MATTHEWS	Centre
Jeff ORFORD	Wing
Steve ROBINSON	Five-eighth
Gary FREEMAN	Half
Nigel GAFFEY	Lock
Colin WARD	Second Row
Jason TASSELL	Second Row
Craig SALVATORI (c)	Front Row
Kurt SHERLOCK	Hooker
Steve HANSON	Front Row
Brett GILLARD	Replacement
Steve DEACON	Replacement
Denis BEECRAFT	Replacement
Tim RUSSELL	Replacement

Russell WYER
Mark BELL
Terry HILL
Andrew FARRAR
Wayne SIMONDS
Jim DYMOCK
Jason TAYLOR
Jason LIDDEN
Paul LANGMACK
Bob LINDNER
David GILLESPIE
Joe THOMAS (c)
Darren BRITT
Graeme WYNN
Shaun DEVINE
Darren WILLIS



Tries Brendan HALL (2)
 Mark PROTHEROE

Mark BELL

Goals James MATTHEWS (3)

Match Description

Eastern Suburbs: Full-back: R Silva; three-quarters: M Protheroe, B Hall, J Matthews, J Orford; five-eighth: S Robinson; half: G Freeman; forwards: J Tassell, C Ward, N Gaffey, C Salvatori (c), K Sherlock, S Hanson

Western Suburbs: Full-back: R Wyer; three-quarters: M Bell, A Farra, T Hill, W Simonds; five-eighth: J Dymock; half: J Taylor; forwards: J Lidden, P Langmack, B Lindner, D Gillespie, J Thomas (c), D Britt **Referee: G West (Big League 1st April 1992)**

Eastern Suburbs sent shockwaves through the premiership when they scored a decisive 18-4 win over Western Suburbs at Campbelltown Sportsground last night. The win gave Easts their second success from two games while Wests crashed to their second loss. For a team many selected to be strong candidates to take out the premiership, Western Suburbs were bitterly disappointing. In contrast, Easts continued their impressive form from the first round with a three tries to one victory. Easts' win was complete, engineered by halfback Gary Freeman, five-eighth Steve Robinson and lock-forward Nigel Gaffey. While the trio was outstanding, it was a complete team effort with swarming defence and the ability to capitalise on any mistakes by Wests. Wests were flat. The attack, apart from the try scored nine minutes from halftime by winger Mark Bell, lacked the authority to penetrate the Eastern Suburbs' defence. Halfback Jason Taylor, so often a match-winner for Wests, had a very quiet match and rarely ran with the ball. ... Both teams missed tries when referee Graeme West ruled forward passes and on both occasions the decisions were correct. Lock Gaffey had another outstanding game, toiling well in both defence and attack. Freeman also had another class match, backing up his effort against St George in the first round. He worked well from the rucks, getting his team moving in attack and setting an example with his defence and high work-rate. Easts' coach Mark Murray is to be applauded for his decision to sign the former Balmain halfback who has added a touch of class and a lot of experience. Easts' coach Mark Murray said it was a very satisfying performance by the team. "Wests are a very tough team to beat on their home ground," he said. "We did the job against St George and we have improved since then. Since last year our defence has improved and that is a plus for us." Murray praised the efforts of several of his players and he gave special mention to stand-in hooker Kurt Sherlock. Sherlock, who normally plays in the backs, accepted the challenge of a switch to hooker and he came through solidly. Murray was also pleased with the performance of Freeman. "He was a world-class player before he came to us and we are prepared to take advantage of his experience," Murray added. From the other room, Wests' coach Warren Ryan could not believe how much possession his team squandered. But the statistics told him that from the 43 times Wests had the ball, they completed six tackles just 19 times. "That is scandalous control of the football," Ryan said: "Losing possession like that is suicidal. Easts worked well from dummy half. They had little trouble in getting territory." Ryan singled out Bob Lindner as one of his better players. "He was one of the lights in the darkness of the night," Ryan said. **(The Sun-Herald 29th March 1992)**

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Notes: Wayne Simonds was back on the wing and played well but the performance overall was disappointing in what was considered to be an upset loss. Jason Taylor was very subdued, but the story of the statistics told the tale: 19 times completed 6 tackles out of 43 possessions. The dropped ball made continuity difficult. Russell Wyer was forced off with concussion, twice. Bob Lindner was easily Wests' best, very ably supported by Paul Langmack.