



# 1983 Round 2 Sunday 6th March Lidcombe Oval



## Balmain 44

Garry JACK  
 Mark LAWSON  
 Olsen FILIPAINA  
 Wayne MIRANDA  
 Larry COROWA  
 Gary BRIDGE  
 Steve MARTIN  
 Wayne PEARCE (c)  
 David BROOKS  
 Kevin HARDWICK  
 Kerry HEMSLEY  
 Ben ELIAS  
 Steve ROACH  
 James BELL  
 Michael SCHOFIELD  
 Bill KAIN

def.

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

## Western Suburbs 16

Wayne SMITH  
 Warren BOLAND (c)  
 Greg COX  
 David GREENE  
 George GHOSN  
 Terry LAMB  
 Scott GALE  
 Mark BEAVEN  
 Brett GALE  
 George FAHD  
 Ian FREEMAN  
 Arthur MOUNTIER  
 John DONNELLY  
 Bruce CLARK  
 David HALL  
 Bill HILLIARD



**Tries**  
 Gary BRIDGE (3)  
 Garry JACK (2)  
 Wayne PEARCE  
 Steve MARTIN

Terry LAMB  
 Warren BOLAND  
 Scott GALE

**Goals**  
 Olsen FILIPAINA (8)

George GHOSN (2)

### Match Description

**Balmain:** Full-back: G Jack; three-quarters: M Lawson, W Miranda, O Filipaina, L Corowa; five-eighth: G Bridge; half: S Martin; forwards: W Pearce (c), D Brooks, K Hardwick, K Hemsley, B Elias, S Roach

**Western Suburbs:** Full-back: W Smith; three-quarters: G Ghosn, D Greene, G Cox, W Boland (c); five-eighth: T Lamb; half: S Gale; forwards: M Beaven, B Gale, G Fahd, J Donnelly, A Mountier, I Freeman

**Referee: M Weekes (The Sun 7th March 1983)**

Youthful premiership hopefuls Balmain yesterday crushed Western Suburbs 44-16 at Lidcombe Oval on the eve of the club announcing a \$150,000 sponsorship deal. Tigers' secretary Keith Gittoes secured the deal on Friday and full details will be released tomorrow. The new sponsor will certainly get plenty of exposure from the brilliant young Tigers judging by their performance yesterday in thrashing the Magpies seven tries to three. The hero was Kangaroo Tour sensation Wayne Pearce who played a leading hand in the club's first four tries as Balmain opened up at a furious pace. The match was as good as over after only 25 minutes, with the Tigers having raced in four tries against very poor defence. Full-back Garry Jack scored two tries with the others going to half-back Steve Martin and five-eighth Garry Bridge. Each time Pearce was responsible, cutting his way through tackles and off-loading to supports. But after the Tigers, leading 24-4 after only 25 minutes, relaxed in defence for a 15-minute period and allowed Wests two quick tries to Scott Gale and Warren Boland before half-time. At the break the lead had been cut to only eight points but the Tigers got their act together again and never gave Wests another look in. Bridge was outstanding in the second half. He finished with three tries, a great reward for backing up all afternoon. Every player in the Balmain side produced the goods. Hooker Benny Elias gave an outstanding effort in defence with 36 tackles – and he also won the scrums. Apart from the poor defence in the first 25 minutes. Wests put together some bright football in patches. For coach Len Stacker the most pleasing aspect of the game was the form of youngster Scott Gale at half-back. He was a danger to Balmain whenever he had the ball and also tackled well. Lock Mark Beaven also did a fine job to continually nail Balmain's big Kiwi centre Olsen Filipaina. But everything points to Western Suburbs finishing near the bottom of the competition table this year as Stacker has little talent to work with. In previous years the club had proved the critics wrong but it will take a miracle for them to become a major force this season. Balmain coach Frank Stanton was thrilled with his team's performance, apart from the lapse in defence before half-time. "It was an excellent win but we cannot get carried away over it. I though the players again showed a lot of maturity in the second-half after that brief lapse." (**Daily Telegraph 7th March 1983**)

**Notes:** Wests' potentially long season loomed ahead as Balmain Captain, Wayne Pearce, cut them to pieces in the heatwave conditions. Again Wests were in it at half-time, but the forwards wilted in the conditions. Steve Broughton was a late withdrawal with George Ghosn, on debut, replacing him. Mark Beaven was easily Wests' best in a game where they created many chances but did not capitalise on them.