



1995 Round 20 Saturday 12th August North Sydney Oval



North Sydney 32

def.

Western Suburbs 16

Matt SEERS
Nigel ROY
Ivan CLEARY
Mat TOSHACK
David HALL
Greg FLORIMO
Jason TAYLOR (c)
Billy MOORE
David FAIRLEIGH
Craig WILSON
Adrian TOOLE
Chris CARUANA
Gary LARSON
Josh STUART
Mark REBER
Tony HEARN
Danny WILLIAMS

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

Andrew LEEDS
Tony WALL
Paul BELL
Ken McGUINNESS
Darren WILLIS
Brandon PEARSON
Kevin McGUINNESS
Steve GEORGALLIS
Mark HORO
Paul LANGMACK (c)
Glenn GRIEF
Ciriaco MESCIA
Brent STUART
Justin DOOLEY
Bill DUNN
Chris WILLIAMS
David SEIDENKAMP



Tries

Adrian TOOLE
Matt SEERS
David FAIRLEIGH
Greg FLORIMO
David HALL
Nigel ROY

Andrew LEEDS
Paul LANGMACK
Steve GEORGALLIS

Goals

Jason TAYLOR (4)

Andrew LEEDS (2)

Match Description

North Sydney: Full-back: M Seers; three-quarters: N Roy, I Cleary, M Toshack, D Hall; five-eighth: G Florimo; half: J Taylor (c); forwards: B Moore, D Fairleigh, C Wilson, A Toole, C Caruana, G Larson

Western Suburbs: Full-back: A Leeds; three-quarters: T Wall, K McGuinness, P Bell, D Willis; five-eighth: B Pearson; half: Kevin McGuinness; forwards: S Georgallis, M Horo, P Langmack (c), B Stuart, J Serdaris, G Grief **Referee: D Manson (Big League 12th August 1995)**

Tommy Raudonikis delivered a few "hard facts of life" to his team at half time yesterday. People near the Western Suburbs dressing room at North Sydney Oval figured it was more an exercise in stripping paint without chemicals. The results were spectacular: a Wests' fightback precisely in the style of the doughty Magpies coach - transforming a match that was a lost cause into an edge-of-the-seater. Clawing back to 20-16 after trailing 20-0, Wests finally triggered Norths' own exercise in digging deep. Shaken to the core, the Bears steadied and in the match's key moment, local hero Greg Florimo bustled through wonderfully from a scrum to send Matt Seers over for the try that provided winning space. The Bears went on to win 32-16 before a hugely relieved crowd of 12,201. And so, it was Peter Louis and his men who lived to fight another day. ... Surviving an early let-off when the Magpies Tony Wall had an apparently fair try disallowed, the Bears pulverised Wests in the first half, running up four tries. But, in the words of the great old cliché it was a "match played in two halves". Returning with their eyes somewhat widened, Wests' players came up with a triple strike - tries by Georgallis, Leeds and skipper Langmack in 19 minutes. Suddenly it was 20-16, a game hoisted back onto the high wire. "It's not the first time we've had a little rest and put our feet up," mused Louis. But in the final quarter it was the Bears who steadied, with Florimo pushing the button for Seers, then "Daisy" Fairleigh chipping in with a late clincher. The news after a keen and clean game was varied - of Billy Moore, worryingly, off to hospital for an X ray of an arm, of ringing praise for Gary Larson whose toil never let up, and of Josh Stuart, on report for an alleged high tackle. In the Wests' room, Raudonikis agonised for the collapse of the "basics" in Wests' game in the first half, sang the praises of skipper Langmack, and promised his team would go right to the wire in the last two rounds against Manly and Illawarra. All interviewed-out, Raudonikis responded to a call from mate Wayne Ellis and fired his plastic lighter across the dressing room. A fumble, and it was in the rubbish bin. It had been that sort of day for Tommy and his Magpies. **(The Sun-Herald 13th August 1995)**

Notes: Down 20-0 at half-time, the team received a searing blast from Raudonikis and came out fighting. They scored three tries in nine minutes and suddenly the score was 20-16. Brandon Pearson had a try disallowed in the 66th minute and they couldn't get back into the match after that. Paul Langmack displayed brilliant leadership in this fightback period. A Tony Wall disallowed try early in the match, after five minutes, was crucial in the final result.