

1993 Round 20 Sunday 15th August Wollongong Showground

def. Western Suburbs 12

Mark BELL

David RIOLO **Fullback Andrew LEEDS** Darren WILLIS Brendan O'MEARA Wing Craig SIMON Steve GEORGALLIS Centre **Brett RODWELL** Centre Terry HILL Alan McINDOE Wing Russell WYER Dale FRITZ Five-eighth Jason LIDDEN Michael NEIL Half Jason TAYLOR (c) Bob LINDNER (c) Lock Jason BENGE Neil PICCINELLI Second Row Stephen KEARNEY Craig IZZARD Second Row **Scott HARDY** Bill DUNN Front Row Justin DOOLEY Dean CALLAWAY Hooker Chris WILLIAMS Steve WADDELL Front Row Mark AFFLICK David WALSH Replacement **Andrew WILLIS** Shaun WALLISS Replacement Mark HILL Nigel ROY Replacement David ANDERSON

Replacement

Tries Brett RODWELL (3) Chris WILLIAMS
Dean CALLAWAY Darren WILLIS

Craig SIMON
Brendan O'MEARA

Cameron EATON

Illawarra 36

Goals Neil PICCINELLI (6) Jason TAYLOR (2)

Match Description

Illawarra: Full-back: D Riolo; three-quarters: A McIndoe, B Rodwell, C Simon, B O'Meara; five-eighth: D Fritz; half: M Neil; forwards: B Lindner (c), C Izzard, N Piccinelli, W Dunn, D Callaway, S Waddell

Western Suburbs: Full-back: A Leeds; three-quarters: D Willis, S Georgallis, T Hill, R Wyer; five-eighth: J Lidden; half: J Taylor (c); forwards: J Benge, S Kearney, S Hardy, J Dooley, C Williams, M Afflick Referee: S Clark (Daily Telegraph 16th August 1993)

Illawarra centre Brett Rodwell finished his season on a high note with a hat-trick of tries in a 36-12 drubbing of Western Suburbs at Steelers Stadium yesterday. The Steelers were well in control throughout, going to the half-time break leading 16-0, ad scoring two tries in the first 10 minutes after the resumption to seal the game. Rodwell was a late inclusion after shoulder reconstruction surgery was postponed, but he will now enter hospital on Wednesday. The Steelers displayed the attacking power which they promised at the start of the season, scoring six tries to two. Wests got on the scoreboard with 15 minutes to go when hooker Chris Williams took advantage of stretched Steelers' defence to score from dummy-half. Illwarra hit back immediately two minutes later when Rodwell scored the try of the match. With Illawarra attacking 60m out, quick hands from second-rower Neil Piccinelli and five-eighth Dale Fritz sent winger Alan McIndoe on a 50m run down the sideline. With the tryline beckoning, McIndoe gave up a certain four-pointer to dump the ball inside to Rodwell for the try. Flanker Darren Willis got a late consolation try for the Magpies with only six minutes to go, with Rodwell collecting his hat-trick four minutes from time. (Sydney Morning Herald 16th August 1993)

Illawarra second-rower Neil Piccinelli's well-kept secret was exposed during the Steelers' resounding 36-12 win over Western Suburbs yesterday. The rampaging forward was an accomplished goalkicker in his junior days but kept his talent under wraps when he started playing grade. ... Besides his goalkicking, Piccinelli capped his performance with a strong game in general play. "He's a workaholic, a lot of people would love to come back with his heart," Murray said. Illawarra centre Brett Rodwell finished his season on a memorable note, crossing for a hat-trick of tries. "The prospect of a fully fit Rodwell gives you great excitement about things," Murray said. Wests were very disappointing and coach Warren Ryan offered no excuses afterwards. "You can't expect to win games when you play that poorly," he said. He said the team lost the game in the first half when they made eight errors, mostly unforced. (The Daily Telegraph Mirror 16th August 1993)

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Notes: Wests played very poorly in this game, making a very large number of unforced errors. They were down 16-0 at half-time but the Steelers had enjoyed a glut of possession. Chris Williams was again impressive, this time at lock, making the most of limited opportunities. Wests were winding down after an injury-plagued season.