



1987 Round 20 Sunday 19th July Henson Park



Eastern Suburbs 15

def.

Western Suburbs 6

Gary WURTH
 Steve MORRIS
 David SMITH
 David FRENCH
 Joe LYDON
 Brendan HALL
 Laurie SPINA
 John TOBIN
 Trevor GILLMEISTER
 Steve HARDY
 Brad TESSMAN
 David TREWHELLA (c)
 Danny SHEPHERD
 Wayne PORTLOCK
 Tony MELROSE
 Craig SALVATORI
 Kurt SHERLOCK

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

Brett CLARK
 Phillip DUKE
 Allen GEELAN
 John ALLANSON
 Jason WILLIAMS
 Doug RAWLINGS
 Trevor COGGER
 Ian SCHUBERT (c)
 John ELIAS
 John BILBIJA
 Ian FREEMAN
 Alan FALLAH
 Scott TRONC
 Brett DAVIS
 Terry DONNELLAN
 Grant FYVIE



Tries Joe LYDON (2)
 Gary WURTH

John ALLANSON

Goals Joe LYDON (1)
 Tony MELROSE (1) Field Goal

Ian SCHUBERT (1)

Match Description

Eastern Suburbs: Full-back: G Wurth; three-quarters: S Morris, D Smith, D French, J Lydon; five-eighth: B Hall; half: L Spina; forwards: J Tobin, T Gillmeister, S Hardy, B Tessman, D Trehwella (c), D Shepherd

Western Suburbs: Full-back: B Clark; three-quarters: P Duke, A Geelan, J Allanson, J Williams; five-eighth: D Rawlings; half: T Cogger; forwards: I Schubert (c), J Bilbija, J Elias, I Freeman, A Fallah, S Tronc **Referee: W Harrigan (Rugby League Week 22nd July 1987)**

Great Britain Test star Joe Lydon lifted a lethargic Eastern Suburbs to a 15-6 victory over Western Suburbs at Henson Park yesterday with two slashing second-half tries. Easts looked to be in real trouble, trailing 6-4 before Lydon finished off a backline movement to score in the 62nd minute, diving over in the corner. Shortly afterwards, the Rooster speed machine bolted away on a 70-metre dash to the line to put the issue beyond doubt. But after the match, Lydon said he was a little frustrated playing on the wing at Easts where he only got two or three chances yesterday. "My favourite position is in the centres, but Arthur Beetson wants me on the wing," Lydon said in the dressing room. "I prefer it closer to the action but I suppose I'm happy while I'm scoring tries. It was a great feeling to score two today." Coach Beetson said he had no thoughts of moving the classy Great Britain star into the centre position. "Are you calling me a dummy?" Beetson asked a reporter who suggested the positional switch to the centres. "I've got him on the wing where he's got more room to move. Also, the defence isn't as tight on the wing as it is in the centres." Eastern Suburbs were dreadful in the previous match against Penrith and yesterday's performance was not much better. At half-time they led 4-nil after possibly their worst 40 minutes of football all season. Wests grabbed the lead early in the second half with a try to centre John Allanson and it appeared as though an upset was on the cards. But Lydon struck to get the Roosters home. Beetson was naturally pleased to get the two points to remain in outright second position on the premiership ladder. However, it will take a huge improvement if they are to get anywhere the top sides like Manly. On the plus side, five-eighth Brendon Hall turned in another excellent display and second-rower Steve Hardy tried his hardest in the forwards. "I thought Hall was just about our best player," Beetson said. "He's an excellent five-eighth and a consistent type who plays well every week." Easts lost John Tobin with a knee injury in the second half, but the veteran forward is confident he will make it on to the field for next weekend's clash with Parramatta. Fullback Garry Wurth was also replaced with a corked thigh, but he too should be right to play against Easts. In the Wests' dressing room, Steve Ghosn was terribly disappointed. "I think we tried our hardest and gave it everything, but once more there were just too many errors," he said. "We gave Easts enough ball for them to win 20 games of football." (**Daily Telegraph 20th July 1987**)

Notes: In a very poor-quality game Wests made the superior number of errors. Even though the game was close, especially after a brilliant John Allanson 60 metre try, every time Wests got back into the match, they gave the ball away with silly mistakes. Scott Tronc and Doug Rawlings were the best for Wests.