

1997 Round 21 Sunday 24th August Campbelltown Stadium

def. Western Suburbs 10

Dean MOON **Fullback** Andrew LEEDS Fili SERU Darren WILLIS Wing **Shaun TIMMINS** Ken McGUINNESS Centre **Brett RODWELL** Centre Kevin McGUINNESS Wayne CLIFFORD Wing **Brett HODGSON** John CROSS (c) Five-eighth **Andrew WILLIS** Trent BARRETT Half Steve GEORGALLIS **Brad MACKAY** Lock Paul LANGMACK (c) Darren BRADSTREET Second Row Damian KENNEDY

Terry LAMEY Second Row Bill DUNN Craig SMITH Front Row Harvey HOWARD Dean CALLAWAY Hooker Ciriaco MESCIA Scott CRAM Front Row Shane MILLARD Will ROBINSON Replacement Darren CAPOVILLA Paul McGREGOR Replacement James SMITH Chris LEIKOVIL Replacement Des HASLER

Adam BRISTOW Replacement Shayne McMENEMY

Tries Trent BARRETT (3) Ken McGUINNESS Shaun TIMMINS (2) Steve GEORGALLIS

Shaun TIMMINS (2) Wayne CLIFFORD Chris LEIKOVIL

Illawarra 34

Goals Dean MOON (3) Andrew LEEDS (1)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: A Leeds; three-quarters: D Willis, Ken McGuinness, Kevin McGuinness; B Hodgson five-eighth: A Willis; half: S Georgallis; forwards: P Langmack (c), D Kennedy, B Dunn, S Millard, C Mescia, H Howard

Illawarra: Full-back: D Moon; three-quarters: F Seru, S Timmins, B Rodwell, W Clifford; five-eighth: J Cross; half: T Barrett; forwards: B Mackay, T Lamey, D Bradstreet, C Smith, D Callaway, S Cram Referee: D Manson (Big League 24th August 1997)

Illawarra unsung hooker Dane Calloway performed like he'd been a fly on the wall in Wests' dressing room at Campbelltown Sports Ground yesterday. During the half time break Wests' skipper Paul Langmack berated his teammates for allowing Callaway to make a series of long breaks from dummy half. "Callaway might be a good player but you blokes are making him look like the world's best hooker," Langmack said unfortunately for Langmack, the Magpies failed to take heed as the speedy number 9 continued to set the attacking standard for the rest of the Steelers to follow. The Steelers ran in seven tries to two on the way to embarrassing the Magpies 34-10 in a game that was rarely a contest. The danger signs were there from the opening minutes when Darren Bradstreet put Shaun Timmins over for an easy try followed by a 40 metre Callaway stroll through the middle of the ruck. Wests retaliated with a Steve Georgallis try after winger Wayne Clifford couldn't control a kick near his line, but the writing was already on the wall for the home side. A 60 metre try finished by Clifford, involving Scott Cram, Brad McCoy and Brett Rodwell nosed the Steelers back into the lead after 23 minutes and from there they never looked back. Not a bad effort for a side playing before the awesome Magpie faithful and without skipper Paul McGregor in the starting line-up. ... On the stroke of half time Wests produced what turned out to be their last hurrah for the day when Ken McGuinness scored off a 20 metre Langmack pass. At 14-10 down, the Magpies had everything to play for in the second half but they waved the white flag in defence straight after the break. Teenage sensation Trent Barrett scored the first of his three tries with surprising ease from close range, then replacement Chris Leikvoll bolted 45 metres to score from a Callaway pass. Barrett scored again off a Mackay pass and what was especially galling for the home side was the two of the three early second half tries were scored while the Steelers were down to 12 men. Second rower Terry Lamy was sin-binned for a ballstripping indiscretion but that set-back nearly led to the Steelers updating their defence sufficiently to hold the Magpies at bay for 18 tackles. At 28-10, McGregor took a well-earned rest as the Magpies had tries disallowed to Damian Kennedy and Darren Willis, much to the dismay of coach Tommy Raudonikis who claimed they were legitimate. .. (Daily Telegraph 25th August 1997)

Notes: There was a surprising lack of intensity for such an important match. It dropped the Magpies from 6th to 9th. Defence was very lax, especially down the blind-side, where Illawarra successfully directed their attack on a number of occasions. Everybody seemed to be below par in an uninspiring performance.

