



1995 Round 22 Sunday 27th August Wollongong Showground



Illawarra 46

Brendan O'MEARA
 Rod WISHART
 Shaun TIMMINS
 Paul McGREGOR
 Keith BEAUCHAMP
 Craig SIMON
 John SIMON
 John CROSS (c)
 Neil PICCINELLI
 Wayne RICHARDS
 David WALSH
 Dean CALLAWAY
 Darren FRITZ
 Peter JOHNSTON
 Martin MASELLA

def.

Western Suburbs 6

Tony WALL
 Brad HUGHES
 Paul BELL
 Darren WILLIS
 Ken McGUINNESS
 Brandon PEARSON
 Steve GEORGALLIS
 Paul LANGMACK (c)
 Darren BURNS
 Bill DUNN
 Mark HORO
 Chris WILLIAMS
 Brent STUART
 Justin DOOLEY
 Damian KENNEDY
 Kevin McGUINNESS



Tries Paul McGREGOR (2)
 Shaun TIMMINS (2)
 Rod WISHART
 Craig SIMON
 Martin MASELLA

Chris WILLIAMS

Goals Rod WISHART (9)

Tony WALL (1)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: T Wall; three-quarters: B Hughes, P Bell, D Willis, Ken McGuinness; five-eighth: B Pearson; half: S Georgallis; forwards: P Langmack (c), B Dunn, D Burns, B Stuart, C Williams, M Horo

Illawarra: Full-back: B O'Meara; three-quarters: R Wishart, S Timmins, P McGregor, K Beauchamp; five-eighth: C Simon; half: J Simon; forwards: J Cross (c), N Piccinelli, W Richards, D Walsh, D Callaway, D Fritz **Referee: N Almond (Daily Telegraph August 27th 1995)**

Brilliant games by brothers John and Craig Simon enabled the Illawarra Steelers to end the season on a high note by beating Western Suburbs 46-6 at Steelers Stadium yesterday. Illawarra's departing trio of John Simon, winger Keith Beauchamp and Neil Piccinelli all contributed mightily to Illawarra's win. Simon showed his class with a clever kicking game in difficult conditions, strong defence and flawless passing which led to tries. Piccinelli topped the tackle count with 33, while winger Beauchamp was safe and enterprising. The game began disastrously for Illawarra, with Wests' hooker Chris Williams scoring a converted try before many fans had taken their seats. That setback signalled the determined fightback by Illawarra and led to a seven tries to one thrashing. Winger Rod Wishart scored 22 points with a try and nine goals from as many attempts. He ended the season with the 176 points, a record for the club. There were several gems among the Steelers' seven tries. The best came in the 25th minute when John Simon tossed a long, bullet-like pass to brother Craig, who scooped it up in his fingertips. The younger Simon burst downfield with Piccinelli in support. Piccinelli put a gap in the defence and tossed a selective pass to Test centre Paul McGregor who scored. McGregor improved his World Cup chances with some classy play. Craig Simon had a hand in several tries and scored one himself when he took an intercept. Illawarra coach Alan Fitzgibbon was pleased with his team's effort of winning six of their last seven games to finish with 21 points, a point ahead of Wests. Meantime, in reserve grade, two referees were used in an experiment that worked well enough to be given further trials. The second referee marked the 10 metres, standing with the defending team, which allowed the match referee to concentrate on the ruck play. **(The Daily Telegraph Mirror 28th August 1995)**

Craig Simon used the last game as a Steeler with his brother John as his motivation as Wollongong thrashed Western Suburbs 46-6 at Steelers Stadium yesterday. The Steelers finished the season in fine style, winning six of their last seven games in a seven- tries-to-one romp. Craig Simon was in sensational form, scoring a try and setting up another, and giving the potent Steelers' back line the room to score six of their tries. **(The Sydney Morning Herald 28th August 1995)**

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Notes: The mounting injury toll finally caught up with Wests, going into the game without Cherry Mescia, Jim Serdaris, Glenn Grief, Andrew Willis and Andrew Leeds. After a shock Chris Williams try after only two minutes, Wests were never in the hunt, in a very fumbling display. Andrew Leeds missed his only match of the season, with Tony Wall going to full-back.