



1984 Round 24 Sunday 12th August Penrith Park



Penrith 23

Mark LEVY
 Ben GONZALES
 Ken WOLFE
 Ross GIGG
 Brett LOBB
 Steve ROBINSON
 Greg ALEXANDER
 Brad IZZARD
 Greg CLEMENTS
 Warren FENTON
 Brad WAUGH
 Royce SIMMONS (c)
 Matt GOODWIN
 Craig CONNOR
 Brandon LEE
 Tony BUTTERFIELD
 Rob ROBARDS

def.

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

Western Suburbs 16

John McARTHUR
 Steve BROUGHTON (c)
 Gerald CELARC
 Eddie FLAHEY
 Wayne SMITH
 Michael NEIL
 Trevor COGGER
 Dave STAFFORD
 Allen GEELAN
 Michael DUKE
 Geoff SPOTSWOOD
 Alan FALLAH
 Bruce CLARK
 Brett CLARK
 George FAHD



Tries Greg ALEXANDER (2)
 Ken WOLFE (2)

Eddie FLAHEY
 Trevor COGGER
 Steve BROUGHTON

Goals Mark LEVY (3)
 Royce SIMMONS (1) Field Goal

John MCARTHUR (2)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: J McArthur; three-quarters: S Broughton (c), E Flahey, G Celarc, W Smith; five-eighth: M Neil; half: T Cogger; forwards: D Stafford, A Geelan, M Duke, B Clark, A Fallah, G Spotswood

Penrith: Full-back: M Levy; three-quarters: B Lobb, R Gigg, K Wolfe, B Gonzales; five-eighth: S Robinson; half: G Alexander; forwards: B Izzard, G Clements, W Fenton, B Waugh, R Simmons (c), M Goodwin **Referee: M Stone (The Daily Mirror 13th August 1984)**

Champion young half-back Greg Alexander limped out of Penrith Park with a serious knee injury last night after playing a leading role in Penrith's 23-16 win over Western Suburbs. Alexander scored two smashing tries in the first half to put the club on the road to victory but suffered a strained cruciate ligament in the process. A worried coach, Tim Sheens, replaced him midway through the second half and he will visit a specialist this morning. The injury scare is a major blow to Penrith's chance of making the semi-finals this year after they clawed their way back into the top five yesterday. Alexander is hoping physiotherapy will allow him to continue playing, but he has to be in doubt for the make-or-break game against Canberra next weekend. "I'll be getting physio treatment tomorrow and I'll continue with it all week in the hope of playing against Canberra," Alexander said. Apart from Alexander's bright display, coach Sheens had little to enthuse about after a mediocre Penrith performance. The led early 16-0 but the defence fell apart to allow Wests back into the game. Two tries to Alexander and another to centre Ken Wolfe saw the Panthers leading 16-0 after only 19 minutes, but the team relaxed and the defence was just as bad as it was against North Sydney last week. Any good side would have run right over the top of them. "We allowed them a couple of soft tries and that worried me," Sheens said. Brad Izzard, the specialist centre who was used as a lock yesterday, played fairly well. He was very much involved in the game in the first half and got through his share of defence with 20 tackles. The best players for Penrith, apart from Alexander, were the second-rowers Greg Clements and Warren Fenton, while for Western Suburbs the half-back Trevor Cogger stood out as easily the best. Wests deserve full credit for fighting back after giving Penrith such a huge start. With the score at 22-10 at half-time they could have thrown in the towel, but coach Ken Gentle was pleased at the way they came storming back. With a try to centre Eddie Flahey seven minutes before full-time, Wests actually got to within a converted try of Penrith, but a field goal to Royce Simmons wrapped up the match for Penrith. Penrith players agreed they would have to improve to make the semi-finals. Despite another defeat, Wests' coach Ken Gentle thought the Magpies did very well. "Every other club respects us now and we put up a good effort every well," he said. "At this stage of the season after being down 16-0 it could have been 50-0. To its credit, the team stuck to the task." (Daily Telegraph 13th August 1984)

Notes: Penrith ran to an early 16-0 lead on the back of some Greg Alexander brilliance but Wests, to their credit, came back strongly to trail 22-10 at half-time. They then got to within a converted try late in the game but a Royce Simmons field goal sealed the match for Penrith. Wests tried hard but lacked that game-breaker player.