

# 1995 Round 4 Sunday 2nd April Campbelltown Stadium

## Western Suburbs 32

Andrew LEEDS Paul SMITH **Brandon PEARSON** Ken McGUINNESS Darren WILLIS Andrew WILLIS Steve GEORGALLIS Jim SERDARIS Paul LANGMACK (c) **Bill DUNN Brent STUART** Ciriaco MESCIA Glenn GRIEF Mark HORO Justin DOOLEY **Tony WALL** Paul BELL

#### def.

Fullback

Wing

Centre

Centre

Five-eighth

Second Row

Second Row

Front Row

Front Row

Replacement

Replacement

Replacement

Replacement

Hooker

Wing

Half

Lock

Parramatta 6

Danny CRNKOVICH Michael ERICKSON Michael BUETTNER Keith BLACKETT **Brett PLOWMAN** Michael SPEECHLEY Chris LAWLER Robert MUCHMORE **Cameron BLAIR** Justin MORGAN Paul DUNN (c) Peter McPHAIL Chris KING Jamie MAHON **Duncan De CELIS** Brad NAIRN Matthew SPENCE



Tries

### Brandon PEARSON (2) Darren WILLIS Brent STUART Ken McGUINNESS

Andrew LEEDS (6)

Chris LAWLER (1)

Michael BUETTNER

Goals

Match Description

Parramatta: Full-back: D Crnkovich; three-quarters: M Erickson, M Buettner, K Blackett, B Plowman; five-eighth: M Speechley; half: C Lawler; forwards: R Muchmore, C Blair, J Morgan, P Dunn (c), P McPhail, C King

Western Suburbs: Full-back: A Leeds; three-quarters: P Smith, K McGuinness, B Pearson, D Willis; five-eighth: A Willis; half: S Georgallis; forwards: J Serdaris, P Langmack (c), B Dunn, B Stuart, C Mescia, G Grief, N Tierney Referee: K Jeffes (Daily Telegraph 3rd April 1995)

Western Suburbs coach Tom Raudonikis will consult selectors this week to make sure he is not damaging Jim Serdaris' representative chances by using him in the second row. Raudonikis used two hookers - Ciriaco Mescia and Serdaris - in his starting side for yesterday's beating of Parramatta, with Serdaris packing down in the second row for much of the match. Provided that he signs a statutory declaration that he is not being recruited by the Super League, Serdaris is set to take over as NSW rake in the State of Origin series this year." Jimmy is the best hooker in NSW and he'll be pushing Steve Walters (for the Australian number 9 jumper) as well," Raudonikis said. "The fact that he played second row today shouldn't harm his chances. I'll be switching them around. I'll be chatting to the selectors, to Johnny Raper and the boys, about that." While Serdaris was the only current international on the field yesterday, the contribution of other players proved decisive. Brandon Pearson, who ran in two tries in seven minutes early in the first half, and Ken McGuinness, are developing into a lethal combination in the centres, and wingers Darren Willis and Paul Smith were, well, super. A late first-half try to centre Michael Buettner gave Parramatta some hope at 14-6, but the Magpies impressive finishing snuffed that out with two quick tries after the break. New Zealand World Cup aspirant, prop Brent Stuart, made 22 hit-ups and 30 tackles, despite being one of three players sent to the sin bin. "They are the best statistics we've ever recorded," said Wests' assistant coach Wayne Ellis, pleased at the improved performance after heavy losses to Brisbane and Auckland. For Parramatta, the portents are not good. After such a game showing against Canberra last Saturday, they couldn't have fallen flatter. "We were very ordinary," coach Ron Hilditch said. "I've got to find the answers because I know this side is capable of playing OK." Eels' hooker Peter McPhail injured neck muscles during the match and will undergo tests today.

**Notes:** In an unusual move, Jim Serdaris went to the second row and Cherry Mescia went to hooker but it worked, and Wests were on top from the start of the game. Brandon Pearson added to his growing reputation with another dashing display, scoring two decisive tries which turned the match. Andrew Leeds was again the rock at the back and also made a number of incisive breaks.

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