



# 1997 Round 4 Thursday 27th March Campbelltown Stadium



## Western Suburbs 25

def.

## Parramatta 14

Andrew LEEDS  
Darren WILLIS  
Brandon PEARSON  
Ken McGUINNESS  
Aseri LAING  
Andrew WILLIS  
Steve GEORGALLIS  
Paul LANGMACK (c)  
James SMITH  
Bill DUNN  
Shane MILLARD  
Ciriaco MESCIA  
John SKANDALIS  
Des HASLER  
Adam DOYLE  
Chris YATES  
Kevin McGUINNESS

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

David RIOLO  
Nathan BARNES  
Jarrod McCRACKEN  
David WOODS  
Shane WHEREAT  
Jason BELL  
John SIMON  
Jim DYMOCK  
Jason SMITH  
Karl LOVELL  
Dean PAY (c)  
Aaron RAPER  
Peter JOHNSTON  
Troy CAMPBELL  
Justin MORGAN  
Stuart KELLY  
Steve COLLINS

### Tries

Ken McGUINNESS  
Aseri LAING  
Paul LANGMACK  
Des HASLER

David RIOLO  
Jarrod McCRACKEN

### Goals

Andrew LEEDS (5) One field goal

John SIMON (3)

### Match Description

**Parramatta:** Full-back: D Riolo; three-quarters: N Barnes, J McCracken, D Woods, S Whereat; five-eighth: J Bell; half: J Simon; forwards: J Dymock, J Smith, K Lovell, D Pay (c), A Raper, P Johnston

**Western Suburbs:** Full-back: A Leeds; three-quarters: D Willis, Ken McGuinness, B Pearson, A Laing; five-eighth: A Willis; half: S Georgallis; forwards: P Langmack (c), J Smith, B Dunn, S Millard, C Mescia, J Skandalis **Referee: M Hewitt (Big League 27th March 1997)**

Western Suburbs produced a well-executed aerial attack to shock Parramatta 25-14 at Campbelltown Sports Ground last night, earning the battling Magpies their first premiership points of the season. High kicks led to three of the Magpies' four tries as the home team turned a 12-all halftime scoreline into an emphatic win. When asked about the tactic of putting the ball into the air, Wests' coach Tom Raudonikis admitted: "That was something we looked at." Parramatta coach Brian Smith admitted his side failed to negate Wests' kicking game. "They got 18 points from kicks," Smith said. ... The win, which came after an entertaining clash in front of 11,592 fans, was not only the Magpies first premiership win in four starts but their first win including trial games as well. "I'm very happy - now we can enjoy our Easter eggs," Raudonikis said. "We lost three in a row; we were under a bit of pressure." Raudonikis put the big turnaround in his side's performance last night down to the players significantly cutting their mistake rate. He pointed out that in the second half the Magpies only dropped one ball, whereas the week before they dropped eleven. "Hopefully we can kick on from here," he said. The Magpies certainly played with the kind of spirit which saw them grab a spot in the semi-finals last year. Skipper Paul Langmack was prominent, scoring one try and sending Des Hasler over for another with a terrific pass. "It was good to see the old fellows do it," Raudonikis quipped in reference to Hasler's try. But there was a big question mark about the try scored by Langmack, which appeared to come about after a blatant knock-on in the lead up. Young props Chris Yates and John Skandalis got through plenty of work for Wests, as did veteran Bill Dunn. Steve Georgallis, who was moved back to halfback for last night's game, directed his side well around the paddock. ... The Eels coach said several members of the team were rusty and that it may be a case of them having to relearn that every game is very competitive. He said last week's physically demanding game against Sydney City had not played a part in the side's demise last night. But Smith admitted he would consider making alterations to the makeup of his side for next week's game against Newcastle. "When you lose three games you gotta consider changes," Smith said. ... The victory helped Western Suburbs in their celebration of 10 years playing at Campbelltown. The Magpies first match at what was then Orana Park was played against Parramatta on March 7th, 1987, with the Magpies also winning, 32-16. **(The Daily Telegraph 28th March 1997)**

**Notes:** The veterans, Langmack, Leeds and Hasler led the way in an upset win, where three of the four tries were scored off bombs. The key factors were a significant reduction in the mistake rate and an increased level of enthusiasm. Props Chris Yates and John Skandalis were powerful up front while Steve Georgallis, back at half, was very impressive.