



1986 Round 4 Saturday 29th March Redfern Oval



South Sydney 29

def.

Western Suburbs 14

Neil BAKER
Brett ROSS
Michael POBJIE
David MOON
Ross HARRINGTON
Bronko DJURA
Craig COLEMAN
Michael ANDREWS
Wayne CHISHOLM
Phil GOULD
Les DAVIDSON
Mario FENECH (c)
Ian ROBERTS
David BOYLE
Paul JUDD

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

Leo EPIFANIA
Rod PETHYBRIDGE
Brett GALE
Wilfred WILLIAMS
Paul SHEAHAN
Michael NEIL
Brett CLARK
Allan BURNS
Craig CLARKE
Ian SCHUBERT (c)
Ian FREEMAN
Alan FALLAH
Bruce CLARK
Ian NADEN
John COGGER
John BILBIJA



Tries Bronko DJURA (2)
Michael POBJIE
David MOON
Neil BAKER

Ian SCHUBERT
Allan BURNS

Goals Neil BAKER (5) One Field Goal

Ian SCHUBERT (3)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: L Epifania; three-quarters: R Pethybridge, B Gale, W Williams, P Sheahan; five-eighth: M Neil; half: B Clark; forwards: A Burns, C Clarke, I Schubert (c), B Clark, A Fallah, I Freeman

South Sydney: Full-back: N Baker; three-quarters: B Ross, M Pobjie, D Moon, R Harrington; five-eighth: B Djura; half: C Coleman; forwards: M Andrews, W Chisholm, P Gould, L Davidson, M Fenech (c), I Roberts **Referee: G Annesley (The Daily Mirror 1st April 1986)**

Souths' George Piggins must have frightened the daylights out of half-back Craig Coleman when he took over as coach this season. The chirpy Coleman had a reputation for upsetting opposing players as well as referees with his rapid-fire back-chatting and the team often suffered the consequences. On Saturday, after Coleman played a leading role in all five Souths' tries in their 29-14 win, against Wests at Redfern, Piggins admitted one of his first tasks this year was to pull his half into line. "As a matter of fact, the first thing I told him was to shut up on the field," Piggins said. "Unfortunately, Craig took too much notice of what I said and today I had to ask him to do more talking because there wasn't enough communication between the players." Piggins' orders hit the mark and Coleman handed in a command performance, the sort of half-back display usually reserved for superstars like Parramatta's Peter Sterling or Canterbury's Steve Mortimer. Coleman has always been a player of well above average ability but he has often allowed his emotions to get the better of him on the field. Under Piggins, those antics are in the dim, dark past and on Saturday's form Coleman will keep the top players honest when the rep teams are chosen. His delayed pass around a defender to send Bronko Djura over six minutes in the second half had Wests bamboozled and the fans in raptures. The transformation of Coleman was only one of Piggins' coups on Saturday. The coach raised a few eyebrows earlier in the week when he switched Neil Baker to fullback and gave Djura the No. 6 jersey. It was a gamble many thought would fail and even the experienced Baker had his reservations before the game, but once again Piggins' judgement was vindicated. The switch in no way hampered Baker's near-immaculate kicking game and Djura's rock-like defence gave Wests' inside backs no peace. Souths raced to a 17-2 lead midway through the first half against a Magpie outfit whose players were caught out of position in defence. But to their credit they wouldn't lie down and a solo try by lock Allan Burns right on half-time got them into the act. **(Daily Mirror 1st April 1986)**

..... Scoring five tries to two, Souths were never really in bother but Wests did provide a bit of a surge in the second half. In two close shaves Wests nearly scored tries which would have pushed Souths further. ... For Wests, props Bruce Clark and Ian Freeman worked very hard in a close struggle with Souths' young lions Les Davidson and Ian Roberts. ...**(Daily Telegraph 31st March 1986)**

Notes: Down 17-8 at half-time, Wests came back strongly in the second half but blew two apparently certain tries to fall short. Ian Freeman and Bruce Clark were again strong up front but the big news, that Trevor Cogger was back from England and likely to be rushed into the side for the mid-week Panasonic Cup match against Penrith, was most heartening.