



1993 Round 4 Saturday 3rd April North Sydney Oval



North Sydney 22

def.

Western Suburbs 9

John McARTHUR *Fullback*
 Craig MAKEPEACE *Wing*
 Jeff DOYLE *Centre*
 David HALL *Centre*
 Daryl HALLIGAN *Wing*
 Greg FLORIMO *Five-eighth*
 Noel SOLOMON *Half*
 Billy MOORE *Lock*
 Gary LARSON *Second Row*
 David FAIRLEIGH *Second Row*
 Mario FENECH *Front Row*
 Craig WILSON (c) *Hooker*
 Gavin JONES *Front Row*
 Tony REA *Replacement*
 George BARTLETT *Replacement*
 Mat TOSHACK *Replacement*
 Tony HEARN *Replacement*

Andrew LEEDS
 Mark BELL
 Charlie SAAB
 Darren WILLIS
 Russell WYER
 Steve GEORGALLIS
 Jason TAYLOR
 Paul LANGMACK
 Stephen KEARNEY
 Jason LIDDEN
 David GILLESPIE (c)
 Jason ALCHIN
 Darren BRITT
 Matt RYAN
 Andrew WILLIS



Tries Craig WILSON
 David HALL
 Greg FLORIMO

Charlie SAAB

Goals Daryl HALLIGAN (5)

Jason TAYLOR (3) One Field Goal

Match Description

North Sydney: Full-back: J McArthur; three-quarters: C Makepeace, J Doyle, D Hall, D Halligan; five-eighth: G Florimo); half: N Solomon; forwards: W Moore, G Larson, D Fairleigh, M Fenech, C Wilson (c), G Jones

Western Suburbs: Full-back: A Leeds; three-quarters: M Bell, D Willis, C Saab, R Wyer; five-eighth: S Georgallis; half: J Taylor; forwards: P Langmack, S Kearney, J Lidden, D Gillespie (c), J Alchin, D Britt **Referee: D Manson (Big League 3rd April 1993)**

Two second-half send-offs took the gloss off a thrilling rugby league battle between North Sydney and Western Suburbs at North Sydney Oval yesterday. In one of the year's most exciting clashes, Norths triumphed 22-9 to extend their unbeaten run to four matches under new coach Peter Louis. Tempering the excitement was the loss of front-rower Mario Fenech who will face a head-butting charge at the judiciary tomorrow night. Wests' winger Russell Wyer is also in hot water, banished in the 55th minute for a late tackle on Bears' centre David Hall. ...Norths scored three tries to the Magpies' one in easily their most impressive performance of the season. With creative halfback Noel Solomon leading the way, Louis' men showed they are going to be prime contenders for honours this year. The big Norths' forwards did their jobs to the letter and on the last tackle Bears' kickers put the ball precisely where they had been instructed to. In the 12th minute, Magpie centre Charlie Saab spilled a ball close to his tryline and it was pounced on by Norths' Jeff Doyle. Two rucks later, five-eight Greg Florimo danced through the defence to send captain Craig Wilson spearing in next to the post for a fine try. Daryl Halligan converted to give the home team a 6-0 advantage which was nullified 15 minutes later by a try against the run of play by Saab. Seven minutes before half-time Halligan booted a penalty goal from 35m after Fenech had been stripped of the ball in a tackle, giving the Bears an 8-6 lead. Magpie halfback Jason Taylor, one of the best players on the park, equalised seven minutes into the second stanza with a penalty and sent Wests ahead 9-8 with a neat field goal in the 49th minute. Norths' winger Halligan was denied a try a short time later before the match erupted in controversy. Wyer was sent off after his tackle on Hall and seconds later, Norths regained the lead 10-9 through another Halligan penalty. Ironically, Hall was to become the local hero when he dummied past a defender to score the try that gave the Bears a 16-9 lead. A short time later, Fenech was involved in an altercation with Wests' winger Mark Bell after a tackle and was sent off for head-butting after referee David Manson received a report from a touch judge. The Bears finished strongly, with Solomon slicing through a narrow gap to feed the flying Florimo a great pass for the match-clinching try. Louis was pleased with Norths' effort but added the real test for his team would come in a fortnight with away games against Newcastle and Illawarra. For the winners, Solomon, Florimo, John McArthur, Billy Moore and Gavin Jones had strong games, while Tony Rea did a fine job as hooker and captain. **(Sunday Telegraph 4th April 1993)**

Notes: In an action-packed match, two players, Mario Fenech (Norths) and Russell Wyer (Wests) were sent off for head-butting and a high tackle respectively. Charlie Saab was a late replacement for Terry Hill and had a mixed match, scoring a good try but dropping a ball to let in another. Jason Taylor was outstanding, yet again, but wasn't getting the necessary back-up. Wests suffered a big blow with Darren Britt breaking a collar-bone, but also a newspaper report that 11 players, including Taylor and Gillespie, were off-contract the following year.