



1991 Round 5 Friday 12th April Campbelltown Stadium



Western Suburbs 24

def.

Canberra 12

Shaun DEVINE
 Stephen BURNS
 Andrew FARRAR
 Jamie AINSCOUGH
 Tony COSATTO
 Ivan HENJAK (c)
 Jason TAYLOR
 Bob LINDNER
 Ron GIBBS
 Jason LIDDEN
 David GILLESPIE
 Joe THOMAS
 Tony RAMPLING
 Jim DYMOCK
 Graeme WYNN

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

Darrell McDONALD
 Brett MULLINS
 Mal MENINGA (c)
 Scott GALE
 Jason CROKER
 Matthew WOOD
 Ricky STUART
 David BARNHILL
 Gary COYNE
 Mark LOWRY
 Glenn LAZARUS
 Steve WALTERS
 Brent TODD
 Stuart STANTON
 Steve STONE
 Darren FRITZ
 Phil CAREY

Tries Tony COSATTO (2)
 Shaun DEVINE

Ricky STUART
 Phil CAREY
 Jason CROKER

Goals Jason TAYLOR (6)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: S Devine; three-quarters: S Burns, A Farrar, J Ainscough, T Cosatto; five-eighth: I Henjak (c); half: J Taylor; forwards: B Lindner, J Lidden, R Gibbs, D Gillespie, J Thomas, T Rampling

Canberra: Full-back: D McDonald; three-quarters: B Mullins, M Meninga (c), S Gale, J Croker; five-eighth: M Wood; half: R Stuart; forwards: D Barnhill, G Coyne, M Lowry, G Lazarus, S Walters, B Todd **Referee: I Parnaby (Big Leaguer 17th April 1991)**

Western Suburbs won their "Grand Final" 24-12 against premiers Canberra last night, but they may have paid an exorbitant price. Test lock Bob Lindner was carried from Campbelltown Showground on a stretcher, and x-rays were expected to confirm he suffered a broken fibula in the first half. The recuperation time is expected to be 10 weeks. "He's a great loss," coach Warren Ryan said. Having already lost Paul Langmack for probably the season, Wests are not well placed to cope with the absence of a Lindner. Still, if Wests are to go on and have the markedly improved and successful season predicted, last night's win, and its added merit through Lindner's early retirement, might be remembered as the real start. This was the game the Magpies had to win to stay in touch with the leaders, and the players found that extra 10 per cent required. Joe Thomas and David Gillespie led the forwards on powerful surges, and their tackling denied Canberra any momentum. This allowed half Jason Taylor the time to erase any memories of his previous unhappy first-grade home appearance with an assured game and six vital goals. Captain Ivan Henjak had to pull out even more than the others to get through the 80 minutes in his comeback, but he came through. It was Henjak who constructed the vital try which kicked Wests away. His 30m blindside run after a scrum win allowed winger Tony Cosatto his second try. As Ryan said, this was a game in which no-one played badly. "Everyone's enthusiasm was obvious," he said. "We deserved our win. I've been impressed with the forwards this year. They've played well every game. You could say Canberra weren't the same without Gary Belcher and Laurie Daley, but we're not the same without Langmack and Lindner." ... As coach Tim Sheens said of Clyde, Daley and other absentees: "I'll be surprised if too many of them are back next week." Sheens blamed mistakes, unforced errors and frustration but not his players' commitment "Bloody oath. They played with that," he said. ... Wests have captured the locals' imagination. It wasn't the record 13,129 crowd, but the manner of its response. The Magpies are now Campbelltown's team. When Stewart dummied to run 5m for a soft try after three minutes, the bush looked a better bet, but a clever Tony Rampling around-the-corner pass allowed Gillespie to send Shaun Devine on a diagonal run to the line. Quick hands saw Croker score in the corner after quick hands when a Stuart bomb was spilled, but the score didn't reflect the trend. It did when a Wests scrum win against the feed saw centre Jamie Ainscough loft a skilful pass for Cosatto's first try. Taylor and the further Cosatto crossing gave Wests complete control of the second half. **(Sydney Morning Herald 13th April 1991)**

Notes: Ivan Henjak was back for Wests and played well and led the team fluently around the field, while Joe Thomas was a powerhouse in the forwards. The big Friday night crowd (a ground record 13,129) were stunned however, when Bob Lindner was carried off on a stretcher with an almost certain broken fibula and eight months on the sidelines. Jason Taylor's radar-like kicking (6/7) always made the Magpies safe, while David Gillespie had his best match so far since joining from Canterbury.