



## 1982 Round 6 Sunday 4th April Leichhardt Oval



### Balmain 22

Garry JACK  
 John DAVIDSON  
 Olsen FILIPAINA  
 Wayne WIGHAM  
 Wayne MIRANDA  
 Gary BRIDGE  
 Steve MARTIN  
 Wayne PEARCE  
 Terry REGAN  
 Trevor RYAN  
 Kerry HEMSLEY  
 Neil WHITTAKER (c)  
 Gary WEBSTER

def.

### Western Suburbs 10

Greg COX  
 Warren BOLAND (c)  
 Wayne SMITH  
 Ted GOODWIN  
 Steve BROUGHTON  
 Terry LAMB  
 Alan NEIL  
 Jim LEIS  
 George MOROKO  
 Bob COOPER  
 Tom ARBER  
 Arthur MOUNTIER  
 John DONNELLY  
 Michael DUKE  
 Terry LEABEATER  
 George FAHD  
 Trevor COGGER



**Tries** Gary BRIDGE (2)  
 Wayne WIGHAM  
 Terry REGAN

Steve BROUGHTON (2)

**Goals** Wayne MIRANDA (5)

Greg COX (2)

#### Match Description

**Balmain:** Full-back: G Jack; three-quarters: J Davidson, O Filipaina, W Wigham, W Miranda; five-eighth: G Bridge; half: S Martin; forwards: W Pearce, T Regan, T Ryan, K Hemsley, N Whittaker (c), G Webster

**Western Suburbs:** Full-back: G Cox; three-quarters: S Broughton, W Smith, E Goodwin, W Boland (c); five-eighth: T Lamb; half: A Neil; forwards: J Leis, G Moroko, R Cooper, J Donnelly, A Mountier, T Arber

**Referee: C Ward (Sun 5th April 1982)**

Kiwi Test centre Olsen Filipaina has taken almost three years to give Balmain value for money, but they got it again at Leichhardt yesterday when the Tigers snaked Wests 22-10. Filipaina made his name last week on the strength of one crushing tackle on Souths' Mitch Brennan. Yesterday he slipped two passes that brought the house down, produced two tries and helped Balmain to their win in a row. It was if there had been no yesterday for the Tigers who finished on the bottom in 1981, lost their first three games this year and haven't been into the finals since 1975. Filipaina admitted the chance of playing for New Zealand in the Test series this year was the reason for his improved form "and knowing we have so many terrific young players who'll run all day. They make you want to play well." But one wondered at the motivation Balmain must have had before the game. Their jumpers were badly faded, as if they had just come from an Ajax bleach factory, and their crackling old Tigers theme song sounded as though it had been recorded in a dungeon. If the Tigers looked and sounded antiquated, there was something of the "old" in the way they played, like some of the great Tiger sides of the past. ... Yesterday, against Wests, they grabbed a 12-0 lead after only 13 minutes and hung on despite moments when Wests suggested they might find the control to put two reasonable moves together. A group of Balmain youngsters – Jack, Bridge, Pearce, Regan, Hemsley and Webster – are breathing new life into Balmain. The new aggression of Hemsley and the old form of both Trevor Ryan and Steve Martin were important pieces in the Balmain jigsaw. Hardly a player failed in his role. ... Wests went to Leichhardt equal premierships leaders, starting to believe it might be another final five year. They came away soundly whipped and with some of their players staring at reserve grade. Wests' coach Terry Fearnley, who has the best win-loss record of any coach in Sydney football, took a long hard look at the number of "stupid" penalties that helped Balmain take control. "We trailed 10-nil in the penalties last week and we were down 9-2 for a time today," he said. "It's not really good enough." Greg Cox and Arthur Mountier, expatriate Tigers, stood out for Wests while Leis played well in the 30 minutes he was on the field. Big Dallas Donnelly no longer has the mobility to be of any value in first grade and Lord Ted Goodwin, while showing some flair, complained he did not get enough good ball to be effective. "I'll be having a talk to our coach about the problems," Ted said from the corner of the dressing room. ... **(The Sun 5th April 1982)**

**Notes:** Balmain blitzed Wests early to lead 12-0 after 14 minutes and they never recovered. Ted Goodwin came in for the injured Conlon and Bob Cooper replaced Paul Merlo just before the match. George Fahd also debuted, coming on as a replacement for Jim Leis who was carried off with concussion. George Moroko also was replaced after cartilage damage. Broughton, Cox and Mountier were the best for Wests in a game where they were outplayed.