

1994 Round 7 Monday 25th April Belmore Sports Ground

def.

Canterbury 22

Matthew RYAN Jason WILLIAMS Darren SMITH Jarrod McCRACKEN Daryl HALLIGAN Terry LAMB (c) Craig POLLA-MOUNTER Jason SMITH Simon GILLIES Dean PAY Martin BELLA **Ben GILLIES** Darren BRITT Robert RELF **Kevin MOORE** Jason HETHERINGTON Mark BROKENSHIRE

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

Western Suburbs 16

Andrew LEEDS Aseri LAING Manoa THOMPSON Jason EADE Darren WILLIS Andrew WILLIS Steve GEORGALLIS Jason BENGE Stephen KEARNEY Paul LANGMACK (c) Glenn GRIEF Jim SERDARIS Neil TIERNEY Ciriaco MESCIA Mark AFFLICK **Bill DUNN**

Darren WILLIS Andrew WILLIS Jim SERDARIS

Andrew LEEDS (2)

Goals

Tries

Daryl HALLIGAN (3)

Jarrod McCRACKEN

Darren SMITH

Kevin MOORE

Robert RELF

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: A Leeds; three-quarters: A Laing, M Thompson, J Eade, D Willis; five-eighth: A Willis; half: S Georgallis; forwards: J Benge, P Langmack (c), S Kearney, G Grief, J Serdaris, N Tierney

Canterbury-Bankstown: Full-back: M Ryan; three-quarters: J Williams, D Smith, J McCracken, D Halligan; five-eighth: T Lamb (c); half: C Polla-Mounter; forwards: J Smith, D Pay, S Gillies, M Bella, B Gillies, D Britt **Referee: W Harrigan (Daily Telegraph 26th April 1994)**

Canterbury experienced their worst nightmare yesterday - a serious injury to captain and playmaker Terry Lamb - but the club professed confidence it could sustain its finals campaign in his absence. The incomparable Lamb, who was to have played his 300th first-grade game next week, fractured his left arm during the Bulldogs 22 to 16 win against a spirited Western Suburbs at Belmore Sports Ground. He is expected to miss between six - and eight-weeks football, a period which will be critical in Canterbury's season. It will reveal whether the team is as massively reliant on Lambs abilities, inspiration and leadership as it has been in the past. ... Jim Dymock would have been a solid replacement for Lamb, but his injured thumb will likely preclude his selection for another fortnight. This leaves Jason Hetherington, who substituted for Lamb yesterday, as the likely successor. Kevin Moore replaced Polla-Mounter. Despite evidence of dislocation in Canterbury's attack during the 27 minutes after Lambs replacement, coach Chris Anderson refused to be gloomy about the implications of his captain's misfortune, preferring to present it as a potential turning point in his side's development. ... Lamb will have X-rays this morning to confirm the break, sustained just above the wrist in a collision with an opponent's elbow. Typical of the man, he played on briefly with the injury and was involved in two tackles. "I thought it was a cork and I just tried to keep going," he said. "The pain wasn't too much; It was just that I didn't have any strength in my arm." He agreed with Anderson that it was time for some of his teammates to assert themselves. ... It was to be a difficult afternoon for the Bulldogs even without the Lamb disaster, for they were off their game while the Magpies exhibited an aggression and purpose which has been missing for a month. It was not an attractive match - neither side respected possession or attacked with fluency - but it was engrossing because an upset was possible until the last seconds. Wests had led 16-14 until Canterbury replacement Darren Smith plunged over in a corner with 13 ½ minutes left. When another replacement, Robert Relf, scored a flukey try from a ricochet with 10 seconds left, the distraught reactions of Wests' players indicated an attitudinal watershed. ... Lock Paul Langmack, fullback Andrew Leeds and hooker Jim Serdaris were outstanding and deserved to be on a winning team. Langmack's 20 metre cut-out pass for winger Darren Willis to score was something Wally Lewis used to throw. It was a mighty effort from everybody, said coach Warren Ryan, who attributed the turn around to a week-long concentration on defence. I can live with it they should be able to, too. Asked whether his team had turned a corner, Ryan said "I think that's a fair call." ... (Sydney Morning Herald 26th April 1994)

Notes: Wests provided unexpected resistance and were unlucky to lose in the end. The forwards were fired up and the defence was very strong through the entire match. Andrew Willis' try was rated the best of the game, while Jim Serdaris was also rated the best player on the field. The last match-clinching Canterbury try by Robert Relf was a complete fluke, off a ricocheting ball. This match marked the debut of Ciriaco Mescia.

.....