



1996 Round 8 Sunday 12th May Parramatta Stadium



Sydney Tigers 22

def.

Western Suburbs 16

Tim BRASHER
 Gary EDWARDS
 William KENNEDY
 Greg BOURKE
 Tim PATTERSON
 Michael GILLETT
 Wes PATTEN
 Glenn MORRISON
 Mark O'NEILL
 Mark STIMSON
 Paul SIRONEN
 Michael BROWN
 Dan STAINS (c)
 David BAYSSARI
 Corey PEARSON
 Shane WALKER
 Hudson SMITH

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

Ken McGUINNESS
 Darren WILLIS
 Kevin McGUINNESS
 Brandon PEARSON
 Aseri LAING
 Andrew WILLIS
 Craig COLEMAN
 Steve GEORGALLIS
 Paul LANGMACK (c)
 Andrew HICK
 Darren CAPOVILLA
 Ciriaco MESCIA
 Brent STUART
 Justin DOOLEY
 Damien KENNEDY
 Bill DUNN
 Brad HUGHES



Tries
 David BAYSSARI
 Mark O'NEILL
 Greg BOURKE
 William KENNEDY
 Tim PATTERSON

Darren WILLIS
 Paul LANGMACK
 Paul DUNN

Goals
 Greg BOURKE (1)

Andrew WILLIS (2)

Match Description

Sydney Tigers: Full-back: T Brasher; three-quarters: G Edwards, W Kennedy, G Bourke, T Patterson; five-eighth: M Gillett; half: W Patten; forwards: G Morrison, M O'Neill, M Stimson, P Sironen, M Brown, D Stains (c)

Western Suburbs: Full-back: Ken McGuinness; three-quarters: D Willis, Kevin McGuinness, B Pearson, A Lang; five-eighth: A Willis; half: C Coleman; forwards: S Georgallis, P Langmack (c), A Hick, D Capovilla, C Mescia, B Stuart **Referee: N Almond (Daily Telegraph 13th May 1996)**

The problem with interchange in rugby league is that clubs still cannot get the right man into the game at the right time. The right man for Sydney Tigers yesterday was former champion goalkicker Keith Barnes who kicked 742 goals in his glorious career with the club. When centre Greg Burke missed his first four shots at goal from difficult angles, Barnes was the man supporters wanted to see run onto the field even though he retired 28 years ago. At that stage yesterday the Tigers had fought back courageously to level the score at 16-all after scoring four tries to three and recovering from trailing 16-4 at half time. But Barnes, sitting in the grandstand at Parramatta Stadium with the club's other bosses and spectators could only watch helplessly as Bourke missed the goal that would have given his side the lead with 10 minutes to play. Nine minutes later Barnes was leading the cheers. Bourke had crashed over for the winning try off replacement half West Patten for a 22-16 win, with Bourke finally landing a goal. It was a thrilling finish to an exciting match that should have drawn more than the 4,467. The Tigers were coming off back-to-back wins and Wests were in the top eight. ... The first half was a 40-minute struggle against the odds for the Tigers as Wests played with good fortune and determination. Tries by reserve forward Bill Dunn, second rower Paul Langmack and winger Darren Willis gave Wests a lopsided advantage over the Tigers' sole try from David Bayssari. It was not the fairest of situations. The Tigers had played better than the score indicated. Their defence in particular after a succession of line dropouts, had been outstanding. For all the accolades though, Wests had scored three tries and led by 12 points, which is usually a lethal combination. If the first half had upset Tigers' supporters, the second half had them hanging suspended between frustration and acclaim. The points came for the Tigers but with agonizing slowness. It took the 14 minutes between the 52nd and 66th minutes for the Tigers to creep back into the game, centimetre by centimetre. ... Bourke's try in the 79th minute finally clinched a win that Wests' coach Tom Raudonikis always thought was in the balance. "I told them at half time the game was not over and that we didn't have a big enough lead," Raudonikis said. ... Raudonikis coaches from the heart as well as the manual. His team's inability to handle the Tiger surge had his face a delicate shade of puce in the grandstand as he roared raspy instructions into a two-way. ... (The Daily Telegraph 13th May 1996)

Notes: Played in very hot conditions, Wests led 16-4 at half-time and should have led by more. Brent Stuart was forced off with torn cruciate ligaments and this seemed to take some of the sting out of the forwards. Errors crept in, but the game was still in doubt until the Tigers scored a 79th minute try. In the end, the sterling performance of Paul Sironen was the difference.