



1987 Round 8 Sunday 19th April Seiffert Oval



Canberra 46

Gary BELCHER
 Phil CAREY
 Mal MENINGA
 Peter JACKSON
 Matthew CORKERY
 Ivan HENJAK
 Kevin WALTERS
 Dean LANCE (c)
 Ashley GILBERT
 Gary COYNE
 Sam BACKO
 Steve WALTERS
 Brent TODD
 Grant ELLIS
 Chris KINNA

def.

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

Western Suburbs 11

Rod PETHYBRIDGE
 John ALLANSON
 Phillip DUKE
 Ian NADEN
 Allen GEELAN
 Doug RAWLINGS
 Trevor COGGER
 Ian SCHUBERT (c)
 John ELIAS
 John BILBIJA
 Ian FREEMAN
 Alan FALLAH
 Les WHITE
 Chris STEPHANDELLIS
 Wayne LAMBKIN
 Grant FYVIE
 Paul SHEAHAN



Tries Mal MENINGA (3)
 Ivan HENJAK (2)
 Gary BELCHER
 Phil CAREY
 Kevin WALTERS

Alan FALLAH
 Trevor COGGER

Goals Mal MENINGA (7)

Ian SCHUBERT (1)
 Ian NADEN (1) Field Goal

Match Description

Canberra: Full-back: G Belcher; three-quarters: P Carey, M Meninga, P Jackson, M Corkery; five-eighth: I Henjak; half: K Walters; forwards: D Lance (c), A Gilbert, G Coyne, S Backo, S Walters, B Todd

Western Suburbs: Full-back: R Pethybridge; three-quarters: J Allanson, P Duke, I Naden, A Geelan; five-eighth: D Rawlings; half: T Cogger; forwards: I Schubert (c), J Elias, J Bilbija, I Freeman, A Fallah, L White **Referee: G McCallum (Rugby League Week 23rd April 1987)**

Canberra centre Mal Meninga shook off the effects of a bout of flu yesterday to go on a record scoring spree as the Raiders crushed Western Suburbs 46-11 at Seiffert Sports Ground. In a performance which equalled Canterbury five-eighth Terry Lamb's effort a few weeks ago, Meninga scored 26 points with three tries and seven goals from nine attempts. Meninga's magic display not only helped his team maintain its high Winfield Cup profile, but ended a run of outs at its home base. Going into yesterday's game Canberra had lost successive matches to North Sydney and Balmain at Seiffert and was hell-bent on improving the situation against a Wests team fresh from a 17-4 win against Eastern Suburbs last weekend. Spurred on by Meninga's superb showing, the Raiders really retrieved their great home-ground reputation by scoring eight tries to send Wests crashing to their sixth straight loss at the ground. ... While Canberra coach Don Furner was trying to play down the dominant role Meninga has had in the team's surge this year, everyone else at the ground, including Wests' coach Steve Ghosn, was completely awestruck. "Meninga was far and away their best player," said Ghosn. "He had a terrific game, although we helped make them (Canberra) look good." Meninga said he was delighted with his own form, but he also praised the efforts of his team-mates, in particular centre partner Peter Jackson. "I was pretty pleased today," Meninga said. "I don't know whether I was a little overawed last year, but I feel as if I'm playing better in my second season in Sydney. I think the Kangaroo tour helped boost my confidence and it's starting to show in my club football. The way the team is going we can really make an impact this season if we keep it up. The next five games, starting with Parramatta next weekend, will be crucial." Adding further merit to Meninga's record points tally – it eclipsed anything previously scored in any grade by a Canberra player – was that he had taken the field not completely well. "I've got a bit of a bug," he said. "It's one of those things you get down here when it starts getting cold." If Meninga was not quite at his top physically yesterday, he was in brilliant form with the football. Nearly every time he touched the ball something seemed to happen for the Raiders. It was Meninga's skill and timing which really got the Raiders into top gear late in the first half. After leading 8-5 with 10 minutes left in the first half, Meninga completely bamboozled the Magpies' defence with a great cut-out pass which found his partner Jackson steaming through at full gallop. Meninga backed up to receive the pass from Jackson before passing to five-eighth Ivan Henjak who did the rest by scoring under the posts.....**(Daily Telegraph 20th April 1987)**

Notes: The centre pair of Jackson and Meninga carved apart the Wests' backs, Meninga scoring a club record 26 points. Even so, it was a disappointing performance with lots of dropped passes. Les White and Allen Geelan were the best performers in a poor team effort.