



## 1993 Round 8 Sunday 9th May Leichhardt Oval



### Western Suburbs 24

def.

### Balmain 20

Andrew LEEDS *Fullback*  
 Wayne SIMONDS *Wing*  
 Brad HUGHES *Centre*  
 Terry HILL *Centre*  
 Darren WILLIS *Wing*  
 Steve GEORGALLIS *Five-eighth*  
 Jason TAYLOR *Half*  
 Jason LIDDEN *Lock*  
 Stephen KEARNEY *Second Row*  
 David GILLESPIE (c) *Second Row*  
 Darrien DOHERTY *Front Row*  
 Joe THOMAS *Hooker*  
 Darren BRITT *Front Row*  
 Paul LANGMACK *Replacement*  
 Matt RYAN *Replacement*  
 Glenn GRIEF *Replacement*

Tim BRASHER  
 Graham LYONS  
 Jacin SINCLAIR  
 Jamie CORCORAN  
 Morvin EDWARDS  
 Will ROBINSON  
 David BAYSSARI  
 Matt MUNRO  
 Mark GEYER  
 Martin MASELLA  
 Gavin CATANACH  
 Ben ELIAS (c)  
 Steve EDMED  
 Paul DAVIS  
 Danny STAPLETON  
 Michael BROWN

**Tries** Wayne SIMONDS (2)  
 Andrew LEEDS (2)

Danny STAPLETON  
 Jacin SINCLAIR  
 Paul DAVIS  
 David BAYSSARI

**Goals** Jason TAYLOR (4)

David BAYSSARI (1)  
 Jamie CORCORAN (1)

#### Match Description

**Balmain:** Full-back: T Brasher; three-quarters: G Lyons, J Sinclair, J Corcoran, M Edwards; five-eighth: W Robinson; half: D Bayssari; forwards: M Munro, M Geyer, M Masella, G Catanach, B Elias (c), S Edmed

**Western Suburbs:** Full-back: A Leeds; three-quarters: D Willis, B Hughes, T Hill, W Simonds; five-eighth: S Georgallis; half: J Taylor; forwards: J Lidden, S Kearney, D Gillespie (c), D Doherty, J Thomas, D Britt **Referee: G West (Daily Telegraph 10th May 1993)**

.... Magpie coach Warren Ryan likened the game to a basketball match, where both teams scored with apparent ease. But that would be an unfair comparison that would make the likes of Magic Johnson and Michael Jordan squirm in their sneakers. After their side finally managed a win last round over Parramatta, Balmain fans filed into Leichhardt with renewed hope. But they were greeted by the Tigers at their fumbling, bumbling worst. Balmain's attacking pattern was bewildering (mainly to themselves), their general kicking game haphazard and inaccurate. Goalkicking? "Woeful" seems pretty close to the mark. Alan Jones' men managed a couple of first-half tries but still went to the break trailing 18-8. Early in the second half that deficit extended to 24-8 and, with Benny Elias already back in the grandstand, Wests looked like posting a cricket score. Fortunately for the Tigers, Wests dropped back to Balmain's standard and the half was a comedy of errors. Amazingly, the Tigers jagged a couple of individual tries to replacements Danny Stapleton and Paul Davis and, suddenly, Wests had to fight for the points. Even Balmain's favourite son, Wayne Pearce, could find little to enthuse about in the Tigers' display. "They were a disgrace," Pearce said as he left Leichhardt in the gloom. The Tigers lost all three grades and have now won four matches out of 24 in 1993. But let's not forget Wests. They too played their part in the debacle. The Magpies just aren't the same side that reached the finals in 1991 and 1992. Big improvements are needed in first grade if Warren Ryan's charges are to finish anywhere near the top. One player absolved from blame is the consistent fullback, Andrew Leeds. In a match chockful of mistakes and missed opportunities, Leeds finished with a clean sheet and two fine tries. Veteran playmaker Paul Langmack, a late inclusion in the Magpies' squad, also made an impact. Langmack was only named in Wests' team on Saturday morning after a two-week absence with a knee injury but was highly effective from the reserves bench. "We weren't all that flash in the first half," said coach Jones. "We gave them a lot of points. I thought my blokes played as though they were overconfident. There was some better stuff in the second half, plenty of courage shown. The boys did not surrender. We again missed a number of kicks in front of the posts and that was critical. It must be said there isn't much running in this club's favour. I'm sick of all the controversy that surrounds the place, you get tired of the focus on this club all the time. It's hard to cop, but the players know they have to be resilient. I have to be resilient as well." **(The Daily Telegraph Mirror 10th May 1993)**

**Notes:** With Darren Britt back in the forwards, Wests finally put a win on the board, although Balmain played the second half with 12 men. In a mistake-ridden match Andrew Leeds was the clear standout for Wests. Paul Langmack was a surprise late inclusion as a replacement and played very strongly when he came on. Just when it looked like Wests would run away with the match they couldn't get possession, with a 1-5 penalty count deficit in the second half.