



1993 Round 9 Saturday 15th May Campbelltown Stadium



Western Suburbs 24

def.

Penrith 10

Andrew LEEDS
 Wayne SIMONDS
 Steve GEORGALLIS
 Darren WILLIS
 Mark BELL
 Paul LANGMACK
 Jason ALCHIN
 Jason LIDDEN
 Stephen KEARNEY
 Darrien DOHERTY
 Mark AFFLICK
 Joe THOMAS (c)
 Darren BRITT
 Brad HUGHES
 Matt RYAN
 Glenn GRIEF

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

Anthony XUEREB
 Stan PRESDEE
 Ryan GIRDLER
 Shane VINCENT
 Matt ANDERSON
 Jason RYAN
 Danny FARRAR
 Grant TRINDALL
 John CARTWRIGHT (c)
 Phil ADAMSON
 Barry WALKER
 Brett BOYD
 Paul CLARKE
 Graham MACKAY
 Carl MacNAMARA
 Nathan BARNES
 Michael GILLET

Tries

Wayne SIMONDS
 Paul LANGMACK
 Stephen KEARNEY
 Steve GEORGALLIS

Anthony XUEREB
 Stan PRESDEE

Goals

Andrew LEEDS (4)

Ryan GIRDLER (1)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: A Leeds; three-quarters: W Simonds, S Georgallis, D Willis, M Bell; five-eighth; P Langmack; half: J Alchin; forwards: J Lidden, S Kearney, D Doherty, M Afflick, J Thomas (c), D Britt

Penrith: Full-back: A Xuereb; three-quarters: S Presdee, R Girdler, S Vincent, M Adamson; five-eighth: J Ryan; half: D Farrar; forwards: G Trindall, J Cartwright (c), P Adamson, B Walker, B Boyd, P Clarke **Referee: D Manson (Big League 15th May 1993)**

Rookie first grade forward Stephen Kearney took giant strides toward New Zealand Test selection with a dynamic display in Wests' 24-10 win over Penrith yesterday. The 20-year-old second-rower, who only has a handful of top-grade games under his belt, scored a try and caused havoc with his powerful running against the Panthers. A more than interested spectator was Kiwi Test coach Howie Tamati, who went out of his way to enquire about Kearney's progress after the game. Flanked by chairman of the Kiwi selectors, Bruce Castle, Tamati approached Wests' coach Warren Ryan and spoke at length about the giant young forward. Ryan said three weeks ago he may not have recommended Kearney for international football, but he has since changed his opinion. "There were a couple of flaws in Stephen's game, and I thought he may have to revert back to the lower grades," Ryan said. "But Stephen has worked hard at his game; the improvement is there for all to see, and I don't see any reason why he should not be in the running for a Kiwi Test jumper," Ryan said. Kearney was signed by the Magpies two years ago by former chief executive Gordon Allen after he and the then coach John Bailey spotted him playing in New Zealand. He was brought to Campbelltown to gain experience in Sydney rugby league and ended up starring in the Magpies' march to the Under-21 premiership. He was thrust into first grade from the start of this year to replace international back-rower Bob Lindner, who switched to Illawarra. Kearney was clearly the most dominant forward on the park yesterday, taking the ball up with great vigour and involving himself heavily in the defensive work. It was a see-sawing contest played in bitterly cold conditions at Campbelltown Sports Ground. Wests got off to a dream start with rather fortunate tries by Steve Georgallis (fourth minute) and Paul Langmack (eighth). The Georgallis try was laced with controversy as TV replays showed he was grounded centimetres short of the tryline by a desperate Penrith defender. At half-time the Magpies were in front 12-10 and had a lot of work to do running into the wind in the second session against a gritty and committed Penrith outfit. The understrength Panthers buckled under pressure late in the game, conceding tries to Wayne Simonds and Kearney. Best on the field for the Magpies was half Jason Alchin, but there were also top-line performers in the form of Kearney, Leeds, and Langmack. For Penrith, hooker Brett Boyd caught the eye along with classy young centre, Ryan Girdler. **(Sunday Telegraph 16th May 1993)**

Notes: Played in bitterly cold conditions, NZ forward Stephen Kearney revelled in the going and he was clearly the best forward on the field. Jason Alchin was also brilliant in a new role at half-back and Paul Langmack continued his winning ways at five-eighth. Wests were very strong in the second half when running into a stiff wind.