



# 1996 Round 9 Friday 17th May Campbelltown Stadium



## Western Suburbs 16

def.

## Penrith 6

Ken McGUINNESS  
Darren WILLIS  
Brandon PEARSON  
Kevin McGUINNESS  
Aseri LAING  
Andrew WILLIS  
Craig COLEMAN  
Steve GEORGALLIS  
Paul LANGMACK (c)  
Damian KENNEDY  
Darren CAPOVILLA  
Ciriaco MESCIA  
John SKANDALIS  
Chad HARRIS  
Justin DOOLEY  
Bill DUNN  
Paul BELL

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

Bobby THOMPSON  
Jason WILLIAMS  
Ryan GIRDLER  
Scott PETHYBRIDGE (c)s  
Robbie BECKETT  
Morvin EDWARDS  
Steve CARTER  
Darren BROWN  
Matt ADAMSON  
Carl MacNAMARA  
Phil ADAMSON  
Danny FARRAR  
Steve WADDELL  
David ALEXANDER  
Fa'ausu AFOA  
Gordon FALCON  
Garen CASEY

**Tries** Darren WILLIS  
Ken McGUINNESS  
Paul LANGMACK

Ryan GIRDLER

**Goals** Andrew WILLIS (2)

Ryan GIRDLER (1)

### Match Description

**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), D Kennedy, D Capovilla, C Mescia, J Skandalis

**Penrith:** Full-back: B Thompson; three-quarters: J Williams, R Girdler, S Pethybridge, R Beckett; five-eighth: M Edwards; half: S Carter; forwards: D Brown, M Adamson, C MacNamara, P Adamson, D Farrar, WS Waddell **Referee: M Oaten (Daily Telegraph 18th May 1996)**

"Let's play them in George Street next week and use a brick as a ball!" said Craig Coleman last night, grinning from ear to ear - a smile as broad as that as his coach, Tom Raudonikis. Western Suburbs had just beaten Penrith 16-6, but the score was almost incidental in a match in which one player was sent off, four were sent to the sinbin, two were reported and there were a couple of brawls which easily qualified as the worst this season. "Great wasn't it?" said Coleman. "Just like the old days at South Sydney. Tommy won't cite anyone - he likes the blood too much!" Campbelltown Sports Ground was a warzone last night, even if Penrith coach Roy Simmons insisted otherwise. It began in the 5th minute when Steve Carter made the first of two high tackles for which he was reported. Then came the first brawl, involving 20 players. Darren Brown, Scott Pethybridge (Penrith) and Damian Kennedy (Wests) were dispatched to the sin bin. Just before halftime, Carter was reported for another high tackle. Penrith's Morvin Edwards glanced outstanding Wests' prop John Skandalis from a kick-off. There was another scuffle, and 23 players followed up with another blazing all in brawl in the 56th minute, with Penrith hooker Danny Farrar ending up in the bin. Then came the send-off of Penrith Fa'ausu Afoa for a high tackle which left Paul Langmack concussed. Wests' winger Darren Willis was reported for a high tackle. Oh, and there were four tries - one to the Panthers, three to Wests, of which one was very doubtful. But back to the main event. "We knew it would be on and I think we won the fight as well as the football," said Raudonikis, looking like a proud dad. "I said to them, if they have a crack, have a crack back. My blokes stood up." Raudonikis said the league should look at several incidents in the match. Simmons insisted his players "didn't come here to fight", but Wests' players were like bragging boxers next door. Captain Langmack finally recovered enough from concussion to recall the first brawl. "Steve Carter grabbed me and said, "Let's pretend we're fighting, these blokes are mad!" "It's State of Origin time, mate! Everyone gets worked up" (Sydney Morning Herald 18th May 1996)

**Notes:** There was a significant debut in this match with the 19-year-old John Skandalis starting his illustrious career. He relished the heavy work up-front with his partner Darren Capovilla. It was a very spiteful, tough match, with two all-in brawls involving at least 20 players. Four players were sent to the sin-bin, Afoa sent off and Paul Langmack heavily concussed from a high tackle. When they decided to play football Wests proved superior, with Cherry Mescia being clearly the man-of-the-match.