



1987 Round 9 Sunday 26th April Orana Park



Illawarra 32

Peter PHILLIPS
 Alan McINDOE
 Graeme BRADLEY
 Dean CARNEY
 Malcolm KELLY
 Trevor KISSELL
 Perry HADDOCK (c)
 Dean HANSON
 Michael CARBERRY
 Paul UPFIELD
 Peter SPRING
 Michael BOLT
 Cavill HEIUGH
 Steve WORTHINGTON
 Greg MACKAY
 Greg CARBERRY
 Phil CALDER

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 12

Chris STEPHANDELLIS
 Allen GEELAN
 Ian NADEN
 John ALLANSON
 Phillip DUKE
 Trevor COGGER
 Brett CLARK
 Ian SCHUBERT (c)
 John ELIAS
 John BILBIJA
 Les WHITE
 Grant FYVIE
 Ian FREEMAN
 Terry DONNELLAN
 Scott TRONC
 Paul SHEAHAN
 Mark MESKELL



Tries Dean CARNEY (2)
 Michael BOLT
 Trevor KISSELL
 Paul UPFIELD

Phillip DUKE

Goals Dean CARNEY (6)

Ian SCHUBERT (4)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: C Stephandellis; three-quarters: A Geelan, J Allanson, I Naden, P Duke; five-eighth: T Cogger; half: B Clark; forwards: I Schubert (c), J Elias, J Bilbija, I Freeman, G Fyvie, L White

Illawarra: Full-back: P Phillips; three-quarters: M Kelly, G Bradley, D Carney, A McIndoe; five-eighth: T Kissell; half: P Haddock (c); forwards: D Hanson, P Upfield, M Carberrry, P Spring, M Bolt, C Heugh **Referee: K Roberts (Rugby League Week 29th April 1987)**

The Illawarra Steelers showed their mettle with a 30-point second half blitz which turned the tables on Western Suburbs and left the Magpies' supporters muttering darkly at Orana Park yesterday. Wests appeared to have the match all parcelled up at half-time as they skipped to a 12-2 lead with a length-of-the-field try by winger Phillip Duke and four goals from skipper Ian Schubert. But, in a remarkable transformation, Illawarra showed what determination and self-discipline can do as they ran in five tries – two of them by Dean Carney who also kicked six goals – to swamp the Magpies 32-12. The match plan, according to Illawarra coach Brian Smith, had been to tire the Magpies in the first half and clip their wings in the second. All match plans should be so ably executed. Wests hardly saw the ball in the second half and spent most of their time going backwards as the Steelers announced themselves with three converted tries in a seven-minute period. It was enough to make Wests' supporters weep, and as they let the team and club officials know their feelings 10 minutes into the second half, secretary Rick Wayde left the ground. "I walked out and went to my office," said Wayde in a cheerless post-match dressing room. "It is something I have never done before. I am seriously considering resigning – and that's not just a reaction to this game. I have really given my guts for this club. They have everything to play for." Coach Steve Ghosn was almost as despondent after a display which left Wests languishing at the bottom of the Winfield Cup table. "There will be a lot of soul-searching done this week. I could change 10 or 12 players, but I don't know if wholesale sackings are the answer. But it doesn't make it easy for me to get a stable side together." Put simply, Wests were terrible. Even in the first half when they enjoyed a greater share of the ball it was only through penalties and a lapse by Illwarra from a restart of play that allowed the Magpies to dominate. But while Smith denied delivering a fire-and-brimstone sermon at the break, it was a grimly determined Illwarra who took the field for the resumption, dominated possession and waved goodbye to their inhibitions. Show the way by skipper Perry Haddock, the Steelers restored their pride in themselves with hooker Michael Bolt, second-rower Paul Upfield and first grade newcomers, prop Cavill Heigh and fullback Peter Phillips, prominent. And, just to compound a sorry day for Wests, five-eighth Trevor Cogger and centre Ian Naden both left the field with what could be serious knee problems. **(Daily Telegraph 27th April 1987)**

Notes: "Pathetic" was the comment from Coach Steve Ghosn and it wasn't far from the mark. Wests led 12-2 at half-time but wilted badly in the hot conditions and Illawarra ran in 30 points, as fans booed their non-tackling team. Freeman, White and Cogger were the only ones putting in a full effort and to make things worse Trevor Cogger and Ian Naden suffered potentially serious knee injuries.