



# 1994 Round 9 Sunday 8th May Campbelltown Stadium



## Penrith 38

Matt ADAMSON  
 Graham MACKAY  
 Ryan GIRDLER  
 Matt SING  
 Robbie BECKETT  
 Greg ALEXANDER (c)  
 Gary FREEMAN  
 Brad FITTLER  
 Phil ADAMSON  
 Trevor GILLMEISTER  
 Barry WALKER  
 Danny FARRAR  
 Carl MacNAMARA  
 Jason LIDDEN  
 Darren BRITT  
 Joaia DAKUITOGA

def.

## Western Suburbs 24

Andrew LEEDS  
 Paul SMITH  
 Manoa THOMPSON  
 Jason EADE  
 Darren WILLIS  
 Andrew WILLIS  
 Steve GEORGALLIS  
 Bill DUNN  
 Stephen KEARNEY  
 Paul LANGMACK (c)  
 Glenn GRIEF  
 Jim SERDARIS  
 Neil TIERNEY  
 Jason BENGE  
 Mark AFFLICK  
 Ken MCGUINNESS



**Tries** Gary FREEMAN (4)  
 Greg ALEXANDER (2)  
 Darren BROWN

Paul SMITH (2)  
 Andrew LEEDS  
 Neil TIERNEY  
 Steve GEORGALLIS

**Goals** Greg ALEXANDER (5)

Andrew LEEDS (2)

### Match Description

**Western Suburbs:** Full-back: A Leeds; three-quarters: P Smith, M Thompson, J Eade, D Willis; five-eighth; A Willis; half: S Georgallis; forwards: W Dunn, P Langmack (c), S Kearney, G Grief, J Serdaris, N Tierney

**Penrith:** Full-back: M Adamson; three-quarters: G Mackay, R Girdler, M Sing, R Beckett; five-eighth: G Alexander; half: G Freeman; forwards: B Fittler, P Adamson, T Gillmeister, B Walker, D Farrar, C MacNamara **Referee: S Clark (Big League 9th May 1994)**

With apologies to a certain day of celebration, yesterday's Wests versus Penrith match at Campbelltown was much like leafing through one of the 6084 women's magazines available on the market. With barely a ripple of disturbance offered by the season's smallest crowd, a literary dissection of the Panthers 38-24 mauling would have provided varying degrees of fact and fiction. Rumour mongers shot straight to the group gossip column where they entertained speculation that John Dorahy, the deposed Wigan mentor, was signed, sealed and delivered as Western Suburbs coach for next season. Lovers of comedy received their jollies upon the stroke of half time, when Wests' winger Paul Smith was granted four points from the indecision of the game's three wise men. Smith's blinding pursuit of a kick through by fullback Andrew Leeds looked to go unrewarded when the touch judged deemed the ball to have gone touch-in goal. However, in a bold act of disunity in contradiction, referee Steven Clark preferred the advice of the in-goal adjudicator and whistled up a try that gave the home side of 16-10 half time advantage which was obliterated in a 19-minute second half blitz from Penrith that reaped 22 telling points. Those of us who long for fairy tales had their hearts warmed in the 65th minute when Darren Brown emerged with the try that sealed victory for the Panthers. This was the same Darren Brown who parted company with the Magpies just nine days earlier after a failed marriage that billed him as the devil of the post-match disco. "I was looking forward to today's game quite a lot," said Brown, with a grin that reflected the impeccable timing of his first try for 1994. Brown's only dilemma was finding a venue for celebration. "I'm barred from next door," he explained with frankness, while motioning towards the West Leagues club. Brown's satisfying surge between the sticks owed much to the charity of his half back, Gary Freeman, who easily might have expanded his try-scoring harvest with that movement, yet opted to feed his club's latest recruit. Freeman was typecast as the game's down to earth, understated hero. While the glossy magazines would laud the veneer of his four-try feat, most of the afternoon's discussion revolved around the player from the well-beaten outfit. Like a profile on a candidate for political office, the wheelbarrow pushed for the inclusion of Wests' hooker Jim Serdaris, in the New South Wales team has turned into an uncontrollable juggernaut. "Serdaris' display was extremely impressive," observed Penrith's Phil Gould, momentarily donning his State coach's cap. Warren Ryan, Gould's counterpart from yesterday, believes Sedaris' mission was too forceful to ignore. "If Phil's got any influence on selection, Jimmy must have to be a big chance." (Sydney Morning Herald 9th May 1994)

**Notes:** Wests were well in this match at half-time but Penrith scored 22 points in a 19-minute second half blitz. Darren Brown, recently released by Wests after an after-match incident, played well against his old club, scoring a match-clinching try. Jim Serdaris was rated by opposite coach, Phil Gould, as a near-certainty for the NSW State hooker position, after a sterling performance.