



# 1984 Round 14 Sunday 3rd June Lidcombe Oval



## South Sydney 26

def.

## Western Suburbs 4

Michael POBJIE  
 Ziggy NISZCZOT (c)  
 terry MURPHY  
 Darryl NEVILLE  
 Les BILES  
 Neil BAKER  
 Craig COLEMAN  
 Mark ELLISON  
 David BOYLE  
 Michael CARBERRY  
 Paul AKKARY  
 Mario FENECH  
 Bill HARDY  
 Corey ADAMS

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

Leo EPIFANIA  
 Steve BROUGHTON (c)  
 Eddie FLAHEY  
 Gerald CELARC  
 Mick PINKERTON  
 John McARTHUR  
 Trevor COGGER  
 Mark HARRIGAN  
 Garry WEBSTER  
 Michael DUKE  
 John COVENEY  
 Scott RIGNEY  
 Bruce CLARK  
 George FAHD  
 Wayne SMITH  
 Geoff SPOTSWOOD  
 Craig MADSEN



**Tries**  
 Michael POBJIE  
 Mark ELLISON  
 Michael CARBERRY  
 Neil BAKER

**Goals**  
 Neil BAKER (5) One Field Goal  
 Mark ELLISON (1) Field Goal

John McARTHUR (2)

### Match Description

**South Sydney:** Full-back: M Pobjie; three-quarters: Z Niszczot (c), D Neville, T Murphy, L Biles; five-eighth: N Baker; half: C Coleman; forwards: M Ellison, D Boyle, M Carberry, P Akkary, M Fenech, W Hardy

**Western Suburbs:** Full-back: L Epifania; three-quarters: S Broughton (c), E Flahey, G Celarc, M Pinkerton; five-eighth: J McArthur; half: T Cogger; forwards: M Harrigan, M Duke, G Webster, J Coveney, S Rigney, B Clark **Referee: G O'Donnell (The Daily Mirror 4th June 1984)**

Wests' coach Ken Gentle blamed the uncertainty about the club's future in the premiership as contributing to the Magpies' 26-4 defeat by South Sydney at Lidcombe Oval yesterday. "All the pressure saying we're going to be put out next year isn't helping us," Gentle said. "The pressure the players are under is enormous. It must carry negative thoughts. We were not good enough today – we're not playing with any confidence – but Souths played well." Wests' secretary Ray Bernasconi was reluctant to talk about the latest report that the club is again heading to extinction. "It would only compound the issue," Bernasconi said. "It's more damaging for the players and supporters and it will affect a fete and rock concert we are organising." ... The game started in sensational fashion with Souths' full-back Michael Pobjie bursting onto an inside pass from lock Mark Ellison and out-sprinting the opposition on a 60m run to the line for his try. Then a torrid fight erupted and, when order was restored, referee Giles O'Donnell singled out three forwards. Souths' Paul Akkary and Wests' John Coveney and Bruce Clark were cautioned before Akkary and Clark were sent to the sin bin for 10 minutes each. Wests experimented with John McArthur at five-eighth and Coveney, Clark and Webster switched between front and second-row in the match. "I was looking for a bit more sharpness," said Gentle, explaining his trial of McArthur as pivot. "He showed enough to persevere with him there." Souths led 14-4 at half-time, with lock Ellison kicking ahead before Wests' full-back Leo Epifania fumbled and Ellison dived on the loose ball for the second try of the half. Five-eighth Neil Baker, Souths' best player, was rewarded in scoring his team's third try off a Craig Coleman pass, carrying Epifania around his feet with him over the line. Souths' best try was the last, with second-rower Michael Carberry finishing it off after the ball was passed swiftly across the field. Forwards Bill Hardy and David Boyle gave Baker the most support for Souths. For Wests, McArthur and forwards Michael Duke, Coveney and Scott Rigney were the most impressive. Hooker Rigney, deputising for the injured Pat English, again impressed in his second game since promotion, winning the scrums decisively and making many important tackles. **(Daily Mirror 4th June 1984)**

**Notes:** After a fiery start where Bruce Clark was sent to the sin bin, Wests capitulated very quickly, prompting Coach Gentle to suggest that "losing was becoming a habit." Wests didn't use the first half wind well at all, trailing 14-4 at half-time. John Coveney made 37 tackles but Bruce Clark and particularly, Steve Rigney, were Wests' best.