



# 1984 Round 21 Sunday 22nd July Lidcombe Oval



## Eastern Suburbs 8

def.

## Western Suburbs 6

David GREENE  
 Shane McKELLAR (c)  
 Glenn LEGGETT  
 Graeme ATKINS  
 John FERGUSON  
 Mark BEAVEN  
 Scott GALE  
 Steve HARDY  
 Mark WHEELER  
 Robert SIMPKINS  
 Paul DUNN  
 Ernie GARLAND  
 John MACKAY  
 Steve HARDY  
 Brett GALE

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

John McARTHUR  
 Steve BROUGHTON (c)  
 Mark HARRIGAN  
 Trevor COGGER  
 Mick PINKERTON  
 Michael NEIL  
 Brett CLARK  
 Allen GEELAN  
 Michael DUKE  
 Ian FREEMAN  
 Bruce CLARK  
 Alan FALLAH  
 Garry WEBSTER



**Tries** Mark BEAVEN

**Goals** David GREENE (2)

John McARTHUR (3)

### Match Description

**Western Suburbs:** Full-back: J McArthur; three-quarters: S Broughton (c), M Harrigan, T Cogger, M Pinkerton; five-eighth: M Neil; half: B Clark; forwards: A Geelan, I Freeman, M Duke, B Clark, A Fallah, G Webster

**Eastern Suburbs:** Full-back: D Greene; three-quarters: S McKellar (c), G Leggett, G Atkins, J Ferguson; five-eighth: M Beaven; half: S Gale; forwards: S Hardy, M Wheeler, R Simpkins, P Dunn, E Garland, J Mackay **Referee: A McKean (The Daily Mirror 23rd July 1984)**

Even the usually placid women who serve coffee and cakes in the official box joined in the crescendo of booing after a heated, emotionally-charged game at Lidcombe Oval yesterday. "We wuz robbed," shouted Wests' supporters as the Magpies trooped off losers for the 18th time this season. After having five potential tries disallowed by referee Allan McKean, a former Easts and Australian full-back, the Magpies went down in an 8-6 thriller. Wests led 4-2 at half-time and were ahead 6-2 until only 17 minutes before the bell when Mark Beaven scored the only try of the match. Former Magpie David Greene had missed two easier attempts at goal but with taunts ringing in his ears booted over the deciding conversion from the sideline. It was heartbreaking stuff for dejected, desk-thumping coach Ken Gentle who rightly believed his team deserved to win. "We should have come away with four tries to one," Gentle said. Broughton, second-rower Michael Duke, centre Trevor Cogger and winger Mick Pinkerton all crossed over Easts' line but on each occasion, McKean disallowed the tries for either forward passes or off-side play. Ten minutes after half-time Mark Harrigan had a certain try in the making when he was called back for a forward pass. **(Daily Telegraph 23rd July 1984)**

Western Suburbs Rugby League players and officials are becoming accustomed to defeat but could not hide their disappointment after the luckless Magpies lost 8-6 to Eastern Suburbs at Lidcombe Oval yesterday. The Western Suburbs secretary, Mr Rick Wayde said: "What do we have to do to win?" The Magpies had four tries disallowed and it was clear that many of the 1,395 spectators who braved the atrocious conditions to support the pauper club felt they had been robbed of victory. Wests' coach Ken Gentle said: "I suppose we can put it down as a moral victory. I'm very proud of those 13 players. I think we were clearly the better side." Easts' coach Laurie Freier, who has had his share of disappointment this season, sympathised and said: "Wests were certainly unlucky." The Magpies dominated almost every facet of play for most of the match yet the only try was scored by Easts' five-eighth Mark Beaven. Beaven is a former Western Suburbs player. The excellent football by both sides at times was overshadowed by the controversy surrounding Wests' disallowed tries. Former international full-back Alan McKean, refereeing his first match in first grade, had a day he will not forget. The disappointment of three earlier disallowed tries seemed set to be brushed aside when Wests launched a sweeping back-line movement in the last five minutes. It ended with winger Mick Pinkerton crossing for what appeared a legitimate try. But McKean ruled against it, leaving the Magpies to endure another heartbreaking near-miss. .... **(Sydney Morning Herald 23rd July 1984)**

**Notes:** This match became a watershed controversial match. Ex-Easts player, Alan McKean, in his first game as a referee disallowed five Wests' tries in a match where Wests were desperately trying to show their credentials for staying in the competition by beating a top side. Winning would have put them in front of Easts on the competition table, making it hard to substantiate a case for expulsion. Mick Pinkerton was adamant he had scored the winning try, the linesman even signalling it was a fair try and there was no doubt that Steve Broughton was onside when he received a try-scoring pass. Bruce and Brett Clark were both outstanding in a game played in blinding rain.