



1984 Round 23 Sunday 5th August Lidcombe Oval



Balmain 22

Garry JACK
 Stephen HUMPHRIES
 Gavin HANRAHAN
 John DAVIDSON
 Simon BOOTH
 Olsen FILIPAINA
 Steve MARTIN
 Wayne PEARCE (c)
 Bill KAIN
 Kevin HARDWICK
 Paul CLARKE
 Ben ELIAS
 Steve ROACH
 Michael SCHOFIELD
 David BROOKS

def.

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

Western Suburbs 14

John McARTHUR
 Steve BROUGHTON (c)
 Trevor COGGER
 Eddie FLAHEY
 Gerald CELARC
 Michael NEIL
 Brett CLARK
 Mark HARRIGAN
 Allen GEELAN
 Michael DUKE
 Bruce CLARK
 Alan FALLAH
 Garry WEBSTER
 Craig ELLIS
 John DONNELLY
 Dave STAFFORD



Tries

Steve ROACH
 Wayne PEARCE
 Bill KAIN
 Paul CLARKE

Steve BROUGHTON (2)
 Trevor COGGER

Goals

Olsen FILIPAINA (3)

John MCARTHUR (1)

Match Description

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

Balmain: Full-back: G Jack; three-quarters: S Humphreys, G Hanrahan, J Davidson, S Booth; five-eighth: O Filipaina; half: S Martin; forwards: W Pearce (c), W Kain, K Hardwick, P Clarke, B Elias, S Roach **Referee: K Roberts (The Daily Mirror 6th August 1984)**

Balmain's slim semi-final hopes were kept alive by a hard-earned 22-14 win over wooden-spooners Wests at Lidcombe Oval yesterday. It took all the skill of seasoned internationals Wayne Pearce and Olsen Filipaina to lift the Tigers to sixth place, only one win out of the five. Pearce inspired the Tigers, scoring a try and making 24 tackles before he was replaced in the second half with double vision, while Filipaina continued his recent good form. Filipaina kicked three goals from four attempts and constantly proved a nuisance for the Wests' defence, making many yards with his bruising runs out wide. The Magpies tried hard but they again failed on the basics of football, making many mistakes. One such mistake resulted in Balmain scoring a simple try when the Magpies lost possession in front of their posts on the third tackle after a kick-off. But it was not all Balmain and early in the first half Wests made plenty of inroads into Tiger territory, with big Magpie front-rower Bruce "Bruiser" Clark off-loading nicely to his supports. Wests had plenty of possession in the first half, due mainly to a 7-1 penalty count, and in the 25th minute the Magpies opened the scoring with a ripper of a try. Centre Trevor Cogger burst on to a Michael Duke pass 60m out and took play deep inside the Balmain quarter, where he ran to Balmain full-back Garry Jack, passed to his support Eddie Flahey, then to winger Steve Broughton, then back to Cogger, who scored wide out. Balmain hit back soon after with a six-pointer and then right on half-time Tiger second-rower Bill Kain scored wide out for Balmain to lead 10-6 at the break. In the second half Wests threw everything at Balmain and had their chance to win the match when skipper Steve Broughton scored under the posts in the 52nd minute to level the scores at 10-all. But then inexperience showed and Wests coughed up the ball under the sticks from the re-start and within two tackles Balmain prop Paul Clarke had strolled over under the posts for a very soft try. That was the beginning of the end for Wests as it shot the Tigers to a 16-10 lead. Then 10 minutes later Pearce put the issue beyond doubt when he scored from the oldest ploy in the book, a run-around with half Steve Martin from the scrum base. For Wests, their best was hooker Alan Fallah, who played well in attack and defence. **(Daily Mirror 6th August 1984)**

Notes: Wests were involved in another unlucky loss, fighting all the way but having Balmain scoring two tries off simple Wests' errors. When Broughton scored a good second half try to level the scores, a dropped ball on the third tackle led to an easy Balmain try and the game was gone. Alan Fallah had his best game so far for Wests and Steve Broughton continued his try-scoring run but John McArthur had another off day with the boot (1/6) and the lack of a reliable goal-kicker was hurting the team. The loss of the penalties 11-3 also was no help.