



1984 Round 5 Sunday 8th April Lidcombe Oval



Parramatta 27

def.

Western Suburbs 4

Paul TAYLOR
Neil HUNT
Brett KENNY
Steve ELLA
Eric GROTHE
Mick PATTISON
Peter STERLING
Ray PRICE (c)
Steve SHARP
Peter WYNN
Stan JURD
Ken STEWART
Paul MARES
Nathan GIBBS
Gary PHILLIPS
Blair KURTZ

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

John McARTHUR
Steve BROUGHTON
Wayne SMITH (c)
Gerald CELARC
Mick PINKERTON
Brett DAVIDSON
Trevor COGGER
Mark HARRIGAN
Michael DUKE
Craig MADSEN
John COVENEY
Pat ENGLISH
Garry WEBSTER
Matt CARTER
Craig ELLIS
Gerry BYRON



Tries Peter WYNN
Brett KENNY
Neil HUNT
Eric GROTHE

Steve BROUGHTON

Goals Steve ELLA (5)
Paul TAYLOR (1) Field Goal

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: J McArthur; three-quarters: S Broughton, W Smith (c), G Celarc, M Pinkerton; five-eighth: B Davidson; half: T Cogger; forwards: M Harrigan, M Duke, C Madsen, J Coveney, P English, G Webster

Parramatta: Full-back: P Taylor; three-quarters: N Hunt, B Kenny, S Ella, E Grothe; five-eighth: M Pattison; half: P Sterling; forwards: R Price (c), S Sharp, P Wynn, P Mares, K Stewart, S Jurd **Referee: M Weekes (The Daily Mirror 9th April 1984)**

Western Suburbs' infamous Lidcombe Oval curse on Parramatta has finally been laid to rest after more than a decade. For the first time since 1971, Parramatta managed to beat the Magpies on their home turf by turning a 4-6 half-time deficit into a slashing 27-4 victory yesterday. After 13 years and the efforts of five coaches, the Eels achieved their historic win with a devastating four-try splurge in the second half. Eels coach John Monie had to recall the Lidcombe jinx as a half-time spur for his players. "Although I suppose the hoodoo had been on everybody's mind, I hadn't mentioned it at training all week," said Monie. "In fact, I really didn't want to have to even mention it today. But eventually I did at half-time, and I suppose it didn't hurt." Probably the most relieved man in the Eels' dressing room was the club's long-serving roustabout, big Joe Joseph. "I was here in 1972 when it all started, although I didn't actually start working with the club until the next year," recalled the affable giant, who seems as much part of Parramatta as Ray Price does to the Eels' pack. "We got walloped and honestly, it seems like yesterday. You don't know what a relief it is to be able to say we have beaten them at last." Senior Eels' officials, as well as one avid supporter who travelled 500km to the game, were just as delighted. "I think Wests were handing out black arm bands at the gate," quipped Eels' board member Jack Doyle. "For a while I suppose they thought they might be able to bring them out." If Mr Boyle couldn't hide his jubilation, neither could Parra Pete, a well-known Eels follower from the club's bad old days. "It's certainly been a long haul, but as they say, everything comes in time." After trying just about every move in their repertoire in the first half, the Eels still trailed 4-2 at the break, through Wests' determination and a well-orchestrated Steve Broughton try. But Parramatta's forward power – prop Stan Jurd was magnificent – and speed and skill in the backs eventually overpowered the Magpies in a wave of second-half touchdowns. **(Daily Telegraph 9th April 1984)**

"Playing here is like playing two-up – you have to win some time." That was the quote from Parramatta lock Ray Price after the Eels' 27-4 win over Wests yesterday that finally broke the club's infamous 13-year Lidcombe Oval hoodoo. But the Magpies didn't make enough use of the gale-force wind in their favour and were never going to hang on with a mere two-point lead. **(Daily Mirror 9th April 1984)**

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Notes: Wests ran with a gale-force wind in the first half but only led 4-2 at half-time. Parramatta used the wind well in the second half to run away winners, breaking a Lidcombe Oval hoodoo that dated back to 1971. Wests were very enthusiastic again, but this was a very powerful Parramatta team. Garry Webster, John Coveney and John McArthur were best for Wests.