

1958 Round 6 Sunday 18th May Brookvale Oval

Manly-Warringah 21 Western Suburbs 20 def.

Ron WILLEY (c)	Fullback	Darcy RUSSELL
Ray RITCHIE	Wing	Peter DIMOND
Bill LLOYD	Centre	Don MALONE
Ray QUINNELL	Centre	Harry WELLS (c)
George HUGO	Wing	Barry OWEN
Kevin DIETT	Five-eighth	Rees DUNCAN
Peter BURKE	Half	Keith HOLMAN
Jim PEEBLES	Lock	Doug JONES
Rex MOSSOP	Second Row	Jack BOWMAN
Peter DIVERSI	Second Row	Kel O'SHEA
Denis MEANEY	Front Row	Mark PATCH
George LENON	Hooker	Bede GOFF
Roy BULL	Front Row	Nev CHARLTON

Bill LLOYD Barry OWEN (2) Tries

> Don MALONE Peter DIMOND

Ron WILLEY (9) Darcy RUSSELL (4) Goals

Match Description

Manly-Warringah: Full-back: R Willey (c); three-quarters: R Ritchie, R Quinnell, W Lloyd, G Hugo; five-eighth: K Diett; half: P Burke; forwards: J Peebles, R Mossop, P Diversi, D Meaney, G Lenon, R Bull

Western Suburbs: Full-back: D Russell; three-quarters: B Owen, D Malone, R Duncan, P Dimond; five-eighth: D Henry; half: K Holman; forwards: D Jones, K O'Shea, J Bowman, N Charlton, B Goff, M Patch Referee: D Lawler (as per program Rugby League News + changes from newspaper reports)

A superb display of goal-kicking from full-back Ron Willey yesterday gave Manly-Warringah Rugby League team a thrilling win over Western Suburbs. Manly won 21-20 at Brookvale Oval after Willey kicked nine goals from nine attempts. It was a magnificent match played with a fierceness which had spectators yelling themselves hoarse. Wests scored four tries to one, but lost because of Willey's goal-kicking when its forwards gave away penalties. The 10,908 spectators – a record attendance for this ground – sat on the sidelines noisily cheering Willey's kicks. Willey landed a great goal from 50 yards out, five minutes from time, to clinch Manly's win. Willey gave his best-ever goal-kicking effort although he played with a torn thigh muscle. Wests lost Kel O'Shea two minutes from the end with a badly gashed eye-brow, but Wests' chances had gone by then. Manly's superb pack was on top in a tense, bruising forward tussle. The lead changed four times in each half. Wests' backs had Manly struggling desperately to prevent tries whenever they unwound a movement. Yet Manly was able to sustain pressure on Wests' line because Meaney, Mossop, Diversi and Peebles continually gained ground with bullocking runs. Wests' winger Peter Dimond turned in another classy display. Dimond's first half try, when he skirted the sideline and bumped off two tacklers, was a gem of speed and power. This gave Wests the lead for the first time, but within minutes Billy Lloyd went over for a try to regain the advantage for Manly. B Owens scored after a fine run from Holman, and Russell converted this try from the side-line. Four goals from Willey brought Manly to within a point of West 11-12 at half-time. Daily Telegraph 19th May 1958)

... Wests could regard itself as an unlucky loser. It scored four tries to one by Manly. But frequent breaches by Wests' forwards in their own territory proved costly. During the match the Wests' forwards were penalised eight times within kicking distance, and on each occasion Willey brought a delighted roar from the Manly supporters when he kicked the goals. The match was a gripping affair, with the lead changing seven times during the 80 minutes of play. .. The constant change in the lead had the record Brookvale crowd of 10,908, which paid a record admission of £1,464, roaring with excitement. Western Suburbs. second-row forward, Kel O'Shea, gashed his left eye a few minutes before the end of play. O'Shea received the injury when he and Wests' winger Peter Dimond simultaneously tackled Willey. Five stitches were put in the wound, but he is certain to be available for next Saturday's match against Queensland at the Sydney Cricket Ground. Apart from Willey's great goal-kicking, a lot of credit for Manly's win must go to its forwards. In the backs, Wests' line was always the more dangerous. (Sydney Morning Herald 19th May 1958)

Notes: This was a vicious match which Wests were unlucky to lose. Ron Willey's nine goals was the deciding factor because Wests scored four tries to one. Peter Dimond played another great game, running and tackling hard throughout. He even took out Kel O'Shea when he was tackling Ron Willey, giving O'Shea a big gash over his left eye.

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