



1989 Round 12 Sunday 18th June Orana Park



Cronulla-Sutherland 20

def.

Western Suburbs 4

Jonathan DOCKING *Fullback*
 John DAVIDSON *Wing*
 Andrew ETTINGHAUSEN *Centre*
 Mark McGAW *Centre*
 Sean WATSON *Wing*
 Michael SPEECHLEY *Five-eighth*
 Barry RUSSELL *Half*
 David HATCH (c) *Lock*
 Bill DUNN *Second Row*
 Gavin MILLER *Second Row*
 Dane SORENSEN *Front Row*
 Michael PORTER *Hooker*
 Danny LEE *Front Row*
 Ken EBB *Replacement*
 Glenn COLEMAN *Replacement*
 Paul VANNET *Replacement*
 Grant GOODLET *Replacement*

Danny PEACOCK
 Wayne SIMONDS
 Ellery HANLEY (c)
 Garry SCHOFIELD
 Graham MACKAY
 Doug RAWLINGS
 Trevor COGGER
 Brendon TUUTA
 Cameron BLAIR
 Stuart RAPER
 Dave WOODS
 Alan FALLAH
 Kelvin SKERRETT
 Steve McCOY
 Dave GALLAGHER
 Pat O'DOHERTY
 Brett DOCHERTY



Tries Andrew ETTINGHAUSEN
 Barry RUSSELL
 Mark McGAW

Dave GALLAGHER

Goals Sean WATSON (4)

Match Description

Cronulla-Sutherland: Full-back: J Docking; three-quarters: S Watson, A Ettinghausen, M McGaw, J Davidson; five-eighth: M Speechley; half: D Hatch (c), G Miller, W Dunn, D Lee, M Porter, D Sorensen

Western Suburbs: Full-back: D Peacock; three-quarters: W Simonds, E Hanley (c), G Schofield, G Mackay; five-eighth: D Rawlings; half: T Cogger; forwards: B Tuuta, C Blair, S Raper, D Woods, A Fallah, K Skerrett **Referee: G West (Rugby League Week 21st June 1989)**

Robust Cronulla centre Mark McGaw yesterday denied he waged a two-man war with Wests' skipper Ellery Hanley in the Sharks' machine-like 20-4 win. The two burly backline stars came head-to-head on a number of occasions during the match – one incident resulting in McGaw shaping up to Hanley on the grandstand sideline. Despite the aggressive confrontations, McGaw later played down the battle and said there was no animosity between the two men. "I don't play a man, I play a jumper," McGaw said. "I think the media does most of the damage. It was just a matter of two players trying to get the upper hand." McGaw said the play in which he raised his fists to the English ace was purely harmless. "I just came across to tackle him," he said. "He dropped the ball a split-second before I made contact. When he got up, he gave me a few hard looks – there was nothing in it." In a match billed as the battle of the centres, McGaw and partner Andrew Ettinghausen finished clear winners on points over Hanley and Garry Schofield. Both Sharks grabbed tries and did not give the Pommie pair any breathing space in a solid defensive display. Two last-ditch hits by Ettinghausen on Hanley in the first half later won praise from Cronulla coach Alan Fitzgibbon. Ettinghausen opened the scoring after 18 minutes when he trailed second-rower Gavin Miller through a yawning hole in the Wests' defence. Miller, who kept the Sharks going in attack for the full 80 minutes, dummied inside to second-row partner Bill Dunn, then gave a well-timed pass out to Ettinghausen, who burst on to the ball to flash in under the posts. A solo effort by half-back Barry Russell and a penalty goal to winger Sean Watson gave the Sharks a 14-0 half-time lead. Despite a rejuvenated start to the second half by the Magpies, Cronulla forwards Dane Sorensen, David Hatch and hooker Michael Porter controlled play up the middle with apparent ease. They completely broke the Magpies' spirit six minutes from the end after a sweeping backline move, and good hands from Ettinghausen resulted in McGaw spectacularly diving over to score. A late effort by Dave Gallagher added some respect to the scoreline for Wests, but it was not enough to impress coach John Bailey. "I've got to get them going for more than 10 minutes a half," Bailey said. "They played pretty well after the break, but it was too late. Chasing 14 points from the first half makes it impossible." Bailey was also upset with the inconsistencies of the controversial "downtown" rule after being involved in a pre-match discussion with opposition coach Fitzgibbon and referee Graeme West. Bailey said despite the conversation about the rule, which penalises the attacking side for being inside the five metres, it was overlooked during the match. "It'll only last three weeks and it'll be out the window," Bailey said. **(Daily Telegraph 19th June 1989)**

Notes: The Ellery Hanley v McGaw/Ettinghausen clash was worth the price of admission, but the Cronulla centres were the clear winners. A penalty deficit of 5-11 was very costly as Wests struggled to get into the match. Down 14-0 at half-time, they played much better in the second half but it was another disappointing performance on the Orana Park bog.