

1980 Round 15 Sunday 13th July Brookvale Oval

Manly-Warringah 11 def. Western Suburbs 8

Replacement

Fullback Wayne BUCKLEY John RIBOT Wing Ron BRODRICK Centre Centre Ron GITEAU Wing Warren BOLAND (c) Five-eighth Terry LAMB Half Alan NEIL Lock Jim LEIS Second Row Paul MERLO Second Row **Bob COOPER** Front Row Tom ARBER Hooker Jack JEFFRIES Front Row **Bruce GIBBS** Replacement John DONNELLY

Tries Fred TEASDELL John RIBOT
Terry LAMB

Graham EADIE (c)

Russell GARTNER

Ross WINDSHUTTLE

Tom MOONEY

Simon BOOTH

Steve MARTIN

Fred TEASDELL

Terry RANDALL

Ian THOMSON

John DORAHY

Martin MEREDITH

Ray BROWN

Max KRILICH

Les BOYD

Alan THOMPSON

Goals Graham EADIE (4) Ron GITEAU (1)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: W Buckley; three-quarters: J Ribot, R Brodrick, R Giteau, W Boland (c); five-eighth: T Lamb; half: A Neil; forwards: J Leis, R Cooper, P Merlo, B Gibbs, J Jeffries, T Arber

Manly-Warringah: Full-back: G Eadie; three-quarters: T Mooney, S Booth, R Gartner, R Windshuttle; five-eighth: S Martin; half: A Thompson; forwards: L Boyd, F Teasdell, R Brown, T Randall, M Krilich (c), I Thomson

Referee: G Hartley (Rugby League Week 17th July 1980)

Rugby League madness erupted at Brookvale Oval yesterday with a wild all-in brawl and two players sent off in another bitter clash between Manly-Warringah and Western Suburbs. Manly, playing with 12 men to Wests' 13 for 23 minutes, produced their most convincing performance of the season to win 11-8. The two ordered off were Ray Brown, the Manly second-rower, and Bruce Gibbs, the Wests' prop. Brown will appear before the NSWRL judiciary tonight, charged with "a deliberate knee to the stomach, on a touch judge's report." Gibbs, ordered off in the second half, has been charged with "a deliberate gouge to an opponent's face." Players fought for more than a minute in the first half, with Greg Hartley, the referee, in the middle of the eruption unable to stop the mayhem. The brawl was triggered by a tackle on Les Boyd after he dropped the ball. It appeared to be the signal they had been waiting for. The teams came together, swapping punches and then separating into half a dozen groups of brawling players. Hartley, who might easily have been on the receiving end of one of the haymakers as he fearlessly – and foolishly – dived into the middle of the start of the brawl, had to wait with his touch judges until the players had finished. Most of the players carried cuts or gashes, a legacy of this moment of madness. No-one was sent off and, from the scrum put down after some sort of order had been restored, Max Krilich, the Manly hooker, reeled from the scrum, claiming that he had been gouged. Brown was ordered off seven minutes before half-time when Manly led 9-0 and, with only 12 men on the field, the question was whether it was a big enough start. Manly, whose defence was deplorable last week, showed tremendous pride and courage with a marvellous effort to keep Wests from scoring until 14 minutes from the end. Wests, despite the one-man advantage, never really threatened Manly's line. It was only after Gibbs was sent off that they looked dangerous, scoring two tries in six minutes to reduce Manly's lead to 11-8. This set the scene for a blood-tingling finish as Wests went so close but failed to bridge the gap. Had Paul Merlo kept going to the left and not cut back infield minutes from the end, it might have been a different story. But nothing could detract from the merit of Manly's win. They deserved it, and credit must go to two Manly warhorses, Terry Randall and Krilich. Randall has not played better this season. He crushed the Wests' attack with his fierce defence and, with Krilich, topped the tackle count with 27. Krilich gave his side a great boost when he won the second half scrums 9-3. Young Fred Teasdell had a wild introduction to first-grade football, but this young Manly second-rower showed he is a player who can handle anything. He was on the spot to dive on a dropped bomb and he made a couple of nice breaks. (Sydney Morning Herald 14th July 1980)

Notes: The rivalry continued in this typical Manly-Wests clash with an all-in brawl which lasted for a minute and a half in the ninth minute. Noone was sent off but, inevitably, first Ray Brown was sent off, followed by Bruce Gibbs in the second half. The Manly tackling was very strong and Wests were down 0-11 before finishing strongly. They had their chances in the last ten minutes; a Merlo break which should have led to a Buckley try was badly blown. Referee Greg Hartley needed a police escort to get out of the ground.

WESTERN