



1998 Round 15 Sunday 21st June QE11 Stadium



Brisbane 56

Darren LOCKYER
 Michael HANCOCK
 Steve RENOUF
 Darren SMITH
 Wendell SAILOR
 Kevin WALTERS
 Allan LANGER (c)
 Peter RYAN
 Kevin CAMPION
 Petero CIVONICEVA
 Andrew GEE
 John PLATH
 Shane WEBCKE
 Brett WALKER
 Phillip LEE
 Dennis SCOTT
 Michael De VERE

def.

Western Suburbs 4

Ken McGUINNESS
 Jared MILLS
 Aseri LAING
 Kevin McGUINNESS
 Darryl FISHER
 Damian KENNEDY
 Brett HODGSON
 Steve GEORGALLIS (c)
 Chris YATES
 Scott COXON
 Darren FRITZ
 Ciriaco MESCIA
 Harvey HOWARD
 Lincoln RAUDONIKIS
 Travis BAKER
 Brett WARTON
 John SKANDALIS



Tries
 Steve RENOUF (3)
 Wendell SAILOR (2)
 Shane WEBCKE
 Michael HANCOCK
 Darren SMITH
 Phillip LEE
 Darren LOCKYER

Kevin McGUINNESS

Goals Darren LOCKYER (8)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: Ken McGuinness; three-quarters: D Fisher, Kevin McGuinness, A Laing, J Mills; five-eighth: D Kennedy; half: B Hodgson; forwards: S Georgallis (c), C Yates, S Coxon, D Fritz, C Mescia, H Howard

Brisbane: Full-back: D Lockyer; three-quarters: M Hancock, S Renouf, D Smith, W Sailor; five-eighth: K Walters; half: A Langer (c); forwards: P Ryan, K Campion, P Civoniceva, A Gee, J Plath, S Webcke **Referee: K Jeffes (Big League 21st June 1998)**

Coach Tommy Raudonikis could see no point giving Western Suburbs a spray after their embarrassing 56-4 loss to the Broncos at ANZ Stadium yesterday. He needed some space after two days of torment. The Magpies flew home without him. Tommy stayed on for a reunion with Alfie Langer and the Ipswich boys. "I'm sick of the sight of the little so-and-so," Raudonikis said. "but I'll enjoy a few drinks with him, put the weekend behind me, then try to pick up the pieces." The recipient of two knockout blows from rival coach Wayne Bennett in the space of 48 hours, Tommy was the first to admit the Magpies were terrible. Brisbane ran in ten tries to one, five in each half. "I exploded after the loss to North Queensland. We were probably just as bad today but I could not see the point of blowing up again," Raudonikis said. "What can you say? I thought they would give me a better effort than that. All I can do now is worry about next year. In the meantime, I might try some younger blood." ... Centre Steve Renouf was in devastating form. He scored three tries, the first after only six minutes of play. Origin teammate Wendell Sailor chimed in with two more. When a confident Sailor intercepted and ran 80 metres for the second of his tries, the lead was 18-0. Although there was still 22 minutes to halftime, the Magpies were demoralised and the game was as good as over. The Magpies' only points of the game came from a Kevin McGuinness try in the 31st minute. Even then, at 22-4, it was too little, too late. Hooker Cherry Mescia tried hard to ignite his side from dummy half but he was continually outgunned. Bennett conceded he felt an enormous sense of relief after six tough weeks, during which up to eleven of his players have competed in nine matches. "This is the first time I can remember getting through an Origin virtually injury free," he said. "We ended up three and three during the series. As it turned out I thought we could have won the lot. We weren't beaten by teams that were easybeats. I'm pretty pleased to come out of it at 50%." Bennett said Tallis, Brad Thorn and Tonie Carroll would return for the game against the Dragons. "We will be back to full strength," he said. ... Other downsides of the game for Wests were high tackles by John Skandalis on Kevin Walters and Kevin McGuinness on Dennis Scott. Both were put on report by referee Kelvin Jeffes. .. (Sydney Morning Herald 22nd June 1998)

Notes: This was a very poor performance against, admittedly, a champion team. They were steamrolled early through the forwards, most of the Brisbane pack backing up from State of Origin, and were down 22-0 after 22 minutes. The Magpies never recovered, with only a consolation Kevin McGuinness try.