



1998 Round 16 Saturday 27th June Campbelltown Stadium



Manly-Warringah 45

def.

Western Suburbs 30

Craig HANCOCK
Alf DUNCAN
John HOPOATE
Terry HILL
Albert TORRENS
Luke PHILLIPS
Geoff TOOVEY (c)
Nik KOSEF
Steve MENZIES
Daniel GARTNER
Anthony COLELLA
Jim SERDARIS
Neil TIERNEY
Cliff LYONS
Joe TAYLOR
Adam PETERS
Craig FIELD

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

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



Tries

Nik KOSEF (2)
Luke PHILLIPS (2)
Alf DUNCAN
Steve MENZIES
John HOPOATE
Craig FIELD

Travis BAKER (2)
Kevin McGUINNESS
Ciriaco MESCIA
Damian KENNEDY

Goals

Luke PHILLIPS (7) One field goal

Brett HODGSON (5)

Match Description

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

Manly-Warringah: Full-back: C Hancock; three-quarters: A Duncan, J Hopoate, T Hill, A Torrens; five-eighth: L Phillips; half: G Toovey (c); forwards: N Kosef, D Gartner, S Menzies, A Collella, J Serdaris, N Tierney **Referee: T Mander (Big League 27th June 1998)**

Former basketball star Luke Phillips was a slam dunk success for Manly in his first ever rugby league game at five-eighth yesterday. In a shrewd ploy by coach Bob Fulton, Phillips was a late switch from wing to pivot and contributed 21 points in the Sea Eagles massive 45-30 victory over Wests at Campbelltown. In a red-letter day for statistics buffs, the 45-30 scoreline was the season's highest and the match produced a stunning 13 tries. "It was rugby league super 12s!" quipped Manly coach Fulton, relieved over the win but only partially happy with his team's performance. Phillips, ex-Canberra and North Queensland, scored two tries, booted six goals and added a field goal in Manly's first away win of the year. Defence was a dirty word for the Magpies in the first half - they trailed 28-0 at the break - while Manly's tackling fell away alarmingly in the second session, conceding 30 points. ... It was a crazy game no matter how you look at it. Wests hardly had any possession in the first half and were disgraceful in defence, giving Manly every opportunity to run up a cricket score. The Eagles took full advantage and played some of their best football of the year, posting five tries without reply. Magpies' coach Tom Raudonikis gave his players one of his famous rev-ups during the break and they returned looking more like a first-grade football combination. Hooker Cherry Mescia scored a try in the 43rd minute, giving the suffering Wests' fans something to cheer about. Manly then kicked away again with two quick tries to rep lock Nik Kosef before the Magpies launched a stirring fight back. Try-hungry centre Kevin McGuinness successfully got over the line, then replacement Travis Baker scored twice to reduce Manly's lead to 38-24. Steve Menzies then put the result beyond doubt with Manly's seventh try but Wests kept coming and added a late four-pointer by Damien Kennedy. Bitterly disappointed Wests' coach Raudonikis declined to talk to the media after the game. He locked himself in his office beneath the grandstand and refused all invitations to air his views about the game. In the other room, Fulton enthused over Manly's slashing first half effort. He believes there are many encouraging signs that will serve as a platform for success in the remaining eight premierships rounds. On the downside for the Sea Eagles, prop Neil Tierney may have damaged his cruciate ligament in his left knee which would sideline him for the rest of the year. **(Daily Telegraph 28th June 1998)**

Notes: Wests were outclassed but lost no admirers for their fight in an exciting match to watch. They hardly had any possession in the first half and were down 28-0 at half-time The lack of experience in the backline showed, with some tries being scored through simple positional errors. The Magpies came out revved up in the second half and put on three late tries.