



1998 Round 20 Saturday 25th July Campbelltown Stadium



Cronulla-Sutherland 38 def.

Western Suburbs 8

David PEACHEY (c) **Fullback**
 Mat ROGERS **Wing**
 Nick ZISTI **Centre**
 Russell RICHARDSON **Centre**
 Brett HOWLAND **Wing**
 Adam DYKES **Five-eighth**
 Blaine STANLEY **Half**
 Nick GRAHAM **Lock**
 Nathan LONG **Second Row**
 Sean RYAN **Second Row**
 Martin LANG **Front Row**
 Dean TREISTER **Hooker**
 Danny LEE **Front Row**
 Ben SAMMUT **Replacement**
 Luke STUART **Replacement**
 Tim MADDISON **Replacement**
 Les DAVIDSON **Replacement**

Brett WARTON
 Darryl FISHER
 Ken MCGUINNESS
 Kevin MCGUINNESS
 Adam DONOVAN
 Travis BAKER
 Brett HODGSON
 Scott COXON
 Paul LANGMACK (c)
 John SKANDALIS
 Chris YATES
 Trent BROWN
 Harvey HOWARD
 Ron JONES
 Nick EDWARDS
 Brenton POMEROY
 Lincoln RAUDONIKIS



Tries
 Nick ZISTI
 Blaine STANLEY
 David PEACHEY
 Luke STUART
 Sean RYAN
 Russell RICHARDSON

Brett HODGSON

Goals Mat ROGERS (7)

Brett WARTON (2)

Match Description

Cronulla-Sutherland: Full-back: D Peachey (c); three-quarters: M Rogers, N Zisti, R Richardson, B Howland; five-eighth: A Dykes; half: A Dykes forwards: N Graham, N Long, S Ryan, M Lang, D Treister, D Lee

Western Suburbs: Full-back: B Warton; three-quarters: D Fisher, Ken McGuinness, Kevin McGuinness; A Donovan five-eighth: T Baker; half: B Hodgson; forwards S Coxon, P Langmack (c), J Skandalis, C Yates, T Brown, H Howard **Referee: M Jadwat (Big League 25th July 1998)**

Cronulla overcame a slow start to storm home with seven tries in an overwhelming 38-8 victory over Western Suburbs last night. The Sharks showed sensational handling skills in the greasy conditions to totally befuddle the Magpies' defence. In what was expected to be a one-sided affair, Wests showed plenty of resilience in the opening stages against a Cronulla outfit determined to cement a position in the top ten. Defensively, the Magpies seemed a carbon copy of past week's performances, pounding each Cronulla hit up in resolute fashion. But an early penalty goal to Sharks' winger Mat Rogers gave Cronulla a 2-0 lead. Wests, however, hit back almost immediately, with a rolling set of six that resulted in a field position just 20 metres out from the Sharks' line. And when referee Moghseen Jadwat penalised Cronulla for encroaching inside the 10 metres, Magpies' fullback Brett Warton levelled the scores with an authoritative conversion. But shortly after, burly centre Russell Richardson exploited some weak Wests' defence, breaking through three feeble attempted tackles to score between the posts. Rogers' ensuing conversion took Cronulla to an 8-2 lead. Unfortunately for the 7,531 fans at Campbelltown Sports Ground, the Magpies faltered in the face of an all-out attacking blitz from the Sharks. Rogers, who had loomed as a danger player for much of the half, finally broke Wests' spirit in the 37th minute, placing a grubber kick behind fullback Warton. Centre Nick Zisti won the race to the rolling ball, his try giving the Sharks a healthy advantage. When Rogers added two more conversions in the dying minutes of a half, the scoreline had blown out to 18-2. Referee Jadwat was heckled from the ground by disgruntled Wests' fans at half time, fuming at the 4-2 penalty count. After the break, Cronulla leapt straight back on the offensive, with forwards Martin Lang and Nathan Long proving devastating. The Magpies refused to meekly concede, and responded in the 55th minute with a superb solo try to elusive halfback Brett Hodgson. But when David Peachey, Blaine Stanley and Luke Stuart all scored tries in the closing stages for Cronulla, a top heavy 38-8 scoreline eventuated. **(The Sun-Herald 26th July 1998)**

Notes: Played in greasy conditions, Wests were very competitive early but this blew out to an 18-2 half-time deficit. Brett Hodgson scored a great solo try but late Cronulla tries blew out the scoreline. Going into the game Wests had conceded 32 points per game, the worst record in the club's history.