

## 1996 Round 21 Sunday 25th August Brookvale Oval

## Manly-Warringah 42 def. Western Suburbs 12

**Fullback Andrew LEEDS** Darren WILLIS Wing Centre **Brandon PEARSON** Centre Aseri LAING Wing **Kevin McGUINNESS** Five-eighth **Andrew WILLIS** Half Willie NEWTON Lock Paul LANGMACK (c) Second Row Bill DUNN Owen CUNNINGHAM Second Row Damian KENNEDY Front Row Justin DOOLEY

Jim SERDARIS Hooker Steve GEORGALLIS David GILLESPIE Front Row Harvey HOWARD Cliff LYONS Replacement Darren CAPOVILLA **Neil TEIRNEY** Replacement John SKANDALIS Shannon NEVIN Replacement Nathan LAKEMAN

Solomon HAUMONO Replacement Paul BELL

Matthew RIDGE (2) **Andrew WILLIS** Tries Bill DUNN

Danny MOORE John HOPOATE Steve MENZIES

Matthew RIDGE

Danny MOORE

John HOPOATE

Geoff TOOVEY (c)

Daniel GARTNER

Steve MENZIES

Mark CARROLL

Craig INNES

Terry HILL

Nik KOSEF

Goals Matthew RIDGE (11) Andrew LEEDS (2)

## **Match Description**

Western Suburbs: Full-back: A Leeds; three-quarters: D Willis, A Laing, B Pearson, Kevin McGuinness; five-eighth: A Willis; half: W Newton; forwards: P Langmack (c), D Kennedy, B Dunn, J Dooley, S Georgallis, H Howard

Manly-Warringah: Full-back: M Ridge; three-quarters: D Moore, C Innes, T Hill, J Hopoate; five-eighth: N Kosef; half: G Toovey (c); forwards: D Gartner, S Menzies, O Cunningham, M Carroll, J Serdaris, D Gillespie Referee: K Jeffes (Daily Telegraph 26th August 1996)

..... If Wests are any chance of making the playoffs and proceeding, coach Tom Raudonikis must assume some of the mongrel of Sea Eagle fullback Matthew Ridge. Ridge cajoled, budget, bullied and otherwise antagonised his team from the first minute to the 80th. Even in the last set of six tackles, with Manly leading by 30 points, he asked for more effort from the 12 men standing in front of him. He scored 30 points himself, with two tries and eleven goals, surpassing the 1954 record of Ron Rolls, who recorded four tries and nine goals. ... Manly coach Bob Fulton was pleased with the improved attack of his team, pointing out that while defence held up in the club's three previous lacklustre performances, the ball control had been down. "We only had one area to improve and that was control of the football, and we did that today." Fulton said. .. Wests scored the first try from a clever inside pass from captain Paul Langmack and another when five-eighth Andrew Willis finished off some sleight-of-hand passing. Willis could have collected another two if he had seized the rolling ball and not being penalised for a double movement. Willis must be moved to half if Wests are any chance of meeting Manly again this season. Willie Newton was out of his depth. Even in the dressing room after the game, with his baseball cap on backwards, he looked like someone who'd wandered in for an autograph. He must have infuriated Raudonikis when he strolled around in back play after kicks and took three tackles to get back on-side. Raudonikis would only say of Newton, who was playing his second first grade game: "His game was out of sorts a bit. He Is a good kid and can only learn from that." But Wests played with 12 men for most of the game and Newton's learning experience should continue in reserve grade. The Magpies won't be able to acquire Manly utility half Des Hasler, who announced last night that he would retire at the end of the season. Hasler, 35, who was played 253 first grade games for the Seagulls, will pursue a marketing coaching career with Manly. Wests hoped to secure Hasler halfway through this season but Manly refused to release him. Hasler now says: "My goal is to be chosen as part of the Manly first grade team and go out as a premiership player." Only the stoics survive in rugby league. (The Sydney Morning Herald 26th August 1996)

Notes: Manly were too strong for Wests but it was only a five try to two effort, with Matthew Ridge's 11 goals being a huge difference. Wests had a large penalty count against them and were also not helped with Justin Dooley being sent to the sin-bin. Willie Newton struggled significantly in his second game in First Grade.

.....