



1987 Round 3 Sunday 15th March Orana Park



Manly-Warringah 22

def.

Western Suburbs 11

Darrell WILLIAMS
Steve PARK
Dale SHEARER
Michael O'CONNOR
David RONSON
Martin MEREDITH
Des HASLER
Paul VAUTIN (c)
Ian BARKLEY
Ron GIBBS
Mark BROKENSHIRE
Mal COCHRANE
Phil DALEY
Mark POCOCK
Chris CLOSE

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

Rod PETHYBRIDGE
John ALLANSON
Brett GALE
Ian NADEN
Steve McCOY
Brett DAVIS
Trevor COGGER
Ian SCHUBERT (c)
Scott TRONC
John BILBIJA
Ian FREEMAN
Alan FALLAH
Craig ELLIS
Wayne LAMBKIN



Tries

Dale SHEARER
David RONSON
Michael O'CONNOR
Des HASLER

John ALLANSON

Goals

Mal COCHRANE (3)

Ian SCHUBERT (3)
Ian NADEN (1) Field Goal

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: R Pethybridge; three-quarters: S McCoy, B Gale, I Naden, J Allanson; five-eighth: B Davis; half: T Cogger; forwards: I Schubert (c), J Bilbija, S Tronc, I Freeman, A Fallah, C Ellis

Manly-Warringah: Full-back: D Williams; three-quarters: S Park, D Shearer, M O'Connor, D Ronson; five-eighth: M Meredith; half: D Hasler; forwards: P Vautin (c), I Barkley, R Gibbs, M Brokenshire, M Cochrane, P Daley **Referee: M Stone (Rugby League Week 18th March 1987)**

A determined Manly wiped out the horror memory of last season's two-match drubbing by Western Suburbs with a powerful display yesterday against the brave Magpies at Orana Park. Manly coach Bob Fulton watched his Sea Eagles side run in four tries to one, but was still hungry for more points from his players who have overcome their finishing problems. With the memory of those two costly losses to Wests last season still in his mind, Fulton had anticipated an even wider margin than yesterday's 22-11 win. "We missed at least five more tries and three of them were certainties," Fulton said. "If we had scored them the final result would have been what I expected in the second half. But I suppose you're better off winning than losing in that situation." ... For Manly, it was a case of out-staying Wests after a see-sawing first 70 minutes. Although down three tries to one Wests trailed only 16-11 with 13 minutes left but a spectacular try by elusive Manly centre Michael O'Connor, who finally saw some daylight, put the result beyond doubt in the 72nd minute. Overall, it was the immaculate class of the Manly backline that made the difference. Des Hasler, Dale Shearer and O'Connor scored a try each with Hasler and O'Connor combining for Shearer's try in the 13th minute for a 6-2 lead. Wests came back after that with a neat try from winger John Allanson to lead 8-6 but conceded the lead 12-8 at half-time after Hasler ran from a scrum to the blind-side, pulling three tacklers with him and leaving winger David Ronson with a clear run to the line. Wests continued with the courageous, entertaining style of football that proved so effective in the second-round shock win against Parramatta. But in the final 10 minutes Manly's fast men started to create holes after having had a first-half try disallowed that looked good. After the disastrous performance against Norths in the mid-week Panasonic Cup last Wednesday, Wests redeemed themselves yesterday, defending strongly and moving the ball around skilfully enough to draw praise from their coach Steve Ghosn. "The biggest thing is that we gave the crowd and the television what they wanted even if we didn't get what we wanted ourselves," Ghosn said. "It was a good, entertaining game. We're a long way ahead of those St George billy goats and a long way ahead of the people who said we'd be down the bottom. We made some fundamental errors and I'm not pleased with some of the missed tackles, but overall, I'm pleased with the effort." Wests, again inspired by Ian Schubert, managed to wring some praise from Fulton for their playing style and for their stamina after backing up from last Wednesday night. But the Manly coach was relieved that their next trip to Orana Park won't be until next year. "It's a marathon coming here," he said. "There won't be too many teams coming away from here with two points, especially as the season wears on." **(Daily Telegraph 16th March 1987)**

Notes: Backing up from a mid-week Panasonic Cup loss to Norths, Wests had four stand-ins: John Allanson, Scott Tronc (on debut), Ian Freeman and Craig Ellis. All put in a whole-hearted effort. Ian Schubert continued his good form while Pethybridge, Naden and Davis all had superb games.