

# 1972 Round 5 Sunday 23rd April Brookvale Oval

## Manly-Warringah 18

### def.

#### **Western Suburbs 14**



Les HANIGAN (3)

Derek MORITZ (3)

Ken IRVINE

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

Russell MULLINS Don ROGERS Stephen KNIGHT Stephen SATTERLY Allan ASHMORE John HEYWARD Tom RAUDONIKIS (c) John BAKER John ELFORD **Olaf PRATTL** John O'BRYAN

Olaf PRATTL Stephen KNIGHT

Jim CROUCHER

George SKEERS

Tony FORD

Tony FORD (3)

Stephen SATTERLY (1)

**Match Description** 

Tries

Goals

Western Suburbs: Full-back: R Mullins; three-quarters: D Rogers, S Knight, S Satterly, A Ashmore; five-eighth: J Heyward; half: T Raudonikis (c); forwards: J Baker, J Elford, O Prattl, J O'Bryan, J Croucher, J Walker

Manly-Warringah: Full-back: G Eadie; three-quarters: K Irvine, G Thoroughgood, R Fulton, D Moritz; five-eighth: I Martin; half; D Ward forwards: M Reilly, T Randall, A Thomson, J O'Neill, F Jones (c), W Hamilton Referee: K Holman (The Sun 23rd April 1972)

Former Rugby League international winger Les Hanigan yesterday made a spectacular return to first grade, scoring three tries in Manly's struggling 18-14 win over Wests at Brookvale Oval. Two tries by Hanigan in the last eight minutes rescued Manly from a dangerous situation after Wests had edged to a 14-12 lead with 15 minutes left. Called on as a replacement after two minutes, Hanigan shared the limelight with another replacement, Wests' full-back Tony Ford. Ford, who came on at half-time, kicked three superb goals from half-way. Hanigan got his chance when Derek Moritz moved to full-back after Graham Eadie suffered a recurrence of hamstring trouble. Manly made sure of the win by dominating possession in the last ten minutes. Hooker Fred Jones won the final three scrums. Manly's lack of teamwork and backing up was disappointing. "That was the worst we have played for a long while," coach Ron Willey said. "We would have lost against one of the middle order teams. There was just no support for anyone with the ball." Yesterday was the second time in three games that Manly have struggled against lower-rated sides at Brookvale Oval. Two weeks ago, they battled to a 14-13 win over Newtown. In between those games came Manly's great win over Souths. "It's only natural there would be some let-down this week but I didn't expect anything like this," Willey said. Wests' officials were jubilant at their showing, although realising that lack of an inspiring player had cost them a win. "It's no good beating about the bush, we need at least one really top-line player to inspire the side," coach Don Parish said. "I was happy with the way my team defended but tackling for 80 minutes doesn't win games." Trailing 5-12 at half-time, Wests rallied behind some great second half goal-kicking by Ford. Replacing Russell Mullins, who injured his hip, Ford landed the first of three long-range goals in the first minute of play after Manly half Dennis Ward's kick-off failed to go 10 yards. Aided by a strong breeze Ford kept Manly back-pedalling with well-judged punts. He edged Wests closer after 20 minutes with his second goal from half-way after Fulton misdirected a kick to restart play. Ford's only kicking miss came from his easiest attempt. He failed to convert a great individual try by centre Stephen Knight. Knight, a former Rugby Union Test centre, kicked high on the sixth tackle near half-way and regathered, after Moritz had mishandled, to score without being touched. Ford took Wests to their 14-12 lead with his finest kick, from one yard inside half-way and three yards from touch. Wests battled to keep their lead but could not contain the individual abilities of Manly's backline. Hanigan, who had been loudly booed a minute earlier after knocking on a simple pass with the try line open, scooted 20 yards down the wing to put Manly in front. (Daily Telegraph 24th April 1972)

Notes: Coach Don Parish was very pleased with Wests' performance, even though they lost the match in the last few minutes. They had played with spirit again, brilliantly led by Tom Raudonikis, who set up Olaf Prattl's try. Stephen Knight had scored another brilliant individual try and Wests looked like causing an upset until a piece of Fulton brilliance put Les Hanigan in for the match-winning try. Hanigan scored two tries in the last eight minutes to steal the match. Parish's confidence was well-placed, with Wests about to start a winning run.

