

## 1989 Round 7 Sunday 30th April Brookvale Oval

## Manly-Warringah 14 def. Western Suburbs 2

Darrell WILLIAMS **Fullback Brett DOCHERTY** Joe ROPATI **Graham MACKAY** Wing Dale SHEARER Centre Jason STAFFORD Centre **Cliff LYONS** Allen GEELAN Stuart DAVIS Wing Wayne SIMONDS Des HASLER Five-eighth Jason LIDDEN **Geoff TOOVEY** Half Trevor COGGER Owen CUNNINGHAM Lock **Brendon TUUTA** Noel CLEAL (c) Second Row Cameron BLAIR (c) Mark POCOCK Second Row Dave GALLAGHER Glenn BOURNE Front Row Ian FREEMAN Glenn RYAN Hooker Shane FLANAGAN Phil DALEY Front Row Craig TEITZEL **Paul SHAW** Replacement **Dave WOODS Hugh WADDELL** Replacement Chris BLAIR Peter CULLUM Replacement Ian SCHUBERT

Replacement

Stuart RAPER

**Tries** Dale SHEARER

Des HASLER

Michael GREENAWAY

Goals Dale SHEARER (3) Graham MACKAY (1)

## **Match Description**

Western Suburbs: Full-back: B Docherty; three-quarters: G Mackay, A Geelan, J Stafford, W Simonds; five-eighth: J Lidden; half: T Cogger; forwards: B Tuuta, C Blair (c), D Gallagher, I Freeman, S Flanagan, C Teitzel

Manly-Warringah: Full-back: D Williams; three-quarters: J Ropati, D Shearer, C Lyons, S Davis; five-eighth: D Hasler; half: G Toovey; forwards: O Cunningham, N Cleal (c), M Pocock, G Bourne, G Ryan, P Daley Referee: P Filmer (Rugby League Week 3rd May 1989)

The sting in the tail of yesterday's Manly-Western Suburbs mud-slog at Brookvale was more dramatic and unexpected than anything the field of play provided. In a tense Magpie dressing room, Wests' coach John Bailey and chief executive Gordon Allan announced that the club was entering an official protest to the NSWRL over the display of referee Peter Filmer. .... Acting on Bailey's instructions, Blair told the referee that he was entering a protest on the grounds of Filmer's "one-sided refereeing". Coach Bailey claimed later that Blair had tried for 10 or 15 minutes to get to the referee with the message – but that Filmer would not listen to him. ... In a difficult match, bogged down on the muddy surface, referee Filmer penalised Western Suburbs 15 times to Manly's six. He sent three players to the sin-bin – Wests' Chris Blair and Brendan Tuuta and Manly's Mark Pocock – and issued a number of cautions. News of the protest came as a bombshell after a dour match which had stuck pretty well to the script. At the end of a hard week, and without Paul Vautin and Michael O'Connor, Manly, at Brookvale, were still warm favourites. History, however, dictated that the Magpies would give them a tough and spirited game. All of that worked out. Tries by Manly internationals Dale Shearer (12 minutes) and Des Hasler (70 minutes), backed by three Shearer goals, were enough to get Manly home. But it was a tough struggle. Wests played with great enthusiasm and hit Manly with real ferocity in defence – especially in the opening 20 minutes. But their attacking prowess nowhere near matched their defensive oomph. Mistakes littered Wests' display with the ball throughout the 80 minutes. My impression from the grandstand was that Wests contributed far more to their own downfall than did referee Filmer. But Wests were genuinely angry over his display. "He was calling Manly the aggressors, then giving the decision the other way," Bailey said. The sticky Brookvale surface, increasingly scarred as the game went on, did nothing to help the spectacle. With a vast share of possession (scrums 8-3, penalties 15-6), Manly always looked winners – but never comfortable winners. In the second half, though, the running of their halves, Geoff Toovey and Des Hasler, troubled Wests – and it was Hasler who spun away from tackles to score the clinching try 10 minutes from the end. Toovey had a fine game, adding sharpness, despite the restrictions of the surface. .... Ellery Hanley, only a fortnight away from joining Wests, would surely have been happy with the spirit and commitment yesterday. Wests have some excellent young players: hooker Shane Flanagan made 45 tackles, lock Tuuta continues to impress, and backline youngsters Jason Lidden, Jason Stafford and Graham Mackay did well. (Sydney Morning Herald 1st May 1989)

**Notes:** Brett Docherty (Presidents Cup fullback) was a late replacement for Danny Peacock and had a strong game, including a spectacular catch of a bomb. Wests troubled Manly with their hard-hitting defence, but they dropped the ball way too often to be a threat. There were the usual number of Manly-Wests flare-ups in a match played on yet another bog. Shane Flanagan, with 45 tackles, was the workhorse in the middle of the ruck.

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SUBURES