



1996 Round 7 Sunday 5th May Campbelltown Stadium



Western Suburbs 18

def.

Cronulla-Sutherland 10



Ken McGUINNESS
 Darren WILLIS
 Brandon PEARSON
 Kevin McGUINNESS
 Aseri LAING
 Andrew WILLIS
 Craig COLEMAN (c)
 Steve GEORGALLIS
 Andrew HICK
 Bill DUNN
 Darren CAPOVILLA
 Nathan HODGES
 Brent STUART
 Damian KENNEDY
 Justin DOOLEY
 Brad HUGHES
 Paul BELL

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

Ben SAMMUT
 Mat ROGERS
 Andrew ETTINGHAUSEN (c)
 Paul DONAGHY
 Allan BATEMAN
 Mitch HEALEY
 Paul GREEN
 Tawera NIKAU
 Andrew PIERCE
 Craig GREENHILL
 Les DAVIDSON
 Paul FISHER
 Danny LEE
 Nathan LONG
 Geoff BELL
 Adam DYKES
 Gavin JONES

Tries Aseri LAING (2)
 Ken McGUINNESS

Nathan LONG
 Allan BATEMAN

Goals Andrew WILLIS (3)

Mitch HEALEY (1)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: Ken McGuinness; three-quarters: D Willis, Kevin McGuinness, B Pearson, A Lang; five-eighth: A Willis; half: C Coleman (c); forwards: S Georgallis, B Dunn, A Hick, D Capovilla, N Hodges, B Stuart

Cronulla-Sutherland: Full-back: B Sammut; three-quarters: M Rogers, A Ettinghausen (c), P Donaghy, A Bateman; five-eighth: M Healey; half: P Green; forwards: T Nikau, A Pierce, G Greenhill, L Davidson, P Fisher, D Lee **Referee: D Manson (Big League 5th May 1996)**

Cronulla coach John Lang said he'd been made to feel "like a dobber from grade three" after winger Matt Rogers suffered a suspected broken cheekbone yesterday. Rogers was the most miserable soul of all at the sodden Campbelltown Sports Ground when he was helped off at half time in the Magpies' grafting and well-deserved three-tries-to-two victory. "One of our trainers said he was hit with an elbow, but I didn't see it", said Lang, who was bitterly disappointed with his side's play. "I suppose you'd call it anecdotal evidence." Asked if the club intended to check the video of the incident, Lang concurred, but added: "It's not something I think we should have to do. You cite someone and you get into the position where there's an exchange of citings. I think it would be far better if someone else, an unbiased observer, sat down and watched it and made the decisions. "I don't feel like being the dobber from Grade 3 who's gotta bring it to their attention." Rogers was rushed to hospital with X-ray results expected today. His injury capped a disappointing day for the Sharks, who had previously lost just one match this season. Wests' coach Tom Raudonikis, whose Country Origin side beat Sydney 18-16 on Friday, was a complete contrast to Lang after his second win in three days. While the sterling efforts of Ken McGuinness, Craig Coleman and Steve Georgallis ensured Wests' victory, the gluepot conditions helped. Picking up the ball 90 metres out in a seemingly impossible position after only four minutes, McGuinness slipped through two defenders, who seemed to have him well covered, and raced 85 metres to the try line, avoiding Andrew Ettinghausen and Ben Sammut en-route. The form of McGuinness at fullback was impressive. He later revealed he had been unhappy on the wing and had used injured lock Paul Langmack as a go-between in an attempt to be selected at number one. **(The Sydney Morning Herald 6th June 1996)**

Notes: This was a grafting win on a glue-pot Campbelltown Stadium. Craig Coleman and Steve Georgallis, who got out of a sick bed to make 40 tackles, were both solid performers but Ken McGuinness, at fullback, seemed to be in his natural position and had a blinder. They led 14-0, then held off a surging Cronulla. Brandon Pearson, who staked a solid claim for the NSW team, was instrumental in the defence of that lead. Nathan Hodges, a solid performer in the lower grades, made his debut as hooker.

