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Rugby League**

Looking at League

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CHARGE FOR THE FIVE

Lakes and Wests started their charge for the five with good wins last weekend. Wests played fine football against Macquarie and held the Scorpions out to win by a comfortable five points. Lakes battled all the way with Kurri and overcame the Bulldogs to win fairly easily at the end.

The charge has to continue if Lakes and West are to reach their goal and both sides are part of the two main games in this round.

Lakes and Central at Cahill!

Central lead the competition but are only four points ahead of Lakes. Neither team will be looking at a loss and its repercussions on the competition table. Central have been playing very sound football and Lakes will need all of its rejuvenated enthusiasm and improved playing strength to take this one.

Wests at home to Maitland! A similar situation to the other big game with a side that has been playing well with loads of ability and spirit taking on a reborn home side. A win to West would bring them level with Maitland, something that the Pumpkin Pickers don't want. Both sides are stacked with talented players and this game emerges as one of the very important games of the 1988 season. It will be a very interesting competition table after these two matches above.

Souths journey to Kurri for their clash with the Bulldogs. Kurri are troubling all sides and the Lions will need to be on their mettle. Souths pack is probably not as big as some of the others that Kurri have had to face recently but their backs are speedy and talented. Kurri will certainly be all out for a win but Souths should take the points.

Cessnock are at home to the battling Norths and should win well and possibly improve their position in the top five.

Waratah should not provide too much opposition to Macquarie and thus allow the Scorpions to recover somewhat after last week's loss. Still if Waratah get their act together they are capable of troubling any of the top sides.

The final five probably won't be settled until the very last round. In each round of matches in the lead up to the semi-finals, there are going to be at least two and probably three and four excellent games. Places in the five will be important for the semifinals as all games except the Grand Final will be played on the ground of the team that first made the semis.

The Grand Final will be played at the International Sports Centre.

Junior Rep. Football

The Newcastle Under 17 and Under 19 Country Championship teams played at Tamworth on Sunday last against Northern Division as curtain-raiser to the Northern Division-Great Britain game. The lads acquitted themselves well both on and off the field with big improvements on their Country Championship matches.

The Under 17 team lost 4-nil and the Under 19 team drew 10-all. The Newcastle Rugby League provided financial assistance so the teams could make the trip. These games will now become an annual event with Northern Division to visit Newcastle in 1989.

Congratulations also go to the Newcastle Jersey Flegg team (Under 19) which has reached the final of their competition. The team defeated Canberra 8-4 at Parramatta Stadium last Saturday and will now meet Balmain in the final at Caltex Field Cronulla on Monday next 13th June. We wish them every success.

The S. G. Ball team (Under 17) were defeated 14-8 by Parramatta in their semi-final last Saturday.

2HD Player of the Year

The "Player of the Year" competition for the 1988 Premiership is being sponsored again by Radio 2HD. Points are awarded out of 10 for the performance of three players in each game.

Points awarded in last round.

Central Charlestown v Waratah-May:

A. McDonnell (CC) 8, A. Watt (CC) 7, D. Newton (CC) 7.

Maitland v North Newcastle:

G. Eager (Mait) 8, M. Burrows (Mait) 7, P. Jones (Mait) 7.

Western Subs. v Macquarie United:

T. Price (WS) 8, W. Dawson (WS) 8, D. Hill (Mac) 8.

South Newcastle v Cessnock:

T. Vaughan (SN) 8, P. Sams (SN) 7, J. Hunter (Cess) 6.

Lakes United v Kurri Kurri:

J. Fowler (LU) 8, M. Pitman (LU) 7, P. Williams (KK) 7.

Leaders in the competition:

J. Hunter (Cess) 41, P. Williams (KK) 39, T. Price (WS) 38, T. Stevenson (Mac) 34, M. Sullivan (Mac) 30, M. Burrows (Mait) 28, G. Eager (Mait) 27, T. Vaughan (SN) 23, W. Snowden (CC) 23, A. Watt (CC) 22, B. Aiken (Cess) 22, T. Donaldson (SN) 21, C. Mathias (LU) 19, M. Winkler (Mait) 19, P. Atkins (WS) 17, T. Anderson (SN) 16, A. McDonnell (CC) 15, P. Parr (SN) 14, L. Bowne (LU) 14, W. Schillings (CC) 14, A. Williams (Mac) 14, M. Pitman (LU) 13, K. Pywell (WM) 13, G. Shaw (WM) 13.

JUNIOR CUP COMPETITIONS

The Junior Cup competitions, Wilson, Incorporation and Presidents Cups commence next week. Teams are organised this year on a district club basis. Matches are on Wednesday night from 6 p.m. at St. John Field and on Thursday from 6 p.m. at Waratah Oval.

NEWCASTLE RUGBY LEAGUE PREMIERSHIP

Sunday, June 12—2.45 p.m.

Cessnock Sportsground

Cessnock

Black and gold

Coach: Michael Schofield

- 1—BRIAN TEASDALE
- 2—PAUL WALKER
- 3—MICHAEL PFIEFFER
- 4—JEFF TODD
- 5—JAMES GARVIE
- 6—BRAD AIKEN
- 7—JOHN HUNTER 158
- 8—GAVIN SHANNON
- 9—MICHAEL SCHOFIELD (c)
- 10—ANDREW LEVIDO
- 11—CRAIG GIBSON
- 12—DOMINIC LEVIDO
- 13—TERRY BENDER



SCRUMS

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18

PENALTIES

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18

Referee: T. Garrett

North Newcastle

Royal blue and sky

Coach: Ziggy Niszczot

- 1—IAN LUCIETTO
- 2—MARK WHEATLEY
- 3—DARREN KIRKLAND
- 4—STEVE RIDGEWAY
- 5—PETER SULLIVAN
- 6—DARRYL MAXWELL
- 7—TERRY DENT
- 8—JERRY MAULA
- 9—PETER WILLIAMS
- 10—DAVID STANFORD
- 11—BRUCE EDDON
- 12—RAY KEIGHTLEY
- 13—BRETT DANN



SCRUMS

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18

PENALTIES

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18

Touch Judges: T. Gustard (Blue), J. Small (Red)

RESERVE GRADE — 1.10 p.m.

CESSNOCK

Coach: Laurie Clifton

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| 1—Lee RYAN | Michael CALLAGHAN—3 |
| 2—Darren CUSSEN | Mick KERR—5 |
| 4—Matthew PERKINS | Peter CRAFT—7 |
| 6—Dale BLAYDEN | Jason MacKAY—9 |
| 8—Greg LEWIS | Dave HOLLARD—11 |
| 10—Alan THOMPSON | Terry BULLEN—13 |
| 12—Trent HERRING | |

Referee: T. Gustard

NORTH NEWCASTLE

Coach: Peter Taylor

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| 1—Darren BARRETT | Darren JONES—3 |
| 2—Mark HARWOOD | Mark JACKSON—5 |
| 4—Harry GARVIE | Craig AFFLICK—7 |
| 6—Allan ARMSTRONG | Paul KODELA—9 |
| 8—Mark PAYNE | Steven SAULT—11 |
| 10—Eddie ULBURT | Brian SLADE—13 |
| 12—Neil HALL | |

Touch Judges: D. Molewski (Blue), J. Small (Red)

THIRD GRADE — 11.45 a.m.

CESSNOCK

Coach: David Ham

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1—Robert COX | David HAM—3 |
| 2—Michael CONNOLLY | Scott JOHNSON—5 |
| 4—John KING | Murray CRUMP—7 |
| 6—Boyd DAVIES | Ian WATKINS—9 |
| 8—Mick SAMS | Alan JURD—11 |
| 10—John JABOUR | Richard SANDERS—13 |
| 12—Gerard BAKER | |

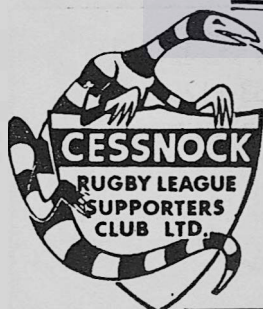
Referee: D. Bolewski

NORTH NEWCASTLE

Coach: Ray Keighley

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| 1—Mark PRASSER | Adam LOWE—3 |
| 2—Mark SHERIDAN | Mark CROCKETT—5 |
| 4—Dave STEVENS | Robert GOLDEN—7 |
| 6—Shane BANKS | Col SMITH—9 |
| 8—Bill IZZARD | Mark PRATTER—11 |
| 10—Ivan TOCKNALL | Brad SMITH—13 |
| 12—Peter TAYLOR | |

Touch Judges: T. Garrett (Blue), T. Gustard (Red)



Cessnock Rugby League Supporters Club Ltd.

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First Grade

CESSNOCK 102 (J. Hunter 6, J. Garvie 3, P. Walker 3, J. Todd 2, B. Aiken 2, M. Pfeiffer, A. Levido tries, J. Hunter 15 goals) d NORTH NEWCASTLE 0.

WESTERN SUBURBS 32 (P. Atkins, G. Mitchell, B. Felshaw, C. Hubbard, W. Moylan tries, G. Price 6 goals) d MAITLAND 6 (G. Eagar try, M. Winkler goal).

SOUTH NEWCASTLE 38 (P. Parr 2, T. Butler 2, T. Vaughan, N. O'Brien, R. Jones tries, P. Parr 5 goals) d KURRI KURRI 10 (P. Williams, S. Lee tries, P. Willis goal).

WARATAH-MAYFIELD 20 (M. Hanlon, N. Murray, A. Lyddiard tries, C. Hewlett 4 goals) d MACQUARIE UNITED 16 (G. Sullivan, M. Sullivan, P. Hazell tries, S. Katon 2 goals).

LAKES UNITED 25 (S. McDonald, D. Harrington, P. Walsh, V. Haslam tries, P. Walsh 4 goals, D. Butler drop goal) d CENTRAL CHARLESTOWN 18 (D. Newton 2 tries, L. Hammond 2 tries, W. Snowden goal).

Reserve Grade

Cessnock 120 d North 0, West 22 d Maitland 12, South 26 d Kurri 8, Lakes 16 d Central 10, Waratah 14 d Macquarie 4.

Third Grade

Cessnock 94 d North 0, West 22 d Maitland 19, South 16 d Kurri 8, Waratah 14 d Macquarie nil.