

Official Publication of the Newcastle **Rugby League** 

No. 12

# Looking at League

June 25 and 26, 1988

Price 50c

# THEY ALL COUNT

With five rounds to go, once again this week all five matches are Souths and Cessnock can expect to earn "easy" points against vital. North and Waratah respectively. South could finish up four points clear after this game and with following matches against Wests, Macquarie and Central could need this buffer.

All seven teams in the running for the semis obviously at this time need two points. Cessnock must win this one, as in three of their last four games, they play Macquarie, West and Lakes.

Maitland could be reasonably confident of a win at Kurri. But the Pumpkin Pickers have not being playing well and Kurri are currently troubling every side. Maitland have matches against Central, Lakes and Macquarie in their last four and so a win in this one is vital.

The crunch has come for Macquarie. A win against Central is paramount at this stage, a loss will probably mean that the Scorpions will drop out of a clearly defined top five.

Their four games after this round are all against top sides, so their task is not an easy one to make the five. The ability is in the side and they will be well prepared. A loss to Central would confuse the points table again. The Butcher Boys are now a close second, have an easier draw with four rounds to go than some of the other fancied teams, and a win over Macquarie will point to them finishing in one of the top two spots.

Lakes versus Wests - the two teams both on a big roll. Wests are currently in third spot, Lakes equal 4th with two others. The winner in the five, the loser most probably on the outer. Both teams have been strengthened in the past few weeks with players returning from injury, and returning from England.

The match shapes up as the game of the year so far - it could even be a grand final preview.

Certainly it will be a match well

worth seeing. There is also little doubt that both of these teams will figure prominently in the end of season play offs.

SCHOOLS CARNIVAL

The Newcastle All Schools Carnival is being finalised this weekend. The five Secondary School divisions have been playing off over the last two months and all finals are being played on Saturday at the I.S.C.

The four Primary School Divisions are being played on Saturday morning with the finals in the afternoon also at the I.S.C.

Winners of this carnival participate in the NSW All Schools Carnival at Mt. Druitt, Blacktown and Parramatta on 2nd and 3rd August.

# PLAYERS OF YESTERYEAR

# HERB NARVO

# Four Test appearances for Australia

Herb Narvo was recognised as one of the greatest forwards of all time. Yet he probably would have not played for Australia but for an injury to another player.

Narvo, a tough second-rower from Newcastle, joined Newtown in 1937. Critics threw up their hands in amazement when, at the end of that season, he was not among the 28 chosen to make the Kangaroo tour of England and France.

A disappointed Narvo then considered accepting a lucrative contract to play with Huddersfield. The English club had approached Narvo on the recommendation of English players impressed with his display for the Newcastle side which beat the 1936 Lions.

# **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. For the remaining five rounds of the competition, the weekly points will not be published. The result of the competition will be finalised at the Newcastle Rugby League's Presentation Night on 31st August at West Leagues Club.

Leaders at the end of Series 13 were:

# **Progress Points:**

50—J. Hunter (Cess)

- 41-T. Stevenson (Mac)
- 39—P. Williams (Kurri) 38—T. Price (West)
- 30-T. Vaughan (Sth), M. Sullivan (Mac)
- 28-T. Donaldson (Sth), M. Burrows (Mait)
- 27-G. Eager (Mait)
- 23-W. Snowden (Cent)

But before Narvo could finally make up his mind the news arrived that Kangaroo forward Joe Pearce had broken his leg while playing for the Australians in New Zealand en route to Britain. Narvo was named as his replacement. Narvo proved to be one of the heroes of that tour,

playing in four of the five Tests. He continued in Sydney football until 1949. Most of the time was spent with Newtown, but for three years he turned out as captain-coach of St. George. In his first year at the helm (1946) the Dragons reached the grand final and won the Club Championship.

Narvo was also a fine boxer, who won the Australian heavyweight title in only his fourth fight - knocking out the reigning champion in 23 seconds.

# NEWCASTLE RUGBY LEAGUE PREMIERSHIP

Sunday, June 26-2.45 p.m.

Cheap Drinks — no cover charge.

Townson Oval



- Monster Meat Raffle-Thur., Fri., drawn 6 p.m.; Sunday 12.30 p.m. \*
- Live Rock from 9.30 p.m. till late every Friday. \*
- \* "Vegas" each Saturday night from 8.30 p.m.

### First Grade

CENTRAL CHARLESTOWN 34 (K. Barnier, E. Smith, S. Fitzsimmons, A. McDonell, C. Hammond tries. W. Snowden 7 goals) d MACQUARIE UNITED 20 (P. Hazell, M. Stortenbeker, R. Workman tries. J. Holt 4 goals).

CESSNOCK 38 (P. Walker 3, D. Mc-Kendry, B. Aiken, G. Shannon tries, J. Hunter 7 goals) d WARATAH-MAYFIELD 10 (A. Shannon, A. Lyddiard tries, B. Lantry goal).

LAKES UNITED 18 (P. Walsh 2 tries, D. Butler goal, P. Walsh 4 goals) d WESTEF SUBURBS 9 (P. Chapman try, 2 goals, Price drop goal).

SOUTH NEWCASTLE 80 (P. Parr 5, S. Robinson 2, N. O'Brien 2, R. Rouse 2, T. Butler, P. Sams, D. Godfrey tries, P. Parr 12 goals) d NORTH NEWCASTLE 14 (D. Maxwell, B. Dann tries, R. Keightley 3 goals).

KURRI KURRI 22 (M. Collins, D. Williams, P. Turner tries, P. Williams 5 goals) d MAITLAND 20 (C. Camardi 2, G. Eager, C. Barclay tries, Brett Winkler goal, C. Barclay goal).

# Reserve Grade

Central Charlestown 22 drew with Macquarie United 22, Cessnock 27 d Waratah-Mayfield 16, Western Suburbs 34 d Lakes, United 10, South Newcastle 132 d North Newcastle 2, Maitland 54 d Kurri Kurri 4.

## Third Grade

Macquarie United 12 d Central Charlestown 2. Waratah-Mayfield 13 d Cessnock 12. Lakes United 16 d Western Suburbs 12. South Newcastle 88 d North Newcastle 0. Maitland 38 d Kurri Kurri 6.