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Rugby League

Looking at League

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THAT FINAL FIVE !

Lakes United hold the key to the final five for 1988. In their remaining two matches, Lakes are away to both Macquarie and Cessnock. Wins to Lakes in these two matches will probably sound the death knell of Macquarie for 1988. The Scorpions have Maitland in the last game. Cessnock are a little better placed and thus could grab fifth spot.

If both Macquarie and Cessnock falter then Maitland could grab the last spot in the five. South have every reason to consider themselves safe for the minor premiership. The earlier break they made on the points table has stood them in good stead now. Central are a little better placed than Lakes for second spot while West seem sure of fourth and an outside chance for third.

Central and South are definitely the match of the round at St. John. This clash will provide some insight into possibilities in the finals series. South have won eight in a row, their last loss being to Central 18-14 on 17th May. It was close last week against Macquarie but the Lions are well disciplined and should continue their winning way. The Butcher Boys have been playing well although a loss to Maitland two weeks ago was costly. Should be another great game.

The enigmatic Macquarie, capable of great things at times, have probably their last chance to show their mettle. They beat Lakes 29-18 in the first round when Lakes were on an horrific losing streak. The Set-gulls now have put together six wins in a row and on that form have to be favourites here. Still, anything can happen and really both sides have too much to lose with a loss. Work it out!

Cessnock, Maitland and West appear sure of wins against Kurri, Waratah and North respectively. Kurri are performing well in every game with a ton of spirit but just haven't the side to finish every game in front. Still, this is "the" local derby so the Goannas could find some real mean Bulldogs at Kurri.

Waratah will find Maitland a handful and North, although 10-10 at

half time last week will find the Rosellas a different proposition.

And so it comes down to the last round, with similar situations in both reserve and third grades.

Play offs, if necessary, will be played on Tuesday, 26th July at a ground to be advised.

SCHOOLS CARNIVAL

The Newcastle All Schools Carnivals primary school section and finals day was unfortunately washed out last month. The Carnival will now take place on Saturday, 23rd July at the I.S.C. and nearby Ford and Kentish Ovals. The Open Secondary Final is set down for the I.S.C. at 3.05 p.m. on that day and features St. Peters, Maitland against St. Francis Xavier, Hamilton.

These two teams are very good school football sides and the clash will be well worth watching. St. Peters defeated Muswellbrook High School 20-4 in a semi-final and St. Francis Xavier, keen to retain their title, defeated Toronto High School 26-12.

NEXT WEEK'S FIXTURES

SERIES 18 (Last competition round)

Friday night:

Cessnock v Lakes United

Saturday:

South v Waratah

Kurri v West

Central v North

Maitland v Macquarie

Finals Series 1988

Play offs for fifth place where necessary will take place on Tuesday, 26th July at a venue to be decided.

The Elimination semi-final (4 v 5) and Qualifying semi-final will be on Friday night/Saturday 29/30 July at times and venues to be decided.

The major and minor semi-finals will be set down for Saturday/Sunday 5/6 August at venues to be decided.

The Preliminary final will be played on Saturday, 13th August at a venue to be decided. In all of these finals matches, the game will be played on the ground of the team that finished higher on the table. Times and venues depend on the Knights games.

The Grand Final will be played at the International Sports Centre on Sunday, 21st August.

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 four 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 14 were:

Progress Points:

- 50—J. Hunter (Cess)
- 49—T. Stevenson (Mac)
- 45—T. Price (WS)
- 39—P. Williams (KK), T. Vaughan (Sth)
- 37—M. Sullivan (Mac)
- 28—T. Donaldson (Sth), M. Burrows (Mait)
- 27—G. Eager (Mait)
- 25—P. Atkins (WS)
- 23—W. Snowden (Cent)

NEWCASTLE RUGBY LEAGUE PREMIERSHIP

Sunday, July 17—2.45 p.m.

Passmore Oval

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

Referee: P. Riddell

Western Suburbs

Red and green

Coach: Gary Martine



- 1—WAYNE MOYLAN
- 2—GREG MITCHELL
- 3—TIM MORRISON
- 4—TONY AMIDY
- 5—DOUG GORDON
- 6—CRAIG HUBBARD
- 7—PETER ATKINS
- 8—MICHAEL FLANAGAN
- 9—PETER WEBBER
- 10—MAL GRAHAM
- 11—BARRY LORING
- 12—WAYNE NEWLING
- 13—GREG PRICE

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: W. Ross (Blue), V. Woodman (Red)

RESERVE GRADE — 1.10 p.m.

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 | |

Referee: S. Crich

WESTERN SUBURBS

Coach: Glenn Armstrong

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1—Peter HILL | Peter CHAPMAN—3 |
| 2—Danny BROWN | James WESLEY—5 |
| 4—Brett FELSHAW | Tony PRICE—7 |
| 6—Darryl BENSON | Brett NIXON—9 |
| 8—Lorn McDUGALL | Craig LLOYD—11 |
| 10—Scott BUDDEN | Greg HARRISON (c)—13 |
| 12—Graham RUSSELL | |

Touch Judges: V. Woodman (Blue), S. Ryan (Red)

THIRD GRADE — 11.45 a.m.

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 | |

Referee: S. Ryan

WESTERN SUBURBS

Coach: Brett Nixon

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| 1—Paul HOOLE | Nick HARDY—3 |
| 2—Tim WINDMILL | Craig BUTTON—5 |
| 4—Shane GALLIMORE | Graham HARMON—7 |
| 6—Scott WILKINSON | Paul DUNLOP—9 |
| 8—David ASHMAN | Steve DONOHUE—11 |
| 10—Ian HEXTELL | Wayne DAWSON—13 |
| 12—Paul BOWEN | |

Touch Judges: W. Ross (Blue), S. Crich (Red)

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First Grade

SOUTH NEWCASTLE 38 (N. O'Brien 2, J. MacPhail, S. Robinson, T. Donaldson, T. Anderson, B. Money tries, P. Parr 5 goals) d CENTRAL CHARLESTOWN 14 (P. McKenzie 2, C. Nealon tries, W. Snowden goal).

LAKE UNITED 18 (B. Burgess 2, S. Drinkwater, C. Mathias tries, P. Walsh goal) d MACQUARIE UNITED 8 (D. Hill try, J. Holt 2 goals).

WESTERN SUBURBS 118 (W. Newling 4, G. Mitchell 3, W. Moylan 2, T. Morrison 2, D. Gordon 2, P. Webber 2, Graham 2, D. Benson, T. Amidy, C. Hard, M. Flanagan, G. Price tries, W. Moylan 9, G. Price 6 goals) d NORTH NEWCASTLE 4 (W. Lamb try).

MAITLAND 28 (J. Hemson, P. Jones, B. Winkler, M. Burrows, G. Codrington tries, B. Winkler 4 goals) d WARATAH-MAYFIELD 14 (A. Shannon 2 tries, B. Lantry 3 goals).

CESSNOCK 29 (D. McKendry, J. Garvie, M. Schofield, T. Bender tries, J. Hunter 6 goals, drop goal) d KURRI KURRI 22 (D. Williams 2, P. Hafey, M. Collins tries, P. Williams 3 goals).

Reserve Grade

South Newcastle 12 d Central Charlestown 10, Lakes United 50 d Macquarie United 8, Western Suburbs 114 d North Newcastle 0, Waratah-Mayfield 26 d Maitland 8, Cessnock 24 d Kurri Kurri 10.

Third Grade

South Newcastle 26 d Central Charlestown 6, Lakes United 36 d Macquarie United 4, Western Suburbs 98 d North Newcastle 2, Maitland 24 d Waratah-Mayfield 6, Cessnock 32 d Kurri Kurri 8.