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Newsletter

8 May 2015

#71a

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WELL as I said in my earlier newsletter about the Kiwis, I have had a fabulous time basking in the glory, but it is time to get back to work, as the Vodafone Warriors take on the Cronulla Sharks at Redmondis in Sydney on Saturday.

Hurrell And Peyroux Recalled

And the big news is that Konrad Hurrell and Dominique Peyroux have been recalled for the Vodafone Warriors' ninth-round NRL encounter, which starts at 7.30pm our time.

After missing the club's 32-28-Anzac Day loss to the Gold Coast Titans, Hurrell and Peyroux were among six Vodafone Warriors players involved in last Saturday's Pacific Test between Mate Ma'a Tonga and Toa Samoa in Robina.

Peyroux, used off the interchange bench, scored the Samoans' final try in their 18-16 win on a night when he made 99 metres from seven runs, as well as 23 tackles.

Hurrell also made a big impact for the Tongans, with 119 metres from 11 carries.

Hurrell's Tongan team-mates Tuimoala Lolohea and Solomon Kata will again start against the

Sharks, while Tongan front rower Albert Vete has been named on a five-man bench, along with Peyroux's Samoan team-mate Sam Lisone.



Konrad Hurrell



Dominique Peyroux

Stacked With Internationals

Those six players who made the Pacific series will join a Vodafone Warriors line-up that includes five members of the Kiwis' triumphant Anzac Test side, captain Simon Mannering, wing Manu Vatuvei, halfback Shaun Johnson, prop Ben Matulino and hooker Thomas Leuluai.

The 29-year-old Vatuvei, enjoying one of best seasons of his career, was awarded the Charles Savory Medal for his two-try man of the

match performance at Suncorp.

He has now scored a total of eight tries in nine matches so far this season, including his six in eight NRL games.

Iro Full Of Praise

Vodafone Warriors assistant coach and Kiwi selector Tony Iro was elated with the efforts from the club's players involved in the weekend's internationals.

"To have 11 players involved in those two tests was something really special for the club, and I thought they were all terrific," he said.

"Our five Kiwi boys were great in an outstanding win and the six players involved in the match between Samoa and Tonga also impressed, especially Dom, Sol and Albie. Dom basically won the game for Samoa and has given us a lot of energy and aggression the times he has played for us this season.

"Koni was also really solid and he comes back into the side with more game time behind him. It's fair to say we probably rushed him back a bit too quickly initially, but he has now had a game for our New South Wales Cup side and for Tonga."

Forward Pack Shows Consistency

For the eighth consecutive match the Vodafone Warriors will use the same starting pack on Saturday in what will be the club's 499th game since entering the competition in 1995.

Kiwi heroes Mannering, Matulino and Leuluai team up with the seasoned Ryan Hoffman, Jacob Lillyman and Bodene Thompson, the latter moving within six games of his 100th appearance.

Facing his old club Cronulla, Jonathan Wright plays his 99th NRL game, leaving him in line to reach his 100th a week later in the Vodafone Warriors' 500th game, when we face Parramatta at Pirtek.

The Vodafone Warriors are 13th and Cronulla 14th, and we have identical records after eight rounds – three wins and five losses – but the Sharks have better recent form, with their three wins all coming in the last four rounds.

The ladder is congested with just two points covering 11 teams from fifth through to 15th.



Full Team

Tuimoala Lolohea, Jonathan Wright, Konrad Hurell, Solomon Kata, Manu Vatuei, Chad Townsend, Shaun Johnson, Jacob Lillyman, Thomas Leuluai, Ben Matulino, Bodene Thompson, Ryan Hoffman, Simon Mannering ©. Interchange: Nathan Friend, Dominique Peyroux, Sam Lisone, Sam Rapira, and Albert Vete.

Warriors' Bosses Dig In

As the Auckland Council's round of 10-year budget meetings begins, Vodafone Warriors chairman Bill Wavish and managing director Jim Doyle have again jointly appealed to all council members to defer a vote on the city's controversial stadium strategy.

All councillors have been sent a letter in which Wavish and Doyle implore them to postpone any decision on the strategy proposed by Regional Facilities Auckland to clear the way for a full review.

The Auckland Council is in budget meetings that will impact on the city's 10-year plan, including a much-debated shake-up of the region's stadiums.

Doyle has repeated voting for the strategy would have dire consequences for the Vodafone Warriors and the city.

"We have made it clear through our own submission to the council in March and also in our letter sent to all councillors that the proposal to move us out of Mt Smart makes no sense," he said.

Doyle and Wavish have recommended to all councillors that any vote regarding the stadium strategy be deferred.

"The RFA has a new CEO, I'm also new to my role, and neither of us has been involved in the plans for the proposed use of the stadiums," said Doyle.

"The Warriors therefore suggest this isn't the time to be going ahead with a major strategy on which there has been such limited consultation.

"Indeed we believe it would be prudent to put the proposal to one side and for all parties involved to reconvene and reconsider the best possible use of the city's stadiums.

"If the matter of our long-term future at Mt Smart isn't resolved satisfactorily we would have no option but to consider venues outside Auckland.

We will not be forced to leave Mt Smart at any point during our current lease, which expires at the end of 2018.

Furthermore, if the proposed RFA stadium strategy is supported, then we will actively encourage the incoming council to overturn the ill-conceived strategy prior to our lease expiring."

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Laumape's Season Over

Centre Ngani Laumape's hopes of lining up for the Vodafone Warriors again this year have been dashed with confirmation he needs another season-ending knee operation.

Laumape partially tore the anterior cruciate ligament in his right knee during a training session in February but recovered to turn out for the New South Wales Cup side in its fourth-round clash against North Sydney.

After an impressive return he was named for his first NRL appearance of the year against the Melbourne Storm on April 6 only to be ruled out with more trouble with his knee.

He hasn't been able to play since, and now faces a second knee reconstruction, which is likely to sideline him for at least eight months.

Ben Henry is also out long-term after having ACL surgery on his left knee. It's the second time he has had reconstructive surgery on the knee in less than two years.

Fullback Sam Tomkins could return against Parramatta on May 16. He has been out after partially

tearing the posterior cruciate ligament in his left knee in the third-round clash against the Eels at Mt Smart.

Also out with a ACL injury is fullback-wing Glen Fisiiahi. He left the field with the injury in the Vodafone Warriors' eighth-round NSW Cup match against Newtown on Anzac Day, his second appearance after coming back from more than a year on the sideline recovering from a shoulder injury.

Neilsen Sacked

Former Vodafone Warriors and now St George Illawarra Dragons player Dane Nielsen has been sacked by the club for a boozy night on March 22, where he was alleged to have bitten a female patron in a Cronulla nightclub.

There were also suggestions Nielsen had been in a heated exchange with Cronulla's Ben Barba.

Nielsen, 29, only joined the Dragons this season - and still had another season to run on his deal .

He won a premiership with the Storm, and only joined the Dragons after cutting short his stay with us.

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Burrows and McAleese Return for Black Sticks

VETERANS Phil Burrows and Shea McAleese return to bolster the Black Sticks Men for the International Challenge at the Tasmanian Hockey Centre in Hobart next week.

The pair are included in five changes to the team which recently won the Sultan Azlan Shah Cup in Malaysia, with defender Joe Bartholomew and strikers Marcus Child and Jacob Smith also recalled.



Burrows (332 test caps) and McAleese (210) have been playing club hockey for HGC in Netherlands following the Glasgow Commonwealth Games and return to add huge experience to the New Zealand midfield.

The five players come into the side in place of Ryan Archibald (unavailable), Arun Panchia, James Coughlan and Nick Wilson (injured) and Hugo Inglis (being rested).

Burrows, who is currently travelling to link up with the team, said he's excited about putting on the Black Sticks singlet after sitting out the last few tournaments.

"I'm really excited to be back playing in the black shirt. We have a very strong squad at the moment so I'm looking forward to the challenge of competing for a spot in the World League Semi-Final team," Burrows said.

"It's so important to play top international opponents leading into Olympic qualifying, so the Hobart series is a perfect stepping stone towards booking a place in Rio."

At the International Challenge the Black Sticks will play two tests against world champions Australia and one off games against Pakistan and Korea.

The tournament is important preparation ahead of the FIH World League Semi-Final in Argentina from 3-13 June, which provides an opportunity to qualify for the 2016 Rio Olympic Games with a top three finish.

The Black Sticks are joined in Pool A at the World League Semi-Final by Netherlands, Korea, Japan and Egypt while Pool B consists of Germany, Argentina, Spain, Canada and Austria.

Head coach Colin Batch is viewing the Hobart series as a prime opportunity to gain top level experience and competition at the perfect time.

"This tournament is very helpful going into Olympic qualifying at the World League Semi-Final. You always want to challenge yourself against the best in the world and Australia certainly provide that.

"We will have the chance to look at a few other players before we pick our side for World League, and those selections will come down to the wire. There's a huge amount of competition for spots in the group which is a very good thing.

"Winning the Sultan Azlan Shah Cup was a huge step for us, but we need to keep that momentum going and use it to become a better team."

The Black Sticks travel home from Hobart on 11 May and the squad will be centralised in Auckland for two weeks before the World League team departs for Argentina on 25 May.

New Zealand's opening game at the World League Semi-Final is against relative unknowns Egypt at 5:00am on 4 June (NZ time).

Black Sticks Downed by Kookaburras in Hobart

THE Black Sticks Men have been defeated 3-0 by hosts Australia in their opening game at the International Challenge in Tasmania.

Two first half goals had the Kookaburras on the front foot while the Kiwis found it difficult to battle back against a hard-nosed defence.

Australia controlled the first half with their opening goal coming in the 13th minute when Chris Ciriello converted from a penalty corner.

Ten minutes later they doubled their lead after a field goal from Kiel Brown sent the hosts into halftime with a 2-0 advantage.

Midway through the third quarter Australia had success again from a penalty corner, this time Jeremy Hayward flicking into the back of goal.

Head coach Colin Batch said it was a typically tough game against the world champions.

“It was a difficult game for us tonight and Australia were pretty dominant,” Batch said.

“They showed the benefit of having already played two tests in the past few days and were on top of their game. Australia forced a lot of turnovers and limited our opportunities on attack.



“We need to work on our outletting and shifting the ball through the midfield, and make sure we are prepared to get a good result in our next game.”

Striker Jared Panchia travelled with the team to Hobart in place of Shay Neal who was a last-minute withdrawal due to injury.

The Black Sticks have a day of training and planning tomorrow before going up against Pakistan at 9pm on Thursday night (NZ time).

The International Challenge is important preparation for the World League Semi-Final in Argentina next month, where the Black Sticks have an opportunity to qualify for the 2016 Rio Olympics.

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The 'Fight Of The Century' Was Always Going To Struggle To Live Up To The Hype

By John Deaker



SUNDAY'S 'Fight of the century' between Floyd Mayweather and Manny Pacquiao for the WBO, WBC and WBA Welterweight titles had an unprecedented amount of hype building up to it. Even in New Zealand the great anticipation of this long-awaited clash meant it was always going to struggle to meet the expectations of some people - especially if the more popular underdog Pacquiao was unable to cause an upset.

The bout itself delivered on many levels by going the full 12 rounds and Pacquiao bringing plenty of punch to the party. With Mayweather being such a renowned master of defense it'd have been unrealistic to expect the type of clash where both boxers would go blow for blow from the first round.

Early on there was the concern that the bout would threaten to rival the David Tua v Lennox Lewis anti-climax back in 2000 where Tua never posed any meaningful threat to the reigning Heavyweight Champion. Fortunately a few rounds into Sunday's bout Pacquiao started to free up more and tested the undefeated Champion - especially with some of the successive combinations he was able to unleash to his taller opponent's body.

By the halfway point it was significant that Mayweather's father was heard to say "I don't know what's wrong with you" to his son between rounds. This did seem a bit of a wake up call for the 38 year old and as the bout progressed the challenger wasn't able to convert the momentum he'd built in the first half of the clash.

Pacquiao's fans are entitled to feel disappointed at the result and have expressed their anger as widely as social media allows people to do these days. The fact that so many of Pacquiao's fans feel 'cheated' is understandable yet also probably fueled by an unrealistic expectation of judged sports like boxing. The reality is that sports like diving, ice skating and boxing where the result is determined by the judges scoring often don't deliver 'fair' results. At least in boxing there is the opportunity to totally take the judges decision out of the equation.

For many of the people so upset it would also pay for them to ask themselves one question: How much do they really know about boxing? One thing many of them would be conscious of is that boxing has shown many times in the past that when you try and take someone's title off them on their own turf you've often either got to knockout your opponent or do everything but that to earn the spoils.

Ultimately, Manny Pacquiao put up a valiant fight on Sunday night - but it wasn't enough to take the decision out of the hands of the judges.

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Sean Hoppe - Still an Avid Warriors Fan

By John Coffey QSM



SEAN Hoppe, one of the finest of all Kiwis and Warriors wings, travelled down from Gladstone to Brisbane for Sunday's Anzac Test. It's not surprising Sean made the six-hour drive when one recalls he was among the heroes of New Zealand's only previous Anzac triumph over the Kangaroos at North Harbour Stadium in 1998.

That, Sean confirmed, remains among the most memorable moments of a career which included 35 Test matches for a then-record 17 Test tries. In all, he played 43 games for the Kiwis and scored 22 tries. In eight first grade seasons for Canberra, North Sydney and the Warriors he crossed for 81 tries in 152 appearances, before adding another 36 tries in 98 games for top English club St Helens.

At 45 years of age, Sean these days works in construction on 12-hour night shifts to build massive storage tanks on the site of a major gas plant near Gladstone. Sean is also a member of the emergency response team, having trained in firefighting, first aid and road rescues. There is the possibility of future transfers to similar construction sites in Darwin and Western Australia.

"Unfortunately, working at nights and sleeping during the days gives me no chance to get involved with football. But I am still an avid Warriors fan – and, of course, GO THE KIWIS," he said just before Sunday's kick-off. Memories of that 1998 Anzac Test victory are still fresh but post-match celebrations were brief before the players dispersed back to their NRL clubs for weekend fixtures.

Sean's Test try-scoring record has been overtaken only by Manu Vatuvei and Nigel Vagana since his "second" retirement under unusual circumstances in 2002. It had been three years since he had pulled on the Kiwis jersey – in fact, Sean represented the Maori at the 2000 World Cup – and he had played for St Helens against the Kiwis earlier on that 2002 tour.

"But Clinton Toopi broke a hand and there was no time to get a replacement from home. I had officially retired after St Helens won the Super League Grand Final only two weeks earlier and was probably the fittest replacement available. Unfortunately, we lost that Test to Great Britain, only just, and then beat France in my final game."

Sean had made his name as a fast and forceful wing for the Canberra Raiders in 1992 and 1993 but then signed for the Warriors, who were to make their debut in 1995. The Raiders threatened to banish him to a country club in 1994 but Sean convinced them to instead release him to the North Sydney Bears. It remains the biggest disappointment of his career that he missed Canberra's 1994 Winfield Cup Grand Final victory.

His five seasons at the Warriors from 1995 to 1999 produced 44 tries in 88 appearances. The total of 81 tries he scored in Australian first grade football has been exceeded by only three other New Zealanders, Vagana, Vatuvei and Shaun Kenny-Dowall. Sean would obviously be a serious wing candidate for any all-star team chosen from the Warriors' first 20 years.

But when he arrived at St Helens in 2000 coach Eillery Hanley told him he intended giving him 20 minutes either side of halftime in the second-row. Sean still shudders a little when remembering he was out there for 70 minutes against a huge Bradford Bulls pack which included Joe Vagana. Fellow Aucklanders Kevin Iro, Vila Matautia and Apollo Perelini helped him settle in at the Saints.

Although that 1994 Winfield Cup title had eluded Sean and he "would have loved to have played in a Grand Final for the Warriors", his three and a half seasons at St Helens coincided with one of the club's finest eras.

Sean shared in five major trophy victories -- three Grand Finals, one Challenge Cup final and one World Club Challenge -- while revelling in his new forward role and slotting in at fullback, centre and wing when required. The St Helens website praises his professionalism both on and off the field. He is remembered just as fondly in Lancashire as he is for his deeds with the Warriors and Kiwis.

Check out this great story on Olsen Filipaina.

"The Forgotten Story of ... Olsen Filipaina, the Polynesian who tamed Wally Lewis"

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Sean Hoppe with the Kiwis



Kevin Proctor, Sean Hoppe and Toby Harris.



Sean Hoppe with Shuan Kenny-Dowall



Shaun Johnson and Sean Hoppe.



Nadene Conlon Football Manager and Sean Hoppe

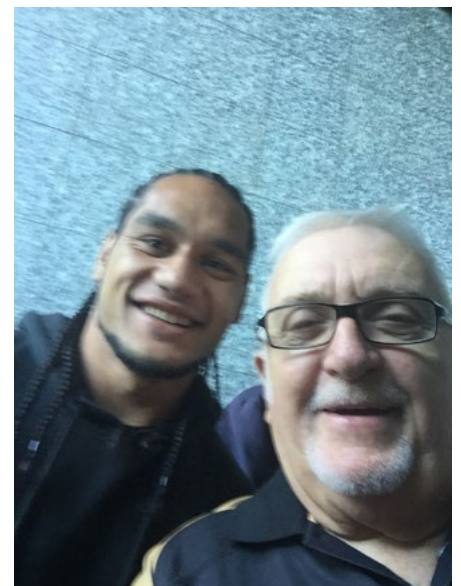


Sean Hoppe with Jason Nightingale

All the guys remember Sean Hoppe. In fact Sean Hoppe was one of Shaun Johnson's childhood heroes.



A Few Selfies With the Boys





Braith Anasta who played for the Bulldogs, Roosters, West Tigers, Australia, NSW, and even Greece once! Very nice guy, it was good to catch up.



Brett Kimmorley played for the Knights, Hunter Mariners, Storm, Manly, Sharks, Bulldogs, NSW and Australia, Another top bloke.



The great Ray Warren, the voice of Rugby League in Aussie, a good mate of mine.



Rugby league legend Phil Gould a very influential man in Rugby League across the Tasman and another good mate.



We owe this man a big thank you! He is Grant Parnell the general manager is the Pullman hotel in Roma Street Brisbane. When our game was canceled we had to rebook our rooms, meals and meeting rooms. That's no easy task but he and Nadene Conlon the Kiwis Football manager got it done so we owe both of them a big thank you

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Bye Bye Birdie - And Me!

By John Coffey QSM



THIS was to have been a short note explaining the Newsletter's southern correspondent (me) would be missing for the next six weeks because of an overseas trip. My next live sporting experience will be baseball, when the Washington Nationals and Philadelphia Phillies meet in Washington DC.

But I was delighted to hear the notorious Greg Bird will be absent from the NRL even longer than I will be out of the country. His appeal against a Grade Two dangerous tackle charge was dismissed by the NRL judiciary, virtually ruling Bird out of all three State of Origin fixtures and depriving him of the accompanying \$90,000 in match payments.

Bird's crime was lifting and dumping Kiwis wing Jason Nightingale in the closing stages of New Zealand's 26-12 Anzac Test victory. It smacked of frustration that Bird and his fellow Kangaroos had been given the biggest smacking of their football lives. And of an evil streak that has emerged far too often in his 13-year career.

There was the strong implication that Bird did not believe the judiciary would have the balls to rub him out of an entire Origin series. Instead of accepting the six-week ban that his previous poor disciplinary record demanded for an early guilty plea, Bird hired an expensive lawyer and arrogantly dared the three judiciary panel members to do their duty and extend his suspension to eight weeks.

He probably had good reason to believe a system which cost young Dallin Watene-Zelezniak his Test debut for a far less serious lifting offence would not have the courage to take a player out of Origin. When I was at The Press I compiled a list of suspended Kiwis extending back to Dean Bell in 1985. It needed regular updating, whereas Origin players seemed to be immune from incurring penalties on Origin eve.

But Bird has finally met his match. He is a serial offender in placing opponents in dangerous positions. Although no former players fronting television shows – some of them old team-mates -- would condemn him, Sydney newspapers illustrated his previous crimes. They calculated a failed appeal would extend his career suspension total to 29 games.

The NRL judiciary listened to Bird's lawyer make a plea on his behalf. But they knew all along he was trying to defend the indefensible. Sitting on the three-man panel was former Kiwis forward Bronson Harrison, alongside the long-serving Chris McKenna and Mal Cochrane.

Ironically, if Bird's actions in twice being placed on report while playing for the Titans against the Warriors a week earlier had drawn a charge he might have missed the Anzac Test and now be free to resume his NRL and Origin careers. He has the next couple of months to reflect on that.

Footnote: Broncos and Kangaroos forward Sam Thaiday was suspended for one match for the crusher tackle which prompted Martin Taupau's throat-slitting gesture during the Anzac Test. Unlike Bird, Thaiday accepted his misdemeanour and took an early guilty plea.



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Another Week in Northland Sport

By Ben Francis



Sunday May 3rd a Magnificent Day in Sport

SUNDAY May 3rd was one of those sporting days you did not want to miss, so much was going on starting off with Game Seven in the NBA a Western Conference playoffs between the Los Angeles Clippers and the San Antonio Spurs, this was one of the playoff series I have seen, Los Angeles won game seven 111-109 and advancing to the second round and will face the Houston Rockets.

Course the “Fight Of The Century” between Floyd Mayweather and Manny Pacquiao. Many say this fight did not live up to hype, I saw what I saw from Floyd, ducking, dodging and using the Rope-a-dope method made famous by Muhammad Ali. I personally I agree with the likes of Evander Holyfield and Skip Bayless were saying post fight, I think Pacquiao won as the aggressor and forced most of the real action. I'm not disputing Floyd isn't a great fighter but I couldn't give somebody the win who was running and when was on the ropes putting Pacquiao in headlocks, and I'm not going take excuses that Pacquiao was fighting with one arm as he had a significant tear in his right rotator cuff. Along with all the other conspiracies about the official and judges being American. At the end of the day Floyd won is now 48-0 congratulations to him, he will have his last fight in September.

The Phoenix loss was hard to see, they went down to Melbourne City 2-0 in a game they should have won. The Phoenix had a much improved season bouncing back from last year finishing 9th to this year finishing in the top four, their last month of the season was quite disappointing, some of the players never found form after the Asian Cup break, overall an improvement, the big issue facing the club is crowd numbers, how will they fare next season after a big improvement.

And of course the representative round of the league, I didn't get to see all the game but they didn't disappoint, the Under20's game was full of excitement Australia winning 22-20 over NZ, Fiji and Papua New Guinea game had plenty of excitement with Fiji winning 22-10.

People I spoke to described the Samoa av Tonga game as a brutal encounter with guys just wanting to literally smash each other, some even saying this was the game of the weekend Samoa winning 18-16, NSW City v NSW country was a great match as always, for the first time since 2010, the winning margin was greater than a converted try, Country winning 34-22.

In the Curtain raiser to the main game, once again many positive thoughts on this game the Jillaroos getting payback on the Kiwi Ferns after they dominated them in the Nines winning 22-14.

But what about those Kiwis 26-12 over the Kangaroos, first time since 1953 the Kiwis beating the Kangaroos three straight times, I don't think my family was even in New Zealand when that happened.

Personally I think the Kiwis should play all their games at Suncorp, it's a very successful stadium for us in the Kearney Era, a World Cup, a Four Nations, and now our first ANZAC test win since 1998. International Rugby League appears to be on the up.

Note it down Sunday May 3rd 2015, one of those days on sport you will never forget.

Northland Sports Wrap

FIVE teams are tied atop of the Rugby League Northland Scott Electrical Premiership after seven rounds. The KeriKeri Makos are no longer in the Premiership they announced last week. In round seven results Hikurangi Stags claimed a late 26-22 victory over Horahora Broncos, the Portland Panthers also had a close win, they won 20-18 over the Takahiwai Warriors.

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The Northern Wairoa Bulls had their three match win streak come to a halt going down 34-22 to Muriwhenua and Moerewa Tigers had a convincing win over Otangarei Knights 56-18. Hokianga Pioneers had the bye this week. Moerewa, Takahiwai, Portland, Otangarei and Hikurangi are the five teams all tied atop of the table.

Welsford still remain undefeated and the only unbeaten team after five rounds in the Bayleys Southern Districts Premiers. Welsford claimed victory over Hikurangi 31-15. 2014 Premier Champions Horahora had a last gasp 19-13 victory over the Western Sharks. Mid Northern claimed its fourth win of the season and third straight after beating Otamatea 31-11, Mid Western had a comfortable 36-8 victory over Old Boys Marist and Kamo still searching for their first win after the lost to Waipu 36-14.

In round four of the Bay Of Island Premiers, Both KeriKeri and Ohaeawai claimed win number three of the season after beating Kawakawa 25-15 and Okaihau 44-7 respectively. Other results saw Kaeo getting a close 26-25 win over Kaikohe and Moerewa crushed Otiria 60-0.

In round four of the Mangonui division we saw Awanui crush Kaitaia 94-3, South Hokianga go down 28-20 over Motukohu and Te Rarawa beat Aupouri 28-10.

The Soccer/Football season is well under way here in Northland, firstly the Men's Premier Division was KeriKeri crush Whangarei 8-0, Bream Bay and Onerahi played out a 1 all draw, Tikipunga and Kamo also had a draw, the result being 2-0 and Kaitaia beat Central 2-1.

In the Woman's draw, Central dominated Onerahi 7-0 and KeriKeri Siteworx beat HoraHora 4-3. The KeriKeri High School V Northern Wairoa game was postponed with a date yet to be confirmed.



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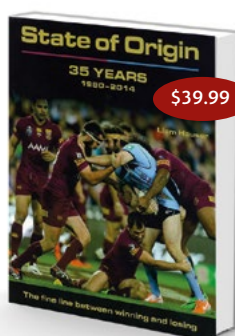
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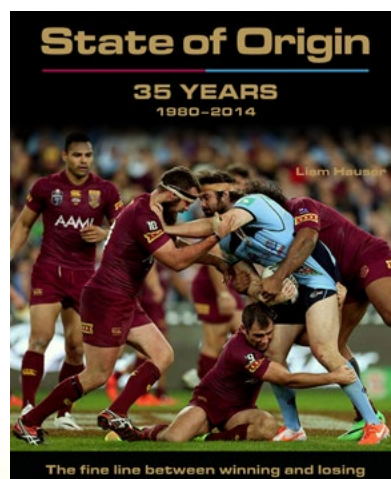
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2015 State of Origin Games:

Game I - May 27th - ANZ Stadium

Game II - June 17th - MCG

Game III - July 8th - Suncorp Stadium





Newsletter - Edition 9

Inside this issue

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- This weeks draws
- Kiwis win Anzac Test
- Tickets to Warriors



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Wellington was buzzing when the Kiwis won the Four Nations final at Westpac Stadium in November. So book your seat now for another rugby league showdown in the Capital featuring the mouth-watering clash between the Dragons' former Kiwi captain Benji Marshall and Golden Boot winner Shaun Johnson. That alone will be worth watching.

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YOUR TEAM | Hurrell & Peyroux back
Konrad Hurrell and Dominique Peyroux have been recalled for the Vodafone

VIDEO HIGHLIGHTS



MEDIA | Cappy McFadden
Coach Cappy McFadden spoke to media midweek ahead of the round nine away clash against the Cronulla Sharks on Saturday May 9.

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MEDIA | Shaun Johnson
Halfback Shaun Johnson spoke to media prior to the round nine trip to play the Cronulla Sharks.

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Here is the team that help me make the newsletter each week. Between us we make the newsletter happen - and like everything it's a team effort.



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