QUEENSLAND REPRESENTATIVE FOOTBALL

**(QUEENSLAND V NSW in pre-Origin Interstate Series,
QUEENSLAND versus INTERNATIONAL TOURING SIDES, QUEENSLAND Tours,
QUEENSLAND V NSW in STATE OF ORIGIN
QUEENSLAND RESIDENTS V NSW RESIDENTS)**

The Queensland Rugby Football League was formed in 1908 by seven rugby players who were dissatisfied with the administration of the Queensland Rugby Union (QRU) as the Queensland Rugby Association. Those founding fathers were Micky Dore, George Watson, Jack Fihelly, J O'Connor. E Buchanan, Alf Faulkner and Sinan Boland. Queensland had already been playing in their maroon jerseys each year against New South Wales in their sky blue before the split in rugby football between union and league took place. Queensland's captain, Mike Dore, left the rugby union establishment to play the new Northern Union brand of football in 1907 and his decision to switch codes influenced many other Queensland union players including his brother, to join the rugby league ranks.

On 14 March 1908, the breakaway group was first mentioned in the local media, and a fortnight later the first official announcement was made regarding the formation of the Queensland Rugby Association was made. On 16 May that year a hastily assembled Queensland team played the touring New Zealand "All Golds" side in Brisbane losing 34-12 with the other match being a 12-12 draw. Later that month there were three representative games against New South Wales in Sydney, which acted as selection trials for a national team. Queensland were thrashed 43-0 and 37-8 before going down 3-0 in the series in a tighter 12-3 loss. New South Wales domination would continue in the interstate series (including two 65-9 thrashings in 1911 and 1912) until the golden era of the 1920's when club football in Brisbane surged with the formation of the BRL in 1922 and the champion Toowoomba side that beat all comers.

They had their maiden win against NSW in Sydney 25-9 in the only game of 1922 (co-incidentally the year the BRL was formed) with a side that included a young Cyril Connell. That was the first of a golden run of 8 games in a row between 1921 and 1925, a record only equalled by Wally Lewis' great side from 1987 to 1989. In 1925 the run came to an end in the 3rd game of the series before winning the 4th and 5th games to win 4-1 that year. They lost the first two and then won the last three games of 1926. NSW won the 1927 series 3-1 which Queensland reversed in 1928 winning 3-1. From 1921 to the end of 1925 Queensland won 10 out of 11 games, up to 1926 it was 13 out of 16 and up to 1928 it was 16 out of 24. They won 6 series to 1, including 4 in a row.

NSW began to re-assert their domination after that winning 5-0 in 1929. The Queensland side of the 1920's included such greats as centre and Test captain Tommy Gorman, Duncan Thompson, "Nigger" Brown, Norm Potter and Cecil Aynsley. They were invited to tour New Zealand in 1925 and won 9, drew 1 and only lost 1 game. Queensland also had a great run against touring teams around this time winning 8 straight games against international sides between 1921 and 1930 of which 2 were against Great Britain and 6 against New Zealand. During the 1930's Queensland were able to win 2 series and draw 2 series with sides that included great such as "Mick" Madsen and Jack Reardon.

In the pre-Origin days of interstate football series wins (and draws) were far and few in between other than the golden era of the 1920's. Those series included 1931 (won 3-2), 1932 (won 2-0, 1 drawn), 1934 (drew 2-2 with 1 drawn), 1939 (drew 2-2), 1940 (won 3-1), 1951 (won 2-1), 1953 (drew 2-2), 1955 (drew 2-2), 1959 (won 3-1), 1960 (drew 2-2) and 1961 (drew 2-2). The biggest Queensland wins in the pre-Origin days were a 38-0 thrashing in 1926 and a 45-8 victory in 1940.

The 1950's and beginning of the 1960's was the zenith of Bulimba Cup football with all three sides producing many test players. Some of the great players for Queensland in this era included Brian Davies (Australian captain in the 1958 Ashes series), "Mick" Crocker, Pat McMahon, Jack Vievers, Norm Pope, Kel O'Shea, Des McGovern, Denis Flannery, Gary Parcell, Dud Beattie, Frank Drake, Noel Kelly, Barry Muir, Henry Holloway Lionel Morgan, Elton Rasmussen, John Gleeson and Mick Vievers.

Between 1938 and 1953 Queensland had a great record against touring international teams. They won 5 games (2 against Great Britain, 2 against New Zealand and 1 against South Africa), drew 1 game 22-all against Puig Aubert's conquering Frenchmen and lost 2 games against New Zealand. Greg Mallory in his book "Voices from Brisbane Rugby League" recalled seeing Puig Aubert playing for France in 1957 in a World Cup game between France and New Zealand at the Exhibition Ground as a boy. He kicked off and the ball went between the posts, such was his kicking prowess, and remembers querying his father why it wasn't a goal.

Queensland's record against touring international teams for the next 25 years between 1954 and 1979 was a lot more lean. They only beat France twice in 1960 and 1964, South Africa in 1963 and New Zealand in 1967. They would 11 losses in that period including 7 against Great Britain. Queensland did embark on their first international tour since the Tommy Gorman's 1925 Queensland side when a Queensland side, including Wayne Bennett, Johnny Lang and current ARLC chairman, John Grant, toured New Zealand in 1972. They won all 3 games against provincial New Zealand sides.

From the early 1960's on the effect of the poker machine revenue available to Sydney clubs (when such gambling wasn't legal in Queensland) had a profound effect in luring the creme of the Brisbane talent to the Sydney competition which saw a huge imbalance begin to occur between the states in the interstate series.

The year 1959 was the last series win and 1961 the last drawn series to Queensland before State of Origin came along. Apart from two draws, Queensland would next win a game in 1967, then won a game in 1968, one game in 1970 and then the last game Queensland would win before State of Origin was in 1975 when Barry Muir's team won 14-8. They lost the second game and almost took the series losing by one point (9-8) in the third game. That year Barry Muir would inspire his troops by calling the Blues "the cockroaches", an insulting nicknamed that has carried to this day. An honourable mentioned should be given to the 1974 side of the year before that lost the first game 22-13 and then drew the two games after that.

In total the period from 1962 to 1979 was a very dark period for Queensland in the interstate series. NSW won 52 out of 60 games with Queensland only winning 4 and drawing 4 games and it was getting bitter seeing NSW beating Queensland with a lot of players who originally came from Queensland such as Elton Rasmussen, John Wittenberg, Johnny Rhodes, John McDonald, Arthur Beetson, Rod Reddy, Johnny Lang, Greg Oliphant and Rod Morris. Paul Hogan famously told a Queensland Rugby League gathering in 1977 that "every time Queensland produces a good footballer, he finishes up being processed through a New South Wales poker machine." Something desperately had to be done to correct the huge imbalance.

By the 1970's the prestige of interstate matches had been seriously downgraded. Matches were played mid-week, so as not to interfere with the Sydney club competition, and before small crowds in New South Wales when the interstate games were hosted at Leichhardt Ovals. Interstate football reached its nadir in 1977 when the New South Wales Rugby Football League (NSWRFL) declined to host the Queensland team, and both interstate games were played in Queensland

Former Queensland captain and Australian vice-captain Jack Reardon, who had later become a journalist, was the first to suggest that Sydney-based Queenslanders should be available for selection to represent their state. Brisbane Courier-Mail reporter Hugh Lunn, Barry Maranta (the future co-founder of the Brisbane Broncos) and Maranta's business partner Wayne Reid played a part in persuading QRL chairman Ron McAullife that the concept could be used in rugby league. Lunn told McAullife that "you can take the Queenslander out of Queensland, Ron, but you can't take Queensland out of the Queenslander." The Origin concept was not an original idea. It was borrowed from Aussie Rules which had introduced a successful State of Origin promotion between Victoria and Western Australia in 1977. The fact that Western Australia defeated Victoria encouraged McAuliffe, who gleaned valuable information from the then president of the VFL, Dr Allen Aylett, when the pair were on the Rothmans Sports Foundation. Reid spoke to NSWRFL president Kevin Humphreys and suggested that a one-off state of origin match could be used as a Test Match selection trial.

New South Wales clubs were reticent in their support of the concept and set two conditions: If the third game was to decide the series it was not to be played under Origin rules, and also, that the expatriate Queenslanders would be under the supervision of a representative of the NSWRFL whose duty it would be to protect the interests of both the NSWRFL and the clubs to which they were contracted. To those clubs were refusing to release players, Humphreys threatened to make the game an official Australian Rugby League trial, which would make release mandatory. The clubs backed down.

After Queensland lost the first two interstate matches in 1980 (35–3 and 17–7, the second game in front of only 1,638 Sydneysiders) it was announced that a 'state of origin' match would take place on 8 July at Lang Park in Brisbane. Ron McAullife was committed to the concept and vigorously promoted the match. Thousands of tickets were sold before the game had been officially sanctioned. Although interstate matches in Brisbane had still been well attended (24,653 had attended the opening match of the 1979 series), few expected the sell-out crowd of 33,210 Queensland rugby league fans, delighted to see their heroes in the likes of Arthur Beetson representing their home state for the first time ever. Queensland convincingly beat New South Wales 20–10. That first game has gone down in rugby league folklore.

The first points scored in Origin Football was a penalty goal by Queensland centre Mal Meninga - the first of seven goals from seven attempts he would kick in the match (on his 20th birthday no less), while New South Wales' winger Greg Brentnall had the honour of scoring the first try in State of Origin football following good lead up work by Kangaroos Graham Eadie and Mick Cronin. After an all-in brawl in the first half (when Arthur Beetson appeared to punch his Parramatta teammate Mick Cronin) and leading 9-5 at the break, Queensland took over the game and defeated NSW 20-10, the first time Qld had won a state game over NSW since 1975. Queensland centre Chris Close was the standout player from both sides, scoring a try in the second half and was a clear choice as Man of the Match. From a standing start, Close received the ball only 25m out from Meninga. He then simply accelerated through a big hole in the NSW defense and evaded fullback Graham Eadie to put the ball down next to the goal posts without a NSW player touching him.

Also playing that night was a young Wally Lewis who would take over the next year as captain and dominate State of Origin like no other player in the game. Alan Clarkson, a journalist for The Sydney Morning Herald wrote of the State of Origin experiment, "I was strongly against such a match, but last night's gripping clash showed that such a fixture would be a welcome addition to the League program."

In 1981 the first two interstate matches were again played under the old selection rules. As New South Wales won the first two matches in the series, state of origin selection rules were used once more in the third match. Legendary captain Arthur Beetson was ready to play before injury ruled him out, so he became coach of the team, and would remain so for the next three years. It seemed that State of Origin might still be dominated by New South Wales with the Blues ahead 15–0, but a remarkable comeback by Queensland saw them defeat New South Wales 22–15 with young captain Wally Lewis and Chris Close the stars of the comeback win. This match gave rugby league officials the impetus to decide that 1982 should have 2 State of Origin matches and a decider if required.

In 1982, for the first time all three matches of the interstate series were played using 'origin' selection rules. New South Wales won their first State of Origin match in Game One, but this was not enough to stop Queensland winning the second and third games with Mal Meninga, Rod Morris and captain Wally Lewis the heroes for Queensland of the series. Queensland won their first interstate series since 1959 when they won the decider 10-5 in Sydney. The deciding try occurred when Wally Lewis pounced on a terrible in-goal pass by Phil Sigsworth.

Before the interstate series Queensland won its first side against an international touring side since 1967. They beat an awful New Zealand side that dropped a ridiculous amount of ball by 31-16 at Lang Park. Souths winger, Wayne Challis scored 3 tries with Wally Lewis, Mal Meninga, Tony Currie and Brad Backer also scoring.

In 1983 Queensland proved it was no fluke when they won a second straight series 2-1. State of Origin was beginning to take interstate football to new heights. Queensland was developing a high quality side that would dominate in the same way the Queensland side of the 1920's had dominated. New South Wales won the second game, but Queensland dominated the first (24-12) and the decider (43-22) winning the series with Wally Lewis being the saviour for Queensland. Wally Lewis had the game on a string. The most extraordinary part of the night was being stunned by the half time score on the scoreboard. After dominating the first half Wally Lewis potted a field goal in the last few seconds of the first half and Queensland led 33-0 at the break—an absolutely stunning turnaround from all those floggings during the 1970's.

At the end of the 1983 seasons in Qld and NSW, the Queensland team also toured Papua New Guinea and Great Britain. They beat Highland Zone 34-16 and ran up a cricket score against the President's XIII winning 106-3. Their tour of Great Britain saw them play three matches. The first against Hull Kingston Rovers resulted in an 8-6 loss, though the Wally Lewis led Maroons then easily won their remaining matches against Wigan (40-2) and Leeds (58-2).

In 1984, Queensland won the first two games for the series, dominating the series, with Kerry Boustead and Wally Lewis the stars of the series, New South Wales won the final match. The series is best remembered for the try by Greg Dowling in pouring rain in the second game. Wally Lewis put the ball in the air which hit the crossbar and bounced back into the hands of Greg Dowling who fell over the line to score. Wally Lewis was King of the world of rugby league that year. He led Wynnum-Manly to win the pre-season contest, the State League and the BRL premiership. He captained Queensland to win the State of Origin series and captained Australia to win the 1984 Ashes series at home and then finished the season captaining Oceania in their 54-4 defeat of Europe in Paris in a one-off game to celebrate 50 years of rugby league in France. He was rested and Mal Meninga took over as captain in a mid-season game between Queensland and New Zealand which Queensland won 18-14.

In 1985, Queensland saw their first ever series loss to New South Wales, for the first time. NSW won the first game 18-2 in Sydney. The painful irony of that loss was that all of NSW's points were scored by union convert Michael O'Connor who had played all his rugby union for Queensland before switching to play for Manly. His prior union playing for Queensland was not counted in his selection for NSW. Steve Mortimer, playing with the sort of passion that Queenslanders show on the field, brilliantly led NSW to win the 2nd game to take the series with Queensland consoled by a 20-6 win in the 3rd game.

Under new coach, Wayne Bennett, the 1986 series saw Queensland play a lot better but the scoreboard didn't show, Queensland lost all 3 games, only by small margins for each game, but the fact was still that New South Wales had whitewashed Queensland.

Prior to the 1987 series a one-off Origin selection trial game was played at Lang Park between a Queensland Residents team versus Queensland expatriates based in NSW playing in the Sydney competition. In what was a cracking game played at a fast pace the NSW-based Queenslanders eventually pulled away in the second half to win 20-10. The better fitness of the players playing for Sydney clubs proved the difference. The half back battle saw Sydney-based Laurie Spina outplay a diminutive Ipswich halfback, Allan Langer. Despite that the Queensland selectors gambled on selecting Allan Langer who did not let Queensland down that season and would become a legend in his own right with the Broncos and playing for Queensland in following years. Following that trial Queensland toured New Zealand beating the NZ President's XIII 18-14 and Bay of Plenty 72-6. Later in the season New Zealand toured Australia shocking them in a one-off test but also defeating Queensland 22-16.

In 1987, looking for redemption, Queensland lost the first game to New South Wales by literally an inch. The scores were locked at 16-all near full time Mark McGaw threw an inside pass that was knocked down by Queensland but was kicked ahead into the Maroon's in-goal. Mick Stone was forced to make a split second decision without the help of the video replay system that we have today. Stone ruled that McGaw had touched down an inch inside the dead-ball line for a try. Video replays showed Stone correct, making his decision one of the best and bravest rulings ever made which was no consolation for Wayne Bennett who had lost four games in a row. They came managed to win the last two games 12-6 and 10-8 giving Wayne Bennett his first series win. Allan Langer's debut in the 1987 series saw Queensland win their first series since 1984, Langer went on to play 34 games for Queensland. In the exhibition match, the fourth interstate game of 1987 in the USA, Queensland was in party mood and didn't take game as seriously as NSW did with NSW winning it 30-18.

In 1988, the introduction of Queensland based clubs for the first grade Sydney-come-national competition Brisbane Broncos and Gold Coast, saw more wealth of talent for Queensland. In 1988 and 1989 it was Allan Langer and Wally Lewis's formidable halves partnership that had them dominate both series winning all 6 matches and not letting New South Wales win. Wayne Bennett won the 1988 series while returning coach Arthur Beetson won the 1989 series. As a result, in 1989 a record-breaking twelve Queenslanders were selected to tour with the Australian national team. Adding in the last two official series games of 1987 (and excluding the USA exhibition game) Queensland had won 8 games in a row to equal the record set by the dominating Queensland side of the 1920's.

The sides of 1988 and 1989 were full of legendary Queensland players—Wally Lewis, Allan Langer, Gary Belcher, Mal Meninga, Gene Miles, Michael Hancock, Tony Currie, Dale Shearer, Paul Vautin, Trevor Gillmeister, Martin Bella, Sam Backo, Greg Conescu and Kerrod Walters. In 1988 they won their games 26-18, 16-6 and 38-22. In 1989 the winning scores to Queensland were even more dominant—36-6, 16-12 and 36-16. The second game of 1988 is probably best remembered by the crowd reaction after Wally Lewis was controversially sent off. Venting their displeasure cans of beer were thrown onto the field by angry spectators. I was on the rock wall near the scoreboard and I was watched the sight nearby in amazement. The second game of 1989 is best remembered by one of Wally Lewis's greatest ever tries. Four of Queensland's star players had been injured the game and Queensland were just hanging in there. Trevor Gillmeister cut a NSW runner in half with one of his classic tackles in which the ball spilled onto the ground. The ball was passed to Wally Lewis who sliced through defenders to score in the corner.

In 1990, the New South Wales team managed to win their first game since 1987, and went on to defeat the Queensland team 2–1 in the series, giving Queensland coach Arthur Beetson his first ever series loss with the team. The deciding game was the first to be played in Melbourne.

In 1991, it was Queensland legend Wally Lewis' last series. With a new coach, Graham Lowe, and a host of new inexperienced players Queensland won the first game, before New South Wales won the second. With Lewis's last game, the decider, the Queensland team managed to win the game by two points and give Lewis the perfect sendoff.

For the series 1992 to 1994 it seemed that Wally Lewis was sorely missed, losing a record three series in a row. With veteran Mal Meninga taking over as captain, Lowe continuing as coach, the Queensland team were unable to show any spark against New South Wales. They were able to win a game in each of the series in 1992, 1993, and 1994. The King Wally Lewis took over coaching for the Queensland team in 1993 and 1994, the QRL hoping he would revive some spark to the team. The first game of 1994 saw Queensland needing two tries in the last 10 minutes to win the game. They scored one and then on the last play of the game the ball was passed through what seemed like a dozen hands as the ball went across one side of the ground to the other before reaching the hands of Mark Coyne who dived over for the "miracle try" that won Queensland the game 14-12. Sadly they couldn't a strong NSW team that won the next two games.

In 1995, the Queensland team was noticeably hampered being unable to select players from the Super League teams, most notably the Brisbane Broncos. With new coach and former Queensland captain Paul Vautin, the Queensland team were apparently going to be belted by the New South Wales team. It was not to be. In one of the biggest upsets in Origin history, the baby Queensland team defied all betting odds and whitewashed the New South Wales team 3–0.

In 1996, New South Wales, with their strongest ever team in my opinion, got their revenge and whitewashed the Queensland team 3-0. In 1997, during the Super League War the game was split with the State of Origin only featuring players from ARL-loyal based teams. Fatty Vautin's Queenslanders lost a very close series 2-1. In the rival Super League Tri-series with another Queensland, New South Wales and a New Zealand representative team, Queensland were unable to win the series. They lost to NSW 38-10 in the opening game before qualifying for the final by beating New Zealand 26-12. Queensland faced New South Wales again in the final at ANZ Stadium in Brisbane. What an epic game the final turned out to be but unfortunately with the wrong result. The sides were locked at 22-all at full time before there was 20 mintes of sudden death golden point football. Noel Goldthorpe's field goal saw NSW win the only Tri-Series by 23-22.

In 1998, Queensland re-employed Wayne Bennett as coach of the team who only wanted a one year stint at the team. With the Super League War over, Queensland was able to pick a great side again. Allan Langer returned in style in a man of the match appearance guiding the Queensland team to another epic, come-from-behind, 24–23 win in the first game. New South Wales won the second, but Queensland dominated the third and won.

In 1999 with new coach and former Queensland player Mark Murray at the helm the Queensland team won the first before losing the second. In controversial circumstances, Queensland were locked up at 6 all at half-time, scored with 8 minutes to go making it 10–6 seemingly wrapping up the game, but New South Wales scored and missed the conversion to finish the game 10-all, making it the first drawn game and series in State of Origin history. Queensland won the series by retaining the drawn shield. 2000 was a forgettable series with captain Gorden Tallis sent from the field for dissent to referee Bill Harrigan in a 20–16 loss in Game One. Queensland lost Game Two 28–10 before suffering their worst ever State of Origin defeat 56–16 in Game Three to cap a 3–0 whitewash of the series.

In 2001, Wayne Bennett again took over after their humiliating 3–0 loss in 2000. Queensland won the first game decisively however injuries saw them lose the second game and those injuries were still there for Game Three. This saw coach Bennett take a huge risk, bringing out of retirement Allan Langer to make a miraculous comeback. Although some thought Langer couldn't rise to the challenge, the great halfback inspired Queensland to a win in the final game 40–14.

In 2002, Langer again returned however Queensland were thumped in Game One 32–4. Queensland won Game Two 26–18 in spite of a horror debut by winger Justin Hodges who gifted New South Wales two tries via ingoal mistakes. The third game proved to be Langers final game, but a miraculous last minute try by back rower Dane Carlaw saw Queensland draw level with New South Wales 18-all. The game could have be won by Queensland if Lote Tuquri had converted the Carlaw try, but the conversion was wide thus resulting in the second drawn series in Origin history with Queensland retaining the shield.

The 2003 series, marked a period of New South Wales dominance at Origin. New South Wales won a hard fought first game 25–12 before disposing of Queensland 27–4 in Game Two. The Queensland team took their anger out by flogging New South Wales in the dead rubber third game 36–6.

Queensland could not stop New South Wales taking the 2004 series 2–1 even with new coach Michael Hagan, when Brad Fittler came out of representative retirement for New South Wales to help them defeat Queensland. Game One was notable for being the first State of Origin game to go into Golden Point extra time, with Shaun Timmins kicking the winning field goal for New South Wales to win 9–8. Queensland won Game Two 22–18 on the back of an incredible try to winger Billy Slater the game in which Fitter returned. New South Wales wouldn't be denied in Game Three, winning 36–14 on the back of an inspirational performance by Fittler.

The 2005 series again was not much better for Queensland in spite of an absolutely classic Game One win in Golden Point extra time due to an intercept try to Matthew Bowen off a wayward Brett Kimmorley pass. Queensland however failed to dominate the series losing the final two matches to lose again to New South Wales after halfback Andrew Johns made a memorable return for the final two games. Queensland's 2005 series loss marked their third straight series defeat to New South Wales.

In 2006, former Queensland great Mal Meninga took the helm of coach and he took a big risk in Game One to have seven debutantes against a formidable New South Wales side. This showed in the opening 30 minutes where mistakes were made and New South Wales dominated on the scoreboard. A comeback in the second half wasn't enough to win, New South Wales getting home 17–16 on the back of a field goal in the final moments by halfback and last minute Blues replacement Brett Finch. This put coach Meninga and captain Darren Lockyer under intense criticism by New South Wales media. The second game however saw the fired up Queensland team defeat New South Wales easily 30–6. In the third and deciding game, Queensland found themselves down 14–4 with 9 minutes to go after two of the worst ever video refereeing decisions yet Queensland still managed to rise above it. A miraculous comeback started by Johnathan Thurston and Brent Tate and an intercept try by Lockyer saw them steal the win and the series.

In 2007, Queensland were the bookies' favourites for the first time in a long time. Queensland were down 18–6 at half time but came back with 19 unanswered points to win the first game by a score of 25–18. Queensland went on to win the second game 10–6 and win the series. This was Queensland's first win in 12 attempts at Telstra Stadium. Queensland had won two series in a row for the first time since the 1980's.

In 2008, Queensland played without Darren Lockyer for the whole series and it showed in the first game in Sydney with Queensland losing 18–10. However, the return match in Brisbane saw Queensland return to form winning 30–0, equalling Queensland's biggest ever victory. The final game was again played at Telstra Stadium, with Queensland being down 10–8 at half time before coming back to win the game 16–10 leaving New South Wales pointless for the second half and on the wrong end of 3 successive series defeats. Queensland had begun the break their curse at the Olympic Stadium where they had struggled to win for so many years in a row. Mal's new stars had won three series in a row to emulate the Origin feat of Wally Lewis' 1980 dominating tean which won 3 in a row twice (1982-1984 & 1987-1989).

In 2009, the Maroons became the first side to win four consecutive Origin series and were named sporting team of the year at the Queensland Sports Awards in December. They won the first 24-14, lost the second game 28-16 and won the decider 28-24. The mid-season test against the Kiwis in 2009 saw a record-equalling ten Queensland representatives, including an all maroon backline and front row. Mal's mighty men that were a part of what would become a magnificent 8 series in a row included such stars as Darren Lockyer, Cameron Smith, Billy Slater, Cooper Cronk, Greg Inglis, Israel Folau, Brent Tate, Justin Hodges, Steve Price, Petero Civoniceva, Dallas Johnson, Nate Myles and many others.

In 2010, the Maroons had their 5th consecutive series win, whilst also winning the games in a 3–0 clean sweep, the first time Queensland had accomplished this since 1995. Billy Slater was named Man of the Series. The first game was a close win 28-24. In the second game in Brisbane they powered to a 34-6 win before fighting off a determined NSW to win the decider in Sydney 23-18.

In 2011, the Maroons had their 6th consecutive series win becoming the only team to ever do so. Also winning game III 34–24 and the series 2–1 in front of a record home crowd at Suncorp Stadium. This was also their captain Darren Lockyer's final State of Origin game. Cameron Smith was named both Man of the Match and Series.

In 2012, Queensland won and then lost in the first two close games. Game 3 was even tighter with Queensland winning 21-20 through a Cooper Cronk field goal in front of a mostly Maroon crowd at Suncorp Stadium, making it a mind-blowing 7 series wins in a row. The final score was attributed partly to the retirement of Petero Civoniceva. Johnathon Thurston was named Man of the Match and Nate Myles was awarded Man of the Series.

In 2013, Queensland took the series again, for an unprecedented 8th time in a row They lost the first game 14-6 and then powered to a 26-6 win in the second game. They won the thirrd game at ANZ Stadium in Sydney 12-10. Brent Tate was awarded Man of the Match.

In 2014, Queensland were defeated in an upset at their home stadium in game 1 of the series by 12-8. Queensland then lost the second game in Sydney 6-4, ending their amazing 8 year winning streak. New South Wales dominated in the first game and were deserving winners but were outplayed in the second game and were lucky to win after Queensland were controversially denied a try that would have won them the game. Queensland exacted revenge in the last game of 2014 at Suncorp Stadium by thrashing New South Wales 32-8.

In the early curtain raiser Queensland Residents (the best of the non-NRL Queensland Cup players) beat NSW Residents (the best of the non-NRL NSW Cup players) 24-16. This annual second-tier interstate game has been played since 1992 with NSW Residents winning 12 and Queensland Residents winning 11 of them.

QUEENSLAND v International Touring Sides

Year	Opponents	Result	Crowd
1908	New Zealand	Lost 34-12	
1908	New Zealand	Drew 12-12	
1909	New Zealand	Lost 40-25	
1909	New Zealand	Lost 27-19	
1910	Great Britain	Lost 33-9	8 000
1910	Great Britain	Lost 15-4	8 000
1911	New Zealand	Lost 24-13	
1911	New Zealand	Won 24-13	
1911	New Zealand	Lost 18-14	
1912	New Zealand	Lost 15-8	
1912	New Zealand	Lost 16-10	
1913	New Zealand	Lost 39-5	
1914	Great Britain	Lost 18-10	12 000
1914	Great Britain	Lost 22-8	12 000
1919	New Zealand	Won 26-13	11 146
1919	New Zealand	Won 16-13	12 335
1920	Great Britain	Lost 25-15	20 000
1921	New Zealand	Lost 25-12	
1921	New Zealand	Won 21-16	
1921	New Zealand	Won 8-3	
1924	Great Britain	Won 25-10	40 000
1925	New Zealand	Won 43-19	
1925	New Zealand	Won 29-20	
1928	Great Britain	Won 21-7	25 000
1930	New Zealand	Won 14-11	
1930	New Zealand	Won 32-6	
1932	Great Britain	Lost 15-10	13 034
1936	Great Britain	Lost 19-4	24 722
1938	New Zealand	Won 31-11	
1938	New Zealand	Won 21-12	
1946	Great Britain	Won 25-24	25 000
1948	New Zealand	Lost 11-10	20 812
1950	Great Britain	Won 15-14	22 118
1951	France	Drew 22-22	25 847
1952	New Zealand	Lost 20-5	9 995

Year	Opponents	Result	Crowd
1953	USA	Won 39-36	24 397
1954	Great Britain	Lost 34-32	24 713
1955	France	Lost 23-17	14 871
1956	New Zealand	Lost 40-26	28 261
1958	Great Britain	Lost 36-19	22 964
1959	New Zealand	Lost 34-19	17 811
1960	France	Won 30-18	22 533
1962	Great Britain	Lost 22-17	29 102
1963	New Zealand	Lost 14-10	16 612
1963	South Africa	Won 32-16	6 752
1964	France	Won 28-22	12 885
1966	Great Britain	Lost 38-29	23 270
1967	New Zealand	Won 15-6	13 142
1970	Great Britain	Lost 32-7	17 071
1974	Great Britain	Lost 13-12	26 000
1979	Great Britain	Lost 25-19	5 000
1982	New Zealand	Won 31-16	
1984	New Zealand	Won 18-14	
1987	New Zealand	Lost 22-16	
1988*	Great Britain	Lost 14-10	4 181
1990*	France	Won 22-16	4 500

***Qld Residents side minus ARL players.
The 1988 game was played in Townsville and
The 1990 game in Rockhampton.**

QUEENSLAND TOUR GAMES

Year & Tour	Opponents	Result	Venue (Crowd)
1925 NZ	New Zealand	Lost 25-20	
1925 NZ	Auckland	Drew 18-18	
1925 NZ	South Auckland	Won 57-24	
1925 NZ	New Zealand	Won 35-14	
1925 NZ	New Zealand XIII	Won 44-20	
1925 NZ	West Coast	Won 27-10	
1925 NZ	Canterbury	Won 57-15	
1925 NZ	South Canterbury	Won 81-34	
1925 NZ	Otago	Won 63-2	
1925 NZ	Canterbury	Won 58-10	
1925 NZ	Auckland Province	Won 54-14	
1972 NZ	Wellington	Won 26-3	Wellington
1972 NZ	Canterbury	Won 21-11	Christchurch
1972 NZ	Auckland	Won 18-17	Auckland
1983 PNG	Highlands Zone	Won 34-16	Mt Hagen (8 000)
1983 PNG	President's XIII	Won 106-3	Port Moresby (12 000)
1983 UK	Hull Kingston Rovers	Lost 8-6	Hull (6 383)
1983 UK	Wigan	Won 40-2	Wigan (9 749)
1983 UK	Leeds	Won 58-2	Leeds (5 647)
1987 NZ	NZ President's XIII	Won 18-14	
1987 NZ	Bay of Plenty	Won 72-6	

INTERSTATE MATCHES 1908-81

BEFORE STATE OF ORIGIN

Year	Winner	Score	Venue	Year	Winner	Score	Venue	Year	Winner	Score	Venue	Year	Winner	Score	Venue
1908	NSW	43-0	Sydney	1926	NSW	30-17	Sydney	1934	NSW	13-0	Sydney	1949	NSW	19-3	Sydney
1908	NSW	37-8	Sydney	1926	NSW	5-3	Sydney	1934	NSW	42-9	Sydney	1949	NSW	33-3	Sydney
1908	NSW	12-3	Sydney	1926	Queensland	26-11	Newcastle	1934	Queensland	14-10	Sydney	1949	NSW	44-20	Brisbane
1910	NSW	40-21	Brisbane	1926	Queensland	38-0	Brisbane	1934	Draw	25-all	Brisbane	1949	NSW	33-13	Brisbane
1910	NSW	32-18	Brisbane	1926	Queensland	37-19	Brisbane	1934	Queensland	22-20	Brisbane	1950	NSW	45-12	Sydney
1910	NSW	19-3	Brisbane	1927	NSW	14-10	Sydney	1935	NSW	33-16	Sydney	1950	Draw	9-all	Sydney
1911	NSW	65-9	Sydney	1927	NSW	13-11	Sydney	1935	NSW	18-14	Sydney	1950	NSW	25-5	Brisbane
1911	NSW	49-0	Sydney	1927	Queensland	11-7	Brisbane	1935	NSW	51-8	Sydney	1951	Queensland	29-18	Sydney
1911	NSW	32-8	Sydney	1927	NSW	15-11	Brisbane	1935	Queensland	22-20	Brisbane	1951	NSW	31-8	Sydney
1912	NSW	65-9	Sydney	1928	Queensland	25-9	Sydney	1935	NSW	23-9	Brisbane	1951	Queensland	39-23	Brisbane
1912	NSW	32-4	Sydney	1928	NSW	16-7	Sydney	1936	NSW	30-13	Sydney	1952	NSW	18-17	Sydney
1913	NSW	27-12	Brisbane	1928	Queensland	28-17	Brisbane	1936	NSW	24-13	Sydney	1952	NSW	27-10	Sydney
1913	NSW	21-17	Brisbane	1928	Queensland	21-10	Brisbane	1936	NSW	16-14	Brisbane	1952	NSW	38-17	Brisbane
1915	NSW	53-9	Sydney	1929	NSW	21-8	Sydney	1937	NSW	21-9	Sydney	1953	NSW	26-15	Sydney
1915	NSW	39-6	Sydney	1929	NSW	17-8	Sydney	1937	NSW	31-3	Sydney	1953	NSW	27-16	Sydney
1919	NSW	33-18	Sydney	1929	NSW	12-10	Sydney	1937	NSW	16-11	Brisbane	1953	Queensland	32-23	Brisbane
1919	NSW	12-7	Sydney	1929	NSW	16-14	Brisbane	1938	NSW	20-19	Sydney	1953	Queensland	22-13	Brisbane
1919	NSW	24-10	Brisbane	1929	NSW	11-8	Brisbane	1938	NSW	44-7	Sydney	1954	NSW	26-23	Sydney
1919	NSW	13-10	Brisbane	1930	NSW	16-11	Sydney	1938	Queensland	36-22	Brisbane	1954	NSW	18-13	Sydney
1920	NSW	40-18	Sydney	1930	Queensland	25-11	Sydney	1939	NSW	50-15	Sydney	1954	NSW	46-7	Brisbane
1921	NSW	37-11	Sydney	1930	NSW	15-12	Brisbane	1939	NSW	54-13	Sydney	1954	NSW	26-21	Brisbane
1921	NSW	34-20	Brisbane	1931	NSW	39-17	Sydney	1939	Queensland	29-13	Brisbane	1955	NSW	17-15	Sydney
1922	Queensland	25-9	Sydney	1931	Queensland	23-20	Sydney	1939	Queensland	23-13	Brisbane	1955	Queensland	30-28	Sydney
1923	Queensland	18-13	Sydney	1931	NSW	28-6	Sydney	1940	NSW	52-11	Sydney	1955	NSW	25-18	Brisbane
1923	Queensland	25-10	Brisbane	1931	Queensland	15-8	Brisbane	1940	Queensland	19-16	Sydney	1955	Queensland	34-12	Brisbane
1924	Queensland	22-20	Sydney	1931	Queensland	4-3	Brisbane	1940	Queensland	45-8	Brisbane	1956	NSW	28-26	Sydney
1924	Queensland	20-7	Sydney	1932	Queensland	23-15	Sydney	1940	Queensland	23-15	Brisbane	1956	Queensland	28-20	Sydney
1924	Queensland	36-6	Brisbane	1932	Draw	9-all	Sydney	1941	NSW	18-14	Sydney	1956	NSW	26-18	Brisbane
1925	Queensland	23-15	Sydney	1932	Queensland	19-9	Brisbane	1941	NSW	44-10	Sydney	1956	NSW	23-19	Brisbane
1925	Queensland	27-13	Sydney	1933	NSW	24-0	Sydney	1941	NSW	23-16	Brisbane	1957	NSW	49-11	Brisbane
1925	NSW	27-16	Sydney	1933	NSW	15-13	Sydney	1941	Queensland	27-21	Brisbane	1957	NSW	29-12	Brisbane
1925	Queensland	26-8	Brisbane	1933	NSW	17-14	Sydney					1957	NSW	69-5	Sydney
1925	Queensland	23-18	Brisbane	1933	Queensland	10-8	Brisbane					1957	NSW	45-12	Sydney

1942-44 No matches because of World War II

Year	Winner	Score	Venue
1958	NSW	25-14	Sydney
1958	NSW	29-20	Brisbane
1958	NSW	23-15	Brisbane
1959	Queensland	17-15	Brisbane
1959	NSW	24-14	Brisbane
1959	Queensland	23-11	Sydney
1959	Queensland	18-14	Sydney
1960	NSW	22-21	Sydney
1960	Queensland	17-12	Sydney
1960	Queensland	13-0	Brisbane
1960	NSW	33-14	Brisbane
1961	NSW	21-20	Sydney
1961	NSW	18-2	Sydney
1961	Queensland	15-2	Brisbane
1961	Queensland	20-17	Brisbane
1962	NSW	28-8	Sydney
1962	NSW	19-14	Sydney
1962	NSW	25-12	Brisbane
1962	Draw	19-all	Brisbane
1963	NSW	20-10	Brisbane
1963	NSW	53-7	Brisbane
1963	NSW	31-5	Sydney
1963	NSW	13-5	Sydney
1964	NSW	28-12	Sydney
1964	NSW	41-3	Sydney
1964	NSW	31-5	Brisbane
1964	NSW	22-11	Brisbane
1965	NSW	31-7	Sydney
1965	NSW	22-4	Sydney
1965	NSW	30-9	Brisbane
1965	NSW	22-15	Brisbane
1966	NSW	16-6	Sydney
1966	NSW	28-10	Sydney
1966	NSW	28-20	Brisbane
1966	NSW	27-3	Brisbane

Year	Winner	Score	Venue
1967	NSW	14-8	Sydney
1967	NSW	28-9	Sydney
1967	Draw	16-all	Brisbane
1967	Queensland	13-11	Brisbane
1968	NSW	30-7	Sydney
1968	Queensland	15-8	Brisbane
1968	NSW	29-11	Brisbane
1969	NSW	26-0	Brisbane
1969	NSW	32-13	Brisbane
1969	NSW	33-17	Sydney
1969	NSW	22-12	Newcastle
1970	Queensland	16-15	Brisbane
1970	NSW	22-9	Brisbane
1970	NSW	34-8	Sydney
1970	NSW	32-15	Newcastle
1971	NSW	12-3	Brisbane
1971	NSW	30-2	Brisbane
1971	NSW	17-15	Sydney
1972	NSW	29-5	Brisbane
1972	NSW	27-6	Brisbane
1973	NSW	16-0	Brisbane
1973	NSW	10-0	Brisbane
1973	NSW	26-0	Sydney
1974	NSW	22-13	Sydney
1974	Draw	13-all	Brisbane
1974	Draw	4-all	Brisbane
1975	Queensland	14-8	Brisbane
1975	NSW	27-18	Brisbane
1975	NSW	9-8	Sydney
1976	NSW	33-9	Sydney
1976	NSW	10-5	Brisbane
1976	NSW	15-13	Brisbane
1977	NSW	19-3	Brisbane
1977	NSW	14-13	Brisbane

Year	Winner	Score	Venue
1978	NSW	25-19	Brisbane
1978	NSW	12-11	Brisbane
1978	NSW	28-12	Sydney
1979	NSW	30-5	Brisbane
1979	NSW	31-7	Brisbane
1979	NSW	35-20	Sydney
1980	NSW	35-3	Brisbane
1980	NSW	17-7	Sydney
1981	NSW	10-2	Brisbane
1981	NSW	22-9	Sydney

Played 221, NSW 159, Queensland 54, drawn 8

The first two games of both the 1980 and 1981 were played on a residential basis (Queenslanders based in Sydney in the Sydney competition playing for NSW). If NSW won the first two the last game was played on a state of origin basis. So successful was the new format that from 1982 on the whole of each series was played on a state of origin basis.

NSW v QUEENSLAND: Action from 1927.

QUEENSLAND SERIES WINS AND DRAWN SERIES

Year	Result
1922	QLD 1-0
1923	QLD 2-0
1924	QLD 3-0
1925	QLD 4-1
1926	QLD 3-2
1928	QLD 3-1
1931	QLD 3-2
1932	QLD 2-0 (1 Draw)
1934	DRAWN 2-2 (1 Draw)
1939	DRAWN 2-2
1940	QLD 3-1
1951	QLD 2-1
1953	DRAWN 2-2
1955	DRAWN 2-2
1959	QLD 3-1
1960	DRAWN 2-2
1961	DRAWN 2-2

Qld Series Wins: 11 Drawn Series: 6

STATE OF ORIGIN SERIES RESULTS

One-off games

Year	Winner
1980	Queensland
1981	Queensland
1987	New South Wales

* The first 2 games of 1980 & 1981 played on residential basis were won by NSW.

* Played in Long Beach, California in the USA.

Full series

Year	Winner	Wins	Losses	Drawn	Shield Holder
1982	Queensland	2	1	0	Queensland
1983	Queensland	2	1	0	Queensland
1984	Queensland	2	1	0	Queensland
1985	New South Wales	2	1	0	New South Wales
1986	New South Wales	3	0	0	New South Wales
1987	Queensland	2	1[25]	0	Queensland
1988	Queensland	3	0	0	Queensland
1989	Queensland	3	0	0	Queensland
1990	New South Wales	2	1	0	New South Wales
1991	Queensland	2	1	0	Queensland
1992	New South Wales	2	1	0	New South Wales
1993	New South Wales	2	1	0	New South Wales
1994	New South Wales	2	1	0	New South Wales
1995	Queensland	3	0	0	Queensland

Year	Winner	Wins	Losses	Drawn	Shield Holder
1996	New South Wales	3	0	0	New South Wales
1997	New South Wales	2	1	0	New South Wales
1998	Queensland	2	1	0	Queensland
1999	Draw	1	1	1	Queensland
2000	New South Wales	3	0	0	New South Wales
2001	Queensland	2	1	0	Queensland
2002	Draw	1	1	1	Queensland
2003	New South Wales	2	1	0	New South Wales
2004	New South Wales	2	1	0	New South Wales
2005	New South Wales	2	1	0	New South Wales
2006	Queensland	2	1	0	Queensland
2007	Queensland	2	1	0	Queensland
2008	Queensland	2	1	0	Queensland
2009	Queensland	2	1	0	Queensland
2010	Queensland	3	0	0	Queensland
2011	Queensland	2	1	0	Queensland
2012	Queensland	2	1	0	Queensland
2013	Queensland	2	1	0	Queensland
2014	New South Wales	2	1	0	New South Wales

Date	Details	Date	Details
8 July 1980	**Queensland** 20 (*Tries*: K. Boustead, C. Close; *Goals*: M. Meninga 7) New South Wales 10 (*Tries*: G. Brentnall, T. Raudonikis; *Goals*: M. Cronin 2)	6 August 1987	**New South Wales** 30 (M.McGaw, J.Docking, A.Ettingshausen, M.O'Connor, C.Lyons tries. M.O'Connor 5 goals) Queensland 18 (D.Shearer, T.Currie, G.Miles tries D.Shearer 3 goals) Long Beach, California
28 July 1981	**Queensland** 22 (*Tries*: M. Meninga, W. Lewis, B. Backer, C. Close; *Goals*: M.Meninga 5) New South Wales 15 (*Tries* : E. Grothe 2, M. Cronin; *Goals*: M. Cronin 3)	17 May 1988	**Queensland** 26 (A.Langer 2,G.Belcher,P.Jackson,A.McIndoe tries G.Belcher 3 goals) New South Wales 18 (M.McGaw,A.Ettingshausen,M.O'Connor tries M.O'Connor 3 goals)
1 June 1982	**New South Wales** 20 (Z. Niszczot 2, S. Mortimer, B. Izzard tries; M.Cronin 4 goals) Queensland 16 (M. Brennan, J. Ribot tries; M.Meninga 5 goals)	31 May 1988	**Queensland** 16 (S.Backo, A.Langer tries G.Belcher 4 goals) New South Wales 6 (M.O'Connor try M.O'Connor goal)
8 June 1982	**Queensland** 11 (*Tries*: G. Miles, J. Ribot, P. Vautin; *Goals*: C. Scott) New South Wales 7 (*Tries*: B. Izzard; *Goals*: T. Melrose 2)	21 June 1988	**Queensland** 38 (S.Backo 2,P.Jackson,A.Langer,W.Lewis, J.Kilroy,B.French tries G.Belcher 5 goals) New South Wales 22 (W.Pearce,J.Ferguson,M.O'Connor,S.Hanson tries M.O'Connor 3 goals)
22 June 1982	**Queensland** 10 (*Tries*: W. Lewis, R. Hancock; *Goals*: M.Meninga 2) New South Wales 5 (Tries: P. Duke; Goals: M. Cronin)	23 May 1989	**Queensland** 36 (M.Meninga 2,M.Hancock 2,A.Langer,A.McIndoe,B.Lindner tries M.Meninga 4 goals) New South Wales 6 (A.Ettingshausen try L.Daley goal)
7 June 1983	**Queensland** 24 (Tries: W. Lewis 2, M. Murray; Goals: M. Meninga 6) New South Wales 12 (*Tries*: S. Ella, E. Grothe; *Goals*: P. Sigsworth 2)	14 June 1989	**Queensland** 16 (K.Walters,W.Lewis,M.Hancock tries M.Meninga,G.Belcher goals) New South Wales 12 (L.Daley, C.Johns tries G.Alexander 2 goals)
21 June 1983	**New South Wales** 10 (*Tries*: S. Ella, N.Hunt; *Goals*: M.Cronin) Queensland 6 (*Tries*: M.Meninga; *Goals*: M.Meninga)	28 June 1989	**Queensland** 36 (D.Shearer 2,G.Belcher,T.Currie,K.Walters,M.Hancock,A.McIndoe tries D.Shearer 4 goals) New South Wales 16 (D.Trewhella,B.McGuire,D.Hasler tries M.O'Connor 2 goals)
28 June 1983	**Queensland** 43 (*Tries*: M. Brennan 2, G. Conescu, B. Niebling, G. Miles, S. Stacey, D. Brown; *Goals*: M.Meninga 6, C.Scott; Field Goals: W. Lewis) New South Wales 22 (*Tries*: C. Anderson 3, S. Mortimer; *Goals*: M.Cronin 3)	9 May 1990	**New South Wales** 8 (M.McGaw try M.O'Connor 2 goals) Queensland 0
29 May 1984	**Queensland** 29 (Tries: K. Boustead 3, G. Miles, W. Lewis, P. Vautin; Goals: M. Meninga 2; Field Goals: W. Lewis) New South Wales 12 (Tries: N. Cleal; Goals: R.Conlon 4)	30 May 1990	**New South Wales** 12 (R.Stuart, B.Mackay tries R.Wishart 2 goals) Queensland 6 (L.Kiss try M.Meninga goal)
19 June 1984	**Queensland** 14 (Tries: G. Dowling, G. Miles; Goals: M.Meninga 3) New South Wales 2 (Goals: R. Conlon)	13 June 1990	**Queensland** 14 (S.Jackson,G.Belcher tries G.Belcher 2,W.Lewis goals) New South Wales 10 (M.McGaw, G.Lazarus tries R.Wishart goal)
17 July 1984	**New South Wales** 22 (Tries: B. Johnston 2, N. Cleal; Goals: R. Conlon 5) Queensland 12 (Tries: K. Boustead, B. Lindner; Goals: M.Meninga 2)	8 May 1991	**Queensland** 6 (M.Meninga try M.Meninga goal) New South Wales 4 (L.Daley try)
28 May 1985	**New South Wales** 18 (M.O'Connor 2 tries M.O'Connor 5 goals) Queensland 2 (M.Meninga goal)	29 May 1991	**New South Wales** 14 (M.McGaw,C.Johns tries M.O'Connor 3 goals) Queensland 12 (D.Shearer, W.Carne tries M.Meninga 2 goals)
11 June 1985	**New South Wales** 21 (C.Mortimer, B.Kenny, B.Elias tries M.O'Connor 4 goals M.O'Connor fg) Queensland 14 (I.French, B.Lindner tries M.Meninga 3 goals)	12 June 1991	**Queensland** 14 (D.Shearer, P.Hauff, M.Hancock tries M.Meninga goal) New South Wales 12 (C.Johns,M.O'Connor,D.Hasler tries)
23 July 1985	**Queensland** 20 (D.Shearer 2,I.French,J.Ribot tries M.Meninga 2 goals) New South Wales 6 (S.Ella try M.O'Connor goal	6 May 1992	**New South Wales** 14 (B.Clyde,C.Salvatori tries R.Wishart 3 goals) Queensland 6 (A.Langer try M.Meninga goal)
27 May 1986	**New South Wales** 22 (A.Farrar,C.Mortimer,R.Simmons,G.Jack tries M.O'Connor 3 goals) Queensland 16 (G.Dowling,G.Miles tries M.Meninga 4 goals)	20 May 1992	**Queensland** 5 (B.Moore try A.Langer fg) New South Wales 4 (R.Wishart 2 goals)
10 June 1986	**New South Wales** 24 (N.Cleal,W.Pearce,A.Farrar,B.Kenny,M.O'Connor tries M.O'Connor 2 goals) Queensland 20 (D.Shearer,I.French,L.Kiss,B.Lindner tries M.Meninga 2 goals)	3 June 1992	**New South Wales** 16 (A.Ettingshausen,R.Stuart,J.Cartwright tries T.Brasher 2 goals) Queensland 4 (M.Meninga 2 goals)
1 July 1986	**New South Wales** 18 (W.Pearce,P.Tunks,M.O'Connor tries M.O'Connor 3 goals) Queensland 16 (G.Belcher, D.Shearer,G.Conescu,L.Kiss tries)	3 May 1993	**New South Wales** 14 (R.Stuart, R.Wishart tries R.Wishart 3 goals) Queensland 10 (W.Carne, B.Lindner tries M.Meninga goal)
2 June 1987	**New South Wales** 20 (M.O'Connor 2,L.Davidson,M.McGaw tries M.O'Connor 2 goals) Queensland 16 (D.Shearer, T.Currie,G.Dowling tries G.Belcher, P.Jackson goals	17 May 1993	**New South Wales** 16 (L.Daley,B.Mackay,R.Wishart tries R.Wishart 2 goals) Queensland 12 (M.Meninga,K.Walters tries D.Shearer,A.Brunker goals)
16 June 1987	**Queensland** 12 (D.Shearer,G.Dowling,C.Scott tries) New South Wales 6 (A.Farrar try M.O'Connor goal)	31 May 1993	**Queensland** 24 (W.Carne 2, S.Walters(CN),B.Lindner tries M.Meninga 2, J.O'Neill 2 goals) New South Wales 12 (A.Ettingshausen,P.Harragon tries R.Wishart 2 goals
15 July 1987	**Queensland** 10 (D.Shearer,B.Lindner tries D.Shearer goal) New South Wales 8 (D.Boyle try M.O'Connor 2 goals)		

Date	Details	Date	Details
23 May 1994	**Queensland 16** (J.O'Neill,W.Carne,M.Coyne tries M.Meninga 2 goals) New South Wales 12 (P.Harragon,B.Mackay tries R.Wishart,G.Mackay goals)	6 May 2001	**Queensland 34** (C.Webb, C.Walker, D.Lockyer, D.Smith, J.Doyle, J.Buttigieg tries D.Lockyer 5 goals) New South Wales 16 (M.Gidley,T.Barrett,B.Fittler tries M.De Vere 2 goals)
8 June 1994	**New South Wales 14** (G.Lazarus,P.McGregor tries T.Brasher 3 goals) Queensland 0	10 June 2001	**New South Wales 26** (B.Fittler 2,J.Ainscough,T.Barrett,L.Ricketson tries R.Girdler 3 goals) Queensland 8 (C.Walker try D.Lockyer 2 goals)
20 June 1994	**New South Wales 27** (B.Mullins,BClyde,L.Daley,B.Fittler tries T.Brasher 4 goals B.Elias 2, B.Fittler field goal) Queensland 12 (S.Renouf, A.Gee tries J.O'Neill 2 goals)	1 July 2001	**Queensland 40** (C.Walker 2,D.Lockyer 2,P.Bowman 2, D.Carlaw, A.Langer tries D.Lockyer 4 goals) New South Wales 14 (R.Girdler 2 tries R.Girdler 3 goals)
15 May 1995	**Queensland 2** (W.Bartrim goal) New South Wales 0	12 May 2002	**New South Wales 32** (B.Hodgson,J.Lyon,T.Tahu,M.Gidley,A.Johns tries A.Johns 4,B.Hodgson goals A.Johns,T.Barrett fg) Queensland 4 (L.Tuqiri try)
31 May 1995	**Queensland 20** (B.Dallas,M.Coyne,A.Lam tries W.Bartrim 4 goals) New South Wales 12	5 June 2002	**Queensland 26** (L.Tuqiri 3, D.Carlaw, G.Tallis tries L.Tuqiri 3 goals) New South Wales 18 (B.Anasta, S.Timmins, L.Ricketson tries A.Johns 3 goals)
12 June 1995	**Queensland 24** (B.Dallas,J.Smith, B.Ikin,B.Moore tries W.Bartrim 4 goals) New South Wales 16 (T.Brasher,A.Muir,R.Wishart tries R.Wishart 2 goals)	26 June 2002	Queensland 18 (D.Carlaw, S.Berrigan, L.Tuqiri, S.Webcke tries L.Tuqiri goal) New South Wales 18 (J.Moodie 2,S.Menzies tries A.Johns 3 goals)
20 May 1996	**New South Wales 14** (A.Ettingshausen,S.Menzies tries A.Johns 3 Goals) Queensland 6 (A.Langer try W.Bartrim goal)	11 June 2003	**New South Wales 25** (A.Minichiello 2,A.Johns,C.Wing tries A.Johns 4 goals A.Johns fg) Queensland 12 (G.Tallis,D.Lockyer tries D.Lockyer 2 goals)
3 June 1996	**New South Wales 18** (B.Mullins 2,R.Wishart tries A.Johns 3 goals) Queensland 6 (S.Renouf try J.O'Neill goal)	25 June 2003	**New South Wales 27** (T.Tahu 2,B.Kennedy,M.Gidley,A.Minichiello tries A.Johns 3 goals A.Johns fg) Queensland 4 (M.Crocker try)
17 June 1996	**New South Wales 15** (A.Ettingshausen,B.Mullins tries A.Johns 2,R.Wishart goals B.Fittler fg) Queensland 14 (B.Dallas, M.Coyne tries W.Carne 3 goals)	16 July 2003	**Queensland 36** (M.Sing 3, B.Tate 2,C.Smith,M.Crocker tries J.Hannay 4 goals) New South Wales 6 (T.Tahu try A.Johns goal)
28 May 1997	**New South Wales 8** (P.McGregor try A.Johns,R.Wishart goals) Queensland 6 (A.Lam try W.Bartrim goal)	26 May 2004	**New South Wales 9** (S.Timmins try C.Fitzgibbon 2 goals S.Timmins fg) Queensland 8 (B.Tate, S.Prince tries)
11 June 1997	**New South Wales 15** (J.Dymock,K.McGuinness,N.Kosef tries J.Simon goal J.Simon field goal) Queensland 14 (B.Dallas,R.O'Davis, M.Sing tries J.O'Neill goal)	16 June 2004	**Queensland 22** (B.Slater 2, D.Carlaw, W.Tonga tries C.Smith 2, S.Prince goals) New South Wales 18 (T.Tahu 2, L.Rooney tries C.Fitzgibbon 3 goals)
25 June 1997	**Queensland 18** (B.Ikin,J.O'Neill,M.Coyne tries J.O'Neill 3 goals) New South Wales 12 (A.Johns,J.Ainscough tries J.Simon,A.Johns goals)	7 July 2004	**New South Wales 36** (M.Gasnier 2, L.Rooney, T.Barrett, A.Minichiello, B.Fittler tries C.Fitzgibbon 5, M.Gasnier goals) Queensland 14 (B.Slater, M.Bowen tries C.Smith 3 goals)
22 May 1998	**Queensland 24** (S.Price(CB), T.Carroll, K.Walters,A.Langer tries D.Lockyer 4 goals) New South Wales 23 (L.Daley,T.Brasher,S.Menzies,R.Wishart,B.Fittler tries A.Johns goal A.Johns field goal)	25 May 2005	**Queensland 24** (T.Williams, M.Crocker, M.Bowen tries C.Smith 5 goals D.Lockyer, J. Thurston fg) New South Wales 20 (B.Kennedy,L.Rooney,M.Gasnier,D.Buderus tries C.Fitzgibbon 2 goals)
5 June 1998	**New South Wales 26** (P.McGregor 2,T.Brasher,A.MacDougall,B.Fittler tries A.Johns 3 goals) Queensland 10 (W.Sailor, M.Sing tries D.Lockyer goal)	15 June 2005	**New South Wales 32** (A.Minichiello 2,M.Cooper,D.Buderus,S.Menzies tries A.Johns 3,C.Fitzgibbon 3 goals) Queensland 22 (P.Civoniceva, B.Thorn,B.Slater,M.Bowen tries C.Smith 3 goals)
19 June 1998	**Queensland 19** (B.Ikin,K.Walters,A.Langer tries D.Lockyer 2,R.O'Davis goals J.Smith fg) New South Wales 4 (K.McGuinness try)	6 July 2005	**New South Wales 32** (M.King 3,B.Anasta,M.Gasnier,T.Tahu tries A.Johns 3,C.Fitzgibbon goals) Queensland 10 (J. Thurston, M.Bowen tries C.Smith goal)
26 May 1999	**Queensland 9** (M.Rogers 4 goals M.Rogers field goal) New South Wales 8 (A.Mundine try R.Girdler 2 goals)	24 May 2006	**New South Wales 17** (B. Finch, M. King, W. Mason tries; B. Hodgson 2 goals; B. Finch field goal) Queensland 16 (G. Inglis 2, S. Bell tries; J. Thurston 2 goals)
9 June 1999	**New South Wales 12** (L.Daley,R.Ross tries R.Girdler 2 goals) Queensland 8 (M.Rogers try M.Rogers 2 goals)	14 June 2006	**Queensland 30** (C. Webb, J. Hodges, A. Mogg 2, S Berrigan tries; J. Thurston 4 goals) New South Wales 6 (T. Tahu try; B. Hodgson goal)
23 June 1999	Queensland 10 (P.Green, D.Lockyer tries D.Lockyer goal) New South Wales 10 (M.Geyer 2 tries R.Girdler goal)	5 July 2006	**Queensland 16** (A. Mogg, B. Tate, D. Lockyer tries; C. Schifcofske 2 goals) New South Wales 14 (E. Grothe 2, M. King tries; B. Hodgson goal)
10 May 2000	**New South Wales 20** (A.MacDougall 2,D.Peachey,R.Girdler tries R.Girdler 2 goals) Queensland 16 (A.Lam 2,M.Rogers tries M.Rogers,D.Lockyer goals)	23 May 2007	**Queensland 25** (G. Inglis 2, D. Lockyer, S. Price tries; J. Thurston 4 goals; J. Thurston field goal) New South Wales 18 (Cooper, Hayne, N. Hindmarsh tries; Lyon 3 goals)
24 May 2000	**New South Wales 28**(S.Hill,D.Furner,S.Timmins,R.Girdler,B.Fittler tries R.Girdler 4 goals) Queensland 10 (G.Tallis try M.Rogers 3 goals)	13 June 2007	**Queensland 10** (G. Inglis, S. Bell tries; J. Thurston goal) New South Wales 6 (B. Stewart try; J. Lyon goal)
7 June 2000	**New South Wales 56** (R.Girdler 3,M.Gidley 2,A.MacDougall,A.Johns,A.Muir,B.Fletcher tries R.Girdler 10 goals) Queensland 16 (M.Rogers,G.Tallis,D.Smith tries M.Rogers 2 goals)	4 July 2007	**New South Wales 18** (J. Hayne, M. King, H. El Masri tries; H. El Masri 3 goals) Queensland 4 (J. Hodges try)

Date	Details
21 May 2008	**New South Wales** 18 (A. Quinn 2, B. Stewart, A. Laffranchi tries; C. Fitzggibbon goal) Queesnland 10 (B. Tate, I. Folau tries; J. Thurston goal)
11 June 2008	**Queensland** 30 (D. Boyd 2, B. Hannant, I. Folau tries; J. Thurston 7 goals) New South Wales 0
2 July 2008	**Queensland** 16 (I. Folau 2, B. Slater tries; B. Slater 2 goals) New South Wales 10 (M. Cooper try; Fitzgibbon 3 goals)
3 June 2009	**Queensland** 28 (B. Slater, G. Inglis 2, J. Thurston, D. Boyd tries; J. Thurston 4 goals) New South Wales 18 (B. Creagh, C. Wing, J. Hayne tries; K. Gidley 2 goals)
24 June 2009	**Queensland** 24 (G. Inglis, I. Folau, D. Lockyer, C. Smith tries; J. Thurston 4 goals) New South Wales 14 (J. Hayne 2, D. Williams tries; K. Gidley 1 goals)
15 July 2009	**New South Wales** 28 (B. Creagh 2, D. Williams, J. Morris tries; M. Ennis 3 goals, K. Gidley 3 goals) Queensland 16 (D. Johnson, J. Hodges, B. Slater tries; J. Thurston 2 goals)
26 May 2010	**Queensland** 28 (B. Slater, D. Boyd, G. Inglis, D. Lockyer, S. Thaiday tries; J. Thurston 4 goals) New South Wales 24 (J. Hayne, A. Watmough, B. Creagh, J. Idris tries; J. Lyon 4 goals)
16 June 2010	**Queensland** 34 (I. Folau 2, D. Boyd, G. Inglis, W. Tonga, C. Cronk tries; J. Thurston 5 goals) New South Wales 6 (B. White try; M. Ennis 1 goals)
7 July 2010	**Queensland** 23 (D. Boyd, B.Slater, W. Tonga, N.Myles tries; J. Thurston 3 goals; D. Lockyer Field Goal) New South Wales 18 (K. Gidley, P. Gallen, G. Bird tries; M. Gordon 3 goals)
25 May 2011	**Queensland** 16 (J. Thurston, J. Yow Yeh, B. Slater tries; J. Thurston 2 goals) New South Wales 12 (M. Pearce, M. Jennings tries; J. Soward 2 goals)
15 June 2011	**New South Wales** 18 (L. Lewis, W. Hopoate, A. Minichiello tries; J. Soward 3 goals) Queensland 8 (C. Smith try; J. Thurston 2 goals)
6 July 2011	**Queensland** 34 (G. Inglis 2, C. Smith, B. Slater, S. Thaiday, J. Yow Yeh tries; J. Thurston 4, C.Smith goals) New South Wales 24 (G. Bird, J. Hayne, A. Minichiello, A. Uate tries; J. Soward 4 goals)
23 May 2012	**Queensland** 18 (Darius Boyd 2, G. Inglis; J. Thurston 3 conv.) New South Wales 10 (A. Uate, M.Jennings; Todd Carney 2 conv.)
13 June 2012	**New South Wales** 16 (Brett Stewart 2, Josh Morris tries; Todd Carney 2 goals) Queensland 12 (Greg Inglis, Ben Hannant tries; Johnathan Thurston 2 goals)
4 July 2012	**Queensland** 21 (Darius Boyd, Johnathan Thurston, Justin Hodges tries; Johnathan Thurston 2 goals ; Johnathan Thurston 2 conv. ; Cooper Cronk field goal) New South Wales 20 (Brett Morris, Brett Stewart, Josh Morris tries; Todd Carney 1 goal; Todd Carney 3 conv.)
5 June 2013	**New South Wales** 14 (Jarryd Hayne, Michael Jennings tries; James Maloney 3 goals) Queensland 6 (Darius Boyd try; Cameron Smith goal)
26 June 2013	**Queensland** 26 (Darius Boyd 2, Sam Thaiday, Greg Inglis; Johnathan Thurston 5 goals) New South Wales 6 (Brett Morris try; James Maloney goal)
17 July 2013	**Queensland** 12 (J. Thurston, J. Hodges tries; J. Thurston 2 goals) New South Wales 10 (J. McManus, T. Merrin tries; J. Maloney goal)
28 May 2014	**New South Wales** 12 (B. Morris, J. Hayne tries; T. Hodkinson 2 goals) Queensland 8 (D. Boyd 2 tries)
18 June 2014	**New South Wales** 6 (T. Hodkinson try; T. Hodkinson goal) Queensland 4 (J. Thurston 2 goals)
9 July 2014	**Queensland** 32 (C. Smith, B. Slater, D. Boyd, A. Guerra, C. Cronk tries; J. Thurston 6 goals) New South Wales 8 (J. Dugan try; T. Hodkinson 2 goals)

Super League Tri-series

Date	Details
11 April 1997	**New South Wales** 38 (Andrew Ettingshausen 3, Ken Nagas 2, David Peachey, Greg Alexander tries; Ryan Girdler 5 from 7 goals) Queensland 10 (Wendell Sailor, Peter Ryan tries; Mat Rogers 1 from 2 goals) Sydney Football Stadium

Queensland defeated New Zealand 26–12 (Ericsson Stadium, Auckland. 9 May 1997. Attendance: 18,000)
New South Wales defeated New Zealand 20–15 (Bruce Stadium, Canberra. 14 May 1997. Attendance: 13,836)

Final

| Date	Details
19 May 1997	**New South Wales** 23 (Brett Mullins 3, Matthew Ryan tries; David Furner 3 from 4 goals; Noel Goldthorpe field goal) Queensland 22 (Steve Renouf 2, Tonie Carroll, Michael Hancock tries; Mat Rogers 2 from 3, Darren Lockyer 1 from 2 goals) ANZ Stadium, Brisbane. Attendance: 35,570

QUEENSLAND RESIDENTS VERSUS NSW RESIDENTS

| 1992 | Combined NSW Metro Cup 14 Qld 14 |
1993	Qld 13 Sydney Metropolitan 6
1994	NSW 30 Qld 22
1995	NSW 44 Qld 14
1996	Qld 18 NSW 10
1997	Qld 14 NSW 4
1998	Qld 28 NSW 0
1999	Qld 26 NSW 10
2000	NSW 22 Qld 14
2001	NSW 19 Qld 14
2002	NSW 26 Qld 16
2003	Qld 36 NSW 12
2004	NSW 20 Qld 12
2005	NSW 20 Qld 12
2006	NSW 28 Qld 20
2007	Qld 52 NSW 28
2008	NSW 24 QLD 16
2009	QLD 34 NSW 6
2010	NSW 28 QLD 20
2011	QLD 32 NSW 6
2012	QLD 20 NSW 14
2013	NSW 22 QLD 18
2014	QLD 24 NSW 16
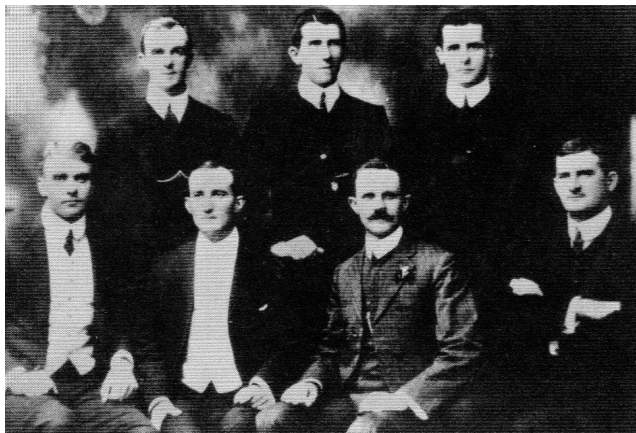
Men of foresight – the founders of Rugby League in Queensland. From left, (back row) J.A. O'Connor, G.W. Watson, J.A. Fihelly, (front row) E.L. Buchanan, M.J. Dore, A.J. Faulkner, S.B. Boland.

Below: *The Queensland team of 1911.*
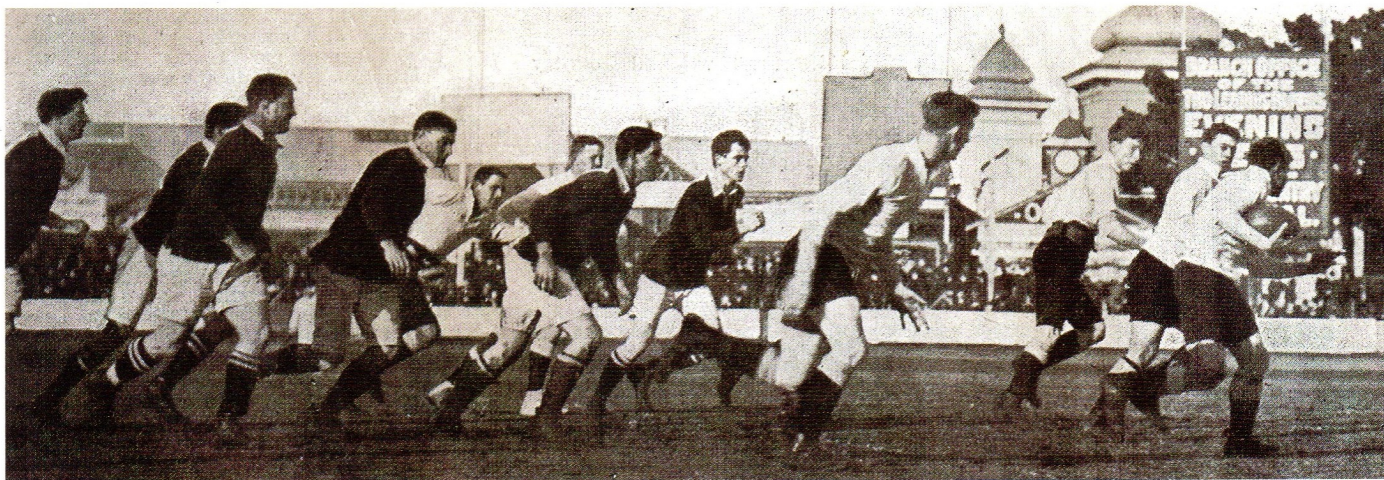
Above and Below: Action from the first ever Queensland v NSW game in 1908.
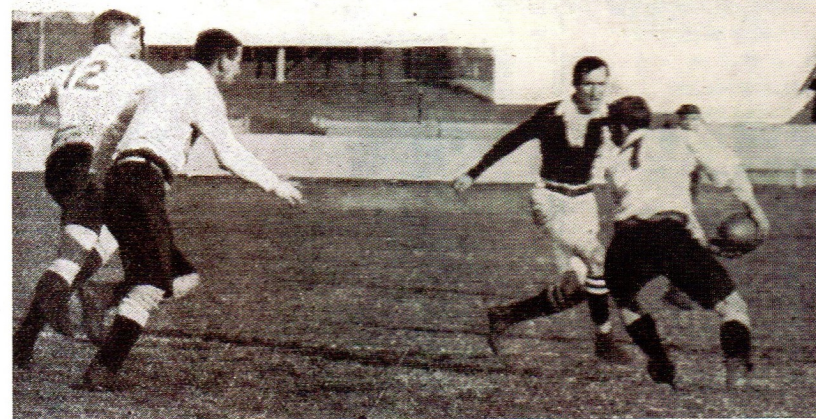
Above: *NSW vs Queensland at the Brisbane Exhibition Ground in the 1920s.*

The Queensland team of 1922. (Back row, left to right) Visitor, W.Spencer, A. Brown, Visitor, Visitor, C.Broadfoot, H.Jacques, C.Thorogood, Visitor; (middle row) C.O'Donnell, B.Johnson, J.Bennett, E.Stanley, G.Madden, T.Gorman, E. Frauenfelder; (front row) W.Kuder (co-mgr), N.Broadfoot, N.Potter (capt), V. Jensen (co-mgr), E.S.Brown, J.McBrien, C.Noble (co-mgr) & son; (sitting), E. Brereton, L.Meibusch, C.Connell, W.Paten.

1922   Queensland   25-9   Sydney

Tom Gorman, one of Australia's finest ever centres, and the first Queenslander to captain the Kangaroos.

And then there is this tribute, from Redcap after one stellar performance, against New Zealand, in 1926: 'Gorman was wonderfully slippery in attack, uncanny in making the opening and drawing the defender, a magician at handling, a zig-zag runner who has developed characteristics which no centre of other days possessed, (and) a defender without peer.'

Above: Duncan Thompson, the half-back genius of his day, in his Queensland jersey.

Left: Bill Heidke who became the first Queenslander to captain Australia in a rugby league match against New Zealand in 1909. Originally from Bundaberg, he also played for South Brisbane in the early Brisbane competition.

A Queensland team from the mid 1920s. (From left): J.Craig, W.Paten, D.Thompson, T.Gorman, A.Brown, A.Henderson, J.Moores, W.Spencer, J.Bennett, V.Armbruster, H.Steinohrt, H.Leibke, N.Potter.

This photo is taken at the Brisbane Exhibition Ground. The building in the top left corner of the photo, which used to be a pub, is still there today at the northern end of Gregory Terrace.

1924 QUEENSLAND TEAM

Unbeaten heroes – the Queensland side of 1924, from left (front row) J. Hunt,
T. Gorman, W. Paten, J. Cuneen, (second row) G. Wilson (mgr), D. Thompson,
J. Larcombe, J. Craig (capt), W. Kuder (mgr and sec. QRL), E. Frauenfelder, J.G.
Stephenson (selector), (third row) J. Tennison (selector), J. Sigley, W. Spencer,
P. Parcells, N. Potter, H. Steinohrt, C. Broadfoot, C. Aynsley, P. Frawley (visitor),
(back row) C. Noble (selector), J. McBrien, J. Bennett, V. Armbruster, John
Purcell, Jim Purcell, V. Jensen (visitor).

Queensland	22-20	Sydney
Queensland	20-7	Sydney
Queensland	36-6	Brisbane

1925 QUEENSLAND TEAM

The 1925 Queensland side. From left (back row) T. Gorman, J. Hunt, A. Henderson, W. Spencer, J. McBrien, E. Frauenfelder, W. Paten, (middle row) J. Bennett, H. Steinohrt, N. Potter, H. Liebke, V. Armbruster, D. Dempsey, J. O'Mara, P. Parcell, (front row) J. G. Stephenson (selector), D. Thompson (v-capt), J. Craig (capt), J. Tennison (selector and mgr), C. Aynsley, E. S. Brown, C. Noble (selector and mgr).

1922	Queensland	25-9	Sydney	
1923	Queensland	18-13	Sydney	
1923	Queensland	25-10	Brisbane	
1924	Queensland	22-20	Sydney	
1924	Queensland	20-7	Sydney	
1924	Queensland	36-6	Brisbane	
1925	Queensland	23-15	Sydney	
1925	Queensland	27-13	Sydney	
1925	NSW	27-16	Sydney	
1925	Queensland	26-8	Brisbane	
1925	Queensland	23-18	Brisbane	

1926	NSW	30-17	Sydney
1926	NSW	5-3	Sydney
1926	Queensland	26-11	Newcastle
1926	Queensland	38-0	Brisbane
1926	Queensland	37-19	Brisbane
1927	NSW	14-10	Sydney
1927	NSW	13-11	Sydney
1927	Queensland	11-7	Brisbane
1927	NSW	15-11	Brisbane
1928	Queensland	25-9	Sydney
1928	NSW	16-7	Sydney
1928	Queensland	28-17	Brisbane
1928	Queensland	21-10	Brisbane

TOOWOOMBA'S UNDEFEATED CHAMPIONS

A tribute to a champion team – the 1924–25 Toowoomba stars that swept all before them.

Below: *The* Rugby League News *of 1926 with the interesting headline of Queensland retaining the 'Ashes' against NSW.*

1926	NSW	30-17	Sydney
1926	NSW	5-3	Sydney
1926	Queensland	26-11	Newcastle
1926	Queensland	38-0	Brisbane
1926	Queensland	37-19	Brisbane

The 1928 Queensland team. (Back row, left to right) L. Burke (visitor), J. Doyle (visitor), K. McCormack, T. Rasey (visitor), R. King, J. Crowe (visitor), R. Davies (visitor); (standing) H. Sunderland (sec & selector), D. Dempsey, M. Madsen, V. Armbruster, H. Liebke, H. Steinohrt, J. Purcell, M. Biggs, E.S. Brown (delegate & selector); (sitting) J.G. Stephenson (patron & selector), L. Sellars, J. Bennett, T. Roberts (joint mgr), T. Gorman (capt), C. Mengel (joint mgr), A. Henderson, C. Aynsley, J. Tennison (vice-pres & selector); (in front) A. Edwards, F. Laws, J. Craig, R. Brown, K. Hughes, J. Leet.

1928	Queensland	25-9	Sydney
1928	NSW	16-7	Sydney
1928	Queensland	28-17	Brisbane
1928	Queensland	21-10	Brisbane
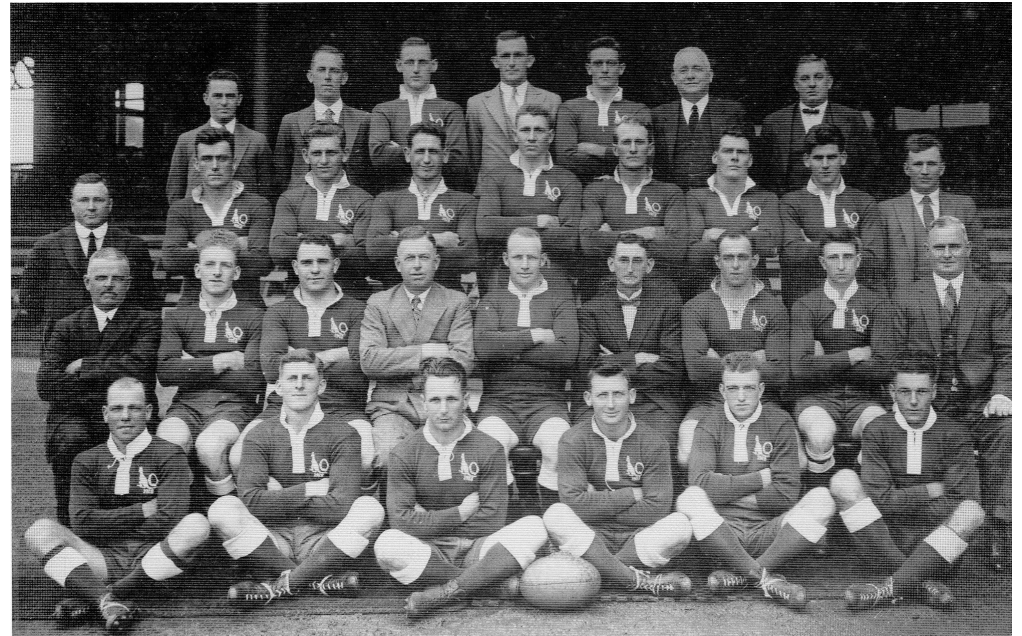
1931	NSW	39-17	Sydney
1931	Queensland	23-20	Sydney
1931	NSW	28-6	Sydney
1931	Queensland	15-8	Brisbane
1931	Queensland	4-3	Brisbane

The 1931 Queensland side. From left (back row) A. Bell (visitor), V. Jensen (visitor), W. Christie, M. Maloney, A. Campbell (visitor), L. Jones (visitor), (second row) J. O'Mara, P. Madsen, V. Armbruster, H. Liebke, H. Steinohrt, D. Dempsey, L. Heidke, W. Smith, (sitting) C. Laws, J. Little, J. Broadfoot, D.B. Duncan (mgr), F. Laws (capt), H. Sunderland (mgr), J. Upton, W. Spencer, A. Edwards, (in front) L. Campbell, H. Gee, F. Doonar.

1932	Queensland	23-15	Sydney
1932	Draw	9-all	Sydney
1932	Queensland	19-9	Brisbane
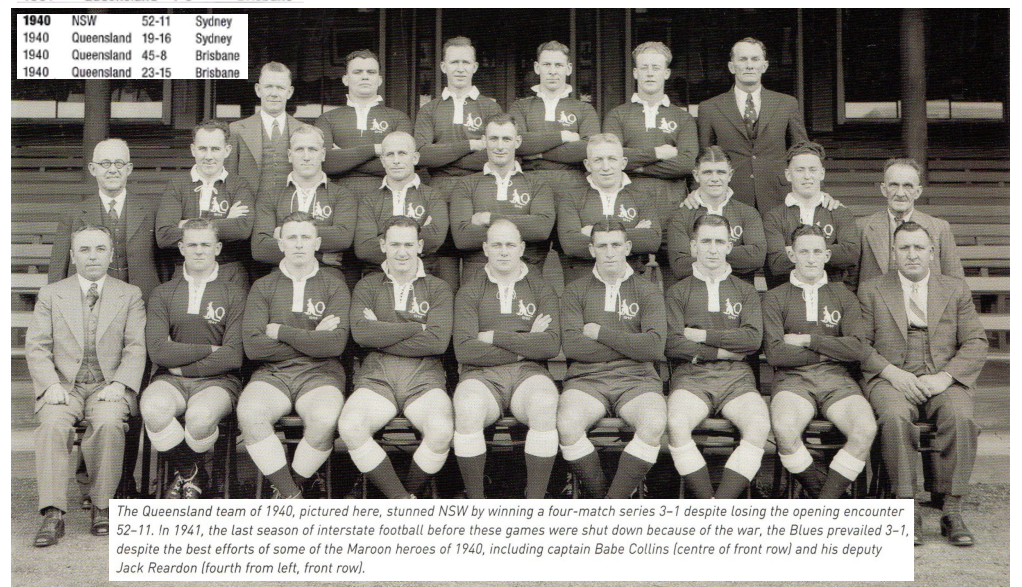
1940	NSW	52-11	Sydney
1940	Queensland	19-16	Sydney
1940	Queensland	45-8	Brisbane
1940	Queensland	23-15	Brisbane

The Queensland team of 1940, pictured here, stunned NSW by winning a four-match series 3–1 despite losing the opening encounter 52–11. In 1941, the last season of interstate football before these games were shut down because of the war, the Blues prevailed 3–1, despite the best efforts of some of the Maroon heroes of 1940, including captain Babe Collins (centre of front row) and his deputy Jack Reardon (fourth from left, front row).

QUEENSLAND FOOTBALL'S GREAT DAY of the year came when the Maroons, against all expectations, defeated the British team 25–24, with the local players afforded a £5 bonus in the midst of the euphoria on top of their £10 match fee. In the interstate series, however, NSW were dominant, winning all three matches decisively.

Two images from one of Queensland league's great occasions — the day in 1946 when they beat the Poms 25–24. **Above left:** *Eddie Brosnan charges into the English defence.* **Above:** *The tourists' winger, Albert Johnson, is tackled by Maroons' skipper Col Thornton, with Hughie Melrose ready to lend assistance.*

The 1951 Queensland team. From left (back row) F. Gilbert (selector and coach), F. Russell (visitor), K. McCaffery, N. Hazzard, D. McGovern, L. Furness (trainer), D. Green (visitor), (second row) J. Bennett (selector), B. Davies, H. Crocker, A. Thompson, D. Flannery, H. Ronald, B. Drew, V. Jensen (president QRL), (seated) A. Welch (mgr), K. Boshammer, A. Watson, N. Linde, D. Hall (capt), R. McGlynn, W. Thompson, P. McMahon, E. Patrick (mgr), (in front) R. Griffiths, H. Griffiths.

1951	Queensland	29–18	Sydney
1951	NSW	31–8	Sydney
1951	Queensland	39–23	Brisbane

▲ Bill Callinan breaks away from Ron Robert who tries vainly to hold him back during the 1949 Queensland v New South Wales Test. Matt McCoy, K Froome and K Schubert are in the background. *Courier-Mail/Edmond Scott Collection*

Below: Harold 'Mick' Crocker, playing for Queensland, sidestepping the legendary NSW and Australian fullback Clive Churchill.

The four Queenslanders in Australia's team for the first Test against France discuss tactics. From left: Mick Crocker, Brian Davies, Duncan Hall and Noel Hazzard.

1959 QUEENSLAND TEAM

Back Row: G. McLEOD (Aust. Board of Control), N. KELLY, J. FOREMAN, E. KENNEDY (Visitor), G. PARCELL, P. PYERS, J. P. REARDON (Visitor).
Second Row: L. FURNESS (Trainer), J. PATERSON, D. MEEHAN, T. McDONALD, E. RASMUSSEN, D. BEATTIE, J. BAKER, C. CHURCHILL (Coach).
Front Row: E. ELWING (Manager), B. WALSH, R. BODEN (Vice Capt.), R. BANKS (Capt.), M. SHANNON, J. KELLY, A.L. BISHOP (Manager).
In Front: W. LEWIS, B. MUIR, R. COOK. Absent: C. WEIR.

THIS 3-1 SERIES WIN WAS THE LAST QLD SERIES WIN UNTIL THE FIRST FULL STATE OF ORIGIN SERIES THAT QLD WON IN 1982

1959	Queensland	17-15	Brisbane
1959	NSW	24-14	Brisbane
1959	Queensland	23-11	Sydney
1959	Queensland	18-14	Sydney

The Queensland team of 1960 during the Sydney visit. From left (back row) G. Roots (visitor), R. Ekland (visitor), G. Parcell, E. Kennedy (visitor), L. Morgan, L. Furness (masseur), E. Verrenkamp (coach), (middle row) K. Zeilke (visitor), M. Veivers, D. Barrett, D. Meehan, D. Beattie, J. Paterson, B. Cook, D. Green (visitor), (front row) J. Morgan (mgr), C. Weir, E. Rasmussen (v-capt), R. Banks (capt), K. Lohman, N. Kelly, A. Lawrence (mgr), (in front) R. Tait, F. Drake, A. Gil, B. Muir.

1960	NSW	22-21	Sydney
1960	Queensland	17-12	Sydney
1960	Queensland	13-0	Brisbane
1960	NSW	33-14	Brisbane

The 1961 Queensland squad. From left (back row) K. Salter (visitor), R. Eklund (visitor), R. Duncan, L. Morgan, A. Gil, L. Furness (masseur), H. Jefferies (visitor), (middle row) J. Reardon (visitor), J. Paterson, K. Lohman, E. Rasmussen, D. Barrett, G. Parcell, F. Drake, E. Verrenkamp (coach), (front row) A. Sparkes (mgr), M. Veivers, R. Hagan, B. Muir (capt), J. Foreman, K. Day, R. Stafford (mgr), (in front) J. Gleeson, R. Gehrke, R. Tait.

1961	NSW	21-20	Sydney
1961	NSW	18-2	Sydney
1961	Queensland	15-2	Brisbane
1961	Queensland	20-17	Brisbane

Members of the Queensland team, before the start of the 1962 interstate series. From left: Mick Veivers, Frank Drake, Lionel Morgan, Barry Muir and Col Weier.

The 1972 Queensland touring squad. (Back row) W. Stewart, D. Roderick, W. Orr, C. O'Brien (Phys.Ed.), G. Pearson, P. Hall, W. Bennett; (middle row) T. Doyle (mgr), A. Connell, R. McCarron, J. Grant, M. Peut, M. Seary, R. Twist, J. Murphy, P. Braithwaite, D. Tosh (mgr); (front row) G. Dobrich, J. Lang, C. Weiss (capt), R. Bax (coach), L. Hutchinson, G. Tucker, S. Crear.

Above: *Former Souths captain John Sattler leads Queensland onto the SCG in the 1973 interstate series.*

Coach Muir jumps for joy as Queensland beats New South Wales at Lang Park, 1975.

Former Test great Barry Muir, the man credited with naming NSW the "cockies", says if the motel had been cleaner, the word may never have been uttered.

"It was back in 1974, and I was coaching Queensland in the interstate series," he recalled.

"We were in camp in a Sydney motel preparing for the second match and were watching a replay of the first game when this dirty big cockroach crawled up the screen. He crawled all the way up the side the NSW players were defending.

"Just to gee up the blokes a bit, I said something like: 'These blokes attract cockroaches. Maybe they *ARE* cockroaches'.

"Then the next day at training I called the Blues the cockroaches again, only this time I was in earshot of some Sydney journos. I said something like: 'We've got to belt these bloody cockroaches'.

"They wrote about it in the press. One thing led to another, the whole thing was blown out of all proportion, and the name stuck. And I didn't mind one bit."

1974	NSW	22-13	Sydney
1974	Draw	13-all	Brisbane
1974	Draw	4-all	Brisbane
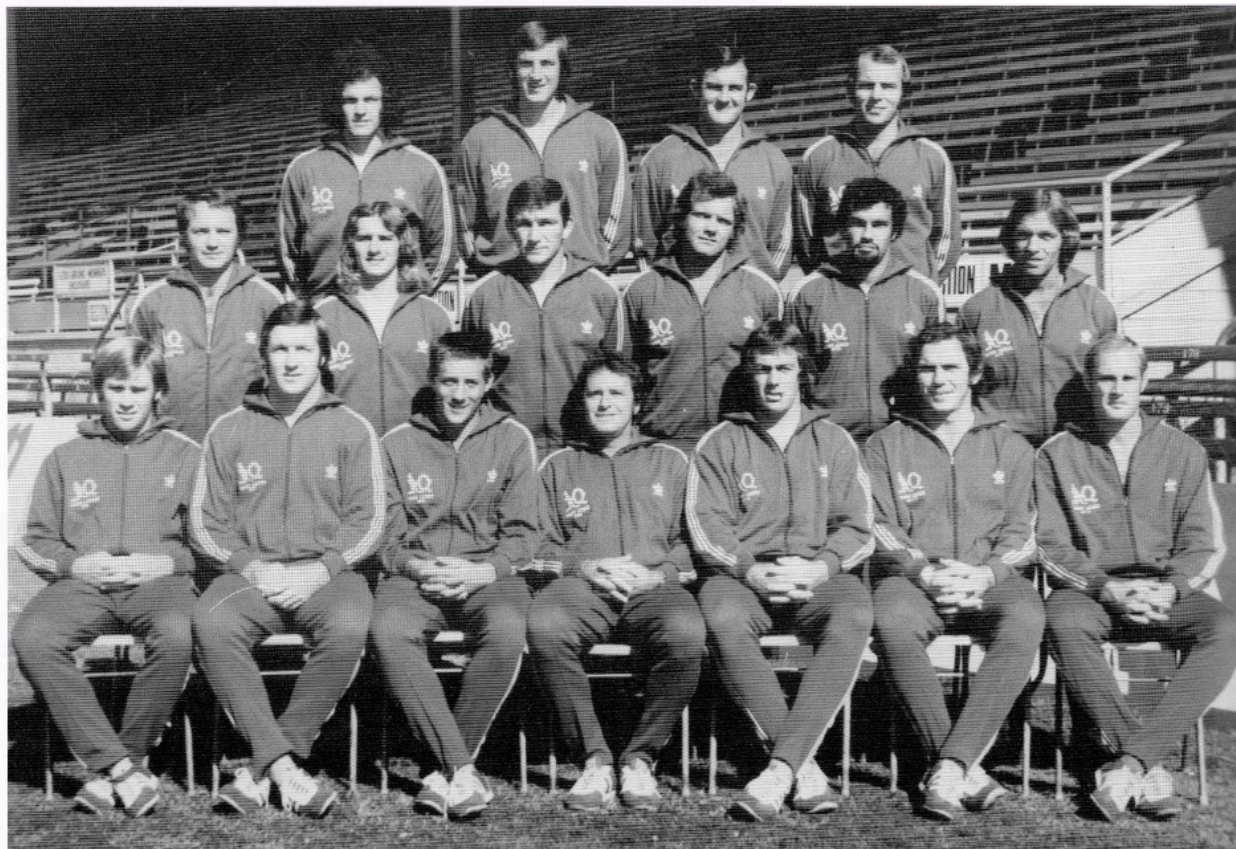
1975	Queensland	14-8	Brisbane
1975	NSW	27-18	Brisbane
1975	NSW	9-8	Sydney

The 1975 Maroons. From left (back row) P. Leis, L. Platz, J. Crilly, G. Richardson (second row) R. Strudwick, C. Anderson, P. Connell, T. Obst, I. Thinee, H. Cameron, (front row) J. Lang, D. Wright, I. Pearce, B. Muir (coach), J. Payne, R. Morris, J. Rhodes.

COCKROACHES!

1979 QUEENSLAND TEAM

NSW	30-5	Brisbane
NSW	31-7	Brisbane
NSW	35-20	Sydney

The Queenslanders of 1979. From left (front row) D. Alroe (co-manager), M. Meninga, D. Morris, J. McDonald (coach), J. Lang, G. Quinn, D. Hall (co-manager), (second row) C. Scott, B. Backer, B. Astill, N. Carr, W. Lindenberg, A. Smith, (back row) I. Dauth, M. Payne, P. McWhirter, R. Cock, B. Whitmore, D. Brown

Above: This photo taken at the last interstate ever game played by residential rules in 1981 a Leichhardt Oval shows what Queensland had to deal with throughout the 1960's and 1970's.

Mal Meninga here is palming off John Ribot who played for Wests in Brisbane before playing for a Sydney club and was picked for NSW. Too often Queensland was competing against fellow Queenslanders who went to Sydney for better money and were good enough to be picked by NSW to compete against their original home state in the interstate series.

Below are the results of the interstate games played by residential status in 1980 and 1981. NSW only agreed to play the last game by Origin rules if it had already won the series by the old residential selection criteria. Due to the popularity of the two Origin games it was agreed to play all games in 1982 under State of Origin selection criteria.

1980	NSW	35-3	Brisbane
1980	NSW	17-7	Sydney
1981	NSW	10-2	Brisbane
1981	NSW	22-9	Sydney

1980 INAUGURAL QUEENSLAND STATE OF ORIGIN TEAM

Inaugural State of Origin Match, Lang Park, 1980. Queensland team.
Back row, left to right: W. Lewis, R. Reddy, M. Meninga, C. Scott, B. Backer. Second row, left to right: K. Boustead, C. Close, R. Morris, R. Hancock, N. Carr, B. Astill. Front row, left to right: B. Davies (co-manager), G. Oliphant, J. McDonald (coach), A. Beetson (captain), A. Smith, J. Lang, D. Hall (co-manager). (Sidney Riley Studio)

A. BEETSON (C)

QLD. 20
N.S.W. 10

In July 1980 the birth of State of Origin rugby league began as the last game in the series was player Under State of Origin rules. Queensland had its players back who went to the Sydney clubs rather than playing against them in the NSW Blue.

Queensland won an epic encounter 20-10 with Chris Close winning man of the match with a sensational try weaving past Blues players and Mal Meninga, who turned 20 that night, kicking 7 out of 7.

The biggest cheer, though, was when legendary forward Arthur Beetson returned home to lead the Maroons out that night. His fight with Parramatta team-mate Mick Cronin is part of Origin folklore.
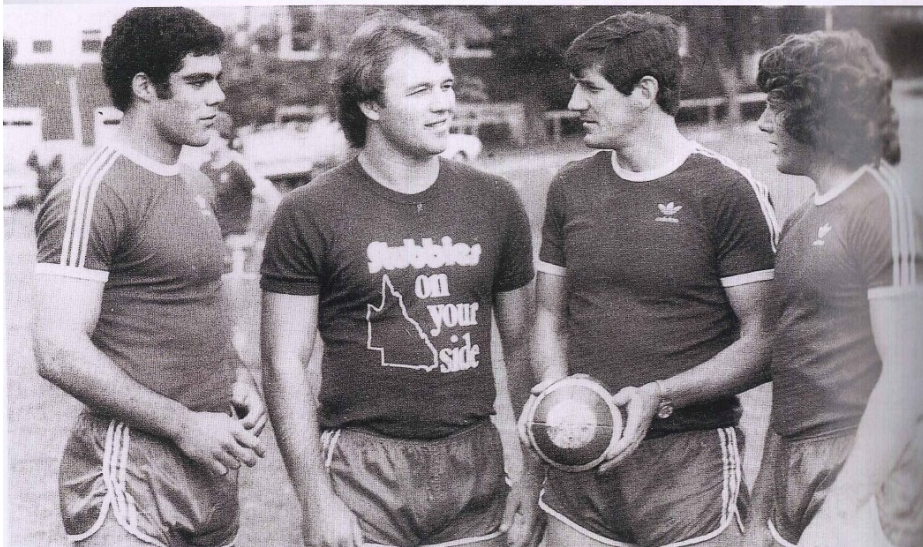
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BRISBANE, WEDNESDAY, JULY 9, 1980   Treasure 1293: P65

Artie says 'let's do it again' after...

By DAVID FALKENMIRE

Arthur Beetson was nursing a sore head this morning — but he reckons it was worth it.

Beetson, Queensland's favorite son, celebrated after leading the Maroons to their memorable 20-10 win over New South Wales at Lang Park last night.

And just for good measure . . . at the age of 35 . . . he was one of the best players on the field.

"I had never played for Queensland and I doubt if I have ever been so determined to win," Beetson said today.

"It is one of the highlights of my career."

Beetson said he had no doubts a state-of-origin match should be played annually.

After 15 years of Sydney football with Balmain, Easts, and now Parramatta, he admits his career is nearly finished.

● More pictures, stories, Pages 3, 72, 73 and Back Page.

y's KEITH MORRIS picture of Artie Beetson the morning after.

THE NIGHT WE BEAT THE BLUES

Queensland last night produced the magic to beat New South Wales 20-10 in an historic state-of-origin rugby league match at Lang Park.

Queensland league followers have been saying it for years: Give us our players back, Sydney, and we will beat the Blues.

So they gave us back a Magnificent Seven — seven players from Queensland playing with Sydney clubs — who combined with the best north of the border to defeat "the Unbeatables."

Evergreen Artie Beetson, Johnny Lang, Kerry Boustead, Greg Oliphant, Rod Morris, Allan Smith and Rod Reddy provided experience to galvanise the locals.

And the locals more than did

8 July 1980   **Queensland 20** (Tries: K. Boustead, C. Close; Goals: M. Meninga 7)
New South Wales 10 (Tries: G. Brentnall, T. Raudonikis; Goals: M. Cronin 2)

Above: Arthur Beetson leads Queensland out in the first ever State of Origin game at Lang Park in 1980.

There were fears before the inaugural State of Origin match that club team-mates would 'go easy' on each other. But QRL boss Ron McAuliffe (right) was a strong supporter of the concept, and the skirmishes and tough confrontations that were a feature of the early exchanges (such as the one pictured above) quickly confirmed that Origin football had a future.
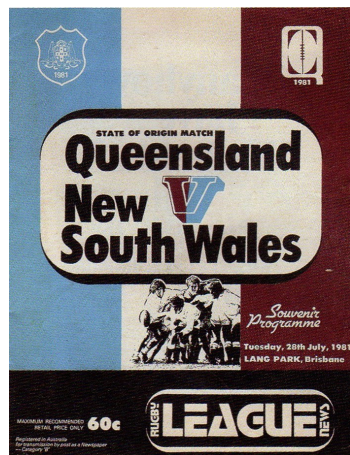
Left: A program guide to the second State of Origin game in 1981.

It was an extraordinary game with NSW going out to a 15-0 lead in the first half.

Queensland got back in it with a try just before half time and then added another 17 unanswered points, including a controversial penalty try to win the game 22-15.

The 1981 State of Origin team. From left (back row) C. Scott, B. Backer, D. Gatley (strapper), M. Brennan, P. McCabe, M. Meninga, (second row) C. Close, N. Carr, G. Conescu, P. Khan, C. Phelan, R. Hancock, (front row) G. Crouch (co-manager), A. Beetson, R. Morris, W. Lewis (capt), M. Murray, R. Henrick, R. Wroe (co-manager).

28 July 1981   **Queensland 22** (*Tries*: M. Meninga, W. Lewis, B. Backer, C. Close; *Goals*: M.Meninga 5)
New South Wales 15 (*Tries* : E. Grothe 2, M. Cronin; *Goals*: M. Cronin 3)

The 1982 State of Origin side for the second game. From left (back row) P. Khan, P. McCabe, G. Miles, C. Scott, N. Carr, (second row) D. Gatley (strapper), J. Dowling, P. Vautin, R. Morris, M. Brennan, R. Hancock, A. Beetson, (front row) G. Oliphant, J. Ribot, D. Turner (co-manager), W. Lewis (capt), K. Brasch (co-manager), M. Murray, B. Backer.

Below Left: Wally Lewis slices through the Kiwi defence to score in Queensland's 31-16 win over New Zealand in 1982. **Below Right:** Gene Miles literally runs over the top of Greg Brentnall to score a try in game two of the 1982 State of Origin series at Lang Park.

THE FIRST SERIES HAT TRICK (1982, 1983 & 1984)

1 June 1982	●	New South Wales 20 (Z. Niszczot 2, S. Mortimer, B. Izzard tries; M.Cronin 4 goals) Queensland 16 (M. Brennan, J. Ribot tries; M.Meninga 5 goals)
8 June 1982	●	Queensland 11 (*Tries*: G. Miles, J. Ribot, P. Vautin; *Goals*: C. Scott) New South Wales 7 (*Tries*: B. Izzard; *Goals*: T. Melrose 2)
22 June 1982	●	Queensland 10 (*Tries*: W. Lewis, R. Hancock; *Goals*: M.Meninga 2) New South Wales 5 (Tries: P. Duke; Goals: M. Cronin)
7 June 1983	●	Queensland 24 (Tries: W. Lewis 2, M. Murray; Goals: M. Meninga 6) New South Wales 12 (*Tries*: S. Ella, E. Grothe; *Goals*: P. Sigsworth 2)
21 June 1983	●	New South Wales 10 (*Tries*: S. Ella, N.Hunt; *Goals*: M.Cronin) Queensland 6 (*Tries*: M.Meninga; *Goals*: M.Meninga)
28 June 1983	●	Queensland 43 (*Tries*: M. Brennan 2, G. Conescu, B. Niebling, G. Miles, S. Stacey, D. Brown; *Goals*: M.Meninga 6, C.Scott; Field Goals: W. Lewis) New South Wales 22 (*Tries*: C. Anderson 3, S. Mortimer; *Goals*: M.Cronin 3)
29 May 1984	●	Queensland 29 (Tries: K. Boustead 3, G. Miles, W. Lewis, P. Vautin; Goals: M. Meninga 2; Field Goals: W. Lewis) New South Wales 12 (Tries: N. Cleal; Goals: R.Conlon 4)
19 June 1984	●	Queensland 14 (Tries: G. Dowling, G. Miles; Goals: M.Meninga 3) New South Wales 2 (Goals: R. Conlon)
17 July 1984	●	New South Wales 22 (Tries: B. Johnston 2, N. Cleal; Goals: R. Conlon 5) Queensland 12 (Tries: K. Boustead, B. Lindner; Goals: M.Meninga 2)

Below Left: A brain explosion by Phil Sigsworth passing the ball in his own dead ball zone led to the Wally Lewis try that saw Queensland win game 3 by 10-5 in the 1982 series—**THE FIRST SERIES WIN BY QUEENSLAND SINCE 1959.**

Right and Below Right: A break by Paul Vautin set up a great try by Wally Lewis in the first game of 1983 that Queensland won 29-12.

Above: Mal Meninga set up two tries within 5 minutes with blockbusting runs in 1982 Game 1 but it wasn't enough to win the game.
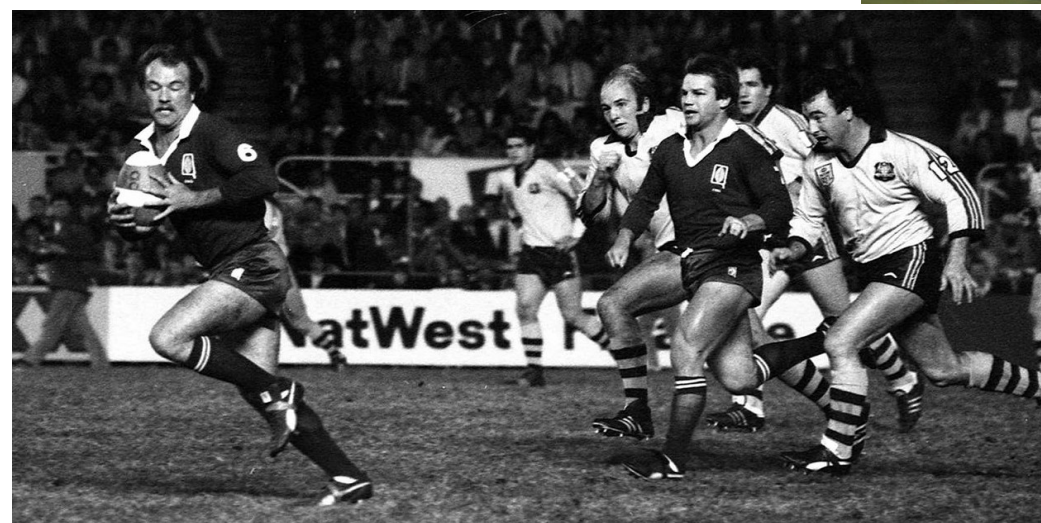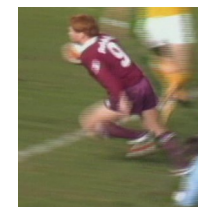
The victorious Maroons team for the 1983 series deciding match. From left (back row) C. Scott, D. Brown, M. Meninga, G. Miles, S. Stacey, P. Vautin, (second row) A. Beetson (coach), B. Astill, M. Brennan, G. Jones, B. Tessmann, D. Gatley (trainer), (front row) W. Fullerton Smith, M. Murray, K. Brasch (co-manager), W. Lewis (capt), D. Turner (co-manager), G. Conescu, B. Niebling.

Above: Gene Miles slices through a big gap to add to Queensland's huge tally in the 1983 decider at Lang Park which Queensland by a massive score of 43-22.

Below: A sight that completely stunned me when I was at Lang Park for this game and heaps of others Queenslanders who grew up on the stories of NSW's complete domination in the 60's and 70's. There was a successful conversion after this screenshot of the scoreboard and Queensland led 33 to 0 against NSW in the 1983 decider at Lang Park.

Above: Gene Miles in the mudbath that was the centre pitch area of the SCG during game two of the 1983 Origin series.

Above: Steve Stacey dives in for a try during Queensland's thrashing of NSW (43-22) in the 1983 decider at Lang Park.

Above: Queensland went on a 3 game tour of the United Kingdom at the end of 1983. Here Wayne Lindenberg scores a try in the game against Wigan that Queensland won 40-2.

The 1984 State of Origin team for the first match against NSW. From left (back row) M. Meninga, D. Brown, B. Niebling, G. Dowling, G. Miles, (second row) A. Beetson (coach), B. French, P. Vautin, J. Harrison (trainer), C. Close, C. Scott, B. Lindner, (front row) K. Boustead, W. Fullerton Smith, K. Brasch (co-manager), W. Lewis, (capt), D. Turner (co-manager), M. Murray, G. Conescu.

Below: Celebrating after the 1984 series win are the three most influential people with the birth of State of Origin—Wally Lewis, Ron McAuliffe and Arthur Beetson.

Referee Barry Gomersall is about to confirm that Queensland prop Greg Dowling somehow managed to score an extraordinary try in the second State of Origin game of 1984. The fact that the kick through by Wally Lewis (jumping in the air) had hit the crossbar was unusual; that Dowling was able to half-volley the soap-like football on the flooded ground was unbelievable. Also in the picture is Maroons halfback Mark Murray.

The Queensland team for the third State of Origin clash in 1987. From left (front row) B. Lindner, G. Dowling, D. Turner (co-manager), W. Lewis (capt), B. Bateman (co-manager), P. Jackson, A. Langer, (second row) W. Bennett (coach), C. Scott, A. McIndoe, D. Shearer, G. Conescu, T. Currie, T. Gillmeister, K. Rach (trainer), (back row) B. Niebling, G. Belcher, G. Miles, P. Vautin, I. French.

Above: Wayne Bennett agonises over the NSW try that Mick Stone amazingly got right in the days before video referees. After the 3-0 bluewash in 1986, all by narrow margins, this narrow loss in Game 1 of 1987 made it 4 losses out of 4 games for him as the new Queensland coach.

Below Left: Allan Langer was the new star during the 1987 series. **Below Right:** Wayne Bennett in a far better mood after Queensland won the last 2 games of 1987 to win the series.

Below: Muddy but happy after beating NSW in Game 2 of the 1987 series.

THE SECOND SERIES HAT TRICK (1987, 1988 & 1989)
including 8 wins in a row (excluding Los Angeles game)

Date	Result
2 June 1987 ○	**New South Wales 20** (M.O'Connor 2,L.Davidson,M.McGaw tries M.O'Connor 2 goals) Queensland 16 (D.Shearer, T.Currie,G.Dowling tries G.Belcher, P.Jackson goals
16 June 1987 ●	**Queensland 12** (D.Shearer,G.Dowling,C.Scott tries) New South Wales 6 (A.Farrar try M.O'Connor goal)
15 July 1987 ●	**Queensland 10** (D.Shearer,B.Lindner tries D.Shearer goal) New South Wales 8 (D.Boyle try M.O'Connor 2 goals)
17 May 1988 ●	**Queensland 26** (A.Langer 2,G.Belcher,P.Jackson,A.McIndoe tries G.Belcher 3 goals) New South Wales 18 (M.McGaw,A.Ettingshausen,M.O'Connor tries M.O'Connor 3 goals)
31 May 1988 ●	**Queensland 16** (S.Backo, A.Langer tries G.Belcher 4 goals) New South Wales 6 (M.O'Connor try M.O'Connor goal)
21 June 1988 ●	**Queensland 38** (S.Backo 2,P.Jackson,A.Langer,W.Lewis, J.Kilroy,B.French tries G.Belcher 5 goals) New South Wales 22 (W.Pearce,J.Ferguson,M.O'Connor,S.Hanson tries M.O'Connor 3 goals)
23 May 1989 ●	**Queensland 36** (M.Meninga 2,M.Hancock 2,A.Langer,A.McIndoe,B.Lindner tries M.Meninga 4 goals) New South Wales 6 (A.Ettingshausen try L.Daley goal)
14 June 1989 ●	**Queensland 16** (K.Walters,W.Lewis,M.Hancock tries M.Meninga,G.Belcher goals) New South Wales 12 (L.Daley, C.Johns tries G.Alexander 2 goals)
28 June 1989 ●	**Queensland 36** (D.Shearer 2,G.Belcher,T.Currie,K.Walters,M.Hancock,A.McIndoe tries D.Shearer 4 goals) New South Wales 16 (D.Trewhella,B.McGuire,D.Hasler tries M.O'Connor 2 goals)

Above Right: Wally Lewis and Allan Langer hold the State of Origin shield after the successful 1987 series.
Below Left: Allan Langer kicks ahead twice and regathers to score one of two tries in the opening game of 1988. **Below Right:** A bloody Martin Bella plays on during the 1988 State of Origin series.
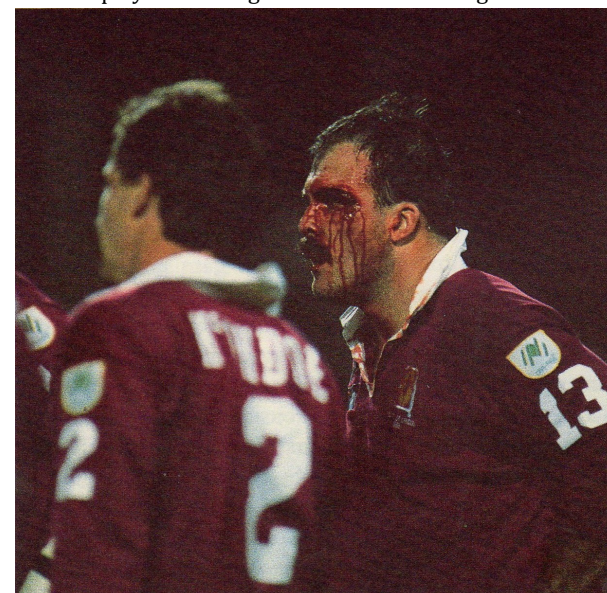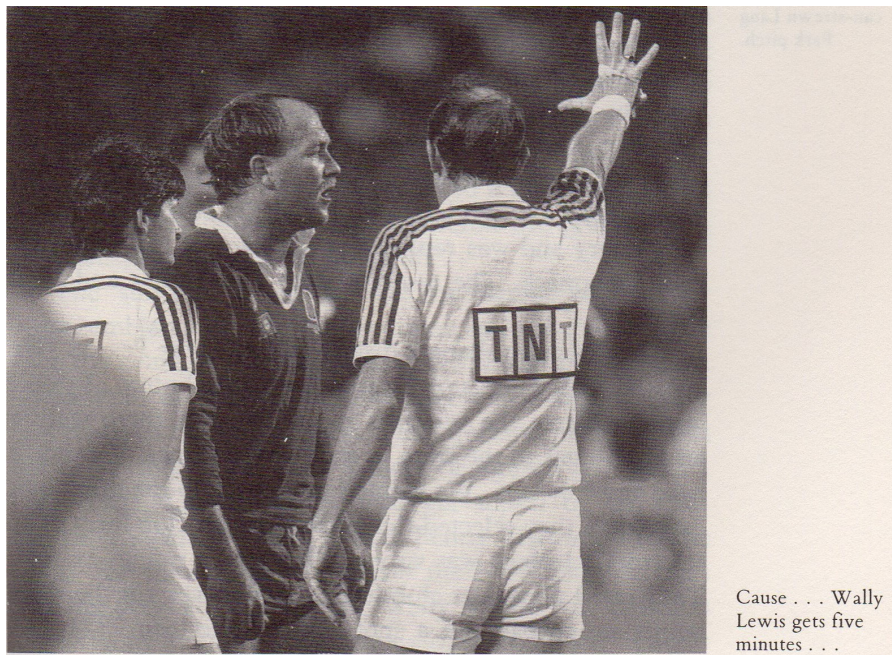
Cause . . . Wally Lewis gets five minutes . . .

A champion team on a roll – the 1988 State of Origin team for the 31 May clash with NSW, from left, (front row) G.Conescu, G.Miles, D.Turner (co-manager), W.Lewis (capt), B.Bateman (co-manager), T.Gillmeister, A.Langer, (middle row) D.Ryan (trainer), W.Fullerton Smith, P.Vautin, G.Belcher, T. Currie, B.French, W.Bennett (coach), (back row) M.Bella, S.Backo, P.Jackson, B.Lindner, A.McIndoe.

Above: Full cans of beer fly onto the field as Queensland fans vent their displeasure after Wally Lewis gets sent to the sin bin. I remember being near the scoreboard not far from where the beer missiles were being launched. Queensland would go on to win Game 2 of the 1988 series 16-6 wrapping up the series.
Below: A classic shot of a Wally Lewis long cut-out pass.

1989 Queensland State of Origin team. (Back row, left to right) Tony Currie, Gary Belcher, Gene Miles, Bob Lindner, Mal Meninga, Michael Hagan; (middle row) David Ryan (strapper), Paul Vautin, Trevor Gillmeister, Dan Stains, Brian Canavan (trainer), Michael Hancock, Dale Shearer, Allan Langer, Arthur Beetson (coach); (front row) Gary Coyne, Martin Bella, Dick Turner (mgr), Wally Lewis (capt), Keith Welsh, Alan McIndoe, Kerrod Walters.

Above Right: Fullback Gary Belcher defuses a bomb. **Below Left:** Alan McIndoe races in to score a try at Lang Park during the 1989 State of Origin series. **Below Centre:** Wally Lewis does a victory dance after scoring a classic Origin try in Game 2 of the 1989 series.

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THE FACE OF GREATNESS

H E'S got the top halfbacks of the past decade singing his praises. "I'll concede right now that he's a better player than I ever was," said the great Tommy Raudonikis. "Langer might just turn out to be the best ever."

With praise like that it's no wonder that you'd find 25,000 fans willing to wear a mask depicting the little Bronco, Maroon and Roo dynamo.

The promotion by Brisbane's 104FM captured a mood of reverence and deep affection for the plucky half at the first '89 State of Origin match, but you can rest assured that the Blues don't feel the same way about their rival — nor would the sight of 25,000 Alfies console them one little bit.

A NSW attempt to get the same sort of support up and running for Langer's opposite number, the trier Greg Alexander, went down like a bag of shit down a coal shaft; it fell flat splat.

The beautiful thing about all this is that even after the match you can use your Langer mask for a host of purposes. For a start, you can use it to get into Brisbane nightclubs where you wouldn't get within cooee if you only had your real face to present to the doorman. What true blue Queensland bouncer would turn little Alfie away?

The mask will also help you get VIP treatment at any hospital. You want your own doctor? How about a private ward? Fancy that nurse over there? No problems! Your Langer mask gets you in where no American Express card ever could.

There are more benefits to being Allan Langer than you can possibly imagine.

CANE TOADS, COCKROACHES
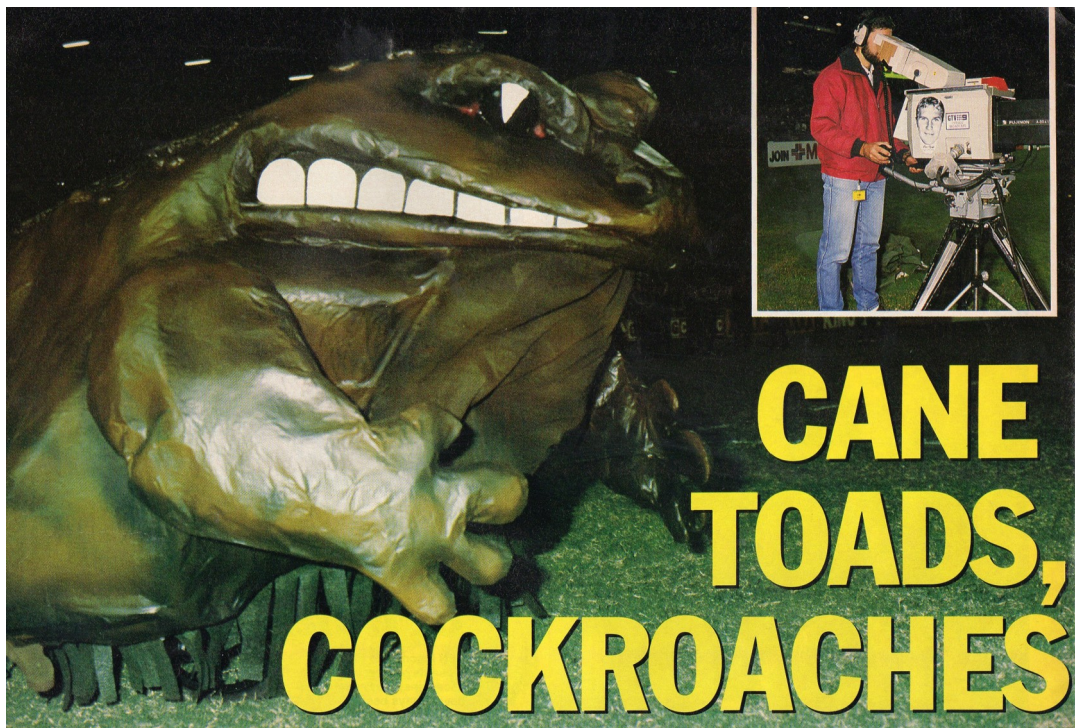
Below: Captain Wally Lewis and coach Artie Beetson are all smiles after the 3-0 whitewash of NSW in the 1989 State of Origin series.

The insult that became a marketing goldmine

COCKROACHES!

Photos: ANDREW VARLEY

The saga of the Lang Park cockroaches . . . and the pests are exterminated. It's almost a microcosm of State of Origin football. INSET: Barry Muir.

By TONY DURKIN

AN UNKEMPT Sydney motel is chiefly responsible for the "cockroach" tag which Queenslanders have gleefully appplied to Rugby League players from New South Wales.

Former Test great Barry Muir, the man credited with naming NSW the "cockies", says if the motel had been cleaner, the word may never have been uttered.

"It was back in 1974, and I was coaching Queensland in the interstate series," he recalled.

"We were in camp in a Sydney motel preparing for the second match and were watching a replay of the first game when this dirty big cockroach crawled up the screen. He crawled all the way up the side the NSW players were defending.

"Just to gee up the blokes a bit, I said something like: 'These blokes attract cockroaches. Maybe they *ARE* cockroaches'.

"Then the next day at training I called the Blues the cockroaches again, only this time I was in earshot of some Sydney journos. I said something like: 'We've got to belt these bloody cockroaches'.

"They wrote about it in the press. One thing led to another, the whole thing was blown out of all proportion, and the name stuck. And I didn't mind one bit."

Muir said that after the tag had been entrenched in NSW-Queensland relations, he found it much easier to refer to the opposition as 'cockroaches'.

"It was just so natural. They were the pests from the south," he said.

Muir says he feels no guilt whatsoever about being responsible for depositing such a degrading name on one of the world's premier teams.

"Not one bit. We even named the great Graeme Langlands the King Cockroach," he said.

"We had to beat the buggers the best way we could, and if calling them cockroaches upset them and stirred them up, then we had achieved our aim. I'm sure that at odd times, it did work.

"I must admit, though, that when I first used the name, I never thought it would be as popular as it is today. I'm sure State of Origin football helped in that regard."

And QRL marketing manager, Mike Beston, agrees.

"Throughout State of Origin, the cockroach has been a hugely successful marketing ploy for us," he said.

"Our attitude now is when you're on a good thing, stick to it."

Muir though, has one regret about his association with the term "cockroach".

"I didn't patent the name," he said.

"It probably isn't legal to patent the name of an insect, but I wish I'd tried.

"I may have been a millionaire by now."

Left: Wally Lewis and Mark Geyer go toe to toe in the 1991 Origin series. **Above**: The Dale Shearer try that sealed the 1991 Origin series. **Below:** The Queenslanders celebrate Shearer's winning try.

8 May 1991	**Queensland 6** (M.Meninga try M.Meninga goal) New South Wales 4 (L.Daley try)
29 May 1991	**New South Wales 14** (M.McGaw,C.Johns tries M.O'Connor 3 goals) Queensland 12 (D.Shearer, W.Carne tries M.Meninga 2 goals)
12 June 1991	**Queensland 14** (D.Shearer, P.Hauff, M.Hancock tries M.Meninga goal) New South Wales 12 (C.Johns,M.O'Connor,D.Hasler tries)

1991 Queensland State of Origin team (Game 1). (Back row, left to right) Mal Meninga, Steve Jackson, Gavin Allen, Peter Jackson, Mike McLean, Gary Larson, (middle row) Graham Lowe (coach), Jim Banaghan, Andrew Gee, Allan Langer, Michael Hancock, Steve Renouf, Willie Carne, Kevin Walters, David Ryan (trainer), Brian Canavan, (front row) Gary Coyne, Martin Bella, Dick Turner (mgr), Wally Lewis (capt), Keith Welsh, Gary Belcher, Steve Walters.
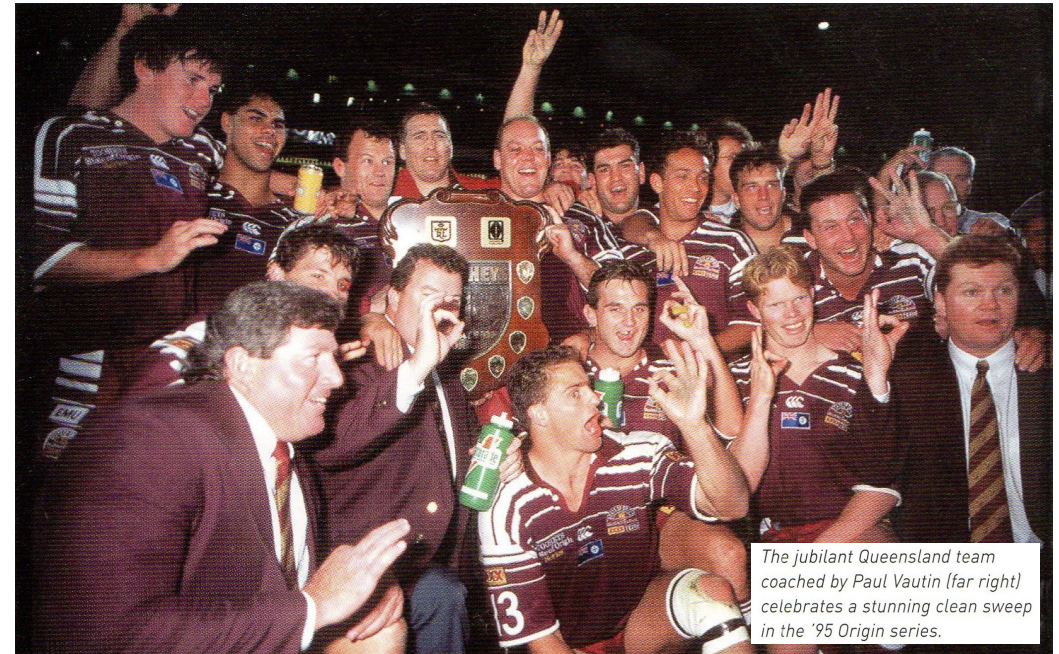

Wally with his boys, Lincoln and Mitchell after his last Origin in 1991.

MEMORIES ... MAGIC ... MAYHEM

891

Below: Wally Lewis was honoured after his retirement with a statue in a winning pose that today is one of the most photographed statues on the planet!

▲ Willie Carne lobs over the top of QLD's last minute winning try movement

The jubilant Queensland team coached by Paul Vautin (far right) celebrates a stunning clean sweep in the '95 Origin series.

15 May 1995	**Queensland 2** (W.Bartrim goal) New South Wales 0
31 May 1995	**Queensland 20** (B.Dallas,M.Coyne,A.Lam tries W.Bartrim 4 goals) New South Wales 12
12 June 1995	**Queensland 24** (B.Dallas,J.Smith, B.Ikin,B.Moore tries W.Bartrim 4 goals) New South Wales 16 (T.Brasher,A.Muir,R.Wishart tries R.Wishart 2 goals)

1995 Queensland State of Origin team. (Back row; left to right) Dale Shearer, Terry Cook, Gary Larson, Billy Moore, Danny Moore, Ben Ikin, Matt Sing, Brett Dallas; (middle row) Jim Banaghan (Manager), Dave Ryan (tnr), Craig Teevan, Tony Hearn, Chris Close (mgr), Gavin Allen, Robbie O'Davis, Michael Dalgleish (physio), Dr Roy Saunders; (front row) Mark Coyne, Wayne Bartrim, Paul Vautin (coach), Trevor Gillmeister (capt), Ben Wall (mgr), Mark Hohn, Adrian Lam

1998 Queensland State of Origin team (Game 2). (Back row, left to right) Martin Lang, Gorden Tallis, Wendell Sailor, Brad Thorn, Steven Price, Ben Ikin; (middle row) Billy Johnstone (fitness co-ordinator), Kevin Walters, Matt Sing, Tonie Carroll, Tony Spencer (trainer), Steve Renouf, Gary Larson, Darren Lockyer, Wayne Bennett (coach); (front row) Jason Hetherington, Wayne Bartrim, Chris Close (mgr), Allan Langer (capt), Michael Pease (mgr), Darren Smith, Shane Webcke.

2001 State of Origin team game 3. Back Row, (left to right), Dr Roy Saunders, Daniel Wagon, Bradley Meyers, Lote Tuqiri, Petero Civoniceva, Dane Carlaw, Kevin Campion, Gary Belcher (media mgr), Steve Walters (mgr), (middle row), Billy Johnstone (strength and conditioner), Michael Dalgleish (physio), Carl Webb, Darren Smith, Paul Bowman, John Doyle, Dave Ryan (trainer), Tony Spencer (trainer), (front row) Allan Langer, Shane Webcke, Wendell Sailor, Chris Close (mgr), Darren Lockyer (capt), Wayne Bennett, (coach), Paul Green, Chris Walker, John Buttigieg.


22 May 1998	**Queensland** 24 (S.Price(CB), T.Carroll, K.Walters, A.Langer tries D.Lockyer 4 goals) New South Wales 23 (L.Daley, T.Brasher, S.Menzies, R.Wishart, B.Fittler tries A.Johns goal A.Johns field goal)
5 June 1998	**New South Wales** 26 (P.McGregor 2, T.Brasher, A.MacDougall, B.Fittler tries A.Johns 3 goals) Queensland 10 (W.Sailor, M.Sing tries D.Lockyer goal)
19 June 1998	**Queensland** 19 (B.Ikin, K.Walters, A.Langer tries D.Lockyer 2, R.O'Davis goals J.Smith fg) New South Wales 4 (K.McGuinness try)

| 6 May 2001 | **Queensland** 34 (C.Webb, C.Walker, D.Lockyer, D.Smith, J.Doyle, J.Buttigieg tries D.Lockyer 5 goals)
New South Wales 16 (M.Gidley, T.Barrett, B.Fittler tries M.De Vere 2 goals) |
| 10 June 2001 | **New South Wales** 26 (B.Fittler 2, J.Ainscough, T.Barrett, L.Ricketson tries R.Girdler 3 goals)
Queensland 8 (C.Walker try D.Lockyer 2 goals) |
| 1 July 2001 | **Queensland** 40 (C.Walker 2, D.Lockyer 2, P.Bowman 2, D.Carlaw, A.Langer tries D.Lockyer 4 goals)
New South Wales 14 (R.Girdler 2 tries R.Girdler 3 goals) |
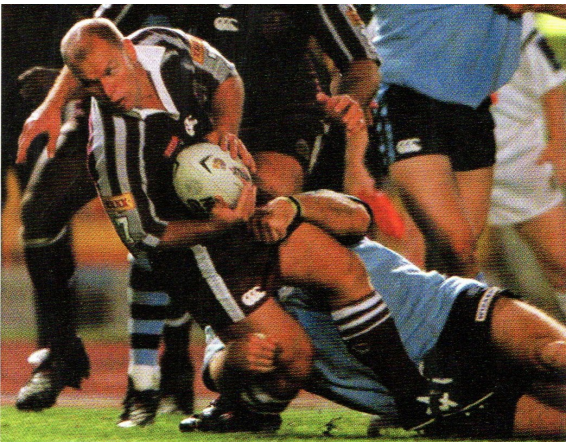
Allan Langer dives over for a try during his extraordinary comeback to Australian rugby league in game three of the 2001 Origin series.

➔ A victorious Wayne Bennett with the player he recalled from England, Allan Langer. The duo tasted Origin success in each of the first three decades of Origin football.
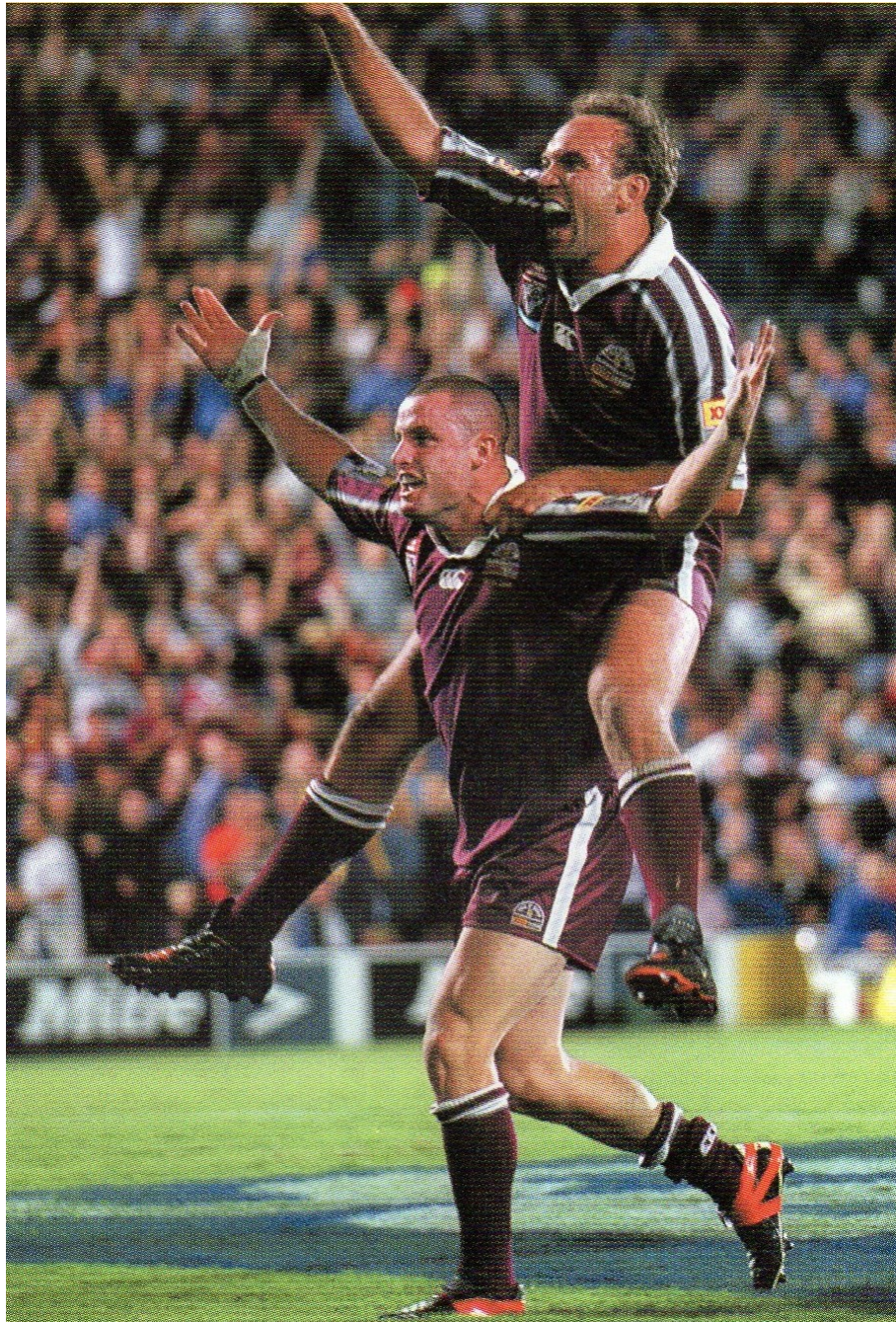
Left: Chris Walker and Gordon Tallis celebrate a try in the 2001 Origin series. **Above:** Dane Carlaw's last minute try in Game 3 of 2002 allowed Queensland to snatch a drawn game and series to retain the shield which could have been a win had the conversion been given to a real kicker instead of Lote Tiquiri. **Below:** Billy Slater's kick ahead twice try in Queensland's only win in the 2004 series.
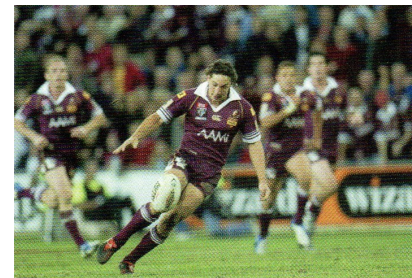
Above: Matt Bowen scores an intercept try in golden point extra time to win 2005 Game 1 by 24-20. Queensland lead 19-0, then NSW came back to lead 20-19, before a wobbly field goal sent it to golden point. **Below:** Almost denied by horror video ref decisions of blatant knock-ons that saw NSW score 2 tries in the decider of 2006, Queensland came back to win 16-14 after Darren Lockyer swooped on a loose ball to score.
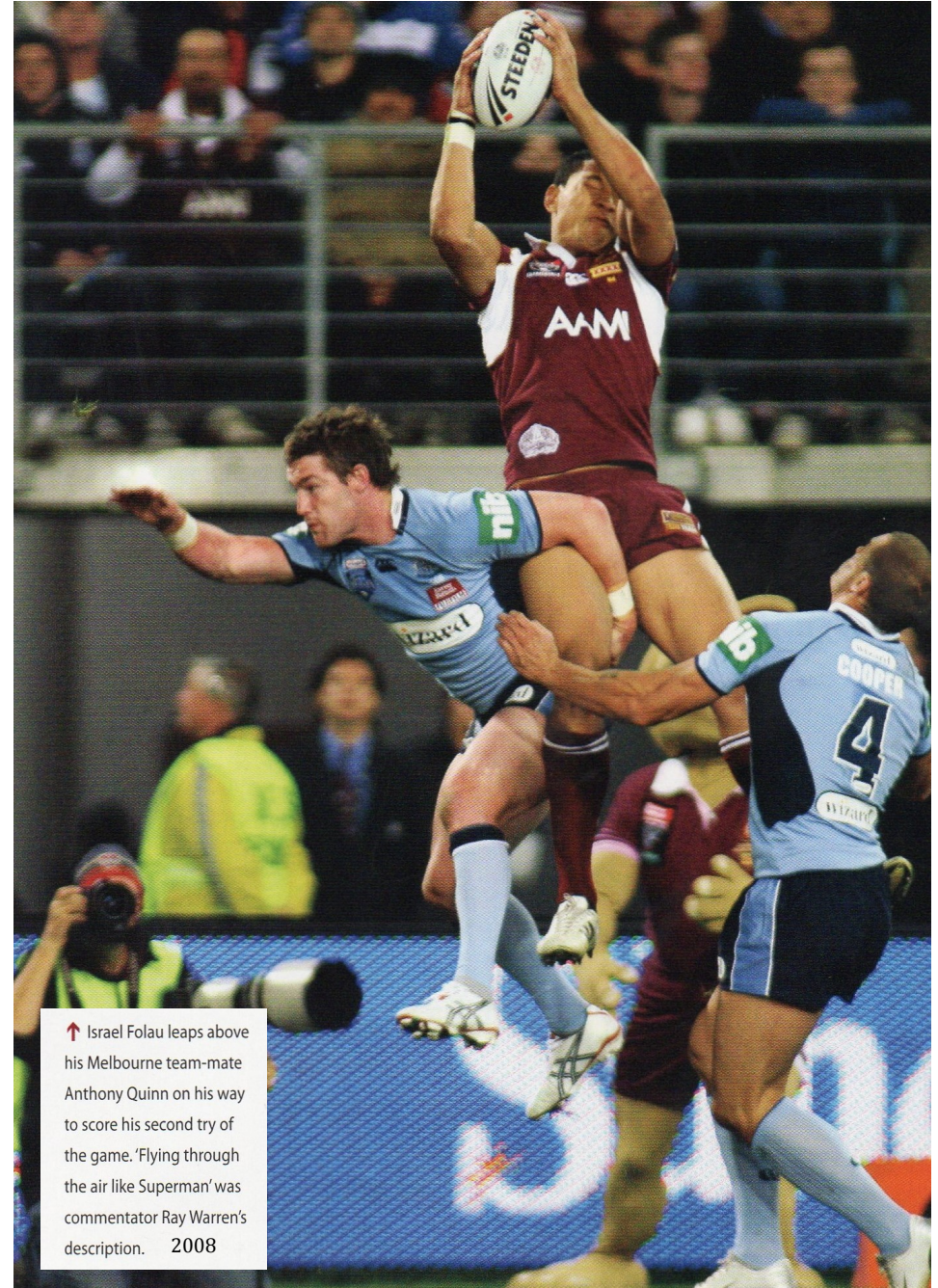
↑ Israel Folau leaps above his Melbourne team-mate Anthony Quinn on his way to score his second try of the game. 'Flying through the air like Superman' was commentator Ray Warren's description.   2008

SPORT

ONE OF A KIND

QLD	21	NSW	20

Steve Ricketts

"THE toughest by far." That was how Queensland skipper Cameron Smith rated this year's State of Origin series in Queensland's seven-year reign after the Maroons won an epic decider 21-20 against NSW at Suncorp Stadium last night.

Coach Mal Meninga revealed Cooper Cronk had been hitting the ball sweetly as he practised his field goals at training at Suncorp on Tuesday night before lining up last night's 75th minute pearler from 39m out to decide the game.

While Origin games have been won by field goals before, a one-pointer has never clinched a series until Cronk's cool strike.

The win sent veteran Queensland prop Petero Civoniceva out a winner in his final Origin game and cemented Maroons halfback Johnathan Thurston as an Origin great with the Cowboys star named man of the match.

Thurston has carried a heavy burden wearing the No.6 jumper of former Queensland skipper Darren Lockyer, who was sent out a winner last year at the same ground. Thurston badly hurt his knee that night and joined the on-field celebrations in a wheelchair.

Last night's game started in explosive fashion with an all-in-brawl and NSW skipper Paul Gallen penalised for striking Brent Tate, but it was Tate who was charged after the match for striking second-rower Greg Bird later in the brawl. With an early guilty plea Tate will not miss a game.

SHOT OF A LIFETIME: Cooper Cronk slots the winning field goal despite a desperate Paul Gallen. Picture: Darren England

25 YEARS OF ORIGIN
STATE OF ORIGIN
Queensland Maroons
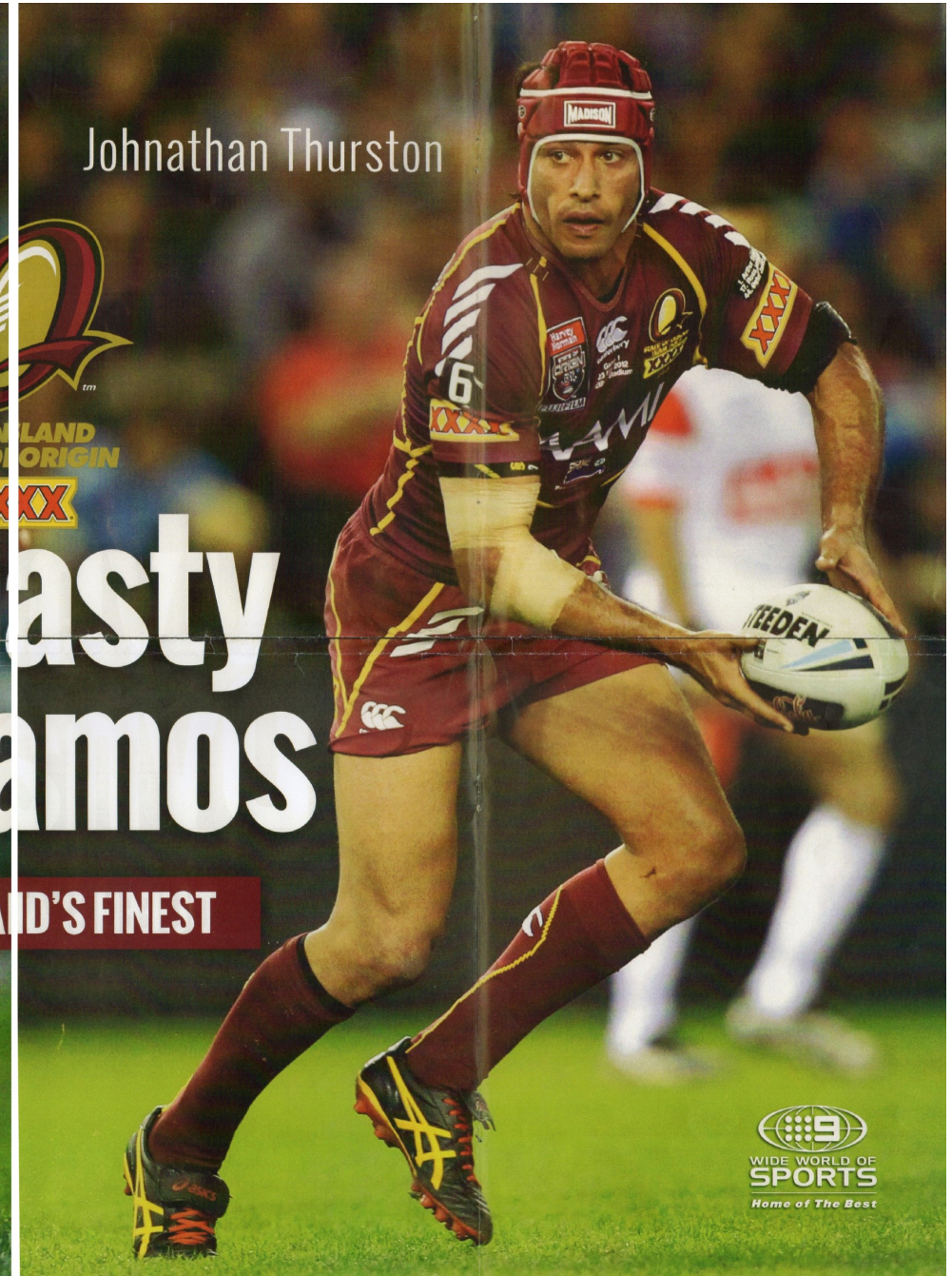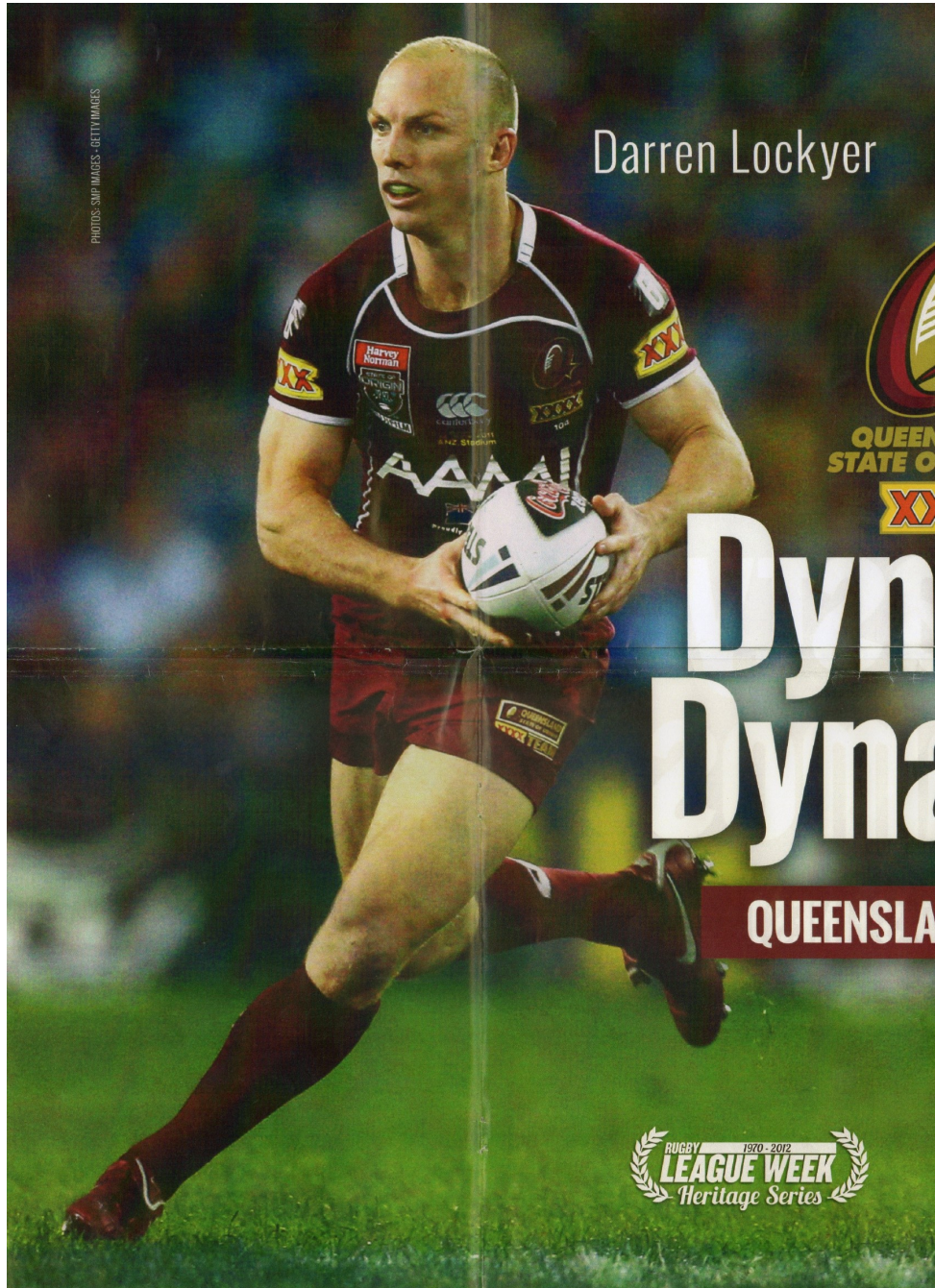
RLW'S BEST EVER QUEENSLAND TEAM

1	Darren **LOCKYER**	11	Gorden **TALLIS**
2	Kerry **BOUSTEAD**	12	Paul **VAUTIN**
3	Mal **MENINGA**	13	Bob **LINDNER**
4	Gene **MILES**		*Interchange*
5	Matt **SING**	14	Martin **BELLA**
6	Wally **LEWIS** (C)	15	Arthur **BEETSON**
7	Allan **LANGER**	16	Dale **SHEARER**
8	Shane **WEBCKE**	17	Gary **LARSON**
9	Steve **WALTERS**		
10	Greg **DOWLING**		Coach: Wayne **BENNETT**

Above: Darren Lockyer retired in 2011 after Queensland's 6th straight series win. Cameron Smith took over as captain and Cooper Cronk teamed up with Jonathan Thurston in the halves. Cooper Cronk potted the winning field goal to win the decider at Lang Park 21-20 in the 2012 State of Origin series making it 7 series in a row. In 2013 they won another tight decider 12-10 to make it 8 series in a row!!!

Darren Lockyer

Johnathan Thurston

Dynasty Dynamos

QUEENSLAND'S FINEST

The **Courier Mail**

OH YES!

HOW SWEET IT IS

SKY HIGH

IN AWE OF FOUR

SWEPT AWAY

SUPER SIX

WINNING STREAK

CELEBR8

STATE OF ORIGIN'S GREATEST TEAM

2006		2007		2008		2009		2010		2011		2012		2013	
GAME 1	NSW 17-16	GAME 1	QLD 25-18	GAME 1	NSW 18-10	GAME 1	QLD 28-18	GAME 1	QLD 28-24	GAME 1	QLD 16-12	GAME 1	QLD 18-10	GAME 1	NSW 14-6
GAME 2	QLD 30-6	GAME 2	QLD 10-6	GAME 2	QLD 30-0	GAME 2	QLD 24-14	GAME 2	QLD 34-6	GAME 2	NSW 18-8	GAME 2	NSW 16-12	GAME 2	QLD 26-6
GAME 3	QLD 16-14	GAME 3	NSW 18-4	GAME 3	QLD 16-10	GAME 3	NSW 28-16	GAME 3	QLD 23-18	GAME 3	QLD 34-24	GAME 3	QLD 21-20	GAME 3	QLD 12-10