

The two rugbies

Who marginalised who
The game or the players

Presentation to Sporting Traditions XIV

Rollo Manning

Rugby aficionado

Darwin NT

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**In 1908 Rugby League was formed from
Rugby Union
to allow players to be paid
1995 saw Rugby Union go professional so
elite players are paid**



**In between there were those stars who enjoyed
the best of
the two rugbies
A tribute to the 50 odd players who represented with
the Wallabies then switched to league 1948 to 1995**

Some became legends

From Top 100 RL players of the 1900s book by Daily
Telegraph

4 Dally MESSENGER

6 Wally LEWIS

33 Chris MCKIVAT

40 Ken THORNETT

55 Ray PRICE

60 Michael O'CONNOR

64 Ken KEARNEY

84 Dick THORNETT

99 Kevin RYAN

Dual Internationals

	RU	RL		RU	RL
Phil Hawthorn	21	3	Stephen Knight*	6	0
Michael O'Connor	13	17	Rex Mossop	5	9
John Brass	12	3	Kevin Ryan	5	2
Dick Thornett	11	11	Chris McKivat	4	??
Arthur Summons	10	9	Robert Honan	2	2
Geoff Richardson	9	2	Dally Messenger	2	7
Ray Price	8	22	Scott Gourlay*	0	1
Ken Kearney	7	25	Ricky Stuart*	0	5
Michael Cleary	6	8			

* toured with Kangaroos/Wallabies but did not play a test

The sacrifice for some was huge



14 The Sydney Morning Herald, Wednesday, Sept. 27, 1950

R.U. EXPELS ALLAN —LEAGUE CONTRACT SEQUEL

By FRANK TIERNEY

Trevor Allan has been expelled from the New South Wales Rugby Union.

Last week Allan signed a contract to play with Leigh (England) Rugby League Club. He will receive a record signing-on fee of £A6,250.

The Rugby Union Council on Monday night "named" and expelled Allan.

ACTION SETS A PRECEDENT

The Council's action is said to be unprecedented in Rugby Union.

said that until such time as the Union informed him of what had transpired he did not feel at liberty to comment.

no action to "name" them by the Union.

Mr. Len Ray (Manly): Manly

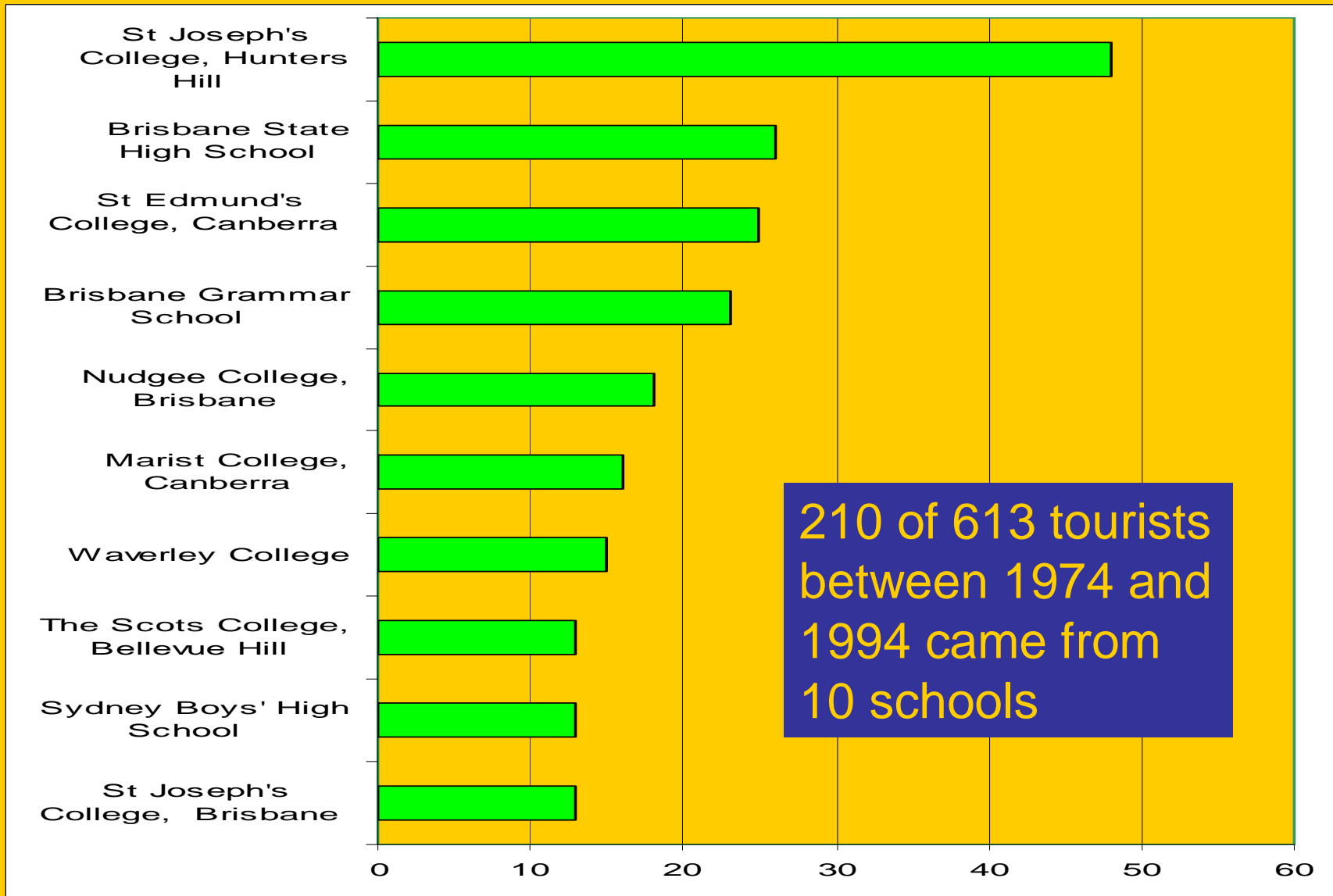
The early ones went to England

1948	Ken Kearney
1948	Bob McMaster
1949	Trevor Allan
1950	Bevan Wilson
1951	Rex Mossop
1952	Neville Emery
1959	Don Lowth
1959	Kevin Ryan
1959	Arthur Summons

The backs became more popular

1960	Peter Dunn
1960	Ed Purkiss
1962	Michael Cleary
1962	Jim Lisle
1963	Peter Jones
1963	Dick Thornett
1965	Robert Honan
1967	David Grimmond
1967	Phil Hawthorn
1967	George Ruebner
1969	Alan Cardy
1969	Phil Smith

The schoolboy tourists came from..



The schoolboys and sons switched

1980	Tony Melrose
1981	Tony D'Arcy
1982	Mitchell Cox
1982	Michael O'Connor
1984	Chris Roche
1987	Darren Junee
1988	Scott Gourlay
1988	James Grant
1988	Brett Papworth
1988	Ricky Stuart
1989	Michael Cook
1989	Andrew Leeds
1989	Steve Lidbury

The final ones went

1990

Brad Burke

1990

Brian Smith

1992

Matt Burke

1994

Garrick Morgan

1995

Peter Jorgensen

1995

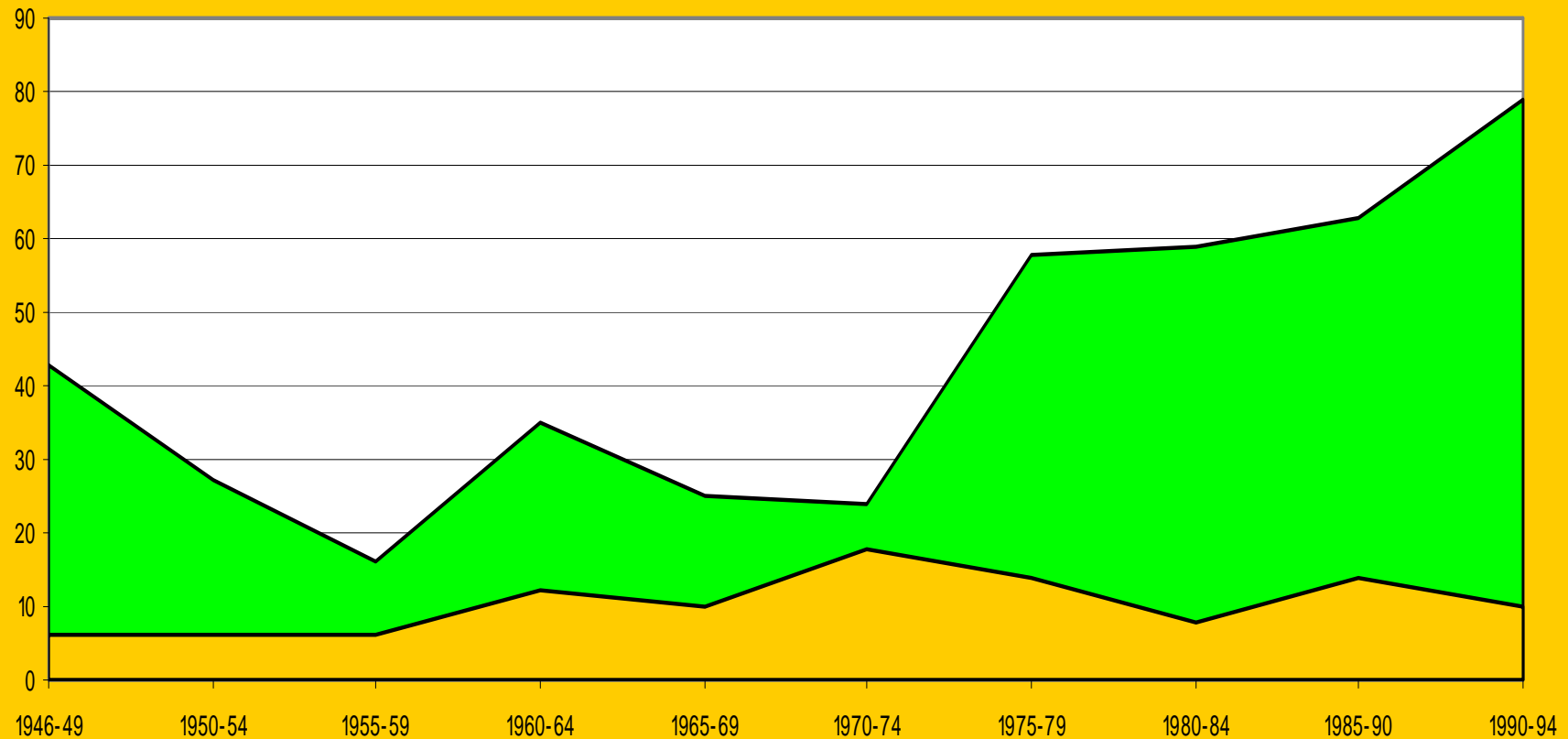
Anthony Herbert

The Wallabies were effected...

1970	John Ballesty	1974	Owen Stephens
1970	John Brass	1975	David Burnett
1970	Peter Moore	1975	Peter Sullivan
1970	Norman Reilly	1976	John Berne
1972	Stephen Knight	1976	Ray Price
1974	John Cole	1977	Jim Hindmarsh
1974	Russell Fairfax	1977	John Ryan
1974	Geoff Richardson	1979	Ken Wright

The players called the tune...

■ Win/Loss as a percentage of all Tests played ■ Switch % of total



And so to the future...

Signing Sailor may be defining moment for codes at the crossroads

Something to shout about: Wendell Sailor's possible defection to union is being spoken about as being as significant as Dally Messenger's move in 1907. **Picture: GARY M. PRIOR/ALLSPORT**



By **PHILIP DERRIMAN**

While Wendell Sailor continues to ponder his options - to stick with rugby league or switch to union - it is becoming increasingly clear to both codes that much more than the winger's future is at stake.

The expectation on either side is that a switch to union by a league player of Sailor's stature would be a watershed event in relations between the two codes, either encouraging other top league players to follow or deterring others now tempted to move.

Who goes where?

Or can you play both?

Will the Wallabies stay on top without more league players?