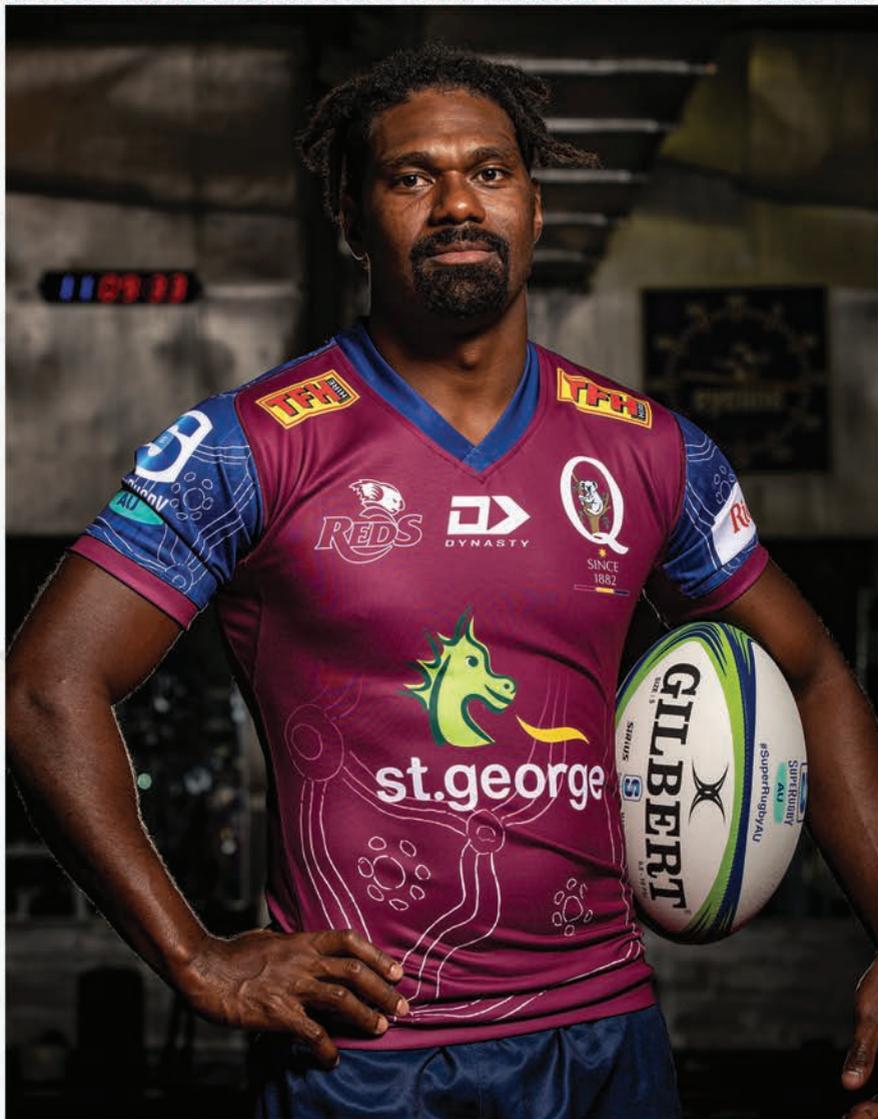


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CONTENTS

FEATURES

President's Message

6

Brandon Paenga-Amosa: A Suncorp Stadium farewell with feeling

8

Community Rugby Collection

18



8



18

TEAM LIST

St.George Queensland Reds

22

Blues

23



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE **Roger Gould**

On behalf of the Queensland Rugby Union, I would like to welcome you to Suncorp Stadium for our final home game of 2021.

Fresh after a thrilling victory over the Chiefs, tonight's match shapes as a blockbuster battle as the St. George Queensland Reds host the top-of-the-table Blues.

The last time we played the Auckland-based outfit here at Suncorp Stadium was back in 2019. That match was also our final home game of the season and the Reds ran out 29-28 winners in an entertaining game of Rugby.

I would like to welcome the Blues back to Brisbane, as well as their coaching staff and team management and I wish them all the best for tonight's Round 4 fixture.

Following their maiden Trans-Tasman victory against the Chiefs last week, the Reds have kept the same starting XV for tonight's game.

There are three changes to the Reds' reserves with Angus Blyth and Sam Wallis recalled into the 23, so too Moses Sorovi as Queensland's replacement scrumhalf in what will be a special night for the proud Torres Strait Islander.

Tonight's match will see the QRU celebrate our 10th annual Indigenous Round, with the Reds wearing their 2021 Indigenous jerseys.

Following the squad's successful Reds to Regions tours which centered on connection with the Queensland community, the design for this year's Indigenous jersey has the same focus.

Created by QRU Future Indigenous Leaders Program (FILP) student Delphine Cecil, the amazing artwork was inspired when she moved away from Woorabinda in central Queensland to attend boarding school in Yeppoon.

Painted in one-sitting, Delphine used memories of the stars and the rugged Australian landscape to maintain her strong connection with her hometown.

First established in 2013, the FILP is a mentoring program the QRU runs in partnership with Rio Tinto in the communities of Cherbourg and Woorabinda where students in Years 6-10 with leadership potential are identified and offered mentoring and support from QRU mentors.

FILP students are encouraged to submit artwork to appear on the St. George Queensland Reds Indigenous Round jersey each year with one student's artwork awarded the winning design.

The Queensland Rugby Union Future Indigenous Leaders Program and also the Reds Indigenous Round is made possible through the support of Rio Tinto.

Tonight's Indigenous Round match will also see the awarding of the Frank Ivory Medal to the Reds' player of the match. The medal is named after Queensland's first Indigenous player.

It's been a successful year for the Reds at Suncorp Stadium that has included winning a championship and equalling the record of 11-straight victories here at home, so here's to finishing off the season with another win tonight.

Thank you for your support this year and your attendance tonight.

Go Reds!

QRU President - Roger Gould

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BRANDON PAENGA-AMOSA:

**A SUNCORP STADIUM
FAREWELL WITH FEELING**

BY JIM TUCKER

Reds hooker Brandon Paenga-Amosa will make an emotional farewell to Suncorp Stadium tonight after revealing he has signed a two-year deal with French club Montpellier.

The popular Paenga-Amosa's final home game for Queensland will have special significance against the Auckland-based Blues.

"I was born in Auckland and grew up going for the Blues. I had a couple of Blues' jerseys as a boy, so this is a game I really want to play well in and get the win for Queensland," Paenga-Amosa said.

Wallabies boss Dave Rennie showed his liking for the BPA package of hustle, nous around the ball and scrum strength by picking him as starting hooker in five Tests last season.

Rugby's favourite ex-garbo will be a loss for Australian rugby because, at, 25, he should be approaching his peak years as a hardened hooker after four seasons of professional rugby.

"It's going to be hard to leave this place. I love Queensland and I love representing the Queensland jersey," Paenga-Amosa said.

"I'm waiting to know if the Wallabies want me as part of the Test program. If so I would stay, for sure, until December when my contract finishes."

Paenga-Amosa, a six-month husband to bride Rina, said he'd made the call to head to France for family reasons and it's in his plans to return.

"Essentially, it came down to wanting to set up my family financially for the future," Paenga-Amosa said.

"I'm not big on going overseas at the end of my career after I turn 30.

"For me, it's more going over now, enjoying the travel when we're young and coming back to settle down with kids later on. Rina will keep BPA in check.

"Definitely, I want to come back. I want to retire in Australia."

You can now understand all the emotion that poured out of Paenga-Amosa when the Reds won the Super Rugby AU title in dramatic style.

"Winning that title was everything. The dream would have been to win both, but I still want to finish off the year strongly with the two Reds'

games to come," he said.

Paenga-Amosa said the 33-3 first half to the Reds' 40-34 win over the Chiefs in Townsville last weekend was pure adrenalin for the team.

"The biggest thing was, we played our game plan, played our structures, because doing what we planned to do was the first time for a while," he said.

"We nailed all our individual jobs. We all stood up together and we're keen for the challenge the Blues will bring to Suncorp."

His fist pump after the Reds' fourth try said it all about enjoying every success by his teammates.

"That fist pump was just a celebration for big Feao (Fotuaika). We all love big Fe and he had a big game," Paenga-Amosa said.

Paenga-Amosa and halfback Moses Sorovi, from Yam Island in the Torres Strait, said they were proud to be wearing the Reds' Indigenous jersey in this match.

On Monday, as the Queensland Rugby Union's Indigenous Program Ambassadors, they attended the "Deadly Threads" exhibition at the State Library of Queensland where the previous nine Reds' Indigenous jerseys were on display.

"For me, I grew up in Gadigal land in Sydney and was always a big advocate for representing the Indigenous," Paenga-Amosa said.

"It's the connection. I love playing for the people I'm representing and it means a lot to me to represent First Nations' people.

"It's not just about rugby. Our Future Indigenous Leaders Program in Queensland is about seeing Indigenous youngsters rise, actually brown kids in general rise, and not being part of the stereotype."

Since the Future Indigenous Leaders Program (FLIP) was born in 2013, it has helped prepared young people for trades, university courses and leadership in their communities.

The FLIP is a program run by the GRU in partnership with Rio Tinto in the communities of Cherbourg and Woorabinda where students in Years 6-10 with leadership potential are offered mentoring and support.

FLIP student Delphine Cecil designed this

year's Reds' Indigenous jersey. She drew on memories of the stars and Australian countryside to maintain her strong connection to her home-town when she moved from Woorabinda to boarding school in Yeppoon.



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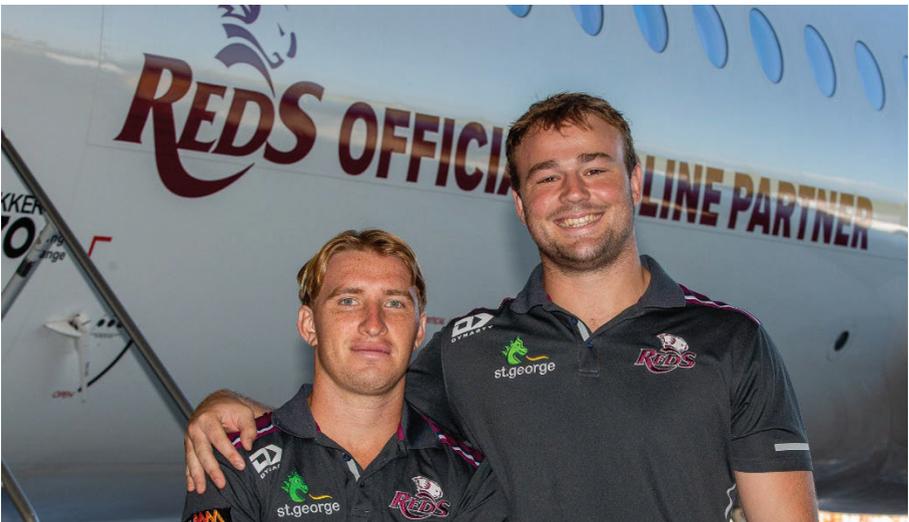
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CAITY COSTELLO:
REPRESENTING HER CULTURE

BY EMMA GILLIGAN

Round 9 of the Allsports Physiotherapy Hospital Challenge Cup offers the opportunity for the Rugby community to acknowledge our First Nations players, staff, families and beyond.

It's a time to learn about the shared histories, cultures and achievements of Indigenous Australians on and off the field.

Bond University winger Caity Costello represents her own heritage and is proudly from the Larrakia Nation, the traditional owners of the Darwin region.

Costello sports her culture on field with the Bullsharks in the Women's Premier Rugby competition, as well as in the Aon University 7s series and as a Bond sports development scholarship student.

For Costello, her heritage and its community have had a strong presence in her family, with both of her parents proud First Nations people.

The Bullshark explained that her culture is one she is proud to celebrate and because of that, it's hard to summarise in a few words when asked.

"I wouldn't know how to answer that, I don't think I could answer that," Costello says.

"It's definitely prevalent in my family. I'm Indigenous on both sides, so Mum and Dad's side."

"I'm a part of the Larrakia Nation, which is from the Darwin Area, which is also Arnhem Land area."

"Mum and Dad both grew up there. Dad was born in Catherine."

Costello and her family's community, the Larrakia people, were accommodating to the First Settlers, providing food before moving out away from the city to create camps and continue their culture.

Known as 'Saltwater People', the Larrakia founded a community and lifestyle on their strong relationship with the sea and trading with neighbouring groups and fellow communities.

For Costello, her heritage and its connection to the sea ensures it is no coincidence that she found a new community at 'The Canal'.

Bond's participation in the Indigenous round extends to celebrations within their own club.

As a way of representing all the many cultures of the club on and off the field, the club's annual 'Culture Night' will be held on Saturday.

A part of the club calendar for the last two years, Costello admires the club's ability to further the awareness of their players, families and staff's heritage.

"At Bond, they make the effort every year, whether its jerseys or socks to separate the Indigenous Round from the rest and make it a little bit more important," Costello says.

"I'm looking forward to Culture Night. Everyone brings a plate to represent their culture and where they are from, so it's just a big feast with everyone.

"The theme is to represent your tribe and represent your culture. I think everyone will be dressing up whether that's Indigenous, or Samoan or Pacific Islander for example."

Making their debut last year, the Bond Women are looking to further their success as they continue into their second year of the competition.

Coming off three consecutive wins, the side head into this weekend with solid prospects to better the finals position they earned last year.

After last week's 98-5 victory against the Brethren, the Bullsharks are in great form, with the club's focus remaining on developing young female players.

With wins like last week's, it's clear that it's working.

"We had a great start to the season," Costello says.

"We've got experienced players in the group that usually lead on the field.

"We want to focus on execution and the one-percenters. Our attack will come but our defence, we just need to make sure we get the basics right."

Sitting in fourth spot with a finals finish looming, this week's clash is another important fixture for the Bond side against Souths.

"We have Souths at home which will be a good contest, it always is," Costello says.

"Souths are always ready to play."

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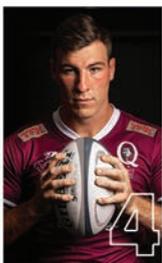
BRANDON PAENGA-AMOSA

112KG | 183CM
25YRS
SUNNYBANK



TANIELA TUOUPU

128KG | 175CM
24YRS
BROTHERS



RYAN SMITH

118KG | 199CM
24YRS
BROTHERS



LUKHAN SALAKAIA-LOTO

127KG | 198CM
24YRS
SOUTHS



ANGUS SCOTT-YOUNG

108KG | 194CM
23YRS
UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND



LIAM WRIGHT

101KG | 194CM
23YRS
EASTS



HARRY WILSON

106KG | 195CM
21YRS
BROTHERS



TATE MCDERMOTT

82KG | 179CM
22YRS
UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND



JAMES O'CONNOR

93KG | 181CM
30YRS
BROTHERS



FILIPO DAUGUNU

91KG | 175CM
25YRS
WESTS



ISAAC HENRY

94KG | 183CM
21YRS
WESTS



HUNTER PAISAMI

96KG | 172CM
22YRS
WESTS



SULIASI VUNIVALU

99KG | 192CM
25YRS
WESTS



BRYCE HEGARTY

92KG | 185CM
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