

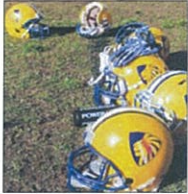
AMERICAN FOOTBALL

# Victory worth wait

## LIONS TURN TABLES OF INTERSTATE RIVALRY



MVP Kieman Dorney.



Lions' helmets at half time.



Wide receiver Anthony Tuong.

**Matt Pearson**

IT'S been a long wait but NSW has finally conquered Queensland in an oval-ball game.

Sydney University Lions, state champions for the last ten years, defeated Queensland champions Gold Coast Stingrays 45-13 in the curtain-raiser for the American Football season. It is the first time the state champions have played each other and Lions head coach Andrew Ogborne said the new format added another dimension.

"There was certainly a bit of Origin background to it," he said. "Just looking at some of the stuff going on on Facebook and Twitter, there were a lot of people from Queensland bemoaning the fact that it was unusual to see a Queensland team beaten by NSW."

"We were getting messages of support from other teams in our league to say, 'I'm going to be a Sydney Uni fan for the day', so the

inter-state rivalry is alive and well."

The Lions dominated from the start, and opened up a 30-0 lead at the break before extending the lead to 45-0 in the second period.

Late consolation tries from the Stingrays didn't dent Ogborne's confidence in his side's title chances.

"A coach is never entirely satisfied but we're in good shape," he said.

"I'd be disappointed if we don't win it (the state title). The other teams in NSW are certainly closing that gap though - the UTS Gators, the Sutherland Seahawks, the Wollongong Mustangs, are all very good teams."

### NSW GRIDIRON

- The NSW American football league (the Waratah bowl) begins on August 24
- Sydney University Lions are looking to win the title for the 11th successive year
- The Lions take on last year's beaten finalists UTS Gators in their first game



Sydney Uni Lions' players celebrate a touchdown in their 45-13 win over Gold Coast Stingrays.

Pictures: John Appleyard

RUGBY



Shaun Treweek.

## Pirates miss out on top four

A COMFORTABLE win over bottom club Penrith was not enough to secure a top-four berth for West Harbour.

Saturday's 30-12 win at Concord Oval was the Pirates' tenth win of the Shute Shield season.

Results elsewhere mean they are certain to finish fifth and secure a home qualifying final against whoever finishes eighth, likely to be either Warringah, Northern Suburbs or Randwick.

Vaka Manu, Shaun Treweek, Winston Wilson and Macquire Tatola all crossed the line for Wests.

Treweek - who has enjoyed a good patch of late-season form - added eight points with the boot. The Pirates looked comfortable throughout but were unable to convert possession into points.

In their final regular season game Pirates host Northern Suburbs at 3pm at Concord Oval.

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