




Speech By
Donna Kirkland

MEMBER FOR ROCKHAMPTON

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ADJOURNMENT

Upton, Ms T

 **Mrs KIRKLAND** (Rockhampton—LNP) (9.08 pm): Tonight I would like to do a little bit of a shout-out to yet another incredible CQ legend, Tamika Upton. Tamika Upton is the co-captain of the Queensland Maroons and Brisbane Broncos. She became the first NRLW player to win the Dally M Medal for a second time and she was the driving force behind the Broncos—under the leadership of Minister Mander—winning their first NRLW grand final in five years. Tamika scored a whopping 19 tries in 12 games. She is acknowledged as the No. 1 female player in the world and is favourite to be named the 2025 Golden Boot winner.

Did members know that Tamika is a proud Rockyite, having been born in Rockhampton in 1997? She first played rugby league as a child in Blackwater and then grounded herself in touch football before transitioning to rugby league. Former clubs that Tamika played for include Newcastle Knights, CQ Capras and Burleigh Bears.

Tamika was named 2025 fullback of the year and crowned 2025 NRLW player of the year. Her 2025 stats are outstanding: 14 try assists, 53 tackle breaks and 20 line breaks, and she averaged almost 140 run metres per game. I must confess that some of that went over my head, but it is written and worth acknowledging. Tamika was also awarded the players' player, best back and play of the year for her four-try haul in round 9 versus the Bulldogs.

She holds a 100 per cent win record in first grade rugby league—her achievements go on—and she now holds two NRLW premierships with the Broncos, plus two State of Origin titles for Queensland. It has been said that Tamika brings star power, spectacle and explosive attack every season. This is my opportunity to extend the state's congratulations to Tamika Upton. May she continue to inspire young sports stars for many years to come. We breed them tough in Rockhampton. One could say that these players, along with her colleagues, are why the CQ Rams should be the next NRL team.