



1959 Round 18 Saturday 18th July Pratten Park



Western Suburbs 27

def.

North Sydney 15



Darcy RUSSELL (c)
Darcy HENRY
Harry WELLS
Joe RYAN
Peter DIMOND
Roger BUTTENSCHAW
Keith HOLMAN
Jack BOWMAN
Kel O'SHEA
Bill CARSON
Mark PATCH
Bede GOFF
Nev CHARLTON

Fullback
Wing
Centre
Centre
Wing
Five-eighth
Half
Lock
Second Row
Second Row
Front Row
Hooker
Front Row

John JONES
Ken IRVINE
Bob HONEYSETT (c)
Paul CUNEO
Brian CARLSON
Dave HOLMAN
Ray LOVE
Neville WALL
Jack BROWN
Bill SANDSTROM
Bernie CUNEO
Norm STRONG
Jack BLINKHORN

Tries

Joe RYAN (2)
Jack BOWMAN
Bill CARSON
Peter DIMOND
Darcy HENRY
Kel O'SHEA

Ray LOVE
Bob HONEYSETT
Paul CUNEO

Goals

Darcy RUSSELL (3)

Johnny JONES (3)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: D Russell (c); three-quarters: D Henry, H Wells, J Ryan, P Dimond; five-eighth: R Buttenschaw; half: K Holman; forwards: J Bowman, K O'Shea, W Carson, M Patch, B Goff, N Charlton

North Sydney: Full-back: J Jones; three-quarters: B Carlson, B Honeysett (c), P Cuneo, K Irvine; five-eighth: D Holman; half: R Love; forwards: N Wall, J Brown, W Sandstrom, B Cuneo, N Strong, J Blinkhorn **Referee: C Pearce (The Sun 18th July 1959)**

North Sydney yesterday dropped out of the 1959 Rugby League competition in uninspired fashion. Western Suburbs defeated Norths 27-14, and had the match won long before the final bell. Wests scored seven tries to three. Norths played without vigor for a team which faced elimination from the semi-finals if it lost. Centre Bob Honeysett tried desperately to rally his men and repeatedly carved big openings. But he could not inspire some of his forwards to hammer Wests' pack. Norths' forwards allowed Mark Patch, Nev Charlton and Bill Carson – playing an unorthodox barging type of forward game – to outplay them through sheer brawn and resolution. There was little attempt to outwit the big Wests' pack or run them ragged through speed. Wests' full-back Darcy Russell helped Norths to stay in the match until 15 minutes from the end by kicking only three of his 12 shots at goal. As a football match, it had some fine moments, especially when Norths' half Ray Love scored late in the second half. Five men handled in this movement after a superbly belligerent run by Honeysett. Even fanatical Wests' supporters among the crowd of 10,455 cheered Norths. North Sydney, 1959, now can be remembered as the team which won its seven matches and only two of its next 11. Wests' hooker, Bede Goff, curiously omitted from discussions about Kangaroo hookers, contributed largely to his team's win yesterday with an 11-7 advantage over Norm Strong in the second half. Wests' coach Vic Hey was elated with the manner in which his team whipped a side premier St George had struggled to overcome a week earlier. Wests owed much yesterday to Mark Patch's bullocking runs through Norths' forwards and to the persistence of Nev Charlton. Keith Holman gave a shrewd display in which he frequently set off his backline on dangerous raids. The early exchanges were torrid, with Norths' pack struggling to hold Wests' physically stronger forwards. Wests' lock Buddy Bowman left the field with blood streaming from a head wound but returned after three minutes to play splendidly. O'Shea was far happier in the second-row than at lock. He carried North full-back Johnny Jones with him over the line to score a try Brian Carlson should have prevented with a full-blooded tackle. Henry, too, eluded Carlson and full-back Jones to score. Norths rallied momentarily when Paul Cuneo, a good player, without confidence, beat Wests' Darcy Russell to his own kick ahead to score under the crossbar. Wests led 8-5 at half-time. Dimond, Ryan, and Bowman scored tries early in the second half, but still Norths had a chance. Honeysett scored with an admirable piece of determined running, which took him through when he seemed held. Ryan scored his second try for Wests after several team-mates handled. (Sunday Telegraph 19th July 1959)

Notes: Wests had won the Third Grade Minor Premiership by beating Norths 16-9 in an earlier match so the mood was high as Wests took the field, also knowing they could knock Norths out of the race with a win in First Grade. The Wests' forwards, led by a rampaging Mark Patch, were a superior pack. Nev Charlton was, as usual, a tower of strength. This was a strong win heading into the semi-finals.