



1961 Round 7 Saturday 20th May Cricket Ground



Western Suburbs 19

def.

Eastern Suburbs 12

Don PARISH
 John MOWBRAY
 Bill BROWN
 Bill MARTIN
 Peter DIMOND
 Keith HOLMAN
 Arthur SUMMONS
 Kevin SMYTH
 Bill CARSON
 John HAYES
 Denis MEANEY
 John DAWSON
 Nev CHARLTON (c)

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

Ron HANSON
 Boyce BEETON
 Bill RONEY
 Doug RICKETSON
 Bob LANDERS
 Bill MCNAMARA
 Bruce RAINIER
 Dick SEE
 Bob HEFFERNAN
 Bob McDONAGH
 Jack GIBSON
 Ken ASHCROFT
 Terry FEARNLEY (c)

Tries Don PARISH
 Kevin SMYTH
 Arthur SUMMONS

Ron HANSON
 BILL RONEY

Goals Don PARISH (5)

Bob LANDERS (3)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: D Parish; three-quarters: J Mowbray, W Martin, W Brown, P Dimond; five-eighth: K Holman; half: A Summons; forwards: K Smythe, J Hayes, W Carson, D Meaney, J Dawson, N Charlton (c)

Eastern Suburbs: Full-back: R Hanson; three-quarters: B Beeton, D Ricketson, W Roney, B Landers; five-eighth: W McNamara; half: B Rainier; forwards: R See, B McDonagh, B Heffernan, J Gibson, K Ashcroft, T Fearnley (c) **Referee: C Brown (The Sun 20th May 1961)**

International Rugby League utility back Don Parish yesterday staked an outstanding claim for the full-back spot in this year's representative football. Parish played a major hand in a magnificent fight-back to defeat Eastern Suburbs 19-12 at Sydney Cricket Ground. Wests trailed 10-0 after 25 minutes' play and was down 10-5 at half-time. The victory was a triumph for Wests, which was without internationals Harry Wells (centre) and Kel O'Shea (second-rower). Parish contributed 13 of Wests' 19 points with a try and five goals. Parish did not make a mistake except for missing a couple of easy shots at goal from penalties in the first half. *He was dynamic * He chimed into raids to give Wests an overlap and in doing so exploited a neat touch of acceleration which was an unending worry to Easts' defence. *He sealed Wests' victory with a splendid try which he converted a minute from the end. Highlight of his outstanding play was a masterly blind-side move five minutes before half-time. He called for the ball on the blind-side of a scrum 10 yards from the touch line at half-way. His choice to take this route and his cleverness with which he escaped Easts' blind-side defence in such restricted space showed a touch of football genius.In recent matches he has improved rapidly as a full-back. His display yesterday was easily the best by a full-back at Sydney Cricket Ground this season. ... Two other Wests' players yesterday played parts only slightly less distinguished than Parish. They were half-back Arthur Summons and John Hayes – one of the brightest of the League's younger forwards. Easts did not have the best of luck. Its most consistently good forward Bob Heffernan suffered torn shoulder muscles after only two minutes' play in the second-half. Heffernan was off the field five minutes, then defied a doctor's advice and returned to the field with his left arm hanging limply at his side. The injury took a lot of sting out of Heffernan. But the setback did not influence the result of the match. No team that gains a 10-0 lead, as Easts had, should lose. ... A crowd of 24,601 – the second biggest of the season – cheered both teams from the field for an excellent game. Wests missed O'Shea in the forwards in the first half. The forwards were much too loose. O'Shea, a great craftsman, would have been the man to draw them in tighter in defence. This looseness in West's forwards let Easts in for its 10-0 lead. The ten points came from two tries which Bob Landers converted. The first try – the most spectacular of the season – came in the 14th minute. It was a forwards' try, although full-back Ron Hanson scored. Second-rower Bob Heffernan started the move when he ran from a ruck 70 yards from the line. Lock Dick See, second-rower Bob McDonagh and hooker Ken Ashcroft carried on the good work. Heffernan started with chain-passing and changes in the direction of attack until Hanson chimed in for the past pass. The move left Wests' defence standing. Front-rower Terry Fearnley paved the way for the second try when he ran right through a midfield ruck. Fearnley sent centre Bill Roney on to score the try. Wests reduced the lead with a converted try a minute before half-time. Half-back Summons scored the try when he ran wide on the blind-side of a ruck and sliced through East's outer defence. Parish reduced the lead to 10-9 with two penalty goals in the first 13 minutes of the second half. Wests gained a 14-12 lead within the next 7 minutes. First Landers kicked a penalty goal for Easts. Then lock Kevin Smyth scored a try which Parish converted for Wests. ... **(Sunday Telegraph 21st May 1961)**

Notes: Don Parish was outstanding and put in strong claims for representative honours. Arthur Summons also played his best match since transferring from Rugby Union. Kevin Smyth also shone, with his cover defence punishing. Down 10-0, Wests again finished very strongly to put the issue beyond doubt with a late Smyth try.