



# 1976 Round 10 Sunday 23rd May North Sydney Oval



**Western Suburbs 41**

**def.**

**North Sydney 12**



Wayne SMITH  
 Don ROGERS  
 Ron GITEAU  
 Robbie PARKER  
 Russell MULLINS  
 Graeme O'GRADY  
 Tom RAUDONIKIS (c)  
 Les BOYD  
 Geoff FOSTER  
 Jim MURPHY  
 John DONNELLY  
 John PURCELL  
 Peter YOUNG  
 Geoff SMITH  
 Steve RIGNEY

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

Mark TONKS  
 Paul HOPE  
 Peter Van GULIK  
 Gordon WEST  
 Terry ADAMS  
 Tim MURPHY (c)  
 Gary PRETTI  
 Geoff MURPHY  
 Bruce WALKER  
 John MILLER  
 Neville MAKIN  
 Bruce FOYE  
 Mick HEALEY  
 Grahame FURLONGE  
 John RAWLINS

**Tries**

Russell MULLINS (3)  
 Jim MURPHY (2)  
 Les BOYD  
 Ron GITEAU  
 Graeme O'GRADY  
 John PURCELL  
 Steve RIGNEY  
 Don ROGERS

Mick HEALEY  
 Tim MURPHY

**Goals**

Ron GITEAU (4)

Mark TONKS (3)

**Match Description**

**Western Suburbs:** Full-back: W Smith; three-quarters: D Rogers, R Giteau, R Parker, R Mullins; five-eighth: G O'Grady; half: T Raudonikis (c); forwards: L Boyd, G Foster, J Murphy, J Donnelly, J Purcell, P Young

**North Sydney:** Full-back: M Tonks; three-quarters: P Hope, P Van Gulik, G West, T Adams; five-eighth: T Murphy (c); half: G Pretti; forwards: G Murphy, B Walker, J Miller, N Makin, B Foye, M Healey **Referee: K Roberts (Rugby League Week 29th May 1976)**

Western Suburbs yesterday cut loose in an 11-try extravaganza – to remind their critics that they pack a punch in attack as well as in defence. On the receiving end of Wests' 41-12 romp were the long-suffering North Sydney Bears. The premiership-bent Wests were in full command with a 22-12 half-time lead and the quick-fire hat-trick of tries that followed by winger Russell Mullins simply piled on the agony. Coach Don Parish was able to call off his top henchmen, Tom Raudonikis and John Donnelly, with 20 minutes play left. Wests were left to reap a \$1000 Wills bonus from their huge try tally and Norths retired, conceding 41 points for the second week in a row. ... **(Daily Telegraph 24th May 1976)**

Western Suburbs' representative rejects, lock Les Boyd and winger Russell Mullins, slammed their knockers with excellent games in Wests' 41-12 win over North Sydney at North Sydney Oval. An upset looked possible when Norths raced to a 12-6 lead after 24 minutes, due to hooker Bruce Foye caning Wests' John Purcell 7-1 in the scrums. Foye injured his leg shortly before half-time and, with more ball from the scrums, Wests struck. Boyd tore into the Norths' forwards with great zest and set up three of the four tries Wests scored in the 16 minutes before half-time. He scored the first. The only try he did not feature in during the first half was scored by Purcell, and was the turning point of the game. Norths centre Peter van Gulik attempted a clearing kick inside his quarter, only to see the ball rebound on Purcell's head. The ball bounced into the in-goal area and Purcell, the only player following through, touched down. The conversion by centre Ron Giteau made the score to 12-11 in Norths' favour, but it was obvious that Wests were not done with. Norths' coach Noel Kelly, lamenting his side's loss, had an apt quote after the game. Running through the injury toll, he said: "Bruce Foye injured leg, Tim Murphy bruised shin, Peter van Gulik broken nose, and I've got a broken heart." **(Sydney Morning Herald 24th May 1976)**

**Notes:** Norths had a lot of players out injured, but this was still an impressive Wests' performance. Starting slowly after a bruising last week Balmain encounter, Wests were on top by half-time, 22-12, and the match became a procession. Les Boyd was again outstanding while Graeme O'Grady had his best match of the season. Tom Raudonikis continued his dazzling run with another best-on-ground performance. He and Boyd were both rested with 20 minutes to go, replaced by Geoff Smith and Steve Rigney.