1973 Round 12 Sunday 10th June North Sydney Oval

Western Suburbs 20   def.   North Sydney 11

Western Suburbs	Position	North Sydney
Tony FORD	*Fullback*	Barry GLASGOW
Stephen SATTERLY	*Wing*	Bruce WARWICK
Stephen KNIGHT	*Centre*	Mal McLACHLIN
Robbie PARKER	*Centre*	Keith HARRIS
Russell MULLINS	*Wing*	George VARELLA
Neville SINCLAIR	*Five-eighth*	Tim PICKUP
Tom RAUDONIKIS (c)	*Half*	Keith OUTTEN
John BAKER	*Lock*	Eddie HEATLEY
Geoff FOSTER	*Second Row*	Mick HEALEY
Barry BRYANT	*Second Row*	Bruce WALKER (c)
Jim CODY	*Front Row*	Dave COOPER
Shane DAY	*Hooker*	Bruce FOYE
John O'BRYAN	*Front Row*	Steve WINTER
Terry MULLINS	*Replacement*	Rex MURPHY
Jim MYERS	*Replacement*	Phil GIERSCH

	Western Suburbs	North Sydney
Tries	Russell MULLINS	George VARELLA
	Tom RAUDONIKIS	
	Robbie PARKER	
	John O'BRYAN	
Goals	Tony FORD (4)	Barry GLAGOW (4)

Match Description
Western Suburbs: Full-back: A Ford; three-quarters: S Satterly, S Knight, R Parker, R Mullins; five-eighth: N Sinclair; half: T Raudonikis (c); forwards: J Baker, B Bryant, G Foster, J O'Bryan, S Day, J Cody
North Sydney: Full-back: B Glasgow; three-quarters: B Warwick, M McLachlan, K Harris, G Varella; five-eighth: T Pickup; half: K Outten; forwards: E Heatley, M Healey, B Walker, D Cooper, B Foye, S Winter   **Referee: B Cross   (The Sun 8th June 1973)**

Western Suburbs yesterday showed some of the form which earlier in the season stamped them as Rugby League semi-finalist when they defeated North Sydney 20-11 at North Sydney Oval. More rugged with the addition of Jim Cody to their forwards, and with the backline producing a wonderful defensive performance, Wests did not allow Norths into the game. At one stage, Wests skipped to a 15-0 lead, and many of the crowd of 5811 expected Norths to fold, as they have done so often in the past. But to their credit, the Bears fought back to 15-8, and turned in a much more robust second half. Counting their wounded after the game, Norths found they have hard forward Eddie Heatley in doubt for the near future with a suspected broken hand, and Bruce Warwick out with a shoulder injury. Norths were never in the game from the fourth minute, when Wests' prop John O'Bryan took advantage of a handling mishap to score in the corner. Then winger Russell Mullins darted in from the blindside of a scrum to score next to the posts, inuring a shoulder in the process. Mullins was replaced almost immediately by his brother, Terry. Much as Norths tried, they could not break the Western Suburbs tight defence. Five-eighth Timmy Pickup was blotted out of the game by Neville Sinclair, who had switched from lock to replace John Heyward. When he did run, Pickup was quickly put to ground by Sinclair, or his former Manly Rugby Union team-mates Robbie Parker or Stephen Knight. Wests played much better than their three wins and six competition points before yesterday would indicate. They relied heavily on the forwards, who all turned in solid 80-minute performances. John Baker, who played lock when Sinclair moved to five-eighth, had an outstanding game. He was well supported by Cody, O'Bryan, and the hefty Geoff Foster. Tommy Raudonikis was his usual busy self. Full-back Tony Ford worried the life out of Norths, with his line-kicking, be they line kicks or "up-and-unders." Norths suffered from a lack of variety in attack. They had several opportunities to score but could not finish them off, while Wests took advantage of every break. Both teams used their full quota of replacements., Rex Murphy coming on in the centres when Heatley went off for Norths, and Phil Giersch replacing Bruce Warwick. Apart from the Mullins' brothers exchange, Jim Myers replaced Barry Bryant late in the game for Wests. **(Daily Telegraph 11th June 1973)**

.. "That's a pleasant shock," a relieved Wests' coach Don Parish, said, after hearing that bottom placed teams, Balmain and Penrith, had been beaten. ... Wests' Test half-back Tom Raudonikis was ably supported by full-back Tony Ford, who had Norths back-pedaling for most of the time, chasing spiralling punt kicks. He also booted four goals from seven attempts; the two that missed rebounded off the cross-bar. **(Sydney Morning Herald 11th June 1973)**

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Notes: Wests shot back into the winning list with a dominant display. The return of Jim Cody stiffened the forward defence and they raced to a 15-0 lead. Russell Mullins injured a shoulder after scoring a good try and was replaced by brother, Terry. Barry Bryant also went off late, replaced by Jim Myers. John Heyward was a late withdrawal and Neville Sinclair went to five-eighth and Baker to lock. Both had outstanding games and were the major factor in the win.