



1983 Round 14 Sunday 29th May Lidcombe Oval



North Sydney 14

def.

Western Suburbs 10

Larry KELLY
Allan SHEPPARD
Darren RODGERS
John ADAM
Chris LUCKMAN
Mitchell COX
Laurie SPINA
Alan BURNS
Mark GRAHAM (c)
Fred TEADSELL
Don MCKINNON
Phil RITCHIE
Lindsay JOHNSTON
John GRAY
Neigel TAIT

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

Warren BOLAND (c)
Steve BROUGHTON
Wayne SMITH
Jeff CASE
David GREENE
Brett DAVIDSON
Terry LAMB
John COGGER
Michael DUKE
Brian BATTESE
John DONNELLY
Arthur MOUNTIER
Bruce CLARK
Ian FREEMAN



Tries Fred TEADSELL
Mitchell COX

Terry LAMB
Steve BROUGHTON

Goals Larry KELLY (3)

David GREENE (1)

Match Description

North Sydney: Full-back: L Kelly; three-quarters: A Sheppard, D Rodgers, J Adam, C Luckman; five-eighth: M Cox; half: L Spina; forwards: A Burns, F Teasdell, M Graham (c), D McKinnon, P Ritchie, L Johnston

Western Suburbs: Full-back: W Boland (c); three-quarters: S Broughton, W Smith, J Case, D Greene; five-eighth: B Davidson; half: T Lamb; forwards: J Cogger, M Duke, B Battese, B Clark, A Mountier, J Donnelly **Referee: B Barnes (The Sun 30th May 1983)**

North Sydney bounced into the top five with a 14-10 win against Western Suburbs at Lidcombe Oval yesterday – much to the puzzlement of Bears’ coach John Hayes. Norths were starved of possession, losing the scrums 13-4 and conceding 16 penalties to eight, but managed to scrape home on the kicking of full-back Larry Kelly. Hayes said: “I’m pleased with the effort and the result, but not the execution.” He said Wests had improved 40 per cent since their previous meeting, mainly because of better team selections. “Bruce Clark and John Donnelly add some authority to the team, and John Cogger has a bit of devil in him,” said Hayes. Magpie’ coach Len Stacker was almost treating the game as a win. “It will go down in the record books as a loss, but the effort of our blokes out there was more than I could have wished for. The spirit in the club is growing every day. The players are training harder than ever and luck will start running our way very shortly,” said Stacker. Norths jumped to an early 6-0 lead when second-rower Fred Teasdell scored after a scrappy patch of play by Wests. But with a glut of possession, the Magpies charged to what looked a match-winning 10-6 lead with two unconverted tries and a penalty. With 20 minutes remaining, however, Bears’ five-eighth Mitchell Cox followed up a fine break by captain Mark Graham to score near the posts and the conversion made the final score 14-10. Wests had every chance to save the match, but could not capitalize on having 18 straight tackles in the final minutes. The Bears’ camp was delighted with the performance of hooker John Gray in reserves and 16 minutes in first grade. Wests were best served by full-back and captain Warren Boland, who now wears head-gear following three bouts of concussion this year. Boland has found a new lease of life since moving from the wing, involving himself a lot more in games. **(Daily Telegraph 30th May 1983)**

Reporting on a Rugby League match at Lidcombe Oval is generally a pleasurable experience. The press box is one of the warmest around. The cups of coffee, sandwiches and sausage rolls at half-time are always looked forward to, and the wit and hospitality of the popular Western Suburbs secretary is hard to beat. But the happenings on the field have recently made the train trip seem a drudge. With Wests having problems performing like a top-ranking football team this season, most games in “fibro-land” have been embarrassments. Warren Boland, the Wests’ captain and full-back, tried valiantly to play a shepherd’s role, aiming to round-up his players by getting involved in everything. But it proved to no avail, despite Wests having more possession. The small crowd of 4,011 soon grew disinterested and the atmosphere was more reminiscent of a village-green croquet match. ... **(Sydney Morning Herald 30th May 1983)**

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Notes: The match from the previous week against Manly had been washed out and a refreshed Wests’ team was very unlucky to lose this match. Terry Lamb was back, scoring a good try and easily being Wests’ best. Donnelly and Clark up front also gave the extra ‘starch’ needed in the forwards. Warren Boland also had a great game at full-back. The winning Norths’ try by Mitchell Cox came off a doubtful forward pass and Wests stormed the line in the last ten minutes, coming close many times but finished without luck.