

## 1982 Round 14 Sunday 30th May Lidcombe Oval

## North Sydney 19 def. Western Suburbs 10

Max WILKIE **Fullback Greg COX** Steve BROUGHTON **Andrew SIMONS** Wing Wayne SMITH **Nigel TAIT** Centre Centre John ADAM **Ted GOODWIN** Chris LUCKMAN Wing Warren BOLAND (c) Mitchell COX Five-eighth Terry LAMB Alan NEIL Paul McCAFFERY Half Alan BURNS Lock Michael DUKE Mark GRAHAM (c) Second Row George FAHD Peter CROSS Second Row Paul MERLO Don McKINNON Front Row John DONNELLY John GRAY Hooker Arthur MOUNTIER Steve MAYOH Front Row Terry LEABEATER

Replacement

Replacement

Tries Don McKINNON

John GRAY Steve MAYOH Mark GRAHAM

Keith HARRIS

John LONG

Goals John GRAY (4) One Field Goal

Terry LAMB

**Bob COOPER** 

Michael DUKE

Greg COX (2)

## **Match Description**

North Sydney: Full-back: M Wilkie; three-quarters: A Simons, N Tait, J Adam, C Luckman; five-eighth: M Cox; half: P McCaffery; forwards: A Burns, P Cross, M Graham (c), D McKinnon, J Gray, S Mayoh

Western Suburbs: Full-back: G Cox; three-quarters: S Broughton, W Smith, E Goodwin, W Boland (c); five-eighth: T Lamb; half: A Neil; forwards: M Duke, G Fahd, P Merlo, T Leabeater, A Mountier, J Donnelly Referee: B Goldsworthy (The Sun 31st May 1982)

John Gray declared the current North Sydney team the best he has been associated with after the Bears downed Western Suburbs 19-10 at Lidcombe yesterday. Gray played an inspiring role in Norths' victory which lifted them into equal fifth position and proved that the Bears can win matches away from North Sydney Oval. "This side has a lot more pace than previous Norths teams that I have played with," said Gray, who joined the club in 1975. "Speed is everything, and this is the quickest Norths' team in the last 10 years." Although Norths may have speed to burn, they hardly had to get out of a canter to beat a Western Suburbs outfit that was nothing short of atrocious. The Magpies stumbled and fumbled their way through the entire 80 minutes, and it was just as well there were only 4878 people on hand to see them go around. The final score flattered the Magpies, and it was only late in the match that they scored their 10 points. Norths took control of the game from the opening whistle with their heavyweight forward pack leading the way. The Bears posted a try in the 25th minute when Paul McCaffery sent giant prop Don McKinnon on a 20-metre charge to the line. McKinnon was in the thick of the action again three minutes later when he threw a long pass which resulted in Mark Graham streaking over for his team's second try. Norths tightened their grip shortly after half-time when Gray scored off a bomb by centre John Adam. Prop Steve Mayoh delivered the coup de grace in the 60th minute when he crashed over for the easiest of tries to make it 18-0. Wests notched two late tries through five-eighth Terry Lamb and lock Michael Duke to ease the pain slightly for their suffering supporters. While Gray, McKinnon and Graham were the pick of a tradesmanlike forward pack, five-eighth Mitchell Cox was the star of Norths' backline. Cox continues to improve each week and outgunned his opposite number, Lamb. Yesterday's win marked the first time a Norths side coached by Ron Willey had beaten Wests at Lidcombe. "I was particularly pleased with the way our forwards played today: Willey said. (Daily Telegraph 31st May 1982)

...... Wests' coach, Terry Fearnley, was disappointed after the match When asked for a comment, he shrugged his shoulders dejectedly. "You saw the game; you write the story." He snapped. "All I want to say is that we played very badly." Everything went wrong for the Magpies, starting when their captain, Warren Boland, spilled the ball over the sideline from the first kick-off....... Wests saved themselves from total embarrassment with late tries to Terry Lamb (66th minute) and Michael Duke (72nd). ...... (Sydney Morning Herald 31st May 1982)

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**Notes:** In a performance where Wests looked flat and disorganised, they fumbled their way to 18-0 down after 70 minutes before scoring two late tries. The tactic to take on the powerful Norths' pack backfired and Wests only looked good when they spun the ball wide. John Donnelly was forced off at half-time with a broken thumb, replaced by Bob Cooper. Alan Neil, back at half, had a good game, setting up both the late

