

1972 Round 17 Sunday 16th July Lidcombe Oval

Cronulla 25 def. Western Suburbs 7

Chris WELLMAN **Fullback** Tony FORD Ray CORCORAN Don ROGERS Wing Paul TAYLOR John HEYWARD Centre Centre **Bob WEAR** Wayne MERRY Dave COTTER Wing Russell MULLINS Barry ANDREWS Five-eighth John GLACHAN Fred DENNEHY Half Tom RAUDONIKIS (c) Maurie RAPER Lock **Rod SMITH** Ken MADDISON Second Row John BAKER John MAGUIRE Second Row John ELFORD **Greg ALLEN** Front Row Steve WINTER **Ron TURNER** Hooker Ken STONESTREET Front Row Cliff WATSON (c) John WALKER

Tries Chris WELLMAN John WALKER

Cliff WATSON Ken MADDISON

Goals Barry ANDREWS (8) Tony FORD (2)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: A Ford; three-quarters: D Rogers, J Heyward, W Merry, R Mullins; five-eighth: J Glachan (c); half; T Raudonikis (c); forwards: R Smith, J Baker, S Winter, K Stonestreet, J Walker

Cronulla-Sutherland: Full-back: C Wellman; three-quarters: R Corcoran, P Taylor, R Wear, D Cotter; five-eighth: B Andrews; half: F Dennehy; forwards: M Raper, J Maguire, K Maddison, G Allen, R Tuner, C Watson (c)

Referee: D McDonald (The Sun 14th July 1972)

If Tommy Bishop was returning to football next weekend, he wouldn't get his No 7 Sharks jersey from local product Freddie Dennehy. Dennehy outplayed Test half Tommy Raudonikis to spearhead Cronulla to an easy 25-7 win over Wests at Lidcombe Oval yesterday. A Cronulla garbo, the 26-year-old Dennehy had his finest match for the Sharks, playing big parts in his team's three tries. Dennehy has played more than 100 games in all grades for Cronulla, but none anywhere as brilliant as his effort yesterday. Coach Tommy Bishop paid him a high tribute when he jokingly said after the game, he would have to look for a new position. Another Cronulla star was goal-kicking five-eighth Barry Andrews who boosted his season's tally to 115, with eight towering goals from 10 attempts. Andrews appreciated the tall Lidcombe uprights with his amazingly high kicks. He landed his last seven goals in succession. Cronulla hit the lead in the 32nd minute of the first half and never looked in any real danger of losing it. Dennehy sprinted 45 yards down the touchline before being tackled short of the Wests' line where big Cliff Watson burst onto the ball like a runaway tank to crash over near the posts. Wests had their brightest patch in the five minutes before half-time when lock Rod Smith and centre John Heyward both nearly scored. Another Andrews' goal kicked Cronulla to a 9-4 lead after the break, but Wests hit back when Raudonikis sent Walker across for a try wide out. That ended Wests' scoring, with Dennehy making sparkling runs to send second-rower Ken Maddison and full-back Chris Wellman over for tries. (The Sun 17th July 1972)

Nuggety Cronulla five-eighth Barry Andrews yesterday "kicked" the life out of Western Suburbs' Rugby League effort at Lidcombe Oval. Andrews landed eight goals from nine attempts in Cronulla's 25-7 win. Continuing the form they showed in defeating premiers South Sydney in the previous round, Cronulla gave Wests no chance. Dominating play in the backs and forwards, Cronulla easily checked Wests' feeble attempts. Wests have lost six of their last seven games. They have fallen back into the playing pattern that had kept them at the bottom of the premiership table last year. Test men Tom Raudonikis and John Elford did their best to lift Wests. But they found yesterday's drop in standard too much after playing for Australia on Saturday. Andrews, half Fred Dennehy, and full-back Chris Wellman did best for Cronulla. Andrews, having his second season in first grade, established himself as one of the best kickers in the premiership. Mastering the tricky conditions, he landed goals up to 45 yards out on an angle. Leading 7-4 at half-time, Cronulla raced away in the second half as Wests' effort petered out. Former English Test prop Cliff Watson and second-rower Ken Maddison took charge of the rucks to maintain pressure on Wests. (Daily Telegraph 17th July 1972)

Notes: Coach Don Parish made wholesale changes for this match. Out were O'Bryan, Handcock, Bryant, Prattl and Withers, replaced by Winter, Stonestreet, Smith, Rogers and John Glachan (on debut). John Elford and Tom Raudonikis were backing up from the Saturday Test against NZ. Both played well, but tired visibly in the last 20 minutes. The scores were close at half-time but the whole team tired badly in the second half and were thoroughly outplayed, both in the backs and forwards.

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WESTERN SUBURBS