



1977 Round 21 Sunday 14th August North Sydney Oval



North Sydney 40

def.

Western Suburbs 0

Aub Le BROcq
Mick HEALEY
Gordon WEST
John ADAM
Terry ADAMS
Kevin WILSON
Barry WOOD
Keith HARRIS
Bruce WALKER
Glen BOATSWAIN
Bruce FOYE
John GRAY
Bill HAMILTON (c)
Paul KEOGH
Chris LUCKMAN

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

John DORAHY
Marshall ROGERSS
Gavin MILLER
Ken HEY
Trevor SCARR
Peter ROWLES
Tom RAUDONIKIS (c)
Graeme O'GRADY
Steve BLYTH
Geoff FOSTER
John DONNELLY
John PURCELL
Kerry MORRISON
Bob COOPER
Gary WALSH



Tries
Barry WOOD (2)
Glen BOATSWAIN (2)
Gordon WEST
Aub Le BROcq
John GRAY
Terry ADAMS

Goals John GRAY (8)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: J Dorahy; three-quarters: T Scarr, K Hey, G Miller, M Rogers; five-eighth: P Rowles; half: T Raudonikis (c); forwards: G O'Grady, G Foster, S Blyth, J Donnelly, J Purcell, K Morrison

North Sydney: Full-back: A Le Brocq; three-quarters: M Healey, G West, T Adams, J Adam; five-eighth: K Wilson; half: B Wood; forwards: K Harris, B Walker, G Boatswain, J Gray, B Foye, W Hamilton (c) **Referee: D Braybrook (Rugby League Week 20th August 1977)**

"We tried", Western Suburbs skipper Tom Raudonikis claimed glumly after his team had been white-washed 40-0 by North Sydney yesterday. Keith Holman, the Wests' coach, declared: "You can't do much with them if they haven't got their minds on it. Blind Freddie could see my blokes weren't motivated ... all they could think about was Wednesday night's Amco Cup final." I couldn't think of a better way to sum up the whole sorry situation. John Gray, who contributed 19 of North Sydney's points with a try and eight goals, as well as setting up several other tries declared: "Wests were trying, don't worry about that." Raudonikis certainly did his best to spur his troops on to a greater effort, but some of the tackling by Wests had the toughness of a wet paper bag. "It'll be different in the Amco Cup final," Holman vowed: "They'll tackle like tigers." Wests gave notice of their intention by dropping Ron Giteau, Wayne Smith and Pat Hundy to reserve grade, so they could qualify for the play-offs. Naturally the trio will be back in first grade for the Amco Cup final. But let's give some credit to the North Sydney Bears. With Gray calling the shots with his magical ball play, their size and speed make them a match for any team in the competition. Barry Wood, the slippery Norths' half-back, began the avalanche with a converted try, and then sparked the move which led to centre Terry Adams scoring another try two minutes later. Wood zipped in for his second try right on half-time to give Norths a lead of 18-0. Kevin Wilson, an elusive elf at five-eighth, full-back Aub Le Brocq and forwards Bruce Walker and Glen Boatswain did a lot of spectacular running. But pulling the strings like a puppeteer was Gray, with his remarkable flair for creating an opening and putting a colleague into the clear. He is worth every cent of the \$50,000 Manly-Warringah are reported to be ready to pay him for a three-year contract. **(The Sun 15th August 1977)**

Western Suburbs suffered their second successive Rugby League premiership drubbing when North Sydney thrashed them 40-0 at North Sydney Oval yesterday. With the 47-10 hiding by Cronulla-Sutherland last week, Wests have had 87 points scored against them in the last two premiership matches. ... Hamilton got through a lot of work in the rucks, Foye dominated Wests' reserve hooker John Purcell in the scrums and Gray, with some clever distribution, a try and eight goals from nine attempts, was the man of the match..... **(Sydney Morning Herald 15th August 1977)**

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Notes: It was fairly obvious that the Wests' players had their mind on the coming Wednesday night Amco Cup Final against Eastern Suburbs. Their defence was paper-thin and replacement hooker, John Purcell, also lost the scrums 16-8. Wests dropped Wayne Smith, Ron Giteau and Pat Hundy so they could qualify for the Reserve Grade semi-finals. Les Boyd, playing Reserve Grade, was sent off for the third time in the season to make his chance of playing in the semis remote.