



1980 Round 3 Sunday 13th April North Sydney Oval



Western Suburbs 14

def.

North Sydney 8

Wayne SMITH
 Wayne BUCKLEY
 Ted GOODWIN
 Ron GITEAU
 Warren BOLAND (c)
 Peter ROWLES
 Alan NEIL
 Jim LEIS
 Paul MERLO
 Bob COOPER
 John DONNELLY
 Jack JEFFRIES
 Bruce GIBBS
 Terry LEABEATER

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

Chris MONTGOMERY
 Allan SHEPPARD
 Mark HARRIS
 John ADAM
 Chris LUCKMAN
 Alan SMITH
 Peter CRAIG
 Pat CUDMORE
 Russell HUNTER
 Rod HENNIKER
 Don MCKINNON (c)
 Tony SPRINGALL
 Steve MAYO
 Bruce FOYE
 Glen BOATSWAIN

Tries

Bob COOPER (2)
 Wayne SMITH
 Ted GOODWIN

Goals

Peter ROWLES (1)

Rod HENNIKER (4)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: W Smith; three-quarters: W Buckley, E Goodwin, R Giteau, W Boland (c); five-eighth: P Rowles; half: A Neil; forwards: J Leis, P Merlo, R Cooper, J Donnelly, J Jeffries, B Gibbs

North Sydney: Full-back: C Montgomery; three-quarters: A Sheppard, J Adam, M Harris, C Luckman; five-eighth: A Smith; half: P Craig; forwards: P Cudmore, R Henniker, R Hunter, D McKinnon (c), T Springall, S Mayoh

Referee: C Ward (The Sun 14th April 1980)

"A team is entitled to an exhibition as bad as that once every two years and it was our turn," North Sydney coach Ron Willey said after his side's deserved demise yesterday. The Bears went down 14-8 to Western Suburbs in a sub-standard match. The score, however, flattered North Sydney's attack. Wests came home with four tries to nil with five-eighth Peter Rowles missing seven of his eight goal attempts. The horrible possibility was Norths looked to have a chance until the 77th minute, despite not having scored a try. Then Wests' full-back, Wayne Smith, took the ball over the line to make the Magpie lead unassailable. The only real consolation for Wests was improved defence. **(The Sun 14th April 1980)**

In a woeful rugby league match at North Sydney Oval yesterday Western Suburbs beat North Sydney 14-8 to stay undefeated in the competition. "I never want to see a game like that again," said Norths' coach Ron Willey. The 5,398 fans unlucky enough to see the game would agree wholeheartedly with Willey. Slow motion football, dropped balls, wild passes and a general lack of purpose was the game's norm. Wests lost possession an incredible 18 times, while Norths' statistician didn't keep count ... he might have run out of ink if he had. The Magpies managed to hold on to the ball enough to score four tries to nil. North Sydney never looked like getting over the line and had to rely on the trusty boot of second-rower Rod Henniker. Henniker's four goals from six attempts kept Norths in the game until the last 10 minutes. His goal-kicking was in stark contrast to Wests' five-eighth Peter Rowles, who managed only one from eight. Second-rower Bob Cooper, half Alan Neil and Terry Leabeater were the players to stand out for Wests. North Sydney's best were Rod Henniker and Steve Martin. Wests might be sharing the competition lead with Parramatta and Manly, but coach Roy Masters has a lot of work to do if they are to stay there. The Magpies face their moment of truth when they clash with premiership favourites Manly at Lidcombe Oval on Saturday. Wests won't want to have the same lapses in handling next week, otherwise there could be an embarrassing score-line. **(Daily Telegraph 14th April 1980)**

A try by full-back Wayne Smith three minutes from full-time lifted Western Suburbs to a 14-8 victory over North Sydney at North Sydney Oval yesterday. But the Magpies deserved their victory, scoring four tries to nil. Tall second-rower Bob Cooper scored the first try in the 18th minute when he stretched over the line when tackled short. Five minutes from the break, centre Ted Goodwin, burst on to an Alan Neil pass to touch down under the posts for the other try. **(Sydney Morning Herald 14th April 1980)**

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Notes: In a very poor quality game, Peter Rowles had an off-day with the boot only landing one out of eight attempts. Even though they were in control, remarkably it wasn't until a late Wayne Smith try that Wests wrapped up a four tries to nil victory. They lost possession 18 times (20 the previous week) but overall it was a strong defensive effort. Bob Cooper and Alan Neil were best for Wests, although Terry Leabeater had a very strong second half after replacing Bruce Gibbs. Wayne Buckley debuted on the wing, coming in for the injured Jeff Case.