



# 1979 Round 5 Sunday 22nd April Endeavour Field



**Cronulla-Sutherland 16**

**def.**

**Western Suburbs 9**

Mick MULLANE  
 Rick BOURKE  
 Steve ROGERS (c)  
 Chris GARDNER  
 Steve EDMONDS  
 Gary CAMERON  
 Greg COX  
 Kurt SORENSEN  
 Eric ARCHER  
 Steve KNEEN  
 Dane SORENSEN  
 John McMARTIN  
 Bill ANNABEL  
 Grant MORTON

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

Don MOSELEY  
 Wayne SMITH  
 John DORAHY  
 Ron BRODRICK  
 Warren BOLAND  
 Graeme O'GRADY  
 Tom RAUDONIKIS (c)  
 Les BOYD  
 Bob COOPER  
 Ray BROWN  
 Pat HUNDY  
 Jack JEFFRIES  
 Bruce GIBBS



**Tries**

Steve ROGERS  
 Chris GARDNER  
 Steve EDMONDS  
 Gary CAMERON

Warren BOLAND

**Goals**

Greg COX (1)  
 Steve ROGERS (1)

John DORAHY (3)

**Match Description**

**Western Suburbs:** Full-back: D Moseley; three-quarters: W Smith, R Brodrick, J Dorahy, W Boland; five-eighth: G O'Grady; half: T Raudonikis (c); forwards: L Boyd, R Cooper, R Brown, P Hundy, J Jeffries, B Gibbs

**Cronulla-Sutherland:** Full-back: M Mullane; three-quarters, R Bourke, S Rogers (c), C Gardner, S Edmonds; five-eighth: G Cameron; half: G Cox; forwards: K Sorensen, E Archer, S Kneen, D Sorensen, K McMartin, W Annabel

**Referee: G Cook (Rugby League Week 26th April 1979)**

A calculated gamble by the Cronulla-Sutherland Rugby League selectors returned an immediate dividend at Endeavour Field yesterday when the Sharks crushed the previously unbeaten Western Suburbs side 16-9. Cronulla gave Wests a taste of their own medicine by producing a perfect blend of toughness and brilliance to completely outplay the Magpies and score four tries to one. The match was virtually over as a contest by half-time when Cronulla led 13-0. They scored the first of their three first-half tries after three minutes. Norm Provan, the Cronulla coach, sat in the stand with his co-selectors to watch the match, one of the most important of the season. Cronulla, after a brilliant premiership start, went into yesterday's game after two successive losses. Provan and his selectors stunned supporters last Monday when they sacked regular first-graders Dave Chamberlin, Paul Khan, Steve Hansard and Barry Andrews. Many people believed that the selectors had gone too far in their bid to find a winning combination. There were accusations of "panic" in the selections. The selectors were worried but confident before the match. But they knew one more defeat would push Cronulla back in the ruck on competition table. .. The promoted players, five-eighth Gary Cameron, half-back Greg Cox, centre Chris Gardner and prop Bill Annabel did their job magnificently. Cameron, in particular, was outstanding. He did some superb lead-up work for two tries and scored one. He made the initial break, dummied and sent Steve Rogers racing for the line to give Cronulla an 8-0 lead after nine minutes and right on half-time he scored. Cameron may have felt a slight twinge of anxiety as he ran out for the match. The last time he was selected in first grade was at the start of the 1977 season. He did not last long, damaging his medial ligament which kept him out of football for that year. He came back into grade last year and immediately earned the nickname of "Rusty" from reserve grade coach Billy Smith. "Every time I went to take a ball, I seemed to drop it, so Billy referred to me as Rusty and it's a name that stuck," Cameron said. Cronulla took charge of the match early. Kurt Sorensen, in a devastating run, brushed aside a couple of defenders, dummied, shot through a gap and sent Steve Edmonds over. Sorensen caused a lot of damage to the Wests' team. He made many fine breaks and did some rugged tackling. Sorensen finished clearly ahead of Wests' Les Boyd. "He smacked his tail," was the comment from the Cronulla room. And Rogers was a comfortable points winner over John Dorahy in the battle of the two form centres. Steve Kneen and Eric Archer also had strong games, with Kneen back to his best. Cronulla's injury worry after the game was over prop Dane Sorensen, with damaged ribs. **(Sydney Morning Herald 23rd April 1979)**

**Notes:** Down 13-0, Wests staged a good comeback but some fumbling, much more than in previous matches, meant that they never really got back into the match. John Dorahy was knocked out early but was still Wests' best. Les Boyd couldn't match the power of Kurt Sorensen and the Wests' backline was also outplayed. Wests were now in a difficult situation, having to back up in a Wednesday night Amco Cup match against Balmain.