1969 Round 9 Saturday 24th May Endeavour Field

Western Suburbs 11

def.

Cronulla-Sutherland 10





Tony FORD
Mick ALCHIN
Barry GLASGOW
Roy FERGUSON
Don ROGERS
Tim MURPHY
Bruce BEER
John BAKER
Jim CODY
Barry BRYANT
Noel KELLY (c)
Ken STONESTREET
Doug WALKADEN

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

Gordon ABERCROMBIE
Geoff PARKES
Greg PIERCE
Paul TAYLOR
Peter HOWARD
John MONIE
Terry HUGHES
Graeme SAMS
John MAGUIRE
Fred TOMLINSON
Alan McRITCHIE
Noel THORNTON (c)
Noel GALLAGHER

Tries Don ROGERS

Goals Tony FORD (2)

Barry GLASGOW (2) Field goals

Terry HUGHES (5)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: A Ford; three-quarters: D Rogers, B Glasgow, R Ferguson, M Alchin; five-eighth: T Murphy; half: B Beer; forwards: J Baker, J Cody, B Bryant, N Kelly (c), K Stonestreet, D Walkaden

Cronulla-Sutherland: Full-back: G Abercrombie; three-quarters: G Parkes, G Pierce, P Taylor, P Howard; five-eighth: J Monie; half: T Hughes; forwards: G Sams, J Maguire, F Tomlinson, A McRitchie, N Thornton (c), N Gallagher **Referee: L Samuelson (The Sun 23rd May 1969)**

Cronulla coach Ken "Killer" Kearney commented caustically on the referee after his team had been beaten 11-10 by Wests at the Endeavour Field yesterday. "Western Suburbs will win the competition if Les Samuelson referees its matches every week," he said. ... Wests can think themselves lucky to get away with two competition points because, for the greater part of the game, the Sharks were the better side. Some of referee Samuelson's decisions were hard to follow, and although the penalty count was level at the end of the match, the Cronulla camp was adamant he had cost them the game. As it was, Wests scored the only try of the game, and that three-pointer was presented to them on a platter. The scores were 6-4 at half-time in favour of Wests, but four minutes into the second spell Fred Tomlinson, Cronulla's big English second-rower, threw a silly pass. Admittedly another Cronulla player called for the ball, but Tomlinson's pass went straight to Wests' Ken Stonestreet. Stonestreet ran a few paces before passing to Don Rogers, who was unmarked, and the winger raced over in the corner for the easiest of touch-downs. ... Time after time only desperation tackles by the Magpie players saved tries and there is no doubt the Sharks must be rated unlucky for not going over. Terry Hughes, who landed five goals from six attempts, kept his team within striking distance of Wests throughout but they just couldn't put their heads in front. Eight minutes from full-time Wests had a lucky let-off when Bruce Beer, the halfback, was running the ball out from his own line. Beer doubled back behind his own players, cutting off the Cronulla tacklers which gave them no chance of tackling him. This action appeared to constitute shepherding and, if it had been picked up by Samuelson, Wests would certainly have been penalised in front of their own posts. Tony Ford and Barry Glasgow, Wests' goal-kickers, had another shocking day with the boot although Glasgow notched two field goals. But they could muster only two penalty goals from nine attempts, seven shots for Ford, and most of the shots were from easy positions. It was a very entertaining match with plenty of rugged play and the cautions came thick and fast, particularly in the second half. ... (Sunday Mirror 25th May 1969)

Western Suburbs Rugby League team yesterday scrambled to an unimpressive 11-10 win against Cronulla-Sutherland at Endeavour Field. The only consolation Wests had was their two points in the competition. The Magpies failed to capitalise on a 17-6 advantage Ken Stonestreet gave them in the set scrums. Winger Don Rogers crossed for Wests' only try four minutes after half-time. That was about the only time the team looked like scoring. On the other hand, Wests' defence was water-tight. Cronulla's ten points came from five penalty goals by half-back Terry Hughes. ... The Cronulla pack again showed the dash displayed against Newtown the previous week. Hooker Noel Thornton and second-rowers Fred Tomlinson and John Maguire got through a tremendous amount of work. Wests' field goal specialist Glasgow had a quiet day, landing only two goals from as many attempts. These came in the first ten minutes play, to give Wests a lead they never surrendered. ... Rogers raced over for the sole try of the match after an attacking Cronulla raid "blew up." Second-rower Tomlinson, in a rare mistake, sent the ball to Wests' Stonestreet in turn passed to Rogers who scampered over wide out. Wests' other winger Mick Alchin, returned to football after a three-match suspension. (Sunday Telegraph 25th May 1969)

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Notes: Mick Alchin was back after a three match suspension and played well. Ex-Wests hooker Noel Thornton had a strong game for Cronulla and had a great battle with Ken Stonestreet. Both Roy Ferguson and Tony Ford were injured, while Tim Murphy seemed to be struggling with his form. Terry Hughes kept landing critical goals to keep Cronulla in a tight match that Wests were lucky to win.