



1938 Round 12 Saturday 30th July Pratten Park



North Sydney 13

def.

Western Suburbs 6

Fred BULGER
 Grantley BENNETT
 Fred DHU
 Jack COLE
 Dave McERLANE
 Roy THOMPSON (c)
 Rex HARRISON
 Sid HARMER
 Bruce McPHAIL
 Dick ALLERTON
 Leo REILLY
 Bill BREWER
 Harry MCKINNON

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

Jim SHARMAN
 Fred BABER
 Cec FIFIELD (c)
 Colin FEWTRELL
 Bill PURCELL
 Cal LYNCH
 Albert McGUINNESS
 Don MURRAY
 Stan SIMPSON
 Don GULLIVER
 Jack SCHUBACK
 Ken LOCK
 Jim MARKS



Tries
 Fred DHU
 Sid HARMER
 Rex HARRISON

Cec FIFIELD
 Cal LYNCH

Goals
 Rex HARRISON (2)

Match Description

North Sydney: Full-back: F Bulger; three-quarters: G Bennett, F Dhu, J Cole, D McErlane; halves: R Thompson, R Harrison; forwards: R Allerton, R McPhail, S Harmer, R McKinnon, L Reilly, W Brewer

Western Suburbs: Full-back: J Sharman; three-quarters: W Purcell, C Fifield, C Fewtrell, F Baber; halves: C Lynch, A McGuinness; forwards: D Murray, D Gulliver, S Simpson, J Marks, K Lock, J Schuback **Referee: P Lee (Rugby League News August 6th 1938)**

Grasping opportunities when they were presented, North Sydney defeated Western Suburbs by 13 points to six, at Pratten Park. For the major part of the game the scores favoured the winners by the narrow margin of 5-3, and during that period Western Suburbs was the most impressive. Superior co-operation was introduced by Western Suburbs into the bulk of the exchanges, in which forwards and backs played their part well. However, mistakes at vital stages spoiled the movements. Fifield directed tactics in masterful style. He initiated and completed the first scoring attack. Infringements cost North Sydney considerable loss of territory in the first half, bringing respite to the opposition when under pressure. Dhu scored a great try in a dash from half-way, cutting through in magnificent fashion and leaving the defence standing. The converting goal by Harrison was a grand kick. Western Suburbs began with a great dash in the second half. Sharman came up to join the three-quarters in several strong raids, but good defensive play by Cole, Dhu and McErlane kept the North Sydney line intact. Fiery forward struggles marked subsequent exchanges in which the play was particularly hard. Members of each side were admonished by the referee for over-vigorous methods. An opportune interception of a pass by Harrison at midfield, gave Sharman an unavailing chase, and the North Sydney five-eighth's pace, enabled him to score. Harrison then kicked a penalty goal. Harmer came around the scrum smartly and seized the ball, which McGuinness had fumbled, to gain another try for North Sydney. Western Suburbs displayed aggression in the closing minutes and McGuinness crossed in the corner. The Western Suburbs pack, headed by Gulliver and Marks, was a shade superior to the opposing six, but appeared to slow up as the game progressed. **(The Sydney Morning Herald August 1st 1938)**

A greasy ball— a muddy field—and a hard-fought, non-spectacular game — the same old story with one glorious difference. A magnificent sprint. — head down— ball tucked well away— and never a glance at the closing tacklers —that was Harrison's run down three-quarters of the field through the Western team to touch down for a brilliant solo try from an intercepted pass, yesterday, at Pratten Park. Norths won 13-6. **(The Truth July 31st 1938)**

At Pratten Park 2000 saw the kick-off. Wests immediately rushed play to Norths' territory. A penalty relieved Norths. Simpson narrowly failed with a penalty from near halfway. Wests' forwards pressed and Gulliver passed to Fifield, who passed back to the forward, then back to Fifield, who scored. Simpson failed at goal. Western Suburbs 3, North Sydney 0. Thompson failed at goal from "mid-field. Another free came to Norths, and Thompson short-kicked for Harrison to snap up and pass to Cole, to Dhu, who cut in nicely and scored wide out. Harrison converted. Half-time scores: North Sydney 5. Western Suburbs 3. Harrison intercepted a pass in his own 25 and dashed the full length of the field to put North Sydney further ahead. He failed to convert. North Sydney 8, Western Suburbs 2. **(The Sun July 30th 1938)**

Notes: This was a very fiery match which was basically decided by an outstanding intercept try by Harrison. Lots of cautions were handed out as the Wests' forwards dished it out to their opposing pack and finished on top. Cec Fifield continued to roll back the clock, being a general in attack. Jim Marks (ex-Uni) came back to First Grade after injury.