



1966 Round 14 Sunday 17th July North Sydney Oval



North Sydney 12

def.

Western Suburbs 3

Fred GRIFFITHS (C)
 Ken IRVINE
 George AMBRUM
 Mick MAHER
 John AMBRUM
 Col GREENWOOD
 Dinny O'BRYAN
 John INGHAM
 John GUDGEON
 Don DOAK
 Bill WILSON
 Ross WARNER
 Lloyd WEIER

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

Dave BARSLEY
 John MOWBRAY
 Gil MacDOUGALL
 Rob McGUINNESS
 Peter DIMOND
 Denis PITTARD
 Pat THOMAS
 Doug PAGE
 Barry BRYANT
 Jim CODY
 Denis MEANEY (c)
 Noel THORNTON
 Alan ALLISON
 Don MALONE



Tries George AMBRUM
 Fred GRIFFITHS

Gil MacDOUGALL

Goals Fred GRIFFITHS (3)

Match Description

North Sydney: Full-back: F Griffiths (c); three-quarters: K Irvine, G Ambrum, M Maher, J Ambrum; five-eighth: C Greenwood; half: D O'Bryan; forwards: J Ingham, D Doak, J Gudgeon, L Weier, R Warner, W Wilson

Western Suburbs: Full-back: D Barsley; three-quarters: J Mowbray, R McGuinness, G MacDougall, P Dimond; five-eighth: D Pittard; half: P Thomas; forwards: D Page, B Bryant, J Cody, D Meaney (c), N Thornton, A Allison **Referee: J Farrelly (as per program Rugby League News 16th/17th July 1966 + newspaper validation)**

North Sydney captain-coach Fred Griffiths played the major role in his team's 12-3 win over Western Suburbs in the rugby League match at North Sydney Oval yesterday. Griffiths kicked three goals and scored a fine try early in the second half to give Norths a firm grip on the game. He spent most of the second half up in the three-quarters and his constructive work kept his team on the attack throughout. Wests undoubtedly was affected by the loss of Denis Pittard, who was forced to retire with a gash above the right eye after only five minutes' play. Pittard was taken to the Mater Hospital for attention. He was replaced by Don Malone, but there was not the same smartness around the scrums as with Pittard and Pat Thomas together. North's half Dinny O'Bryan was another casualty, having to leave the field near the end with a lacerated finger. It was largely a forward game and toward the end the weight of Norths' pack began to tell... Gusty conditions contributed to a lot of bad handling in the first half and to some poor kicking. **(Sydney Morning Herald 18th July 1966)**

On their form yesterday, Western Suburbs haven't a ghost of a chance of making the Rugby League semi-finals. They fumbled and stumbled their way to a 3-12 loss against North Sydney at North Sydney Oval. ... Both teams yesterday gave a shocking display in the first half. Neither could hold the ball for more than a minute and the match became a series of knock-ons, dropped passes and stupid mistakes. Tries never looked like coming and it was a true reflection of the game when the only score in the first 40 minutes was a goal by Fred Griffiths. Norths won because of the efforts of captain-coach Griffiths in the second half. .. Wests lost five-eighth Denis Pittard in the eighth minute when a sprig tore a nasty gash in his forehead. **(The Sun 18th July 1966)**

Dave Barsley, after a most consistent and successful season, had the misfortune to sustain two nasty injuries within weeks of one another, and all wish Dave a speedy recovery. ... Four wins, and four wins only, would be the only chance for the First Grade team to make a semi-final berth and all are hoping that this may prevail.....selectors and coaches alike are hopeful that John Armstrong and Dick Pickett will be back for the Newtown match, as these lads have almost missed the season because of injury.... Reserve grade full-back Tony Ford is displaying grand form, chiming in with attacking movements at all times. Tony is an outstanding prospect as the last line of defence, with outstanding defence, attack and a most reliable kicker. Tony is a local product of Enfield Federals and appears destined for first grade honours in 1967..... John Elford is another new recruit to Western Suburbs from Smithtown who is showing improvement with every game, and has pleased all in his initial year. **(The Magpies' Journal August 1966)**

.....
Notes: This was a very poor performance by Wests. Denis Pittard sustained a nasty gash on his forehead in the eighth minute and had to be replaced by Don Malone, but the forwards were dominated by the Norths' pack and the combination of Malone and Thomas never seemed to get the backs going. Note the form of Tony Ford in Reserve Grade; it was obvious he was going to be a very solid First Grader. John Armstrong and Dick Pickett had been only two of a very long list of injured players. The prophecy of winning the last four matches was a big one but as it turned out, quite possible.