



# 1967 Round 4 Saturday 22nd April Pratten Park



## North Sydney 18

def.

## Western Suburbs 13

John SNEDDON  
 Ken IRVINE (c)  
 George AMBRUM  
 Eric SLADDEN  
 Denis CUBIS  
 Gary BANKS  
 Dinny O'BRYAN  
 Mick MAHER  
 Paul HANCOCK  
 Eric PITT  
 Jim SCRODER  
 Ross WARNER  
 Lloyd WEIER

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

Tony FORD  
 John MOWBRAY  
 Roy FERGUSON  
 Rob McGUINNESS (c)  
 Dave BARSLEY  
 Denis PITTARD  
 Pat THOMAS  
 Jim CODY  
 John HAYES  
 John ARMSTRONG  
 Doug WALKADEN  
 Ken STONESTREET  
 Noel DOLTON



**Tries** Denis CUBIS (2)  
 Ken IRVINE  
 Dinny O'BRYAN

Denis PITTARD

**Goals** Ken IRVINE (2)  
 Jim SCHRODER (1)

Tony FORD (5)

### Match Description

**Western Suburbs:** Full-back: A Ford; three-quarters: J Mowbray, R McGuinness (c), R Ferguson, D Barsley; five-eighth: Denis Pittard; half: P Thomas; forwards: J Cody, J Hayes, J Armstrong, D Walkaden, K Stonestreet, N Dolton

**North Sydney:** Full-back: J Sneddon; three-quarters: K Irvine (c), E Sladden, G Ambrum, D Cubis; five-eighth: G Banks; half: D O'Bryan; forwards: M Maher, P Hancock, E Pitt, J Schroder, R Warner, L Weier **Referee: C Langton (The Sun 22nd April 1967)**

North Sydney Rugby League team scrambled to an 18-13 win over a lack-lustre Western Suburbs team at Pratten Park yesterday. Norths, which played the match in spasms, scored 10 points in one seven-minute purple patch to seal its win. Wests took the lead 11-8 after 14 minutes of the second half but then collapsed and offered only token resistance. Norths' rally was helped by some of Wests' players whose attempts at defence were in the schoolboy class. How first-grade footballers could let the Norths' players run as freely as they did in those vital minutes of the second half is beyond me. "Atrocious" is a word that fittingly describes some of the would-be efforts. While Norths gain two competition points from this win, it had little to enthuse over. For coach Bill Wilson it was a real "ulcer match" ... For Wests, it was another day of woe with allegations that Denis Cubis' second try came after a knock-on and a forward pass. Then Wests saw its sharp five-eighth Denis Pittard twice shoot through for 50-yard runs but no one was there to back him up and Norths' full-back John Sneddon, twice well tackled him. Wests' players twice were recalled for off-side with the line wide open. The first time winger Dave Barsley was at fault and the second time second-rower John Hayes. And just to round off its unhappy day, Wests' officials had to form a bucket brigade to put out a fire in the stand which started just before full-time. Norths started well, with Cubis crossing for two tries in 12 minutes to give his team a 8-2 lead after 28 minutes. In both instances, Wests' tissue-thin defence was shown up at its worst. To score his first try Cubis threaded his way past three would-be tacklers; 12 minutes later Ambrum raced through and sent to Cubis, who ambled over for his second try. Five minutes before half-time Pittard raced diagonally across field, straightened and, five yards from the line, was grabbed by three Norths' players who kindly dragged him over the line for him to score. Wests, trailing 7-8, sparkled in the second half for the first time and some good work, with Pittard doing the lead-up work, saw Barsley recalled from over the line for being off-side. Two penalties went against Norths and Tony Ford landed both goals to give Wests the lead 11-9. Then came Norths' match-winning effort. McGuinness miscued with a kick, Banks gathered and the ball travelled to Irvine. Norths' captain used his great speed to get around Ford, who turned, dived and just touched Irvine's heels. But the winger righted himself and scored. ...Pittard was easily the outstanding player of the match and on the day overshadowed Test five-eighth Gary Banks. **(The Sun-Herald 23rd April 1967)**

... Battling against a strong wind and a determined Wests' 13, Norths looked "gone" when they lost the lead they had held throughout the match. But a typically brilliant Ken Irvine try gave the Bears a new lease of life. ... Irvine's try, 18 minutes from full-time, was a classical piece of wing play. The Norths captain ran almost 70 yards straight down the right flank after centre Denis Cubis has slipped him a neat pass. Wests' full-back Tony Ford was there to cover Irvine, but the winger veered in and then out again to leave Ford spread-eagled on the ground. This try, which levelled the scores 11-all, appeared to dishearten Wests .... **(Sunday Telegraph 23rd April 1967)**

**Notes:** Wests played strongly in this match but were beaten by a brilliant individual try by Ken Irvine, when he was able to run around Tony Ford. Ford gave a preview of his career, kicking five good goals. Wests were still without Parish, Dimond and Kelly.