



1941 Round 7 Saturday 31st May North Sydney Oval



North Sydney 25

def.

Western Suburbs 12

Frank COTTLE
 Grantley BENNETT
 Stan RIDGWAY
 Fred DHU
 Herb DHU
 Rex HARRISON (c)
 Keith CARROLL
 Jack SULLIVAN
 Gerald SCULLY
 Harry McKINNON
 Dick ALLERTON
 Frank FACER
 Jack RUBINSON

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

Bill KEATO
 Bruce BROWN
 Norm PARKINSON
 Jack WHITEHURST
 Henry MARTIN
 Doug ROGERS
 Albert McGUINNESS (c)
 Jack HUXLEY
 Ron CAMPBELL
 Fred McKEAN
 Jack SCHUBACK
 Ken LOCK
 Jack PIPER



Tries
 Fred DHU (2)
 Harry McKINNON
 Gerald SCULLY
 Jack SULLIVAN

Bruce BROWN
 Doug ROGERS

Goals
 Rex HARRISON (4)
 Jack SULLIVAN (1)

Doug ROGERS (3)

Match Description

North Sydney: Full-back: F Cottle; three-quarters: G Bennett, S Ridgway, F Dhu, H Dhu; halves: R Harrison (capt), K Carroll; forwards: J Sullivan, G Scully, R McKinnon, R Allerton, F Facer, J Rubinson

Western Suburbs: Full-back: W Keato; three-quarters: B Brown, N Parkinson, J Whitehurst, H Martin; halves: D Rogers, A McGuinness (capt); forwards: J Huxley, R Campbell, F McKean, J Piper, K Lock, J Schuback **Referee: J O'Brien (Rugby League News 28th June 1941)**

North Sydney always appeared to have an advantage over Western Suburbs in the first half, and at half-time led Western Suburbs by 7 points to 4. For a brief period Western Suburbs seemed to have a chance when the scores were 15-12 in favour of North Sydney, but Whitehurst was injured, and after that North Sydney was in command, and in the last ten minutes scored 13 points. The best players for North Sydney were F Dhu and R Harrison in the backs and G Scully in the forwards. Western Suburbs were best served by McGuinness and Rogers. **(The Sydney Morning Herald 2nd June 1941)**

North Sydney gave another thrilling display on their home ground, during the latter stages outplaying Wests, and finished easy victors by 25 to 12. "The Mounties" i.e. North Sydney, didn't have things all their own way against "Mousey" Mead's Magpies. After a drab first half, which was painfully punctuated by referee O'Brien's tin whistle, Norths led 7-4. Injuries spread like a flu epidemic. The continual jolts left the 4000 fans cold – yet hopeful! On resuming, the players warmed up to their work, with the result that in the concluding stages, the persistent and exhilarating attacks of the locals had fans frantic. In fact, one over-enthusiastic follower rushed to the centre, during a spell, on tip-toe, and demanded to do honour to his heroes! Norths' best were Dhu, who played both as winger and centre. Rex Harrison and half-back Carroll in the backs; Gerald Scully stood out in the front line and was well assisted by Smiler Sullivan and Tiger McKinnon. Wests, although eclipsed, played grand football. Doug Rogers and Mick Martin were the best of a virile back division with McKean and Julian Huxley prominent in the front line. **(Truth 1st June 1941)**

North Sydney scored 13 points in the last eight minutes to defeat Western Suburbs 25-12 at North Sydney Oval yesterday. Norths' best man was Fred Dhu, who scored two of the team's three final tries. Dhu was injured just before Interval, and reappeared in the second half with adhesive plaster over badly-bruised ribs. His first try, which gave Norths the lead, was a "dazzler." He came inside, caught Wests' defence off balance, and galloped over unopposed. Jack Reilly, Norths' coach, said: "Dhu's form today is the best I have seen by a three-quarter this season." Norths led 7-4 at the interval. Had the backs not been overanxious, the margin would have been greater. Wests played their best football early in the second half, when they had only 12 men on the field. McGuinness was outstanding behind the scrum. He found weakness in Norths' defence, but several times his support missed opportunities. **(The Daily Telegraph 1st June 1941)**

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Notes: Wests were right in this match until they suffered another significant injury, this time to Jack Whitehurst. Norths scored 13 points in the last ten minutes as he was off the field and then came back on as a passenger. McGuinness, as usual, was Wests' best player but the injuries kept mounting.