1973 Round 15 Sunday 1st July Endeavour Field

Cronulla 20 def. Western Suburbs 13

Warren FISHER	***Fullback***	Tony FORD
Peter O'BRIEN	***Wing***	Stephen SATTERLY
Steve ROGERS	***Centre***	Stephen KNIGHT
Eric ARCHER	***Centre***	Robbie PARKER
Bob WEAR	***Wing***	Russell MULLINS
Chris WELLMAN	***Five-eighth***	Neville SINCLAIR
Tommy BISHOP (c)	***Half***	Tom RAUDONIKIS (c)
Greg PIERCE	***Lock***	John BAKER
Greg ALLEN	***Second Row***	Geoff FOSTER
John MAGUIRE	***Second Row***	Barry BRYANT
Graham BOWEN	***Front Row***	John O'BRYAN
Ron TURNER	***Hooker***	Shane DAY
Cliff WATSON	***Front Row***	Jim MURPHY
Paul TAYLOR	***Replacement***	Brian ISBESTER

Tries	Ron TURNER (2)	Stephen KNIGHT
	Eric ARCHER	Russell MULLINS
	Tommy BISHOP	Tom RAUDONIKIS
Goals	Steve ROGERS (4)	Tony FORD (2)

Match Description
Western Suburbs: Full-back: A Ford; three-quarters: S Satterly, S Knight, R Parker, R Mullins; five-eighth: N Sinclair; half: T Raudonikis (c); forwards: J Baker, G Foster, B Bryant, J O'Bryan, S Day, J Cody
Cronulla-Sutherland: Full-back: W Fisher; three-quarters: P O'Brien, S Rogers, E Archer, R Wear; five-eighth: C Wellman; half: T Bishop (c); forwards: G Pierce, J Maguire, G Allen, G Bowen, R Turner, C Watson **Referee: G Hartley (The Sun 29th June 1973)**

Tommy Bishop is a jump ahead of 99.9 per cent of footballers as he illustrated perfectly again yesterday in Cronulla-Sutherland team's thrilling 20-13 win over Western Suburbs. With Cronulla trailing 7-13 a quarter of an hour into the second half, Bishop's split-second thinking triggered a three-try stampede in eight minutes at Endeavour Field. With one tackle remaining and Cronulla in the shadow of Wests' posts, Bishop stabbed the ball through from the dummy-half position into the unguarded in-goal area. Wests' players turned and stared in disbelief as Cronulla's boisterous Ron Turner charged after the ball and touched down for the critical try. The fact that Wests had overlooked, but the ever-alert Bishop had not, was that Wests' full-back Tony Ford was not in his customary position because just previously he had been dragged into the play for a tackle. Six minutes later, Turner made another burst, passed to elusive full-back Warren Fisher, who sent a long pass to Eric Archer and the centre plunged over in the left corner. Five-eighth Chris Wellman made a break from beyond half-way two minutes afterwards, prop Cliff Watson carried on the ball and lock Greg Pierce found Turner beside him for the last pass. "We proved we're a good side by the way we came back today. We've come of age in our last five games," Bishop said later. Wests were splendid in defeat. They scored three tries, with centre Robbie Parker outstanding and half-back Tommy Raudonikis tremendously strong in defence. The tackling was punishing, but the pace of the game and the firm control of referee Greg Hartley prevented incidents. **(Sydney Morning Herald 2nd July 1973)**

Cronulla kept their home ground winning record intact yesterday with a thrilling 20-13 League victory over Western Suburbs at Endeavour Field. Both teams played good football, Cronulla gaining control only in the dying stages. Wesst' coach Don Parish said: "I am happy with the way the team went, and I wish I could have this 13 all season." Wests had their chance to win when they turned a 3-7 half-time deficit into a 13-7 lead early in the second half. Cronulla came back strongly to score three tries in the last 20 minutes. … Ball distribution by Cronulla's second-rower John Maguire was excellent, and he played a true forward's game in defence. Although beaten 14-6 in the scrums, Cronulla World Cup hooker Ron Turner had a great game in the open and scored two tries. The centre clash was a thriller with Steve Rogers and Eric Archer (Cronulla), Stephen Knight and Robbie Parker (Wests) all having great games. Half-backs Tom Raudonikis (Wests) and Tommy Bishop (Cronulla) had an interesting duel with honours even. Young Cronulla full-back Warren Fisher was in top form and took the greasy ball perfectly when under pressure from his opposite number Tony Ford. Former Queenslander Jim Murphy had his first First-Grade game for Wests after playing in reserve grade last week and showed glimpses of form. **(Daily Telegraph 2nd July 1973)**

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Notes: *Shane Day won the scrums convincingly and Wests led 13-7 until Cronulla staged a comeback, led by Tommy Bishop, and scored three tries in ten minutes. In a high quality game, the clashes of the four centres in great attacking displays was a highlight.*