



1987 Round 10 Sunday 3rd May North Sydney Oval



Western Suburbs 24

def.

North Sydney 20

Ian NADEN
Phillip DUKE
John ALLANSON
Allen GEELAN
Paul SHEAHAN
Doug RAWLINGS
Trevor COGGER
Ian SCHUBERT (c)
John ELIAS
John BILBIJA
Ian FREEMAN
Alan FALLAH
Scott TRONC
Criag ELLIS

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

John DORAHY
Les KISS
Neigel TAIT
Greg FLORIMO
Andrew SIMONS
Geoff CLARK
Clayton FRIEND
Mark CANNON
Mark GRAHAM (c)
Ian FRENCH
Martin BELLA
Rex WRIGHT
Don MCKINNON
Gregg LENNON
Fred TEASDELL
Paul McCAFFERY
Steve HANSON

Tries

Ian NADEN
Ian FREEMAN
John ELIAS
Trevor COGGER

Andrew SIMONS
Clayton FRIEND
Ian FRENCH

Goals

Ian SCHUBERT (4)

John DORAHY (4)

Match Description

Western Suburbs: Full-back: I Naden; three-quarters: P Duke, J Allanson, A Geelan, P Sheahan; five-eighth: D Rawlings; half: T Cogger; forwards: I Schubert (c), J Elias, J Bilbija, I Freeman, A Fallah, S Tronc

North Sydney: Full-back: J Dorahy; three-quarters: L Kiss, N Tait, G Florimo, A Simons; five-eighth: G Clark; half: C Friend; forwards: M Cannon, M Graham (c), I French, M Bella, R Wright, D McKinnon **Referee: W Harrigan (Rugby League Week 6th May 1987)**

Magpies' coach Steve Ghosn has tagged exciting young centre prospect John Allanson the best colt to play for Wests since Terry Lamb. "I know that's one heck of a wrap," said Ghosn after his side's 24-20 defeat of Norths at North Sydney Oval yesterday. "But this kid has got what it takes to go right to the top. I've been with Wests for five or six years and no player has excited me as much as Allanson. He's got speed, size and all the skills. I'm prepared to say here and now we've got a tremendous prospect on our books. I'd say he's the best young player we've unearthed since Terry Lamb left here in 1983." Allanson, 19, had an outstanding match against the Bears in only his second run at centre. A prop early in his career at Newcastle, he was blooded into Wests' grade ranks as a winger last year and won representation in the NSW Under 19s. The tall blond speedster with the mean fend and penchant for trampling tacklers, played a leading hand in two of Wests' four tries. He defended stoutly, too, in a display which suggests he'll be a star for years to come with the Magpies. "This was my second game at centre and I'd be happy to settle down in the position," Allanson said. "You get a lot more ball and there seems to be more time to do something with it. I went OK today but credit must be given to our halves Trevor Cogger and Doug Rawlings and, of course, our forwards. "These guys did the hard yakka. Anything I did was a result of their work." Wests made mincemeat of the form guides – and the North Sydney team – to register their third win of the 1987 Winfield Cup. Ghosn's men stunned Norths with an incredible points orgy midway through the second session. In 12 dazzling minutes, prop Ian "Herbie" Freeman plunged over next to the posts, fullback Ian Naden crossed for another beauty and half Trevor Cogger backed up a superb run by five-eighth Doug Rawlings to streak to the line. All tries were converted by Ian Schubert. Between the 54th and 66th minutes, Wests sprinted from 6-8 down to 24-8 ahead, allowing Norths to pick up the crumbs with two late consolation tries. "It was only natural for people to write us off before the match," Ghosn said. "Heavy losses to Canberra and Illawarra had the critics talking of us as prime candidates for the wooden spoon and I don't blame them in the slightest. But we're a lot better outfit than that. Our forwards made plenty of those Norths' internationals look pretty slick out there today." Veteran Magpie prop Freeman had an outstanding game and continues to be the first player chosen in Wests' team each week. ... **(Daily Mirror 4th May 1987)**

Notes: In a big turnaround, Wests at last showed some real spirit. They put on 18 points in 7 minutes in the second half to blow away the Bears. The forward pack, led by a rampant Ian Freeman, paved the way for the try blitz. Steve Ghosn made a rare comparison after the match, saying that John Allanson was the best prospect since Terry Lamb; high praise indeed.