



# 1983 Round 16 Sunday 12th June Leichhardt Oval



## Western Suburbs 21

def.

## Balmain 10

David GREENE  
 Steve BROUGHTON  
 Mick PINKERTON  
 Mark BEAVEN  
 David HARRIS  
 Brett DAVIDSON  
 Terry LAMB  
 Michael DUKE  
 Ian FREEMAN  
 Brian BATTESE  
 John DONNELLY (c)  
 Arthur MOUNTIER  
 Bruce CLARK  
 Scott GALE  
 George FAHD

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

Gerry JACK  
 Mark LAWSON  
 John DAVIDSON  
 Gary BRIDGE  
 Ron RYAN  
 Steve MARTIN (c)  
 Greg LANE  
 Kevin HARDWICK  
 David BROOKS  
 Bill KAIN  
 Kerry HEMSLEY  
 Neil WHITTAKER  
 Steve ROACH  
 Jamie DAVIDSON  
 Ben ELIAS

**Tries** Steve BROUGHTON (2)  
 David GREENE  
 Terry LAMB

Garry JACK  
 Gary BRIDGE

**Goals** David GREENE (2)  
 John DONNELLY (1) Field Goal

David BROOKS (1)

### Match Description

**Balmain:** Full-back: S Vucago; three-quarters: M Lawson, J Davidson, G Bridge, R Ryan; five-eighth: S Martin (c); half: G Lane; forwards: K Hardwick, D Brooks, W Kain, K Hemsley, N Whittaker, S Roach

**Western Suburbs:** Full-back: D Greene; three-quarters: S Broughton, M Pinkerton, M Beaven, D Harris; five-eighth: B Davidson; half: T Lamb; forwards: M Duke, I Freeman, B Battese, J Donnelly (c), A Mountier, B Clark **Referee: G West (The Sun 14th June 1983)**

Not even a wild knee flush on the nose could dent the skills and enthusiasm of Wests' prop Bruce "rubber-ball" Clark at Leichhardt Oval on Sunday. Clark turned in a personal best display which enabled Wests to spring a surprise 21-10 win over Balmain. "It was a performance Artie Beetsen would have been proud of," said Wests' coach Len Stacker, who can take full credit for Clark's "Test match" display. "Len has given me extra training and it's starting to pay dividends," said Clark, who laid on three of Wests' four tries in their most rousing effort this year. Stacker finally replaced Clark late in the game because a knee in the game he had received on the nose blurred his vision. "I knew I was concussed but I wasn't going to come off unless ordered," said Clark, not one of the game's most dedicated trainers. Clark provided the finesse to the Magpie attack, finesse that has been missing for most of the season. "He certainly lifted his game in one of the hardest working packs I've played with," said Wests' stand-in skipper John Donnelly, himself worthy of hearty handshakes. Clark sent the Balmain defence flying in the ninth minute with a crushing run which led to Terry Lamb taking his pass for the first try. ...Six minutes later, Clark struck again and this time replacement full-back David Greene latched on to the pass for the try. Wests, with Clark and Donnelly in command, inspired the backrow of Freeman, Battese and Duke. ... **(The Sun 14th June 1983)**

A few weeks ago, John Donnelly was dropped to reserve grade in a Western Suburbs team that had been badly depleted in the off-season. It was the ultimate humiliation for the former Australian prop, whose knock-em-down style was becoming obsolete under the new rules. But Donnelly came back. Firstly, he was the "star" of the Wests' charity fete late last month, persuasively manning the chocolate wheel as well as ensuring the popularity of the kissing booth. And yesterday, Donnelly led Wests to a 21-10 win against in-form Balmain at Leichhardt Oval – their first away win of the season. It seemed that everything Donnelly touched turned to gold, or at least stainless steel. Donnelly was an inspiration to his team-mates as he threw himself at the Balmain defence. He even showed kicking skills – an aspect of his game that has attracted occasional publicity in recent years. In the 46th minute, he calmly kicked a field goal to put Wests ahead 17-2. Then 25 minutes later, his chip-kick led to a sensational try. After one of the most memorable days of his life, Dallas, whose cheesy grin revealed two missing bottom teeth, gulped down a can of lemonade. "It's about time a bit of luck went our way," he said. "We had the will to win – the spirit to beat those blokes." ..... **(Sydney Morning Herald 14th June 1983)**

**Notes:** Wests went back into the winning list with a powerhouse up-front performance by Clark, Donnelly and Mountier, Bruce Clark had his best-ever game for Wests, with his bruising runs setting up three of the four tries. Both Donnelly and Clark looked a lot fitter and it showed. Warren Boland was out late and Donnelly became Captain, seemingly inspiring him to the old days. Brett Davidson also continued his good form.