



# 1987 Round 21 Sunday 26th July Orana Park



## Canberra 30

Gary BELCHER  
 Chris KINNA  
 Ivan HENJAK  
 Peter JACKSON  
 Matthew CORKERY  
 Laurie DALEY  
 Kevin WALTERS  
 Dean LANCE (c)  
 Ashley GILBERT  
 Gary COYNE  
 Sam BACKO  
 Steve WALTERS  
 Brent TODD  
 Paul MARTIN  
 Steve JACKSON  
 Glenn LAZARUS

def.

## Western Suburbs 12

Brett CLARK  
 Hew REES  
 John ALLANSON  
 Allen GEELAN  
 Jason WILLIAMS  
 Doug RAWLINGS  
 Trevor COGGER  
 Ian SCHUBERT (c)  
 John ELIAS  
 John BILBIJA  
 Ian FREEMAN  
 Alan FALLAH  
 Scott TRONC  
 Craig ELLIS



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

**Tries** Laurie DALEY (2)  
 Ivan HENJAK  
 Gary COYNE  
 Dean LANCE

John ELIAS  
 Brett CLARK

**Goals** Gary BELCHER (5)

Ian SCHUBERT (2)

### Match Description

**Western Suburbs:** Full-back: B Clark; three-quarters: H Rees, A Geelan, J Allanson, J Williams; five-eighth: D Rawlings; half: T Cogger; forwards: I Schubert (c), J Bilbija, J Elias, I Freeman, A Fallah, S Tronc

**Canberra:** Full-back: G Belcher; three-quarters: C Kinna, P Jackson, I Henjak, M Corkery; five-eighth: L Daley; half: K Walters; forwards: D Lance (c), G Coyne, A Gilbert, S Backo, S Walters, B Todd **Referee: M Stone (Rugby League Week 29th July 1987)**

Whiz-kid five-eighth Laurie Daley is resigned to losing his place in the Canberra team this week, despite making a stunning first grade debut when the Raiders ravaged Western Suburbs 30-12 at Orana Park yesterday. The 17-year-old apprentice greenkeeper, who was earmarked as a star in the making four years ago by coach Don Furner, burst into first grade with devastating impact, scoring two superb second-half tries and pulling off 27 crunching tackles. After the match the Junee-born teenager was being hailed as the most exciting prospect produced by the Raiders since they joined the premiership in 1982. But even claims that he has the potential to become a future international are unlikely to save him from returning to reserve grade to play Parramatta at Seiffert Sports Ground next Sunday, according to Daley. "With a player like Sully (Chris O'Sullivan) to come back next week, there's no way I'll keep the spot," Daley said, without the slightest hint of resentment. "Just having the chance to play a full first grade game this season was a tremendous thrill. As far as I'm concerned, it was something I didn't expect to happen this year." Daley only got his initial shot at first grade against the Magpies when selected five-eighth O'Sullivan was ruled out of the side with a nagging neck injury at training on Saturday morning. The youngster, who was playing junior football only six weeks ago, certainly made the most of the late call into the side. He recovered after a nervous first half, emerging as a two-try hero as the Raiders continued their surge for a top-five spot. Yesterday's five-tries-to-two victory allowed the Raiders to maintain their grip on outright fourth on the Winfield Cup table. The team now faces a horror run home to the end of the competition rounds to secure a semi-final spot. Over the next five weeks, the Raiders will confront four of the leading semi-final candidates – Manly, Canterbury, South Sydney and Easts. But coach Furner was not looking further ahead than next Sunday's clash with the Eels. "We're playing week by week," he said. "It's been a big season up to now, but a lot can happen in the next five weeks. We can't afford to worry about any game, except the one which is coming up next. We have to make our own destiny." The Raiders certainly didn't leave anything to chance against Wests. Despite the Magpies' rousing form in their past few games, Canberra ripped them apart from the start yesterday. While Wests failed to control the ball, the Raiders took the chances, racing in two tries in the first half and posting three more in the second half. Only a couple of late consolation tries saved Wests from an embarrassing scoreline. **(Daily Telegraph 27th July 1987)**

**Notes:** Wests were never in this match, as a teenager, Laurie Daley, on debut, carved them up. Lack of control in possession was again a huge problem for Wests. Welsh player Hew Rees had a good game, with limited opportunities, on debut. Late in the game Allen Geelan and Peter Jackson had a stand-up fight which eventuated in a Wests' penalty. Scott Tronc was taken to hospital with a worrying neck injury. Steve Ghosn was sacked as coach after this match, with Laurie Freier to be the coach for 1988.