



# 1987 Round 23 Sunday 9th August Orana Park



## North Sydney 20

def.

## Western Suburbs 18

John DORAHY (c)  
 John McARTHUR  
 Brett FRENCH  
 Geoff CLARK  
 Andrew SIMONS  
 Greg FLORIMO  
 Clayton FRIEND  
 Mark CANNON  
 Fred TEASDELL  
 Kevin MARR  
 Martin BELLA  
 Rex WRIGHT  
 Steve HANSON  
 Stephen CASEY  
 Geoff BLINKHORN  
 Peter MARTIN

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

John ALLANSON  
 Phillip DUKE  
 Allen GEELAN  
 Trevor COGGER  
 Jason WILLIAMS  
 Doug RAWLINGS  
 Brett CLARK  
 Ian SCHUBERT (c)  
 John ELIAS  
 John BILBIJA  
 Scott TRONC  
 Alan FALLAH  
 Ian FREEMAN  
 Huw REES  
 Les WHITE  
 Wayne LAMBKIN



### Tries

Andrew SIMONS  
 John McARTHUR  
 Geoff CLARK

Jason WILLIAMS  
 Doug RAWLINGS  
 Phillip DUKE

### Goals

Geoff CLARK (3)  
 John DORAHY (1)

Ian SCHUBERT (3)

### Match Description

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

**North Sydney:** Full-back: J Dorahy (c); three-quarters: J McArthur, B French, G Clark, A Simons; five-eighth: G Florimo; half: C Friend; forwards: M Cannon, F Teasdell, K Marr, M Bella, R Wright, S Harrison **Referee: G O'Donnell (Rugby League Week 12th August 1987)**

Sideline sledgers only mustered a smile from North Sydney's Geoff Clark as he booted the Bears to their thrilling victory over Wests at Orana Park yesterday. A horde of fans, many hanging over the fence, tried everything they knew to shake the 22-year-old policeman's concentration as he lined up the deadlock-breaking conversion kick from the sideline. "They were pretty close to the sideline and called me everything under the sun," said Clark, the hero of Norths' 20-18 victory. "It was quite funny really and I couldn't help laughing as I placed the ball on the mound. They were suggesting I got up to all sorts of weird activities in my spare time but the golden rule of goal-kicking is to blot out all crowd noise and just make sure you hit the ball cleanly." Clark felt obliged to pilot over the match-winning kick – a conversion of his own try scored centimetres in from the corner post. Justice, he called it, after being involved in a heavy collision which saw fullback John Dorahy carted off to hospital with a suspected depressed fracture of the forehead. "John's head crashed into my knee as we tried to stop a Wests' guy from scoring," Clark said. "I heard this almighty crack and felt sick all over. I thought I had smashed his jaw. When they carried him off, I felt terrible but Frank (Stanton) handed me the kicking duties and I knew I had to pull out something special." Clark's 76th minute kick left his boot well but appeared to be heading to the right of the goal-pots before it veered left – without indicating – and sailed over the black dot to give Norths an exciting two-point win. It was a highly entertaining match which deserved a better crowd than the 3007 fans who attended. Spectacular attacking movements, ferocious tackling and an ever-changing scoreline made it quite a spectacle with the late drama icing the cake. Norths led 12-10 at the changeover but Dorahy's terrible injury in the 48th minute changed the complexion of the match. Thanks to tries by Doug Rawlings and Phillip Duke, the Magpies raced on 12 points in three minutes to storm to an 18-10 lead. Norths whittled away two penalty goals from Clark before he dived over in the corner for the equaliser five minutes before the siren. There were a number of top performers on both sides. Greg Florimo had a whale of a game for Norths but his opposite number, Doug Rawlings, wasn't too far behind. Norths' Clayton Friend, Mark Cannon, Kevin Marr, Steve Hanson and Fred Teasdell were always prominent while Wests got great value from Brett Clark, John Bilbija and Ian Freeman. **(Daily Mirror 10th August 1987)**

**Notes:** For the fifth time in the season, Wests lost a game in the last five minutes. They charged to an 18-10 lead in the second half with good tries to Duke and Rawlings but allowed Geoff Clark to dive over in the 76th minute and then convert the try from the sideline. It was an entertaining, yet disappointing game, where Scott Tronc and Ian Schubert were powerhouses in the forwards and Brett Clark had one of his best games at half.