



## 1989 Round 3 Sunday 2nd April North Sydney Oval



### North Sydney 24

John DORAHY (c)  
 Les KISS  
 Kelly EGAN  
 Scott GALE  
 John McARTHUR  
 Greg FLORIMO  
 Clayton FRIEND  
 Ian FRENCH  
 Gary SMITH  
 Gary LARSON  
 Martin BELLA  
 Tony REA  
 Bruce SINCLAIR  
 David ALEXANDER  
 Mark SODEN  
 Gavin JONES  
 Paul BEAVEN

def.

### Western Suburbs 0

Danny PEACOCK  
 Nick STEVANOVIC  
 Jason LIDDEN  
 Jason STAFFORD  
 Graham MACKAY  
 Trevor COGGER  
 Wayne SIMONDS  
 Ian SCHUBERT  
 Cameron BLAIR (c)  
 Dave WOODS  
 Craig TEITZEL  
 Shane FLANAGAN  
 Pat O'DOHERTY  
 Dave GALLAGHER  
 Ian FREEMAN  
 Michael GOULD  
 Brendan TUUTA



#### Tries

John McARTHUR  
 Scott GALE  
 Ian FRENCH  
 Greg FLORIMO

#### Goals

John McARTHUR (3)  
 Tony REA (1)

#### Match Description

**Western Suburbs:** Full-back: D Peacock; three-quarters: G Mackay, J Lidden, J Stafford, N Stevanovic; five-eighth: T Cogger; half: W Simonds; forwards: I Schubert, C Blair (c), D Woods, C Teitzel, S Flanagan, P O'Doherty

**North Sydney:** Full-back: J Dorahy (c); three-quarters: L Kiss, K Egan, S Gale, J McArthur; five-eighth: G Florimo; half: C Friend; forwards: B French, G Larson, G Smith, M Bella, T Rea, B Sinclair **Referee: P Filmer (Big League 4th April 1989)**

The pressure is off, the season is saved and "the eye" is no longer focused on the Bears' soft underbelly after North Sydney broke its duck yesterday in weather fit only for ducks. "We were playing for pride, for our self-respect, for 1989. All our hopes rested on today," admitted Greg Florimo after starring in Norths' 24-0 victory over Wests. The ginger-haired five-eighth added: "Winning is sensational. It takes all the pressure off. You feel "the eye" at training and at the club where back-slappers have been telling us where we've gone wrong. They will have more respect now. I feel sorry for Wests. Out on the field they were fighting with each other, arguing about dropped ball." "The eye" is still on Wests. They remain without a premiership point. And on yesterday's display even those paid to take an interest were finding their enthusiasm sinking under the steady downpour. Wests' coach John Baily spoke momentarily of good deeds by Danny Peacock, Dave Woods and Trevor Cogger. It may have slipped his mind that robust prop Shane Flanagan, who made 54 tackles in Wests' 0-12 midweek Panasonic Cup loss to Illawarra, backed up with 49 tackles yesterday, including 34 in the second half. But with "the eye" starting to burn a hole between his shoulder blades, a downcast Baily lamented: "Those players apart, they all play a certain standard which is not first grade, and that's unfortunate. We've tried a lot of combinations and we don't seem to be coming up with the answers. I've got to look at running forwards who are hitting the line. Our attack is too slow. Either I've got to change personnel or keep drilling them." While few at Wests found much to savour in their four-try defeat, qualified praise came from deep inside the Bears' engine room in the unlikely form of international prop Martin Bella. The thinking man's Rambo, Bella said: The Wests' pack is not weaker than any of the packs going around. They're young, definitely eager and vigorous. There were a lot of real good hits both ways out there. The attack was moving slowly across the paddock because of the weather. Out there you were a sitter for real big hits. It came down to hitting each other with big sticks and seeing who gave way." (**Daily Telegraph 3rd April 1989**)

**Notes:** Wests put in a very poor performance, coming off a mid-week Panasonic Cup loss, 12-0, to Illawarra. Wests just couldn't handle the ball under the wet conditions and Norths' aggressive defence. Danny Peacock, Dave Woods and Trevor Cogger all played well in a beaten team, but special mention should be made of hooker, Shane Flanagan, who made 54 tackles in the mid-week game and backed up with another 49 in this game.