1939 Round 11 Saturday 8th July Leichhardt Oval

Western Suburbs 13 drew with

Balmain 13

Jim SHARMAN Fullback

Harry ALLEN Fred BABER Cal LYNCH Colin FEWTRELL

Jack TISDALE Albert McGUINESS (c) Don MURRAY

Don GULLIVER Stan SIMPSON Jack PIPER Alex PATRICK

Second Row Second Row Front Row Hooker Front Row Ken LOCK

Hec DAY Sid GOODWIN (c) Frank HYDE Tom BOURKE Jack WINCHESTER William BISCHOFF Jim OUFALFY Jack REDMAN **BILL JOHNSON**

Athol SMITH Dave MANNING George WATT **Dawson BUCKLEY**

Albert McGUINESS Tom BOURKE

Wing

Centre

Centre

Five-eighth

Wing

Half

Lock

Sid GOODWIN Frank HYDE

Goals Stan SIMPSON (5) Bill JOHNSON (2)

Match Description

Tries

Balmain: Full-back: H Day; three-quarters: S Goodwin (capt), F Hyde, T Bourke, J Winchester; halves: W Bischoff, J Quealey; forwards: J Redman, A Smith, W Johnson, D Buckley, G watt, D Manning

Western Suburbs: Full-back: J Sharman; three-quarters: H Allen, F Baber, C Lynch, C Fewtrell; halves: J Tisdale, A McGuiness (capt); forwards: D Murray, D Gulliver, S Simpson, K Lock, A Patrick, J Piper Referee: P Lee (Rugby League News 15th July 1939)

Before a crowd of about 6000, and into a strong breeze, Balmain kicked off from the western end. Balmain was nearly in, its backs handling beautifully, but Winchester was stopped on the Western Suburbs line. A penalty got Western Suburbs out of trouble and then they went to the attack when Sharman kicked well downfield. Then from a penalty right in front, Simpson opened the scoring with a nice goal. Western Suburbs 2, Balmain nil. But it was not long before Balmain scored. Winchester gathered Sharman's clearing kick, side-stepped two men and passed to Quealey, the ball going then to Hyde and Goodwin, the last-named scoring wide out. Johnson failed to convert. Balmain 3, Western Suburbs 2. After a somewhat ragged beginning the game now became very fast, going from end to end of the field. Then Western Suburbs again took the lead when Simpson landed his second goal from a penalty fairly well out. Western Suburbs 4, Balmain 3. Balmain scored a great try from its own 25. Day first had the ball, sending on to Hyde, who then sent to Bourke, who passed to Goodwin. That made the opening for Hyde, who had come up again to score near the posts. Winchester missed an easy goal, and Balmain was in front 6 to 4. Headed by Simpson, Lock and Piper, Western Suburbs came back again and from a ruck near the Balmain line, McGuiness scored after Gulliver and Murray had handled. When Simpson converted, Western Suburbs led 9 to 6. Balmain then pressed hard once more when Bischoff and Goodwin had come through and was awarded a penalty. Johnson landed a fine goal and Western Suburbs now led by only one point — 9 to 8... Half-time scores: — Western Suburbs 9, Balmain 8.

.... A penalty then came to Balmain outside the Western Suburbs 25, Johnson making no error, for Balmain to take the lead, 10 to 9. Western Suburbs pressed hard until Goodwin got Balmain out of trouble, then Sharman came through only to be knocked over by a defender, after he had got rid of the ball. Balmain was penalised and Simpson made no mistake with his kick at goal for Western Suburbs again to go to the lead by 11 to 10. Western Suburbs again went well inside Balmain's 25 when Sharman punted downfield and then another penalty came to Western Suburbs for Simpson to again land a glorious goal. Western Suburbs 13, Balmain 10. A grand movement started, in which Bischoff, Quealey, Winchester, and Bourke handled, the last-named scoring in the face of desperate defence. Johnson failed to convert. Balmain 13, Western Suburbs 13, Western Suburbs went right down to the Balmain line only for Quealey to clear. Balmain was nearly over but Winchester was pushed into touch near the Western Suburbs line. ... The full-time bell went as Goodwin put his foot into touch only feet from the Western Suburbs sideline, and a grand, hard game had ended in a draw. (The Sun 8th July 1939)

Players and officials surrounded Don Gulliver on the oval prior to the commencement of play last Saturday, when a presentation of a beautiful travelling rug was made to Don, in recognition of his selection in the State side now visiting Queensland. (Rugby League News 22nd July 1939)

Notes: A presentation was made to Don Gulliver prior to the match, honouring his selection in the NSW team. Colin Fewtrell was back after injury and played well. This was a very close, tough game which had passages of open play, with both sets of backs throwing the ball about in grand style. Stan Simpson was in fine goal-kicking form, kicking two goals from the sideline. Wests were under great pressure in the last five minutes but held on stoutly.

