1941 Round 6 Saturday 24th May Belmore Oval

Canterbury 7

Lin JOHNSON Aub MITCHELL Ron BAILEY (c) Ron KNIGHT Edgar NEWHAM Ted ANDERSON Roy McCARTER Frank SPONBERG Bob ALLISON Bob FARRAR Eddie BURNS Roy KIRKALDY Henry PORTER

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

def.

Bill KEATO Bruce BROWN Norm PARKINSON Jack WHITEHURST Colin FEWTRELL Doug ROGERS Albert McGUINESS (c) Jack HUXLEY Ron CAMPBELL Fred McKEAN Jack SCHUBACK Ken LOCK Jack PIPER

Western Suburbs 4

Tries

Goals

Lin JOHNSON (2)

Aub MITCHELL

Doug ROGERS (2)

Match Description

Canterbury-Bankstown: Full-back: L Johnson; three-quarters: E Newham, R Bailey (capt), R Knight, A Mitchell; halves: E Anderson, R McCarter; forwards: F Sponberg, R Allison, R Farrer, H Porter, R Kirkaldy, E Burns

Western Suburbs: Full-back: W Keato; three-quarters: B Brown, N Parkinson, J Whitehurst, C Fewtrell; halves: D Rogers, A McGuiness (capt); forwards: J Huxley, R Campbell, F McKean, J Piper, K Lock, J Schuback Referee: J McGauley (Rugby League News 21st June 1941)

Chas. O'Brien, ex-Newcastle Waratah, Mayfield full-back, has joined our ranks, and has residentially qualified, and will be available for selection next match......Eric Bennett, also played on Sunday and we shall see him with the Magpies in the very near future, and will prove an acquisition to the team. (Rugby League News 14th June 1941)......The qualifying of Eric Bennett and Charlie O'Brien and the return of Cal Lynch, who has been out nursing an injured arm will, it is hoped, fully compensate for the loss of any of the regulars who may miss out....hooker, Alf Patrick, has again commenced training, and it is hoped that he will prove very helpful in the second round. (Rugby League News 16th June 1941)

Belmore Oval League fans yesterday saw an all-in battle between both Cantabs and Wests' packs, with the hyphenates booting and rucking their way to a 7 points to 4 victory. The tackling was terrific and wet weather tactics of keeping the ball on the toe had the Zambucks working overtime. Huxley played most of the match with his head swathed in bandages from a stray boot, and although the game was clean and hard throughout. Cantab hooker Kirkaldy won a feast of the ball, but the three-quarters could not cope with the greasy pigskin and great defensive work of the Magpies. McCarter, instead of passing, should have exploited the grubber kick more often. The score was 2-all well into the second stanza until Aub Mitchell used his head and sped inside the pack from the wing position to cut holes in the defence and score between the sticks. Wests' supporters had reason to moan, as Huxley was on the sideline receiving ambulance attention when this vital try was scored. The Magpies seemed to have a fighting chance after Rogers landed a humdinger goal near the half-way line. They seemed certain to add to their tally when the same player broke through and passed to winger Brown. Then Brown dropped the ball with the line at his mercy. Rogers showed flashes of brilliance at five-eighth. With more experience in his new position he will gain confidence and learn when to go on his own instead of looking around for supports. All the forwards played good hard rucking football, with "Blobs" Porter outstanding. For a man who was a doubtful starter he performed miracles. Lin Johnson missed a couple of easy goals early in the game but made amends by repelling repeated Western Suburbs onslaughts with well-judged kicks. The attendance was 4,000. **(Truth 25th May 1941)**

Canterbury Bankstown beat Western Suburbs by seven points to four at Belmore Oval In a game that was played mostly among the forwards. As a result, the game was hard, the tackling of both teams being particularly so. Canterbury Bankstown's hooker Kirkaldy secured a plentiful supply of the ball from the scrums but due to the good defensive play of the Western Suburbs team all these movements were stopped. With the score at two all at half time Western Suburbs seemed to be holding its opponents but in the second half A Mitchell scored a try and L Johnson kicked a goal for Canterbury Bankstown against Western Suburbs goal kicked by D Rogers. ... The best player tor Western Suburbs was A McGuinness, who was ably supported by D Rogers. **(The Sydney Morning Herald 26th May 1941)**

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Notes: This was a drag 'em out brawl, where the greasy conditions were a big factor. Jack Huxley played, although carrying an injury, and played most of the match swathed in bandages. Lock was badly beaten in the scrums and the note that Alex Patrick was back in training was important. He was needed. Canterbury scored the only try when Huxley was off the field receiving ambulance attention. It says a lot of Doug Rogers' goal-kicking that he was the preferred kicker over Billy Keato. Two good players in Charlie O'Brien and Eric Bennett had both been cleared to play.