



# 1941 Round 8 Saturday 21st June Pratten Park



## Western Suburbs 23

def.

## Balmain 8

Norm PARKINSON  
 Bruce BROWN  
 Jack WHITEHURST  
 Eric BENNETT  
 Colin FEWTRELL  
 Doug ROGERS  
 Albert McGUINNESS (c)  
 Jack HUXLEY  
 Ron CAMPBELL  
 Fred McKEAN  
 Jack SCHUBACK  
 Ken LOCK  
 Jack PIPER

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

Jack WINCHESTER  
 Sid GOODWIN  
 Frank HYDE (c)  
 Jim QUEALEY  
 Arthur PATTON  
 Gil BOX  
 Jim QUEALEY  
 Athol SMITH  
 Bill JOHNSON  
 Frank GRIFFITHS  
 Dawson BUCKLEY  
 William BROWN  
 A BOWERY

### Tries

Eric BENNETT (2)  
 Albert McGUINNESS  
 Fred McKEAN  
 Doug ROGERS  
 Jack SCHUBACK  
 Jack WHITEHURST

Arthur PATTON  
 Athol SMITH

### Goals

Doug ROGERS (1)

Bill JOHNSON (1)

### Match Description

**Western Suburbs:** Full-back: N Parkinson; three-quarters: B Brown, E Bennett, J Whitehurst, C Fewtrell; halves: D Rogers, A McGuinness; forwards: J Huxley, R Campbell, F McKean, J Piper, K Lock, J Schuback

**Balmain:** Full-back: J Winchester; three-quarters: A Patton, F Hyde (capt), J Quealey, J Hampstead; halves: C Foster, G Box; forwards: A Smith, W Johnson, F Griffiths, A Bowery, W Brown, D Buckley **Referee: G Bishop (Rugby League News 5th July 1941)**

About 3000 were present when Hyde kicked off for Balmain. The ground was in perfect condition, and a strong wind blew straight down the ground. Wests made two changes, N. Parkinson going to full-back, and E. Bennett replacing Parkinson in the centre. The crowd was keenly interested in Goodwin's appearance in the reserve grade. ... Wests was penalised for a scrum breach, Johnson kicking a great goal from a long way out. Balmain 2, Western Suburbs nil. .... Both sets of forwards were playing a close game. .... McGuinness broke away and sent Schuback a perfect pass for him to score near the posts. Rogers failed at goal. Western Suburbs 3, Balmain 2. .... Then came a glorious Western Suburbs try. Bennett broke through the centre and, drawing Hampstead, gave Brown a perfect pass. Winchester stopped Brown, but he reverse-passed to Bennett, who crossed in the corner. Rogers's kick was weak. Western Suburbs 6, Balmain 2. Winchester made a fine effort to kick a field goal, and after a scuffle among the forwards Patton scored for Balmain. Johnson failed at goal. Western Suburbs 8, Balmain 5. After Patton had been stopped close to the line, Brown went over for Balmain, McGuinness being cautioned. Johnson failed at goal. Balmain 8, Western Suburbs 6. Following the drop-out Whitehurst fielded the rolling ball cleanly and flew over in the corner. Bennett failed with his kick. Western Suburbs 9, Balmain 8. Wests was attacking keenly when the half-time bell rang. Half-time scores: Western Suburbs 9, Balmain 8.

... Bowery, limping badly, reappeared for Balmain. Bennett was finding the line cleverly and was prominent in every attacking move. ... The game was developing into a keen struggle among the forwards. The tackling on both sides was deadly, the hard ground causing many stoppages through injuries. Rogers broke away from the scrum, short-kicked, and, getting the ball on the bounce, scored near the posts. He also kicked the goal. Western Suburbs 14, Balmain 8. Wests scored a great try. In the Balmain 25, the ball travelled from man to man until they reached West's 25. Then came little McGuinness. Intercepting a pass, he was at his top in a flash, and, striding away from the opposition and skirting the touch-line, he scored in the corner. Rogers failed at goal. Western Suburbs 17, Balmain 8. McKean then burst through a mass of Balmain forwards to score wide out. Parkinson failed at goal. Western Suburbs 20, Balmain 8. From a scrum on Balmain's 25 the ball was sent to Bennett, who juggled it to score wide out. Parkinson's kick hit the post. Wests 23, Balmain 8. **(The Sun 21st June 1941)**

Eric Bennett made a great debut last Saturday; besides playing a brilliant and heady game he scored two nice tries. Keep it up, Eric, we can take it.....Fred Baber, erstwhile First Grade centre, made a comeback in the Thirds last week. The big chap will certainly shake up some of the lower grades when he gets into condition.....a new "winger" starred for Reserves last Saturday against Balmain – George "Butcher" Lucas, lock-forward – who took over the wing position when Martin was injured. Although opposed to State rep. Sid Goodwin, "Butcher" scored two good tries and plenty of applause from the supporters. **(Rugby League News 28th June 1941)**

**Notes:** Eric Bennett, who was to become a significant player, made a very strong debut in this game, scoring two excellent tries. Wests were on top for most of the game, even allowing for the significant injuries the club was suffering.