



Around the clubs..

KURRI'S Bruce ("Bones") Hampten, since making the first grade side, has shown everyone just what a capable hooker and player he really is. Although small in stature, Bruce is doing a giant size job for the "Bulldogs". He played an outstanding game against Cessnock and it was most deserving to see him win the player awards in this match. Well done Bruce.

FANS will miss a familar face at the Maitland ticket office this season. Mrs. Higgs, who has done an excellent job for over 19 years, has decided to take a well-earned rest. The Maitland Club and the League would like to thank you for your assistance over the past seasons.

"BULLDOG" Ross Crighton's performance last week certainly endorsed his selection in the reserve grade side. Ross played a blinder and was in everything. His non stop defence and general all round play won him the outstanding player award. Great game Ross.

KURRI Supporters' Club are to hold a "Western Style" fancy dress night at the ambulance-hall, Kurri on 7/6/75 and a terrific night is assured for all. Tickets \$2 and logue bookings are available from Secretary Barry Wiseman. Phone 37 1704.

PETER BURT, reserve grade second row forward, continues to show good form and his consistent play makes him an ideal clubman as was shown when brought on as a replacement against Macquarie and his get up and go style of play is sadly needed up top.

WHAT a difference one player can make! Since Robert "Tank" Thomson has returned to the Cessnock side after a long time out with injury, the "Goannas" haven't lost a game. His hooking and general play have given his mates great confidence.

A GREAT big grin was noticed on the face of "Goanna" treasurer, 'Keith Lucas and not only because we managed that tremendous task of beating Kurri at Kurri, Luke appreciated the near record crowd and was working out what the "Goanna" cut would be

A BIG HAND to Jim Batey, Central fullback for an outstanding game against Maitland last Sunday. Apart from scoring two good tries, his defence saved several bright Maitland moves that had the rest of Central shot to ribbons.

FOUR tries and four goals, Warren Metcalf's personal tally from last week's game, scoring 20 of the Maitland third grade side's 23 points. Not to be outdone, Tom "The Boot" Kellett, scored a try and six goals, whilst Ken Shine scored a try and four goals.

NORTH'S Supporters' Club will be holding their Annual Meeting at the Newcastle Leagues Club on Wednesday, June 11 at 8.00 p.m. Present members and new members welcome to attend. Membership fee of \$2.00 for term is now due and may be paid to any Committeeman.

LAKES UNITED reserve grade winger Chris Ansoul, is settling in well since changing from Union. A sound defender and passing ample pace, he is an asset to the club.

MEMBER of the Kurri Ladies' Auxiliary, Joyce Nicholsen, has again come to the rescue keeping the club going in doubles. Joyce is quickly becoming an expert and has the double making game completely organised. Your efforts are greatly appreciated Joyce.

JOHN "Bluey" WILSON, West United Second Division player last season, gets his chance in first grade today. No doubt his selection gives John a sentimental secret ambition as his late father Jack Wilson was Hon. Secretary of Western Suburbs from 1945 to 1950.

CONGRATULATIONS to Toronto High School boys, Paul Bleakney and Dru Hodges on their selection in the Newcastle Schools open representative side to play North Coast on Friday, May 30. All the best boys from all at Macquarie.

CONGRATULATIONS to Central prop Brian Anderson on his selection in the combined Country squad, who play City at the weekend. POPULAR "Goanna" Gordon Bradley is currently poking out his chest with pride at the birth of a daughter. Another "Goanna" supporter to join the Bradley family, who are such an important part of the Cessnock club.

PLAYERS and committee would like to thank the three Maitland teams managers for their assistance at games and training, John Wolinski, Lester Moffatt and "Butch" Unicombe. Without their assistance it would be difficult to organise the last minute rush before games and at half time. Many thanks fellas.

CONGRATULATIONS to "Bluebags" coach, Ron Andrews, and his players in winning their initial reserve grade game. Now that they have broken the ice there should be no stopping them.

LAKES UNITED third grade saved the day for the club last weekend in playing with only twelve men for 60 minutes of the game and winning. What a way to win your first game for the season!

TICKETS are going fast for West Injured Players' Amco Cup bus trip on May 28. All enquiries to Peter Johansen West Leagues, and Kerry Clarke, West Committee. So hurry and save disappointment.

TONY LINDSAY continues to show great form at fullback for Macquarie and was the lucky player to receive a Sharp cassette recorder for his great game against West.

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"BLUEBAG" reserve grade captain, Wayne Cooper, received the North Supporters' Award for a grand game against his old club, Lakes, last Saturday. * * * NORTH'S trainers, Darrell Smith, Ted Rippon and John Bates are to be congratulated for the way they have applied themselves to their duties in looking after the players aches and pains. SEVERAL Central officials within the next couple of weeks will be flying across to Mexico City and taking in part of the States as part of the tour. A good idea may be to have a look around for a few "gridiron" players to help bolster our morale.

POPULAR first grade manager from Lakes United, Bert Silkman, continues to do a grand job for his team. Undaunted by last week's loss, Bert is confident Lakes will be there "when the whips are cracking".

JOHN BEECHER is West senior lock today against South and no doubt he will be flat out to establish himself in this position. Illness undoubtedly has kept him out of contention, but now fit and well he will regain his excellent early pre-season form.

FORMER Cardiff 2nd Division player Tom Moore, is showing great form since joining the "Scorpians". A bright future is predicted by keen judges of the game.

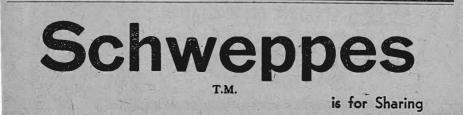
CONGRATULATIONS to Lakes United lock Tom Sheppard in being selected in Country Seconds. The experience gained in rep. games will be of great value to the club and Newcastle football in future games.

PAY BOOST

England and Wales players for next month's world championship series in Australia and New Zealand have been given a pay increase.

Originally the players were to be paid \$80 a week basic with an additional \$40 for a win in world championship matches and \$10 for other match wins.

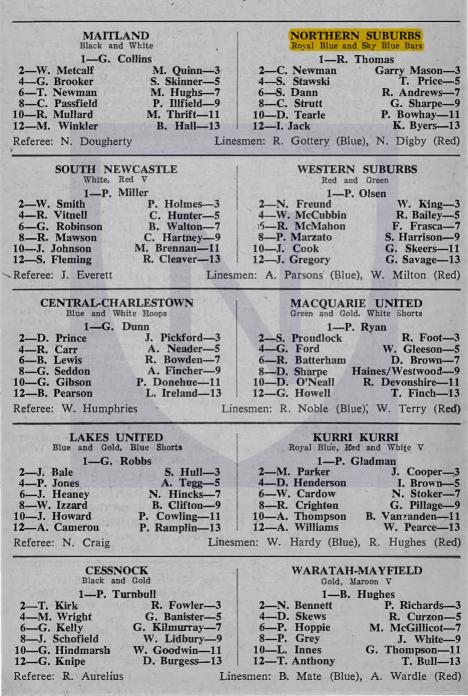
Now the English Rugby League Council has decided to pay the players \$20 if they lose a world championship game and \$10 for the extra matches irrespective of the result.





THIRD GRADE

12.15 p.m.



NEWCASTLE PREM!ERSHIP

First Grade

WESTERN SUBURBS 32 (W. Aoake 2, G. Owen, T. Stevens, K. Hutchinson, P. Slattery tries; Slattery 7 goals) d SOUTH NEWCASILE 17 (P. Merlo, R. Griffiths, D. Rowe tries; G. Harver 4 goals).

NORTHERN SUBURBS 14 (D. Cassidy, J. Campbell, C. Newton, R. Warren tries; P. Campbell goal) d MAITLAND 5 (M. McMahon try; K. Shine goal).

LAKES UNITED 20 (J. Fisher, S. Booth, R. Burgess, G. Thompson tries; Burgess 4 goals) d KURRI KURRI 15 (A. Drew 2, B. Hampton tries; N. Bagnall 3 goals).

MACQUARIE UNITED 32 (A. Lindsay, R. Wrightson, B. Moore, J. Flett, J. Roberts, P. Callen tries; T. Moore 7 goals) d CENTRAL CHARLESTOWN 14 (J. Batey 2, D. Nichols, P. Eulo tries; A. Jones goal):

CESSNOCK 13 (W. Jobson try; G. Smallcombe 4, M. Goldman goals) drew with WARATAH-MAYFIELD 13 (M. Conway, S. Hudson, R. Shakespeare tries; Hudson, P. Wark goals).

RESERVE GRADE: Western Suburbs 25 d South Newcastle 8; Maitland 35 d Northern Suburbs 5; Lakes United 33 d Kurri Kurri 15; Macquarie United 26 d Central Charlestown 19; Cessnock 46 d Waratah-Mayfield 4.

THIRD GRADE: South Newcastle 18 d Western Suburbs 12; Maitland 16 drew with Northern Suburbs 16; Lakes United 11 d Kurri Kurri 6; Central Charlestown 16 d Macquarie United 14; Cessnock 33 d Waratah-Mayfield 10.