

Jesuit Rugby Newsletter: Vol.IX No.4

March 10, 2005

Jesuit Leashes 'Dogs

Jesuit HS 3/4/05

With only schetchy information available in the absence of a correspondent at the game, word of mouth postulated on the convincing outcome for the Red Armada in their battle with the Blackdogs of Vacaville. The final result was 39-7 after the Red Juggernaut got their mojo working in the mud at Jesuit's Rugby Pitch.

High praise was given to the team as a whole, but notable was Dimitri Godamunne for his "doom" tackles and burning burst down the sideline. The sky cam caught Alex Murchison and Co controlling the lineouts and earning tighthead in the scrums.

The insider's information is that the coaching staff was happy with the effort although recognized continued weaknesses that will be addressed in practices to follow.

Alex "The Prince" Murchison was voted best forward by Vacaville and Ryan Taylor was best back just edging out the mighty winger Dimitri. Congratulations on the win!!!

Jesuit Swamps Rancho Cordova

RC HS 3-4-05

In a well played and refereed game, the Jesuit forwards were dominant and provided a platform for success in the game leading to a 25-7 win over host Rancho Cordova. The forwards were

shorthanded and conscripted backs Jeff Drum and Mike Miller to help out at second row. Kudos were extended to the entire front row of Mighty Vincent Nunez, Sturdy Mike Phillips, and fleet Patrick Beebe. Sean Gay "the Jesuit Tackling Machine" was a standout. The Jesuit lineouts were dominant.

Matt Klopfenstien had an outstanding game with many quick taps that the opposition never figured out and many tactical kicks to make headway for the backs. Tim Harris used his centers well to make breaks through the line.

Brian Kerr had a blinder and was named forward of the game. The Jesuit players extended congratulations to Rancho Cordova for a well played game and for the kind hospitality and meal at the post game function.

Jesuit 25 1-15: Nunez, Beebe, Phillips, McGrew, Drum, Gay, Lucas, Kerr, Klopfenstien, Harris, Zimmerman (2 tries), Hirai, Tucci, Blamey, DeAnda

The Collegiate and Alumni Report

By Doug Hamilton

At Berkeley California easily retained possession of the Scrum-Axe in a convincing 82-5 win over Stanford. Louie Stanfill, Joe Welch and Andrew Lindsey each started and scored in the win. With the victory the Bears clinch first place in the NCRFU collegiate first division, as well as a bye in the territorial playoffs and the overall first seed in the national round of sixteen. Anthony Estrella was among the freshman who saw B-Side action in a 103-0 Bear victory over the Cardinal reserves.

In a match with third place at stake, Sacramento State defeated the visiting Chico State Wildcats, 38-14. The good news for the Hornets is that they won the match, but the bad news is that the third place team in the league travels to Utah in the regional play offs where a formidable University of Utah team stands in the way of a trip to the national playoffs.

UC Davis' second half woes continue as the host Aggies led Nevada 17-12 at the break, only to have the Wolfpack come on strong in a wild and high scoring second period to take the game 36-34 on a late score. The Davis loss leaves the bottom of the NCRFU standings in a bit of a mess with Davis, Stanford and Nevada each with a single win in league play and each of them with one win and a loss against the other two. With only two of the three moving on to the territorial playoffs some one will have to break out with a win or the matter will be decided off of the pitch by tie breakers. Sacramento State will have a lot to say about the outcome when they visit both Nevada and Stanford over the next two weekends.

Breaking the deadlock won't be easy for Davis as they host Cal next weekend in the final league game for both teams. In other first division games, St. Mary's concludes league play as the Gaels travel to Stanford while Nevada hosts Sacramento State.

In addition to the seven teams that play in the Northern California Collegiate first division, there are seven colleges and one junior college that play in the second division. For those looking ahead to college rugby, the NCRFU second division offers many attractions, including a very scenic pitch above Monterrey Bay at Santa Cruz, and another pitch nestled under the pines overlooking the Carquinez Straits at the Maritime Academy. Humboldt State is located in one of the most beautiful, if not isolated, corners of California. There are some great nicknames too, including the Banana Slugs and the Keelhaulers. More importantly there are continuing opportunities to play while attending some great schools. Marauders can continue to be "Men for Others" at Jesuit colleges Santa Clara University and the University of San Francisco.

In second division play this past weekend Santa Rosa Junior College easily defeated San Jose State, 74-7, while Santa Clara lost to defending champion Humboldt State, 13-3. The University of the Pacific beat the University of San Francisco, 20-12 and UC Santa Cruz lost to the California Maritime Academy, 10-5. This coming weekend Pacific travels to Santa Rosa JC and Santa Clara travels to USF. First place will be on the line as Humboldt State plays at the Maritime Academy.

Things are slowly clearing up in Southern California as the Arizona Wildcats started their voyage to the central coast with only one league loss but returned home with three as they fell to both UC Santa Barbara and Cal Poly SLO. Elsewhere UCLA defeated San Diego State to all but knock the Aztecs out of the playoff picture. Long Beach State is the current league leader after a weekend victory over a young University of San Diego team. In games this weekend, UC Santa

Barbara hosts the University of San Diego, while UCLA travels to play UC San Diego. In the game with the most at stake, front runner Long Beach State will play at San Diego State.

In other national games of note, Utah defeated rival BYU to win the Wasatch Cup, and Penn State outscored Army in a "controlled scrimmage." Army begins an ambitious spring trip to California this weekend as they are scheduled to play Cal Poly on the 12th, Stanford on the 13th, St. Mary's on the 15th and then return to Stanford to play Air Force on the 19th in what should be the best game on a busy day of collegiate rugby in Northern California. California and St. Mary's are each holding their annual two day tournaments on the weekend of the 19th and 20th. The Cal Invitational will feature Cal against Oregon and Dartmouth against Ohio State on Saturday with winners and losers meeting on Sunday. Over the hill in Moraga the University of Washington and Loyola Marymount are among the teams playing in the third annual Pat Vincent Cup.

Both Dartmouth and Ohio State are incorporating their tournament games with longer spring trips to California. Dartmouth will continue with matches against Stanford and Army at Stanford and then head south to Los Angeles where the A team will play UCLA and the reserves will meet the LA Cougars. Ohio State will stick around to play St. Mary's and Washington will stop at Sacramento State before returning to the Pacific Northwest. Air Force will also make a trip through the Golden State this month playing Army and Dartmouth at Stanford and then traveling to Chico State.

The Alumni & College report will not be published next week, but that doesn't mean that you can't write. Please keep the Marauders posted on your current activities, on and off of the pitch. Write to dragon1137@comcast.net. Please include the words Jesuit Rugby in the subject line.

Jesuit Upends Mother Lode

Oak Ridge HS 3-8-05

Jesuit 50 ML 15

Mother Lode scored first to lead 7-0. Then the Red and Gold Armada turned on the juice. in the best display of rugby so far this year, Jesuit sophomores(with a couple freshmen) powered to a 50-15 win over the hosts. The forwards rucked in two, threes and fours, dominated the lineouts

repeated stealing the ball, and pushed ML around in the scrums. The backs not to be outdone ran wild repeated pounding up the middle to draw defenders then swinging the ball out wide to out flank the hosts. It was a dominating performance by all. An enthusiastic Mother Lode team played tough and clean all game and were gracious in defeat. The outstanding individual efforts were too numerous to report, but all players played well.

Rio Linda Steamrolls Jesuit

Rio Linda HS 3/8/05

The Jesuit B team arrived at Rio Linda High School full of confidence that they would repeat their close win from the beginning of the season. However the Marauders ran up against a Rio Linda team that was highly motivated and more committed. Using their strong running number 8 to wreak havoc and set up good clean ball for their backs, the Rio Linda team overpowered the B's by 42 points to 3.

Cori Nicodemus avoided the shut out with a well taken 35 meter penalty kick.

Jesuit would like to thank their hosts for their hospitality with a BBQ being held after the game and for the way the game was played. It was fast and physical, but clean with some dynamic open running by the Rio Linda team.

Upcoming Events:

Thursday March 10

All teams practice 3:15 PM

Friday March 11

A team v. Cougar RFC at Jesuit 4 PM kickoff; B game v. Cougar RFC to follow

Saturday March 12

A team v. Los Angeles Cougars at Stanford Univ. rugby pitch 4:30 PM kickoff.

Monday March 14

Kickers and Throwers 3:15 PM; pick up Billets at rugby field about 5 PM

Tuesday March 15

A team v. Erindale (Canada) 4 PM kickoff; pizza party to follow.

Cheers and Jeers:

Jeers: To all the players that haven't finished their paper work. We need it to clear up all the unfinished business. Please see Vern McCarthy to turn in the paper work.

Jeers: To Management for the lateness of the JRN but cyberspace difficulties interfered. All problems are resolved and timeliness will prevail.

Cheers: To the Weatherman-the Australian Cyclone touches down Monday 3/21 at 2:45 PM and " Hold onto Your Hats" after that.

Complete news to follow in JRN #5

The Management