

Jesuit Rugby Newsletter: Vol.X No.4

March 16, 2006

Marauders Continue To Roll

Jesuit Varsity Beats Cougars 48-0

March 10, 2006 Will Rogers Middle School

Despite the league schedule of 2 league games in one week , the Gold Varsity continued their display of balance by launching a potent offensive attack on the Cougar Rugby Club, while bringing a stingy defense that has not allowed a point in the last four games. The game was filled with pinpoint execution by the backline that ran a variety of attacks, both inside and outside, that had the Cougar backline in disarray throughout the game.

The scoring began at the tenth minute of play as Stand off, Nate Floyd, facilitated wonderful looping by the backs which led to strong running Inside Center, Evan "Wrecking" Reuter, who finished off with the first try of the game. Floyd presented his only missed conversion of the day. Jesuit 5 - Cougar RFC 0.

Again, Floyd led off the attack with a crash ball, that sent Outside Center, Tyler "Flying" Siegel, through the Cougar backline, eventually leading to a try a few phases later. Quick thinking winger, Brian "Gags" Gagliardi, filled in at a ruck and skipped the ball wide to the winger, Will "The Try Machine" Wegner, who finished the play with the try. Floyd's conversion good. Jesuit 12 - Cougar RFC 0.

The theme of backline execution continued. Floyd led off a set piece play which sent Gags scampering back through the Cougar defense on a switch move in which he centered the ball under the posts. Floyd's conversion good, and the first half concluded. Jesuit 19 - Cougar RFC 0.

The first half began off of a Cougar penalty where Floyd easily knocked the ball through for an easy 3 points. Jesuit 22 - Cougar RFC 0.

The men in red, gold and black, took advantage of a Cougar backline handling error, as Floyd "Patterson" grubbed the ball through to the posts. As if Floyd had planned it, the ball perfectly bounced up into his arms and he safely fell past the goal line for the fourth Jesuit try. Floyd's conversion good. Jesuit 29 - Cougar RFC 0.

Another exciting try was produced. It began as Fullback, Travis Champion, countered a Cougar kick and broke through and evaded numerous would be tacklers for 60 meters eventually leading to a series of rucks inside 10 meters, where big Scrum-Half, Pierce Cooley, stretched across the goal line for the try. Floyd converted his fourth straight points after try. Jesuit 36 - Cougar RFC 0.

With committed forward support all afternoon the big men up front decided to get in on the action as the Forwards Captain, Alex Murchison, finished off the day with two tries of his own. With a Ted Watje conversion the tall Lock finished the scoring and the game ended. Jesuit 48 - Cougar RFC 0.

Cougar RFC captains chose Nate Floyd as Back of the Match and Alex Murchison as Forward of the Match. Both sides thanked the exchange referee from England for the game.

Jesuit Gold 48 - Cougar RFC 0

Tries: (2) Murchison, Reuter, Wegner, Gagliardi, Floyd, Cooley

Conversions: Floyd 4/5, Watje 1/2

Penalty Kicks: 1/1

Starters 1 - 15: Colombero (Deterding), Puente, McKay, Murchison (Nicodemus), Watje, Malim (Miller), Law, Sulzen, Cooley, Floyd (Harris), Wegener, Reuter (Steeb), Siegel (Kaufman), Gagliardi (Markham), Champion (Wilover)

Jesuit B Over Cougars

March 9, 2006 Will Rogers Middle School

Jesuit B's 27 - Del Campo B's 10

The B's celebrated a 27-10 victory over Del Campo with a solid performance. They were quick to the breakdown and the ball got out to the backs quickly, most of the time. Del Campo was clearly the bigger team but the faster team was Jesuit. Though Del Campo was bigger, the scrum held its own and eventually took a couple of tighthead by Jesuit.

There were many standouts in the forwards. Vincent Nunez showed leadership with game knowledge and strong running from the pod position. Robert Wilmes showed some strong running, plowing in for the third Jesuit Try Wyile Scott was a wild man running and tackling all over the field. Jake Sehr is just like his brother, solid and tough, and made an impression on the outcome of the game.

In the backs, Ryan Franco was clearly the most elusive runner on the field. Joe Santamaria brings separation speed to the field and brings a pop into the tackle. He also scored a long try off of a brilliant run. Beau Charter kept his head and got the B's out of trouble several times with timely kicks. Evan Sheehan looked elusive and tough and had a good outing.

Since the Del Campo Cougars are known for their ability and size, this was a fine win for the B's.

Jesuit II Beats Rio Linda

Jesuit II notch up 2nd consecutive win 46-5

A water logged field did not dampen the energy and commitment shown by the Jesuit Varsity Red team against a bigger Rio Linda side. They scored 8 tries to Rio Linda's 1.

From the start Jesuit did not allow the weather to effect their play and early on showed what type of rugby they were going to play. From the kickoff the ball was spun wide and Ben Markham was tackled on the wing after making 10 hard yards. 5 minutes later the ball again was spun out to a flying Markham who rounded his player to score in the corner. Tim Harris converted with a very difficult kick.

A penalty was awarded to Jesuit 10 meters from the try line and instead of taking the points for the kick they elected to run the now famous Penalty play. Corry Nicodemus burst onto the ball at pace and barged his way over for Jesuits 2nd try.

Just before halftime Alex Illium who was all over the park, picked up a loose ball and scored Jesuits 3rd try.

The 2nd half started with Rio Linda making a couple of changes to their backline. They also started hitting the rucks harder, but the Jesuit Picket Line was working well and all the hours of tackling practice was paying off. After weathering the storm, Jesuit struck back with 3 tries by Welch, Illium and another classic try by Elliot "dancing feet" Telford.

Craig Fugina and Alex Illium rounded off the scoring with Illium scoring a hat trick of tries.

More important than the score was the way in which the Jesuit team played. The ball was wet and slippery, the field was muddy and heavy and the team played wide open attacking rugby scoring 8 try's to 1.

Team:

Deterding, MacFarlane, DeAnde, Nicodemus, Barnes, Welch, Calhoun, Illium, Worden, Heaphy, Zimmerman, Steeb, Telford, Markham, Harris, Bennett, Willmes, Fisher, Fugina, Paquette, Longo, Lucas, Nunez

Tries:

Illium x 3, Markham, Nicodemus, Fugina, Telford, Welch

Conversions:

Harris 3

Drama In Carmichael

Jesuit II wins in a last minute thriller 28-27

Friday March 10th saw Jesuit II win an exciting game over a strong and scrappy Motherlode team. The final score of 28-27 was achieved in the last minute of play by a penalty kick from Tanner Heaphy.

The game started at a fast pace with the well disciplined Motherlode forwards rucking and mauling the Marauders all over the park. They were awarded a penalty kick and converted it, going up 3 - 0. From the kickoff Motherlode went on the attack and were unfortunate not to score again. Only some desperate tackling kept the score at 3-0.

From a loose scrum Tanner Heaphy crossed kicked into the corner and out into touch 5 meters from the try line. The ensuing line out saw MacFarlane sneak around the blind side to score unopposed. The conversion by Franco from the corner hit the crossbar and bounced back. Score 5-3.

The game flowed back and forth with the more rugged Motherlode forwards taking it to the Jesuit players. Jesuit was being out rucked and were getting no ball to play with. They were losing line out ball and loose ball. But whenever their backs got the ball they looked dangerous. From a set scrum Heaphy got clean ball and scythed through the Motherlode defense to run 50

meters and score under the posts. Franco converted. Score 12- 3. This score line did not last long as Motherlode hit right back with 3 tries due to some poor tackling from Jesuit II. Score 12 - 20. On halftime Jesuit were awarded a penalty which was converted by Franco. Halftime Score: 15 - 20.

Jesuit began the 2nd half determined to get back into the game and within the first minute the forwards drove and mauled all of 35 meters. Robert Willmes picked up the rucked ball and bashed his way over in the right hand corner. Game on. Score 20 -20. 10 minutes later the forwards repeated the drive with the same result. Willmes bashes his way over in the corner. Score 25 - 20.

Only 7 minutes remained and Jesuit were on the attack, but an intercepted try which was scored under the posts and the ensuing conversion made the score 25 - 27 to Motherlode. Both teams threw everything into the attack and with 2 minutes remaining Jesuit were awarded a penalty 35 meters out. Franco struck the ball beautifully but to add tension to an already tense match, the ball hit the upright. On full time Jesuit were awarded another penalty 30 meters out when a Motherlode forward infringed in the loose ruck. Heaphy was called up to take the kick and in a calm and cool manner he slotted the kick to make the score 28 - 27.

This was the 3rd come from behind win and the second game in which Jesuit II scored on the stroke of full time. The character and determination of this team carries on growing.

Team:

Barnes, MacFarlane, Deanda, Calhoun, Bennett, Welch, Fugina, Illium, Worden, Heaphy, Zimmerman, Davies, Santamaria, Longo, Franco, Paquette, Willmes, Fisher, Stevens, Nunez, Sheahan, Charter, Holmes

Scorers:

Tries. MacFarlane, Heaphy Willmes x 2

Penalties: Franco, Heaphy.

Conversions: Franco

SVHSRC - Varsity Records and Standings(through 3/10/06)

The Collegiate and Alumni Report

By Doug Hamilton

A week after setting the US rugby community abuzz with its victory over defending Super League champion NYAC, California returned to league play as the Bears travelled across the bay to meet Stanford in the 2006 edition of the battle for the Scrum-Axe. While Cal has continued to set the standard in college rugby, Stanford is quite frankly in a rebuilding mode, and this past weekend's game showed just how far apart the teams have come since Stanford was the last league team to defeat the Bears a decade ago. Cal used the match to field a lot of what Cal calls "reserve grade" players, with 12 of 15 players starting for essentially the first time this season, while the remaining three regular starters were all playing new positions. Seeing action for the Bears were Ryan Taylor, Joe Welch, James Sehr, Paul Jesseman and Jake Stanfill. Paul Jesseman scored a try in the 67-12 Cal victory.

In a rare midweek game, Cal started what was essentially a third different line-up in a little over ten days as Cal defeated D-2 UC Santa Cruz, 29-0 on Tuesday evening. Paul Jesseman and Zachary Reed played for the Bears in the match.

In the only other league game last weekend, UC Davis travelled to the frozen tundra of Reno to play Nevada. The Ags battled the Wolfpack and winter storms to earn a 24-6 victory, bringing the Ags to a tie for second place with St. Mary's College.

Meanwhile in Moraga a battered St. Mary's team celebrated 50 years of consecutive rugby as they hosted their annual four team tourney, the Pat Vincent Cup. Other teams in the tourney were Central Washington, UC Santa Barbara and Chico State who filled in as a last minute substitute. In Saturday action St. Mary's defeated Central Washington while UC Santa Barbara defeated a tough Chico State team. In a cold rain on Sunday Chico defeated Central Washington while UC Santa Barbara defeated St. Mary's to take the title.

Sacramento State defeated D-2 Santa Rosa JC in a non-league match.

Word is slowly coming out of Colorado regarding Regis University as they begin their spring season. Derek Seigel and Craig McCoy played prominent roles in Regis' 36-7 win over Colorado Mines on February 26th.

This coming weekend will be an off week for most teams in Northern California as there are no league games scheduled. In fact with the exception of Cal, there are no games scheduled at all involving D-1 teams.

Cal will host this year's Cal Invitational this weekend. Cal will play Colorado and Cal Poly SLO will play New Mexico on Saturday with the respective winners and losers meeting on Sunday. Cal Poly played in the collegiate finals within the last few years while New Mexico is a team on the rise, with an impressive win over the Air Force Academy under their belts this season. Colorado is a team with a great rugby tradition as well. With forecasters predicting a break in our March rains this weekend, the Cal Invitational should provide some outstanding college rugby for players as well as spectators.

If you want folks to read about your post Jesuit experiences, write to dragon1137@comcast.net. Please include the words "Jesuit Rugby" in your subject line.

Notices

U-17 tryouts at Will Rogers Middle School 9 AM. If anyone is still interested, contact Coach K by email sheldonoaks@hotmail.com.

U-19 tryouts will be May 6; further notices will be forthcoming.