

Jesuit Rugby Newsletter: Vol.X No.5

March 23, 2006

Jesuit B's Race Past Davis

3/17/06 Pioneer Park

Despite a dearth of Irishmen, the Red and Gold B Express ran its way over the Davis Blue Devils on Friday, St. Patrick's Day. The B's with an eye out for the B Championships starting in April never let Davis get going.

Rob Davies started the scoring, putting the ball down as his father snapped a picture of him for the cover of Sports Illustrated. The next score was a John Lucas try on great effort. This was followed by "jack of all trades" Michael "Stubbs" Stevens diving over from a maul from the unaccustomed position of flanker. The final try was from Craig Fugina who had a blinder and made an impact to push up to the higher levels in the weeks to come.

Beau Charter looked comfortable at standoff leading the backs. Rob Davies had some good charges downfield as did Tony Driver.

In the forwards, Robert Lopez had a good outing with lineouts. Eric Door made good on his first start after injury, but Craig Fugina ran wild; around and through Davis at will.

A couple of rookies getting their first B time did well. Will Pidd came in with a lot of energy and solid passing at scrumhalf.

At the post game function, Davis chose Craig Fugina as Forward of the Game and Rob Davies as back of the game.

Jesuit 20

Trys: Fugina, Lucas, Davies, Stevens

Conversions: none

Penalty kicks: none

Jesuit 1-15: Nunez, Lopez, Pacquette, Door, Carmody, Sehr, Lucas, Fugina, Stevens, Charter, Sheehan, Davies, Driver, Zimmerman, Rapport.

Referee: Rod Chance

Jesuit B Scores Over Cougars

3/21/06 Will Rogers Middle School

Jesuit B v.s Cougar Rugby Club B at Will Rogers Middle School. The game was hard fought in the rucks with Lucas and Fugina leading the way. Lucas set the tone for our pack in the rucks and cleared out almost every one in support. Fugina also hit rucks hard and added an offensive threat with several long runs off the scrums and taking two in for scores.

In the back line Bo Charter had another solid game at Fly Half adding six points on two penalties to the board. The back line was able to break down the defense on a well executed double loop where all backs were involved in the play as Zimmerman finished off the play with a try on the wing. Davies played well on both sides of the ball delivering solid tackles and attacking at pace. Sheehan was all over the place and delivered when called upon at both fullback and center.

Varsity Red Continues to Surprise

3/17/06

Pioneer field in Davis was the setting for the Jesuit II game against the Davis Varsity Rugby Team. At long last there was a break from the consistent rain and the teams reveled in the warm spring weather, running the ball at every occasion. A total of 6 tries were scored with each team scoring 3 tries. Once again the Jesuit II team surprised an opponent in winning 23 – 17.

The game started at a fast pace with Davis taking it to Varsity II. If Jesuit thought that this was going to be an easy game, they were reminded in the 3rd minute of the game that this was going to be a tough one. Davis ran hard at them and was rewarded with a converted try. Score: Jesuit 0 – Davis 7.

Davis did not let up and for the next 10 minuets they continued to attack the Jesuit line. Only some good first time tackling kept Davis from scoring.

But as in the previous games this season the Jesuit II team has shown that they have a ton of fighting and they began to play their way back into the game. First a Heaphy penalty kick for 3 points and then some continuity between backs and forward saw Josh,Steeb bulldoze his way for a very well worked try. 5 Minutes later Jesuit was awarded a penalty 5 meters out from the Davis try line. Everyone expected the now famous Jesuit penalty play, but a quick thinking Conner Worden saw a chink in the Davis defense and took a quick tap, slipping through for a good try. Tanner Heaphy converted a difficult conversion.

Jesuit II continued to play attacking rugby and were spreading the ball wide at every occasion with Zach Kaufman involved in most of these plays. There were some wonderful passing movements between backs and forwards and on one of these these movements, play was pulled short 2 meters from the Davis try line. The Jesuit support players rucked over beautifully for the ball to pop out. A flying Robert Willmes picked up and crashed through for the try of the game. Halftime score: Jesuit 20– Davis 7.

If Jesuit thought that the game was over at halftime they were in for a surprise. Davis came back with a vengeance. Playing hard with their forwards and creating space for their backs to run. Davis scored with a good backline move and the game was on. Score: Jesuit 20 - Davis 12.

Tannner Heaphy increased the Jesuit score to 23 with a well taken penalty kick, but Davis struck back with a very good try on the right wing. Score: Jesuit 23 – Davis 17. Davis was only a converted try away from winning. They threw everything into the attack, but a resolute Jesuit defense held them out.

Both teams played good running rugby and the tackling was fierce and bone crunching, and as the score line suggests, it was a very close and entertaining game. The Jesuit II's have really stepped up their play with all players giving the team 100% and are now in playoff contention.

Teams: Deterding, MacFarlane, Deanda, Willmes, Westerman, Calhoun, Welch, Illium, Worden, Heaphy, Markham, Steeb, Kaufman, Willover, Franco, Harris, Zimmerman, Lucas, Longo.

Scorers:

Tries: Steeb, Conner, Wilmes

Conversions: Heaphy

Penalties: Heaphy x 2

Varsity II Plucks Golden Eagles Wings

Thursday 23 March 2006

If ever there was a doubt that the Jesuit Varsity II team was a worthy participant in the 'BIG BOYS' league, the team's 56-0 win over Del Oro Golden Eagles at Jesuit Thursday surely buried those doubts. It was a most commanding performance by a team of up-and-coming Jesuit players.

The commanding win meant that the team's ambition to make the play-offs was still very much alive. The team must win the final two games to insure that they make the play-offs. They must be buoyed by the stunning performance against a willing Del Oro team.

Full details of this most convincing win will be in the next newsletter. Congratulations to all players and coaches Greg Joseph and Ryan De Mar.

All's Not Gold In Them There Hills

Thursday 23 March 2006

The Jesuit Frosh/Soph team struck gold against Mother Lode when the team registered a convincing 17-7 win over a keen and willing Mother Lode team.

Though prepared to mix it with a more experienced Mother Lode team, the B team found the opposition too much to handle and went down 0-36. A full report on these games will be included in the next newsletter

SVHSRC: Varsity Records and Standings Through 3/17/06

Other Scores:

Live Oak 15 - East Palo Alto 7

Lamorinda 81 - Piedmont 0

Silicon Valley 22 - Peninsula Green 10

The Collegiate and Alumni Report

By Doug Hamilton

At a time when many schools were at one end or the other of Spring Break there were very few collegiate rugby matches in Northern California this past weekend. In fact in the first division there were no league matches and only California played at all as they hosted the Tenth Annual Cal Invitational. The tournament started off with an upset as Cal Poly SLO, who have already clinched first place in Southern California and a spot in the national round of sixteen, were upset

by unranked New Mexico, 30-25. Observers commented that Cal Poly appeared to be playing more reserves than usual, saving their starters for an anticipated final match against Cal. It was not to be. In the day's second game the University of Colorado, possibly inspired by New Mexico's success, gave Cal everything they could during the first half. The Bears and Buffaloes traded scores for much of the period and at the intermission Cal was ahead by a relatively narrow 31-22 margin. However in the second half, as so often happens, the game was all Cal as the Bears went on to win, 67-27. Playing for the Bears on Saturday were Joe Welch, Louis Stanfill, James Sehr, Andrew Lindsey and Paul Jesseman, who replaced Louis Stanfill in the game's late stages. Andrew Lindsey scored for the Bears.

On Sunday Cal Poly took their frustrations out on Colorado in the consolation match, winning 37-17. In the championship match Cal started strong against New Mexico as they moved out to a 22-0 lead at the break. Again the Bears came on with a renewed effort in the second half and before long New Mexico players seemed to see the game getting out of hand. Whatever the reason two New Mexico players were issued red cards and ejected, leaving 13 of their teammates with the unwelcome task of facing the full roster of 15 Cal players. The outcome was a predictable 55-7 score. Louis Stanfill, Eric Fry, Paul Jesseman and Andrew Lindsey all saw action for Cal, with Andrew scoring a try for the second time in as many days.

This coming weekend Cal begins its own Spring Break and as they always do at this time of year, the rugby team will head to Vancouver to meet the University of British Columbia in the away leg of the World Cup rivalry. Having defeated UBC, 35-28, at Berkeley in February, Cal needs a win, draw, or at worst by seven points or less to retain the Cup. The Bears will stop over in Seattle on Monday to play the University of Washington.

In other D-1 action this coming weekend, Chico plays St. Mary's College, and Sacramento State will travel to Davis in games that will have a lot to say about who travels and who stays home when the territorial playoffs are held two weeks later. Currently St. Mary's, Chico, and Davis each have three league wins. St. Mary's and Davis will conclude their schedules this weekend while Chico still has a game with Cal to play on April 1st. The picture will be much clearer after this weekend, but it appears likely that St. Mary's and Davis are headed to a tie for second place in the league standings, and post season seedings may have to be resolved by a tie-breaker. As the two teams played to a 16-16 draw, it could come down to point differentials, something that weighs heavily in favor of the Gaels. Of course Chico and Sac State will be eager to play the role of spoilers.

Let the Maruaders know about your current comings and goings. Write to the Alumni & College Report at [dragon1137@comcast.net](mailto:dragon1137@comcast.net). Please include the words Jesuit Rugby in the subject line.

Any messages email [sheldonoaks@hotmail.com](mailto:sheldonoaks@hotmail.com)