

March 26, 2003

The Marauders Grant No Rewards

Jesuit 33 Grant 5

It was the Battle of Bull Run at Grant High School's field on Friday as the big bulls of Grant locked horns with the Jesuit Marauders in a much-awaited and anticipated game. Nobody was disappointed as the two teams provided seventy minutes of exciting Rugby.

Over the years the Grant v Jesuit games have been a little slow in movement - this game certainly was not. Grant produced the fittest team to represent the school for some time. All thirty players ran for the full seventy minutes.

Jesuit had the better of the early exchanges and squandered two try scoring opportunities in the opening five minutes. Grant rallied to the Jesuit line before quick back line passing saw the Marauders back on the Grant line.

A quickly recycled ruck ball saw try scoring machine in prop John Faletese reach out to plant the ball over the try line. The conversion by Adam Collins was unsuccessful but Jesuit had the early lead of 5-0 after 12 minutes.

Hooker Jesse Dundon, one of Jesuit's best on the day, added another try in the eighteenth minute when he bored his way over after the Marauders had spent some time pounding the Grant line. When Adam Collins converted, Jesuit led 12-0.

Three minutes before the break winger Delorian Walton, playing his first ever game of Rugby, had the pleasure of scoring his first ever try and Jesuit's third when quickly recycled ball caught the Grant defense short out wide and he sped across for the try. Again Collins converted and Jesuit led 19-0 at the break.

Grant began the second half in aggressive style but the tough Jesuit defense held. Jesuit was next to score when a set play saw a driving maul end up in Grant's in-goal area and Adam Collins emerge for the try that he converted for a 26-0 lead.

To its credit, Grant posted points on the board through a great 70 yards power run down the left flank. A number of players handled in the move, some twice, before the winger dived over for the five pointer.

The ever present co-captain Louie Stanfill finished the scoring for Jesuit when his irrepressible run saw him crash over. Collins again converted and Jesuit had won a very entertaining game with a great amount of movement 33-5.

Not surprisingly Grant chose Louie Stanfill as best Jesuit forward and Adam Collins as best back.

In one of the best team efforts this season, many players caught the eye. The "little men" - flankers Pat Ramos and Joe Welch and hooker Jesse Dundon - again caused havoc with their bustling play. Ramos, the smallest player in the team, put a smile on the coaches faces when he stylishly won a lineout during the game.

The "Bookends" - John Faletese and Dom Green - get better with each game as they learn the props game while Louie Stanfill again had a monster game.

The ever-elusive John Parshall varied the game smartly from half back. The inside three - Adam Collins, Steve Lewis and Sean McNamara - provided non-stop hard nosed defense so essential against a big team such as Grant.

Outside center Zack Powell took his last minute move the full back in his stride and was a smart organizing "General" from #15. Delorian Walton, as mentioned in his first ever game of Rugby, has taken to the game like the proverbial duck to water.

The "Braveheart" Award undoubtedly goes to winger Michael Bier. Mike withstood some of the biggest hits ever inflicted on a Jesuit player, shrugged them off one after the other and was still running at the defense as the final whistle blew.

Jesuit now prepares for a torrid battle Friday against the Davis Devils at Pioneer Park at 4pm.

Jesuit 33

Tries Faletose, Dundon, Walton, Collins, Stanfill

Conversions Collins 4/5

Grant 5

Try 1

Jesuit 1-15 Faletose/Karacozoff, Dundon, Green/Griga, Jesseman/Estrella, Adams/Fry, Ramos/McCoy, Welch, Stanfill, Parshall/Bittner, Collins, Lewis, McNamara/Chappell, Bier, Walton, Powell

Rugby Around The World

Six Nations-Round 4 of 5

England 40 Scotland 9

France 53 Italy 27

Ireland 25 Wales 24

Points

Ireland, England 8

France 4

Italy, Scotland 2

Wales 0

Final Round this weekend

Ireland v England

Italy v Scotland

France v Wales

Super 12-Round 5

Western Stormers(SA) 39 NSW Waratahs(Aust) 29

Wellington Hurricanes(NZ) 28 Cats(SA) 21

ACT Brumbies(Aust) 64 Blue Bulls(SA) 26

Auckland Blues(NZ) 62 Queensland Reds(Aust) 20

Otago Highlanders(NZ) 23 Natal Sharks(SA) 19

Points Games played Competition Points

Blues 4 20

Highlanders 5 17

Waratahs 5 16

Hurricanes 5 16

Brumbies 5 15

Crusaders 4 15

Bulls 5 11

Cats 5 10

Stormers 5 10

Chiefs 4 7

Sharks 5 6

Reds 4 1

ALUMNI & COLLEGIATE REPORT

By Doug Hamilton

This past weekend marked the conclusion of the regular season for college teams in the NCRFU with several games having playoff significance. In D-1 Davis traveled to Moraga to play St. Mary's College. Both teams entered the match short handed as the Gaels had some lingering injuries after the previous weekend's tourney games, including a tough match against an always physical BYU team. The Aggies on the other hand were missing some players as it was finals week. The game had playoff significance for Davis because a victory would keep them in California for the Pacific Coast RFU Territorial playoffs while a loss would send them to Utah. For the Gaels, who were assured of second place and hosting a territorial playoff, the post season implications of the match were not as great. The match started with the teams trading a couple of tries apiece but towards the end of the first period the visitors pulled steadily ahead and ended up winning on the day, 37-21. The Davis B side blanked the St. Mary's second side, 26-0. Meanwhile in Sacramento visiting Chico State defeated Sacramento State, 23-18, while the Chico B's were 29-7 winners. The first side victory not only kept the Wildcats out of last place but moved them into a tie for fifth with Stanford. By virtue of a Chico victory over Stanford earlier in the season, Chico should get the league's fifth and final spot in the playoffs.

In D-2, Santa Rosa Junior College defeated Humboldt State, 27-15, and the Santa Rosa reserves won a close 8-5 match over the Humboldt B side. With the victory Santa Rosa finishes the season tied with Santa Clara, though the Santa Clara regular season victory over Santa Rosa means that Santa Clara earns the top seed in the PCRFU playoffs. There is still some uncertainty over the third and final playoff spot for D-2 as Humboldt State and California Maritime Academy are tied for third with four wins. While California Maritime won the regular season meeting of the teams by forfeit, Humboldt State has played one less game on the season. With the playoffs to be held this weekend, the naming of the league's last representative may have to be determined off of the pitch. In a game between the division's bottom two teams, USF defeated UOP 29-10.

Aside from naming the final seed for D-2, the PCRFU playoffs are now set. In D-1, at Salt Lake City, host Utah will play Chico State while Nevada will play the University of Washington. Meanwhile in Moraga, St. Mary's will play Washington State and UC Davis will meet Central Washington University. Those games will be played on April 5th with consolation and championship games to follow on April 6th. The winner of the Salt Lake City pool will begin the USARFU Sweet 16 at Stanford where they will meet the #2 seeded team from the Northeast territorial union. Meanwhile the Moraga winner will travel to West Point, NY, to play UC Santa Barbara who are the #1 seeded team from Southern California. Cal, as

mentioned in earlier columns, will host a round of the Sweet 16 with an opening match against Southern California's #2 team, Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. Sweet 16 matches will be held over the Easter weekend, with the winners from each of the four pools meeting in the Final 4 at Stanford on the first weekend in May.

Meanwhile, this coming weekend Santa Clara will host the single pool for the PCRFU D-2 playoffs. Santa Clara will play Humboldt or Cal Maritime, while Santa Rosa JC will play Idaho State. The winners will meet this Sunday with the winner of that match scheduled to play in the USARFU D-3 Elite 8 to held in Huntsville, TX, over Easter weekend. The PCRFU representative will be seeded #1 in the first round and play the #2 seed from the West territory. The D-2 Elite 8 will narrow the field to two teams who will play their championship game in May in conjunction with the D-1 Final 4 at Stanford.

In addition to the D-1 pools to be held at Berkeley, Stanford and West Point, there us a fourth pool which is scheduled to meet at Colorado Springs. Hopefully the weather in Colorado will permit rugby by late April. Regis University, with Dan Propheter, defeated the University of Denver last weekend, 25-5, however this weekend's matches have already been postponed as more than two feet of snow remains on the ground after recent record setting blizzards blanketed the Rockies.

This weekend the University of California travels to Vancouver to play the second game of its annual home and away series with the University of British Columbia. Cal seeks to avenge its only loss of the season but will do so without several key starters, including Kyle Khasigian and Andrew Lindsey who are out of the line-up with leg injuries.

Remember to keep the folks in Sacramento, as well as our legions of international readers, informed about your rugby whereabouts. E-mail dragon1137@aol.com. A note about "Jesuit Rugby" in the subject line will keep your post from being deleted.

Sacramento Valley High School Rugby Conference

Member, Northern California Rugby Football Union

Mid-Season Standings through 3/21/03

mid season standings

Any questions or comments please contact through the web site or call 682-2858

The Management