

Jesuit Rugby Newsletter: Vol.IX No.8

April 9, 2005

Jesuit Stops Chuckanut

Polo Fields, Bellingham, WA 3/28/05

The Chuckanut Geoducks saved the best for Monday but still came up short 41-12. The Geoducks have a picturesque facility with 2 full size pitches side by side and a very professional organization. They chose to present some very stiff competition for the struggling Red Armada at their home field. The large lads of Washington were determined and often pushed the Marauders off the ball in rucks. It took some speed on the outside by Will Wegener and Dimitri Godamunne to open up the game. The Geoduck forwards were committed to rucks and often caused turnovers in the tackle leading to some frustration by the Red and Gold Express.

Will (Roadrunner) Wegener opened the scoring by a side step around his opposite number to score from a movement through the hands of the Backline. Dimitri Godamunne answered from the strong side wing with a score shortly afterward. Tyler Siegel alertly picked off a soft pass in the Chuckanut Backline and placed it under the posts. Sean Gay, on in the second half, picked up a ball in a ruck and slammed it down for a close in try. Ben Markham finished the scoring by converting a bouncing ball into a try after an errant penalty play.

A little road weary and rusty after a week off, it was the bench that provided the impetus to turn away an enthusiastic Chuckanut team. Brian French was a tough tackler, Tyler Siegel made all of the proper plays, and Nate Floyd showed vision and decision making to keep the Red Armada afloat today. Off the bench, Ryne Misso had some massive hits, Sean Gay was energized, and Vincent Nunez gave the team the go forward necessary to develop some momentum.

The hospitality of the Chuckanut organization was of the highest order with an unlimited burger fest at the Moose Lodge that filled up even the largest Marauder. Chuckanut chose Colin Hawley as Man of the Match.

Thanks to Chuckanut for a strong game and great hospitality.

Jesuit 41:

Trys: Wegener, Godamunne, Siegel, Markham, Gay

Conversions: Floyd 3/5

Lineup 1-15: Colombero, Frandrup, MacKay, Law, Murchison, Malim, French, Watje, Gamache, Hawley, Wegener, Puente, Siegel, Godamunne, Floyd.

Question: What is a Geoduck??

Answer at end of newsletter.

Jesuit Squeaks by Crusaders

Kent, WA 3/30/05

In a much ballyhooed match up the Crusaders and the Marauders spent 70 minutes tackling each other and ended up with a 7-5 game that was essentially a draw. The Kent Crusaders have a lot of beef on the hoof and it took a mighty Jesuit defense to hold them off. The conditions didn't allow for a lot of running rugby, but both sides gave it a try anyway. Time after time, the attempts to fling the ball wide met with stiff resistance. It wasn't until Colin Hawley picked off a Backline pass that Jesuit could put points on the board. Kent kept attacking and finally drove repeatedly at the Jesuit goal to score shortly before halftime.

The second half showed more action and more attempts to put the ball into space but the goal line was sacrosanct and wouldn't give ground for either side. The final whistle saw the defensive battle end with the difference a conversion at Jesuit 7 Kent 5.

Kent was magnanimous in their hospitality with all players attacking the chicken potluck with gusto. Kent chose Colin Hawley as best back and Kurt "the Laser" Frandrup as best forward. Also giving strong performances were Brian French, a tackling machine today, and Nate Floyd at standoff that had the Old Puget Sound Super League coaches raptured about his play. Rookies Will Wegener and Mike Marsh had notable performances with Jason Law coming on strong in the second half.

Kent has run the table in the Northwest and it was a tough test that was passed by the squad today.

Jesuit 7

Trys: Hawley

Conversions: Floyd 1/1

Referee: Dave Pelton (Northwest)

Lineup 1-15: Nunez, Frandrup, Misso, Harmon, Watje, French, Marsh, Murchison, Gamache, Floyd, Wegener, Siegel, Hawley, Godamunne, Harris.

Jesuit B's Take Flight Past Kent

Kent, WA 3/30/05

The Marauder B's didn't let a little mud stop them from flinging the ball sideline to sideling and put the Flying Dutchman Mike Zimmerman into the goal twice on long runs. The B's opened the game up and had the ball moving to the wing at every opportunity. Zimmerman's two long scores were refreshing, Conner Worden had a heads up quick tap for a try and Ben Markham matched his teammate with a quality try in support on the wing. Zach Kaufman finished the scoring with a straight ahead power move past his opposite number.

Strong performances were put in by Zach Kaufman with some power running, Michael Miller with some kamikaze tackling, Jake Sehr with clutch hooking and loose play, Kyle Hernandez in an all around top performance, Alex Ilium at lock and jumping, Rudy Becerra with toughness up front, and Ben Markham with some speed on the wing.

The final score was 24-0 and in the words of the referee "these guys were amazing". She also noted that their enthusiasm for rugby was demonstrated on the field and was very infectious.

Jesuit 24

Trys: Zimmerman 2, Kaufman, Worden, Markham

Lineup 1-15: Becerra, Sehr, Beebe, Ilium, Hernandez, Gay, Sulzen, Nicodemus, Klopfenstein, Harris, Clark, Harris, Puente, Kaufman, Clark, Telford.

Jesuit Tops Xavier in Thriller

Tacoma, WA 3/31/05

Neither rain, nor sleet, nor mighty Jesuit students from Manhattan could stop the Red Armada today. In a stiff test for both teams, the competition was playoff level and the intensity was greater. The Red and Gold Express chugged its way to a 27-12 win on the strength of lineouts and intense tackling. The Backline tried mightily to run wide on the full scale rugby field and managed a try through all the hands in the Backline in the second half.

Xavier pounded at the forwards and made some strong breaks near the ruck but couldn't get untracked outside. Xavier's two scores were well earned by strong forward play near the goal.

On the field, Xavier had no answer for Alex Murchison and Ted Watje in the lineouts offensively or defensively. Great lifting by Julian "the Colossus" Colombero, Jason Law, Matt MacKay, and Ryne Misso gave the backs a lot of chances to spin it wide. Nate Floyd directed the backs well, but Mike Gamache was a terrier on defense and made numerous key plays to retain

possession of the ball. Brian "the Quipster" French was again a tackling machine and Mike Marsh was a step quicker to the ball blocking several kicks. Will Wegener had a lot of chances come his way and made a game of it. Colin Hawley was opportunistic on many loose plays to keep the Red Armada afloat.

At the post game function, Xavier was gracious and had earned the full respect of all from the quality of their play. Mike Gamache was chosen best back and Ted Watje was Best Forward. Also having top games were almost the entire team, but Brian French, Alex Murchison, and Mike Marsh were hard to overlook.

Congratulations on Great Tour!!

Jesuit 27

Trys: Gamache 2, Floyd, Godamunne

Conversions: Floyd 2/4

Penalty Kicks: Floyd 1/1

Referee: Dave Pelton (Northwest)

Lineup 1-15: Colombero, Frandrup, MacKay, Law, Murchison, French, Marsh, Watje, Gamache, Hawley, Puente, Siegel, Godamunne, Wegener

Jesuit B's Tipped by Xavier

Tacoma, WA 3/31/05

The battle went to Xavier but they earned it with some bruised from the ferocious tackling and play of the Jr. Red and Gold Express. The field big but the players hurtled themselves into the fray and those with faint hearts need not apply. Xavier earned the win with two close in drives by their forwards and Jesuit responded with a quality passing line out to the wing to score. The B's ran out of time at 10-5, but didn't lack in intensity.

Alex Ilium and his jumpers had a go at the Xavier lineouts and our scrums held up well. In the backs, Tim Harris had his troops running and Michael Miller was tackling everything that moved. Zach Kaufmann showed some surprising skill at outside center throughout the tour and Mike Zimmerman was always dangerous on the wing. Sean Gay was on the ball most of the game and tried his had at lineout throwing effectively.

Xavier was a skilled and well coached team and Jesuit benefited from the experience of the game.

Jesuit 5

Trys: Gay

Rio Rocks Frosh-Sophs

4/1/05 Jesuit HS

On Friday of spring break, Jesuit hosted Rio in a F/S match. Rio came out strong and Jesuit looked as if they had not been on the field for a week. Rio out-rucked, out-tackled and out-ran the Marauders to jump to a 15-0 lead. Jesuit cut the lead to 15-7 and was rallying in the second half. Unfortunately, a Jesuit runner had the ball stripped in the try zone before he could dot it down. Rio recovered and relieved pressure with a dropout. Jesuit was never able to overcome this error. Rio broke out for a long scoring run to make the final 22-7.

JV and F/S Tournament Information

The annual SVHSRL JV and F/S Tournaments will be held in April. Teams entered in the JV playoff are North Bracket: Rio Linda, Del Oro, Cougar, Davis, and Fairfield. Teams in the South Bracket are: Christian Brothers, Cordova, Jesuit, Mother Lode and Rio. Frosh-Soph participants are: Jesuit Red (Select F/S team) Jesuit Gold, Del Oro, Cougar, Mother Lode, Davis, Rio and Vacaville. Brackets will be posted this week. The games are traditionally scheduled over the last 2-3 weeks of April with the Championship Games tentatively scheduled for Friday April 29 at Jesuit. Watch the website for F/S Select Side postings, brackets and schedules.

The Alumni and Collegiate Report

By Doug Hamilton

The two weeks leading up to the territorial playoffs was marked more by which games were not played than which were. Matches at Stanford featuring Ohio State, Air Force, Dartmouth and Stanford were cancelled due to rain, and a scheduled match between Ohio State and St. Mary's dropped off the calendar, though as the fates would have it that game will be played yet. Also, two Northern California Division II schools cancelled planned matches against Cal's "Young Bear" side.

On the day before Easter Air Force defeated Chico State 54-15. Division II play wrapped up as Humboldt State defeated Santa Rosa Junior College, 20-18, to finish league play undefeated.

An article in the Sacramento Bee's business section on March 30 focused on Velocity Performance, a new training facility in Rancho Cordova. Prominently featured in the article was the Sacramento State Rugby team including Chris Davila. Anyone with any doubts about the value of conditioning in rugby should take a look at Sacramento State's turnaround this year and in particular their many successes in the second half as they came from behind to win.

Collegiate rugby this past weekend focused on the territorial playoffs as the Mid-Atlantic, West, Southern California, and of course the Pacific Coast territories all held tournaments to determine their representatives to the collegiate playoffs. The first two rounds of the tournament will be played over the weekend of April 15th through 17th.

In the Mid-Atlantic, Navy with Damon Doykos and Chris Osegueda lost in the D-I finals to Penn State, 29-18, however both teams will move on to the round of sixteen.

One would think that in the Southern California territory, which contains only one local area union, it would be relatively easy to select its single representative in Division I. Until two weeks ago it was thought that Long Beach State, the league's regular season winner, would earn the spot. However an examination of players' transcripts disclosed that some Long Beach players

had exceeded their five years of eligibility and consequently Long Beach was disqualified from representing the territory. Instead the regular season runner up, UC Santa Barbara, will represent Southern California which works out well for the Gaucho's as they are hosting one of the four pools in the round of sixteen. Southern California's Division II held a tournament this past weekend and to the chagrin of at least one person on the Jesuit Rugby staff, USC's grid iron glories did not carry over to the rugby pitch as SC lost to Point Loma in the semifinals. The loss means that USC will be denied an opportunity to play in a tournament that includes Michigan and Florida State. The BCS committee should be watching. Point Loma and Claremont, two usually high scoring teams, met in the finals and played to an uncharacteristic 3-3 tie at full time before Point Loma went on to win 16-6 in an overtime period.

Immediately to our east, the West territory held its finals in both Division I and II at the University of Northern Colorado. Regis, with Derek Siegel, Dan Propheter and Craig McCoy qualified for the Division II territorial tournament. Regis started out with a spirited and close 25-22 victory over higher seeded John Brown University. They followed that with an all Jesuit match as they defeated St. Louis University 25-5. Regrettably a trip to the round of eight was not to be as they fell 35-16 to perennial West RFU D-II power Northern Colorado in the final. Air Force defeated Wyoming 50-31 in the West D-I final however both teams will move on to the round of sixteen.

In the Pacific Coast, 12 teams from Northern California, the Pacific Northwest, and Utah met to decide three of the territory's four spots for the opening rounds. Unfortunately another eligibility problem surfaced, this time in the Pacific Northwest. Washington State, the regular season third place finisher, had a discipline problem in mid-season which forced them to forfeit a game when they could not send a team to an away match. Under PNRFU rules a team which forfeits any match is ineligible to participate in post season games, so Washington State's was not allowed to participate in the post season. That meant that the league's fourth, fifth and sixth place teams each moved up a spot in the territorial tourney.

In Salt Lake City the winners are certain, even if the scores aren't. In opening play host Utah defeated Stanford by a score of 70 to 5, or 61 to 5, or maybe 72 to 5. Sacramento State also won, beating the University of Oregon by 59 to 5, 52 to 12, or 57 to 15. In the Saturday finals, Utah was a convincing 40-3 winner over the Hornets. Stanford was trailing Oregon at the half of the consolation game but dominated the Ducks in the second half to win, 52-15, or was it 45-24? Utah will play Purdue in Santa Barbara when the national tournament begins. Host UC Santa Barbara meets Wyoming in the other game in that pool.

In Moraga Western Washington, who had not won a league match and were a late addition to the tournament, had trouble fielding a full team and were resoundingly defeated by St. Mary's college, 106-0. Meanwhile Chico State made it a clean sweep for Northern California over the Northwest as they were 25-23 victors over Oregon State. In the Sunday finals St. Mary's defeated a determined Chico State team by a 19-11 score while Oregon State shut out St. Mary's B side in a friendly as the Gael reserves filled in for a Western Washington team that had already headed home. St. Mary's advances to Colorado Springs where they will open against Ohio State. The other match in that pool will feature a clash of military academies as host Air Force meets Navy.

In Seattle the University of Washington was an easy 63-15 first round winner over UC Davis, while BYU defeated a tougher than expected Central Washington team, 37-17. BYU went on to defeat Washington 29-24 in the finals while Coach Barry O'Connell and UC Davis were 32-5 consolation winners over Central Washington. BYU will play in a second pool to be held at Colorado Springs, where they will open against Penn State. Army and Clemson face off in the other game in that pool.

A fourth pool will be held at Berkeley where California meets Minnesota and Dartmouth plays Tennessee.

With the Pacific Coast hosting the first two rounds of the national Collegiate D-II tournament this year, the territory receives two seeds into the eight team field. That meant that the four teams competing in the territorial tournament entered Saturday's first round games knowing that a win on the first game would assure them of a spot in the national tourney, whether they went on to win or lose on the following day. In opening round play, Humboldt State was a 25-7 winner over the University of Montana (representing Washington and Oregon) and Idaho State (representing Utah) defeated California Maritime Academy, 33-27. In the finals on Sunday, Humboldt prevailed, 39-7. Humboldt State will play Florida State and Idaho State will meet Georgetown in the D-2 round of eight, to be played overlooking Monterey Bay at UC Santa Cruz' scenic pitch on April 16th. Also competing in the D-II national tournament are Northern Colorado, Point Loma, the US Coast Guard Academy and Michigan.

This coming weekend looks to be a time of preparation for most college teams as they ready themselves for the national playoffs to begin the following weekend.

As usual, the column is eager for any news of Jesuit rugby alumni. Send your notes to dragon1137@comcast.net.

SVHSRC Records and Standings

[Click on link to view SVHSRC standings \(pdf format\)](#)

Rugby Around the World

U19 World Cup

Jesuit Marauders (photo) star as USA draws 20-20 with the strong Namibia team.

Six Jesuit players were members of the USA squad that tied the strong Namibia team from South Africa 20-20 in Durban, South Africa, and it was a member of the Jesuit 2005 Championship team that was center stage to clinch the tie.

Stand-off and USA captain, Chris Sardon, converted the last minute try into a swirling wind and from wide out to snatch a vital draw.

Four Jesuit players Sardon, Eric Forner, Zack Reed and Ryan Taylor started while Eric Fry and Sean McNamara came off the bench.

The tie kept USA in the running to qualify for the semi-finals of Division B in which they have a win and a tie from the first two games. They have yet to play Spain and Tonga, with the latter likely to prove a difficult opponent, but the kind of opponent that the Jesuit boys at least will have had prior experience playing.

Visit our website for the latest photo of the six Jesuit men at the Under 19 World Cup in South Africa.

U19 Rugby World Cup

Day 1

Division A

Australia 10 France 6

England 32 Scotland 11

Ireland 16 Georgia 0

Romania 15 Japan 5

New Zealand 25 Wales 8

South Africa 62 Argentina 18

Division B

USA 32 Paraguay 13

Korea 34 Chile 12

Samoa 27 Zimbabwe 0

Tonga 25 Italy 15

Uruguay 41 Russia 0

Day 2

Division A

Wales 44 Scotland 12

South Africa 32 Ireland 7

Division B

USA 20 Namibia 20

Tonga 26 Spain 6

Italy 91 Paraguay 0

Russia 32 Korea 15

Zimbabwe 25 Uruguay 23

SUPER 12

Round 6

Auckland Blues(NZ) 17 ACT Brumbies(Aust) 0

Hurricanes(NZ) 28 Waikato Chiefs(NZ) 16

Crusaders(NZ) 33 NSW Waratahs(Aust) 27

Otago Highlanders(NZ) 23 Queensland Reds(Aust) 16

Byes: Blue Bulls, Cats, Sharks, Western Stormers.

Standings

NSW Waratahs(Aust) 25 (6 games)

Wellington Hurricanes(NZ) 21 (6)

Canterbury Crusaders(NZ) 20 (5)

Otago Highlanders(NZ) 19 (6)

ACT Brumbies(Aust) 18 (6)

Auckland Blues(NZ) 12 (5)

Western Stormers(Sth Afr) 8 (5)

Queensland Reds(Aust) 7 (5)

Cats(Sth Afr) 7 (5)

Blue Bulls(Sth Afr) 6 (5)

Sharks(Sth Afr) 6 (5)

Waikato Chiefs(NZ) 4 (5)

Cheers and Jeers

Cheers - to the parents that were so helpful and supportive on tour. George and Lisa Malim, Mary and Michael Harris, Maryellen and John Tucci, Michael and Beni Wegener, Tom and Annette Harmon, Glenna Jue, Jim Watje, Kathy Becerra, Sue Gamache, Mrs. Markham and Gamache. Also inspiring the players were offspring Jesus Becerra, Molly Malim, Danielle Harmon, and Jack Wegener. Thank you all for making the tour a great experience.

Cheers - to Lori Richards for organizing the billeting for the upcoming 4/22 English touring side.

Jeers - to players for not picking up their gear at practice. We will announce a future dates this upcoming week to pick up gear, t-shirts, and track suits.

Note: Playoffs are upon us. Watch the website for the playoff schedules for all teams as they become available.

Answer to above: A Geoduck is a fighting clam.

Any questions or comments please email sheldonoaks@hotmail.com or call 682-2858

The Management

