

"OLD COLLEGIANS RUGBY NEWS"

Publication of Old Collegians Rugby Football Club's Rugby News.
Registered at the G.P.O., Adelaide for transmission by post as a periodical.

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FROM THE TOUCHLINE BY J.D.

Last week's match produced another convincing victory for our Fantastic Firsts. Down five points at one stage, the team showed an excellent spirit to defeat University 18-8

The first half was evenly contended, although play tended to be on the scrappy side for much of the time. Collegians opened the scoring when Peter Allen kicked a penalty goal, an advantage we held for a short time only, as University countered with a similar score, and later forged ahead with a converted try. Although we began moderately well, our play wilted under pressure and this mediocre University side held a commanding territorial position for much of the first half. They won the lineouts and their backs caused a few anxious moments for Collegians, but we were able to keep them off the doorstep save for one occasion. Towards the end of the first half Collegians brought off a good move and Jim O'Sullivan crossed for a try, bringing the score at half time to 6-8.

Collegians were well on top throughout the second half. We won the scrums and our pack was all over University generally, although lineouts still presented slight problems. Peter Allen kicked another penalty goal, and the team maintained the pressure strongly. We had a couple of near misses as far as tries go, but eventually the opportunity came and Peter Allen took the final pass, soon scoring a great try. In the final stages of the match Collegians put the result beyond any doubt when a brilliant combined movement culminated in Alan Desfontaines grounding a ball just inside the corner post. Glen Millar also added to the tally by kicking a penalty goal just before no-side.

The best player this week was Peter Allen. There were at least two occasions when he kicked the team out of trouble and the ball into touch, additionally to his penalty kicks. We also saw some devilish play at lock and in the loose. Other forwards to stand out were John Manson, always in the thick of play, and particularly his duties in the scrum. Gordon Bainbridge was the best of the backs, taking opportunity to run occasionally, whilst remembering the rest of the line too. Hauser continued to impress favourably and with Neil Schwartzner backing up ably our backline again showed signs of developing into a most formidable weapon.

J.D.

"STUPENDOUS SECONDS"

The Stupendous Seconds went down to Onkaparinga 9-11.

Onkaparinga, a much bigger side looked as though they were going to 'steam-roll' the Seconds for the first 15 minutes, but O.C. then settled down into some sort of team work and, urged on by their captain, who was in everything, suddenly looked like a team. Fitness began to tell later in the game and it was indeed a pity that concentration lapsed and we gave away a penalty right in front with just a few minutes to go. Onkaparinga outplayed us in the packs in the first half and we had trouble winning the ball from line-outs but we had plenty of opportunities to score. Lack of determination near the line was a cause for concern.

Summing up, it could be said that we were a bit unlucky to lose, after scoring a great try that put us in front 9-8, a lead which we held for some time. However, I feel that 5 or 6 really dedicated players, who tried very hard for the full 80 minutes, were let down by 5 or 6 other players who appeared to be treating the game as a bit of a picnic. Like the fourths good tackling was conspicuous by its absence. Proper tackling is absolutely essential and although Onkaparinga looked as though they would take some stopping, it was good to see some of their moves stopped by good, proper tackling by two of our smallest players, whereas our bigger blokes apparently have the idea that tackling should be left to the backs and breakaways.

I feel that fitness will beat brawn every time and this theory is proved by the fact that all O.C. teams seem to be finishing better than their opponents. On the other hand, there also seems to be some complacency in the first 20 minutes with little or no real 'fire' - remember, fellas, the first score on the board gives a tremendous psychological advantage, so why not start firing from the first kick-off instead of waiting until we are 5 or 8 points down.

B.H.

"THE FIGHTING FOURTHS FIGHT AGAIN"

Old Collegians 41 Onkaparinga 3

After the first 10-15 minutes, during which time players got to know one another and settled down into some sort of team-work, it was a matter of how many points were going to be scored by the Fighting Fourth's. No room for complacency however, as the opposition was weak and only fielded 12 men which dwindled to 11 later and then 10. A twelve year old lad was one of these! Good luck to him

O.C. could have and should have won by at least 50 points but opportunities were wasted time and time again. Wild passes when not under pressure, weak tackling (sometimes I gained the impression that O.C. must have been playing on concrete, whereas the ground was soft and ideal for rugby) and lack of teamwork which was understandable, all contributed to a lack of determination by the players, with a few exceptions.

(over)

FIGHTING FOURTHS CONT.

On the other hand, it must be admitted that if the Fighting Fourths can play a whole game in the same fashion as they played in the first 20 minutes of the second half, they will certainly finish in the finals again this year. A good win chaps and nice to see some very good movements by some of the new players. 11 tries were scored but only three were converted. Onkaparinga scored one try as a result of some very weak tackling.

B.H.

"THRILLING THIRDS"

Sorry chaps, no write up for you this week. We need a scribe. Speaking of scribes, we also need one for the seconds and the fourths, how about a few of you frustrated writers turning up at the match next week with pen and paper.

S.H.

WHYALLA TRIP

Seconds to play Whyalla on Sunday next, April 25th. We are one of the fortunate clubs who have to make only one trip to Whyalla. As mentioned previously it is essential that our club does its 'thing' to help Rugby Union in S.A. Coach Max Mitchell is organising the trip so please contact him for details. As far as can be ascertained at the time of going to press, the cars will be leaving early on Sunday morning to play Whyalla on Sunday afternoon. Further details from Max, so please contact him on or before Saturday.

TEAMS...

FOURTHS.

All players not named by Selectors in 1sts 2nds or 3rds required at Shutter Reserve no later than 1.15pm on Saturday.

NOTE.

Shutter Reserve. Eastern end of 4th Ave off O.G. Road.

Womma Rd Ground. Off Womma Road, North Elizabeth.

FIXTURES FOR NEXT 3 WEEKS.

<u>Team</u>		<u>April 24th</u>	<u>May 1st</u>	<u>May 3th</u>
1sts (3pm)		North Adelaide	West Torrens	Glenelg
	at	Tregenza	Tregenza	Bailey 1
2nds (3pm)		Whyalla (25th April)	Elizabeth	Gawler
	at	Whyalla	Womma	Tregenza
3rds (1.30)		North Adelaide	West Torrens	Glenelg
	at	Tregenza	Tregenza	Bailey 1
4ths (1.30)		North Adelaide	Elizabeth	Gawler
	at	Shutter Reserve	Womma	Tregenza

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FOR YOUR DIARY.

Saturday May 1st. Party at Spry's. 512 Kensington Road.
After Feathers (about 7.30 til ?) Bring your own fish and chips and
your own grog.

Don't forget Annual Cat Trial (bring your own puss) - sorry it is actually
the Annual CAR Trial (bring your own car !). Its on for young and old on
May 16th and this year we will be finishing at Tregenza. Its always a great
day, so grab yourself a navigator and come along.

ODDS AND ENDS DEPT.

We still need team managers for the seconds, thirds and fourths. Its not
a hard job and the teams need and deserve one.

NOTE.

As from this Saturday best players and scorers from all teams will be
announced in the Feathers immediately after the 'dozen' has gone off.

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RESULTS. SATURDAY APRIL 24TH.

1sts	Beat	North Adelaide	12 - 5
2nds	Lost	to Whyalla	3 - 19
3rds	Beat	North Adelaide	42 - 6
4ths	Beat	North Adelaide	8 - 5

FANTASTIC FIRSTS.

FROM THE TOUCHLINE.

In a closely played game last week, the First XV kept their heads "above water" to defeat North Adelaide 12-5, thereby remaining unbeaten in their first three matches.

Collegians started in a most businesslike manner scoring three quick tries; the main feature of which was a combination of good running and remarkably clean ball handling in atrocious conditions. First it was Neil Schwartzer under the posts, then Gerry Moulinie beside the left corner flag and thirdly Peter Yarrington beside the right corner flag. Then our domination ended. As the ball became progressively more difficult to handle, and kicking didn't seem to be getting us very far, we found that we had our work cut out to contain the opposition. North had fairly solid pack which adapted rather ~~well~~ better to the very wet condition underfoot than did Collegians. However, the latter strove hard and by and large we came out of it pretty well, particularly the set play, fairing rather better in the lineouts this week, and also taking a good percentage through the scrum. It was in the loose that North sometimes looked dangerous, and with poor handling by both teams, there was quite a lot of loose play. That just about tells the story of the remainder of the match. The only other scores were a penalty goal kicked by Schwartzer, and sad to say a converted try credited to the opposition. Neither team scored during the second half.

Mick Guerin was best player for the match, giving a sterling performance in the lineouts and played tigerishly all day - a good example for all to follow in every facet of play. Best of the Backs were Gerry Moulinie and Gordon Bainbridge and other players deserving mention being Jim Press, Hauser and Glen Millar.

A good win, but I reckon we're fully capable of doing better.

J.D.

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STUPENDOJS SECONDS.

A long tiring trip in bad driving conditions took its toll on the team in the second half on Sunday. Collegians were only down 0-3 at half time but then Whyalla got on top and finished a lot better. Max Mitchell was called upon as referee. Thanks for making the trip fellas - see if you can turn the tables when Whyalla have to come to Adelaide. (Get your beer tickets ready !).

Final score for the match Whyalla 19. Collegians 3.

B.H.

THRILLING THIRDS.

A thoroughly deserved win against North Adelaide 42 - 6.

A thoroughly wet, miserable day and Tregenza Oval also thoroughly wet, muddy and miserable. The standard of Rugby was surprising under the circumstances and the handling was something that had to be seen to be believed. Especially by that ~~fix~~ fair-headed character who kicked a couple of conversions as though the ground and ball were perfectly dry.

O.C. soon asserted their superiority and scored a try near the posts within a few minutes of the start of the game. We won the ball consistently until North Adelaide gained three more players, two of whom were about 20 minutes late reporting to the ref. Although the game slowly deteriorated as a spectacle, tries were scored at regular intervals as a result of very good work by the forwards aided by extremely good passing and handling by the backs. All players did well except for the two lapses of concentration - once when our defence ~~XXXXXXXX~~ was all awry and we let Norths in for a try - and the other when we gave away a silly penalty. O.C. had to call on two reserves who both did well after finding their feet (in the mud). Good work Thirds - an excellent win.

B.H.

TEAM MANAGERS.

Nick Spencer-Smith has come forward and offered his services as Team Manager for the Seconds. Nick can rarely get to training and cannot get to games which start at 1.30pm., therefore, to do his 'thing' for the club, had volunteered. Thanks to you too Nick.

What about a Team Manager for the Fighting Fourth's please? A team needs and deserves a bloke with the bucket and oranges etc, and at the same time you become interested in the team you are "mothering" (The Fourth's love being mothered !)

B.L.H.

DON'T FORGET DEPT.

Spry's place after the Feathers this Saturday May 1st. From about 7.30pm onwards. 512 Kensington Road.
Bring birds, beer and 'burgers (or what have you)

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BON VOYAGE ETC.

Bon Voyage and safe return to Cyril and Lillian Holdich, who, with Linda, are going away on a trip for 5 months or so. They will be back the week after the Grand Finals - make sure they get a very pleasant surprise on their return! We all hope you have a wonderful trip and enjoy seeing your relations and friends in the Old Country.

A PAT ON THE BACK.

It was indeed bad news to learn that our stalwart, Peter Allen, has been forced to retire as a playing member of the Club. Peter had not yet received the Drs final prognosis but it appears he may have suffered a recurrence of an injury incurred about three years ago when playing for the State. Although quite O.K. it would be foolish to continue playing and therefore, wisely, Peter had decided to heed his doctors advice and stop playing the game he loves so much. What a grand job he has done for Old Collegians over the years! It was fitting that he was the best player on the field in his last match. Anyway, Peter, we look forward to many more years of your good company and sincerely hope you will be able to take on a few tasks on the social side later on. Only hope you will see your way clear to be Team Manager for the Thrilling Thirds later on in the season. In the meantime, Thirds, you will be looked after by Howard Clay, our Senior Vice-President, who has kindly offered his services. Thanks Howard.

BIRDS FOR BUSINESS.

We need a few more female volunteers to help at the stall at Tregenza Oval. The girls do a great job selling our pies, tea drinks etc, but it is a bit rough expecting only a few to do it all. Please offer your services even if only for 15 - 20 minutes at a time. Remember the hard workers doing it now would like to see some Rugby during the afternoon.

NEWSLETTER.

Requests have been received to publish the teams in the Newsletter as many of our supporters use the Newsletter as a 'programme' and thus get to know the players, particularly the new ones. The matter will be discussed at the next Committee Meeting to see if it can be resolved one way or the other.

OUR THANKS DEPT.

Time we thanked the Management and Staff of the Feathers Hotel for putting up with us after the games on Saturdays. It is indeed a pleasure to be able to use the 'back-room' for our post-mortems. Would all Club Members please bear in mind that we are expected to move out by 6.30pm. So about that time, take your glass in your hand, your bird on the wing, and migrate South to the Dickens Bar please.