

"OLD COLLEGIANS RUGBY NEWS"

Publication of Old Collegians Rugby Football Club's Rugby News
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RESULTS: PRELIMINARY FINALS - SATURDAY 18th September 1971

1sts	beat Elizabeth	11 - 10
3rds	lost to Woodville	3 - 8
4ths	beat Sthn. Suburbs	25 - 17

FIXTURES - GRAND FINALS - SATURDAY 25th September

B A I L E Y R E S E R V E

1STS	V	GLENELG	3.00 p.m.
4THS	V	ELIZABETH	1.30 p.m.

Come along early, you supporters and for Pete's sake use your voices !!

FROM THE TOUCHLINE

Our Fantastic Firsts were triumphant in the preliminary final last week and well deserved the victory gained from Elizabeth in an action packed fiery game. Another one point win over Elizabeth brings to mind similar margins in the grand finals of 1967 and 1970 against them! Congratulations to each team member for a magnificent display, and we now look forward to the good work being continued this week against Glenelg.

Collegians exerted strong pressure early, and for a good 20 minutes held a good territorial position, driving into Elizabeth's twenty five many times. One of the most pleasing aspects of this period was our lineout play which was remarkably good and through which we were able to clear the ball away cleanly, giving the backs time to gain ground thus keeping the opposition firmly on the defence. However, a clearing fly kick or an attempted dropped goal was smothered, and the loose ball was snapped up quickly by an opponent who was able to score a runaway try, which was a rather undeserved gift. Play after this was evenly contested and at times Elizabeth were in the ascendancy which gave fears of their taking complete command of proceedings, but during the last ten minutes of the term we pressed hard with renewed vigour and were well on top.

We commenced the second half well and soon gained three points from a penalty goal kicked by Bob Millar and shortly hit the front with another, kicked by Neil Schwartz. This was the fillip we needed and from then onwards victory was seldom in doubt. There were some particularly fiery forward clashes as we went from strength to strength dominating the loose mauls and taking good ball from scrums and lineouts. Our backs had great moments too and we almost scored tries on a couple of occasions. Defence was impenetrable, tackling was determined and effective, and Elizabeth were hustled into fumbling, being given little chance to recover, back-up, or kick for distance. One such passage of play enabled Collegians to seal victory with a try and who else but Rod Hauser could have dashed through and grounded the ball so unperturbed? Well done! Collegians continued to dominate play for quite some time following this fine try which was converted by Bob Millar, until an Elizabethan intercepted (or accepted?) a Collegian pass and ensuing play enabled the opposition to come again within one point, assuring a heart stopping finish for everyone. Collegians however, clung grimly to their one point margin as Elizabeth tried valiantly to force victory in those long, long final minutes of the match.

There were many fine pieces of play by every Collegian player during the game. We particularly owe a great deal to the forwards for well and truly thrashing their opposite numbers. The front row showed much improved form in the tight and loose. Second row and lock were consistently vigorous in every facet of play. Breakaways as usual performed excellently. Well played pack! The very best of the forwards were Jim Press, Dave Farrow, Mick Guerin and Peter Douglas. Of the backs, Neil Schwartzer was always forceful in attack and defence and Rod Hauser always seemed in control in any situation. Gordon Bainbridge played soundly.

THIRDS

The Thirds went down to Woodville last Saturday in a game that was hard fought from beginning to end. Both teams knew what a loss would mean; unfortunately it was us that lost. For the first twenty minutes play was in the O.C. half only, once and that was from a kick off.

Our forwards were rucking strongly and pulling the Woodville forwards into the rucks and trapping the ball. However Collegians could not capitalise on their territorial advantage to score. Woodville gained confidence from our hesitation in pressing home our advantage and took play into Collegians half. After 25 minutes we forced play back towards the Woodville line. Rob Dutton was the first to score for O.C. He took the ball from loose play and broke through the Woodville defence for a very good try. At half time we held the lead 3 - 0.

The second half was nearly all Woodville. They applied tremendous pressure and became a dominating force.

In the first half we won most of the set ball but in the second half it was the complete reverse. It was only the strong Collegian's defence that stopped Woodville's attacking moves, but it must be admitted that they were a little unlucky at times. With only minutes to go Woodville kicked a penalty goal to even the score. Shortly afterwards they broke through the Collegians defence and scored a try and conversion, making the final score 8 - 3.

The game was an extremely tight one and it was bad luck we had to come out the vanquished after such a good season, but I guess it's no use crying over spilt milk. Now it's up to the Firsts and Fourths!

Those who played well were McQuinn, Wilson, Carrick, Evans, Gamlin and Tye, although these players get the points I think the team as a whole deserve congratulations for playing a great game to end the season.

FOURTHS

The Fourths came out winners in a real thriller of a match at the weekend. Final score - 25 - 17.

Collegians opened well and from the kick off took the ball well into the Sth. Suburb half, but things were not going to be that easy, Sth. Suburbs came back and evened the score up and set the scene for what looked like, at that stage, a hard tight game.

Merrick had an early shot for a penalty but missed but it was not long before he had another chance and made no mistake so that 15 minutes into the half, Collegians were up 3 - 0. Collegians were looking good, winning nearly all of the set scrums and getting an even share of the lines. Merrick had yet another shot at goal after we were awarded a penalty about 40 yards out, which just missed. (Twice during the match, he hit the post).

There were some good forward play seen from Collegians and in one movement the ball was taken well into the Sthn. Suburbs. 25. Abotomey was the first to score a try for Collegians making the score 6 - 0, but it was not converted.

Although the forwards were playing reasonably they were not getting to the loose ball and rucks as quickly as they should have been, (especially noticeable in the "time on" period, but this was excusable after about 90 minutes of tough rugby!)

Collegians next score came from Tomkins who scored a good try after receiving the ball on the wing and running well for touch. Merrick converted and took the first half score to 11 - 0. I watched for the fade out which was seen in last Saturday's game, but I'm pleased to report that didn't happen, at least not to the same extent as before.

Collegians looked in a pretty safe position at the opening of this half but Sthn. Suburbs received a penalty try under the posts for an infringement, what it was for I don't know. (Neither did anyone else - Ed.) This helped to put some fire into their game and they looked as though they would prove a threat. They were soon "on the ball" again and received a penalty under the posts which took the score to 11 - 8 our way. O.C. then came back with a converted penalty, putting us further ahead. However, Sthn. Suburbs came back and scored a try by passing a dummy to a Collegians player. Later in the match they did the same thing and scored another one. This sort of thing cannot be allowed to happen more than once or for that matter at all.

At full time the score was 17 - 17 so it was necessary to play an extra ten minutes each way. In this ten minutes Collegians took the game right away from Sthn. Suburbs and added another 8 points. Goodwin kicked a penalty then Dinny Farrah scored one of his typical tries. Merrick converted.

Best in the game were Dutton (Tim), Roberts, Tony Messner, Paul Bailey Merrick Goodwin and Dinny Farrah.

This week Elizabeth will be tough but I think the Fourths can do it if they remember what they have been told at training - play sensible rugby and leave out the fancy stuff.

ANNUAL DINNER

SATURDAY, 25TH SEPTEMBER, 1971.

FEATHERS HOTEL - BURNSIDE - 7.30 P.M.

DRESS: Dinner Suit or Lounge Suit

The Annual Dinner & Presentation of Trophies will be held in the main Dining Room at the Feathers at 7.30 p.m. If you haven't already bought your ticket just come along anyway and bring a \$5 note with you!! Trophies will be presented immediately after sweets have been served.

I'm sure we can all have a most enjoyable evening and celebrate the climax of a good season without wrecking the furniture and furnishings. (It would be appreciated if the "strippers" keep their floor show for a less auspicious occasion).

All members of the Club are welcome - we would like to see as many as possible there on Saturday.

B.L. Hancock - President

ALSO ON SATURDAY

All members of the fair sex are reminded that they have been invited to a social evening at the home of -

DI EVANS,
28 Gordon Terrace,
ROSSLYN PARK.

Please bring a plate of "goodies" i.e. something you would like to have yourself! (Fish & chips, wouldya believe!) Chinese type dins, pizza or what have you.

LONDON, SEPT. 6

BRITAIN THIS WEEK INTRODUCED THE FIRST SCORING CHANGE IN RUGBY UNION FOR 22 YEARS WITH THE INTRODUCTION OF THE FOUR POINT TRY.

THE NEW RULE CAME INTO EFFECT ON SEPTEMBER 2 AND IS BEING USED ON AN EXPERIMENTAL BASIS IN THE NORTHERN HEMISPHERE FOR THE NEXT TWO YEARS.

IT IS TO BE ADOPTED IN AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND AND SOUTH AFRICA NEXT SEASON.

BUT NO BINDING DECISION ON THE FUTURE OF THE FOUR-POINT TRY WILL BE MADE BEFORE THE INTERNATIONAL BOARD MEETING IN 1973.

IT IS THE FIRST RUGBY SCORING CHANGE SINCE THE DROPPED GOAL CAME DOWN IN VALUE FROM FOUR TO THREE POINTS IN 1948-49 .

WHEN THE BOARD DECIDED TO REVALUE THE TRY AT ITS MEETING HERE EARLIER THIS YEAR, IT WAS MADE CLEAR THE DECISION WAS TO TAKE THE EMPHASIS OFF THE PENALTY GOAL AS A METHOD OF SCORING AND TO REWARD THE TEAM THAT WAS PREPARED TO PLAY ATTACKING RUGBY.

IN GENERAL THE BRITISH REACTION TO THE MOVE HAS BEEN FAVOURABLE, ALTHOUGH THERE ARE STILL ADVOCATES OF DOWN-GRADING THE PENALTY TO TWO POINTS OR AWARDING DIFFERENTIAL PENALTIES ACCORDING TO THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE OFFENCE.

BRITISH NEWSPAPERS HAVE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT HAD THE FOUR-POINT TRY BEEN IN OPERATION DURING THE RECENT LIONS TOUR OF NEW ZEALAND, THE TOURISTS WOULD HAVE LOST THE TEST RUBBER, GOING DOWN IN THE LAST INTERNATIONAL 15-16, INSTEAD OF COMING OUT WITH A 14-14 DRAW. (AND W. TORRENS WOULD HAVE BEATEN OUR 1ST XV A COUPLE OF WEEKS AGO!)

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