

Universities' Win More Speed Than Services.

INTERESTING GAME AT EDEN PARK.

The elite of the Rugby players of Zealand's Universities and the Combined Services stationed in and around Auckland met at Eden Park for the King's Birthday. The win went to the Universities by the narrow margin of 11 points to 11.

The Services beat the Services. Many of the Varsity men produced remarkable bursts in concerted play, and, getting a good share of the ball, they play away from a heavy Service which might have proved an extremely tough proposition on a wet surface. The result was a fair indication of a game that produced a better Rugby than the Island University game on the previous Saturday.

With five-eighths, the former Auckland, A. Stewart, of Massey, first, Kimberley, Canterbury, did some work, but Kimberley failed somewhat in not using better tactics. Despite the fact that the Service men were blocking the centre every time in the second half, he did not kick for as long as he should. That, coupled with the failure of Cartwright to give more impetus to the wings—Bowler and Strachan—already voted fast and dangerous by Saturday's play, stopped the Services from making a bigger score.

Half-back Simpson was very effective for a while, but found his feet improved. Twice he made brilliant dashes past Wagstaffe on the side, only for the moves to break down for lack of support.

Skilfully handled with precision at fullback and made sure of his line. The Universities were well served by their captain, R. B. Burke, of Victoria, who hooked consistently well. This was a real grafter in the tight. This player has had a brilliant University playing record, dating back to before his tour of Japan with the Dominion Universities in 1937. He has been a representative in both Canterbury and Wellington.

On the loose the rangy Campbell, of Lincoln College, was always prominent. The only Auckland who made the grade, R. A. Armitage, deserves mention for an untiring, if spectacular, job of work that kept the Services mostly in the middle of it.

Strachan, an Air Force man at second five-eighths, bore the brunt with a stopper, the centre, of most of the shock tactics of Kimberley and

Cartwright—and they did it splendidly. Wyett (half) and Wagstaffe played on the defensive too much to be able to show out, and generally the back work was not as impressive as that of the forwards, even though McCready scored a good try from the wing.

Forbes, Gable and Overton seemed three who stood out, though it may be fairer to include the whole pack as good. Forbes, a former Grammar Old Boys man, now in the Army, has been out of the game for a time, but he is getting into trim and showing that he is worth a great deal to a side by reason of his outstanding line-out play.

Cartwright (2), Garratt and Bowler scored tries for Universities. For the Services Gable and McCready scored, while Strachan kicked a penalty and a conversion.

Mr. A. M. Matheson refereed.

TAKAPUNA UNBEATEN.

A.R.F.U. SECOND DIVISION.

At the end of the fourth series of the A.R.F.U. second senior division championship the points are: Takapuna, 7; Air Force, Varsity, 6; Garrison Artillery, Manukau, 4; Navy, Parnell, College Rifles, 2; Eden, 0.

The only unbeaten side is Takapuna who had the bye last week, and conquered Air Force 9-7 on May 11.

"UNLUCKY" DAN— THE WRESTLER MAN.

(From the Auckland "Star.")

Sure, now, isn't he the unluckiest bhoys, that Daniel O'Connor? And isn't he the broth of a bhoys, too? But, my gosh, he shouldn't have been after hittin' that big Lofty feller in the restin' place of the 'tators. It wasn't the sort of thing that Red Hugh would have been after doin', no . . . nor bold Phelan Brady, either.

But, however they are talking about it around the inglenooks in Ballymeath this day the facts remain that red-headed "Drop-kick" Dan O'Connor did hit Lofty Blomfield below or on the Plimsol line, and that the referee, the McLean himself, did raise the hand of Blomfield in the fourth round of the wrestle at the Auckland Town Hall on the King's Birthday. We said it. The fourth round, believe it or not. What is more to the point, Blomfield already had a fall in hand at that stage.

SAMPLES AND REBOUNDS.

When Blomfield handed out a sample jolt at the kick off, unrolled a

length of rope work and poured out a punch. . . . And when O'Connor roughed up his own hair as a settler to pent feelings and quietly tossed Lofty for a couple of "perlers" in headlocks, the wise birds murmured darkly, "It won't be long now." It wasn't, but there was a lot of sore throats between that and the curtain fall. The crowd was in full cry throughout, and there was plenty to cry about, too.

Mr. McLean was early in the picture, tossing the he-men aside with the abandon that comes from comparative immunity in the box-seat position. From one of those little side issues Daniel emerged with a bad case of "trouble" in his eye, and a smacking left to Lofty's jaw rocked the New Zealand champion on his size nines. It was "body line" stuff, and Lofty sailed in with face, rope and ear work that ended suddenly in a startled "Watch him, ref!" from Blomfield. From the blind side it seemed that some nasty fellow had bitten some other fellow.

THE HEAT WAS ON.

So to the second—one of the most action-filled rounds yet encountered. From an opening jolt account Lofty tried a leg trip, but swift as ever rolled the barrel, so rolled Dan to the feet of the Press, there to wag an inviting "try again" finger. So they went to jolts. What jolts! And that was Lofty's. The ref. said they were blows and exchanged a shove for a shove with O'Connor. Twice Lofty threw Dan by the hair. "Stop it," said Mr. McLean, and Lofty listened, to be taken off his guard with a butt. He dodged two tackles but stopped a punch in the eye . . . and again; with a warning by Mr. McLean to Dan for each.

Toe-to-toe, with jolts working at war-effort pace in the third. Face work by Lofty that had O'Connor beating the floor in rage, and then . . . action. Twice O'Connor threw two tackles that lowered Lofty, but it was a trap . . . a third tackle met an oncoming jolt and Dan went down under a press. He dodged that, but again Blomfield was in, with three ringing jolts to the jaw, two dumps and a press. Nice work, really, and a fall to Lofty!

The end was not long distant. Things quietened with a punishing Indian death-lock, applied with the arm, on O'Connor. Mr. McLean broke that under the ropes, and then Dan came swinging. Under a shower of jolts Lofty went back, and then, suddenly, he doubled up. A power-plus right-arm jolt had taken him amidships.

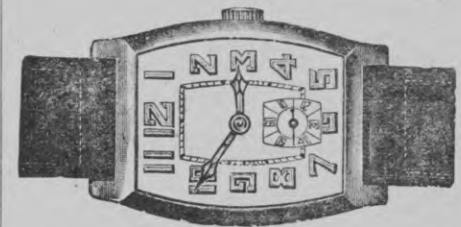
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With that ended Mr. McLean's patience . . . and the match. Lofty had won on a penalty plus a fall.

Afterwards, it may be added, Dan said that if it was a low blow it was accidental, and he was sorry.

CAMP DUTIES.

HOME SERVICE MEN.

Further men from No. 1 (Auckland) area who have been found fit for home service and have reported for camp duties. They are:—

For Papakura.—W. H. Cunningham, W. B. Jerome, E. M. Loomb, G. Morris, L. Piraner, S. W. Roebuck, H. H. Walker, S. C. Waters, V. Baxter, F. T. White.

For Narrow Neck.—A. Gummer, F. J. Hamblin, C. L. Hill, W. R. Rae.

Today's Great Drink

WAITEMATA

"That's the stuff to give the troops!"