

## **2015: LIVING UP TO EXPECTATIONS**

The 2015 season promised to be an exciting one as we attempted to emulate the previous year's achievements and maybe even surpass them. This was raising the bar high and although we all thought that it was achievable the pressure was on all of the club to maintain the high standards set in 2014.

### **The Board**

Once again, the club reaped the benefits of having a combined senior and junior board and we were fortunate to have the core members of the board back on deck with President Wheway leading the way. Canio Fierravanti and Sproggy McGuinness were the vice presidents with the irreplaceable Pembo ensuring that all went according to plan as Secretary, Registrar and Match Day Controller Supremo.

Our financial guru was once again Andrew Newhouse, who is invaluable in attracting sponsors and ensuring our viability. We were also able to call on Larry Daniela for his entrepreneurial ability in the sponsorship and fund-raising areas with a bit of assistance from Sproggy McGuinness.

Also making contributions on the Board were David Shala, who was the parent rep, and Rob Mardus who did a commendable job in his role as Club Captain. Geoff Devitt was also involved in ensuring that the board was able to provide strong leadership to the club.

Another shining light was Will Wood who took on the job of being the social organiser for the seniors and he was tireless in his efforts, aided by a small band of eager helpers. There were some bumps along the way, but Will was always in control and did a magnificent job.

The club was also fortunate to have several people such as Iain Lamb and Kenny Wright who helped in many areas. Carmen Daniela was a dynamo behind the scenes working in the canteen, drafting numerous documents and being the go-to person for several events.

### **Sponsors**

Financially the club was able to support the development of rugby in the University because of the generous support of our very loyal sponsors. Many of the owners of these companies were former players who maintain their connection with the club by financial support.

Individuals such as Charlie Emery, Dave Beconsell, Mark Hampton, Dave Petty and Hugh Wingate have contributed over numerous years and their support has been vital in the Mallee Bulls being able to continue to flourish.

#### **MAJOR**

The City of Wollongong Tennis Club – Gary Leighton

#### **PREMIUM SPONSORS**

Physical Therapy Group – Dave Beconsell

Soilco – Charlie Emery

UOW Faculty of Engineering – Bob Wheway

HLB Judd – Andrew Newhouse

#### **SILVER SPONSORS**

Crown West Cellars - Mark Hampton

Dave Petty Conveyancing – Dave Petty

Ryan's Dry Cleaning – Hugh Wingate

Travelscene Wollongong@internet-travel

Savvy Fitness

Snap Printing

Affective Engineering – Andrew Newhouse

## **Social Highlights**

The club was the envy of opposition clubs for the hard-working group of Piki McCreedy, Candice Hemi Mason, Paula Thompson, Julie Leef, Emma Robertson, Mrs. Rangiura, Erin Tuala, and Anita Nepia with a host of friends on the canteen group who not only provided great canteen service but also continued the cheap meals for the after-match function which again this year was a real highlight of game day.

Players were also active in providing social extravaganzas with James Read, Will Wood, Donny Nepia, Shaun Dutailis, Paul Tuala, Rob Mardus, Justin Stanbrook & Tom Baker being key stake holders

**Ladies Day** was a huge success thanks to the efforts of (in the words of the lady in charge of URAC) "a lovely young man by the name of Will," and his band of helpers in Froggy, Tom etc.

The most pleasing thing was that we raised \$400 for Beyond Blue, with more to come, so well done. The other impressive thing was that Will cleaned up after the day and spent a huge amount of time getting it all done. GREAT JOB!

**11th Annual Season Launch & Protégé Auction Night.** Players participating in their first FULL season with UOW Rugby (protégés) were auctioned off to returning players of the club (mentors). Protégés are welcomed to the club, in a night that is held in good spirit and aims to enhance the bond between players from all grades.

**Old Bulls Muster** – Fi-Ta donated a set of playing jumpers based on the old Teachers College jumper which were sold to the players with money Raised for Beyond Blue. It was Back to College day and a host of the original premiers of 1972 were presented to the crowd.

After the usual post-match function in the Sports Lounge the players watched the Springbok-Wallabies Test on the big screen of the SMART building.

## **Rugby Ball and Presentation Night**

### **Fund Raising**

- Phone book deliveries
- Two BBQs at the Wollongong Bunnings
- Coach trip to the Bledisloe Cup Rugby Test at the ANZ Stadium
- Club golf day at Wollongong Golf Club

## **The Coaching and Management Staff**

The coaching structure of the club underwent a major change at the top when Dion Miller stepped into the breach created by Shaun McCreedy' unavailability to coach first grade due to work. This occurred just prior to the season starting and thankfully Dion was available and did a magnificent job under duress. How he managed to run a business, look after his young boys, help with the juniors, be on the Illawarra executive as Vice president and coach amazed everyone. Fortunately, Shaun was able to contribute as club coach and Richard Thompson was Dion's right-hand man with the top grade and took some of the load off Dion's shoulders.

Dave Reed was back in charge of the Second-grade squad and was ably assisted by Evan Poata-Smith, another Kiwi guy with a good background in rugby, who is a lecturer at Uni.

The club had planned to have Donny Nepia in charge and playing in thirds but work and having to play up the grades due to injuries saw this plan abandoned and Shaun Dutailis had to take up the clipboard again to get the Thirsties into the semis for the first time in a while.

Lee Tanks was mentor of the Colts, and he was assisted by Geoff Devitt and these two guys did a remarkable job in keeping the team together under very difficult circumstances due to the low number of teams in the comp.

On the management side of things Mark Elson stepped down from the top grade so as he could look after third grade where son Steve was playing. Mark unfortunately missed a number of games as a result of business complications and travelling to China and South Africa but was a big factor in getting a lot of older players back into the fray, especially in Thirds.

Rob Mardus in his role as Club Captain also took over managing the first-grade team and had big shoes to fill and did a commendable job in making sure all the paperwork etc. was completed to keep Pembo satisfied, not an easy task.

Seconds and Colts virtually looked after their own management between the coaches and their teamwork ensured that teams made it onto the park efficiently.

## The Competitions

2015 saw the return of Campbelltown to the Illawarra Competition after a long period of playing in the Sydney Sub District comp. They fielded 4 teams and they were a welcome addition to the local scene.

This meant that the first and second grade competitions comprised 10 clubs - Avondale, Bowral, Camden, Campbelltown, Kiama, Shamrocks, Shoalhaven, Techtahs, University and Vikings. Thirds was a different setup with Vincentia fielding a team but there were a number of byes due to Kiama, Bowral and Shoalhaven not having enough players to field third grade sides.

The real concern for the District was that there were only 3 clubs that fielded Colts teams, Campbelltown, Camden and University. The teams did provide entertainment in their clashes, but it was difficult to keep enthusiasm levels high during the season.

### Club Championship 2015

Club	Firsts	Seconds	Colts	Thirds	Total
Avondale	435	246	0	37	718
University	390	207	81	33	711
Campbelltown	245	168	81	31	525
Kiama	335	132	0	0	467
Camden	180	219	30	27	456
Vikings	230	183	0	40	453
Shoalhaven	190	93	0	0	283
Shamrocks	155	30	0	25	210
Tech-Waratahs	45	93	0	12	150
Bowral	75	12	0	0	87
Vincentia	0	0	0	70	70

## **The Players**

### **Personal Milestones**

James 'Beaver' Tarlinton – 250 games

Justin Placek. – 200 games

Shaun Dutailis – 200 games

Pat Perillo – 100 games

### **REPRESENTATIVE HONOURS:**

#### **NSW Country Representatives:**

#### **Country Eagles - National Rugby Championships:**

Paul Tuala

#### **Seniors:**

Paul Tuala, Jade Gardiner, Hori Leef, Andy Rae

#### **u/18's:**

Brad Reed, Rueben Thompson

#### **Illawarra:**

#### **Seniors:**

Paul Tuala, Chris Miller, Karl Smith, Jade Gardiner, Hori Leef, Alex Sims, Charlie Freeman, Andy Rae, Jason Hughes, Matt Lee.

#### **Coaching Staff:**

Shaun McCreedy – Head Coach

Richard Thompson – Assistant coach

Donny Nepia

Dion Miller – on field Manager

## **The Squads**

### **First Grade**

The first-grade squad was fortunate to have a great deal of experience in all positions as a number of players were back keen to see if they could win back-to-back trophies. Leading the charge were Paul Tuala, Chris Miller and Jason Hughes and they set a fine example for others to follow.

The depth of the squad was also demonstrated by the fact that there were nine players in the successful Caldwell Cup winning Illawarra squad, incidentally, coached by Shaun McCreedy, Donny Nepia and Richard Thompson. These players included Karl Smith, Alex Sims, Matt Lee, Chris Miller and Charlie Freeman. To top it off the other four players, Paul Tuala, Andy Rae, Hori Leef and Jade Gardiner were later picked in the NSW Country Squad. However, Hori had to withdraw from the country squad and Jade only managed one club game due to work commitments.

Our forward pack was impressive but there was a bit of concern about our front row options early on but then Karl Smith and Andy Papworth came back and combined with Hori Leef and Hemi Wickliffe the team was once again able to dominate up front.

The remainder of the tight five was made up of Andy Rae, Will Wood, who played every game, and the ever-reliable Chris Parker. Mitch Bell was a key factor until a serious injury put him out of action while Lachlan Wells debuted in first grade and made a real impression until he went on an extended holiday and only came back late in the season.

The depth in the loose forwards was also a real plus as Paulie and Jason were augmented by Charlie Freeman and Wayne Ngatai with the up-and-coming Ben Cheetham also often given game time.

In the backs there were a number of guys who were missing before the season started in centres Jade Gardiner and Rapine Mason. However, we were lucky to able to call on Nick Rangiura and newcomer Sam Latu, who did a great job when he was not injured. Chris Miller became to go to man as he covered fullback, centre and half back at different times and was always a big influence on the game. We were also forced to call up evergreen Donny Nepia due to an injury to Charlie Curry before the season even started and his experience was vital but unfortunately, he also missed games due to injury. His loss was somewhat negated by the appearance of the ' Little General' in Leech Mason, who made a late start to the season after he had contemplated retirement.

The halves for a majority of the games were Alex Sims and his mate Tom Baker. Both of these guys were excellent links and created a lot of space for our outside backs.

On the flanks we were well served by Matt Lee, until called up for military service, Daniel Ward and Rueben Thompson. Both Rueben and Daniel were Colts but certainly held their own in the top grade. It was also a real positive for the side to welcome back from injury point scoring machine Alyd Owen who played a leading role as an attacking weapon from fullback.

### First Grade Grand Finalists 2015



<b>Back Row:</b>	Richard Thompson (coach)	Nick Rangiura	Sam Latu	Brad Reed	Alyd Owen	
	Chris Miller	Wayne Ngatai	Casey Rameka	Ben Cheetham	Andy Papworth	Dion Miller (coach)

<b>Middle Row:</b>	Pete Naseby (physio)	Hemi Wickliffe	Chris Parker	Matt Lee	Tom Baker
	Will Wood	Rueben Thompson	Dan Ward	Andy Rae	Bob Wheway (president)

<b>Front Row:</b>	Rob Mardus (manager)	Charlie Freeman	Donny Nepia	Alex Sims	Jason Hughes (c)
	Leon Mason	Karl Smith	Christo Crous		

## First Grade Points Table 2015

Pos	Team	Played	Won	Draw	Loss	For	Against	-/+	Points	Bonus	Total
1	Avondale	18	17	0	1	876	177	699	68	19	87
2	University	18	16	0	2	612	200	412	64	14	78
3	Kiama	18	13	1	4	532	263	269	54	13	67
4	Campbelltown	18	9	0	9	405	453	-48	36	13	49
5	Vikings	18	9	1	8	426	408	18	38	8	46
6	Shoalhaven	18	7	0	11	321	522	-201	28	10	38
7	Camden	18	7	0	11	324	445	-121	28	8	36
8	Shamrocks	18	6	0	12	322	572	-250	24	7	31
9	Bowral	18	3	0	15	198	557	-359	12	3	15
10	Tech-Waratahs	18	2	0	16	197	616	-419	8	1	9

### Second Grade

Coaching second grade is a tough ask as there is consistent movement of players between the grades and therefore a high turnover of players. In 2015 the squad was a mixture of old and new faces and contained a heap of experience, but injuries were a concern, even before the season commenced.

Up front we were fortunate to have a wealth of depth available throughout the season. To begin the season Hemi Wickliffe was on deck but unfortunately missed a lot of football with injuries but we had evergreens, Dave Shepherd and Cristo Crous to call upon plus Casey Rameka moved from the No8 position to prop when required. Luke Symons also developed into a solid prop after moving up from Threes and it was good to see Travis Hardaker back on deck after a serious knee injury. The hooking duties were held by Daniel Grainger who was very resilient and played nearly all the games in this tough position.

The group who provided the grunt in the second row comprised Chris Parker, Lachlan Wells, Nathan Illy and Mitch Bell, while the foraging of the loose forwards in Rhys Hancock, Ben Cheetham and the reborn Killer Grennell was a real plus for the side. Two big losses for the team were Will Norrie, who was injured early in the season, and Phil Johnson who ventured OS, and these guys were difficult to replace.

The halves combination was a work in progress as Dave settled on Emrys Owen as halfback but then had a variety of guys in Tom Baker, Donny Nepia and others playing 5/8 until Charlie Curry returned from injury near the end of the season.

The midfield pairing also changed during the season as we had Killer Grennell there before his move to the forwards, pairing with youngsters Harry Cummins and Daniel Ward. Pat Perillo forced his way into the team on the back of strong performances in Thirds and mid-season saw the arrival of Frenchman Simon Belieries who provided a string of memorable performances before his return home just before the Final, which was a big loss.

The guys playing in the back three were fairly consistent during the year with Justin Stanbrook, Brad Reed, Lachlan Conyers and later in the season Rueben Butler providing the try scoring finishes we needed to win games.

We were also blessed by being able to bring up a number of quality players from the Colts to play games in higher grades and they gained a heap of confidence from these opportunities.

Players such as Michael Martin, Harry Ottley, Nick Longhurst and Jake Coleman regularly made valuable contributions to the seconds progress throughout the season.

### Second Grade Finalists 2015



**Back Row:** Rueben Butler      Hemi Wickliffe      Dave Reed (coach)      Casey Rameka      Chris Parker  
 Killian Grennell      Lachlan Wells      Harry Cummins      Nathan Illy      Pat Perillo      Luke Symons  
 Rhys Handcock      Ben Cheetham      Evan Poata-Smith (coach)

**Front Row:** Dan Grainger      Emrys Owen      Brad Reed      Dan Ward      Michael Martin  
 Justin Stanbrook      Charlie Curry      Leon Mason

### Second Grade Points Table 2015

Pos	Team	Played	Won	Draw	Loss	For	Against	-/+	Points	Bonus	Total
1	Avondale	18	16	0	2	898	240	658	64	18	82
2	Camden	18	15	0	3	636	367	269	60	13	73
3	University	18	14	0	4	620	325	295	56	13	69
4	Vikings	18	12	0	6	597	289	308	48	13	61
5	Campbelltown	18	11	0	7	456	308	148	44	12	56
6	Kiama	18	8	0	10	415	439	-24	32	12	44
7	Tech-Waratahs	18	6	0	12	322	591	-269	24	7	31
8	Shoalhaven	18	5	1	12	345	555	-210	22	9	31
9	Shamrocks	18	2	0	16	203	703	-500	8	2	10
10	Bowral	18	0	1	17	186	861	-675	2	2	4

### Third Grade

The squad could be readily divided into two groups - the experienced (old) and rookies (young). The foundation of the group was a core of 26 players who played 5 or more games but typical of Thirds over 80 players had the privilege of playing thirds during the season.

The addition of a vastly experienced group also had a significant impact on the team's performances, especially when you consider Justin Placek, Mark Placek, Jack Nash, Simon McVeigh and Dean Rossit actually played in the 2006 First Grade Premiership winning team. It is obvious that there was a degree of talent available and when we include in the mix Steve Elson, Shaun Dutailis, Brad Milner and Beaver Tarlinton, who have played nearly a thousand games of rugby for the club, plus Mark Freeman and Matthias Wann, experience was not a problem.

One of the rookies in the team was Louis Henry who also deserves a mention in that he was into his forties and had obviously played a lot of rugby in his homeland, New Zealand, and his contributions, although short in time were big in performance.

The guys who benefitted with having all this experience on board were the young guys whose performances lifted notably in the second part of the season.

Zac Gorman, Michael McKenzie, Harley Purnell, Michael Mamatta, Harrison Madew, Heuan Armstrong, Joel Wilson and Brendon Ritchie were the backbone of the forward pack, which became quite a force during the season.

The backline, with Mark and Justin Placek providing the brains and the "x" factor, showed some real grit and determination and scored enough points to get the team across the line in a number of close encounters. James Bull, Tyson McEvoy, Jacob Payne, Dean Ward, Daniel Squires and Andrew Bligh certainly learned a lot about playing rugby during the season after playing with the 'Masters'.

### Third Grade Finalists 2015



<b>Back Row:</b>	Louis Henry	Matthias Wann	Dean Rossit	Harley Purnell	Michael McKenzie
	Justin Placek	Shaun Dutailis C/C	Mark Placek	Julian Payne	Lee Tanks
	Christo Crous				Mark Freeman

<b>Front Row:</b>	Andrew Bligh	James Tarlinton	Jeff Marzi	Brenton Ritchie	Zac Gorman
	Joel Wilson	Dan Squires	James Bull	Harry Edwards	Heuan Armstrong
				Howard Zhang	



### Third Grade Points Table 2015

Pos	Team	Played	Won	Draw	Loss	For	Against	-/+	Points	Bonus	Total
1	Vincentia	14	14	0	0	570	154	416	56	14	70
2	Vikings	14	9	0	5	349	252	97	36	4	40
3	Avondale	14	7	0	7	312	282	30	28	9	37
4	University	14	7	1	6	233	304	-71	30	3	33
5	Campbelltown	14	6	0	8	204	251	-47	24	7	31
6	Camden	14	5	1	8	239	360	-121	22	5	27
7	Shamrocks	14	5	0	9	222	299	-77	20	5	25
8	Tech-Waratahs	14	2	0	12	138	365	-227	8	4	12

#### Colts

We were fortunate to have Rob Leane, Lachlan William and Harry Ottley from the successful premiership winning Colts team in 2014 back on deck, as their leadership was pivotal in the 2015 team remaining the benchmark in this comp.

The squad was blessed with a number of high quality of players who also played games in the higher grades and performed well. Michael Martin, Dan Ward, Lachlan Conyers, Nick Shillington, Nathan Illy, Nick Longhurst, Ry Cambourne, Heuan Armstrong, Jake Coleman and Harry Ottley all impressed the coaches with their ability to play against older opponents.

In the backs Will Harris, Will Exton, Jamie Mason, Gus O'Connell, Liam McNulty, Brayden Palmer and Brayden Grehan were some of the lads that shone and displayed the skills that will see them also stake claims for positions in the top grades in the future.

It was a shame that our best early season trainer in Todd Wilson suffered a shoulder injury as he would have enjoyed the opportunity to play in the exciting forward pack. Other notables included Harry Edwards, Nick Evans, Jonah Potgiester-Denton and Ryan Witherden, who all stood tall, especially against the giant Campbelltown pack.

This group of players will be the strength of our club in the next few years.

### Colts Points Table 2015

Pos	Team	Played	Won	Draw	Loss	For	Against	-/+	Points	Bonus	Total
1	University	8	5	0	3	215	128	87	20	7	27
2	Campbelltown	8	5	1	2	179	145	34	22	5	27
3	Camden	8	1	1	6	128	249	-121	4	4	10

## Colts Premiers 2015



**Back Row:** Geoff Devitt (coach)    *Lee Tanks (coach)*    Nick Longhurst    Gus O'Connell    Brayden Grehan  
 Lachlan Conyers    Billy Exton    Dan Ward    Nathan Illy    Jonah Potgiester-Denton  
 Nick Shillington    Liam McAnulty    Ry Cambourne    Lachlan Williams    Ryan Witherdin    Jake Coleman

**Front Row:** Nick Evans    Harry Edwards    Matt Piggott    Rob Leane (c)    Harry Ottley  
 Will Harris    Ryan Stewart    Michael Martin    Brayden Palmer    Heuan Armstrong

## The Season

### Pre-Season

Two UOWRUC teams played in the **Kiama 7s** tournament.

Uni 1 vs Temora 10 – 31, Easts ACT 12 – 38, Warringah 0 – 36

Uni 2 vs Avondale 0 – 24, Boanyo Bulls 5 – 38, Tech Waratahs 28 – 5

**Trials vs UNSW** - Colts 26 – 17; 2nds 0 – 5; 1sts 22 – 24

### Rd 1 – Camden at Camden

The season opened with an away trip to Camden who always provided a pleasant game day experience off the field but never an easy game on it.

#### Colts

Colts had a cast of thousands (24 players) eager to start the new season with a bang. There were several players returning for a chance of winning back-to-back premierships mixed in with new guys keen to demonstrate their skills on the rugby field. Unfortunately, they came up against a very committed Camden side that refused to give in. In a match where the lead changed a few times we eventually ran out of time and ended up losing 20-24.

Rd 1 – 11/4/15	Camden Rugby Park		University 20	Camden 24
<b>Tries:</b>	Nick Longhurst	Shimon Kato	Lachlan Conyers	
<b>Goals:</b>				<b>Pen Goals:</b>
<b>Players Player:</b>	Rob Leane			
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>	
	Rob Leane	Ry Cambourne	Daniel Grainger	

### Thirds

The match ended in controversial circumstances where in a close fought encounter Camden emerged victors 24-19. The controversy arose as the ever-vigilant manager extraordinaire, Mark Elson, noted that Camden had used an extra substitution who was on the field as they crossed for the winning try. The mistake was pointed out to Camden who admitted their error, but the ref stated that the result needed to stand.

In the end the matter was determined by the IDRU judiciary who ruled that the result would be recorded as a draw. This was to have a huge effect at the end of the season as the extra points allowed us to scrap into fourth spot.

It was great to see old stagers in Simon McVeigh, Steve Elson, James Tarlinton, Christo Crous and Brad Milner mixing it with some of the young colts in what was a positive start to the new season.

Rd 1 – 11/4/15	Camden Rugby Park		University 19	Camden 19
<b>Tries:</b>	Julian Payne	Lachlan Williams	Christo Crous	
<b>Goals:</b>	Tyson McEvoy (2)		<b>Pen Goals:</b>	
<b>Players Player:</b>	Simon McVeigh			
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>	
	Simon McVeigh	James Bull	Steve Elson	

### Seconds

Seconds were keen to show their premiership win in 2014 was not a fluke and the experienced pack was led by Will Norrie, Casey Rameka, Rhys Handcock and Phil Johnson. In the backs we were able to call on Killer Grennell's vast experience in the pivot role and he was surrounded by Colts players in Lachlan Conyers, Harry Cummins and Bill Hurley.

Brad Reed scored a converted try while Lachie Conyers also got on the scoresheet but in the end, Camden held on to win 15-12.

Rd 1 – 11/4/15	Camden Rugby Park		University 12	Camden 15
<b>Tries:</b>	Lachlan Conyers	Brad Reed		
<b>Goals:</b>	Brad Reed (1)		<b>Pen Goals:</b>	
<b>Players Player:</b>	Phil Johnson			
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>	
	Phil Johnson	Charlie Grogan	Casey Rameka	

### Firsts – Report by Ron Wood – ‘The Rogue’s Rant’

Whilst the recent wet weather on the coastal strip made for damp conditions at some grounds for round one of IDRU Builders Club Premiership, the track was dry at Camden for the match of the day between last year's Grand Final sides, Uni and Camden. At Camden Rugby Park the match got underway under blue skies with everyone looking better dressed for a day at the beach rather than the footy. But in the end, it was the hot weather that won out.

The match started with both sides full of running with Uni having the better of the first half as the Rams struggled to match the pace set by the Premiers. The match was just two minutes old when Uni, having regathered the ball straight off their own kick-off, took play deep into Camden territory with some strong forward play. After the Bulls pack just failed to cross the line on the right, a quick backline raid found centre Sam Latu changing the angle with a strong run to score the opening points for the year. With the try unconverted the Bulls lead was 5-0.

Uni progressively took control of the match as the Rams struggled to match the Bulls for pace at the breakdown with the Rams never looking like breaching the strong Uni defence. After a penalty goal to Donavon Nepia at the ten-minute mark, Uni scored their second try when their smart halfback Chris Miller showed his blistering pace to break through 30 metres out and send Rueben Thompson over in the corner. Nepia missed again with the conversion and Uni led 13-0 after twenty minutes.

The Bulls put plenty of pressure on the Rams but were twice denied more points when their forwards were held up over the line. Added to this Player of the Match, Paul Tuala created a try scoring opportunity with one of his trademark strong charges only to see him make the wrong choice of support players when he passed in field with two players unmarked outside. Uni went to the break with a thirteen-point lead which could have easily been double that such was their first half supremacy.

To the Rams credit they came out in the second half and put a much greater effort into the match especially in defence, putting Uni off their game. With the improved effort from the Rams, the hot weather, and the pace of the first half, we saw both sides noticeably wilt as the half progressed in the hot conditions. Uni lost halfback Miller with a recurrence of a knee injury after fifteen minutes of the half which caused a reshuffle in the backline with veteran Fly-half, Nepia moving to halfback. As the players tired in the heat neither side could maintain any real pressure on their opposition and the half slowed to a very dour affair with no change coming to the half time score.

As we have come to expect the two Number Eights in the match were outstanding for their sides. Tuala for the Bulls and Gavin Miller for the Rams worked tirelessly for their sides in strong performances in both attack and defence. Wayne Ngatai was strong also for the Bulls and Chris Miller was the spark of most of Uni's attacking raids when he was on the field and the club will be hoping the injury is not serious.

A lot of credit for the performance needs to go to Cristo Crous who played a part in all three senior grades when he came on for Hemi in the prop position and did a commendable job.

Rd 1 – 11/4/15	Camden Rugby Park	University 13	Camden 0
<b>Tries:</b>	Sam Latu	Rueben Thompson	
<b>Goals:</b>			<b>Pen Goals:</b> Donny Nepia (1)
<b>Players Player:</b>	Paul Tuala		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>
	Nick Rangiura	Paul Tuala	Sam Latu

### Rd 2 – Vikings at University Oval

All four grades were in action, and it was great to have some very close encounters played out.

#### Colts - Trial

The colts played a trial against Campbelltown, and it was a good hit out for the guys. Numbers were again at a high and we would have really struggled to give all our players game time if not for this trial. Players who stood out were Harry Ottley, Gus O'Connell, Ryan Witherdin and Nick Shillington.

#### Thirds

The Thirds came up against a very 'mature' Vikings outfit that had some good players on the field. Again, our side was a mix of old and new but we definitely found it hard going, being beaten 12-38. Two of our experienced players in Pat Perillo and Luke Symons tried their hearts out while youngsters Will Harris and Gordon Akauma also played well.

Rd 2 – 18/4/15	University Oval	University 12	Vikings 38
<b>Tries:</b>	Harry Madew	James Bull	
<b>Goals:</b>	Tyson McEvoy (1)		<b>Pen Goals:</b>
<b>Players Player:</b>	Gordon Akauma		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>
	Gordon Akauma	Luke Symons	Will Harris

#### Seconds

Seconds had to contend with another title hopeful in Vikings and it was a typical encounter with our Wollongong neighbour. We called on stalwarts Christo Crous and Dave Shepherd in the front row

and they held their own to get us on the front foot. Harry Pitt crashed over for a try and Brad Reed and Wayne Ngatai also crossed for tries.

It was pleasing to all and sundry to get a win against quality opposition.

Rd 2 – 18/4/15	University Oval	University 19	Vikings 7
<b>Tries:</b>	Wayne Ngatai	Brad Reed	Harry Pitt
<b>Goals:</b>	Tom Baker (2)	<b>Pen Goals:</b>	
<b>Players Player:</b>	Charlie Freeman		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>
	Alex Sims	Brad Reed	Lachlan Wells

### **Firsts**

There was a bit of drama before the game as the eligibility of Sam Latu to play was questioned by Shamrocks. This was all very petty, but we decided to not risk the points and so Sam sat out the game. Vikings are never easy, and they certainly applied plenty of pressure early on to hit the lead, but our forwards gradually wore down the opposition and with tires to Karl Smith, Will Wood and Rueben Thompson we prevailed 17-11

Rd 2 – 18/4/15	University Oval	University 17	Vikings 11
<b>Tries:</b>	Karl Smith	Will Wood	Rueben Thompson
<b>Goals:</b>	Donny Nepia (1)	<b>Pen Goals:</b>	
<b>Players Player:</b>	Matt Guana		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>
	Matt Guana	Chris Miller	Hori Leef

### **RD 3 - Shamrocks at Ocean Park.**

We ventured to Woonona to take on the Shamrocks, who had not had the greatest start to the new season. This is usually not a good sign as we know just how passionate they are about their club, especially when it comes to playing us, as several our guys have had an association with them over the years.

Our preparations have not been that structured due to the wet weather, so the coaches took the unusual step of training on Friday night. The turnout was excellent and went a long way to giving us a good lead into the games.

### **Thirds**

Coach Donny and Manager Mark Elson did a good job in assembling the troops for the opening encounter as numbers were high for players wanting a game. Shamrocks has also good numbers but the age difference between the two teams was considerable, although Shaun Dutailis and Beaver Tarlinton did even it out a tad! We started confidently and an intercept by James Bull, where he actually made it to the line, saw us hit the lead. Angus O'Connell also kicked a penalty and things looked rosy. The battle up front was led by Luke Symons, Steve Elson, Michael Mamatta and Mitch Bell and we were well in the game. The loss of Shaun Dutailis to a hamstring strain hindered our progress and gradually the game started to turn in Shamrock's favour. Once again, the large number of substitutions used made playing constructive rugby difficult and, in the end, we could not match the experience of the Rocks who won the game 8-24.

Rd 3– 9/5/15	Ocean Park	University 8	Shamrocks 24
<b>Tries:</b>	James Bull		
<b>Goals:</b>			<b>Pen Goals:</b> Angus O'Connell
<b>Players Player:</b>	Steve Elson	Michael Mamatta	
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>
	Mitch Bell	Luke Symons	Will Packard

### Seconds

The Greens jumped out the blocks quickly and before we knew it, we behind 0-11 and things looked grim. However, the experience gained from last year then came to the fore as we worked our way back into the match. A Brad Reed penalty was soon followed by a great try to Nick Longhurst and with the Reed conversion we were only a point behind.

Not long after we hit the front when another try was scored by Charlie Grogan and we extended the lead to 24-11 when Harry Cummins also crossed the line after a series of great passes featuring Tom Baker and Justin Stanbrook, who were both outstanding.

More points were to follow with tries being scored by a tip toeing Tom Baker and evergreen prop Dave Shepherd. We did allow the Rocks to score a late try but the 36-18 score line was indicative of our dominance.

Rd 3– 9/5/15	Ocean Park	University 36	Shamrocks 18
<b>Tries:</b>	Dave Shepherd Charlie Grogan	Tom Baker	Nick Longhurst Harry Cummins
<b>Goals:</b>	Brad Reed (4)		<b>Pen Goals:</b> Brad Reed (1)
<b>Players Player:</b>	Tom Baker		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>
	Tom Baker	Justin Stanbrook	Nick Longhurst

### Firsts

I think the coaches were as wound up as the players as they got the team ready to take on the Rocks. All the rep players were back on deck and after a bit of a paper trail Sam Latu was again able to take his position in the team.

A couple of blokes in Luke Symons and Lachlan Wells made their first-grade debut and did themselves proud, with Lachlan also getting his name on the scorecard with a well-deserved five pointer.

It took about 20 minutes of hard grafting play before we started to gain the ascendancy. The introduction of Karl Smith into the pack also allowed us to really dominate the set piece. The first try was scored by Nic Rangiuira, off a great short ball by Paulie Tuala, which was converted by Donny Nepia. This signalled the opening of the flood gates as tries to Chris Miller, Paulie, Sam Latu and Lachlan soon followed, and we went to halftime leading convincingly.

The second half was much the same as Shamrocks tried hard, but we were able to maintain our structures and points followed with tries to Wayne Ngatai, Matt Guana and another to Paulie saw the score go to 52 -5. Donny also had an exceptionally good game controlling our play and kicking six conversions. It must be said that the Greens did not throw in the towel and did score a good try, but we were by far the better team.

Up front Hori Leef showed why he has been selected in the country squad and Alex Sims was also very conspicuous with his passing, running and excellent defence. All in all, a solid win but we do need to keep improving before we take on the big guns.

Rd 3– 9/5/15	Ocean Park	University 52	Shamrocks 5
<b>Tries:</b>	Lachlan Wells Wayne Ngatai	Paul Tuala (2) Matt Guana	Nick Rangiuira Sam Latu Chris Miller
<b>Goals:</b>	Donny Nepia (6)		<b>Pen Goals:</b>
<b>Players Player:</b>	Paul Tuala		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>
	Hori Leef	Paul Tuala	Alex Sims

#### RD 4 - Avondale at Gerry Cappetta Oval.

Avondale at their home is a good game to get out of the way early and so we journeyed down the Expressway hopeful of a good result. As it turned out we were unsuccessful in any grade, and this demonstrates that a fair bit of work needs to be done before we can claim to be the top club in the district.

#### Thirds

It is never easy taking on Avondale in Thirds, but they were not as big as in previous years. Our team was a mix of youth and experience, but we found the going hard. To the Thirsties credit the Wombats had to work hard for their points with Michael McKenzie, Michael Martin and Harley Purnell really getting stuck into the contest. In the backs Harry Ottley despite being very much outweighed steered our backs around the paddock and did a great job.

Our efforts were finally rewarded near the end of the game when Michael McKenzie crossed for a particularly good team try, much to the joy of the crowd. In the end we were beaten but far from disgraced.

Rd 4- 16/5/15	Gerry Cappetta Oval	University 5	Avondale 37
<b>Tries:</b>	Michael McKenzie		
<b>Goals:</b>	<b>Pen Goals:</b>		
<b>Players Player:</b>	Harry Ottley		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>
	Michael Martin	Michael McKenzie	Joel Wilson

#### Seconds

In the grand final rematch from last season the Entertainers were up against the giants of the comp in Avondale. Things started poorly for the Bulls, and we let the Wombats get on top and go to a 17-point lead mid-way through the first half.

It was then that the guys, led by Simsy, got back into the game. Tries to Rhys Handcock and Simsy, with a conversion and a penalty to Brad Reed saw the teams troop off at the break only behind by two points, 15-17.

The second half was a disappointment as we struggled to get any ball and therefore, we were forced to defend for long stretches. Fatigue set in and the tally for missed tackles increased dramatically as did the score line as the Wombats posted another 29 points to run out winners 15-46.

A couple of young colts in Dan Ward and Ryan Witherdin impressed the coaches with their efforts and although we did not stop trying, we were well beaten.

Rd 4- 16/5/15	Gerry Cappetta Oval	University 15	Avondale 46
<b>Tries:</b>	Rhys Handcock	Alex Sims	
<b>Goals:</b>	Brad Reed (1)		<b>Pen Goals:</b> Brad Reed (1)
<b>Players Player:</b>	Alex Sims		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>
	Alex Sims	Dan Ward	Ryan Witherdin

#### Firsts (Report by Ron Wood – ‘The Rogue’s Rant’

Avondale Wombats just managed to remain unbeaten after their match in the IDRU Builders Club Premiership on Saturday. A last second Penalty Goal by half Pauro Collier got them home against Wollongong University Bulls at Gerry Cappetta Oval. A converted penalty try awarded to university with less than fifteen minutes to go had locked the match up at twenty all, and with one man in the bin for much of that time, Wombats hung in for their 23 to 20 win.

Whilst Avondale had the better of an open flowing match spending long periods in the University half and scoring four tries to two, the Bulls stayed in the match with some clever play which saw them

score points almost every-time they made headway into the Wombat quarter. Fly-half Don Nepia kept Uni in touch kicking four goals from five attempts, whilst Avondale could only kick the one goal in the match after three different kickers could only manage to kick one from five attempts at goal.

The defence of both sides was the strong point of the first half as each side put together some enterprising rugby but could only manage to cross the line once each in the first forty. The first try came for Avondale after nine minutes. The try went unconverted, and the Wombats led 5 – 0.

Five minutes later Nepia kicked his first penalty goal after some sustained pressure from the Bulls on the Avondale line went unrewarded. Front rower Casey Rameka scored for Uni with three minutes to go to the break when he changed the angle of attack close to Wombat line to score beside the posts. Nepia’s conversion took the Bulls to the break in front at 10 – 5.

Avondale put on two tries in the first twelve minutes of the second half for the Wombats to take a 15 – 10 lead. Shortly after, Nepia kicked another penalty goal, to reduce the lead to two.

Replacement front-rower for Avondale, Sam Vaoga was given a Yellow Card less than a minute later for not releasing the tackled player, but it was Avondale who scored during his absence and the Wombats take a seven-point lead at 20 – 13.

With twelve minutes to go Uni winger Rueben Thompson was put into space and was on track to score in the right corner when he was taken into touch by an Avondale defender with a shoulder charge. After consulting with the Touch Judge, Referee David Gunning awarded a Penalty Try to University which was converted by Nepia to wrap the scores up at 20 – 20. As well as the Penalty Try, an Avondale player was given a Yellow Carded for abuse of the Touch Judge once again leaving Avondale one short. The last minutes of the match were very intense with both sides able to maintain periods of pressure in search of the final point scoring opportunity. But it was the defence of both sides again that dominated play until the opportunity came for Pauro to kick the winning long range penalty goal in the dying seconds to snatch the win for the Wombats.

An under-strength Uni forward pack who was missing four of their starting side to Country duties, still managed to be competitive on the day, with loose forwards Jason Hughes and Wayne Ngatai strong and replacement hooker Charlie Freeman playing well. The experience of halves Chris Miller and Don Nepia kept the Bulls in the match to the end.

Congratulations to Mudgee Cheetham on making his first-grade debut.

Rd 4– 16/5/15	Gerry Cappetta Oval		University 20	Avondale 23
<b>Tries:</b>	Casey Rameka	*Penalty Try		
<b>Goals:</b>	Donny Nepia (2)		<b>Pen Goals:</b>	Donny Nepia (2)
<b>Players Player:</b>	Jason Hughes			
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>	
	Casey Rameka	Charlie Freeman	Wayne Ngatai	

#### RD 5- Kiama at Uni Oval.

Thanks to the efforts of all concerned in keeping the wicket area covered during the week we were able to play games despite heavy rainfall on Friday. The rain also meant that the Colts were able to play with the rest of the club against Camden which was a bonus. Kiama only have two sides, and both were undefeated coming into the games and were confident of strong performances but so were the good guys (us!)

#### Colts

It was pleasing that the Lads were able to get back on the field after a break and they looked good in the warm-up. Several the lads had been blooded in higher grades over the previous weeks and I think have discovered that they are more than capable of being in the senior grades. Camden were also keen, and this turned out to be the most entertaining of all the games played on the day.

Some scintillating back play saw us open an early lead with two outstanding tries being scored by flying Nick Longhurst on the wing. The other backs were also on fire with Harry Ottley and Angus O'Connell showing out.



In the forwards Michael Martin was making life hell for the Camden boys and was everywhere in attack and defence while our tight forwards were well and truly in control.

Our other tries were scored by Lachlan Conyers, Lachlan Williams and Angus O'Connell with Harry Ottley converting one of the tries to give us our 27 points in a very dominating performance.

Rd 5– 23/5/15	University Oval		University 27	Camden 14
<b>Tries:</b>	Nick Longhurst (2)	Lachlan Conyers	Lachlan Williams	Angus O'Connell
<b>Goals:</b>	Harry Ottley (1)		<b>Pen Goals:</b>	
<b>Players Player:</b>	Michael Martin			
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>	
	Nick Longhurst	Michael Martin	Harry Ottley Angus O'Connell	

### Seconds

The Entertainers seem to like putting the coaches under pressure because they are consistently giving opposition teams a head start. This was again the case as the Kiama side got away to a ten-point lead before we got our act together and got back into the game.

It was great to see Jack Nash back in the Uni colours and he did a solid job showing the way for our pack. He was well supported by the ever-reliable Mitch Bell and the other forwards who never stopped trying, especially when we needed to get some quality ball for the backs.

Emrys Owen also made his debut for the Mallee Bulls and switched between halfback and five-eight as we struggled to get combinations working since several regular guys in Baker and Stanford were unavailable. Pat Perillo was also making his first appearance in the Entertainers and celebrated his 100th game for the club in a great performance capped off by a well-deserved five pointer.

The real turning point in the game came with the introduction of the flying Matt Guana into the fray. His speed and skill soon saw him crossing the try line and not long after giving Emrys a gift try under the post. This broke Kiama's resistance and we ended up winning 22-13.

Brad Reed continues to impress and is playing with great maturity at the back and kicking well adding two conversions and a penalty to the score.

Rd 5– 23/5/15	University Oval		University 22	Kiama 13
<b>Tries:</b>	Emrys Owen	Pat Perillo	Matt Guana	
<b>Goals:</b>	Brad Reed (2)		<b>Pen Goals:</b> Brad Reed (1)	
<b>Players Player:</b>	Pat Perillo			
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>	
	Jack Nash	Mitch Bell	Pat Perillo	

### Firsts - (Report by Ron Wood – 'The Rogue's Rant')

The University Bulls ended Kiama's early season run of victories in their round five IDRU Builders Club Premiership match at University Oval. The Bulls out muscled the Cows in the end to register a hard fought 27 – 14 victory after a tough encounter.

Kiama got away to a great start scoring the game's first try after just two minutes but lost in form hooker Andrew Sulter for the match after he sustained a nasty head gash in the lead up to the try. Classy fullback Aisake Tuevu split the Uni defence on the halfway, setting winger Samuel Moore on a run down the right wing. Moore drew the last line of Uni defenders, finding Mathew Cook backing up inside with Cook scoring next to the posts. The try was converted by Aden Wade and Kiama lead 7 – 0.

The match developed into a real arm wrestle as both sides defended strongly limiting the scoring opportunities. The defensive line speed of both sides did not allow either team to find any attacking rhythm with both teams seemingly making more ground in defence than with the ball in hand. Uni

settled for two penalty goals from Donovan Nepia to stay in the match until with minutes remaining in the half, No.8 and Captain for the day Jason Hughes scored for the Bulls. Nepia found touch deep into the Kiama quarter from a penalty to set up an attacking line-out, meters from the Kiama line. With the Bulls taking the ball down quickly they appeared to be setting for a rolling maul into the in goal, but instead cleared the ball quickly with Hughes running off the back of the maul catching the defence napping to score untouched. Nepia's conversion gave Uni the half-time lead 13 -7.

The fast-moving Kiama defensive line continued to hassle the Bulls into error and five minutes into the second half Aden Wade took a sweet intercept as Uni struggled to deal with the pressure of the busy Kiama defenders. Wade raced 50 meters to score under the posts and converted his own try for Kiama to be back in front at 14-13 after six minutes of the second period.

With Uni dominating in the scrums and enjoying most of the possession the Kiama effort started to wane. The loss of several players to injury and fatigue took its toll as Uni put on plenty of pressure in the Kiama half. Eventually the inevitable try came when Nepia produced a long cut out pass for centre Chris Miller, who showed all his speed and evasive skills to leave several Kiama defenders in his wake in a forty-meter run to the line. Nepia converted and Uni were back in the lead at 20 – 14.

An injury to Kiama Fullback, Aisake Tuevu in the lead up to Millers try, delayed the match for more than ten minutes as Tuevu was prepared for a precautionary trip to hospital after a neck injury.

With both sides showing the signs of a very physical encounter, fatigue began to become a significant factor in the contest with both sides guilty of some sloppy ball control as the match wound down to full time. Matt Lee finished off the scoring for the afternoon when he took advantage of some poor Kiama ball control, swooping on a loose ball on the halfway line and out sprinting the Kiama defence to score. Nepia's conversion brought up the final score at 27 – 14.

The win sees Uni jump into third place on the table, and the loss has Kiama dropping from second to fifth, with the competition starting to show the potential of being one of the closest fought for some time. Both coaches would have been happy with their side's defensive effort today but will be looking for better ball control and composure in attacking positions in the weeks ahead. Chris Miller playing this week in the centres was a constant threat once again as he is proving to be each week for the premiers, with skipper Jason Hughes, hooker Hori Leef and lock Lachlan Wells having strong games.

Rd 5– 23/5/15	University Oval		University 27	Kiama 14
<b>Tries:</b>	Jason Hughes	Nick Rangiuira	Chris Miller	
<b>Goals:</b>	Donny Nepia (3)		<b>Pen Goals:</b>	Donny Nepia (2)
<b>Players Player:</b>	Alex Sims			
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>	
	Charlie Freeman	Hori Leef	Chris Miller	

## RD 6- Shoalhaven at Nowra

The Shoals are on a bit of a rebuilding phase relying very heavily on the personnel from the Albatross Navy Base for players and a returning coach in Mike Hayes. This week was one of the few times that they had all hands-on deck with up to ten players being available after representing Navy in rugby Championships, so they were going to be no easy beats. Pride was also on the line as we were playing for the Foster Emery Shield.

### Colts

The Lads were down to play the first Challenge Cup for the season against Shoalhaven and with the addition of coach Tanks into the side were in a confident mood. The idea for this Cup was for teams that had byes in Colts and thirds could challenge other teams with the club achieving the most wins becoming the holders of the Cup.

Our Colts were up against a very experienced Shoalhaven team, which I believe was heavily stacked as they had several 'older' guys who had played a lot of first grade in their time. Mike Hayes also took

the field and in his younger days had represented at State level and Steve Harrison, who had obviously been in a good paddock, was another player who was the IDRU Player of Year on a few occasions. Our guys withstood an early onslaught and then proceeded to dominate the game. In the end it was a convincing five tries to two victory because of some great running rugby that soon had the Shoals older brigade out on their feet.

Many players stood out, but Rob Leane and Harry Ottley were outstanding with Harry providing one cross field kick inside our 22m zone to set up a try that will bring the crowds back to rugby.

### **Thirds**

Things were ugly for the Thirsties as we were without a coach, a manager, a physio, and players as we warmed up to take on Vincentia who would be a favourite to win the comp this year.

Donny played in his role as coach, but he can longer make training and so a replacement was being sort. Mark was at his daughter's wedding and will be back soon, Leyton the physio has gone back to NZ and his replacement was a bit lost and Colts were playing at the same time this week and a few players had moved up the grades and so all was not well.

This dire situation saw the Thirsties take the field with a bare fifteen players and as luck would have it we soon had two injuries with no physio around and panic set in. Thank heavens for Beaver Tarlinton, Pat Perillo, who scored a try, and some second-grade guys who stepped up to help out until fresh troops arrived.

Unfortunately, in this time Vincentia ran riot and we were well and truly behind the eight ball.

In some good news when the Colts guys came onto the field, we were competitive, and we stopped the rot. Michael Martin managed to cross for a five pointer, converted by Harry Ottley but it was not a great feeling even though t the guys on the field gave their all and could not be faulted and it must be said played well in the second half.

Rd 6– 30/5/15	Shoalhaven Rugby Park		University 12	Vincentia 61
<b>Tries:</b>	Pat Perillo	Harry Ottley		
<b>Goals:</b>	Harry Ottley (1)		<b>Pen Goals:</b>	
<b>Players Player:</b>	James Tarlinton			
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>	
	James Tarlinton	Harley Purnell	Michael Martin	

### **Seconds**

The Entertainers again kept the crowd interested until the final moments of the game as Donny Nepia coolly kicked a penalty to see the guys go to a winning 29-27 lead. Up until this point Shoals had been in front and indeed things looked grim at times as we struggled to get our combinations working after making several changes to the team.

The game started with Shoals scoring a couple of tries and our guys looking off the pace. As the half progressed, however, we got back into the match and at half time things looked back on course., The efforts of Phil Johnson, Dave Shepherd and Casey Rameka, playing at Number 8, were providing our go forward but we were under the pump in the set pieces. Once again, the Shoals team got out to a reasonable lead but to the credit of the team, we stayed calm and gradually got back within striking distance.

Donny's winning kick took a lot of pressure off Manager Evan, who oversaw the team when Coach Reed left early to watch Brad play in Sydney. Evan was a relieved man when the call was made to tell Dave the result.

The Entertainers tries were scored by Phil Johnson, in a man of the Match display, Lachlan Wells, Harry Cummins and Nick Longhurst with Donny converting three of the tries and of course kicking the all-important penalty.

Rd 6– 30/5/15	Shoalhaven Rugby Park		University 29	Shoalhaven 27
<b>Tries:</b>	Lachlan Wells	Phil Johnson	Harry Cummins	Nick Longhurst
<b>Goals:</b>	Donny Nepia (3)		<b>Pen Goals:</b>	Donny Nepia (1)
<b>Players Player:</b>	Phil Johnson			
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>	
	Phil Johnson	Casey Rameka	Dave Shepherd	

### Firsts

The battle for the Foster Emery Shield always brings out the best in both teams and as holders the pressure was well and truly on the Flagship to keep the shield in our possession. Shoals were back on track after a disastrous 2014 and were keen to get stuck into the premiers and so the first half was a close encounter. We ran in two tries and then Shoalhaven hit back with one of their own just before the break.

The second half was again close, but we were always in control with Ben 'Mudgee' Cheetham and Mitch Bell showing why they were in the first-grade side. The backs were also dominate with Nic Ranguiera, Justin Stanford and Tom Baker displaying their skills with slick passing and good hard running setting up our attacking raids.

The final twenty minutes saw us dominate the score board with the boys crossing for five more tries. Alyd Owen's goal kicking was deadly as he converted all the tries which was an outstanding effort.

Our tries were scored by Dan Ward, in his first grade Debut, Chris Miller, Alex Sims, Nic Ranguiera, Wayne Ngatai and Andrew Papworth, who was lurking on the wing, much to the disgust of his front row mate Karl Smith who was on the opposite wing waiting for the ball.

The win saw us retain the Foster Emery Shield.

Rd 6– 30/5/15	Shoalhaven Rugby Park		University 42	Shoalhaven 7
<b>Tries:</b>	Andy Papworth	Alex Sims	Nick Ranguiera	Wayne Ngatai
	Chris Miller	Dan Ward		
<b>Goals:</b>	Alyd Owen (6)		<b>Pen Goals:</b>	
<b>Players Player:</b>	Mitch Bell	Dan Ward		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>	
	Ben Cheetham	Tom Baker	Nick Ranguiera	

### RD 7 - Bowral at Uni

The weather was glorious, but it was a sad day for many rugby followers after the death of All Black Jerry Collins. His passing seemed to inspire a few players to lift their game.

### Colts

Camden arrived at Uni for the return match and the Lads were keen to continue their good early season form.

The first half was close, and the Lads got out to a 14 - 7 lead against a 14-man team.

The second half was a much freer game of football with tries flowing. In a man of the match performance Gus O'Connell was outstanding notching a hat trick of tries.

Michael Martin also scored a couple of five pointers and Harry Ottley, Brayden Palmer, and Jamie Mason got their names on the score sheet. Harry was also deadly with the boot converting six of the tries. In the end a convincing win.

Rd 7– 6/6/15	University Oval		University 52	Camden 14
<b>Tries:</b>	Angus O'Connell (3)	Michael Martin (2)	Harry Ottley	Brayden Palmer
	Jamie Mason			
<b>Goals:</b>	Harry Ottley (6)		<b>Pen Goals:</b>	
<b>Players Player:</b>	Angus O'Connell			
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>	
	Angus O'Connell	Will Harris	Harry Ottley	

### **Thirds – No game**

#### **Seconds**

The Entertainers reversed their form by getting away to a huge lead, 43 to nil at the break but then came back to the pack by finishing the second half scoring a further 19 points which was matched by Bowral. I believe that Bowral lifted in this part of the game while we seemed to drop off a tad.

Our try scorers were Lachlan Conyers with two, Lachlan Wells, Chris Parker, Phil Johnson, Emrys Owen, Harry Cummins, Dan Ward Marty Brown and Brad Reed who also kicked 6 conversions.

Many of our attacking raids started with Donny Nepia who showed all his experience, and he was well supported by Lachlan Wells and Marty Brown.

In what was his last game of the season before heading off overseas Phil Johnson was again always on the ball and a threat to the opposition.

A good win but we do need to put in a sixty-minute effort in the tight games.

Rd 7– 6/6/15	University Oval	University 62	Bowral 19
<b>Tries:</b>	Lachlan Conyers (2) Harry Cummins	Lachlan Wells Dan Ward	Chris Parker Marty Brown Emrys Owen Brad Reed
<b>Goals:</b>	Brad Reed (5)	Phil Johnson (1)	<b>Pen Goals:</b>
<b>Players Player:</b>	Donny Nepia		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>
	Donny Nepia	Lachlan Wells	Marty Brown

#### **Firsts**

Firsts were taken a bit by surprise by a very committed Bowral side who led the game by three points to nil for twenty minutes of the game.

Bowral lacked discipline at times as was seen by Alyd Owen booting a penalty to go with his four conversions in another excellent display.

Our tries were scored by Hori Leef, Paulie Tuala, Tom Baker, Reuben Thompson and Chris Miller.

Our forward had to fight all the way and Hori 'Beef' Leef, Charlie Freeman and Paulie all did their bit to get us over the top of the opposition pack and the backs fed off their efforts.

We ended up winning but Bowral certainly earned the respect of all the crowd in a much-improved performance.

Rd 7– 6/6/15	University Oval	University 36	Bowral 3
<b>Tries:</b>	Hori Leef Paul Tuala	Tom Baker	Rueben Thompson Chris Miller
<b>Goals:</b>	Alyd Owen (4)		<b>Pen Goals:</b> Alyd Owen (1)
<b>Players Player:</b>	Chris Miller		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>
	Hori Leef	Charlie Freeman	Chris Miller

### **RD 8 – Tech Waratahs at Uni**

The first encounter in the annual Battle of the Bridges saw us take on Techatahs in three grades. The opposition are struggling a bit this year, but we know they never give up, so it was a great result when we recorded three victories for the first time in many seasons. The wins also secured us second spot on the Club Championship table which is pleasing at this time of the year

The day's proceedings were marred by a badly broken arm suffered by ever green prop, Brad Milner in the third-grade game. Brad was operated on Monday is now recovering at home. He is sitting on 190 games so I wonder if this means he will be back next year. All the club hope he does as he has been a stalwart over many years.

## Colts No Game

### Thirds

It was a bit like 'Back to the Future' as the Thirsties took the field with old faces in Mark and Justin Placek, Dean Rossit, Lee Tanks, Christo Crous, Steve Elson, Beaver Tarlinton, Sean Murray-Smith and Mark Freeman gracing the playing field once again for the Mallee Bulls. What a difference these guys made not only on the field but also in the crowd as their family members nearly doubled the number of spectators.

The real plus for the team was the amount of experience they provided our young guns. Guys like Harry Madew played with great confidence no doubt helped by these old guys wise words. It was to be a close affair as the Techtahs guys were confident of an easy game against the team coming last, who have not won a game in over a year and were without a coach. They were however in for a fright as the team slowly gelled together and worked their way to the front. Tries to JP and Deano saw us go to a 10 - 3 lead which we managed to hold well into the second half. Techtahs, who were the premiers for the last two years, were not going away and it was only a runaway try to Kieran McEvoy that allowed us a bit of relief.

The injury to Brad Milner did put a dampener on the game but no one could hide their satisfaction as the players trooped off the field. The feeling is that this is the start of the resurgence of the Thirsties, and more wins are sure to follow. It was also great to see Sean Dutailis carry out the role of coach, which now looks as though it will be a full-time role. With Sean's ability and Mark Elson's managerial expertise thinks are looking good for the Thirsties as we move up the table.

Rd 8– 13/6/15	University Oval	University 15	Tech Waratahs 3
<b>Tries:</b>	Justin Placek	Keiron McEvoy	Dean Rossit
<b>Goals:</b>			<b>Pen Goals:</b>
<b>Players Player:</b>	Mark Placek		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>
	Mark Placek	Harry Madew	Sean Murray-Smith

### Seconds

The Entertainers continued their winning way with a comprehensive win that was never in doubt from the opening whistle. There were the usual changes to the team line-up with Casey Rameka dropping out and others missing due to exams, but the guys settled into a good rhythm and really controlled the game.

The forwards were able to gain ascendancy early on and with the front row showing the way denied the Techtahs any momentum. Luke Symons is relishing the chance to show his skills in the higher grade, and he was well supported by youngster Jake Coleman and new hooker Dan Grainger, who also scored a try. The other forward to impress was 'Mudgee' Cheetham whose speed and foraging ability saw him harass the opposition backs and netted him a double of tries.

In the backs Donny Nepia provided the experience to dictate the game which allowed youngsters like Lachlan Conyers and Harry Ottley to shine in the try scoring department with a try each. Donny's dancing ability was also on show as he tipped toed along the touchline on his way to score a great try. The scoring was completed by Donny's three conversions and a conversion by Harry.

We were now in second place on the table and with a lot of depth developing we were looking good at this stage for a semi-final finish.

Rd 8 – 13/6/15	University Oval	University 38	Tech Waratahs 5
<b>Tries:</b>	Ben Cheetham (2) Harry Ottley	Dan Grainger	Donny Nepia Lachlan Conyers
<b>Goals:</b>	Donny Nepia (3)	Harry Ottley (1)	<b>Pen Goals:</b>
<b>Players Player:</b>	Luke Symons		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>
	Luke Symons Dan Grainger Jake Coleman	Ben Cheetham	Donny Nepia

### Firsts

The Techs were at the bottom of the table but always rise to the challenge when they do battle with the Mallee Bulls, so this was a danger game for us.

The team welcomed another rookie into the ranks when Brad Reed made his debut at fullback, and he witnessed the highs and lows of the game when he celebrated scoring a good try but then was yellowed carded late in the game.

It was also good to see Hemi Wickliffe back to the game after a long injury layoff. The forwards laid the foundation with an excellent display with 'Beef' Leef in great form scoring another try and always working hard at the break down. Karl Smith was another forward who got his name on the score sheet as he raced across for a try. Captain Jason Hughes was also not to be denied as he notched a five pointer, but the unsung player was Will Wood who was always battling away in the tough stuff.

With a lot of possession, the backs were able to run amuck with Alyd Owen dominating with a hat trick of tries and five conversions. Another to show out was Rueben Thompson with two tries, playing at outside centre. The scoring was completed by Donny Nepia who came on late and kicked a conversion.

The win saw us stay in second spot on the ladder as we neared the halfway point of the comp.

Rd 8 – 13/6/15	University Oval	University 57	Tech Waratahs 17
<b>Tries:</b>	Alyd Owen (3) Brad Reed	Rueben Thompson (2)	Karl Smith Hori Leef
<b>Goals:</b>	Alyd Owen (5)	Donny Nepia (1)	<b>Pen Goals:</b>
<b>Players Player:</b>	Will Wood		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>
	Hori Leef	Alyd Owen	Will Wood

### Rd 9 – Campbelltown at Campbelltown

Game Washed out – replayed 8/8/15

### RD 10- Camden at Uni

The Rams came down the mountain to do battle with the Mallee Bulls and went home well and truly beaten in all 4 grades. Due to the setup of the comp this is one of the few times where we as a club get to play all four grades and so it was a real feather in the cap to come away with such comprehensive win in all encounters.

### Colts

The colts once again took on Camden which is becoming a tad repetitive as this is their third meeting. Numbers were down and we had no front row but were able to play non contested scrums without losing a player as we had extended this courtesy to Camden in a prior game.

Camden are no pushover and the lads had to work hard for all their points.

In the backs we had too much speed and Lachlan Conyers, Nick Longhurst and Dan Ward with a double were able to get across the line after good lead up work by the inside backs in Harry Ottley and Brayden Grehan.

The forwards were always in control with Ryan Witherden and Rob Leane outstanding. They were both able to score tries to cap off a great effort. Tyson McEvoy also got his name on the try scoring list while halfback, Brad Reed converted three of the tries.

The Lads still undefeated and on top of the table.

Rd 10 – 26/6/15	University Oval	University 41	Camden 7
<b>Tries:</b>	Dan Ward (2) Tyson McEvoy	Rob Leane Nick Longhurst	Michael Martin Lachlan Conyers
<b>Goals:</b>	Brad Reed (3)	<b>Pen Goals:</b>	
<b>Players Player:</b>	Rob Leane		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>
	Brayden Grehan	Ryan Witherdin	Rob Leane

### Thirds

The Thirds were never going to lose this game as it marked JP's 200th game. Camden were down on troops, but it was to be no cakewalk. The forwards took on the bigger Camden pack and Michael McKenzie stood up and lead from the front in a great display. The younger guys in the team are now showing a greater confidence no doubt contributed by the experience of the Placek's and others. It was also good to see Shaun Dutailis taking the field once again. As a half back Shaun's passing was a little off, but his elusive running and great speed saw him notch two tries. In realty he fell across the line from about 2 metres in both instances, but the records will not show how he got there.

The scoring was completed by a conversion and a penalty to Mark Placek and James Bull also kicked a penalty.

The Thirsties with two wins in a row are climbing the table and with some luck could be there in the semis.

Rd 10 – 26/6/15	University Oval	University 17	Camden 8
<b>Tries:</b>	Shaun Dutailis (2)		
<b>Goals:</b>	Mark Placek (1)	James Bull (1)	<b>Pen Goals:</b> Mark Placek (1)
<b>Players Player:</b>	Michael McKenzie		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>
	Michael McKenzie	Chris Parker	Mark Placek Justin Placek

### Seconds

In a high scoring match the Entertainers maintained their momentum with a convincing victory over a struggling Rams outfit, who had players backing up from thirds.

The guys were led by Andy Rae who showed enough speed and skill to suggest that he is a frustrated back on some rampaging runs. He was well supported by Casey' try scoring machine' Rameka and Ben Cheetham who both scored tries.

In the backs Brad Reed had a field day scoring 3 tries and converting five. Others to show out were Tom Baker, who was backing up from First grade and Mitch Bell who continued his great form.

The scoring was completed by Matt Lee, Pat Perillo and Harry Ottley all scoring tries in a great team display.

The Entertainers were still in second spot and going well.



Rd 10 – 26/6/15	University Oval	University 50	Camden 24
<b>Tries:</b>	Brad Reed (3) Pat Perillo	Casey Rameka Matt Lee	Ben Cheetham Harry Ottley
<b>Goals:</b>	Brad reed (5)	<b>Pen Goals:</b>	
<b>Players Player:</b>	Andy Rae		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>
	Mitch Bell	Andy Rae	Brad Reed

### Firsts

The game was played under lights on Friday night as we helped Camden out as they had a wedding to go to on Saturday. The rugby spirit is not dead.

The first 20 minutes of the game were a real arm wrestle with no one getting an advantage. The first points were scored by Camden through a penalty but that is when the guys started to get on top.

The forwards were able to gain dominance especially at the breakdown with Chris Parker, Tuala and Leaf outstanding. The Rams seemed to run out of puff and tries to 'Beef' and Jason Hughes were rewards for their efforts.

As the game went on, we were to dominate all over the park and the score line blew out. Chris Miller crossed for another double while other try scorers were Tom Baker, Ruben Thompson and Matt Lee. Overall, a solid performance that sees us still stay within striking distance of top spot.

Rd 10 – 26/6/15	University Oval	University 45	Camden 3
<b>Tries:</b>	Chris Miller (2) Rueben Thompson	Hori Leaf Matt Lee	Jason Hughes Tom Baker
<b>Goals:</b>	Alyd Owen (5)	<b>Pen Goals:</b>	
<b>Players Player:</b>	Tom Baker		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>
	Tom Baker	Chris Parker	Rueben Thompson

### RD 11 – Vikings at Vikings

#### Thirds

It was like home coming week as we welcomed Junior Baines, Andrew Stuckey and Mat Horne back for their one and only appearance for the club this season. They were not out of place as far as 'experience' goes or ability as Matt and Junior were in devastating form.

Vikings were one of the form teams of the comp but the lads more than matched their fancied opponents in what was a very entertaining encounter. The forwards battled away all game and Dave Shepherd, Michael McKenzie and Mark Freeman scored tries. In the backs we had the Placeks and Shaun Dutailis showing the way but, in the end, we were beaten 27-34. However, all was not lost as we secured two bonus points which were significant against Vikings especially at their home ground.

Rd 11 – 4/7/15	Vikings Oval	University 27	Vikings 34
<b>Tries:</b>	Dave Shepherd	Michael McKenzie	James Bull Mark Freeman
<b>Goals:</b>	Mark Placek (2)	<b>Pen Goals:</b> Mark Placek (1)	
<b>Players Player:</b>	Chris Baines		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>
	Mat Horne	Chris Baines	Mark Freeman

#### Seconds

This game was an important one for both teams as they were battling for a top four spot with little between them. We were fortunate to have the experience of Donny Nepia to guide us around the park while his goal kicking was on target.

Luke Symons was always on the ball and was rewarded by a try as was Paddy Perillo, but the real story was the appearance of French exchange student Simone Beleries who displayed great skill and speed from fullback and certainly indicated that he was a very classy player.

We certainly had to work hard for the 25-13 win as we had Casey Rameka and Nathan Illy in the sin bin but maintained our discipline to come out on top.

Rd 11 – 4/7/15	Vikings Oval	University 25	Vikings 13
<b>Tries:</b>	Luke Symons	Pat Perillo	Simone Belieres
<b>Goals:</b>	Donny Nepia (2)		<b>Pen Goals:</b> Donny Nepia (2)
<b>Players Player:</b>	Mitch Bell		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>
	Mitch Bell	Simone Belieres	Rhys Handcock

### **Firsts**

Vikings at their ground always provide tough opposition especially as they were well and truly in the race for a semi-final spot. However, we were certainly not over awed by the occasion and dominated proceedings for the entire game with our pack making life hell for the opposition.

It was pleasing to see Brad Reed score a double of tires in his first-grade debut with Matt Lee also notching two five pointers. Their job was made to look easy due to the great work by Chris Miller who was outstanding in the centres.

The most pleasing thing about the match was the fact that we kept the Blues try less and maintained our discipline for the full eighty minutes.

Rd 11 – 4/7/15	Vikings Oval	University 38	Vikings 6
<b>Tries:</b>	Matt Lee (2)	Brad Reed (2)	Karl Smith
<b>Goals:</b>	Alyd Owen (4)		<b>Pen Goals:</b>
<b>Players Player:</b>	Chris Miller		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>
	Chris Miller	Alex Sims	Killian Grennell

### **RD 12- Shamrocks at Uni**

#### **Thirds**

It was D Day for the Thirsties as they took on The Rocks who were in 4th spot on the table and a loss would have been the end for the semis dream. In Coach Dutailis 200th game the result was never really in doubt.

We were lacking some experienced campaigners, but Beaver Tarlinton and 'JP' Placek were back on deck and ran the show. The score line was very tight with the good guys being behind 5-7 after a try by JP got us on the board.

It was late in the piece when Mathias Wann reminded us of his great speed and swerve as he danced across to get us in front for the first time.

We needed another try to consolidate the game and also deny the Shamrocks a vital bonus point when up fronted the try scoring machine Coach Dutailis, who crashed over the line. To cap of a great game, he calmly potted the conversion for the final score.

It was also pleasing to see some 'blasts from the past' emerge in Shaun McCreedy, Dion Miller and 'Leech' Mason don their gear and get back on the park.

We continue to walk the tight rope and more wins are needed but we are still in the semi race.

Rd 12 –11/7/15	University Oval	University 17	Shamrocks 7
<b>Tries:</b>	Shaun Dutailis	Matthias Wann	Justin Placek
<b>Goals:</b>	Shaun Dutailis (1)		<b>Pen Goals:</b>
<b>Players Player:</b>	Shaun Dutailis		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>
	Shaun Dutailis	James Bull	Matthias Wann

### **Seconds**

Shamrocks are down the ladder but really put it to our guys, especially around the ruck and maul where they gave our half, Emrys, a torrid time. To his credit he stuck at it against his former club, and we slowly got on top.

We were very disjointed in all areas of the game, but this comes down to training and after this week there are no more excuses, and I am sure the coaches are looking at great improvements in this area. The win was never assured, and it took some barn storming charges by Casey Rameka and Daniel Grainger to get us on the front foot. Both guys were rewarded for their efforts by scoring tries. Others to follow their lead were Rhys Handcock and Nick Longhurst while Brad Reed converted three of the tries to give us our 26 points.

In the backs Pat Perillo is getting fitter and showing his skills and ability in leading our backs.

Rd 12 –11/7/15	University Oval	University 26	Shamrocks 17
<b>Tries:</b>	Dan Grainger	Rhys Handcock	Casey Rameka Nick Longhurst
<b>Goals:</b>	Brad Reed (3)	<b>Pen Goals:</b>	
<b>Players Player:</b>	Casey Rameka		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>
	Pat Perillo	Casey Rameka	Dan Grainger

### **Firsts**

There was obviously a gale blowing at Uni Oval as it certainly affected the play during the game. Many people may not have been aware of it but there is no other way to fathom how one team can lead 33 - nil at the half time break and then play a scoreless draw in the second stanza.

We started with all guns blazing and were well and truly on top scoring tries to Rueben Thompson (2), Charlie Freeman, Simon Belieres and Matt Lee all in the first half. Alyd Owen was also able to kick 4 conversions to see us lead 33-0.

It was then that the rot set in and while Shamrocks tried hard, we kicked away a heap of possession and looked a bit disinterested at times. Maybe we were thinking of this week's game against Avondale?

Rd 12 –11/7/15	University Oval	University 33	Shamrocks 0
<b>Tries:</b>	Ruben Thompson (2)	Charlie Freeman	Simone Belieres Matt Lee
<b>Goals:</b>	Alyd Owen (4)	<b>Pen Goals:</b>	
<b>Players Player:</b>	Simone Belieres		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>
	Simone Belieres	Matt Lee	Rueben Thompson

### **RD 13- Avondale at Uni**

'Back to College Day ' was a raging success, except for the results of our games, with a large gathering of former players in attendance. Memories were jogged and numerous conquests on and off the field were gone over in detail, some of which were even true!

The 1972 team were the featured team this year and the current players donned jumpers from this era and the jumpers auctioned at the Test match viewing in the SMART building, which with its huge screen is very impressive. Thanks to President Bob, The Canteen crew and others for a great day and evening. Bob even organised a stunning finish to the game which left everyone in suspense for a while, not an easy thing to do.

### **Thirds**

The Thirsties continue to walk the tight rope as they battle to make the semis for the first time for a while. In the deferred fixture, the boys (This is a bit of a misnomer when you consider that two of the boys are over 40 and many are in the 30's) defeated Avondale for the first time in eons.

Celebrating Beavers milestone created a great deal of emotion and the team's warm up suggested big things were in the offing. The team was a mix of the old, experienced crew in the Placeks, Nash etc and the new in Phil Bligh and Jeff Marzi who were playing their first games for the club.

The Wombats started at fever pitch as usual and many of their players had experience playing on the ground on the weekend in either first or second grade. Things looked grim as they motored across the line for an exceptionally good opening try.

We then settled down and defended extremely well especially close to the ruck and were rewarded with a penalty goal to Mark Placek. Not long after big Jack Nash steamed on to the ball and crashed over to give us an 8-5 lead, which we held to the break.

Confusion reigned supreme after oranges as Avondale scored a controversial try when they had 16 players on the field. Even though we were down 8-12 we maintained discipline and another penalty to Mark saw us behind by a point.

Time was getting away when after defending extremely well near our line for a long period we got some possession in their quarter which resulted in Mark Placek diving over under the post to give us a 18-12 lead.

Avondale were desperate and we had to battle a particularly good forward pack to keep the lead, but we did so courageously and the cheer from the crowd was heart felt when the whistle blew to end the game.

The after-match celebrations were great to see, and it must be said that it took quite a while to get everyone out of the change rooms as some of the guys were tripping down memory lane well into the night.

Rd 13–18/7/15	University Oval	University 18	Avondale 12
<b>Tries:</b>	Mark Placek	Jack Nash	
<b>Goals:</b>	Mark Placek (1)		<b>Pen Goals:</b> Mark Placek (2)
<b>Players Player:</b>	James Tarlinton		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>
	Christo Crous	Mark Placek	Shaun Dutailis

### Seconds

The Entertainers were down on some of their troops and the lack of training together was obvious, but one cannot deny just how much guts and determination went into this game by all our players. Our second row included Killer Grennell, and he was an inspiration to others with his play.

Avondale are a great group of players (note I did not say team) who came out with all guns blazing and blew us off the park in the opening 15 minutes. We were also rocked by the injury to Dave Shepherd in a scrum. Being down 19 nil is not a great place to be and many a team would have packed it in, but it was at this stage that the guys stood up and we got into the trenches with them and worked back into the game.

Brad Reed's penalty and tries to Emrys Owen and Ben Cheetham were the result of this comeback, which needs to be said was very forward orientated lead by 'Mudgee' and Rhys Handcock. The scores were 17-19 and we were making breaks with Pat Perillo prominent but could not get the winning try. Just near the end Avondale did break away and put the game out of reach with a final try but our guys did more than enough to show that the premiership race is not a one-horse affair.

Rd 13–18/7/15	University Oval	University 17	Avondale 24
<b>Tries:</b>	Emrys Owen	Ben Cheetham	
<b>Goals:</b>	Brad Reed (1)		<b>Pen Goals:</b> Brad Reed (1)
<b>Players Player:</b>	Ben Cheetham		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>
	Ben Cheetham	Pat Perillo	Rhys Handcock

### **Firsts**

I could just repeat the second-grade report here as it would be a fairly accurate account of what happened in the first-grade game. Down on troops, lacking cohesion and blown away by an early onslaught, followed by a determined fight back is a good summary of first grade.

After being presented with their jumpers by members of the successful Teachers College team of 1972 the guys were in good spirits coming into the game, but Avondale showed greater commitment early on.

### **Report by Ron Wood – ‘The Rogue’s Rant’**

A rampant first fifteen minutes from competition leaders Avondale was the difference in their Round 13 IDRUG Builders Club Premiership match on Saturday. Running in three tries to take an early nineteen-point lead against second placed University in a scintillating attacking display, Wombats cemented top place on the ladder with a 31-19 victory. There were no penalty disruptions in the first fifteen minutes as Avondale showed why they are at the top of the comp with a blistering opening to the match from which a depleted University side never fully recovered.

But as Avondale’s discipline deserted them a succession of nine penalties allowed the Bulls to slow the momentum of the match to their benefit. Fly half Allyd Owen added three penalty goals to the score line and with Scott Morgan spending ten in the bin for a high tackle for the last minutes of the half, the Bulls clawed their way back into the match, going to the break 9 – 19 down.

The second half started as the first with the opening minute’s penalty free and the Wombats were at their attacking best again. After five minutes, the Wombats were out to a 26 – 9 lead.

The match took a distinctive turn at the fifty-five-minute mark when last year’s premiership winning captain Leon Mason took the field at half back for the Bulls. The Bulls tempo lifted and with old hands Paul Tuala and Don Nepia prominent, Uni were able to put the Avondale line under sustained pressure. Tuala came close to scoring twice as the Wombat defence proved to be as effective as their outstanding attack to deny Uni for a long period. Again, on the back of a succession of penalties the try eventually came with Karl Smith scoring off the back of a well-constructed University rolling maul. Owen converted and the Bulls were back within 10.

This period of the match belonged to Uni but with a dominant scrum and better work at the breakdown, the Wombats held firm against the best Uni could offer in attack. Owen added another penalty goal to bring his side to within seven of the lead, but Scott Morgan once again created a try scoring opportunity for Ryan Lonsdale and the Wombats were home at 31 – 19.

With the Bulls missing several key players from this match, they showed that they can compete against the competition leaders. For the second time this year the Bulls managed at different stages of the match to slow the momentum of the game to their advantage thus taking the attacking flair of the Wombats out of the match.

<b>Rd 13–18/7/15</b>	<b>University Oval</b>	<b>University 19</b>	<b>Avondale 31</b>
<b>Tries:</b>	Karl Smith		
<b>Goals:</b>	Alyd Owen (1)		<b>Pen Goals:</b> Alyd Owen (4)
<b>Players Player:</b>	Paul Tuala		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>
	Donny Nepia	Karl Smith	Paul Tuala

### **RD 14- Kiama at Kiama Showground.**

It was a tough day at the office for all the teams last week, but it marked the end of the holiday period, Halleluia! We have 5 games left to secure semi spots in all grades and then it into the Finals.

### **Colts**

After a lot of effort by Geoff Devitt the Lads were on deck for their clash with Campbelltown at their home ground on Friday on what was quite a mild night in Sydney's West.

We rocked up with 18 players and were amazed at the huge size of some of our opponents. In what was to be a very even contest the lads stuck to the task and were always in with a chance of taking the points, but some things went against us. There were several injuries, mainly shoulders, that saw us down on troops. We were also disjointed by the early loss of Harry, our prop to concussion. This meant that we had to go non contested scrums and only play with 14 players, a tough ask! The score fluctuated and, in the end, it was two tries each but unfortunately, we could not kick a conversion which in the end saw us go down by 4 points. Both our tries were scored by Michael Martin in a man of the match performance. He was ably supported by Nick Longhurst, Ryan Witherdin and Captain Leane but it really was a gutsy effort by all involved.

Rd 14 –18/7/15	Campbelltown Showground	University 10	Campbelltown 14
<b>Tries:</b>	Michael Martin (2)		
<b>Goals:</b>			<b>Pen Goals:</b>
<b>Players Player:</b>	Nick Longhurst		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>
	Michael Martin	Nick Longhurst	Rob Leane Ryan Witherdin

### Seconds

The Entertainers were always going to be under pressure in this game as numbers were down, training had been poor and there was a certain lack of confidence prior to the game starting as we struggled to get 15 players on the field.

To belie all this the boys started with a real surge and dominated proceedings in the first 15 minutes, led by old stagers In Leon Mason and Killer Grennell. The problem was that we did not turn this superiority into points. Luke Symons and Ben Cheetham were everywhere in attack and defence, but we could not crack the Kiama line.

The loss of Sam Latu to injury was a bit of a turning point in the game and Kiama gradually wore us down and with 15 minutes till full time we were well and truly behind 0-21.

It was then that the cavalry in the form of Charlie Freeman and Hemi Wickliffe arrived, and we came charging back. Some enterprising play saw the guys score three tries, one each to Luke Symons, Harry Ottley and Charlie Freeman, that saw us trailing by only 4 points when the game finished.

The loss meant that we are in a real dog fight for a semis spot, much like last year.

Rd 14 –18/7/15	Kiama Showground	University 17	Kiama 21
<b>Tries:</b>	Luke Symons	Harry Ottley	Charlie freeman
<b>Goals:</b>	Brad Reed (1)		<b>Pen Goals:</b>
<b>Players Player:</b>	Ben Cheetham		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>
	Luke Symons	Killian Grennell	Leon Mason

### Firsts - Report by Ron Wood – ‘The Rogue’s Rant’

Reigning 2014 IDRU Builders Club Premiers University, have shown that they are still one of the teams to beat for the 2015 title. In a very intense round 14 encounter with fellow top three contender Kiama on Saturday at Kiama Showground, the Bulls registered an emphatic 29 -17 victory, scoring five tries to two along the way. With outstanding goal line defence, a feature of their effort, the Bulls showed the much-improved Cows that they are not going to give up the title without a spirited fight.

Both sides at times had some difficulty coming to terms with new Referee Aaron Dehlsen requirements at the breakdown which resulted in both teams losing players to the Sin Bin throughout the match. With semi-final time just five weeks away the Bulls played a real finals style of football to effectively close Kiama down repeatedly throughout the first half, but despite scoring three tries to one only led by five at the break thanks to wayward goal kicking in the windy conditions.

The match got away to a frantic start as both sides showed that they were willing to attack their opponents, but some poor handling spoiled early scoring opportunities for each team. Kiama Fly Half Carlin Simon opened the scoring with a penalty goal after ten minutes, but the lead was short lived as the Bulls started to put some controlled play together. After some five minutes deep in Kiama half the Bulls broke through for the first try when Flanker Jason Hughes scored from a driving maul, which has become a trademark play for the Bulls in 2016. Shortly after winger Daniel Ward crossed for a five pointer after a standard backline play deep in the Cows territory for a 10 – 3 lead to the Premiers after twenty minutes.

Rolling mauls became the order of the day as Kiama struck back with a try by Hooker Andrew Sulter which when converted by Simon evened the scores with ten minutes left in the half. Then right on half time after an attacking lineout for the Bulls in the Kiama quarter, another rolling maul resulted in Jason Hughes scoring his second try for the day and the Bulls led 15 -10 at the break. In the lead up to the Hughes try, the Cows Michael Kauter was adjudged to have made an illegal tackle at the lineout and was binned for the first ten minutes of the second half.

The Bulls took full advantage of the extra man and spent the first minutes of the second term deep in the Kiama quarter. With Uni putting together several strong phases of play on the Cows line, Referee Dehlsen awarded Uni a penalty try, indicating advantage to Uni after multiple breaches from the Cows defenders. Alyd Owen converted the try and Uni were out to a 22 – 10 lead.

Shortly after Kauter returned to the field, it was Uni’s turn to lose a player to the Bin as winger Ward was dispatched with Kiama mounting plenty of pressure on the Uni line. After a succession of penalties, the Bulls goal line defence finally cracked with big No. 8 Niko Degei scoring for Kiama and with Simon’s conversion the Cows were right back in the match at 17 – 22.

As Ward returned to the field, champion Uni No.8 Paul Tuala earned the wrath of the Referee and was sent to the bin as well. But it was the Bulls who got the better of this period with Rueben Thompson exploding from his own side of halfway and after a jinking thirty-meter run down the ocean touch line, found Leon Mason in support on his inside with Mason finishing the play off with a try under the posts. Another conversion to Owen and Uni were up 29 – 17.

The last five minutes was all Uni as they camped in the Kiama half and following another succession of penalties to the Bulls, Kiama front rower Daniel Grehan collected the matches fourth Yellow Card. With Uni dominating at the set pieces with several tight heads going their way, and an outstanding defensive effort from the Premiers, the Bulls can be pleased with what was an emphatic win even though the scores may not indicate that. A strong forward effort led by Locks Will Wood and Andrew Rae laid the foundation for the win, with the Bulls showing that they are still to be reckoned with for a place in the big games coming up in five weeks.

Rd 14 –18/7/15	Kiama Showground		University 29	Kiama 17
<b>Tries:</b>	Jason Hughes (2)	Dan Ward	Leon Mason	*Penalty Try
<b>Goals:</b>	Alyd Owen (2)			<b>Pen Goals:</b>
<b>Players Player:</b>	Andy Papworth			
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>	
	Paul Tuala	Andy Papworth	Chris Miller	

### RD 15- Shoalhaven at Uni.

Ladies Day was a huge success as fun was had by all the 50 ladies thanks to Simon and Kurt and others getting their shirts off to act as waiters, Jack Hartigan on his guitar and others pouring drinks etc. This was all topped off by the successful running of the 'undy Hundy' which brought a smile to many a young lass.

The most pleasing thing was that we raised \$400 for Beyond Blue, with more to come, so well done. The other impressive thing was that Will cleaned up after the day and spent a huge amount of time getting it all done. GREAT JOB!

Oh yes, we played Shoalhaven and retained the Foster Emery Trophy.

### Colts

Revenge is sweet and the lads got to taste some on Saturday when they managed to score a last minute try to win the game against Quins. There is no doubt that a great rivalry is being developed between these two teams and there is no love lost.

Things started at a frenetic pace but as we only fielding 14 players due to playing non contested scrums, we found the going tough. Much of the work around the rucks and mauls was excellent, led by Captain Leane and Ryan Witherdin, who were outstanding against much bigger opposition. The score see sawed but we were never really in control as their big boppers continually charged into our line.

Nick Longhurst continued his try scoring feat with another double with other tries, including the last gasp winner, being scored by Brayden Grehan and Lachlan Conyers.

In the end a deserved win but it will be good to play them with 15 players this Friday Night.

Rd 15 –1/8/15	University Oval	University 25	Campbelltown 22
<b>Tries:</b>	Nick Longhurst (2)	Brayden Grehan	Lachlan Conyers
<b>Goals:</b>	Harry Ottley (1)		<b>Pen Goals:</b> Harry Ottley (1)
<b>Players Player:</b>	Nick Shillington	Nick Longhurst	
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>
	Ryan Witherdin	Nick Longhurst	Rob Leane

### Thirds

Vincenia are the undefeated leaders in Thirds and are a very complete outfit, so we knew it was going to be a big ask to get over them. It was a bit of a back to the past situation with Simon McVeigh, who scored a try, The Placek's, Steve Elson and Jack Nash all donning the jumper for a run. Age has certainly not wearied them as they all made significant contributions to the team's performance. It must be said that JP's big night out on Friday did have an impact on his running ability as he 'streaked away' for a 90-meter run and then had to come off suffering from extreme tiredness and lack of oxygen. Mark Placek also converted two tries and kicked a penalty to complete our scoring.

We certainly contested well but the speed of the opposition backs, and their teamwork was excellent, but we made them earn every point and were far from disgraced.

Rd 15 –1/8/15	University Oval	University 17	Vincenia 40
<b>Tries:</b>	Simon McVeigh	Justin Placek	
<b>Goals:</b>	Mark Placek (2)		<b>Pen Goals:</b> Mark Placek (1)
<b>Players Player:</b>	Steve Elson		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>
	Simon McVeigh	Justin Placek	Jack Nash Steve Elson Mark Placek

### Seconds

When the Entertainers are good, they are exceptionally good as the score line suggests. The opposition was totally outclassed, and we were always going to be the winners on the day.

The highlights of the game were the hat trick notched by evergreen Killer Grennell, the speed of Ben Cheetham when he scored two tries, the balance when running of Simon Beleries and also Brad Reed's scoring feat of two tries and seven conversions.

Others to get their names on the try scorers list were Pat Perillo, Dan Granger, Rhys Handcock, Lachlan Conyers and rampaging pop Travis Hardaker.

The challenge is to keep the level of intensity high when we take on Campbelltown in the two games, we have to play against them that will determine where we finish in the comp, with a top two place on offer.



Rd 15 –1/8/15	University Oval	University 81	Shoalhaven 14
<b>Tries:</b>	Killian Grennell (3) Pat Perillo	Ben Cheetham (2) Dan Grainger	Brad Reed (2) Lachlan Conyers
<b>Goals:</b>	Brad Reed (7)	<b>Pen Goals:</b>	
<b>Players Player:</b>	Killian Grennell		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>
	Ben Cheetham	Travis Hardaker	Killian Grennell

### Firsts

As this was Paul Tuala's last game before he joins the Country Eagles, he was a determined man and he certainly displayed all of his great ability on the day. I do not believe the word 'pass' was in his vocab as he destroyed the Shoalhaven defence with some magnificent running which resulted in three outstanding tries. Paulie will be missed but we were in the same situation last year so to be without him is not something new. I am sure he will do himself and the club proud when he plays in the NRC. Our other tries were scored by Dan Ward, with a double, Hori Leef and Jason Hughes with Alyd Owen booting six conversions and a penalty.

To Shoalhaven's credit they tried hard and scored two tries in the second half, but we were dominant all across the paddock. Karl Smith was great in the set pieces and the tight forward work while Charlie Freeman was a pest at the breakdowns constantly winning the ball that the backs thrived on.

In the end a good performance as we build towards the semis.

Rd 15 –1/8/15	University Oval	University 50	Shoalhaven 12
<b>Tries:</b>	Paul Tuala (3)	Dan Ward (2)	Jason Hughes Hori Leef
<b>Goals:</b>	Alyd Owen (6)	<b>Pen Goals:</b> Alyd Owen (1)	
<b>Players Player:</b>	Paul Tuala		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>
	Paul Tuala	Karl Smith	Charlie Freeman

## RD 9 – Campbelltown at Campbelltown

### Deferred match

The deferred matches against Campbelltown were crucial to our chances of making the semis in the lower grades so we were well prepared for the onslaught especially with the holidays behind us.

### Colts

Forfeit by Uni due to lack of numbers

### Thirds

Thirds were in a battle for fourth spot with Campbelltown so were expecting a hard-fought contest. The team had thousands of games experience when you look at Justin and Mark Placek, Donny Nepia, Jack Nash, 'Beaver' Tarlinton, Christo Crous, Shaun Dutailis and Dean Rossit all being on deck. We were also blessed with good numbers with a number of Colts players being available.

As expected, both teams never gave an inch but with Jack Nash, Shaun Dutailis and Mark Placek displaying all their guile and experience we were always in the game. Dean Rossit earned the ire of the ref and spent time in the bin, but we still kept up the pressure on the Quins.

In the end we managed two good tries to Campbelltown's solo effort and came away winners 12-7 and were still in the race for the semis.

Rd 9 –8/8/15	Campbelltown Showground	University 12	Campbelltown 7
<b>Tries:</b>	Andrew Bligh	Justin Placek	
<b>Goals:</b>	Mark Placek (1)	<b>Pen Goals:</b>	
<b>Players Player:</b>	Jack Nash		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>
	Jack Nash	Mark Placek	Shaun Dutailis

### Seconds

The second-grade squad was a powerful one on paper with a number of first grade players taking the field and we even had the luxury of naming fresh reserves on the bench.

Both teams had a lot to play for with positions in the top four on the line. The forward exchanges were no place for the faint hearted with neither team getting on top, but our pack led by Killian Grennell, won enough ball for our backs to get the job done.

Our centres in Paddy Perillo and Simone Belieres scored tries and appreciated the good service from Charlie Curry in the pivot role.

Both teams crossed for three tries but in the end the accurate boot of Brad Reed secured the victory.

Rd 9 –8/8/15	Campbelltown Showground	University 22	Campbelltown 17
<b>Tries:</b>	Pat Perillo	Simone Belieres	Chris Parker
<b>Goals:</b>	Brad Reed (2)		<b>Pen Goals:</b> Brad Reed (1)
<b>Players Player:</b>	Pat Perillo		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>
	Pat Perillo	Dan Squires	Charlie Curry

### Firsts

Campbelltown were a top four team but the final score line of 38-12 demonstrated the difference in strength of the two teams with our backs enjoying plenty of good quality possession.

Our pack was well led by Jason Hughes who scored a hat trick of tries in a man of the Match Performance, while Nick Ranguira was dominant in the backs.

All in all, a very pleasing performance.

Rd 9 –8/8/15	Campbelltown Showground	University 38	Campbelltown 12
<b>Tries:</b>	Jason Hughes (3)	Dan Ward (2)	Nick Ranguira
<b>Goals:</b>	Alyd Owen (4)		<b>Pen Goals:</b>
<b>Players Player:</b>	Nick Ranguira		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>
	Jason Hughes	Dan Ward	Leon Mason

### Rd 16 – Bowral at Uni

#### Colts

Colts were excited to take on Camden as they finally got to play even though we had to travel to Camden to get a game. The fact that they had twenty-seven players on deck showed that there was still a lot of enthusiasm in the squad. Camden had not won too many games but were steadily improving as their players developed some rugby skills.

In what turned out to be a close encounter we had to play some good rugby but in the end we gave them too much of a head start to win the game. The fact that we made so many changes to give everyone a game certainly did not help our structure especially after such a long time between games.

Rd 16 –15/8/15	University Oval	University 19	Camden 24
<b>Tries:</b>	Lachlan Conyers (2)	Lachlan Williams	
<b>Goals:</b>	Harry Ottley		<b>Pen Goals:</b>
<b>Players Player:</b>	Rob Leane		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>
	Rob Leane	Ryan Witherdin	Nick Longhurst

#### Thirds

NO GAME

### Seconds

The fact that there was no third-grade game meant that we had a cast of thousands wanting a game. Bowral had not won a game all year, but it must be said that they were always committed in the game, and we had to work hard for the points, especially when we had two guys in the sin bin.

We crossed for six tries with Charlie Curry in fine form with a double and also converting four of the tries.

Rd 16 –15/8/15	University Oval		University 38	Bowral 12
<b>Tries:</b>	Charlie Curry (2)	Lachlan Wells	Ben Cheetham	Rueben Butler
<b>Goals:</b>	Charlie Curry (4)			<b>Pen Goals:</b>
<b>Players Player:</b>	Charlie Curry			
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>	
	Pat Perillo	Charlie Curry	Rueben Butler	

### Firsts

Bowral were struggling to get a competitive side on the field, but they were far from disgraced as they all tried their best under difficult circumstances. Our guys managed to score seven tries, but the pleasing aspect of the win was the fact that we kept our line intact.

With the semis approaching this is one area we needed to keep working on.

Rd 16 –15/8/15	University Oval		University 41	Bowral 0
<b>Tries:</b>	Hori Leef Charlie Freeman	Wayne Ngatai Dan Ward	Nick Rangiuira Chris Miller	Alyd Owen
<b>Goals:</b>	Alyd Owen (3)			<b>Pen Goals:</b>
<b>Players Player:</b>	Nick Rangiuira			
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>	
	Karl Smith	Chris Miller	Jason Hughes	

### RD 17 – Tech Waratahs at Tech

#### Thirds

The third-grade juggernaut rolled on as they took on Tech in another of The Battle of the Bridges. It was an exceeding close race with Campbelltown for the fourth semi spot, so a win was vital. Tech was struggling but they never give in, so we had to make sure we kept up the pressure for the entire game.

Luckily, we managed to do this with the old stagers in Justin Placek and Dean Rossit showing the way while Mark Placek was outstanding as he scored two tries and kicked four conversions in a comprehensive thirty-three points to nil victory This was important as we secured a bonus point and also improved our for and against statistics.

Rd 17 –22/8/15	Saunders Oval		University 33	Tech Waratahs 0
<b>Tries:</b>	Mark Placek (2)	Dan Squires	Justin Placek	Lee Tanks
<b>Goals:</b>	Mark Placek (4)			<b>Pen Goals:</b>
<b>Players Player:</b>	Dean Rossit			
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>	
	Dean Rossit	Justin Placek	Mark Placek	

### Seconds

Seconds flexed their muscles as they totally dominated proceedings against a very poor Tech side. The score of 75-14 was indicative of how well we played with Simone Belieres crossing for a hat trick while the remaining eight tries were shared across the forwards and backs.

The forwards were obviously well in charge with Dan Grainger having a whale of a game.

The other outstanding performer was fullback Brad Reed who converted ten of the tries, although it must be said that many of them were from very close to the goal posts, but they still needed to be kicked.

Rd 17 –22/8/15	Saunders Oval	University 75	Tech Waratahs 14
<b>Tries:</b>	Simon Belieres (3) Dan Grainger Leon Mason	Lachlan Wells Harry Cummins	Michael Martin Rueben Butler Pat Perillo Brad Reed
<b>Goals:</b>	Brad Reed (10)	<b>Pen Goals:</b>	
<b>Players Player:</b>	Dan Grainger		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>
	Dan Grainger	Rueben Butler	Lachlan Wells

### Firsts

The first-grade fixture saw our forward pack get on top early in the set piece but then were made to work hard to keep momentum going forward. Will Wood and the entire front row worked tirelessly throughout the game, but Tech wouldn't disappear and certainly were not disgraced. We managed to secure the bonus point, but the 28 -14 score line showed that it was no walk in the park.

Rd 17 –22/8/15	Saunders Oval	University 28	Tech Waratahs 14
<b>Tries:</b>	Karl Smith	Hori Leef	Ben Cheetham Alex Sims
<b>Goals:</b>	Alyd Owen (4)	<b>Pen Goals:</b>	
<b>Players Player:</b>	Will Wood		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>
	Will Wood	Alyd Owen	Nick Rangiura

### RD 18 – Campbelltown at Uni

There was a lot riding on all the games coming into the last round for both clubs as all grades were in contention for places in the end of season games so there was to be pressure on from the start.

### Colts

The day began with the colts taking on their main rivals in Campbelltown where we needed a victory with a bonus point to secure top spot, but that might not be enough as Campbelltown had a better percentage than the Lads. However, we were not to be denied as we totally dominated all aspects of the match to win comfortably 41-5.

Our pack was in control with our loose forwards led by Ryan Witherdin and Rob Leane with Nick Shillington and Ry Camborne also prominent. Campbelltown became very frustrated and ended up with a guy sent off for a second yellow card for high tackles and another guy in the bin for back chat. The amount of ball provided by the forwards allowed our backs to shine, scoring six of the seven tries with wingers Conyers and Williams each bagging doubles.

The final washup saw us secure top spot after finishing equal first with Campbelltown but the big win was enough to give us a better for and against record.

Rd 18 –29/8/15	University Oval	University 41	Campbelltown 5
<b>Tries:</b>	Lachlan Williams (2) Nick Longhurst	Lachlan Conyers (2) Rob Leane	Jamie Mason
<b>Goals:</b>	Harry Ottley (2)	Matt Piggott (1)	<b>Pen Goals:</b>
<b>Players Player:</b>	Nick Shillington		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>
	Ryan Witherdin	Ry Camborne	Rob Leane

### Thirds

Thirds also needed to win to tie up fourth spot while a loss would see Campbelltown progress. The pressure resulted in a very close game where our experienced guys again showed out. Simon McVeigh was outstanding as we had to battle hard to get on top with Jack Nash again good in tight. The score was always close with the highlight being a try to evergreen front rower Christo Crous that brought the crowd to their feet.

As the whistle blew for full time there was a sense of real delight as we won 21-14 and by doing so secured fourth spot and would be playing in the semis for the first time in quite a while.

It was great to see so many of the old boys enjoying the win with some of the colts and I don't know who was more excited.

Rd 18 –29/8/15	University Oval	University 21	Campbelltown 14
<b>Tries:</b>	Christo Crous	Andrew Bligh	James Bull
<b>Goals:</b>			<b>Pen Goals:</b> Mark Placek (2)
<b>Players Player:</b>	Simon McVeigh		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>
	Simon McVeigh	Donny Nepia	Jack Nash

### Seconds

Seconds were assured of third place, but Campbelltown needed the victory to possibly scrape into fourth spot, so it was game on.

The Uni boys gained the upper hand and with Ben Cheetham showing the way with two tries we were never going to be beaten. The other four tries were all scored by the backs and demonstrated our desire to run the ball at every opportunity.

Campbelltown were desperate and never gave up and scored four tries of their own but in the end we were too good on the day.

Rd 18 –29/8/15	University Oval	University 36	Campbelltown 24
<b>Tries:</b>	Ben Cheetham (2)	Rueben Butler (2)	Harry Cummins Justin Stanbrook
<b>Goals:</b>	Brad Reed (3)		<b>Pen Goals:</b>
<b>Players Player:</b>	Ben Cheetham		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>
	Ben Cheetham	Justin Stanbrook	Rueben Butler

### Firsts

Firsts didn't have a lot to play for in the game as we were guaranteed second place and couldn't catch Avondale, but we certainly wanted to finish the season proper in a positive manner, but Campbelltown were in position where they needed a win to maintain fourth place.

The game was a tight affair with our tight forwards working hard to gain the ascendancy especially in the set pieces. Andy Rae and two try hero Karl Smith were outstanding in this department.

We were good enough to score five tries with Sam Latu also scoring a double but unfortunately our kicking was off target with Alyd Owen only managing one conversion.

Campbelltown were desperate and this showed as they kept in the game as they crossed for three tries but kicked two conversions and also a couple of penalties.

The real equaliser in the contest was the fact that we lost two players in the sin bin, but the drama was the send-off of Alyd Owen for abuse of the ref. This made the game harder for the boys, but it was a concern that Alyd could miss the semis.

The Judiciary met on the Wednesday night and after a lot of deliberation it was decided that a warning was sufficient punishment and Alyd was free to take his spot in the Major Semi, much to the relief of everyone involved.

Rd 18 –29/8/15	University Oval	University 27	Campbelltown 25
<b>Tries:</b>	Sam Latu (2)	Karl Smith (2)	Matt Lee
<b>Goals:</b>	Alyd Owen		<b>Pen Goals:</b>
<b>Players Player:</b>	Karl Smith		
<b>B &amp; F Points:</b>	<b>(3 points)</b>	<b>(2 points)</b>	<b>(1 point)</b>
	Andy Rae	Nick Rangiura	Charlie Freeman

## End of Season Games

### Minor Semis – Camden Rugby Park

#### THIRDS

(1) Christo Crous	(2) Zac Gorman	(3) Jack Nash
(4) Michael McKenzie		(5) Steve Elson
(6) James Tarlinton	(8) Simon McVeigh	(7) Mark Freeman
(9) Shaun Dutailis		(10) Donny Nepia
(12) Mark Placek		(13) Julian Payne
(11) Andrew Bligh	(15) Justin Placek	(14) James Bull
(16) Tyson McEvoy	(17) Matthias Wann	(18) Brenton Ritchie
(19) Michael Mamatta	(20) Nick Shillington	(21) Lee Tanks
(22) Daniel Squires		(23) Louis Henry

The final wash-up was the lads, after not winning a game for over a year (taking in the 2014 season), found themselves sneaking into fourth and playing Avondale in the Minor Semi.

The Thirties were a confident group as they were one of the form sides going into the semis. The old heads in the Placeks, Nash, Freeman, McVeigh and co were not going to be intimidated by the size of the opposition.

In a very committed performance, our lads scored four tries to Freeman, McVeigh, Dan Squires and Mark Placek. Mark also converted three of them plus a penalty to give us our total of twenty-nine points. While this was impressive it was in our defensive effort that the coaching staff took enormous satisfaction as time and again the Avondale players were put on their bums. Admittedly they did score nineteen points, but the result was never in doubt.

Minor Semi –6/9/15	Camden Rugby Park	University 29	Avondale 19
<b>Tries:</b>	Mark Freeman	Simon McVeigh	Mark Placek
<b>Goals:</b>	Mark Placek (3)		<b>Pen Goals:</b> Mark Placek (1)

#### SECONDS

(1) Casey Rameka	(2) Dan Grainger	(3) Luke Symons
(4) Lachlan Wells		(5) Chris Parker
(6) Rhys Handcock	(8) Ben Cheetham	(7) Michael Martin
(9) Emrys Owen		(10) Charles Curry
(12) Pat Perillo		(13) Simon Belieres
(11) Rueben Butler	(15) Justin Stanbrook	(14) Brad Reed
(16) Christo Crous	(17) Steve Elson	(18) Nick Shillington
(19) Nathan Illy	(20) Harry Cummins	(21) Harry Ottley
(22) Dan Ward		(23) Donny Nepia

Seconds had won both encounters against Vikings during the season and were confident going into the game. This confidence proved to be well placed as the boys kicked into gear and although no cake walk the result was quite clear cut as we won 26-18. In his last game before heading back to France, Simon Belieres was at his best scoring a great try and being a constant threat to the Blues. The other try scorer was Dan Ward, while Brad Reed converted both of the tries. The Vikings were under constant pressure and gave a way a lot of penalties which we punished with Brad kicking three penalties and Charlie Curry also getting a penalty. In the end it was a competent performance winning 26-18.

Minor Semi –6/9/15	Camden Rugby Park		University 26	Vikings 18
<b>Tries:</b>	Simon Belieres	Dan Ward		
<b>Goals:</b>	Brad Reed (2)		<b>Pen Goals:</b>	Brad Reed (3) Charlie Curry (1)

## Major Semi Final. – Shoalhaven Rugby Park

### FIRSTS

(24) Karl Smith	(2) Hori Leef	(3) Andy Papworth
(4) Andy Rae		(5) Will Wood
(6) Wayne Ngatai	(8) Jason Hughes	(7) Charlie Freeman
(9) Alex Sims		(10) Leon Mason
(12) Nick Rangiura		(13) Chris Miller
(11) Sam Latu	(15) Alyd Owen	(14) Rueben Thompson
(16) Simon Belieres	(17) Ben Cheetham	(3) Christo Crous
(19) Chris Parker	(20) Donny Nepia	(21) Dan Ward
(22) Tom Baker		(23) Hemi Wickliffe

### Firsts - Report by Ron Wood – ‘The Rogue’s Rant’

The IDRU defending Premiers, the University Bulls have moved through to the 2015 Builders Club Premiership decider following an exciting one-point Major Semi-Final win over Minor Premiers Avondale. In a typically hard-fought finals match the Bulls conceded three early tries before fighting back to take the match 27 – 26 at Ricoh Rugby Park, Nowra.

In the frantic early stages of the match, Uni dominated possession and were prepared to run their opponents around as they camped in the Wombat half of the field. With all the possession the Bulls peppered the Wombat line but could not break through and settled for an Alyd Owen penalty goal in the sixth minute.

Surviving the Bulls initial onslaught, the Wombats took full advantage of some much-needed possession and were soon at their devastating attacking best with centre Nua Alone scoring three tries in a scintillating eighteen-minute period. It was the mercurial Eli Sinoti that inspired the Wombats with some of his outstanding attacking flair coming to the fore as the Wombats clicked into gear. Fly half Joe Aiono produced a beautiful short pass to put Alone over for his first try, before a wrap-around play by Andre Itula and Alone wide on the right brought his second. Pauro Collier converted both tries and Avondale were out to a 14 – 3 lead after twenty minutes.

Alone’s third try came at the twenty-four-minute mark when Sinoti burst clear from the half way line in a jinking run. As the last line of defence closed in, he kicked ahead for Alone to regather on the fly and score wide on the left for a 19 – 3 margin to Avondale.

The Bulls managed to regather their composure and employing a fast-moving defensive line started to close down the dangerous Avondale outside backs. Hard working blind side Flanker Wayne Ngatai caught the bigger Wombat forwards napping with a quick tap after a penalty close to the Wombats line, scoring a converted try as Uni got the better of the dying stages of the half. Full Back Owen

added a penalty goal right on half time, which would prove crucial, for the Bulls to close the deficit to six points, 19 – 13 at the break.

The teams went try for try in the second stanza in what was a typical bruising and tense semi-final match up. The scrum battle was fierce with neither side able to claim supremacy on the day as both sides showed why they finished the season in positions one and two. The attack was sharp from both sides and the defence was equally sound.

After several phases pressing the Wombat line Hooker Hori Leef barged over to score after forty-four minutes, and with Owen converting the try the Bulls were back in front by one point. Both sides produced some enterprising play to entertain the big crowd over the next fifteen minutes before Scott Morgan created an opportunity for Andre Itula to score after a sustained attacking effort from the Minor Premiers. With Collier kicking his third goal, the Wombats were back in front 26 – 20. Inside the last ten minutes of the match Uni replacement player Tom Baker cleverly created some space for Chris Miller on the left side of the field, and with Miller showing all his pace and guile he produced the match winning try. Owen calmly converted the try from a wide angle to put the Bulls in front 27 – 26.

For the second time this year Pauro Collier had the chance to snatch victory with a late penalty goal attempt, but the kick fell short for the Bulls to hold on and book their spot in the Grand Final at WIN Stadium in two weeks. The Wombats will now go on to play the winner of the Minor Semi-Final between Kiama and Campbelltown in the final at Ocean Park next week.

Best for Uni were forwards Wayne Ngatai, and No.8 Jason Hughes, while in the backs centres Nick Rangiura and Chris Miller were equally effective in both attack and defence. Alyd Owens five goals from six attempts proved to be the difference between the two sides. For Avondale Sinoti was sensational, with Joe Aiono, Scott Morgan, Michael Malaki and Anthony Amone all busy.

Major Semi –5/9/15	Shoalhaven Rugby Park		University 27	Avondale 26
<b>Tries:</b>	Hori Leef	Wayne Ngatai	Chris Miller	
<b>Goals:</b>	Alyd Owen (3)		<b>Pen Goals:</b>	Alyd Owen (2)

## Final - Ocean Park Woonona

### THIRDS

(1) Christo Crous	(2) Zac Gorman	(3) Jack Nash
(4) Michael McKenzie		(5) Steve Elson
(6) James Tarlinton	(8) Michael Mamatta	(7) Joel Wilson
(9) Shaun Dutailis		(10) Donny Nepia
(12) Mark Placek		(13) Julian Payne
(11) Andrew Bligh	(15) Justin Placek	(14) James Bull
(16) Tyson McEvoy	(17) Dan Squires	(18) Matthias Wann
(19) Lee Tanks	(20) Sean Murray-Smith	(21) Louis Henry
(22) Harry Madew		(23) Brenton Ritchie

The effort in defeating Avondale had a profound effect on the team that went into the Final against title favourites, Vincentia. The loss of Simon McVeigh and Mark Freeman caused some problems to the makeup of the squad, and it showed on the field.

The 'Van Gogh's' had been defeated by Vikings in the semi and they were very determined to make up for this shock result. We tried hard and the first half was quite close with a try by Jack Nash keeping us in the game. Unfortunately, we were eventually worn down and couldn't stay with the fitter Vincentia players. Even though the score was 7- 23 we were far from disgraced and ended the season knowing that we had exceeded the expectations of many with our wholehearted performances.



FINAL –6/9/15	Camden Rugby Park	University 7	Vincentia 23
<b>Tries:</b>	Jack Nash		
<b>Goals:</b>	Mark Placek (1)		<b>Pen Goals:</b>

## SECONDS

(1) Casey Rameka	(2) Dan Grainger	(3) Luke Symons
(4) Lachlan Wells		(5) Chris Parker
(6) Rhys Handcock	(8) Ben Cheetham	(7) Michael Martin
(9) Emrys Owen		(10) Charles Curry
(12) Pat Perillo		(13) Dan Ward
(11) Brad Reed	(15) Justin Stanbrook	(14) Harry Cummins
(16) Donny Nepia	(17) Nathan Illy	(18) Steve Elson
(19) Killian Grennell	(20) Leon Mason	(21) Rueben Butler
(22) Christo Crous		(23) Hemi Wickliffe

Rugby is a funny game at times and there was no way that Camden should have won this game. However, the results show them coming out on top 27-26. Everyone was shattered as we dominated huge sections of the match, scoring four tries and converting three of them but still lost the game. The loss could be attributed to complacency as we scored consistently but then allowed Camden to get back in the game by poor defence or lack of discipline. Even near the end we had a chance to notch a victory, but a penalty attempt just missed and the boys were left devastated that they were not able to defend their title from '14.

FINAL –12/9/15	Ocean Park	University 26	Camden 27
<b>Tries:</b>	Michael Martin	Rhys Handcock	Charlie Curry Leon Mason
<b>Goals:</b>	Brad Reed (3)		<b>Pen Goals:</b>

## Grand Final – WIN Stadium

### COLTS

(1) Ry Cambourne	(2) Matthew Piggott	(3) Harry Edwards
(4) Nick Shillington		(5) Jonah Potgiester-Denton
(6) Rob Leane	(16) Lachlan Williams	(7) Michael Martin
(9) Will Harris		(10) Harry Ottley
(12) Dan Ward		(13) Brayden Grehan
(11) Nick Longhurst	(15) Gus O'Connell	(14) Lachlan Conyers
(8) Ryan Witherdin	(17) Ryan Stewart	(18) Nick Evans
(19) Nathan Illy	(20) Bill Exton	(21) Heuan Armstrong
(22) Liam McAnulty		(23) Brayden Palmer

Our opponent in the final game was Campbelltown and they were a huge outfit who took no prisoners. The team's preparation suffered a significant disruption with the withdrawal of Ryan Witherdin who suffered a badly broken ankle in the last game of the season even though he was named in the squad in recognition of his efforts throughout the year.

The game opened with the Lads being awarded a penalty try after Nick Longhurst looked likely to score. Not long after an 80m intercept try to Campbelltown saw the scores locked at 7 all and we had to rely on a Harry Ottley penalty to go in three points in front at half time.

A crucial time was just before the break as we held out against a very determined opposition for a five-minute period.

The second half was a lot less stressful for the coaches as the Lads superior fitness levels came into play and the game turned in our favour. Our backline clicked into gear and two excellent tries were finished off by Nick Longhurst and Lachlan Williams, both of which were converted by Harry. Not to be outdone The Quins hit back with their own converted try but were forced to play with only 14 players after their number 21 was sent off after receiving his second yellow card. The icing on the cake came when Captain Courageous, Rob Leane, scored under the posts as the bell rang to see the guys comfortably home 31-14 and the celebrations began as back-to-back premierships is a rare feat indeed!

Grand Final –19/9/15	WIN Stadium		University 31	Campbelltown 14
<b>Tries:</b>	Penalty Try	Rob Leane	Nick Longhurst	Lachlan Williams
<b>Goals:</b>	Harry Ottley (4)		<b>Pen Goals:</b>	Harry Ottley (1)

## Man of The Match – Nick Longhurst

### FIRSTS

(1) Karl Smith	(2) Hori Leef	(3) Andy Papworth
(4) Andy Rae		(5) Will Wood
(6) Wayne Ngatai	(8) Jason Hughes	(7) Charlie Freeman
(9) Alex Sims		(10) Leon Mason
(12) Nick Rangiura		(13) Chris Miller
(11) Sam Latu	(15) Alyd Owen	(14) Rueben Thompson
(16) Tom Baker	(17) Matt Lee	(18) Donny Nepia
(19) Dan Ward	(20) Hemi Wickliffe	(21) Chris Parker
(22) Ben Cheetham		(23) Casey Rameka

### Firsts - Report by Ron Wood – ‘The Rogue’s Rant’

In what will be ranked as one of the most entertaining Grand Finals in Illawarra Rugby history with a total of eleven tries scored, Avondale took the prize for 2015 with a 39 – 31 victory over a gallant University Bulls side. The IDRU Builders Club Premiership decider played on Saturday at WIN Stadium was played at a frenetic pace throughout the entire eighty minutes keeping a healthy crowd enthralled to the end.

Avondale, despite losing centre Nua Alone to the Sin Bin after four minutes for hair pulling, launched into their trademark attacking game racing to a 27 – 12 halftime lead before conceding the second half to a determined and fast finishing Bulls outfit. Scoring four second half tries to Wombats two, the Bulls fought to the very end but fell just short of the mark to defend their title.

Injuries to key players Chris Miller, Jason Hughes and Sam Latu didn’t help the University cause but nothing can be taken away from the new Premiers outstanding effort right across the park as all the Wombat players contributed to the teams winning performance.

A bone crushing tackle by Ryan Lonsdale left Miller with shoulder problem shortly after the Bulls centre almost opened the scoring with a kick and chase effort when the ball just eluded the dynamic centre in the Wombat in goal. Pauro Collier opened the scoring for the Wombats with a penalty goal as Miller was being escorted from the arena.

Within ten minutes Avondale put on two tries to race to a 15 – 0 lead after twenty-one minutes.

Andre Itula scored the first when he retrieved a kick at the Uni line to score, followed by Nua Alone’s try when he dummied to pass twice leaving several defenders in his wake as he scored under the posts. Collier converted the Alone try for the fifteen-point lead.

Uni struck back when their in-form halfback Alex Simms scored at the twenty-seven-minute mark after showing a clean pair of heals to score without a hand on him from close range. With the try

converted by Alyd Owen the Bulls were on the board. But with both sides throwing everything into their attacking game the match continued at a frenetic pace with three more tries before the break. Anthony Amone went within centre meters of scoring for the Wombats and from the ensuing play Eli Sinoti scored the first of his two tries on the end of a backline charge in the right corner. Then Flanker Elia Anuma scored for Avondale when he fielded an inch perfect thirty-meter cross field kick from Scott Morgan to score and with Collier converting the Wombats were out by 27 – 7. The Bulls reduced the margin to fifteen at the break with driving maul try to No, 8 Jason Hughes on the stroke of half-time.

Two minutes into the second term Sinoti got his second try under the posts for Collier to convert and Wombats had a commanding 34 – 12 lead and looked to be cruising to victory. The fierce forward exchanges took their toll as the match progressed with Uni captain and No.8 Jason Hughes leaving the field injured as the forwards ripped into each other, creating more opportunities for their attack. Avondale No. 8 Steven Fuka, who continued his powerhouse form of the season lead the Wombat charge when at the sixty-four-minute mark he was pulled down agonisingly short of the line. From the ensuing play Ryan Lonsdale scored on the end of a short backline play for the Wombats to go out to 39 – 12.

In an amazing final fifteen minutes Uni put on three more tries, putting a scare into the Wombat camp. The first came as a penalty try as replacement winger Matt Lee crossed wide out into the Avondale in goal only to be taken in a high dangerous tackle by Wombat full-back Scott Morgan. The penalty try was converted by Alyd Owen from in front and Morgan was binned for the final minutes of the match.

With six minutes to go replacement Wombat Tuu Taiti-Taanoa, was also binned for a dangerous tackle and Avondale were down to thirteen players with Uni throwing everything at them. Matt Lee scooted away to score a smart wingers try with three left on the clock and with a minute to go replacement forward Ben Cheetham crossed for a try converted by Owen for the Bulls to get within eight of the lead. With Uni pressing the Wombat line in the dying stages time ran out for the Bulls and the much-anticipated celebrations for the Wombats begun.

It was a memorable Grand Final with players from both sides right across the field contributing to the spectacle. The effort of both sets of forwards was remarkable as they all put in a whole-hearted effort for their respective clubs throughout. Wombat centre Eli Sinoti took out the Geoff Shaw Medal for the Player of the Grand Final, though his sides No.8 Steve Fuka must have been very close behind in the voting as he put in yet another mountainous effort. Young front-rower Anthony Amone was awesome as he charged into his work for the day, with his veteran front row partner Roger Cairns strong in defence.

For University on the back of the form of their very consistent front row combination of Karl Smith, Hori Leef and Andy Papworth, it was their little men who deserve plenty of pundits for their performances today. Half-back Alex Simms was their best with diminutive flanker Charlie Freeman outstanding and Fly Half Leon Mason his usual masterful self.

Grand Final –19/9/15	WIN Stadium		University 31	Avondale 39
<b>Tries:</b>	Jason Hughes	Alex Sims	Ben Cheetham	Matt Lee
<b>Goals:</b>	Alyd Owen (3)		<b>Pen Goals:</b>	

## Senior Awards

Men's Awards:		Donated by:	Winner:
<b>President's Award</b>	<b>Jack Huxley Shield</b>	<b>Glenn McGuinness</b>	<b>Rob Mardus</b>
<b>Award for Leadership</b>	<b>Sam Davey Shield</b>	<b>Paul Webb</b>	<b>Jason Hughes</b>
		<b>Canio Fierravanti</b>	
<b>Trainer of the Year</b>		<b>Paul Dunai</b>	<b>Zac Gorman</b>
<b>Coaches Award</b>		<b>Wayne Dobson</b>	<b>Nik Rangiura</b>
<b>Colts Best and Fairest</b>			<b>Ryan Witherdin</b>
<b>Colts 'Players Player'</b>			<b>Rob Leane</b>
<b>Third Grade Best and Fairest</b>	<b>Nick Theodore Shield</b>	<b>Peter Keeble</b>	<b>Mark Placek</b>
<b>Third Grade 'Players Player'</b>			<b>Steve Elson</b>
<b>Second Grade Best and Fairest</b>		<b>Noel Yates</b>	<b>Pat Perillo</b>
<b>Second Grade 'Players Player'</b>			<b>Ben Cheetham</b>
<b>First Grade Best and Fairest</b>		<b>Dave Rae</b>	<b>Charlie Freeman</b>
<b>First Grade 'Players Player'</b>			<b>Paul Tuala</b>
<b>Players 'Player of the Year'</b>	<b>Phillip "Doris" McInerney Shield</b>	<b>Dave Bateman Tom Wren Rob Pedersen</b>	<b>Paul Tuala</b>
<b>Rookie of the Year</b>		<b>Duarte Do Rego</b>	<b>Dan Ward</b>
<b>Player with the Most Potential</b>	<b>Dave Reading Shield</b>	<b>Dave Bateman Tom Wren Rob Pedersen</b>	<b>Michael Martin</b>
<b>Leading Try Scorer</b>			<b>Brad Reed Lachlan Conyers</b>
<b>Leading Points Scorer</b>		<b>Dave Bateman Tom Wren Rob Pedersen</b>	<b>Brad Reed</b>
<b>Club Person of the Year</b>		<b>Keith Hales</b>	<b>Will Wood</b>
<b>'Iron Man' Award Played in all rounds.</b>			<b>Chris Parker Sean Murray-Smith</b>
<b>8 Years' Service</b>			<b>Jack Nash, Sean Murray-Smith Lee Tanks</b>

### Games Played 2015

Player	1sts	2nds	3rds	u/20	Total	Player	1sts	2nds	3rds	u/20	Total
AKAUMA, Gordon		3	1		4	HUGHES, Robert	2	1			3
ALDRIDGE, Jesse			1		1	HURLEY, Bill		5			5
ARMSTRONG, Heuan		1	9	7	17	ILLY, Nathan		6		3	9
BAINES, Chris			1		1	JOHNSON, Phillip		7			7
BAKER, Tom	12	4			16	JONES, John			2		2
BELIERIES, Simon	6	5			11	LATU, Sam	10	4			14
BELL, Mitch	2	5	1		8	LEANE, Robert		1	5	7	13
BLIGH, Andrew			7		7	LEE, Matthew	12	2			14
BROWN, Marty		1			1	LEEF, Hori	15				15
BULL, James		1	13		14	LONGHURST, Nick	1	6		8	15
BUTLER, Reuben		7			7	MADEW, Harrison		1	6		7
CAMBOURNE, Ry		4	1	7	12	MAMATTA, Michael			10		10
CAVANAGH, Sam			1		1	MARAKU, Gareth			1		1
CHEETHAM, Ben	11	12	1		24	MARTIN, Michael	2	10	3	7	22
COGNET, Elliioth			3		3	MARZI, Jean-Francois			4		4
COLEMAN, Jake		7	1	3	11	MASON, Jamie			2	5	7
CONYERS, Lachlan	1	12	1	7	21	MASON, Leon	7	4	2		13
CROUS, Christo	4	11	14		29	MCANULTY, Liam			1	6	7
CUMMINS, Harry	1	16			17	MCCREEDY, Shaun			1		1
CURRY, Charlie	1	9			10	MCEVOY, Kieran			3		3
DEVITT, Geoff			1		1	MCEVOY, Tyson		2	14	5	21
DUTAILLIS, Shaun		1	11		12	MCKENZIE, Michael		1	14		15
EDWARDS, Harry			8	7	15	MCVEIGH, Simon			7		7
ELSON, Steven	1	5	10		16	MILLER, Chris	19				19
EVANS, Nick			4	6	10	MILLER, Dion			1		1
EXTON, William				3	3	MILNER, Brad		1	6		7
FARRELL, Richard			4		4	MURRAY-SMITH, Sean			4		4
FREEMAN, Charlie	16	4			20	NASH, Jack	1	1	6		8
FREEMAN, Mark			6		6	NEPIA, Donovan	14	7	4		25
GARDINER, Jade	1				1	NGATAI, Wayne	17	1			18
GAUNA, Maciu	4	1			5	NORRIE, Will	1	2			3
GORMAN, Zac			16		16	O'CONNELL, Angus		2	2	6	10
GRANGER, Daniel		15			15	OTTLEY, Harry		8	2	7	17
GREHAN, Brayden			1	6	7	OWEN, Alyd	16				16
GRENNELL, Killian	1	15	1		17	OWEN, Emrys	2	16	2		20
GRIMSON, David			1		1	PACKARD, William			2		2
GROGAN, Charlie		3			3	PALMER, Brayden			4	7	11
HANCOCK, Rhys		18			18	PAPWORTH, Andrew	10				10
HANS, Steven			4		4	PARKER, Chris	14	16	2		32
HARDAKER, Travis	1	7	1		9	PAYNE, Julian		2	16		18
HARRIS, William			3	7	10	PERILLO, Patrick	1	13	5		19
HARTICAN, Jack		1	1		2	PIGGOTT, Matthew			1	7	8
HENRY, Louis			11		11	PITT, Harry		1			1
HOGAN, Ben				1	1	PLACEK, Justin	1	1	11		13
HOGENDYK, Ben				1	1	PLACEK, Mark			10		10
HORNE, Mathew		1	1		2	POTGIESTER-DENTON, Jonah				6	6

HUGHES, Jason	19				19	PURNELL, Harley			9		9
Player	1sts	2nds	3rds	u/20	Total	Player	1sts	2nds	3rds	u/20	Total
RAE, Andrew	11	1			12	TARLINTON, James		3	14		17
RAMEKA, Casey	8	12	1		21	THOMPSON, Reuben	18	1		1	20
RANGIUIRA, Nick	17	1			18	TUALA, Paulie	9				9
REED, Brad	4	16		1	21	WANN, Matthias		1	7		8
REYNOLDS, Sam			2		2	WARD, Daniel	11	11		3	25
RITCHIE, Brenton			8		8	WARD, Dean		1	5	2	8
ROSSIT, Dean			4		4	WELLS, Lachlan	4	9			13
SHEPHERD, David	2	10	1		13	WICKLIFFE, Hemana	8	3			11
SHILLINGTON, Nick		4	3	5	12	WILLIAMS, Joel			1		1
SHIPLEY, Beau			1		1	WILLIAMS, Lachlan		3	3	6	12
SIMS, Alex	15	3			18	WILSON, Joel		1	5		6
SMITH, Karl	18				18	WILSON, Todd			1		1
SQUIRES, Daniel		1	7	1	9	WITHERDIN, Ryan		2		5	7
STANBROOK, Justin	1	9			10	WOOD, Will	20				20
STEWART, Ryan				3	3						
STUCKEY, Andrew			1		1						
SYMONS, Luke	1	11	3		15						
TANKS, Lee			4		4						

### Points Scored 2015

Player	Total	Tries	G	PG	B&F	Player	Total	Tries	G	PG	B&F
<i>First Grade</i>											
OWEN, Alyd	154	4	55	8	4	SIMS, Alex	15	3	0	0	3
HUGHES, Jason	50	10	0	0	4	BAKER, Tom	10	2	0	0	5
NEPIA, Donovan	41	0	13	5	3	FREEMAN, Charlie	10	2	0	0	11
MILLER, Chris	40	8	0	0	8	PARKER, Chris	10	2	0	0	2
THOMPSON, Reuben	40	8	0	0	3	BELIERIES, Simon	5	1	0	0	3
LEE, Matthew	35	7	0	0	1	CHEETHAM, Ben	5	1	0	0	3
LEEF, Hori	35	7	0	0	9	GAUNA, Maciu	5	1	0	0	3
SMITH, Karl	35	7	0	0	7	MASON, Leon	5	1	0	0	1
WARD, Daniel	35	7	0	0	2	PAPWORTH, Andrew	5	1	0	0	2
TUALA, Paulie	30	6	0	0	11	RAMEKA, Casey	5	1	0	0	3
LATU, Sam	20	4	0	0	1	WELLS, Lachlan	5	1	0	0	0
NGATAI, Wayne	20	4	0	0	1	WOOD, Will	5	1	0	0	4
RANGIUIRA, Nick	20	4	0	0	9	GRENNELL, Killian	0	0	0	0	1
REED, Brad	15	3	0	0	0	RAE, Andrew	0	0	0	0	1

Player	Total	Tries	G	PG	B&F	Player	Total	Tries	G	PG	B&F
<i>Second Grade</i>											
REED, Brad	173	9	52	8	3	SYMONS, Luke	10	2	0	0	6
CHEETHAM, Ben	45	9	0	0	11	WARD, Daniel	10	2	0	0	2
BELIERIES, Simon	40	8	0	0	2	BAKER, Tom	9	1	2	0	3
PERILLO, Patrick	35	7	0	0	12	BROWN, Marty	5	1	0	0	1
NEPIA, Donovan	30	1	8	3	4	FREEMAN, Charlie	5	1	0	0	0
CURRY, Charlie	26	3	4	1	3	GAUNA, Maciu	5	1	0	0	0
CONYERS, Lachlan	25	5	0	0	0	GROGAN, Charlie	5	1	0	0	2
CUMMINS, Harry	25	5	0	0	0	LEE, Matthew	5	1	0	0	0
BUTLER, Rueben	20	4	0	0	4	NGATAI, Wayne	5	1	0	0	0
GRANGER, Daniel	20	4	0	0	9	PITT, Harry	5	1	0	0	0
HANCOCK, Rhys	20	4	0	0	2	SHEPHERD, David	5	1	0	0	1
WELLS, Lachlan	20	4	0	0	4	SIMS, Alex	5	1	0	0	6
OTTLEY, Harry	17	3	1	0	0	STANBROOK, Justin	5	1	0	0	4
GRENNELL, Killian	15	3	0	0	3	BELL, Mitch	0	0	0	0	8
LONGHURST, Nick	15	3	0	0	1	COLEMAN, Jake	0	0	0	0	3
OWEN, Emrys	15	3	0	0	0	HARDAKER, Travis	0	0	0	0	2
JOHNSON, Phillip	12	2	1	0	6	NASH, Jack	0	0	0	0	3
MARTIN, Michael	10	2	0	0	0	RAE, Andrew	0	0	0	0	2
MASON, Leon	10	2	0	0	1	WITHERDIN, Ryan	0	0	0	0	1
PARKER, Chris	10	2	0	0	0						
RAMEKA, Casey	10	2	0	0	5						

Player	Total	Tries	G	PG	B&F	Player	Total	Tries	G	PG	B&F
<i>Third Grade</i>											
PLACEK, Mark	74	4	15	8	10	SHEPHERD, David	5	1	0	0	
PLACEK, Justin	25	5	0	0	5	TANKS, Lee	5	1	0	0	
BULL, James	22	4	1	0	2	WANN, Matthias	5	1	0	0	
DUTAILLIS, Shaun	17	3	1	0	2	WILLIAMS, Lachlan	5	1	0	0	
BLIGH, Andrew	10	2	0	0	0	O'CONNELL, Angus	3	0	0	0	
CROUS, Christo	10	2	0	0	3	OTTLEY, Harry	2	0	1	0	
FREEMAN, Mark	10	2	0	0	1	AKAUMA, Gordon	0	0	0	3	
MCKENZIE, Michael	10	2	0	0	5	BAINES, Chris	0	0	0	2	
MCVEIGH, Simon	10	2	0	0	9	ELSON, Steven	0	0	0	2	
NASH, Jack	10	2	0	0	5	HARRIS, William	0	0	0	1	
SQUIRES, Daniel	10	2	0	0	0	HORNE, Mathew	0	0	0	3	
MCEVOY, Tyson	6	0	3	0	0	MURRAY-SMITH, Sean	0	0	0	1	
MADEW, Harrison	5	1	0	0	2	NEPIA, Donovan	0	0	0	2	
MARTIN, Michael	5	1	0	0	4	PARKER, Chris	0	0	0	2	
MCEVOY, Kieran	5	1	0	0	0	PURNELL, Harley	0	0	0	3	
PAYNE, Julian	5	1	0	0	0	SYMONS, Luke	0	0	0	2	
PERILLO, Patrick	5	1	0	0	0	TARLINTON, James	0	0	0	3	
ROSSIT, Dean	5	1	0	0	3						

Player	Total	Tries	G	PG	B&F	Player	Total	Tries	G	PG	B&F
<i>Colts</i>											
<b>OTTLEY, Harry</b>	43	1	16	2	1	<b>REED, Brad</b>	6	0	3	0	0
<b>CONYERS, Lachlan</b>	35	7	0	0	0	<b>GREHAN, Brayden</b>	5	1	0	0	3
<b>LONGHURST, Nick</b>	35	7	0	0	7	<b>MCEVOY, Tyson</b>	5	1	0	0	0
<b>MARTIN, Michael</b>	25	5	0	0	6	<b>PALMER, Brayden</b>	5	1	0	0	1
<b>WILLIAMS, Lachlan</b>	25	5	0	0	0	<b>PIGGOTT, Matthew</b>	2	0	1	0	0
<b>O'CONNELL, Angus</b>	20	4	0	0	2	<b>CAMBOURNE, Ry</b>	0	0	0	0	2
<b>LEANE, Robert</b>	15	3	0	0	7	<b>HARRIS, William</b>	0	0	0	0	1
<b>MASON, Jamie</b>	10	2	0	0	0	<b>WITHERDIN, Ryan</b>	0	0	0	0	11
<b>WARD, Daniel</b>	10	2	0	0	0						