

23/8/74.

Improved display needed to topple Rhodes

QUEENSTOWN — The Swifts side, showing a few forced changes from the one which played Old Selbornians two weeks ago, meets the enterprising Rhodes University side in a Border Grand Challenge fixture at the Parry Davies field on Saturday afternoon. This match will be preceded by two attractive curtain-raisers involving the Rhodes II and under-20 sides.

Danie du Plessis, the Villagers utility three-quarter, dons the Swifts jersey for the first time on Saturday against Rhodes. He replaces the injured Elliot fullback Bekker, who is on the injured list. Du Plessis should be an asset to the side with his thinking play.

Despite the rather inept showing of the Swifts backline against Old Selbornians two weeks ago, the rest of the backline remains intact. Tosie Marshall, who has been showing very good form in his last few outings, must have come very close to gaining a place somewhere in the backline.

loose trio of Du Randt, Vorster and Budler will have their time cut out in trying to arrive at the point of breakdown ahead of the students.

Al Weakley, who captains the side from the side of the scrum, Don Neale-May and Dave Shaw have all had provincial experience and form a very formidable loose trio. At the time of writing it is not known whether Neale-May will in fact take his place amongst his team mates tomorrow, as he was injured in the game between Border and Transvaal at Ellis Park last week-end.

Rhodes are sure to play the typical running student game and for this they have the necessary equipment.

In Border scrumhalf Peter Reed and flyhalf Richard

Kernick, Rhodes have an excellent halfback pair who could dictate the pattern of the game. In winger Al Lawrence, who has worn the provincial colours this season, Rhodes have a promising prospect. If Swifts click tomorrow, rugby followers at the Parry Davies could be in for an entertaining match.

The Swifts team is: D. du Plessis, C. van der Vyver, G. Collet, N. Jonker, L. Coetzee, R. Shutte, M. Ballantyne, K. du Preez, W. du Plessis, G. Coetzer, P. du Randt, L. Schoeman, P. Vorster and H. Budler.

Reserves: T. Marshall, C. Harker, T. Marais, C. Kevy and J. Plekker.

The side is asked to report to their Manager, Les Terwin, at one o'clock at the Grand Hotel on Saturday.—DRR.

Weakley is QC product

QUEENSTOWN — Al Weakley, the new Border cap playing on the flank against Northern Free State in East London tomorrow, and who is a student at Rhodes University, is a Queen's College product having matriculated here in 1967, writes Stuart McLean. His parents still live just outside Queenstown.

Weakley, who replaces Trevor Rusteburg in an effort by the selectors to put some speed into the loose-forward department — which is also the reason for Bruce Bryant coming in for an in-form George Willson at number eight — is in his third year at Rhodes studying for a B.A. Physical Education degree.

These are not his first representative honours for Border though, for he represented the under-20 side last year in one match against Eastern Province at East London, and in his last year at school also made the Border Schools' side, although he did not go to the Craven Week that year in Cape Town.

This is only his second season in senior rugby for the Rhodes first team.

HINDRANCE

With the opening Currie Cup match against Northern Transvaal next Saturday only a week away, tomorrow's friendly might be more of a hindrance to the Border side.

The Free Staters can only offer token opposition, and Border