

Rhodes crush tiring Swifts with fine tactical play

QUEENSTOWN — Rhodes' tactics of running Swifts off their feet paid handsome dividends, as they ran out convincing winners by 36 points to four in their Border Grand Challenge match on the Park field last night.

It was evident from the start that the students intended playing the running game. After some early opposition from Swifts during which period they scored, they fizzled out and the Rhodes team dictated tactics.

Amongst the Swifts forwards none tried harder and showed more spirit than the two locks, Louis Schoeman and Des Monk, playing his first game for Swifts. In fact had the other six forwards displayed the same spirit, the final score would have been very different.

Amongst the Swifts backs, Peet van der Walt on the wing, also playing his first game for Swifts, displayed courage with his fine defence, which was certainly lacking as far as the other three-

quarters were concerned.

The selection of Koos van der Walt at flyhalf turned out to be a bad one. He often kicked away hard-earned clear possession. Tossie Marshall at fullback was his usual enterprising self.

For Rhodes, their loose trio of Weakley (a Queenstown product, and son of Laurie Weakley), Shaw and Kleinenberg, showed up to advantage, with Shaw excellent on attack.

Barter the provincial forward, also excelled, particularly in the lineouts, while another Queenstown product, Rowles, playing at hooker, was often to the fore in the loose. (Rowles is the son of the late Arthur Rowles, who so often played for Swifts and Border.) The Rhodes threequarters looked good as a unit.

Swifts kicked off and Rhodes immediately attacked for Kernick, their flyhalf, to put over a penalty (3-0). From the kick-off they again moved into Swifts territory, and from a lineout Barter scored for Kernick to convert (9-0).

Swifts forwards were settling down, and play moved into Rhodes territory. The Swifts forwards were playing well at this stage and winning possession to feed their backs, for Marshall to join the line and send George Kent over for an excellent try (9-4).

Swifts were now very much in the picture, but Rhodes increased their lead with yet another Kernick penalty (12-4).

Both teams were awarded numerous penalties in kickable positions and Swifts particularly, needing points at this stage, missed vital kicks at the poles.

Swifts attacked again and Van der Walt, on the wing, was nearly over. The half-time score was 12-4.

The second half belonged entirely to Rhodes as they piled on the agony. After Van der Walt, the Swifts fly-half was off target with a straight-forward kick, Rhodes attacked from their posts, and the movement went the length of the field. The ball was eventually fed to Wilson, on the wing, who raced over to score (16-4).

Further tries followed by Weakley and Bell, to push the score to 26-4. Swifts suddenly came back into the picture and Marshall and Collett were prominent and looked dangerous.

From their own line, however, Rhodes attacked via a long kick by Kernick, for Edkins, their Border centre to score (30-4).

In the dying interests of the game, Rhodes cleverly wheeled a scrum for Catto, the scrumhalf to feed Weakley who scored to make the final score 36-4. — DRC.

rugby.

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Rhodes beat Wits in rugby shock

JOHANNESBURG — From the moment Transvaal centre Bobby Grace left the field in the tenth minute with a torn hamstring, Wits were never in the game as they lost their quarter-final Ted Sceales rugby competition tussle against Rhodes at Ellis Park yesterday, 28-16.

Grace had looked the most penetrative back on the field until that stage, scoring a good try to give his side an early lead.

But when he was injured in a tackle after a glorious run which ought to have earned a try for right wing Meyer who fumbled, Wits played on pluck alone in a losing struggle.

It was probably the Rhodes loose forwards who set the seal on this victory which puts them through to the semi-finals against either Natal University or Potchefstroom. No. 8 Shaw, Captain Weakley and Neale-May were outstanding as they foraged for the loose ball, and with the Wits backline in constant disarray there was plenty of ball for the taking.

It was the manner in which just about every Rhodes man distributed that really impressed, and one wonders why the majority of players in the Transvaal cannot do likewise. — DDC.

Albany school to teach Xhosa

GRAHAMSTOWN — The first intensive Xhosa course at a Grahamstown school is to be offered at St. Andrew's College this year.

The course will be offered from Standard Six. Pupils in Standard Eight already proficient in the language may also enrol.

About 30 pupils are ex-

pected including some from the nearby Diocesan School for Girls.

The teacher, Mr. Alastair Weakley, an honours graduate in African languages will have full use of the college language laboratory for teaching this highly inflected language. Trips to the rural areas will also be arranged. — DDC.