

Weegie believe it?! Broughton Women hit half ton against Students

Monday, 19 October 2009

Scotland's newest Women's Rugby Club defeated National League 1 side Glasgow Uni 55-0 at Wardie running in 9 tries.

Despite fielding a team which would have given NHS 24 a dilemma over how many to diagnose with cold related diseases, Broughton Women fielding an almost unchanged side which welcomed the Badgers from Glasgow University for the second time this month.

With the Uni side fielding some new faces in the side, Broughton knew that the earlier 43-5 win counted for nothing as the Students arrived keen to gain their revenge.

The Students enthusiasm however was curtailed as early as the 2nd minute when Callaghan chased her own cross field kick which put the Uni winger under all sorts of pressure. Durand was quick in support to double up the tackle and force their opponent to surrender possession. McFarlane came close as did Greer, but after some persistent mauling and rucking, Smith spun around and over the line to open the scoring. Kinghorn was unlucky with the tricky conversion. 5-0.

Almost from the restart, the home side added to their lead with a try from overnight sensation Gaskell. Burt rumbled up towards the half way line before being unceremoniously double dumped by the Uni Prop and No.5! McFarlane, playing against her former Club, took over the running before the ball moved it's way out to Gaskell, who swapped second row for back line, and the new recruit showed Beckham-esque skills before collecting and scoring under the uprights. Kinghorn made up for her earlier transgression by adding the extras. 12-0.

The writing was on the wall, well Walls to be precise, in the 10th minute when the Broughton centre made good use of recycled ball after Roche's efforts in forcing a turnover after stopping the Uni Prop in her tracks on the Student's 22. Gaskell stepped in to scrum half before shovelling the ball to Kinghorn and the playmaker turned provider for Walls to run in for a try out wide. 17-0.

The bulky duo of Kinghorn and Durand tracked down the formers kick into the Uni 22 and when the Uni Full Back tried to make some use of the ball, she was hopelessly isolated and gave away a penalty close to the try line for holding on. Smith took the quick tap penalty, causing all sorts of disruption and a short pass out into midfield saw Walls score her second try. Kinghorn slotted the conversion from bang in front. 24-0.

This friendly encounter, played in 3 x 20 minute periods to keep the players ticking over during idle times, saw the Students attack down the Wardie slope in the 2nd period. Indeed, this seemed to renew their enthusiasm, but as hard as they knocked on the Broughton door, they simply couldn't get in.

First of all Nicholls, who stopped the Uni No.8 in her tracks with a thunderous player and ball hit, then Gaskell who's tackle on the Uni player wearing the No. 18 jersey saw the Student seeing stars.

From hitter to try getter, Gaskell proved just how important she will be in the Broughton jersey after the New Year when the proper competition comes with the introduction of the Cup by running in for another great individual try in the 27th minute. Kinghorn converted to take the score to 31-0.

It was a journey from the sublime to the ridiculous within a mere 5 minutes. Appleby and Kinghorn tried their best to break through the Uni defence but to no avail, then Callaghan got into the action with a crazy / magnificent piece of individual brilliance. With nothing much to aim for, the Broughton Full Back speculatively kicked through and for some reason she seemed to be the only player in the Uni half to react! Time to put the foot on the gas and a delightful bounce on the ball's end saw the prized charm pop into the bread basket and it was a simple run in under the posts. 36-0.

The end of the second period was nigh as Broughton made one final push up the slope. Roche took one against the head in the scrum on the Uni 22 and Heard, deputising at scrum half at this point, set her forwards on another rampaging mauling move. From the breakdown, Walls and Durand interlinked before setting Kinghorn on her way for another score under the posts which she duly converted. 43-0.

The final period was a perfect opportunity for the Glasgow side to use all their new recruits who had travelled through on the Uni mini bus (ahhh, someone remembered to order it this time…) and they tried valiantly to break their duck.

Sadly, it was Broughton who dominated to the end and two further scores from the home side put to bed hope of any Student resurgence.

Walls was perhaps lucky to be awarded her hat-trick score after fine play between the backs saw the Irish centre run in unopposed but her grounding of the ball raised a few eyebrows! However, Spanish Referee Royo deemed there was sufficient downward pressure and raised his arm towards the clear North Edinburgh sky. Roche converted to take the score to 50-0.

Gaskell claimed her hat-trick score in the 52nd minute following some persistent rucking by the forwards close to the Uni line. The ball eventually made it's way out to the backs and Gaskell run in for her easiest score of the day.

Despite the 55-0 defeat, the Students were upbeat and employed a somewhat unusual way of clapping the opposition off the field at the end by kneeling down and thigh slapping the Broughton players as they walked through the tunnel!

And finally...A big well done to Anna McFarlane who not only played exceptionally well against her old team, but downed the Player of the Match pint in demon fashion! Please note, Broughton RFC encourage you to drink responsibly.