

Vetus orbis pellus vacuus orbis — Old balls beats no balls at all

NOBS '05-'06: knocking forward, looking back

First half marked by both big wins and tough losses; finishes on a high note with shutout of Gentlemen

In typical NOBS fashion, the first half of the 2005-2006 season was marked by high highs and low lows, from impressive wins at home against the likes of the Snowcaps and an on-the-road shutout of the Gentlemen to away-game drubbings at the hands of the Vintage and Evergreen that nobody wants to relive anytime soon.

Win or lose, of course, we carried on and fought hard to the end, and enjoyed the fellowship of our teammates and the the opposition to the fullest — what Old Boys rugby is supposed to be all about.

The season began with a great win over the Snowcaps at home. These guys may not arrive with the numbers of the Twits or the Vintage, but they play hard, and any win against them is a good win, on a gorgeous clear sunny Seattle day — the last we'd see for months on the pitch, as the central theme of the majority of the fall games was that we seemed to be playing in unusually crappy weather match after match.

Another hard-fought home match against the SOBS had us feeling pretty good about ourselves when we arrived at the

Vintage home field with what appeared to be a strong team, only to be taken apart by the relentless Vintage attack. The match progressed through an absolute downpour, which fittingly matched our spirits by the end of the tilt.

The next match, also played in a driving rain-storm, pitted an out-manned NOBS away squad against a fully loaded Evergreen team that smelled blood early and pounced — and never let off on the pressure. A soaked and downspirited bunch made their way south from Brockton Oval, and, luckily, was greeted with the knowledge that there was a three-week break before the next match, an away game against the Gentlemen.

The break was good for both mind and body, apparently, as we went on to win a defensive stand-off against the Gentlemen 1-0, highlighted by Nigel's pop kick, scoop, and run for the game's lone score — who says that play never works?

Besides the big wins, the best thing to come out of the fall was seeing so many new faces week after week — and these guys all made great impacts on the pitch. Let's keep the recruiting process

Northwest Old Boys

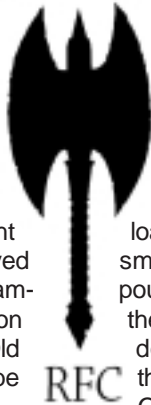


photo by The Troll

Congrats to first half MVP Pat Lockridge, for all he does for the team – we wouldn't be on the pitch without his efforts! Runners-up were Black George, George Peppin ('White George'), and PC; Nigel, Sully, JT, Brad Young and Andrew Whitechapel also received votes. Well done, boys!

going down south; our team needs to keep bringing in new members as former core members become less active, and that is happening.

The spring season is shaping up to be a soggy one as well, at least at the start. First match is vs.

The Legends at home, Soundview, on Jan. 29 at 1 p.m. Mark it on your calendar and highlight the date. Let's look forward to a successful spring, highlighted by the tourney at season's end. See you guys on the pitch!

— JT

Schedule: Spring '06

Jan. 29: Legends	(Soundview)
Feb. 12: Snowcaps	(Capifano)
March 5: Evergreen	(Soundview)
March 12: SOBS	(White Rock)
April 2: Gentlemen	(Soundview)
April 9: Vintage	(Soundview)
May 5-6: Over 40s Tourney	(Burnaby)

Men O' the Match: Fall '05

Snowcaps:	John Thompson
Twits:	Pat Lockridge
Vintage:	Bobby the Fullback
SOBS:	Sully
Evergreen:	Preacher
Gentlemen:	Nigel
First-half MVP:	Pat Lockridge

