

WELCOME TO THE EDINBURGH ACADEMICAL MINI/MIDI PAGE

Our next and last qualifying league game for the U16's is this Sunday at Raeburn Place against Linlithgow. The Kick-Off will be at 1.00pm. Touch line support for this hard working team at tomorrows game would be very much appreciated. If we win tomorrow and win well then it doesn't matter what happens in the Royal High (2nd) v Haddington (3rd) fixture. However we cannot take this game lightly as a defeat could prove costly.

The U16s had their penultimate Edinburgh league game last weekend. Unfortunately Ross High could not raise a full team so they conceded the game to us. We gain the full points and are given a 40-0 win which keeps us on track with the team remaining unbeaten this season.

The U16s have also had 4 players selected and involved in the Edinburgh Pathway Development Squad. They played a game against Edinburgh Schools U16s last week and won by 20 points to 17. The boys in the Edinburgh U16 Development squad are Tom Drennan, Murray Smith and Stewart Walker. Scott Campbell was in the squad but has decided not to continue. In the New Year they will have joint squad sessions with the Edinburgh Schools U16s with a trial match to follow, from which an integrated squad will be picked to play against Borders, Glasgow and Caledonia in the spring.

The P3 to P7 age groups have not had any tournaments for the last few weeks but they have had joint training sessions away at Watsonians and North Berwick (this Sunday will be away to Stirling County) which the boys (and girl) greatly enjoy.

The Mini's section of rugby at Edinburgh Accie's is open to all boys and girls from P1 to P7. We meet every Sunday between 1pm and 2.30pm until the 24th April 2005 at the grounds of Edinburgh Accie's at Raeburn Place. Access to the ground is from Portgower Place.

We are one of the top clubs at Mini level within the Edinburgh Area. In the 2003/2004 season in the final tournament of the year at Currie, we won the P3, P4 and P5 age levels and the overall tournaments award. This season we have continued our success in tournaments at Biggar, Stewart Melville and Madras.

For boys in S1 to S6 the club also provides a Midi Rugby section.

Mini rugby is also available for P4 to P7's on Tuesday afternoons from 4pm. Contact Andrew Ritchie on RitchieA@edinburghacademy.org.uk.

For further information on all Mini and Midi activities, please contact us at:
mini-midi@edinburghaccies.com

Raeburn Place News

SPORT

Rugby League: Scotland Students v Australia
University – Kick Off 2.00p.m. Raeburn Place – All
Welcome Free Entry!

SOCIAL

Winter Bar Hours: Friday: 5.00 – 10.00pm; Saturday:
12 Noon – Midnight; Sunday 1.00 – 4.30pm

INTERNATIONAL TICKET APPLICATION FORMS – STILL AVAILABLE!

For paid up members contact George Henderson for
information (Tel evening 0131 466 1299).

EA Football Club ties now available £15.

"1857 Silverbacks Club" / Sponsorship & Advertising see
Bill Menzies

"Lunch Club" see Willie Liston. "100" Club see
Gordon Wallace

Full details & contact Tel Nos on inside page, back cover
of this match programme.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

**Players & helpers Christmas Lunch now part
sponsored by Guinness!** at RP Sunday 19th

December

Players & Helpers Christmas Lunch at RP - Sunday
19th Dec

Accie Pre Six Nations Dinners – Fri 11th Feb
(Ireland). Sat 12th Match (Wales) at the Edinburgh
Academy

Annual Rugby Club Dinner – Fri 6th May at the
George Hotel

Planning Appeal for new clubhouse & hotel
development starts 19th Jan 05.

**Any outstanding social or playing subscriptions
must now be paid to avoid loss of membership.**

President's Welcome

The Haddington RFC President, Gordon Bathgate, and his fellow Players, Officials and Supporters make a welcome return to Raeburn Place, this afternoon, for what we are sure will be a tremendous encounter and a great advertisement for this great game that we are all so incredibly lucky to have an involvement in. In our two matches against Haddington, already, this Season the honours are even but our respective league performances continue to leave a lot to be desired – Haddington winning 8 out of 13 and ourselves 7 out of 13. Whilst we have leaked easy tries over the past few weeks the team despite an ever lengthening list of injuries, continues to improve – to the extent that Barnie recently complemented them on the maturity of their play! Therefore, we can, justifiably approach this afternoon's game with a feeling of quiet optimism.

The Genesis Strategic Review – may I remind you that at the Open Forum in February Alistair Gray, MD of Genesis, stated that "we (Genesis) together with the SRU are going to take 6 months to conduct this major review of the state of the game of Rugby in Scotland". Now, after nearly 10 months of Conferences, Group Meetings, Sub-Group Meetings, consultations, deliberations, official, semi-official and unofficial leaks to the Press there is a 'Special Meeting of the Clubs' at Murrayfield, tomorrow. No paperwork, no Interim Report, not even an Agenda has been produced in advance of the Meeting! In the invitation, from 'Boss Hogg', to send Representatives to the Meeting he states that, "it will be a high-level presentation and discussion thereafter, with the updated document to be presented at the end of the Meeting". As Terry Wogan says, "is it me" – am I right in having this feeling of incredulity!

Unless the SRU come up with a meaningful way of sorting out the unacceptable indebtedness of the Union by getting rid of the Pro Teams (by franchising or whatever) and reducing the grossly overstuffed administration at Murrayfield rather than tinkering at the edges as is currently happening then tomorrow will be, yet again, another talking shop and another waste of time. I suppose we should attempt to be positive about the 'Special Meeting' but it is very difficult as we are not getting coherent leadership from either the General Committee of the Executive Board!

On a lighter note I would like to express my gratitude to the companies and individuals who through sponsorship, be it players' kit, advertising, match sponsorship, donations or help in whatever manner, provide us with much generous support. This support is greatly appreciated by all at the coal face!

Finally, I very much hope that you enjoy a thrilling match this afternoon and that, if this is your first visit to Raeburn Place, it will be the first of many. Thank you for your support and I hope that we will see you again soon.

Hamish Mitchell, President

COACH'S COMMENTS

Stew/Mel manager, Gordon Rigby, said in the Evening News : "Had it not been for some rank rotten refereeing, then the winning margin would have been much greater". He was not at the same game as I was at. We had 75% of it but gave away two really soft tries – and we would still have won if they had not gone to uncontested scrums when Wharakura was sin binned. The next scrum was seven points right on their line – and we could not pull in their back row. Effectively we were punished for them having a man sin binned. Rigby says our lodging a complaint with the championship committee is sour grapes. Too true. We don't like cheats. But then what does a man who bad mouths a referee in print know about the ethos of the game? Charlie Tait will be rotating in his grave.

Murrayfield Wanderers last Saturday : NO COMMENT. But at least we won.

Last home game of the year – traditionally a time for looking back and looking forward. The highlight of 2004 – undoubtedly 17 April - beating Berwick 37-7 to win Division 3. Interesting how much the team has changed in eight months. The team that day was: R.Wire; C.Dickie, R.Gilmour, S.Little, M.Dillon; A.Guest, M.Coupar; A.Desson, R.Wood, A.Marsh, M.McVie, A.Dale, G.Campbell, G.Brown, S.Paterson. Only seven of that side start today. This season to date as a club we have played 58 games and won 43 or 74%. The intra club league table stands thus:

Allan Burns' 4th XV	100.0%	George Menzies' 3rd XV	85.7%
Jason Parrot's 2nd XV	66.7%	Malky McVie's 1st XV	60.0%
Jonny Els' BATS	30.0%		

Wish list for 2005: Beat Stew/Mel 32 –10 in replay. Top 4 finish in the league (our original target for the season). Beat Selkirk in Cup and get a home draw against Hawick in the quarter finals. Win Langholm Sevens. Christmas next year – top of the league. Broughton to get promoted and win the Plate. Trinity to stay up. Luigi pulled into the Italian national side. Jimmy Tyrell appointed captain of Thebans. Matt Rodgers gets married – twice.

Jason Parrot's Select for Boxing Day:

15 Stuart Moffat (Borders, Scotland)	14 Nick De Luca (Heriots, Edinburgh)
13 Marcus Di Rollo (Edinburgh)	12 Tom Philip (Edinburgh, Scotland)
11 Andy Olsen (Heriots)	10 Phil Godman (Edinburgh)
9 Mike Blair (Edinburgh, Scotland)	1 Danny Wright (Boroughmuir)
2 Dave Linton (Heriots)	3 Barrie Stewart (Sale, Scotland)
4 Nathan Pike (Boroughmuir, Edinburgh)	5 Scott Murray (Edinburgh, Scotland)
6 Craig Harrison (Heriots, Edinburgh)	7 Donny McFadyen (Glasgow, Scotland)
8 David Callam (Edinburgh)	16 Alistair Ness (Boroughmuir)
17 Jamie Osbourne (Heriots)	18 Graeme Kiddie (Boroughmuir)
19 Kenny Baillie (Glasgow Hawks)	

If only. Professionalism (particularly the SRU's version of it) has killed festival rugby. Instead come down to Raeburn on 30 December for a few pints - and the club's internal touch tournament sponsored by the financially dependable but strangely elusive Ken Gray. Eight squads of ten - each squad must include a player from the 1st XV, the 2nd XV, the 3rd XV and the 4th XV, a schoolboy, somebody from Broughton and somebody from Trinity. The winners to be presented with the Guinness Trophy by Mr Gray or his friend, Lord Lucan.

Ian Barnes

Second XV

Jed had previously beaten us and were top of the league table after remaining unbeaten till arriving at RP but we had a strong pack with experienced half backs and centres to turn the tables. It should be noted that Jed were only 15 strong and any injuries were going to tell. Angus Moncrieff back in the second row and Ed Stott playing his first game in 2 months were welcome returnees plus George Smith earning himself some R&R from the NHS.

Well - we started like a well oiled machine and despite a well taken drop goal by Jed we were able to quickly orchestrate some quick ball that was scored by Gus Moncrieff and converted by S Thyne. Craig Murray who looked threatening all day followed with a incisive run thro the middle of their defence off Robbie Gilmour's shoulder and we were 12-3 up. But Jed never gave up and always looked dangerous on the counter attack and some lightweight attempted tackling let them in with a score and we were only 12-10 at half time.

Our forwards played without fear and Marsh – Flint and Shepherd provided the vanguard with the rest always in support and it could be said that we should have had at least three other tries if we had had the finishing power – Alex Norrie had gone off due to a leg knock. Jed took another drop goal and the score was 12-13 to them but we scored again – person unknown as I was finding replacement shorts for a very cheeky No2!!

It was a very rewarding win played in good spirit and with some good post match socialising – we look forward to the match with Ayr with some relish. The Murrayfield Wanderers game of last Sunday will be rearranged in the New Year and the unknown cancellation did not go down well with the boys – C'est la vie !!

General note to all player and social members posters are on the noticeboard and website for all forthcoming dinners (Excl Club Dinner) – Club tours and the bats touch tournament on 30th December 2004. Your feedback and commitments are welcome.

Dave Parker

Today's BT Premiership Match Sponsors:

Creative Link Design Consultants
North Berwick • www.creativelink.tv

Today's BT Premiership Match Ball Sponsors:

Gilbert

OTHER DIVISION 2 GAMES TODAY

STIRLING COUNTY v PEEBLES
SELKIRK v JED FOREST
KIRKALDY v DUNDEE HSFP
KELSO v MURRAYFIELD WANDERERS
STEWARTS MELVILLE FP v BERWICK

BT Premiership Div II

TEAM	PLD	W	D	L	F	A	TB	LB	DIFF	PTS
Stirling Co	13	13	0	0	534	116	10	0	418	62
Stew/Mel	13	9	2	2	358	212	6	0	146	46
Jed-Forest	13	10	0	3	288	185	1	1	103	42
Haddington	13	8	1	4	282	200	4	2	82	40
Berwick	13	8	0	5	249	255	3	0	-6	35
Dundee HS	13	7	0	6	289	220	4	2	69	34
Edin Accies	13	7	0	6	228	284	3	1	-56	32
Peebles	13	4	0	9	179	266	2	3	-87	21
Selkirk	13	4	0	9	225	386	3	0	-161	19
Kelso	13	3	0	10	209	361	2	3	-152	17
Mfield W	13	3	0	10	194	366	2	2	-172	16
Kirkcaldy	13	0	1	12	176	360	0	6	-184	8

4th XV Results

Sept 11	Penicuik 2nds	Won	76-00
Sept 18	Forrester 2nds	Won	68-00
Sept 25	Edinburgh Northern	Won	12-10
Oct 2	Watsonians 4ths	Won	72-10
Oct 9	Stewarts Melville 3rds	Won	46-26
Oct 16	Hillfoots 2nds	Won	42-00
Oct 16	Edinburgh Northern 2nds	Won	39-00
Oct 23	Edinburgh Wanderers 4ths	Won	57-00
Oct 30	Opposition called off	-	-
Nov 6	Watsonians 4ths	Won	34-05
Nov 13	Lismore 2nds	Won	46-00
Nov 20	Inverleith 1st	Won	38-23
Dec 4	Forrester	Won	48-26

Today's Ball boys:

Players from the Edinburgh Accies Mini/Midi Rugby Club

Today's Match Officials

Referee: Peter Allan (Watsonians)

No 1 Touch Judge: Andrew Healy (West of Scotland)

No 2 Touch Judge: Bob Nevins (Borders)

FOR ALL THE LATEST CLUB NEWS AND INFORMATION, VISIT THE NEW CLUB WEBSITE www.edinburghaccies.com

Raeburn Place

SATURDAY 11TH DECEMBER 2004, KICK OFF 2.00PM



BT Premiership



DIVISION 2

Edinburgh Academicals

Haddington

- 15 ROSS BROWNE
- 14 CHRIS DICKIE
- 13 GAVIN DOUGLAS
- 12 CRAIG MURRAY
- 11 MATTHEW COUPAR
- 10 MARK WARD
- 9 MARK BEST

- 15 IAN HENDERSON
- 14 A. DOUGLAS
- 13 D. SNODGRASS
- 12 G. DYKES
- 11 R. THOMAS
- 10 S. BROWNLEE
- 9 S. JOHNSTON

- 1 PETER BURNS
- 2 KYLE TRAYNOR
- 3 ANDREW DESSON
- 4 ALISTAIR DALE
- 5 MALCOLM MCVIE
- 6 GREIG CAMPBELL
- 7 JAMIE BOYDJ
- 8 MATT RODGERS

REPLACEMENTS

- 16 DAVID ROBERTSON
- 17 ALEC GUEST
- 18 DUNCAN GRAHAM
- 19 STUART PATERSON

- 1 M. LOKENY
- 2 C. HARRISON
- 3 G. GLASS
- 4 G. WAUGH
- 5 A. LAPPIN
- 6 N. GREALISH
- 7 A. BADDELEY
- 8 R. WESTON

REPLACEMENTS

- 16 M. PATERSON
- 17 E. HERKES
- 18 T. THOMSON
- 19 TB

OTHER CLUB MATCHES SAT 11DEC

EA2 XV v AYR 2: AWAY KO 2:00
EA3 XV v ROSSHIGH 3: HOME KO 2:00
EA4 XV v EARLSTON 2: HOME KO 2:00
BATS XV v (TO BE CONFIRMED)

NEXT GAME: ACCIES 1ST (LEAGUE)

SATURDAY 18TH DECEMBER
DUNDEE HSFP v EDINBURGH ACCIES
MAYFIELD DUNDEE KICK OFF 2.00PM

Accies 2nd XV Fixtures/Results Season 2004 - 2005

Season 2004

Day	Month	Date	Opponent	Venue	Kick Off	Match	Result	Score
Sat	Sept	11	M'field W	Away	3.00	League	Won	54-14
Sat	Sept	18	Edinburgh Uni	Away	3.00	League	Won	05-29
Sat	Sept	25	Jedforest	Away	3.00	League	Lost	43-27
Sat	Oct	2	Ayr	Home	3.00	League	Lost	19-30
Sat	Oct	9	Cartha Q P	Home	3.00	League	Won	70-28
Sat	Oct	16	Glasgow H	Away	3.00	League	Lost	51-11
Sat	Oct	23	Gala	Home	3.00	League	Won	17-10
Sat	Oct	30	Haddington	Away	3.00	Friendly	Lost	12-19
Sat	Nov	6	Currie	Away	2.30	League	Lost	32-13
Sun	Nov	14	Aberdeen	Home	1.30	League	Won	35-27
Sat	Nov	20	Leith	Away	2.00	League	Won	33-12
Sun	Nov	28	M'field W	Home	2.00	League	-	P-P
Sat	Dec	4	Jedforest	Home	2.00	League	Won	18-13
Sat	Dec	11	Ayr	Away	2.00	League		
2005								
Sat	Jan	15	Edinburgh Uni	Home	2.00	League		
Sat	Jan	22	Cartha Q P	Away	2.30	League		
Sat	Feb	26	Biella	Home	3.00	Friendly		
Sat	Mar	5	Aberdeen	Away	3.00	League		
Sat	Mar	12	Gala	Away	3.00	League		
Thurs	May	5	RDM Toulouse	-	-	Tour		

3rd XV Results

Sept 4	Inverleith	Won	22-17
Sept 11	Biggar	Won	19-12
Sept 18	Boroughmuir	Won	30-19
Sept 25	Linlithgow	Won	56-19
Oct 2	Linlithgow	Lost	10-22
Oct 9	Ross High	Won	34-05
Oct 16	Glasgow Vets	Won	44-12
Oct 23	Livingston	Won	72-03
Oct 30	Corstorphine	Won	27-12
Nov 6	Currie	Won	36-20
Nov 13	Dunfermline	Won	14-12
Nov 20	BATS	Won	26-22
Nov 28	Boroughmuir	Lost	22-44
Dec 4	Linlithgow	Won	26-12

BATS Results

Oct 30	Crieff 1st	Lost	30-10
Nov 6	Glasgow University Vets	Won	68-07
Nov 13	Murrayfield Pirates	Lost	10-12
Nov 20	Edin Accies 3rd XV	Lost	22-26
Nov 27	Inverleith	Draw	7-7



Accies 1st XV Fixtures/Results Season 2004 – 2005

Season 2004										
Day	Month	Date	Opponent	Venue	Kick Off	Match	Result	Score	Points	
Sat	Aug	28	Stewarts-Melville	Away	3.00	League	Lost	05-23	0	
Sat	Sept	4	M'field Wanderers	Home	3.00	League	Won	32-12	5	
Sat	Sept	11	Haddington	Away	3.00	League	Lost	08-34	0	
Sat	Sept	18	Dundee HSFP	Home	3.00	League	Won	28-24	5	
Sat	Sept	25	Jedforest	Away	3.00	League	Lost	13-21	0	
Sat	Oct	2	Peebles	Home	3.00	League	Won	23-11	5	
Sat	Oct	9	Stirling County	Away	3.00	League	Lost	00-52	0	
Sat	Oct	16	Selkirk	Home	3.00	League	Won	27-17	4	
Sat	Oct	23	Kirkcaldy	Away	3.00	League	Won	22-07	5	
Sat	Oct	30	Perthshire	Away	2.00	BT Cup	Won	16-12	0	
Sat	Nov	6	Berwick	Away	1.15	League	Lost	08-13	1	
Sat	Nov	13	Kelso	Home	1.30	League	Won	26-25	4	
Sun	Nov	21	Haddington	Home	1.30	BT Cup	Won	21-17	(Cup)	
Sun	Nov	28	Stewarts-Melville	Home	2.00	League	Lost	16-25	0	
Sat	Dec	4	M'field Wanderers	Away	3.00	League	Won	20-19	4	
Sat	Dec	11	Haddington	Home	2.00	League				
Sat	Dec	18	Dundee HSFP	Away	2.00	League				
2005										
Sat	Jan	8	Jedforest	Home	2.00	League				
Sat	Jan	15	Peebles	Away	3.00	League				
Sat	Jan	22	Stirling County	Home	2.30	League				
Sat	Jan	29	Selkirk	Away	3.00	League				
Sat	Feb	5			3.00	(Stand By)				
Sun	Feb	13			3.00	(Stand By)				
Sat	Feb	19	Kirkcaldy	Home	3.00	League				
Sun	Feb	27	Stirling or Cambuslang	Home	3.00	BT Cup			(Last 16)	
Sat	Mar	5	Berwick	Home	3.00	League				
Sat	Mar	12			3.00	BT Cup				
Sat	Mar	19			3.00	(Stand By)				
Sat	Mar	26	Kelso	Away	3.00	League				
Sat	April	2			3.00	BT Cup				
Sat	April	9			3.00	(Stand By)				
Sat	April	16			3.00	(Stand By)				
Sat	April	23			3.00	(Stand By)				
Sat	April	30	BT Cup Finals Day	M'field	3.00	BT Cup				
?	May	?	RDM Toulouse			Tour				
Fri	May	6	Rugby Club Dinner at the George Hotel							

ACCIES IN THE NEWS

Kenny Milne wrote in Scotland on Sunday after the South African match that "Mike Blair (86-99) acquitted himself really well and perhaps deserves a longer run in the starting XV". Allan Massie in the Scotsman wrote that Blair offers the Scottish team "speed of foot and speed of thought" and that he is "too good a rugby player to leave on the bench". He suggested that he be played at stand-off or on the wing. The play of Donnie Macfadyen (84-97) was also a ray of light amidst the gloom at Hampden, and he was mentioned by Sir Clive Woodward this week as a possible Lion.

Of the (even) younger generation, David Blair (90-03), of Sale Under 21s, played at stand-off for the Scottish Under 21s in their recent win over the Orange Free State University, and Jamie Rennie (91-02), from the Newcastle Falcons Development Squad, was on the bench. Jamie's younger brother Ross (91-04) was a member of the Scottish Sevens Squad who finished sixth in the Commonwealth Youth Games in Australia, and the SRU website reported that he "had a fine tournament".

Eddie Sanjuan (86-98) may trigger a further category of ex-Academy rugby internationalist for listing in future editions of the Academical. A recent email recorded that he spent "most of last summer training as part of the Scottish Touch Rugby team" and went to the European Championships in Jersey. He has won twelve caps so far.

Rob Cowie - Edinburgh Academical Club Secretary

EDINBURGH ACADEMY RUGBY

25th Nov: v Hutcheson's (h) : Scottish Schools Cup : Lost 5-11. We seemed to expect to win after beating them in Glasgow three weeks earlier, but Hutcheson's were up for it and fully deserved their win. We watched them play, gave them the ball and dropped it ourselves throughout the match.

27th Nov: v Glenalmond (h) Won 22-15. What a difference 48 hours made! This was an excellent performance and the whole intensity of the XV's effort throughout was so different from that seen in the Cup match. James Murray had his best game of the season, James Magee, playing against his old school, had an outstanding game and the back-row of Peter Allison, Mark Renton and David Cairn won 50/50 balls against a larger and heavier pack. I hope they can move on to produce more of the same. Well done!

4th Dec: v Glasgow High (h) Won 15-3. An excellent second half performance saw the side score three good tries. Jamie Malcolm ran exceptionally hard and strong for two, and Peter Allison, who had his best game of the season, crashed over for the other. The XV have worked exceptionally hard in training this term, they've been well lead by captain Rob Burnett, and when tuned in have produced some quality rugby.

A great deal of rugby is played at the Junior School too, sometimes in under age games, at other times by year group. Scott McRae, who runs the rugby there, reports that in all games played, at all levels, there have been very few defeats. Early on there was a clean sweep of wins against Watson's and the first team ended the term with fine victories over Stewart's Melville, Glasgow High and Belhaven.

Next game: 8th Jan v Heriot's (h) (am)

Ed Saunders – 1st XV Coach