

President's Welcome

The Kirkcaldy RFC President, Ian Gray, 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 match against Kirkcaldy at Beveridge Park in October, whilst making the early part of the game difficult for ourselves, we eventually came out with a good result, winning 22 points to 7. The loss of matches, due to the weather, over the past few weeks has, to a certain extent, been a blessing in disguise as most of our injured players have returned therefore, we can, we believe, justifiably approach this afternoon's game with a feeling of quiet optimism.

Following on from the 'Murrayfield Massacre' we await with interest the outcome of the machinations of the Committees which have been set up to look into the governance of the game and also the restructuring of the leagues/season. There are already murmurings in the ranks about watering down of what were clear instructions from the Clubs as to the way forward – we can but wait and see. But, it does not bode well when one notes that at the Scottish Parliament Enterprise and Culture Committee Meeting later this month (where the state of Scottish Rugby is going to be discussed) the SRU President, interim Chairman/Chief Executive and Director of Rugby are representing the SRU and members of the General Committee are representing the Clubs! Will they ever learn!

What have David Sole, Budge Pountney, Edin. Accies and Matt 'the Mouth' Williams got in common? David Sole was banned by the SRU, for six months for his 'tantamount to cheating' remarks – Budge Pountney is being hauled over the coals by the SRU for his comments about a cheating referee – we have had our knuckles wrapped, by the Commissars at 'Fortress Murrayfield' following on from our press comments, re cheating, after the Stew Mel game and nothing has happened to 'the Mouth' after he alluded to cheating, by both the referee and touch judge post the France v Scotland match. The Commissars must assume that his win bonus contact is punishment enough!

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!

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 hope that we will see you again soon.

Hamish Mitchell, President

COACH'S COMMENTS

The very encouraging display against Watsonians a fortnight ago hopefully heralds a new dawn. Gavin Douglas made a welcome return in the centre with Adam Stafford – Matthew Coupar looked a real threat coming in from full back - and James Forbes was a revelation on the flank.

We have not had the best of luck with injuries and the backs have definitely missed Jim Renwick's influence – but even so it has, to date, been a disappointing season. We have lacked control and discipline at crucial times and we have tended to let our game become too 'one dimensional'.

The show is not over, however, until the fat lady sings. Our original target for the season was the top four in the league. If we win the rest of our games and the other results go our way we could still maybe just about squeeze in and if we beat Selkirk next Sunday we are into the last eight in the Cup.

Potentially we are a good side. What we want to do from now to the end of the season is play to our potential – giving ourselves a solid platform for next season.

One of the very pleasing aspects of this season has been the number last year's Academy team (Fraser Beveridge, Andrew Clark, Mike Page and James Forbes) who have really bought into the Raeburn Place thing – and if the rugby camp Jonny Else organised last Monday is any indication we have, hopefully, established the trend – and we have to appreciate Ed Saunders' assistance in this.

Plans are already well advanced with Broughton and Trinity for the co-ordination of youth rugby all the way through from S1 to under 18s and we are looking to run a combined under 19s side during August/October to ease the jump from school to senior rugby.

Recruitment is always a consideration at this time of year and we are speaking to a couple of very good players – but for me the biggest challenge we have just now is holding on to the seven maybe eight players we already have who could quite comfortably step up to Premier One next season – and to do that we have to continue to demonstrate our ambition, on - and, more importantly, off the pitch.

Ian Barnes

12th Feb 2005

Edinburgh Accies V Edinburgh Northern W 31- 7

This was a widely drawn team encompassing some players who had not been born when some other players first pulled on their blue and white strips. It was a combination of youth and experience which was to prove unbeatable.

Good tries were scored by Roger Flint (2) Fraser Beveridge(2) Chris McGarvie, and James Forbes. Sam and Mark Ward were lively, Scott Wolfe had his usual powerful runs, and

Rhys Williams caught the eye at the breakdown.

Memories game flooding back at the sight of the silver highlighted McNab and crew cut Smart in full flow, an inspiration to the players half their age(Forbes, Page and Clarkey, please note)

The points to improve on are the first impact at the ruck, which must clear out their players, and keeping the ball moving when there is a better option than taking static contact.

Raeburn Place News

BT Cup

Sunday 27th February 3.00p.m.

Raeburn Place

Accies V Selkirk

For a place in the last 8

Malcy & the boys need a big support for their most important match of the season.

Today's BT Premiership Match Sponsors:

**Noble Asset Managers Ltd
Investment Managers**

Today's BT Premiership Match Ball Sponsors:

Gilbert

OTHER DIVISION 2 GAMES TODAY

**KELSO v SELKIRK
STEWARTS MELVILLE v STIRLING COUNTY
MURRAYFIELD WANDERERS v PEEBLES
HADDINGTON v JED-FOREST
DUNDEE HSFP v BERWICK**

BT Premiership Div II

TEAM	PLD	W	D	L	F	A	TB	LB	DIFF	PTS
Stirling Co	17	17	0	0	717	145	14	0	572	82
Stew/Mel	18	13	2	3	487	295	8	1	192	65
Jed-Forest	18	14	0	4	413	275	2	1	138	59
Haddington	18	11	1	6	373	258	5	4	115	55
Dundee HS	17	10	0	7	402	271	6	3	131	49
Berwick	18	9	0	9	341	413	4	1	-72	41
Edin Accies	17	8	0	9	284	398	3	1	-114	36
Selkirk	17	7	0	10	333	465	4	1	-132	33
Peebles	18	4	1	13	263	400	2	6	-137	26
Kelso	17	5	0	12	268	446	2	4	-178	26
Mfield W	17	4	0	13	251	462	3	3	-211	22
Kirkcaldy	18	0	2	16	235	539	0	7	-304	11

4th XV Results

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
Dec 11	Thebans	Won	103-03
Jan 15	Murrayfield Wanderers	Won	75-22
Jan 22	Dunfermline	Lost	12-16
Jan 29	Watsonians	Won	62-7
Feb 5	Forrester	Won	35-5

Today's Ball boys:

Players from the Edinburgh Accies Mini/Midi Rugby Club

Raeburn Place

SATURDAY 19TH FEBRUARY 2005, KICK OFF 3.00PM



BT Premiership



DIVISION 2

Edinburgh Academicals

Kirkcaldy

- 15 DAVID ROBERTSON
- 14 MATTHEW COUPAR
- 13 GAVIN DOUGLAS
- 12 ADAM STAFFORD
- 11 CHRIS DICKIE
- 10 PAUL ARNOLD
- 9 MARK BEST

- 15 PAUL THOMSON
- 14 CAMERON GOODALL
- 13 WILLIE BERRY
- 12 LIAM NEILSON
- 11 JORDAN WEBSTER
- 10 COLIN HARVEY
- 9 CHRIS McCONNELL

- 1 EUAN McCONNELL
- 2 ED STOTT
- 3 ALISTAIR MARSH
- 4 MALCOLM MCVIE
- 5 ALISTAIR DALE
- 6 GARETH BROWN
- 7 JAMES FORBES
- 8 GREG CAMPBELL

REPLACEMENTS

- 16 ADAM BEASLEY
- 17 DUNCAN GRAHAM
- 18 KYLE TRAYNOR
- 19 ROSS BROWNE

- 1 MARK THOMSON
- 2 JAMIE BROWN
- 3 GREG WALLACE
- 4 MATTHEW HARVEY
- 5 STEVE MITCHELL
- 6 CRAIG WILSON
- 7 RAB PATERSON
- 8 CRAIG MacDONALD

REPLACEMENTS

- 16 WILLIE GRAY
- 17 MARK WALLACE
- 18 ALAN TASKER
- 19 JAMIE WATSON

OTHER CLUB MATCHES SAT 22 JAN

2ND XV v CURRIE 2ND (HOME) 3.00PM
3RD XV v DUNFERMLINE 3RD (AWAY) 3.00PM
4TH XV v PRESTON LODGE 3RD (HOME) 3.00PM
BATS XV v TBC (AWAY) 3.00PM

NEXT GAME: ACCIES 1ST (BT CUP)

SUN 27 FEB 3:00PM AT RAEBURN PLACE
EDINBURGH ACCIES v SELKIRK

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	-	P.P
2005								
Sat	Jan	15	Edinburgh Uni	Home	2.00	League	Won	18-12
Sat	Jan	22	Cartha Q P	Away	2.30	League	P.P	
Sat	Jan	29	GHA	Home	2.30	League	Lost	13-26
Sat	Feb	5	M'field W	Away	3.00	League	Lost	12-29

3rd XV Results

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
Dec 11	Boroughmuir	Lost	07-21
Jan 15	Livingston	Won	42-12
Jan 29	Currie	Won	28-16
Feb 5	Boroughmuir	Lost	7-67
Feb 12	Edinburgh Northern	Won	31-7

BATS Results

Nov 13	Murrayfield Pirates	Lost	10-12
Nov 20	Edin Accies 3rd XV	Lost	22-26
Nov 27	Inverleith	Draw	07-07
Jan 15	Biggar	Lost	05-15
Jan 29	Murrayfield Wanderers	Lost	10-20
Feb 12	Leith	Won	33-7

Today's Match Officials

Referee: Bruce Devin (Portobello)

No 1 Touch Judge: (To be confirmed)
No 2 Touch Judge: Robert Nevins (Duns)

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



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	Lost	09-17	0	
Sat	Dec	18	Dundee HSFP	Away	2.00	League	Lost	12-56	0	
2005										
Sat	Jan	8	Jedforest	Home	2.00	League	P	P-P	-	
Sat	Jan	15	Peebles	Away	3.00	League	Won	25-22	4	
Sat	Jan	22	Stirling County	Home	2.30	League	P	P-P	-	
Sat	Jan	29	Selkirk	Away	3.00	League	Lost	13-26	0	
Sat	Feb	5	Watsonians	Home	11.30	Friendly	Won	13-10	-	
Sun	Feb	13	-	-	3.00	(Stand By)				
Sat	Feb	19	Kirkcaldy	Home	3.00	League				
Sun	Feb	27	Selkirk	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	Jedforest	Home	3.00	League				
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

Apologies first to Keith Miller (54-58), for selling him short on his New Year Honour. He didn't receive the MBE, as stated in the last programme, but the CBE - for services to the construction industry in Scotland and to charity. Many congratulations once again.

Same surname, same company, but no relation, Philip Miller (68-74) was featured with pictures and story in an Evening News article recently. It examined "how many have reaped the benefits in later life of being handed responsibility at a tender age". In 1974 Phil was a Junior Ephor and 1st XV captain. Now he is chief executive of Miller Developments, which is part of the Miller Group. The caption to the photo said "the school channelled his 'wild child' energy and kept him out of trouble".

Oliver Lindsay (81-94) was this year's winner of the Oxford and Cambridge Golfing Society's President's Putter. This is a high quality amateur match play competition limited to current and past Blues. It was a notable victory and achieved at his first attempt. Michael Gray (95-01) was also playing, and though beaten in the second round, was winner, with his partner, of the Niblick, a competition for those eliminated early from the Putter. Other Accies who have done well in this competition in the recent past include Mike MacPhee (69-82), who was a losing finalist, and Iain Smith (70-83), who reached a semi-final and three quarter-finals.

Sadly there were no Accies on the pitch in Scotland's narrow loss to the French, but team manager Guy Richardson (74-83) came close. At one stage he fielded the ball as it went into touch, much to the consternation of the referee and the French player wanting a quick throw. Andy Nichol, doing the summarising in the BBC TV commentary, wondered if it qualified Guy for a cap, to be upsides with brother Jeremy (72-82).

In the Under 21 game against the French David Blair (90-03) played well and scored "a clever opportunist drop-goal". The result, though, was a narrow (8-12) defeat. Last Friday David again played, and scored two penalties, for the Under 21s as they registered their first ever win over Ireland by 16-8.

Ross Rennie (91-04), Chris Dunlop (91-04) and Kyle Trainer (EAFC) all played for the Under 19s in their game against the French, but they were overpowered 3-39.

Rob Cowie - Edinburgh Academical Club Secretary

EDINBURGH ACADEMY RUGBY

5th Feb: v Stewart's Melville (h) Lost: 0-23. The result was a disappointing way to end the 1st XV season, but the score did not reflect our performance, and the effort and determination of the team could not be faulted. We should have been 3-0 up after twenty minutes when James Murray missed a sitter in front of the posts. At this stage the match was an excellent contest with some good rugby coming from both sides. With five minutes to go to half-time Stewart's scored a catch and drive try and then a good try out wide. We were still in the game at half time, and it was desperately unfortunate that James Murray, our stand-off, had to leave the field with a cut eye. The reorganised back-line, with players out of position, could not create any width or penetration, and Stewart's killed the game off with another well-worked try. However, as has been the case all season, we fought to the end and only excellent Stewart's defence kept us from scoring a consolation try.

Ed Saunders - 1st XV Coach

WELCOME TO THE EDINBURGH ACADEMICAL MINI/MIDI PAGE

We are hosting our annual Tournament on Sunday March 6th at Raeburn Place with the first games kicking off at 11.00am and the final concluding about 2.30pm. All age groups from P3 to P6 will be playing. There will be visiting teams from North Berwick, Madras, Lasswade, Royal High and Watsonians. This has proved to be a very entertaining Tournament in the past and the young players would certainly welcome support from anyone able to come down on the day.

Disappointment last Sunday for the U16s with a 27 - 0 defeat by Hawick. The result doesn't tell the full story though as we had almost constant pressure in the first half but failed to turn the pressure into points. A couple of break away tries and a defensive blunder meant Hawick turned round at half time leading 19-0. We kept plugging away in the second half with some good pressure but ended up chasing the game and leaked another try and a penalty goal.

Hawick were clinical and took every chance that came their way whereas a few defensive lapses, lack of discipline (at times) and inability to change the game plan at vital moments cost us dearly. The U16s first defeat of the season and a learning experience.

All is not lost though as a win this Sunday at home to Stirling should be enough for us to qualify for the semis.

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.

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.