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ROUND 5 PREVIEW

St George will come out breathing fire after relinquishing an imposing quarter time lead to be over run by Pennant Hills. It's a bit hard to place St George's form line at 2-2, with a good win against UNSW/ES and last weekend's fade out. There's no doubting that Peter Dugmore will be hard to stop and their backline will be difficult to penetrate. The key will be strangling them in midfield, where they have a tendency to kick long down the corridor. If we can make them run it around the expansive wings of NDP their big bodies could become a liability. Unfortunately Peter Murphy become another Lion to go down with a major injury separating his AC joint and Jason Philp came out of the game with a minor adductor strain and is a 50/50 chance to play. If we are to make our home ground a fortress a win against the Crows is a must. In front of a strong twilight crowd it should be an absorbing contest.

RESERVE GRADE

Wollongong Lions 12.6 (78)
UNSW/ES 17.13 (115)

Unfortunately the reserves produced exactly the same effort as they did against North Shore. Good in patches of 3 or 4 goals but then lacking tenacity for extended periods. The reserves need to produce a greater work ethic and as Aussie Gus told me "A little bit of hustle goes a long

way". Not bad from a bloke whose played one game of footy ever.

In saying that, UNSW/ES were extremely impressive for a reserves outfit having many experienced players at their disposal. They moved the ball much quicker and with greater precision than we could manage. Once again our forward line functioned quite well under the leadership of Brad Ainsworth. Steve Rodgers in particular put in a solid display working hard off a flank and kicking 3 goals. In midfield Drew Holmes again gathered numerous possessions on that raking left boot. Down back, Tim Robb, Jared Nelson and Daniel Posch took plenty of covering marks and controlled the ball on the way back out. The two standouts for the day were Duane Jefferis and Sam Jenner who couldn't be faulted on their work rate and attack on the football. Duane was seemingly at the bottom of every pack and Sam worked hard on the ground to compliment the work of our taller timber in defence.

If the boys can just find a bit more desire a place in the Top 5 beckons despite not recording a win so far in 2008, especially if we can tighten our belts in defence. Hopefully a few key ins this week including the marathon man himself Adam Patterson should give the reserves their first win against a St George side that lacks experience.



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U18's

The U18's game against St Ignatius was cancelled after their home ground was trashed by an U18's state carnival during the week. It was particularly disappointing as the boys would have backed themselves after beating the Bears and going close against the Bombers last week. If the backline can continue to keep sides below 10 goals they should a threat come finals time. Hopefully the points that went begging on the weekend don't cost them a spot in the Top 5. St George will be hungry to open their account for 08 so the boys will have to be on their toes if they are to kick off Saturday night in a positive fashion.

Club rules state that after Round 4 non-financial players shall not be eligible to receive match day awards and will not have them credited to their outstanding account. If full payment is received by Round 9, players will once again be eligible to receive any subsequent match day awards.

SATURDAY MAY 3RD

COME AND SEE THE WOLLONGONG LIONS TAKE ON THE ST GEORGE CROWS UNDER LIGHTS AT NORTH DALTON PARK THIS SATURDAY NIGHT

NOW FOR CAKE AND A CHAT WITH ...THE H-BOMMMMMMBBBBB.

Absolutely devastating news for fans of the H-Bomb. The big fella injured his shoulder on the weekend and couldn't make it down to training on Tuesday night. Hopefully next week will be different story and he can continue on in his role as probing journalist and poor speller.



ACTION KICKS OFF WITH UNDER 18'S @ 2PM, RESERVE GRADE @ 4PM & THE BIG GAME @ 6.10PM

ALL FEES WERE due prior to Round 1. A previous poor record of getting fees paid on time has forced the committee to crack down on serial offenders.

CANTEEN & BAR OPEN ALL DAY. AFTER MATCH DRINKS AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE SENIOR GAME.



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