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FOR ALL YOUR WYNDHAM SPORTS ACADEMY NEWS



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University of Hard Knocks!

Wolverines qualify for Mark Geyer cup defence, but fall one game short of a clean sweep in University Shield gala day.

BY SHANNON FINEMORE HEAD COACH LOGISTICS & PLAYER DEVELOPMENT WYNDHAM SPORTS ACADEMY

The MG Cup defending champions began our 2019 campaign in true Wolverine fighting fashion last Thursday. With the weather threatening to ruin the day, we packed into cars and made our way to glorious Whalan Reserve.

We started the day with some cross-curricular numeracy. How many Wolverine Rugby League students can you fit in a 5 seated car? I know what most of you are thinking, 4 plus a driver. Yet, if you were to ask Mat Tito you'd get a slightly different answer, which was to my surprise when I walked down to the area I had agreed to meet the boys I had organised to take and I found 7 boys standing there who had all been told by Tito that they could get a lift with sir. Thanks to Julie Smith, who saved the day and offered to take half the boys, otherwise I was going to have to break some hearts and leave the 3 Sports Coaching students at school.

With 4 of the bigger Wyndham students packed into the back of my car, we decided to do some more numeracy, this time addition with Logan Wasson.



Boys Football Round 3 Tuesday 7th May Quakers Park 2:00pm



Girls Football Round 3 Thursday 9th May Quakers park 2:00pm



Regional OzTag Tuesday 7th May The Kingsway 8:00am

> Upcoming Games

After doing some quick sums we came to the conclusion that there was over 500KG of pure Wolverine power and mass (including yours truly) squeezed into my luxury 2010 Lancer. Next I asked the boys how much it would cost to replace my worn out suspension... a question that went straight over their heads.

We arrived at Whalan to discover that before a whistle had been blown or a tackle made, we were already depleted due to injury with several boys unable to attend. Yet, this would not be enough to stop the mighty Wolverines. The boys kitted up, started going through their warm-up and preparations phase and following a few strong words from Captain Logan Wasson, which I will simply translate as "come on boys, let's play hard, we can win this day!" (I will let you insert your own Logan charm and if you are unsure of what this means just put a swear word in between each non-swear word) we were ready to go.

Game one saw us shoot out of the blocks against Colyton HS with Kaleb Farr streaking away like he was chasing the ice-cream truck down the street for two tries. Game two proved to be a bit more of an arm wrestle against our Blacktown cousins, Mitchell HS. Mitchell jumped out to an early lead but thanks to Chris 'It's just dried fruit" Sultana we managed to hit back before the end of the first half. A late try from Shahil Singh sealed the victory for us in a finish that was so tense made me feel I would be rocking a Jeff Smith hair-do before the end of the day.

Going into game three, the equation was simple, don't lose by more than 38 points and we were guaranteed a semi-final spot. We came up against a Nepean CAPA school who were more in awe of Mathew Tito than actually beating us. Whilst Nepean were busy staring at the Big-T, Kaleb Farr, "The Bolt" Cayleb Senico and Kupa "Tree Trunks" Puloka all crossed the try line to give us a comfortable 22-0 victory. This meant we finished the round games in second place and would face Cambridge HS in the semi. To Cambo's credit they fought hard, fielding a side that was made up mostly of year 10 students who were really keen to get a day of football in. 22-0 Wyndham and Kaleb Farr now had scored more tries then the amount bags of chips our supreme athletes had consumed during the day.

The Grand Final. A familiar place for us at the University Shield that hasn't given us as much success in the past as we would have liked. Unfortunately today would be a repeat of this, as 3 minutes into the game we lost the Big-T Mat Tito to a calf injury, Zak "Shake your" Tata to an ankle injury and Rudolph "Mr T" Hakeai to a head knock. The boys played gallantly but by this stage the day had taken its toll and with no fresh troops on the bench Loyola Senior High ran away to a 22-0 victory.

All the Wolverines played and conducted themselves in a manner that would make the school proud. Thankfully finishing in the top 2 guarantees us a chance to defend our MG Cup title late next term as well as progress us through to the final 8 in our regional play off. Stayed tuned in term 2 for more Wolverine Rugby League action.