

BLANDFORD SUCCUMB TO DOSE OF ANDREWS SALT'S

BOURNEMOUTH 4's 34 – BLANDFORD 2's 14

A spirited Blandford performance came to an end in the final minute of enthralling Dorset & Wilts Division 3 (South) game as new 'old' boy bludgeoned his way over the try line causing the Blandford No.8 to dispose of his scrum cap and head into the woods, this final dose of 'Andrews; salts was just too much to bear.

The game started and finished with an extreme gale blowing from west to east but to both sides credit this did not affect the quality of what could have been poor game with a mixture of good passing, tactical kicking and some excellent forwards play.

The Bedouin's pack is now taking shape and they hardly lost a ball in the scrum or line-out proving that practise can certainly make perfect and with the assistance of a very sharp pair of flankers in Stuart Lazenbury and Stephen Bowes the game is there to be won even off opposition possession.

It took just 3 minutes for Bournemouth to stamp their authority on the game when the ball was spun wide to Ramon Mallette and even with a 60 mile a hour wind in his face he used his exceptional pace to outwit 4 Blandford defenders from halfway inside their half, Ben O'Sullivan kept his composure to give the home side a 7-0 lead into the oncoming gale.

The visitors were visibly shaken by this score despite having won the toss and electing to kick with the wind, if the home fans thought that this would be the start of total domination they couldn't have been more wrong as Blandford fought back and on 14 minutes reduced the deficit to 7-3 as they took advantage of poor Bournemouth discipline to secure a finely taken penalty.

The game was then keenly fought in midfield as both sides look to secure an advantage, O'Sullivan was unlucky to see the ball slip through his hands as he was sent clear by the intrepid no.8 Gavin Bain, Blandford cleared their lines well and were awarded with another well taken penalty to reduce arrears to 1 point on 23 minutes.

Blandford were now confident and went in search of the points to put them ahead but after a mix up in midfield the Bedouin's took control of the ball and found Mallette to go over for his second try on 27minutes which was a delight to behold despite his unnecessary show-boating which clinched his 'Doughnut of the Day award' again O'Sullivan dispatched the conversion with confidence, if Bournemouth thought this would make their opponents lie down they were wrong!

The last minutes of the first half were played totally in the Bournemouth 22 and despite some heroic and desperate defending Blandford earn t their reward with a try in the corner on the stroke of half time.

HALF-TIME: BOURNEMOUTH 4's 14 – BLANDFORD 2's 11

With the wind now to their advantage Bourne looked to extend their lead, the first change came on 50minutes as a sturdy Sean Buckle who had been struggling with a leg problem made way for flanker George Thatcher with Stephen Bowes moving to loose-head.

The change seemed to affect the Bedouin's performance as they gave away another penalty on 58 minutes and the Blandford No.10 duly dispatched another excellent kick, in a strange way this seemed to encourage the home side as they scored 2 tries in the next 5 minutes with a 2nd try of the season for Salvatore Ponzio and a 1st in senior rugby for the excellent O' Sullivan to take a 24-14

lead, the game was effectively secured on 70 when skipper Craig Dean asked O'Sullivan to convert a penalty in front of the posts, despite looks of despair from some of the younger team members, but it gave Bournemouth a 13 point lead requiring their opponents to now score 2 converted tries.

The 77th minute brought the only low point of the game as Bedouin's Ryan Horan and his counterpart both received yellow cards for exchanging handbags, 'lads- it's best to keep your bags for use for when you are clubbing on a Saturday night'.

The victory was completed when man of the match Guy Andrew scored his aforementioned try and a conversion from sub Dan Mallard, a most satisfactory afternoon with fine performances from all.

The Bedouin's are beginning to show signs of gelling into a good team and things can only get better with Luca Buffrey blossoming at scrum half, an exceptionally solid front row, stars in the making in the shape of Ponzio and Hilton, exciting flankers and excellent No.8 and not forgetting the backs with speedy wingers. an intelligent 10, an ultra consistent fullback in the shape of Leigh Bailey-Pearce and our very own 'Ant & Dec' in the shape of the Dean Brothers Centre Alliance, oops forgot to mention Dan Thomas, the ever willing Ryan Rogers and new boy Lawrence McKone.

Here's to the future!!!!

BOURNEMOUTH FOURTHS LINE UP:

1: SEAN BUCKLE, 2: GUY ANDREW, 3: DAN THOMAS, 4: SALVATORE PONZIO
5: GREG HILTON, 6: STUART LAZENBURY 7: STEPHEN BOWES, 8: GAVIN BAIN
9: LUCA BUFFREY, 10: RYAN HORAN, 11: BEN O'SULLIVAN, 12: CRAIG DEAN
13: LEE DEAN, 14: RAMON MALLETTE, 15: LEIGH BAILEY-PEARCE

SUBSTITUTES; 16: RYAN ROGERS (unused), 17: GEORGE THATCHER (for Sean Buckle 50mins), 18: DAN MALLARD (for Ben O'Sullivan 70mins), 19: LAWRECE McKONE (for Stuart Lazenbury

MAN OF THE MATCH: GUY ANDREW
DOUGHNUT OF THE DAY: RAMON MAILLETTE