



COBRA TILING
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President's Welcome

Well, a huge week in rugby this week – **our A Grade broke through for their first win of the season.** In a very tense game the boys held on to beat South's 16-13. A huge turnaround from our first game of the season, where they beat us 60-7.

The TIO Junior Championships were also held over the weekend and our Under 16's and Under 18's both won their divisions. Well done boys and congratulations to those boys selected in the NT training squads. As a result this week's Croc Tales is a bumper junior issue.

On a huge weekend of rugby it is also worth remembering the work that other people do to make it all happen. As well as thanking our coaches, managers and other helpers, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the referees. If you think you have a busy Saturday down at the rugby, Jake Barlow refereed 5 games of rugby on the Saturday and backed up to do more on the Sunday to ensure that both the Junior Championship plus the seniors games could go on. Well done again to Jake and all the referees.

And lastly, I hope all the mums have a happy Mother's Day on Sunday. Palmerston, Palmerston, Yeah, Yeah, Yeah!

Ben Blyton

ATTENTION OLD SALTIES

Looking for players to have a run of Golden Oldies Rugby this weekend.
Home game—Palmerston vs. Swampdogs, be there @ 7pm
An easy, slow game for men who used to have talent. Bring your boots and your favourite Palmerston jersey. We will have a strip to play in if needed.
Contact Squirter by 6.55pm Saturday - 0412 377 578

What's on this weekend...

FRIDAY	Under 6's and Under 8's games at Rugby Park Under 10's, 12's, 14's and 16's have a bye
SATURDAY	Home Games at Moulden Oval 4:30 - Under 18's 6:00 - B Grade 7:30 - Old Salties v Old Dogs Golden Oldies A Grade have a bye



Notice board

HOME GAMES COMING UP

**This weekend,
Saturday 12th May**

**Next weekend,
Saturday 19th May**

NTRU LADDERS

A Grade

Team	P	W	D	L	Points
Casuarina	5	5	0	0	25
Souths	5	3	0	2	15
Dragons	4	2	0	2	9
Palmerston	5	1	0	4	6
University	5	1	0	4	5

B Grade

Team	P	W	D	L	Points
University	6	4	0	2	20
Casuarina	5	4	0	1	19
Souths	5	3	0	2	15
Swampdogs	5	3	0	2	14
Palmerston	5	2	0	3	10
Dragons	5	1	1	3	6
Jabiru	5	0	1	4	2

Under 18's

Team	P	W	D	L	Points
Swampdogs	4	3	0	1	16
Casuarina	4	3	0	1	15
University	4	3	0	1	15
Palmerston	4	1	0	3	6
Dragons	4	0	0	4	0

Around The Grounds



THE SENIORS

Update from acting coach Craig Leach

A Grade - Palmerston 16 South's 13

A Grade took on 2nd placed South's on Saturday and we came ready for battle. With a new Auckland recruit in Will Spicer in the 2nd row and big hitting number 8 Scott Rassmussen firing, we had some potent strike power. Rass led by example with big tackles and aggressive hit-ups and the team played well-structured rugby. Confidence grew and two Ian Verrall penalties saw us up 6-3 at half time and South's looked worried.

Defence was great and we shut down any attempts at line breaks, as we applied the blow torch. South snuck in two quick tries and we were trailing 13-6. Substitute Alex Sumpton made immediate impact, scoring a great forwards converted try to make it 13-all with a minute to go. Ian Verrall coolly slotted a 35 metre penalty from out wide to steal victory on full time - **16-13**. A great morale-boosting win, and a 56 point turnaround from last time we played South's. Paul Williams, James Protherough and Tommy Hurse also had great games.

B Grade -University 26 Palmerston 22

B Grade started with a blend of youth and old age!! A front row of Dennis Bree, Shane Cotton and Snogga made up most of the 200 years of playing experience out there. Needless to say, scrums went alright! Inside centre Jarrod Torres (up from Alice Springs) made plenty of solid line breaks and was rewarded with a try under the sticks, and Dominic Mead at 13 ran at will. Rodney Fejo barged over for a strong try and Jason (Rolly) Rollinson also strolled across the chalk for a 5-pointer. Robbie Taylor kicked 2 conversions and one penalty. We ran out of time in the end, going down by 4 points.

Alex Sumpton was superb, showing exactly how an open side flanker should apply himself. Jarrod Torres, Denny Johnson and Greg Jarvis all played well. Final score to Uni - **26-22**.



Photos from the games are on the following page...

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A Grade vs Souths



A Grade



B Grade vs University



B Grade

Photos supplied by Fiona Austine

Under 18's - TIO NT JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS (10's COMP.)

Update from Under 18 coach and manager, Shane & Lyn Cotton

Day One

Casuarina 10 Palmerston 5

Our first game on Saturday we struggled for numbers as we only had eight players to compete in the 10's comp. The team were competitive from the start but being down one man on the field and a full reserve bench was too much for the boys first hit out.

Palmerston 15 Swampdogs 12

Second game against arch rivals Swampys, with a full complement of players with thanks to a couple of lads looking for a run. The Palmy boys' excellent defence and their ability to retain the football saw the opposition starved of opportunity to score.

Day Two

University 10 Palmerston 7

Day two again saw the boys struggle for numbers, with two under 16's stepping up to make nine against University with a full bench. The boys had a half time lead of 7 nil but were unable to keep University out who crossed the line twice near the end of the game.

Elimination Final – Palmerston 17 Casuarina 10

With only a half hour break from their last game, the Palmy boys stood up to be counted. With only nine players on the field our boys were able to find the gaps due to excellent support in the open play from our talented back line.

Grand Final – Palmerston 17 East Arnhem 5

The final saw the Palmy boys against a bigger and more favoured team in East Arnhem. The boys believed in themselves and determination to win saw them combined to never give the East Arnhem boys any space to run. The highlight was an excellent series of pick and goes saw the boys cross the line leaving the East Arnhem boys with no answers.

Well done to the boys for an improbable tournament victory! Congratulations to the following players for their selection into the NT School boys training squad: Ashley (AJ) Brooking, Scott McDinny, Peni Tamoto, Ryan Cotton, Cody McFarlane, Taurian Ambrum, Garry Keppel, Trevor Nickels. Congratulation also goes to Garry Keppel for being named under 18's player of the tournament.

Under 16 and Under 18 photos on the following page...

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THE JUNIORS

Update from Junior Coordinator Robbie Taylor

Friday night saw the Palmerston Crocs once again put in a strong performance across the board. Not all results went our way, but the effort is there week in, week out. A big thankyou to all the parents for their continued support throughout the season. The behaviour of our crowds has been great.

What an awesome weekend for the Palmerston Crocs at the TIO NT Junior Championships. With both grades putting in an awesome display of rugby to come away with both, the Under 16's and Under 18's Championship Titles. Weekends like this make you proud to be a part of the junior development of our young Crocs. This club is going places after the weekend of success we had. And we will keep going places if the support grows with the success. A lot of the boys who played over the weekend will be lining up to play Senior Rugby in the next couple of years. Get along and support the future of the Club. Congratulations to all the boys who made it into the NT Under 16's and NT Under 18's Training Squads.



Under 16 NT Champions
with coach Justin McKenzie



Under 18 NT Champions
with coach Shane Cotton



Garry Keppel
Under 18 Player of the Tournament

Under 6's *(update from Under 6 coach Ricky Hoe)*

This week saw Kai - a great team player - open our account with a great try! Gareth had a great run, Oliver displayed some excellent stepping and Xavier used a signature U6 loop the loop move to advance the ball. Awesome defence by Olivia and Isaac left the Casuarina attack in disarray.

Our focus this week was getting back and creating a defensive line. This worked tremendously well throughout the game until a jumbo jet flew overhead and a Casuarina winger bolted unnoticed over the line! Great listening overall again by all players - thanks to Noah who had a good run and Bradley who scored two tries and put on four tackles filling in the numbers in the other U6 game!

Under 8's

This week saw the mighty Under 8's take on Casuarina Blue. We went down by a try in the end but the kids played with great spirit and had a lot of fun in doing so. Every kid gets a fair run every week and that is due to the great work of the 'McFarlane Gang'.

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Under 8's
(watching the jet fly overhead!)



Under 8's at kickoff

Some photos from earlier games...



Under 6's



Under 10's



Under 12's



Under 14's

Under 10's – University d Palmerston, 26-24

The game of the year so far for the Under 10's as they took on the Swampdogs. It was a top of the table clash, with the winner taking the top of the ladder. Unfortunately the boys went down 26-24. All involved put in a great effort and probably deserved to win. Well done boys, top effort!

Try Scorers - Sachin Deo 1, Jacob Blyton 1, Jayden Humphries 1 and George Gilder 1; **Conversions** - Riley Reid 2; **Special Mentions** - Sachin Deo, Jacob Blyton and Mitchell Brady

Under 12's – Swampdogs d Palmerston, 70-0

With the Under 12's on a roll in the past couple of weeks, a lot of excitement was building for the game against the Swampdogs. Unfortunately, a few players were unable to get down to the game and we started with 11 players with a little help from the Swampdogs so as to have a good fair game. The score line doesn't indicate what this team is capable of doing but nonetheless we went down 70 - 0.

Try Scorers – Nil; **Conversions** – Nil; **Special Mentions** - Corey McVee, Jasper Lewis and Mitchell Theyers

Under 14's - Palmerston d Swampdogs 40-0

Bouncing back last week, the Under 14's were looking to carry on where they left off. And that they did. The boys put out a strong and structured performance against the Swampdogs winning 40 - 0.

Try Scorers - Keegan Quakawoot 4, Keanu Feeney 1, Kael Croker 1, Isaako Teuati 1 and Michael Norris 1; **Conversions** – Nil; **Special Mentions** - Isaako Teuati, Keegan Quakawoot and Kosta Kachionis

Under 16's - TIO NT JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Under 16's performed all weekend with every player making a valuable contribution to the team effort. A special thankyou has to go out Thomas Roe, Hayden Bert and Ashley Theyers. These boys unselfishly put their hand up to play for the East Arnhem team. Their efforts over the weekend deserve special mention as all three boys played well and helped the East Arnhem boys come away with 3rd place. Well done and thank you!

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Notice board

A NOTE FROM ROBBIE TAYLOR

Bec and I have announced that we will not be continuing on next year as Junior Coordinators. We will still be around and helping out, but we are asking that if someone in the club feels like taking on the role of Junior Coordinator, please let us know and we are willing to help with getting to know what is involved. (Note: as with all positions, the Junior Coordinator is elected at the AGM)

LOST AND FOUND

We seem to be accumulating a lot 'stuff' at the clubhouse. If you've lost anything, please come and collect it!

SENIOR SUBS

Senior subs are now due. **\$190** includes playing kit and insurance. Balance paid in full by end of first round. Payment required so that your insurance is paid!



MONSTER RAFFLE

The Club is running a **Monster Raffle**. The raffle will run throughout the year and prizes drawn at Presentation Night. See **Dennis Grant** for tickets.

CASH FOR CANS

A reminder that containers can be recycled at the clubhouse.

The Palmerston Under 16's were successful on and off the field. We have 14 boys named in the NT Under 16's Training Squad. The names of the boys will be named next week once all are confirmed. Anyone who missed out on selection, if you want to, you are able to turn up and try and train your way into the squad. Congratulations to all the boys. And well done to the Under 16's for a great weekend!

Day One

Palmerston Under 16's came out firing on Saturday defeating both the Swampdogs and University. A few boys suffered injuries but all in all, great way to start the competition.

Palmerston 26 Swampdogs 0

Try Scorers - Xavier McKenzie 2, Jordan Boyd 1 and Ben Kaart 1;
Conversions - Greg Svanfelds 3

Palmerston 19 University 10

Try Scorers - Jordan Boyd 1, Darcy McBean 1 and William Bohning 1;
Conversions - Greg Svanfelds 2

Day Two

Palmerston came out a little sluggish in the first half of the semi-final but turned it on when it counted to defeat the Dragons 19 - 5. Making the Grand Final, the boys knew they were in for a hard game against University who had bounced back from Day 1. Palmerston came out physically and mentally determined to make sure they got the win. And so they did, winning 27 - 0.

Palmerston 19 Dragons 5

Try Scorers - Ben Kaart 1, Felix Byrne 1 and William Bohning 1;
Conversions - Greg Svanfelds 2

Palmerston 27 University 0

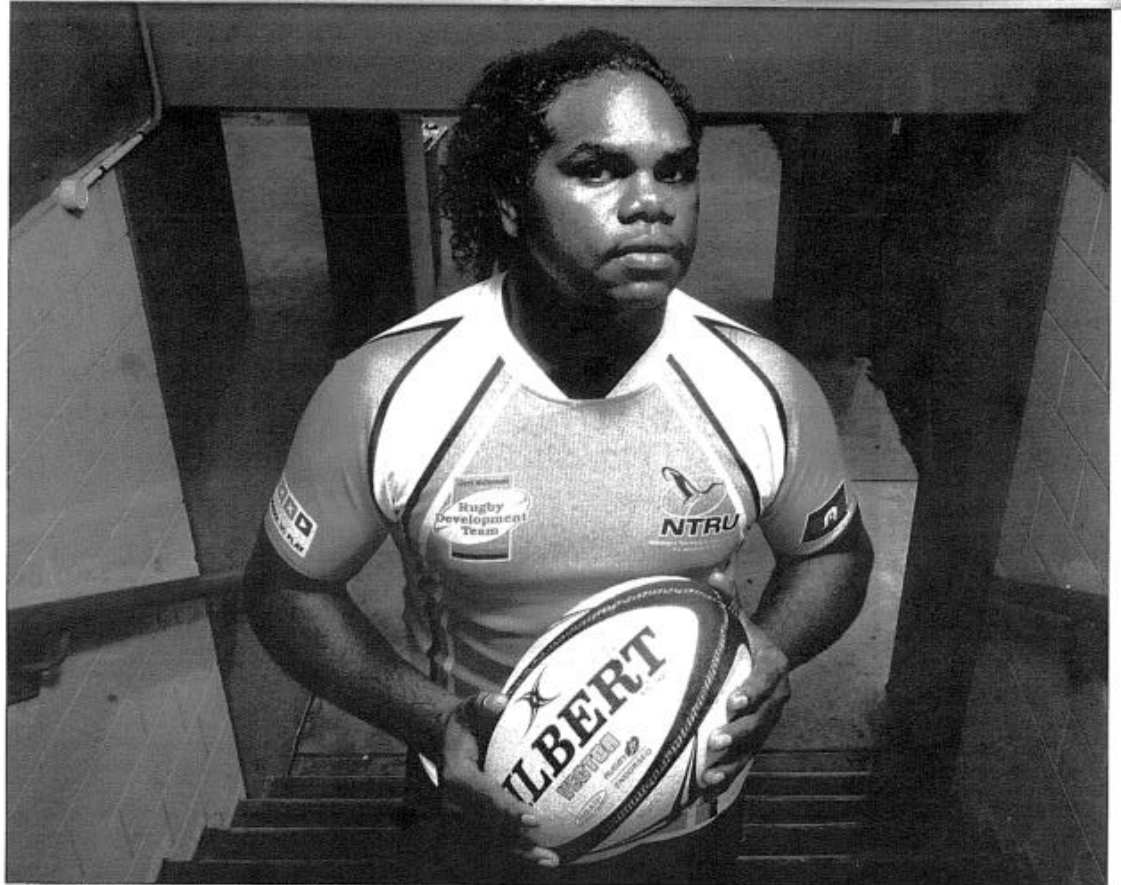
Try Scorers - William Bohning 2, Gavin McHugh 1 and Bailey Haikes 1;
Conversions - Greg Svanfelds 2; **Penalty Conversions** - Greg Svanfelds 1



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In the Spotlight...

In the Spotlight this week is Scott McDinny, one of our Under 18s who was recently picked as Best Forward at the National Indigenous Rugby Union Championships in Alice Springs. Palmerston player Ashley Brooking was also mentioned in this article that appeared in the NT News on Tuesday 8th May. We are impressed with Scott's goals. He may achieve his first one, to play A Grade for Palmerston, sooner rather than later.



NT Under-18 star Scott McDinny has ambitions to go on to play Super Rugby

Picture: ELISE DERWIN

Great Scott looks forward to bright rugby career

RUGBY UNION
By IAN BUTTERWORTH

THE NT's Scott McDinny was named best forward at the National Under-18 Indigenous Rugby Union Championship held in Alice Springs.

The 18-year-old Borroloola resident is a Year 12 boarder at Kormilda College, and he impressed NT assistant coach Matt Connop with his

willingness to mix it with much bigger opponents in each game.

"Scott played as a flanker and his defence was an outstanding feature of his games," said Connop.

"He set himself up as an on-field leader and gained respect from his teammates and opponents with his aggressive approach."

McDinny has an AFL background and is the only per-

son from his home town to be playing competitive rugby.

After playing for only two years, he loves the game and is keen to make an impression in the NT and would like to play with an Australian Super Rugby franchise.

"I played AFL at home because nobody plays rugby at Borroloola," McDinny said.

"Some of my mates at school dragged me into rugby and I liked it immedi-

ately, so now I just play rugby. I've been playing for two years.

"Hopefully I will play A-Grade with Palmerston and then go on to play Super Rugby."

McDinny won the tournament best forward as an open-side flanker but believes he may finish up in the front row.

"I won the best forward trophy in Alice and I felt full

of pride. I will stay as a forward because I'm too big for a back and I wouldn't mind trying as a hooker."

Although winless at the tournament, the NT had moments in each game but the size of their rivals eventually told on the smaller, quicker Territory players. Other NT players to shine were skipper Ashley Brookings, Phil Harris, Freddie Nona and Katherine's Matt Govan.



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PALMY TRIVIA

Weekly winners receive \$10 off their 35th Anniversary Dinner tickets. Junior winners get a soft drink after training.

You may enter more than once, so keep those entries coming!!

Remember, email your answers by 6pm Wednesday each week to: ben.blyton@bigpond.com or wleach@bigpond.com



Our winners this week were inspired by last week's Junior winner Sachin Deo to have a go at entering the quiz. Well done Blyton kids on 'spotting the difference' in the jumper quiz.



Previous trivia winners are:

- # 1 - Steven Roberts
- # 2 - Garry Crone
- # 3 - Jaz Deo
- # 4 - Jeremy Bright
- # 5 - Garry Russell
- # 6 - Colin Snowden
- # 7 - Dave Ley
- # 8 - Rob Sloan
- # 9 - Craig Leach
- # 10 - Robbie Taylor
- # 11 - Michael Killiner
- # 11 - Sachin Deo (Junior)
- # 12 - J, A & C Blyton (Juniors)

Palmy Trivia # 13

THE MORE THINGS CHANGE THE MORE THEY STAY THE SAME

Recently I have been going through a whole heap of old newsletters, looking for stuff for the 35th anniversary. It appears that the more things change, the more they stay the same... This week's quiz is about the hot topics from yesteryear:

May 2001

- Moulden Park development
- Palmerston plans a reunion
- Subs are due

November 2000

- Subs are the due and the club needs your money
- Junior Crocs going well
- A Grade beats South's

October 1997

- Home game this week
- Subs are now due

August 1991

- Subs are overdue and a list of debtors published

March 1985

- Where have the players gone – poor turnout at training
- Subs are now due
- Club song printed

The quiz question is – what's due now?

TWO DIFFERENT JUMPERS FROM TWO DIFFERENT ERAS



Jumper 1 - It's the only time we haven't had red in our jumpers.

Jumper 2 - It's the only time the stripes only went half way around.





(CROC) TALES FROM HISTORY



Palmerston Crocs, 1979



The early years



STORYTELLERS WANTED

We're looking for stories for our history page.

Have you got a story to tell?

Send through your stories and we'll see if we can publish them – photos as well are always appreciated.

35th Anniversary

CHARACTERS OF THE PAST

This week's article is an extract from *What's Up Croc, Palmerston Rugby Union Newsletter No.10*, dated 14/12/1985, author Bernie Bree.

After sobering up one Sunday morning not so long ago a few erratic brain cells got to thinking how over the 10 years of Palmerston, Sunday mornings have all been much the same only the faces have changed. I then set about recalling some of the "CHARACTERS" of the past - not an easy task, but at least it allowed me to close my eyes.

How could I go past Peter Billings. Peter was a tall lanky Kiwi second rower noted for his strange laugh, his strange friends and his stranger habit of diving into rubbish bins.

The Rubbish Bin Diving Championships started around the 1976-77 season with silly people jumping into rubbish bins, feet first, then it became heads first. As players strove for higher heights and more spectacular dives, the Palmerston injury list grew. Peter was always a series contented and the championship went finally to him one Thursday night after a boozing session at Lim's, when he dived off a telephone booth into a rubbish bin, putting himself on the bench for two weeks.

Unfortunately this wasn't the end of the night. Peter had got on top of the booth by way of a van and others were attempting to do the same. Lights were spotted heading their way and off went the driver with two passengers on top. It cannot be printed what they suggested to the driver at the end of the trip.

Peter is still amazingly alive and well and living in Bowen, Queensland with his wife Donna and their three children.

Editor's note: Peter and Donna are now in Gympie. Peter appeared in last week's Croc Tales, catching up with other past players. That's Peter standing on the right of the photo.



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35TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER**CONFIRMED**

Fiona Austine
 Alan Babbs
 Jeff Hellfire Bennett
 Jason & Bryony Blake
 Ben & Selina Blyton
 Cecily & Rod Boulton
 Bernie & Sonya Bree
 Dan & Evey Bree
 Dennis & Cec Bree
 Tony & Vicky Burns
 Matt Cabot
 Greg Cottrell
 Jaz & Robyn Deo
 Graham Doyle
 Ben Emmett
 Brock Evans
 Dallas Graetz
 Dennis Grant
 Todd & Nichole Harrison
 Greg & Roma Hill
 Greg Jarvis
 Sam Jeffries
 Vince & Andrea Kelly
 Glen & Jo Kennedy
 Sean Killiner
 Craig & Mel Leach
 Mal & Wendy Leach
 Chris Marlow
 Percy & Joanne Peel
 Stephen Roberts
 Garry & Marcia Russell
 Rob & Ann Sloan
 Kerry & Sue Smith
 Mick Smith
 Colin & Alison Snowden
 Rod Williams & Julie White
 Mike & Coral Wilson
 Alan & Michelle Woodcock

MAYBES

Paddy Bree
 Jeremy Bright
 Gary Harper
 Sean Kearns
 Michael Killiner
 Bill Murphy
 Anthony Ryan
 Nick 'Squirrel' Woodroffe

THINKING OF COMING?

Email Wendy Leach and we'll add you to the list.

35th Anniversary Dinner

When: 30th June 2012 @ 7pm

Where: Crowne Plaza Hotel, Darwin

Tickets: \$150.00 per person*



**To purchase tickets, please contact Treasurer Percy Peel at percypeel@hotmail.com for payment details.*

OLD SALTIES

Here's our team so far for our Golden Oldie game on Saturday...

Dallas Greatz {Captain}
 Dennis Bree
 Dale Reid
 Shrek
 Chris Carlin
 Squirter
 Burly Ben Blyton
 Drew Weaver
 Vince Kelly {5/8th}
 Fergal O`Gara
 Dan McIntyre
 Babzilla
 Stinkin` Hoe
 Dennis `Grumpy` Grant

President's Note: and here's Wendy Leach in the days before many of the above players qualified as Golden Oldies...



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