



CAPILANO MATCH REPORT, SATURDAY, APRIL 10/2010

**CDI PREMIER DIVISION CAPILANO 31 UVIC
VIKES 22**

**CDI FIRST DIVISION CAPILANO 10 UVIC
NORSEMEN 21**

CDI First Division

The University of Victoria defeated the previously undefeated Capilano side to claim first place. U-Vic was full value for the victory and outplayed the home side for most of the contest. Capilano took an early lead on a penalty kick by Chris Robinson. U-Vic answered quickly, however, and scored try on a quick lineout to take the lead 5-3 and the conversion made it 7-3. U-Vic led 14-3 at half time and then 21-3 shortly thereafter. The Capilano squad did not look sharp today and it has cost them the lead in the division.

U-Vic was the more determined team and were quicker to the ball and the breakdowns. Both teams were guilty of handling errors and the referee stopped the game many times due to knock-ons, penalties and other errors. The game lacked flow but U-Vic was clearly the better team on the day. Caps brought in a lot of veterans in the second half and U-Vic emptied their bench also. Caps looked better but did not threaten the lead, although it looked like they might get a bonus point at the end of the game. Caps did score to make it look respectable at 10 – 21.

CDI Premier League.

The Capilano faithful knew that the University of Victoria Vikings were showing up with their best available players today. Both teams have injuries, but that did not detract from the calibre of play. As was the case in the previous game, Caps took an early lead with a Dave Hilborn penalty kick. You could feel the tension in the air, and both teams were there to show their best. U-Vic hammered the Caps in Victoria late last season, and the players on the home side wanted to even the score. Capilano's have several former International players, many who have represented Canada in Seven a Side and 15's rugby. U-Vic has a number of current Canada players, and both teams know each other very well. The home team added to their early lead and scored a try that was touched down by Gord Sawyer, who played his junior rugby for Caps then went to U-Vic where he demonstrated his scoring ability. Today, he showed his former teammates that he hasn't lost his scoring touch by scoring two tries today and looked outstanding in his first start for the Caps Premier side. U-Vic showed their scoring punch also and led 12-10 at the half.

Both sides demonstrated that they can play entertaining rugby. Each team had many opportunities to score but neither one wanted to give the other momentum. The visitors

did open up a lead, and one wondered if the Caps could come back. Several bench changes seemed to lift the Capilano spirit and they stormed back. U-Vic had a 19-10 lead, but a try by Andre Prochine narrowed the gap to 19-15 then 19-17 with Hilborn's successful conversion. Caps fans could feel the momentum swing and wildly urged on their team. Gordy Sawyer finished off a great backline movement after the Caps scrum won the ball. The Sawyer try and conversion by Hilborn made the score 24-19 for the home team. As pressure on the home team mounted they were guilty of a penalty and U-Vic went for the kick to narrow the score to 24-22. Could Caps hang on, or would U-Vic claim victory? I would credit the Cap bench with their ability to put this victory away. As they moved deep into Viking territory and the forwards mauled the ball into the ingoal area for a touchdown by Christoph Strubin. This was a team try and a team victory. Hilborn hit the conversion from the sidelines and Caps won 31-22. It was an excellent contest and was well officiated by the referee and his assistants. It was the best game I have witnessed at Klahanie Park in a long time. Thanks to the players on both teams. The Cap followers not only saluted their players but the U-Vic team as well.

Report by John Langley.