





WYOMING 35CN CHRONICLES

22nd April 2016

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Photos by Ngari Kennedy-Schultz

GAME #3

RD	HOME		AWAY		GROUND	DATE	TIME
3	 EAST GOSFORD	VS	 WYOMING	2	Alan Davidson Oval 1 (Wyoming)	April 16	15:10

THE STARTING FORMATION

In the old days, the team's initial coach Dave Shipman would email out a fancy mid-week graphic of the team line-up for the upcoming weekend. When Flanno and Meady took over, gone was such whiz-bang computer-designed thingamajig. Yes occasionally Flanno might scribble out a starting formation on a chip packet or beer coaster the night before but for the most part, the line-up was announced seemingly on-the-fly a few minutes before kick-off. Meady though decided to go that extra step the eve before our Round 3 encounter. He pulled out the family whiteboard, erased the kids chore list and Katrina's anniversary gift reminders and drew up a soccer field in its place. With much deliberation, he came up with the starting 11. Most proud of his efforts, he photographed it and sent it to the team. All was going to plan until about 40 minutes before kick-off. Luca received word from Ross that he was stuck at Ettalong, his car broken down. As the clock wound down, Luca made the ultimate decision to be the hero in need, Ross's knight in shining armour, by quickly hopping into his car, and driving - responsibly of course - to the shire and back. This of course meant neither would be present when the starting whistle was blown. Back to the drawing board for poor old Meady as he frantically made adjustments to the whiteboard.



LORD OF THE MING: THE RETURN OF THE KING

As you might've noticed there were a couple of surprises on the board. One, Meady was named on the bench. Earlier in the week he had ruled himself out of playing but team strapper Julia thought she'd see for herself about Meady's whining "sore knee" gripes. A quick study and some sadistic muscle clenching had Julia convinced it was not his knee but his quad. "He's fine!" she said leaving Meady behind in the shed, tears flowing, still yelping in pain. So a bit of tape and Meady was back, and due to an absent bench for kick-off, now in the starting line-up. And ... there was another name listed on the bench ... it read ... "Flanno" ... Did our eyes deceive us? Was it a misprint? A misspelling? A joke? Had, Flanno kept to his word post-game drinks last weekend when he threatened to sign up? Sure, Meady had sent a text - on behalf of Flanno - asking for the team's blessing first. Feedback from Meady was that the response was a unanimous "YES". Now, there may have been confusion in the way Meady worded the query. Luca for instance replied, "Yes" thinking it meant "Flanno can go and get f*#%ed". Others interpreted to mean if we were okay with him joining East Gosford - as he had threatened to do off-season - and thus would be playing against us for this coming game. Brad, expecting this, had encouraged Stewart to practice more rugby tackles in preparation; Dave had hidden a pair of scissors in his head gear to cut the strings to Flanno's banjo if he brought it out; Mark was prepared to get another yellow card for the team; and Aaron had brass knuckles underneath his gloves. But no, Flanno turned up in Tigers gear. He'd even stripped Meady of the Number 5 jersey !! So, welcome back Flanno, great to have you back buddy.



THE RAMS AND THREE BAAAAHHHDD GOALS

The less said the better about that "3" on the scoreboard for the Rams. Two defensive errors in the first half saw the Tigers punished both times. The first started from a Tigers attacking play that went awry. A pass across midfield from Chris didn't reach Flanno as intended. The Rams intercepted and were rewarded through their quick counter. The second saw Ross unable to get out of heavy traffic. The third, this one in the second half, was a convergence gone wrong. Brad and Ross were in hot pursuit of a Rams ball but ended up not only colliding with each other but also creating a barrier for the approaching Aaron. There was not enough time to recover by then as the Rams had too many numbers up front and an easy tap in from a cross ball looked to have sealed their victory. The positive to come out of this for the Tigers was all that all three goals were gifted to the Rams and not due to any evident attacking prowess. Small comfort at the end of the day but encouraging for the season as a whole if we can get more passes to stick and tighten up in defence.





ABOVE AND BEYOND

There weren't too many attacking highlights in the first half for the Tigers. The closest Wyoming came to a goal in the first half was a great cross by Luca that saw Chris's shot sail just over the crossbar. Frank and Scott had shots that veered wide. Brad might've done better if his stint as striker had lasted more than a few minutes. The half time whistle ended his tenure up front as he was relegated to the back line when play resumed. The second half was much more memorable for the Tigers' highlights reel. Right from the start the boys in yellow were hungry, desperate to get on the scoreboard. Luca was the talisman for a lot of attacking runs in the second, sending excellent through balls and maneuvering past the opposition on multiple occasions. One cross from the Italian stallion found its way to Andy who headed it forward for Stew to fire it at the keeper. It was blocked unfortunately. Scott fired off three impressive attempts, all on target. One was a header, one a direct shot that had to be tapped over the crossbar and the third was from out wide that sailed mere centimeters wide from the left upright. On this latter shot, Meady went all in to make contact with it. Whilst the ball missed the goal frame, Meady certainly didn't, bruising his back in the process and collapsing dead center of the goal (perhaps hoping there was more mud there to rack up more points in the dirty shirts tally). When the expression "put your back into it" is used, I'm not sure that's what they meant Meady. Thankfully, he not only was okay but remained on the pitch. He was a revelation up front, continually keeping the defense honest as he chased every attacking opportunity and showed no fear. He was eventually rewarded but more on that shortly.



SCOTT's cross



CHRIS takes a shot from a LUCA cross



STEW has a crick, err crack at goal.



One of MEADY's shots from up front.



SCOTT's shot gets tapped over the crossbar.



ANDY's corner



GREGG's shot skims across the goalmouth, LUCA wishes he had've put a foot out.



SCOTT's shot just inches away ... MEADY putting his back into the effort.

FRANKLY STUNNING

There was a bit of fortune in the first goal from Wyoming but then again the referee rarely stopped any of the push and shove going on throughout the game. Flanno looked to have fouled an opposition player making a run but the referee allowed play on. The interference was enough for Andy to intercede winning a heavy tackle. The ball found its way to Luca who sent it wide to Frank who'd spent today's game on the right wing. He'd made a few runs throughout the day but this was his finest moment. He moved forward but remained wide when he sent the ball across. At first it looked like it had too much weight on it but it dipped beautifully, beyond the fingertips of the stretched keeper and slipped underneath the crossbar. Wyoming were finally on the scoreboard !!



LUCA finds FRANK who shoots and scores !!



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MARLOW MAGIC

Gregg had some great attacking moments whilst lurking at the edge of the 18-yard box. Unmarked out the back, an attempt at goal by one of his teammates was blocked away and ended up his way. Gregg snuck in for a shot. It sailed over the traffic and skimmed just wide of the right upright. Luca was well positioned for a tap in but thought it might be going in without any interference, D'oh! Later, Gregg's crowning moment came when he sent a perfect through ball for Meady to charge onto. Meady was set to take a shot but was fouled from behind inside the penalty area. It seemed to take some time before the ref pointed to the spot and even more time for someone to step up to the spot kick. Scott seemed the suitable choice but he was currently on the sideline. Then Luca appeared to be stepping up but he was merely approaching the ref to ask why the offending defender was not carded. A reluctant Meady hovered around the area and sighed when it looked like it was his responsibility to take it until Andy asked, "Can I take it?". "Sure" was Meady's response with perhaps a hint of relief that he wouldn't be mocked in the Chronicles if he missed. So Andy stepped up nervously, his first penalty ever. Brad and Aaron consulted one another. "Over the canteen" was Aaron's bet. Brad, more assured of Andy's aim, bet "inside the canteen". Ye of little faith you bastards! Andy slotted it into the right corner of the net. Stick to horse race tipping, Quill !! So there it was, a stronger second half but for the third game in a row nothing to show for it with still no competition points. Let's hope a win isn't too far away.



GREGG sends MEADY into space ...



... A foul on MEADY inside the box ... ANDY takes the penalty.



... GOAL !!

CONGRATULATORY METRIC STATS

Whilst Stevie G was absent, Mark Wallace did turn up for his 50th outing for this team. Of note, today's game also saw Dave racking up 40 games and 30 for Luca. Andy's penalty goal made it goal number 20 for him overtaking Jono's 19 (let's just not calculate that in averages as Jono achieved his tally all in one season).

ANKLE WOES

There was no sign of Stevie G at Alan Davidson that afternoon. Had he truly believed Brad's amended draw was legit and gone down to Wollongong to play? No. I mean if he had, Luca would've surely driven down to pick him up, right? So, it turns out Stevie G was out due to an ankle injury. But why wasn't he there as a spectator you may ask. The Speculative theory of his absence is due to fear of Julia demanding an inspection of said ankle and forcing him onto the field. Sure, she may quite possibly have gotten him right to play but in doing so he would've had to comply with her policy, "I put the tape on, I take it off". Having witnessed many of his teammates at the mercy of her sadistic tape ripping after the full time whistle, perhaps he was wise to stay away. Brad also fearing this, opted to forgo getting his ankles strapped for this game by Julia. When he tripped over in the second half, he limped around searching for the cause for what seemed an age. Some suspected he had lost a stud in his boots, others that perhaps he wore a nipple ring and it had fallen off. But no, he found what he was looking for - it was a divot. He attempted to take a soil sample with him to ascertain whether Julia had dug it herself but the referee interrupted such attempts and told him to get on with it.



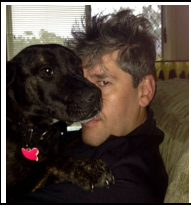
BRAD searches for the divot / MEADY gets patched up.

VERY UN-ITALIAN

The decision to drive to Ettalong before kick-off to pick up Ross, even though it would mean missing kick-off, was not the only conundrum Luca faced that day. During the second half, as Meady lie face down underneath the goal netting, the referee had stopped the game whilst the ball was still in play. Now we all know, the right thing to do, in the tradition of good sportsmanship, is to pass the ball the back to the team who were in possession of it before the game was stopped. Luca found himself in the hotspot when the referee handed him the ball. The path was open for him to pass it back to the opposition keeper but he promptly told the referee that this could be a bad idea declaring his Italian blood was taunting him to take a shot. Luca overcame such deceptive passion though and did the right thing. What a guy !!



LUCA conflicted on whether to be nice or take a shot / LUCA trials Dave's head gear back-to-front.



THE LUCA & ZIGGY PITCH REPORT



WITH SPECIAL GUEST: ROGER (ROSS'S DOG)
"Both boys agree ! Great pitch we will play! See ya tomorrow!!
(FRIDAY, 15TH APRIL 2016)



THE MEAD MACHINE

Another game where Meady just can't seem to stay on his feet; Andy got on the scoreboard for the first time this season; and Gregg racked up another point for those diagonal tackles ...



The Master and the Apprentice



FLANNO's nap time / DAVE waves to Mum & Dad



GOAL SCORING TALLY



GOALS

Meady - 2
Andy, Frank - 1

ASSISTS

Andy, Gregg, Luca,
Meady, Scott - 1

THE MEAD MACHINE (MUD POINTS)



3PTS - #29 (Meady)
2PTS - #11 (Andy)
1PT - #3 (Gregg)

TOTAL POINTSCORE

- Meady - 8pts
- Brad, Gregg - 3pts
- Andy - 2pts
- Luca, Steve G - 1pt



YELLOW CARDS TALLY

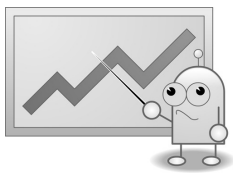
Mark, Steve G - 1

BEST ON FIELD

This Week's Judge:

SHARON SINGLETON

3PTS - Gregg
2PTS - Andy
1PT - Meady



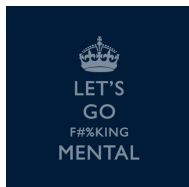
THIS WEEK'S STAT(S)

Milestones this weekend:

Chris (60 Games);
Steve G (50 Games)

WEEK 3 WRAP-UP

Wyong extends its unbeaten run with three straight wins; Budgewoi not only ended Kanwal's perfect record but knocked them out of the Top 4 on goal differential; Killarney made it two straight to jump to 3rd place. Wyoming and the goal-less Tuggerah remain at the foot of the ladder without a win.



WEEK 3 (ROUND 3)							
	HOME		AWAY		GROUND	DATE	TIME
1	WYONG	vs	TUGGERAH	0	Baker Park 1 (Wyong)	April 16	13:15
1	KANWAL	vs	BUDGEWOI	3	Kanwal Oval 1 (Kanwal)	April 16	13:25
4	KILLARNEY	vs	WOONGARRAH	0	Edsacc North Field 1 (Killarney)	April 16	14:40
3	EAST GOSFORD	vs	WYOMING	2	Alan Davidson Oval 1 (Wyoming)	April 16	15:10

CENTRAL COAST - 35CN									
2016									
WEEK THREE									
		P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS	Differentials
1st	WYONG	3	3	0	0	7	3	9	4
2nd	BUDGEWOI Est. 1961	3	2	0	1	9	6	6	3
3rd	KILLARNEY 1973	3	2	0	1	7	4	6	3
4th	WOONGARRAH	3	2	0	1	5	3	6	2
5th	KANWAL	3	2	0	1	6	6	6	0
6th	WOONGARRAH Football Club	3	1	0	2	3	7	3	-4
7th	WYOMING Football Club	3	0	0	3	4	8	0	-4
8th	TUGGERAH	3	0	0	3	0	4	0	-4

WEEK 3 PREVIEW

Budgewoi (2nd) vs East Gosford (4th) is the game of the round as both teams strive to keep up with competition leaders Wyong. Cellar dwellers Woongarrah, Wyoming and Tuggerah will all be hoping home games give them the advantage to stay in touch with the Top 4 ...

WEEK 4 (ROUND 4)							
	HOME		AWAY		GROUND	DATE	TIME
	TUGGERAH	vs	KANWAL		Eastern Rd Oval 1 (Tuggerah)	April 23	13:00
	BUDGEWOI Est. 1961	vs	EAST GOSFORD		Budgewoi FC 1 (Budgewoi)	April 23	14:00
	WYOMING Football Club	vs	KILLARNEY 1973		Alan Davidson Oval 1 (Wyoming)	April 23	14:30
	WOONGARRAH Football Club	vs	WYONG		Hamlyn Terrace 1 (Woongarrah)	April 23	15:15

Cya Saturday!!

