



Wet conditions test players

ngfni

By LAUREN CAREY

ROSEDALE worked hard in trying conditions to claim the points over Stratford.

The rain hampered play in the opening two terms, before the Blues dominated in the heavy conditions kicking 12 goals straight in the second half to run home comfortable 44 point victors, 19.6 (120) to 11.10 (76).

The first term was a scrappy affair as the rain tumbled down, both sides struggled to take clean possession of the ball as the heavy conditions played havoc.

Clever play by Stratford's best on ground Chris Camm saw the midfielder soccer one through to draw the visitors within one point in the closing minutes of the term.

An indiscretion by Stratford at the centre bounce resulted in the Blues moving forward quickly.

A goal to Cameron Harwood after the siren gave Rosedale a seven point lead 4.3 (27) to 3.2 (20).

The sun shone on the early stages of the second term, before the rain began to fall.

Rosedale looked to make the most of their opportunities early as they goaled either side of the quarter time break. Dale Fleming opening his account after clever play through the middle of the ground saw him on the end of a Nick Diamond kick.

The Swans responded quickly a snap at goal by Steve Nichols bringing the margin back to one point.

Brad Caldwell opened his account splitting the sticks from outside 40.

Neither side was able to break clear in a scrappy five minute period as the ball moved back and forward between the two half back lines.

Hard work by Caldwell and Fleming resulted in the ball falling into the safe

hands of Rick Galea, who threw the ball on the boot to goal.

The Swans worked the ball directly through the corridor to goal through Brett Hudson.

Justin Emery, Harwood, Galea and Caldwell combined for Caldwell's second major prior to half time 7.6 (48) to 5.5 (35).

Rosedale began to stamp its authority on the match in the third term, with Craig Mayman and Fleming prominent.

A seven third quarter gave Rosedale the upper hand heading into the last quarter, the Blues running out the match stronger to claim a crucial win.

Rosedale's best were Mayman, Fleming and Galea.

Stratford Coach Luke Hederson led from the front kicking four majors while Camm and Noel Jansz battled hard for the Swans.

Sale vs Boisdale

A huge crowd converged on the Sale City and Boisdale clash which was a game of two parallel halves.

The Bombers hit their straps early as they dominated play, Boisdale extending its 13 point quarter time lead to 32 points at half time.

Boisdale held City to one point in the second quarter as the Bombers led by best on ground Joel Lambourn and Winston Gieschen made easy pickings of the opposition.

The Dogs responded to the words of their coach in the third term, as they shut the Bombers play makers down as they reeled the margin to under three kicks at the final change.

Continuing their challenge on the scoreboard City continued to dominate in the final term to come within 11 points at the siren, 10.11 (71) to 9.6 (60).

City outscoring the visitors seven goals to three in the second half, Brad Pedder and Clint Counahan instrumen-



tal in their sides revival after the main break.

Woodside vs Churchill

SILVERWARE was on offer at Woodside with the Wildcats and Churchill contesting the inaugural Lakes Oil Challenge Cup.

The highly anticipated clash of the round between lived up to all expectations, reigning premiers Churchill holding on in the dying minutes of the match to win by two points, 7.9 (51) to 7.7 (49).

Churchill led from the onset before the Wildcats dominated the second term, booting four unanswered goals to turn a 16 point deficit into a one goal lead at half time.

Both teams continued to play tight, contested and defensive footy in the premiership term.

At the last change, the Cougars led 5.7 (37) to 5.6 (36).

The two sides answered one another's challenge in the late stages of the match, Churchill holding a one point lead in the dying minutes before registering a second behind before the siren.

St Kilda premiership player Roger Head, presented the cup to Churchill coach Leigh McDonald who was named best on ground for the Cougars.

Ainsley Bannan and Matt McNamara were also impressive for the visitors.

Trek Davis, Troy Underwood and back man Frank Triantafyllou played solid roles for the Wildcats, Davis finishing the match with three goals.

Heyfield vs TTU

HEYFIELD continued its impressive

season with an 34 point win over TTU.

The visitors booted away to a handy 33 point lead by half time, before the Kangaroos extended the margin to 56 at the three quarter siren.

Despite salvaging some respect in the final term, the Bombers failed to recuperate from a slow third term in which the Kangaroos piled on six goals to two.

Nathan Wellins kicked four goals for the Kangaroos and midfielder David Kelly was outstanding.

TTU's David Smith and defender Tom Lambert were named among the best, while Wade McNeill finished with four majors.

Cowwarr vs Gormandale

A best on ground performance by Cowwarr captain Luke Cooper aided the Saints in sealing their second win of the season against Gormandale.

The match was evenly placed at the first change before the Saints dominated the second term, booting five goals to three to take a handy 14 point buffer into the long change.

The momentum continued to favour Cowwarr in the second half, although the Tigers outscored the Saints by two points after half time.

The Saints half time lead seeing the home side over the line 12.5 (77) to 10.5 (65).

Saints Chris Stasinowsky and Leo Galea booted four a piece, while Jordon Bourke and Rylan Willhelme were outstanding.

Luke Hegarty and Toby Callanan were the Tigers damaging forwards with three a piece while Shayne Simpson and Jack Rankcom worked tirelessly.