

Renegades Rugby



Match Report

16 November Away

Saffron Walden 3

Won 24:14



Team

Starting Line-up

- 1) Jonathan Burch 2) Dan Jerred 3) Rik Relph
- 4) Brian Smith 5) Lee Bryant
- 6) Ren Pesci 7) Russell Attle 8) Stuart 'Fabio' Faben
- 9) Rolando Pesci 10) Andrew 'Baz' MacKay
- 11) Peter Waples 12) Tom Heathcote 13) Reggie Campbell 14) Eddie 'Billbob' Murphy
- 15) Matt 'Paperboy' Turner

Replacements

Rob 'Bev' Bevington played the first half and part of the second for Saffron Walden

Report

It was a grey day as the Renegades gathered in Saffron Walden's ground (apparently named by Ryanair because it's nowhere near Saffron Walden). It was good to see the Walden guys again so soon after their very enjoyable visit to us in late October.

A very early (12:30pm) kickoff, intended to allow us to watch the England - New Zealand Game that afternoon, resulted in quite a few players crying off. The Walden boys had had some of their players pinched by their second team. The result was a very tight start with just 30 bodies available 16 Renegades and 14 Walden. The depleted numbers resulted in uncontested scrums (thanks Tom) and we gave Bev to Walden to balance the numbers. Sam Vail officiated, resplendent in a very impressive November 'Mo'.

From the Kickoff, it was clear that Saffron Walden were keen to avenge their recent defeat at our hands. They played with determination and attacked relentlessly. They never allowed the Renegades to settle and it wasn't long before they broke through and a very fortunate bounce landed the ball in Bev's hands just short of the line. He made the most of it and set up an easy conversion (0-7).

Even this didn't cause the Renegades to raise their game and it wasn't long before another converted try saw the Renegades trailing by 14 points for the second week running. Calm but firm leadership was administered by Baz and the Renegades began to play like a team again.

Some coherent play swinging the ball wide to Reggie saw him make a fantastic run through the Walden defences to score his first try of the game. Baz converted (7-14).

After this it all gets a bit vague. The collective memory of the Renegades cannot get more specific than the following:

- Paperboy scored a try
- Peter Waples scored a try
- Rolando scored a try
- Baz bagged another conversion
- Rolando nearly scored another try on the left sideline but was judged to be in touch
- Bev had a hissy fit at Sam 'cos Ren bumped into a few Walden players
- Ren didn't score

After the game we enjoyed the usual excellent hospitality from the Walden boys – the mulled cider was superb and the England performance against New Zealand was spirited if ultimately unsuccessful (much better than the awful performance of Ireland against Australia later on ☹).

Scores

Tries: Reggie Campbell, Matt 'Paperboy' Turner, Rolando Pesci, Peter Waples

Conversions: Andrew 'Baz' MacKay (2)



Reggie for an outstanding performance in attack and in defence



Bev for scoring a try for Saffron Walden

Report by Eddie 'Billbob' Murphy