

First league game lost

HAVING returned from a successful and enjoyable tour to Westport where they won 5-3 Academy 1st XV were looking forward to their first league match of the season in Section of the Qualifying League.

They travelled across the City to the Civil Service grounds at Stormont last Saturday with most of last years team still available.

the most notable absence was that of out half Ali Moles who has gone to Australia for one year, his place has been filled by Steven Sharkey.

Also missing due to

holidays were David Sturgess and Simon Kerr and due to a broken hand, last years young player of the year, Mark Cousins.

Both Teams got off to a slow start, it was Service who drew first blood when they kicked a penalty after Academy had been penalised for going over the top.

Ten minutes later Academy were level after Sharkey kicked a penalty to leave the half-time score 3-3.

In the second half it was Academy who did most of the attacking by spinning the ball along their backs and it was this that lead to Service scoring.

The service out half kicked the ball into the Academy 22 and immediately the visitors

tried to run the ball, however their last pass went astray and the Service winger kicked the ball over the try line and beat the Academy defence to the touch-down.

Academy fought back and narrowed the score with a well taken Sharkey drop goal.

Civil Service put the margin back to five points when they kicked a penalty for a loose ruck infringement.

The last ten minutes of the match saw Academy encamped in the Service 22 and although they were awarded penalties and scrums right on the Service line stout defending by the home side prevented Academy from scoring.

Result - Civil Service 11, Academy 6.

10/9/94

22/9/94

Academy bounce back to winning way

ACADEMY played Lurgan at the Valley Park last Saturday hoping to improve on last

week's poor performance which saw them drop two valuable points.

They kicked off into the wind and immediately went on the attack, however after 15 mins. and against the run of play the visitors kicked a penalty after the Academy backs were caught off-side.

This seemed to stir the Academy side and shortly their speedy backs began to move the ball starting in their own 22 Paul Mercer cut inside before feeding to Fawcett who fed to Branagh and

eventually Academy's captain Paul Gamble crashed over for a try.

Just before half-time Gamble scored his second try when a poor Lurgan kick was fielded by Huddleson who set up the attack linking with Sharkey and Branagh before seeing his captain score.

Half-time, Academy 10, Lurgan 3.

As in the first half Lurgan kicked a penalty

for off side and then it was all Academy with their backs once again involved.

First it was full back Rikki Huddleson who scored following delicate chip ahead by scrum half Branagh.

The Academy forwards by now decided to get in the act and from a

tapped penalty they drove forward, rucked the ball and David Sturgess touched down.

Next to score for Academy was No. 8 Gordon Henderson who caught the ball on the half-way line and charged up the pitch on a solo run to touch down under the posts with two conversions by Paul Gamble.

Result: Academy 36, Lurgan 6.

Academy Seconds start off with an easy win

22/9/94

LURGAN II v ACADEMY II

NEWLY promoted Academy 2nds started the new season with a fine win against a strong Lurgan side.

Academy started slowly and were soon three points down but quickly responded with some attacking forward play inside the Lurgan half and eventually catching Lurgan off side. Gillespie kicked the penalty.

Both teams swapped penalties to make the score 6-6 before Academy edged ahead with two more penalties from Gillespie.

Just before half-time Academy scored their first try of the game when scrum half McRoberts broke blind from a five metre scrum and fed Turney who crashed over. Gillespie converted.

Half time, Lurgan 6, Academy 19.

Lurgan started the second half strongly but stout defence from full-back Simon Kerr and captain Charlie Caldwell kept the Academy line intact.

Academy however be-

gan to dominate again with Shanks jumping well in the line out. He took a beautiful ball, fed to McCrory at the front who went over in the corner. (6-24).

Lurgan responded immediately with a well worked try but

Academy had the final say when Barr and Walker combined to put McRoberts free on the left, who evaded a number of tackles and jinked over in the corner.

Result: Lurgan 11, Academy 29.

Belfast High School rugby round-up

IN the first rugby game of the season Belfast HS 1st XV beat Limavady GS 19-7.

At Medallion level BHS beat Carrickfergus GS 14-12.

Chris Kitchen and John McDowell scored tries both of which were converted by Peter Taylor.

At Under 14 level Carrickfergus GS won 20-12. High School try scorers were Neil

Hanna and Captain Craig McArthur. Francis Haslett kicked one conversion.

At under 13 level BHS won 19-0. Andrew Irvine scored two tries and Jordan Frampton scored a try and two conversions.

On Tuesday BHS Medallion XV go on tour to Glasgow to play in the prestigious Minerva Sevens at Kelvinside Academy.

22-9-24

Thirds hold on to take both points

RAY Cromie's new 3rd XV entertained Dromore at the Valley Park last Saturday.

They kicked off with the wind at their backs and were soon in front when Neil McCreary slotted over a penalty after the Dromore pack were caught off side.

After 10 mins. the Academy forwards took a strike against the head and this was swiftly spun to left wing Alan Fawcett who touched down in the corner — converted (10-0).

Academy moved up a gear, their forwards winning plenty of good ball

for their half back pairing of McGimpsey and McClelland to make good breaks. After a line-out infringement Academy were awarded a penalty which McCreary had no problem in slotting over (13-0).

Just before half time a beautiful rolling maul set

up by McDonald and Lynn saw captain Cromie go over for a converted try.

Half time, Academy 20, Dromore 0.

In the second half Academy worked their way up to the Dromore line and although the visitors had the pot in to

a scrum a superb hook by Lynn saw Academy drive over the line and Ray Cromie touched down (25-0).

From this point on Academy relaxed and some poor tackling allowed Dromore in for three tries, two of which were converted.

Result: Academy 25, Dromore 19.