

SPORTS



PITS scrumhalf Nick Singer prepares to feed the ball into the scrum.

PITS falls to powerhouse San Francisco squad

By Tucker Deyette

Piedmont's rugby team held an early 10-0 lead against San Francisco Golden Gate last Saturday in a game on Treasure Island, but was dealt a 44-15 loss.

PITS (Piedmont International Touring Side) left SF dazed and confused early on as they dominated the powerhouse team from the city for the first seven minutes on Golden Gate's home field. Dante Affonso's kick deep into SFGG territory paid off when the opposition committed a penalty 15 meters out and directly in front of their goal post. Sean Hanafee converted the penalty kick to hand PITS a quick 3-0 lead.

After Hanafee's ensuing kick-off led to a scrum, PITS scrumhalf Nick Singer fed the ball to Jesse Milne, who broke through three defenders, beat the SFGG fullback with a cutback to the middle and scored a try directly between the goal posts after a 55-yard run. Hanafee converted to put Piedmont on top 10-0 in less than six minutes.

That woke the giant, and SFGG responded by reeling off 25 points by halftime and physically battering the PITS, taking particular aim at Hanafee and Milne.

Piedmont seemed revitalized after the halftime break, but they immediately turned the ball over and allowed San Francisco to drive to the PITS five-meter line.

After an SFGG turnover near the try line, Ethan Kaiser-Klimst made a hard-nosed run, breaking tackles and spinning 50 yards upfield into the opponent's half. After an SF infraction, Affonso pinned his kick to touch inside the SFGG five-meter line, PITS controlled their throw-in to the lineout, and hooker Travis Moscone drove the ball into corner of the try zone to score Piedmont's last try of the day.

NEXT UP

Piedmont battles the Berkeley Rhinos this Saturday, March 7, at Gilman Field in Berkeley at 9:30 a.m.