

# SPORTS



*Photo by Amos Terry*

Jesse Milne scored the game-winning try in PITS's defeat of Diablo.

## PITS holds steady in close win vs. Diablo

*By Benjamin Bombard*

Two second-half tries and some stalwart defense ensured a tense 10-8 victory for the Piedmont's rugby team (PITS) over Diablo Rugby last Saturday night in Lafayette.

Diablo held a slim 3-0 on a penalty kick heading into the second half. When play resumed, fly-half Charlie Sweeney booted a penalty kick from about mid-field deep into the Diablo half, but he failed to kick the ball to touch. A Diablo back bumbled his catch under pressure from Ethan Kaiser-Klimst. Kaiser-Klimst then fell on the ball and squirmed over the Diablo try line for a try to put PITS ahead 5-3.

PITS set up shop in the Diablo half in the second half, but for every two yards Piedmont pushed forward, they fell back one. Karl Hendrickson, recently returned from injury, made at least a dozen bruising runs and

twice came within a yard of scoring a try, only to be pushed back by Diablo.

The hosts regained the lead by scoring an impressive try against the run of play. They recovered the ball from a Piedmont ruck and deftly moved the ball upfield through their wings and centers.

PITS won a throw-in soon afterwards and got the ball to Jesse Milne, who turned on the speed and churned through a handful of Diablo players to plant a try between the posts. The conversion kick sailed wide right, but with a 10-8 lead, the PITS defense was resilient for the final five minutes.

Hendrickson and Milne were selected by Diablo as the PITS men of the match.

### UP NEXT

PITS heads through the tunnel to take on the De La Salle Rugby Football Club on Friday at 7:45 p.m., preceded by a Frosh-Soph game at 6:30 p.m.