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St Patrick's College, Silverstream 22 v Rongotai College 15

By Matt Twort



Asafo Aumua on the charge

Photo Mike O'Leary

Scores: St Pat's Silverstream 22 (Asafo Aumua 2, Tone Fauolo 2 tries, Todd Svenson con) beat Rongotai College 15 (Nathan Smith, Tobias Makisi, Ezra Seiuli tries). HT: 10-10.

St. Patrick's College Silverstream came from behind in the second half to defeat Rongotai College in the schools' annual traditional fixture 22-15.

Silverstream quickly recorded a 10 point lead with barnstorming number 8 Asafo Aumua running 25 metres off the back of the scrum to score down the blindside. Minutes later, a lineout maul saw lock Tone Fauolo dot down.

From the ensuing kick-off, Stream attempted to get the ball into Rongotai territory through a box kick but Rongotai hooker Karl Brownlie charged it down and fed it off to lock Nathan Smith to register Rongotai's first try.

Moments before halftime, Stream attempted to run it out of their own 22, but an errant offload went to ground, Rongotai found themselves in great a attacking position. The Rongotai forward pack showed great patience attacking the Silverstream line which eventually paid off 15+ phases later when Tobias Makisi burrowed over.

Rongotai carried this momentum into the second half, scoring just minutes into the second period to put them up by five points.

However, the home team's rhythm was lost shortly after as they became riddled with errors.

Off a scrum from a Rongotai knock on, Aumua again tore through the Rongotai defense, eventually being brought down just inside the Rongotai 22 metre line.

Silverstream was awarded a penalty and elected to run the ball, and Aumua charged over for his second try.

With 10 minutes to go, Silverstream again found themselves deep inside Rongotai's half and, in almost an exact replica of his first try, Fauolo scored again through an impressive rolling maul.

With Rongotai now down seven, they found new life and were attacking the Silverstream line with just minutes to play. It was a nervous few minutes for Silverstream but hardworking blindside flanker Jarrod Harawira won a ruck penalty in a clutch play to all but seal the deal for Silverstream.

Rongotai hooker Karl Brownlie caused damage with his ball carries and centre Denny To'o made several strong runs, but Silverstream's Aumua was undoubtedly the standout, making huge metres with almost every touch of the ball, especially with his runs from the back of the scrum.