

# RUGBY FOOTBALL

*Times - 14/12/50*

## SCHOOL MATCH AT BARNET

FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

A light fall of snow on an already partly frozen ground made conditions very difficult for the match at Barnet yesterday in which Queen Elizabeth's beat St. Albans by a goal, two penalty goals, and two tries (17 points) to a penalty goal (3 points).

Till half-time there was little to choose between the two sides, though Queen Elizabeth's led by eight points to three thanks to a fine penalty goal by Palombo and a brilliant individual try by Welch which was converted by Winchester. St. Albans's contribution had been a penalty goal by Skeen. At half-time St. Albans lost Fomison, their best centre, with a badly injured wrist, and this misadventure was the turning point of the whole game.

With a full side St. Albans, though unlikely to have won, might have made a much closer fight of it. But they contributed to their own troubles. It was obvious that in Welch and Grummitt Queen Elizabeth's had two good attacking centres who, given half a chance, were likely to score tries. Welch had already given a sample of this when, for his first-half try, he ran through from the halfway line.

But St. Albans, instead of taking a man out of the scrum, expected Mills to cover the dual role of full-back and centre three-quarter. He did his best nobly, but such an awkward arrangement left too many obvious, but in the circumstances unavoidable, gaps of which Queen Elizabeth's were only too ready to take full advantage. As a result the initiative was always with Queen Elizabeth's, so that St. Albans were rarely out of their own half and more often were defending desperately in their own "25."

In the thick mist it was impossible to distinguish one team from the other on the far side of the field—where most of the play was—but Queen Elizabeth's scored three times. Welch ran in himself, he made an opening for Hobson, and Palombo kicked another penalty goal.

The teams were:—

QUEEN ELIZABETH'S.—R. M. H. Wraith; J. A. Hobson, I. F. Welch, J. P. Grummitt, G. P. Edwards; J. E. Winchester, R. B. E. Bell; D. B. Palombo (captain), D. A. Barker, L. Fielding, M. J. Fairey, N. J. Melbush, K. Jackson, G. R. Fox, J. R. Salter.

ST. ALBANS.—G. P. Mills; M. J. Clarke, T. A. R. Cox, D. Fomison, M. J. Maloney; J. F. Robertson, M. G. C. Skeen; T. H. Whittingham, P. R. Thornton, J. J. Coutts, J. W. A. Currie, I. Forsyth, G. H. Johnson, G. W. Sampson, M. J. C. Wood.