

# "Mighty" Blues Lose First Match

The mighty Coldstream have fallen. Contrary to all predictions Coldstream lost the second semi-final to "darkhorse," Olinda, at Lilydale on Saturday.

Coldstream, who finished the home-and-home series undefeated, and obtained the highest percentage of any team in the E.D.F.L., were undisputed favourites to win and go into the grand final.

Undisputed, that is, till Saturday.

Then came the greatest shock of the season, as the "mighty" Blues were downed by Olinda by 9 points.

The Bloods, the side that plodded along inconspicuously through the season, winning matches, but not with the same efficiency as Coldstream, actually finished second on the ladder.

In this game their strength lay in the stubbornness of the back lines, and the devastating speed with which they moved into attack.

## Lapsed

Credit goes to Coldstream as well for a wonderful display of high marking and long accurate kicking.

Unfortunately when the kicks were important, the Blues lapsed, and wasted many opportunities.

As usual, Coldstream were slow to start, but nobody was really worried, as their strong finish had always held them in good stead.

Olinda attacked incessantly in the first ten minutes, with the McCarthy boys dominating play, and were finally rewarded with a goal from a scrimmage.

Coldstream fought back and for the rest of the quarter they were mainly attack.

## In command

Kelsey and Davenport now commanded the centre for the Blues, and provided the forwards with much drive into the scoring zone.

But the Olinda men were always first to the ball, as time and again, the Coldstream forwards hesitated when going in.

Mike Gooden was the only Blues player who showed determination to gain possession, but Olinda's big men were too much for even "Mike" to handle.

Olinda seldom moved into attack, but when they did there was no holding them.

Flashing the ball down the field, the Bloods were awarded a free and notched another major.

Twice Gooden was awarded a free for Cold-

stride but not before Olinda notched up another goal.

## Closed cap

It now seemed that the Coldstream everybody knew was coming good as they started to slowly close the gap built up by Olinda.

A major seemed certain for the Blues, when Van Zetten shot for the big opening, but the ball dropped short. However, it was snapped up by Stoney, who booted truly.

Kelsey and Davenport still provided the forwards with drive, but mostly to no avail.

Fletcher came into prominence and opening up the forward lines paved the way for D. Madden to goal.

Olinda came back strongly but were held for a while by Crossland whose clearing dashes were a feature.

Olinda's presistency was soon rewarded with full points.

Coldstream renewed the attack, as Croxford hammered the ball forward to Skate, who played on beautifully but just failed to score.

## Superb

Van Zetten, who was taking some superb marks, pulled a beauty down 35 yards out, but his kick was not straight enough and only a point resulted.

The marking at this stage was terrific with players stretching themselves to the limit to pull down the high ones.

Van Zetten, easily the best marker on the field, accepted a grass-cutter from Croxford, but hit the post with his kick.

Half-time scores:

Olinda: 4-4;

Coldstream: 3-5.

Coldstream appeared on top at this stage, while Olinda had slowed down slightly and were not going for the ball as hard as in the first quarter.

Play in the third term reached a high standard, with both teams finding it difficult to gain control.

Olinda were first to score, but most of the play was centred around the Blues' forward pockets.

The easy systematic play that had always been a feature of the Coldstream attack was sadly missing. Many of their moves continued to break down in the scoring zone.

Coldstream took the lead for a short time when, with neat passing between Gooden and Fletcher enabled the latter to put

Both teams were throwing everything into this final effort, but try as they would, Coldstream could not penetrate the Olinda defence.

Olinda notched another two goals, and with five points in the lead. It seemed all over for the Blues.

But they had not given up yet. May passed to Davenport, who pounded a "screamer" through the middle, and followed immediately with another. The Blues were coming back.

Coldstream barrackers urged their team on, but time was against them and the siren sounded with Olinda holding a slim nine-point lead.

Final scores:

Olinda: 10-7 (67);

Coldstream: 8-10 (58).

Best players, Olinda: Gammon, Fowler, Matthews, Raynor, Vernon, B. and D. McCarthy, Verstage and Van Berkel.

Coldstream: R. Pearce, Crossman, J. Madden, Davenport, Branettman, Van Zetten, Kelsey, Fletcher and T. Skate.

Goal-kickers, Olinda: Milic, B. and D. McCarthy, P. Jones, and Vernon (two each).

Coldstream: May (2), T. Skate, Fletcher, D. Madden, Davenport, N. Stoney, Kelsey (one each).

There was a good turnout of supporters from each club. Coldstream may have had the most, but Olinda's supporters were more enthusiastic.

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