



Its a photo from the 1979 Presentation night held at Treloar Park Tennis Club. From left to right we have, First Grade Coach Warwick Ford, Glen Deitrich (first grade highest point scorer and coach's award, John Gaffney (best and fairest first grade), Stewart Jay (Buccaneer's Trophy), Craig Burger (best and fairest U18's), Tim Conlan (Phar Lap award), Keith Akers (most improved first grade), and Wayne Faulkner (most improved reserve grade) and front is Dave Murray (best and fairest reserve grade). This was our first year trying to get U18's and we didn't have any success until half way through the year when the Tamworth U18's walked out on them and became Pirates. It was also Warick Ford's first year as Coach and I think we finished 5th just missing out on the semi's. It was also my first year with the Pirates. I was 17 and originally turned up to play U18's but we couldn't get the numbers so I played reserve grade all year and towards the end of the season I was playing both U18's and reserves due to lack of numbers. Courtesy of Tim Conlan - a great Pirate.

1979 Reports

President's Report

As everyone would have already realised this season has been the most successful ever for the club both on and off the field. Congratulations and thanks must go to the coaches, Warwick Ford and Bob Forrest for their efforts this year. It was vely' pleasing "to see 1st Grade reach the semis for the first time in approximately 13 years. Many new faces turned out for the club and this augers well for next season. A total of 54 players played at least one game with the club this season. Off the field the most important aspect was the support given by Tavern Insurance Brokers. Through various means such as the supply of T-shirts, guernseys and track-suits the clubs' costs were kept down and o Tavern's sponsorship enabled us to be more stable financially. The club is very grateful to Don Amos and his partners and hope the association continues. Special mention must be made of the behind-the-scenes work by Graham Yeo who organised the socials, T. C. McMahon and Charles McCarthy for their work and expertise of the Ground Development Committee and last but not least Marie Dietrich for her P.R. work at the Tudor. Once again the Tudor Hotel was the focal point for social activities and the club is indebted to the Mitchell family and their staff for their support and co-operation especially of a Saturday night at the after match functions. Finally thanks to the 1979 committee for their hard work throughout the year and to the supporters who turned up in increasing numbers to "See Pirates Play Rugby".

Stuart jay

Coaching Report 1979

Football Pirates style, 1979, produced a most successful and rewarding season. Interruptions such as the cancellation of a trial game, the first competition bye, and then Easter produced a relatively slow start to the season. However, once these lapses were overcome both teams produced some fine football to obtain the desired results. Individually we wish to thank each player for his efforts and support throughout the season. We also wish to comment briefly on the performances of our respective teams during the competition. The 1st XV defeated all but one team at least once during the season. Our final placing of fourth in the competition was a just

reward for the hard work and dedication given by each individual player to the team throughout the season. Player transfers in their respective jobs and serious injuries prevented higher rewards in the semi-finals, but be assured that the fifteen who played against Moree in the semi-final gave their maximum efforts. Unfortunately, as a team we did not set our usual rhythm but on the other hand we were not allowed to by the team that is now (and rightly so) the 1979 Premiers. The highlights of the First Grade's season were: Reaching the semi-finals Defeating Moree at Moree The "all but" game against Narrabri at No.1 Oval The manner in which we beat Walcha at Walcha In conclusion I wish to thank all those players who played or acted as reserves for the Firsts during the season. I particularly wish to thank the teams captains, Charlie Auld and Kevin Hines, and of course the vice-captains Graham Capel, Terry McGoldrick, Dave Zinga (eventually but not long enough) and Paul Wynne. The Second Grade performance during the year turned out to be much better than any expected after the first few rounds. The team finished on some high notes with wins over Tamworth, Inverell and Quirindi and near wins over Walcha and Barraba with fourteen men. The dedication of this nucleus of players at training and on the paddock was the backbone of the teams final achievements. Players such as Chuck Faulkner, Steve Taylor, Paul Shuttleworth, Garry Proctor and Peter Stoker, who rarely missed training made a valuable contribution during the year. Hopefully, Reserve Grade like the Firsts, will go on to bigger and better things next year.

W. Ford & R. Forrest