

Bay of Plenty Rugby Union (Inc)
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Press Release

24 August 2010

WESTERN HEIGHTS AND OPOTIKI TO CONTEST DIVISION ONE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE

Opotiki College and Western Heights High School, will contest the premier prize in the BOP Polytechnic Secondary Schools first fifteen championships, after posting wins in Saturdays (21 August 2010) semi-finals.

Defending Division One champions Opotiki College, had a real tussle with Reporoa College in the Eastern Bay, before grabbing a finals berth. The home side started strongly with captain Shaun Williams leading from the front. The first Opotiki touchdown came when prop Scott Cooper crashed over after a lineout close to the line.

A second Opotiki try came in the first half after Mike Shaw strolled over, which resulted in Opotiki leading 14 nil at the break. A stirring come back from Reporoa in the second half saw Ryan Hathaway dot the ball down for the visitors.

While Reporoa continued to fight back, the final Opotiki try resulted when Kanuta Pio ran down the touchline to score. A hard fought 21-7 victory to Opotiki against a game Reporoa challenge, has given the Eastern Bay side a chance for back to back Division One titles.

Western Heights High School who have a long and proud history in secondary schools rugby, have another chance for further glory, after they defeated John Paul College 28-13 in the other semi-final played in Rotorua.

In a game where the forward packs were evenly matched, the difference was the Western Heights back line. Joshua Walker, who scored two tries, was in outstanding form leading his side forward at every opportunity. Another to impress was Joshua Walker who also scored a Western Heights try.

In the Division One final to be played at Murray Salt Stadium in Te Puke next Saturday (28 August 2010) - the match winner for Western Heights, could be live wire half back Jordan Ngamata-Poi who contributed 13 points with his boot against JPC.

Two Western Bay team will fight out the Division Two title after posting home semi-final victories. Mount Maunganui College had a titanic battle with Tauhara College from Taupo before prevailing 20-18.

The second post section game was also close, with Otumoetai getting home against Rotorua Boys thirds 15-10.

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Bay of Plenty Polytechnic Secondary Schools Semi-Finals Results 21 August 2010

First Fifteen Championships Division One:

Western Heights HS 28 (Joshua Walker 2, Keehan Korau tries; Jordan Ngamata-Poi 3 pen 2 cons) John Paul College 13.

Opotiki College 21 (Scott Cooper, Michael Shaw, Kanutu Pio tries; Brogan Connor 3 pens) Reporoa College 7 (Ryan Hathaway try; Logan Curry con)

Division Two: Mount Maunganui 20 Tauhara 18, Otumoetai 15 Rotorua BHS 10.

Division Three: Te Puke HS 27 Kawerau 17, Aquinas 17 Opotiki 7.

Under 15 Championship: Otumoetai 23 Opotiki 13, Mount Maunganui 22 Trident 10.

Under 14 Championship: Trident 11 Mount Maunganui 5, Rotorua BHS defeated Opotiki.

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