

MAR 2010 ISSUE

MANYATTA



KENYA RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION NEWSLETTER

kenyarfu.com

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Local News

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RESOLUTION HEALTH IMPALA FLOODLIT TOURNAMENT

By Maik Kwambo

“Kichwaa” keeps his head to see Impala retain Floodies

The month of February saw Resolution Health Impala RFC bag the season's first piece of silver when they retained their home tournament, the Resolution Health Impala Floodlit after edging out Kenya Commercial Bank RFC 17-13 in a tense, thrilling final played under the lights on Saturday 6th February 2010. The Gazelles had Kenya fifteens call up Kelvin “Kichwaa” Omiyo to thank for the title as he grounded the ball barely minutes from the final whistle with Impala trailing 13-12. The University of Nairobi's Mean Machine would claim third place with an equally close 8-6 win over Nakuru RFC. KCB's Dennis “Ironman” Mwanja claimed the tournament's Most Valuable Player award with Impala's guest player Victor Sudi sharing the top try scorer's award

with Mean Machine's Cedric Odera after they tied on three tries apiece. Another Machine player, Fidel Sinei scooped the Most Promising Player's award.

Mang'u High School's "Wazimba" grabbed a third Floodie title, adding to previous titles in 2000 and 2007 when they beat first time finalists Moi Forces Academy in an entertaining match. The MFA Marines had claimed the scalps of respected rugby playing schools Lenana and Alliance en route to that maiden final but their hopes of claiming an illustrious third scalp were put in check by a Mang'u side who simply punished MFA's mistakes, scoring their nine points from the boot of prodigious talent Alenga Noordin who slotted home two penalties and a drop goal. He would later claim the Top Points scorer and Most Valuable Player awards in the schools' category.



Local News

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NIVEA FOR MEN RENEW SPONSORSHIP DEAL WITH KENYA HARLEQUIN FC

Nivea for Men renewed their sponsorship deal with Kenya Harlequin FC, offering a Ksh 6 million package for the 2010 season.

The Nation Media Group's Ayumba Ayodi carries on with this story.

Kenya Harlequin's title hopes got a jab in the arm on Tuesday when Beiersdorf East Africa increased their sponsorship with the rugby giants to the tune of Sh6 million.

Beiersdorf East Africa marketing manager Faith Wanderi presented a cheque of Sh1.8 million to Quins' vice-chairman Philip Jalang'o at a colourful ceremony at a Nairobi Hotel.

Wanderi said that an additional Sh4.2 million would be spent on providing playing and training kit to the team. It will also boost their equipment, including their gymnasium, scrum machines and youth development programmes.

The beauty product manufacturing company will also sponsor this year's Christie Sevens, which is hosted by the club. Christie is one of the oldest tournaments in the country.

Last year the company, under their brand Nivea for Men, forked out Sh4 million to aid Quins' programmes. Wanderi said the increased purse is a sign of confidence the two have developed over the year.

Quins, who have provided the bulk of the national 15s and 7s teams players, are the 2008 Kenya Cup champions and also won the regional Enterprise Cup last year.

Present at the presentation ceremony were Kenya Rugby Football Union (KRFU) vice-chairman Fred Odhiambo, KRFU secretary Frak Sabwa and the Nivea brand manager, Fred Maina.

Big accomplishment

Jalang'o hailed the renewed sponsorship as a big accomplishment saying it will supplement their development strategy and will benefit not only the club but the country.

"We have no option but win all the major trophies – including the Kenya Cup, Supremacy Cup and Enterprise Cup – this season," he said.

Quins have won Kenya Cup title five times since 1977, their most recent win coming in 2008



IRB Sevens Series

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Kenya Airways Sevens ranked sixth after Wellington and Vegas legs.












The Kenya Rugby Sevens team sponsored by Kenya Airways remained sixth after the NZI Sevens in Wellington, New Zealand on the weekend of 5th/6th February 2010 and the just concluded USA Sevens played in Las Vegas, USA on Valentine's Day weekend. The side reached the main cup quarter final in Wellington, bowing out to eventual tournament winners Samoa. A further loss to Australia in the plate semi final saw Kenya gather six points ahead of the Las Vegas leg.

Kenya would better their Wellington performance by making it to the main cup semi final in Las Vegas where they went down 7-21 to New Zealand. They had earlier beaten England 26-21 in sudden death extra time, Ben Nyambu scoring the decisive try. For their exertions in the USA, Kenya collected 16 points for a cumulative total of 22 points over the two legs.

Prior to taking part in these two events, the team spent some time in Australia where they played at the Darwin Sevens, falling to a 14-19 semi final defeat at the hands of eventual winners Borneo Eagles. They would also spend a week at a high performance training facility in Australia.

Speaking on the team's return to Nairobi, Head Coach Benjamin Ayimba felt that the team needed to exert itself more if they are to leave a bigger, lasting impression on the sevens scene.

IRB Sevens World Series overall standings after leg four

Team	Total points
 1. NEW ZEALAND	84
 2. SAMOA	70
 3. FIJI	68
 4. ENGLAND	50
 5. AUSTRALIA	46
 6. KENYA	44
 7. SOUTH AFRICA	36
 8. ARGENTINA	22
 9. WALES	18
 10. CANADA	6
 11. UNITED STATES	4



IRB Sevens Series

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Three Kenyans in top twenty points scorers list

Lavin Asego headlines a list of three Kenyan players who are ranked amongst the top twenty points scorers at the halfway stage of the 2009/2010 IRB Sevens World Series. Evergreen Ben Gollings of England is the top points scorer after four legs, having accumulated a total of 187 points. Fiji's William Ryder is second with a cumulative 166 points while Samoan flyer Mikaele Pesamino rounds off the top three with 130 points. Asego lies seventh overall with 101 points, one point and one position ahead of compatriot Collins Injera. Team captain Humphrey Kayange is tied for sixteenth position with South African Ryno Benjamin on 70 points.

Player	Team	Points
1. Ben Gollings	ENGLAND	187
2. William Ryder	FIJI	166
3. Mikaele Pesamino	SAMOA	130
4. Lolo Lui	SAMOA	122
5. Mzwandile Stick	SOUTH AFRICA	112
6. Sherwin Stowers	NEW ZEALAND	102
7. Lavin Asego	KENYA	101
8. Collins Injera	KENYA	100
9. Tomasi Cama	NEW ZEALAND	98
10. Renaud Delmas	FRANCE	90
11. Emosi Vucago	FIJI	88
12. Cecil Afrika	SOUTH AFRICA	85
13. Clinton Sills	AUSTRALIA	85
14. Nese Malifa	USA	80
15. Joaquin Todeschini	ARGENTINA	77
16. Humphrey Kayange	KENYA	70
16. Ryno Benjamin	SOUTH AFRICA	70
17. Reupena Levasa	SAMOA	69
17. James Stannard	AUSTRALIA	69
17. Paul Albaladejo	FRANCE	69
18. Alex Cuthbert	WALES	67
19. Nick Edwards	USA	65
19. Zar Lawrence	NEW ZEALAND	65
20. Osea Kolinisau	FIJI	64

IRB Sevens Series

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Last season's IRB Sevens World Series top try scorer, Collins Injera lies second on the try scorers chart as the series reached the halfway stage after the USA Sevens in Las Vegas. Injera has scored 20 tries, same as New Zealand's Sherwin Stowers, six less than Samoan speedster Mikaele Pesamino. Injera's elder brother and Kenya captain Humphrey Kayange lies fifth overall, tied with South Africa's Ryno Benjamin and Fiji's Emosi Vucago on 14 tries.

IRB Sevens World Series try scorers chart after leg four

Player	Team	Tries
1. Mikaele Pesamino	SAMOA	26
2. Collins Injera	KENYA	20
2. Sherwin Stowers	NEW ZEALAND	20
3. Renaud Delmas	FRANCE	18
3. William Ryder	FIJI	18
4. Ben Gollings	ENGLAND	17
4. Clinton Sills	AUSTRALIA	17
5. Ryno Benjamin	SOUTH AFRICA	14
5. Humphrey Kayange	KENYA	14
5. Emosi Vucago	FIJI	14
6. Cecil Afrika	SOUTH AFRICA	13
6. Alex Cuthbert	WALES	13
6. Nick Edwards	USA	13
6. Zar Lawrence	NEW ZEALAND	13
7. Alafoti Fa'osiliva	SAMOA	12
7. Osea Kolinisau	FIJI	12
7. Dan Norton	ENGLAND	12
7. Christian Wade	ENGLAND	12
8. Vasily Artemyev	RUSSIA	11
8. Reupena Levasa	SAMOA	11
9. Ifan Evans	WALES	10
9. Brackin Karauria-Henry	AUSTRALIA	10
9. Mzwandile Stick	SOUTH AFRICA	10
10. Nicolas Bruzzone	ARGENTINA	9
10. Seremaia Burotu	FIJI	9

League Standings

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KENYA CUP/ERIC SHIRLEY/UNIVERSITIES LEAGUE STANDINGS

As at 26 th Feb Leg 2

KENYA CUP

TEAM	P	W	D	L	FOR	AG	DIFF	BONUS	PTS
Quins	2	2	0	0	100	29	71	2	10
KCB	2	2	0	0	82	38	44	1	9
Impala	2	2	0	0	53	18	35	1	9
Nakuru	2	2	0	0	37	6	31	1	9
Nondies	2	0	0	2	32	59	-27	1	1
Strathmore	2	0	0	2	6	37	-31	1	1
MeanMachine	2	0	0	2	31	75	-44	1	1
Mwamba	2	0	0	2	22	101	-79	0	0

ESS POOL A (EAST)

TEAM	P	W	D	L	FOR	AG	DIFF	BONUS	PTS
Quins II	2	2	0	0	57	0	57	2	10
Nakuru II	2	2	0	0	28	0	28	2	10
Homeboyz	2	2	0	0	25	7	18	1	9
KCB II	2	2	0	0	37	0	0	1	9
Impala II	2	1	0	1	21	25	-4	1	5
Strathmore II	2	1	0	1	14	14	0	0	2
Mwamba II	2	0	0	2	0	73	-73	0	0
Nondies II	2	0	0	2	0	28	-28	0	-4

ESS POOL B (WEST)

TEAM	P	W	D	L	FOR	AG	DIFF	BONUS	PTS
Kisumu	2	2	0	0	222	3	219	2	10
Masinde M	2	2	0	0	180	5	175	2	10
Kakamega	2	2	0	0	53	0	53	1	9
Moi Uni	2	1	0	1	26	37	-11	1	5
Bungoma	2	1	0	1	14	26	-12	1	5
Siaya Mtc	2	0	0	2	0	138	-138	0	0
Webuye rfc	2	0	0	2	0	274	-274	0	0
Maseno U	2	0	0	2	0	14	-14	0	-2

UNIVERSITIES POOL A

TEAM	P	W	D	L	FOR	AG	DIFF	BONUS	PTS
Machine II	2	2	0	0	55	0	55	2	10
Catholic U	2	1	0	1	22	0	22	1	5
BlakBlad	2	1	0	1	15	12	3	0	4
USIU	2	1	0	1	14	19	-5	0	4
KEMU	2	1	0	1	18	93	-75	0	4
Homeboyz II	2	1	0	1	12	17	-5	0	2
KCA	2	0	0	2	7	55	-48	1	1
JKUAT	2	0	0	2	0	28	-28	0	-4

UNIVERSITIES POOL B

TEAM	P	W	D	L	FOR	AG	DIFF	BONUS	PTS
B.Spartans	2	2	0	0	56	3	53	2	10
Egerton	2	2	0	0	28	0	28	1	9
Daystar	2	2	0	0	27	3	24	1	9
Sheperds rfc	2	1	0	1	14	14	0	0	2
Strathmore III	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kenya Poly	2	0	0	2	6	55	-49	0	0
Quins III	2	0	0	2	0	28	-28	0	-4
Kabarak	2	0	0	2	0	28	-28	0	-4



Fixtures

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Local Fixtures

Sat 6 th March	Mwamba vs Impala	Mwamba II vs Impala II	Moi Uni vs Kisumu	Catholic vs USIU	Kabarak vs Strath II
	Strathmore vs KCB	Strathmore II vs KCB II	Webuye vs Kakamega	BlakBlad vs Machine II	Quins III vs Daystar
4th Leg	Quins vs Machine	Quins II vs Homeboyz	Bungoma vs Siaya MTC	KEMU vs KCA	Spartans vs Shepherds
	Nakuru vs Nondies	Nakuru II vs Nondies II	Masinde M vs Maseno Uni	Homeboyz II vs JKUAT	Egerton vs K.Poly
Sat 13 th March	Impala vs Nakuru	Impala II vs Nakuru II	Kisumu vs Masinde M Uni	USIU vs Homeboyz II	Strath III vs Egerton
5th Leg	KCB vs Quins	KCB II vs Quins II	Kakamega vs Bungoma	Machine II vs KEMU	Daystar vs Spartans
	Strathmore vs Mwamba	Strathmore II vs Mwamba II	Webuye vs Moi Uni	BlakBald vs Catholic	Quins III vs Kabarak
	Nondies vs Machine	Nondies II vs Homeboyz	Maseno Uni vs Siaya MTC	JKUAT vs KCA	K.Poly vs Shepherds
Sat 20 th March	Quins vs Impala	Quins II vs Impala II	Bungoma vs Kisumu	KEMU vs USIU	Spartans vs Strath III
	KCB vs Nakuru	KCB II vs Nakuru II	Kakamega vs Masinde M	Machine II vs Homeboyz II	Daystar vs Egerton
6th Leg	Mwamba vs Machine	Mwamba II Vs Homeboyz	Moi Uni vs Siaya MTC	Catholic vs KCA	Kabarak vs Shepherds
	Nondies vs Strathmore	Nondies vs Strathmore II	Maseno Uni vs Webuye	JKUAT vs BlakBlad	K.Poly vs Quins III
Sat 27 th March	Impala vs KCB	Impala II vs KCB II	Kisumu vs Kakamega	USIU vs Machine	Strath III vs Daystar
	Nakuru vs Quins	Nakuru II vs Quins II	Masinde M vs Bungoma	Homeboyz II vs KEMU	Egerton vs Spartans
	Mwamba vs Nondies	Mwamba II vs Nondies II	Moi Uni vs Maseno Uni	Catholic vs JKUAT	Kabarak vs K.Poly
7 th Leg	Machine vs Strathmore	Homeboyz vs Strathmore II	Siaya MTC vs Webuye	KCA vs BlakBlad	Shepherds vs Quins III
Sun 28 th March	BLAK ROCK TOURNAMENT				

International Fixtures

Adelaide

March 19-21

Pool C

Fiji
Kenya
Wales
Papua New Guinea

Day 1

Fixtures

19-03-2010 19:06 Kenya Vs Papua New Guinea

Day 2

20-03-2010 15:21 Kenya vs Wales
20-03-2010 19:26 Kenya vs Fiji

Time indicated is Adelaide Time

Hong Kong

Mar 26-28

Pool F

Kenya
South Africa
Zimbabwe
Korea

Day 1

Fixtures

26-03-2010 18:20 Kenya vs Korea

Day 2

27-03-2010 14:32 Kenya vs Zimbabwe
27-03-2010 18:56 Kenya vs South Africa

Time Indicated is Hong Kong Time

Fixtures subject to change



PUZZLE

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How Rugby are You

(Find the answer then look for it in the grid below. The words are arranged horizontally, vertically, diagonally, some of the answers are inverted.)

1. They won these years floodlit tournament.
2. Coach of the National Seven's team.
3. He scored the decisive try against England in Las Vegas.
4. We will be here from March 19-21.
5. We will then win more matches here 5 days later.
6. Chairman.
7. Took over the mantle from EABL (Tusker).
8. Pride of Africa. (Abbreviations)
9. Top Kenyan point scorer in the IRB 7's circuit.
10. Michael Otieno.
11. They beat us and eventually won the trophy in New Zealand.
12. Sponsors of these years Impala flood lit tournament.
13. Tournament with the equivalent of blood in its name.
14. Lacking distinctive qualities; having no individual character or form. Team.
15. Total points awarded when a try and the conversion are scored.
16. Kenyatta University are known by this name.
17. So far we have reached this stage in the IRB Sevens circuit.
18. Mang'u High School.

Scribbling Space



Puzzle answers will be published in the next issue

SHORT AND SHARP KENYA CUP KICKS OFF

The conclusion of the Resolution Health Impala Floodies paved the way for the 2010 KRFU Kenya Cup, which this season takes on a different complexion. It is a compact league campaign where all eight teams will face each other once with the top four making it to the single legged semi final play-offs on Saturday 10th April 2010. The league winner will be decided in the grand final on Saturday 17th April 2010 at the hallowed home of Kenyan rugby, the RFUEA Grounds.

For your information, the Kenya Cup has been played on a home and away basis between 2005 and 2009 with the team that gathers the most cumulative points being declared the winner.

The league has taken on this compact format due to changes in the KRFU calendar that are intended to align the Kenyan rugby calendar with the international calendar. Resultantly, the 2011 Kenya Cup will kick off in November this year.

Resolution Health Impala RFC head

coach Bill Githinji shared his sentiments ahead of the league kick off, saying, "This year's league will be short and sharp. You snooze...you lose."

Prior to the league's kick off; all eight participating teams had a very realistic chance of making it to the knock out stage of the league. A few matches have been played and as the fixtures come thick and fast, the composition of the semi finalists is not yet known though three leading teams, Impala, KCB and Quins should qualify. The identity of the fourth semi finalist is still pretty much anyone's guess as the remaining five teams are capable of stealing that final playoff berth.

An expanded second division also kicked off, with rugby action being played in Webuye, Bungoma, Siaya and Meru in addition to the traditional rugby playing towns of Nairobi, Mombasa, Nakuru and Kisumu. Definitely a plus for the game's development in Kenya.

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