

Blackjacks Out of Luck v SD

Written by Karina Maloney
Monday, 18 February 2013 14:01

San Diego, Calif. - The San Diego Old Aztecs defeated the Las Vegas Blackjacks Saturday 51-25 in their 2nd home game of the season in DI club action.

The Old Aztecs were paced by two tries each from wing Gerald Fillman and center Des Wellington.

"[The Blackjacks] have been a team that's been up and down," said Aztec wing Micah Kropp. "When they play at their best it can be a very tough match, but we [didn't] know which side of them is going to show up today".

While multiple penalties, including three yellow cards, were probably the biggest contributing factor to the Blackjacks' loss Saturday, they also lacked depth as they traveled with a light bench, and were in fact unable to field a B side.

The Blackjacks started slowly as the Aztecs kept possession throughout much of the first half. By halftime San Diego led 25-8 thanks to tries from lock Ron-Paul Dunnum, flanker Chase Burge and Wellington. Flyhalf and team captain Jarrod Faul kicked two conversions and two penalties.

But in the second half Las Vegas upped their game somewhat, scoring three tries. Two of these tries were scored in quick succession while the Blackjacks were down two players due to yellow cards.

Faul was beginning to think that his team might be underestimating the opposition.

"I know some of the players from the Blackjacks from other games, and they are very [tough]," said Faul, adding that at the time he hopes the team was going to give up because they're getting tired.

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Fillman scored twice early for San Diego and then Wellington added another before the Blackjacks stormed back. But the Old Aztecs ended the scoring streak with a try from flanker Jeffrey Diggs around the 37 minute mark to make it 51-25 and cap off a bonus-point victory.

San Diego improves to 2-2, while Las Vegas drops to 0-4.

“The [Old Aztecs] came into the game with only one injured player and a strong bench,” said Old Aztecs physical therapist David Salzer, “I think that might have contributed a lot to their success today, especially this far into the season.”