

Thanks, Harry, for this trip down memory lane...or lack of it. It seems I would remember a 50 yard score, but I have zero recollection of what was apparently our first try of the fall '68 season. It must have been too easy and/or too lucky. But, now that I have it in black & white, I look forward to sharing it with my son and grandson.

It's interesting what images and memories remain for me, like Roy Coppinger knifing through a line of defenders with the ball tucked under his arm and a couple of Al McNear's dazzling runs. But my strongest memories tend to be of the few times we were on wrong end of the stick, like the tough time we had at BYU trying for the Rocky Mtn. Championship after winning the Colorado Championship. We would work our way down to their end only to have their fullback unleash some of the longest kicks I've ever seen in a rugby game. And I'll never forget the mud bowl in Berkeley when Cal showed us what is possible when you recruit heavily from Australia, New Zealand & South Africa...and I still have images of visiting Bob Bennett in the hospital. Misery loves company, so it is nice to see that a lot of other teams have suffered the same fate with Cal over the years.

Thanks again,

Jim Chase

Thank you both for sharing this detailed info on the early years of Zoomie rugby! Not only do I have the previous documentation that I scored a 50 yard try during the first match of the fall '68 season, but now I have the long lost picture of me wearing headgear and carrying the ball against Cal--the caption said it was someone else, but I'm pretty sure I was the only Zoomie wearing headgear that day (Al scrounged it up for me because I was still tender from the 6 or 7 stitches I got from the previous spring break game in Provo against BYU).

BTW, I must be prone to head injuries because, when I played one of my last rugby games with Harry in Dallas, I got 29 stitches. I will never forget that an oral surgeon playing on the opposing team took me up to his office after hours and stitched me up before we both joined the post game party!

Thank you both for the memories and keeping the tradition alive! Also, just for the record, I am wondering if y'll could enlighten me re: how and when the Academy rugby club was formed. I suspect there's a good story or two there.

Thanks again,

Jim Chase '69