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Robb clinch a victory over college rivals



Until the final whistle blew in the 80th minute in Saturday's clash between Robb College and St Albert's College, you just got the feeling any team could clinch the victory

The intensity between the two sides was as high as you'll ever see in a New England Rugby Union match up.

Every drop ball, penalty, try-saving tackle was met with a roar from the packed hill and grandstand at Bellevue Oval.

But it was the Robb crowd who cheered just a little bit louder with their side toppling Albies 21-15.

It was the first time Albies had suffered a defeat all season and Robb captain Will Archer summed it up by saying his side were "over the moon."

"To knock Albies off their perch like that, it is unbelievable," he said.

"Going into the finals, it is bloody awesome.

"We are really pumped with that.

"We said we just have to keep turning up and being relentless, keep turning up and putting points on any chance we got and that is what undid them in the end."

The first opportunity they had to follow through with that came six minutes in with Hamish Cannington slotting a penalty goal.

Barely two minutes passed before Cannington slotted another for a 6-nil lead.

Robb also landed the first try through some razzle dazzle.

A Will Irish-grubber kick left the Albies' winger with nowhere to go and he was bundled over the sideline.

Then Robb spread the ball in the other direction for Cannington to bag a five-pointer.

He converted but, Albies doing what they've done best all season, regained possession and made the most of it.

They won a scrum and Sam Grear darted over beside the posts.

Right on half-time Cannington notched up another penalty goal and Robb held a 16-5 advantage.

In the second-half it didn't take long for Albies to make their intentions known with Will Gordon diving over.

That went unconverted to leave a six point margin.

Coming out from their own line, an Albies' pass goes to ground and Will Clemson scoops it up for Robb to land their second try for the game.

It went unconverted and the score was 21-10.

A mountain of possession to Albies in the dying minutes of the clash amounted to a second try to Grear.

But by the time he crossed, it was too late, Robb earning the win.

With Albies previously undefeated and cruising at the top of the table, Archer believes their win will give the rest of the competition a shake.

"Gives us a lot of belief and gives a lot of teams belief that they can go the whole way," he said.

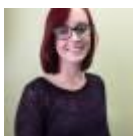
The tough thing for Robb moving forward will be matching the energy levels they used to topple their college rivals.

Archer doesn't believe it will be a problem though.

"I think it will be easy to be honest," he said.

"The energy in the club at the moment, we are in a really good space and that was a really good boost.

"We all needed it to bring us into finals."



By [Ellen Dunger](#)

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