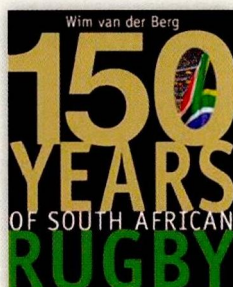




BOOK REVIEW

150 Years of South African Rugby

By Wim van der Berg



THE FIRST RUGBY

match was played in South Africa in 1861, making 2011 the 150th anniversary of the sport in this country – just about the perfect time for a book detailing the history of the game we all love. What makes this book unique is that it's not just about the Springboks – detailed sections on the Currie Cup and Craven Week, as well the recent SANZAR history (including Super Rugby and the Tri-Nations), means there's plenty of information on the provincial game, something which is not always easy to find. A chapter on the fractious history of multi-racial rugby in the pre-unification days sheds light on a part of the game that might not be well-known to most South African rugby fans. Our favourite section, however, is the detailed statistics at the back of the book. Like, did you know that the most Bok Test appearances in the flyhalf position is a record held by... Butch James! Although records change all the time, we've no doubt you'll enjoy trawling through the facts and figures that are part and parcel of South African Rugby. Look out for *150 Years of South African Rugby* at most good book stores – retails at R250.