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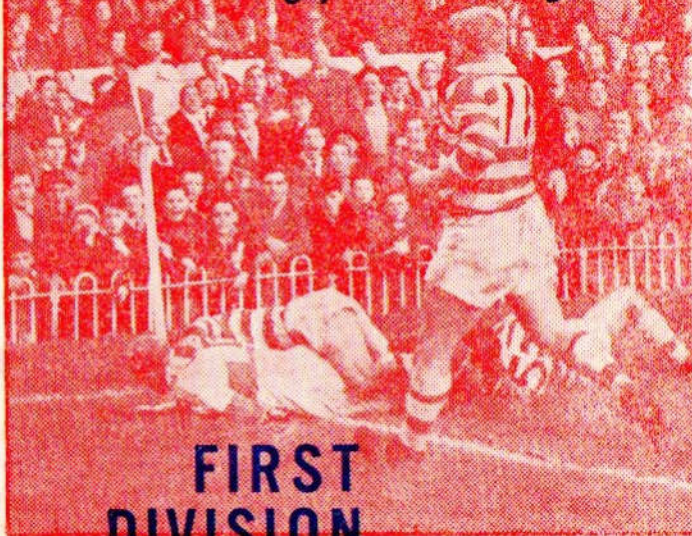
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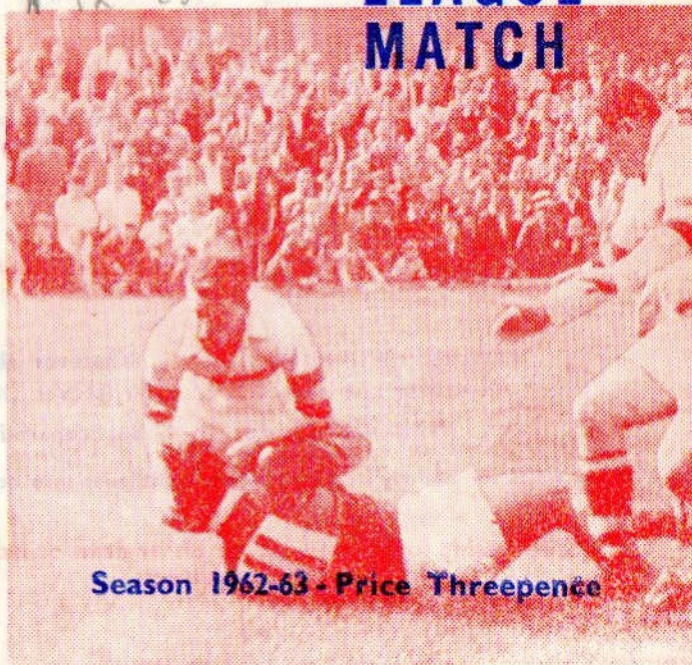
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Northern Rugby Football League



**FIRST
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**LEAGUE
MATCH**



Season 1962-63 - Price Threepence

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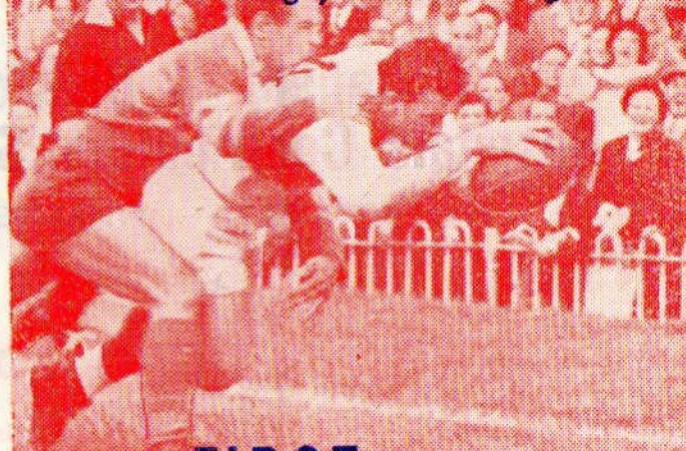
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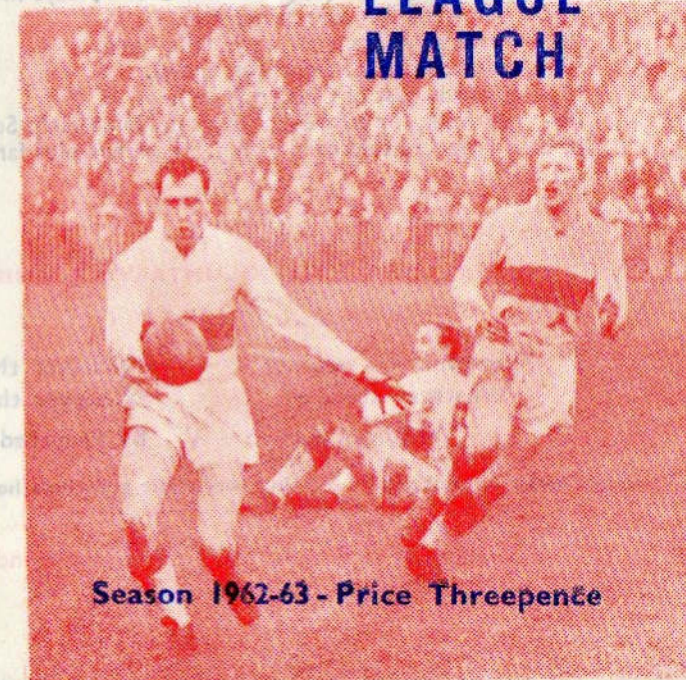
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Season 1962-63 - Price Threepence

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RUGBY FOOTBALL LEAGUE
First Division Match



**WAKEFIELD
TRINITY**
versus
OLDHAM

VISITORS

This afternoon we have pleasure in welcoming Oldham to Belle Vue for the return league game between our two sides. It will be recalled that we were successful at Watersheddings by 15pts. to 3 in October.

Oldham, suffering from a succession of injuries, have had a disappointing start to First Divisional football. Their position at the foot of the table at present, however, will serve to bring forth determination for better things. They will take note, also, of the very slight difference in positions throughout the table, where a couple of competition points presently decide leadership of the First Division and a middle-of-the-table berth.

OTHER CLASHES

This will be Oldham's first visit here since 1959-60 season. Then we were able to gain a "double" over them with victories of 11-5 here at Belle Vue and 14-8 at Oldham.

Thus we repeated a feat we have only found possible twice in post-war football against these men from just over the Pennines. In 1947-48 we had successes of 28-15 and 24-5 — but



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between those two campaigns of "double" achievement Oldham defeated us at Watersheddings on seven successive occasions. Here, however, we were able to hold our own with four victories, a draw and two defeats.

Can we go ahead and gain our third "double" of this period, or will Oldham take a step towards levelling the issues? After last Saturday's games in which both sides suffered defeats against opposition from opposing counties, which side will be able to return to winning lines today? It all adds up to an interesting tussle; one which should hold plenty of excitement and entertainment.

ALL THE BEST, ALAN

A fortnight ago we bid a most regretful good-bye to Alan Skene when he played his last game for Trinity against Swinton. Later in this coming week he and his family are to leave England

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4
to return to their homeland, South Africa. But we expect that Alan will be at Belle Vue this afternoon as a spectator and it may be that the Supporters' Club will be taking this opportunity to make a presentation to him.

We in Wakefield do not like parting from our friends, and we should have been glad if Alan had decided to settle here. As this was not to be we shall have to content ourselves with the happy memories he will leave behind. He has shown himself a really great centre-three-quarter, an exponent of the classic style, using speed and swerve. Thus, he has been a perfect partner for Neil Fox, the two having formed perhaps the finest

centre combination in the story of Trinity.

The Trinity Committee feel that Alan's letter to the club chairman should be made known to our public and we therefore have the greatest pleasure in recording it here.

"As my family and myself are leaving England on the 6th December, 1962, to return to South Africa, we should like to express our sincere thanks for all you and your committee have done for us in the four years we have spent with you. Your kindness on and off the field will always be remembered by me personally.

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I shall always be very proud to be associated with the name Wakefield Trinity, and honoured that I have been fortunate enough to be a member of such a fine team. All your staff from Mr. Thomas down to the 'back-room boys' of Messrs. Booth and Weaver, have been most helpful, and no job has seemed too much trouble for them in the short time I have known them.

I wish you and Wakefield Trinity all success in the future, and I am sure that, with such a fine body of men around you, you cannot help but go from strength to strength.

Marlene and myself will always remember the kindness of the Yorkshire people, and we will follow your future with the closest interest."

In the course of his reply, Mr. Hadfield wrote:

"Dear Alan, — Your letter of the 12th inst. to hand, for which I thank you. I read your letter out to my Committee last evening and they asked me to reply.

Will you please accept the thanks of the Committee, myself, and all the staff for the sentiments expressed in your letter, and to say that they were much appreciated.

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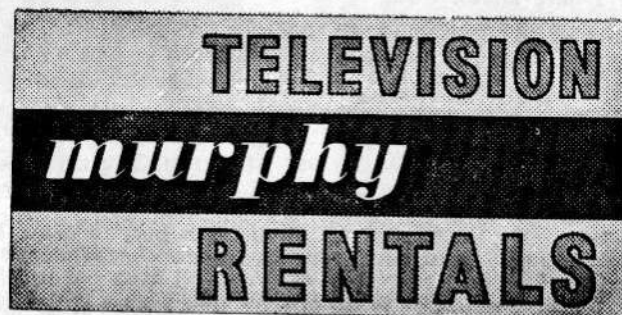
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PLAYERS' RECORDS (FIRST TEAM) 1962-63

1962-63 Season					Full Totals			
Full-backs	App.	G.	T.	Pts.	App.	G.	T.	Pts.
G. Round	13	0	5	15	138	83	40	286
<i>Three-quarters :</i>								
F. Smith	12	0	7	21	233	0	178	534
K. Hirst	9	0	6	18	75	0	58	174
C. Greenwood	3	0	2	6	29	0	19	57
A. Nunn	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	0
R. Bell	6	2	1	7	17	2	1	7
A. Skene	7	0	1	3	136	0	69	207
I. Brooke	6	0	1	3	7	0	2	6
N. Fox	11	42	3	93	227	756	146	1950
J. Prinsloo	8	0	7	21	48	0	45	135
G. Mann	9	0	8	24	12	0	11	33
<i>Half-backs :</i>								
H. Poynton	6	1	1	5	129	1	37	113
T. Thomas	7	0	1	3	17	0	6	18
K. Rollin	10	0	7	21	199	0	90	270
K. Holliday	11	0	2	6	320	0	72	216
<i>Forwards :</i>								
J. Wilkinson	11	0	2	6	112	0	9	27
J. Smith	4	2	0	4	34	21	7	63
M. Kosanovic	8	0	0	0	42	0	1	3
G. Oakes	6	0	0	0	139	0	6	18
R. Hawksley	3	0	2	6	6	0	2	6
D. Vines	7	0	0	0	107	0	6	18
M. Sampson	1	0	0	0	25	2	3	13
A. Firth	12	0	3	9	216	0	70	210
T. Campbell	2	0	1	3	2	0	1	3
B. Briggs	10	0	0	0	89	0	6	18
R. Howe	2	0	0	0	3	0	0	0
E. Payne	5	16	0	32	17	23	3	55
R. Haigh	3	0	0	0	3	0	0	0
G. Steel	11	0	4	12	17	0	4	12
D. Blakeley	5	0	1	3	10	0	4	12
R. Pearman	3	0	1	3	3	0	1	3
D. Turner	9	0	2	6	131	0	33	99

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We also thank you for the excellent service you have rendered this club during your only too short stay with us, and we are only too sorry that we were unable to keep you with us for another year or two, but circumstances beyond our control prevented this . . .

I am sorry to hear your wife has to go into hospital, and hope she will soon recover.

I understand the Supporters' Club intend making you a presentation at the Oldham match on December 1st, and although we understand you will not be playing we think all our Supporters should have the pleasure of seeing the presentation made, so I hope you will be present along with your wife.

With kindest regards from myself, and many thanks for the football you have provided us with during your stay.

I should be glad if you would keep in touch with us when you go away and I shall personally be glad to hear from you from time to time, and I can then keep you up to date with all the news."

Finally may we add:

On behalf of all those at Belle Vue and on other grounds to whom you have given so much pleasure, thank you, Alan.

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Alan Skene's full record with Trinity.

Debut: v. Castleford (away), Christmas Day 1958.

Final appearance: v. Swinton (home), November 17th, 1962.

Full 1st Team records: 136 appearances, 69 tries, 207 points.

Representative honours:

For R.L. XIII v. New Zealanders, 1961-62.

For R.L. XIII v. A French XIII, 1961-62.

Medals: Yorks. League Championship—1958-9, 1959-60, 1961-62.

R.L. Challenge Cup (winners)—1960, 1962.

N.R.L. Championship (runners-up)—1959-60, 1961-62.

Yorkshire Cup (winners)—1960, 1961.

In 1959-60 season he scored 35 tries from 41 appearances and it is worthy of note here that in the full history of the club such a total has been exceeded only by F. Smith (who has scored 37 and 38 in one season) for Trinity in one campaign.

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Goals:

Tries:

Points:

Full back

1 Round

Three-quarter backs

2 Smith 3 Greenwood 4 Bell 5 Mann

Half backs

6 Rollin 7 Holliday

Front row forwards

8 Wilkinson 9 Kosanovic 10 Firth

Second row forwards

11 Vines 12 Sampson

Loose forward

13 Haigh

Referee: T. W. Watkinson (Manchester)



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Full back

1 Patterson

Three-quarter backs

2 Lord 3 Holden 4 Fisher 5 Sims

Half backs

6 Nestor 7 Pycroft

Front row forwards

8 Mumberson 9 McIntyre 10 Goddard

Second row forwards

11 Bott 12 Smethurst

Loose forward

13 Platt

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The above figures give only a small indication of Skene's contribution to Trinity's story over the past four years. Nevertheless they are something in which he can take pride and something, too, on which he will be able to look in future days.

REPRESENTATIVE HONOURS

For the second home game of ours in succession representative calls force alterations in our line-up today. Again we are unable to call upon captain DEREK TURNER and NEIL FOX.

Our congratulations go to these two players on their selection for Great Britain v. France at Perpignan tomorrow, December 2nd.



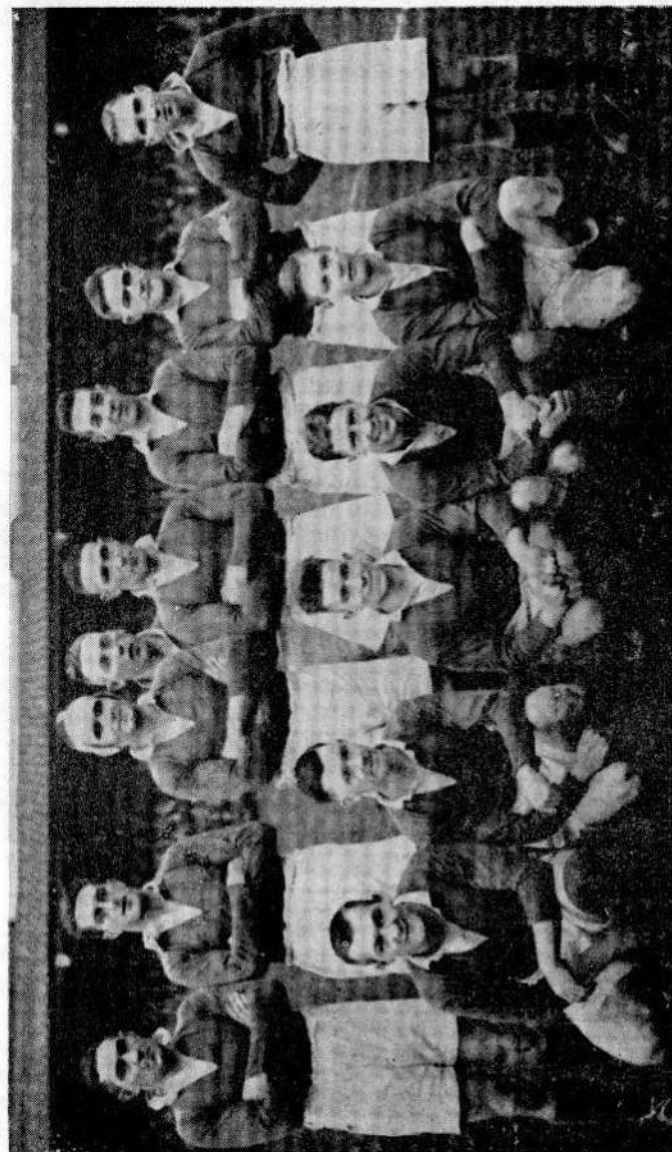
"A SEASON TO REMEMBER"— 2

1932-1933

There will be some seasons featured in this series in which Trinity's work was a disappointment to its followers. 1932-33 was one such campaign, with Belle Vue itself taking more of the spotlight than the team.

For it was in October, 1932 that the official opening of the New Stand (our present Main Stand) took place prior to the staging of Yorkshire's game with Lancashire.

In March, 1933 Belle Vue again captured the spotlight with a new ground record. A record of 32,005 was set up in 1930 when Huddersfield and Leeds played in the R.L. Championship Final. The same two sides were engaged in the semi-final of



YORKSHIRE CUP SEMI-FINAL v. HALIFAX SEASON 1932-33

Back : F. G. Smart, H. Owen, W. Horton, L. Higson, G. H. Exley, J. Hobson, S. Gee, E. Brogden
Front : H. Wilkinson, J. Pearce, S. Herbert, E. Pollard, F. Lingard

(Our thanks to Mr C. Cutts for the loan of this photograph)



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the R.L. Cup in 1933 and the "gate" was 36,359. (This stood until 1936 when again Huddersfield and Leeds played at Belle Vue and attracted an attendance of 37,906 — a record which still stands.)

1932-33 saw the first "Royal" Wembley final when the Prince of Wales attended the Stadium to see Huddersfield defeat Warrington 21-17. The local interest in this event was that one of the touch-judges was Wakefield's "Jos" Hudson — today actively engaged with Trinity's Supporters' Club.

But what of Trinity itself? Certainly with four internationals in their ranks the talent was there. The start of the season had to be made without the three players taking part in the 1932 Tour to Australia — E. Pollard, Horton and Robinson. When they returned a succession of injuries troubled Trinity continually with the result that a settled combination was seldom possible.

Twenty-four players were called on for the seven back positions (twice forwards were selected as backs); 16 forwards

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appeared during the term. These factors were important contributory factors towards the disappointments of the season in which the final league position was 19th. Only twice (22nd) has it ever been lower in the club's long history.

The "back-three" forwards (Horton, Wilkinson and Exley) alone were a settled combination, even though they often switched the loose-forward berth. In front of them Hobson (from Dewsbury), Rudd (from Huddersfield) joined Higson, Gee, Field, and Maskill for pack selection.

At half-back, Herbert and Pearce were joined in December by County scrum-half E. Thompson from Huddersfield. Pearce went on to show utility value with appearances at full-back, centre and on the wing.

The main three-quarter selections came from E. Pollard (top scorer with 59 goals and 5 tries), Robinson, Lingard and Farrar as centres and Smart (who missed only two of the 44 games and scored 21 tries), Bateson and Brogden as wingers.

Behind them Owen and Bonner shared the full-back rôle. W. G. Bonner, who had represented Yorkshire R.U. for the previous three seasons and had toured Australia and N.Z. in 1930, was a product of Wakefield Grammar School and Wakefield R.U. He was signed from Bradford R.U. in the first week of the season

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but he was one of the many players who suffered through injury — he broke an ankle in his eighth game.

One of the bright spells of the term was the side's ability to reach the Yorkshire Cup Final. They fell to favourites Leeds at Fartown but the Headingley side found Trinity's defence stern enough to bring a final score of 8-nil even though Wakefield had no recognised full-back available. Robinson stepped into the role with Lingard switching there for the second half.

There was an exciting victory of 9-2 over Leeds at Christmas, but Trinity's supporters had to wait until the final months of the campaign for any real spell of success. After languishing on the bottom rungs of the league ladder for a very long period, Trinity ended the campaign with 8 successive games without defeat. Only then was a settled line-up possible, and it brought a better final league position than the season's overall work had promised.

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YORKSHIRE (v. Cumberland) — W. Horton.

ENGLAND (v. Wales) — E. Pollard, L. Higson, G. H. Exley.

ENGLAND (v. Other Nationalities)—G. H. Exley.

Full playing record:—

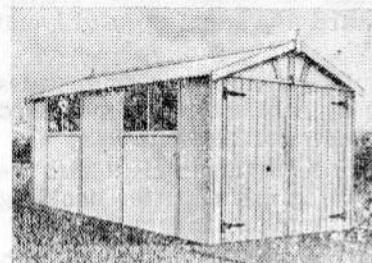
(All matches). Played 44, Won 19, Drawn 4, Lost 21. For 415; Against 525.

WIDNES JOURNEY

The Widnes defence was again an outstanding feature of their play last Saturday when we visited Naughton Park for our return league fixture. Nevertheless Trinity were able to penetrate this on occasions but were without luck in carrying this to full reward with tries.

Again we saw a game in which victory could have easily have gone either way. As it was Widnes took full points, completed a "double" over us and returned to top place in Division One.

We must consider an important fact that our side is still undergoing reorganisation. There were eight changes from that which did duty at Wembley in May, and obviously time is needed to blend together and bring full benefit.



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SUPPORTERS' CLUB NEWS

ADVANCE NOTICE: Eddie Waring's 'Pic-Show', which will include films of all three 1962 Tests in Australia and Trinity's two recent Wembley Finals, will be held in St. Austin's Hall on Thursday, 6th December at 7-45 p.m. Admission (strictly limited) 2-6d.

Due to the limited capacity of the hall, a special performance for schoolchildren will be given at 5-15 p.m. with admission at 1-6d.

Tickets for both shows are now on sale. Get yours to-day!

PRICE INCREASE

The price of our programme has remained unchanged over the past fifteen years or so. In that time the size has increased from 8 pages to 20 and costs, which of course were greatly increased at the change have continued a gradual upward trend in recent times.

Our sales have increased also, and the present ratio of sales per attendance of 1 to 2 has helped to offset these increased costs. So, too, has the adjustments in advertising rates.

However, these factors now prove to be insufficient and we are finally forced to move to a 4d. programme, after deciding against any change in the reduction of our present issues.

We are to commence this change on **DECEMBER 15th** during which time supporters will have the chance to learn of the proposed change and be prepared for an extra 1d. cost.

We sincerely hope that this slight increase will not affect our sales. We thank our readers for their valued support in the past — may we look forward to its continuance on and after December 15th?

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Sporting Occasions