

T	P	C	DG	SB	S	Swinton Lions v Oldham Roughyeds										T	P	C	DG	SB	S
						Chris Hull	1	Gareth Langley													
						Andy Saywell	2	Alex Wilkinson													
						Paul Alcock	3	Craig Littler													
						Dean Gorton	4	Adam Hughes													
						Dave Ashton	5	Lucas Onyango													
						Craig Ashall	6	Neil Roden													
						Liam McGovern	7	Matty Brooks													
						David Bates	8	Jason Boults													
						Phil Wood	9	Andy Crabtree													
						Rob Line	10	Richard Mervill													
						Mike Smith	11	Geno Costin													
						Martin Moana	12	Adam Robinson													
						Lee Marsh	13	Chris Baines													
						Subs		Subs													
						Wayne English	14	Drew Houston													
						Dave Newton	15	Said Tamghart													
						Matty Bryers	16	Lee Sanderson													
						Gareth Hayes	17	Ian Sinfield.													

Referee : J. Child
TJ's : C. Waywell & D. Gundry
Reserve Ref : J. Darbyshire
Match Commissioner : J. Smith

Next Home Match:
Celtic Crusaders
Co-op National League 2
Sunday 15th July 2007 Kick Off: 3pm

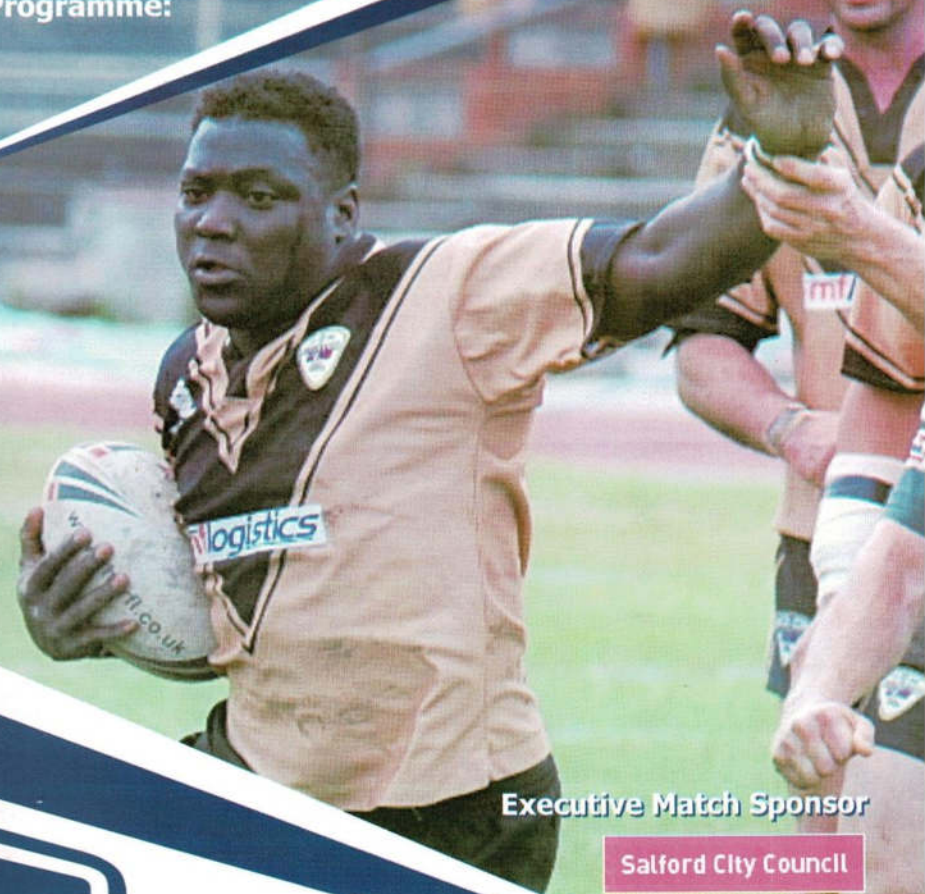
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versus
**Oldham
Roughyeds**
Co-op National League 2
Sunday, July 8th 2007
Kick Off: 3pm



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Club Honours

Rugby League Champions - 1926/27, 1927/28, 1930/31, 1934/35, 1962/63, 1963/64
Runners Up - 1924/25, 1932/33, 1939/40

Challenge Cup Winners - 1899/1900, 1925/26, 1927/28 Runners Up - 1926/27, 1931/32

Lancashire League Winners - 1924/25, 1927/28, 1928/29, 1930/31, 1939/40, 1960/61

Runners Up - 1892/93, 1893/94 (Under RFU) 1897/98, 1900/01, 1922/23, 1926/27, 1934/35, 1938/39, 1965/66

Lancashire Cup Winners 1925/26, 1927/28, 1939/40, 1969/70

Runners Up - 1910/11, 1923/24, 1931/32, 1960/61, 1961/62, 192/63, 1964/65, 1972/73

Second Division Championship Winners - 1984/85 Runners Up - 1986/87, 1996

Promoted - 1974/75, 1990/91

Second Division Premiership Winners - 1986/87 Runners Up - 1988/89

BBC Floodlit Trophy Runners Up - 1966/67

Western Div. Champ Runners Up - 1963/64

Club Records

Win: 90-0 v Prescot Panthers 11/8/1996

Loss: 10-106 v Leeds 11/2/2001

Appearances: Ken Gowers 602 (Inc. 8 Sub) 1954-73

Points (Career) 2105 Ken Gowers

(Season) 310 Lee Marsh 2005; 283 Albert Blan 1960/61

(Match) 30 Greg Pearce v Prescot Panthers 11/8/96;

Mick Nanyn v York Wasps 25/3/2001;

29 Bernard McMahon v Dewsbury 15/8/1959

Tries (Career) 300 Jim Valentine 1884-1901;

197 Frank Evans 1921-31

(Season) 48 Jim Valentine 1888/89;

42 Johnny Stopford 1963/64

(Match) 6 Mark Riley v Prescot Panthers 11/8/96

Goals (Career) 970 Ken Gowers

(Season) 128 Albert Blan 1960/61

(Match) 12 Ken Gowers v Liverpool City 3/10/1957

Ground Record Attendance 44,621 Warrington v Wigan 7/4/1951

Club Record Attendance 26,891 v Wigan 12/2/1964

World Record Kick 77.75 yards by Martin Hodgson at Rochdale Hornets 13/4/1940

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Coaches Comments



Good afternoon and welcome back to Park Lane for this afternoon's local derby with our good friends from Oldham.

The previous two trips on the road have once again produced two very different performances. The first visit was to a very much improved London Skolars outfit. The fact that we gave away an 18 point start to the Skolars certainly didn't help, although taking the start out of the equation, it was a still a performance that was way below par and not acceptable to ourselves - prior to the game we had set ourselves some high standards.

Last week at Workington was a much improved display in terms of performance - possibly one of the strongest of the season. We started the game well, and very almost finished it in a similar fashion. The last two minutes were totally devastating, leaving me with a very

tough task of lifting the players at full time. The big positive we have taken out of the game was the effort and commitment the guys put in for that eighty minutes - should we produce that level of performance week in-week out, we will soon find ourselves picking up good results.

Today we welcome Steve Deakin and his Oldham side. The Roughyeds, having played a couple of their home games this season here at Park Lane, will certainly be no stranger to the set up here. Oldham are enjoying a great season so far, and are playing some fantastic stuff.

There is no doubt that we must be playing at the top of our game in order to produce anything like what we aim to get out of today's match.

Enjoy the game

Paul



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East Lincs	2:05pm
Walkden Road	2:10pm
The Stocks	2:12pm
Morning Star	2:15pm
The Folly	2:18pm
Golden Lion	2:20pm
Park Lane	2:30pm



Community Development

with John Thomason



In the past couple of programmes I've mentioned the need for supporters to get involved with the club as volunteers, and I'd like to say thanks to those of you that have got in touch and offered your assistance.

I'm currently building towards our summer holiday activities and schools rugby for the next academic year, which should see some exciting projects taking place in Swinton, Pendlebury and the surrounding areas for young people, and I hope that the contribution of volunteers will become a key part of making our community work a success.

This weekend we have begun a four-week coaching programme with local club Langworthy Reds to help introduce new kids to the game ahead of the next junior season. The sessions take place every Saturday morning from 10am at Oakwood Park, and run until 28th July. It's

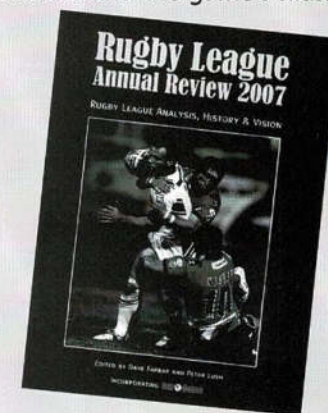
free of charge, and open to all youngsters. We're hoping to run similar schemes with other local junior clubs during the summer so watch this space! In addition we are working closely with one of our local rugby league development officers, Alan Kilshaw. Alan is responsible for spreading the game at junior level in Bolton and Bury, and we will be working with him in Kearsley and Farnworth two traditional areas for support of Swinton over the summer months. More young people than ever before are now playing rugby league, and Swinton Lions are excited about being involved in this expansion of the game on our own doorstep.

If anyone would like to know more about our growing community programme please get in touch with me, either via the club office or on email at john.thomason@swintonlionsrlc.co.uk.

Rugby League Annual Review 2007

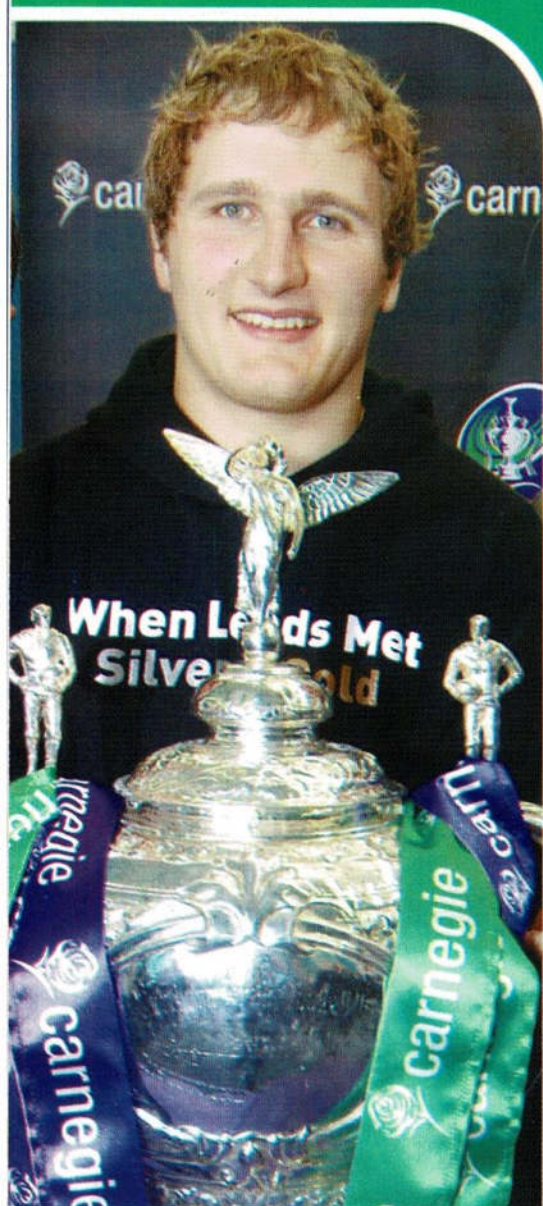
A new annual publication with new writing on current issues and the game's history, including:

- o Promotion and relegation
- o Amateurism: The case for an 'open' game
- o Rugby league and the media
- o Wembley and the Challenge Cup
- o Mike Gregory
- o Warrington's new stadium
- o Ireland, Wales, Scotland and London
- o Aussie Rules and rugby league
- o Floodlights
- o France's Golden Age
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- o Rugby league and World War One.
- o Book Reviews and Obituaries



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Today's Visitors...

Paul Ashton - Learned his trade at Saddleworth before playing for Halifax, Rochdale, Keighley and Swinton. He was in the Cougars side that won promotion to NL1 in 2003. He got his big chance at Oldham in 2006, initially on a week-to-week basis and did enough to earn a full contract for 2007.

Chris Baines - Was in his third season of under-21s rugby at Warrington when he first got the chance to move on loan to Roughyeds last season and signed on a permanent towards the end of 2006. A product of Wigan St Pat's, he toured New Zealand with Great Britain Young Lions in 2003, also representing his country at youth level against Australia and France.

Jason Boults - Started off at Siddal under-16s, spent four years as a young pro with Bradford Bulls and signed for Halifax in November, 2004. Was an ever-present with 30 appearances in 2005 and then added 27 more in 2006 until the 16 stone and 6ft 2in Prop left the The Shay to join former team-mate Alan Hadcroft.

Matty Brooks - Played his amateur rugby at Embassy Longhill before signing for Bradford Bulls. Has been at Hull KR for seven years now and with first-team rugby limited to one appearance this year took the opportunity for a loan spell at Oldham.

Geno Coston - A non-quota Aussie, who is in England for the first time and hoping to make an impact in NL2. First established himself in the Queensland Cup competition with Wynnum-Manly, alongside another Roughyeds recruit Mark Ogden, but last year played in the same comp for Logan Souths.

Andy Crabtree - Former Wigan and Warrington Academy who joined the Lions in 2005. The former Great Britain Academy player played in the hooking at Swinton but can also play loose-forward. Has come-on from the bench in all of Oldham's games so far this year.

Andy Gorey - Local lad who came through the former Roughyeds academy. In 2006 he established himself as a regular on the wing, making more than 20 appearances and taking his try tally into double figures to finish the season as the club's top try scorer.

Ian Hodson - first arrived at Roughyeds on loan from Swinton midway through the 2005 season. Stayed on for 2006 but was talked into signing on for this season, when he was initially going to take a year out.

Drew Houston - One of the two overseas quota men for 2007, once a youngster linked with Melbourne Storm, had two seasons with Storm feeder club, Norths in the Queensland Cup, before heading south for Dapto, champions of the Illawarra competition last year.

Simeon Hoyle - In 2003 he helped the Cougars to win promotion to NL1 from a third-place finish in the league, winning the League Express man-of-the-match award while beating Sheffield. He later headed Down Under for a spell before returning to Halifax, from where he opted to sign for the Roughyeds.

Adam Hughes - Started his career at Leeds after playing his amateur rugby with Milford. Also played at Wakefield, Halifax, Widnes and Leigh. Vastly experienced in Super League, in total he has made 162 Super League appearances scoring an impressive 78 tries.

Gareth Langley - At 16 he was playing for Salford under-18s, but wasn't on contract and it didn't take long for his hometown club St Helens to take him to Knowsley Road. He was the Saints senior academy player of the year in 2005 and runner up in 2006.

Craig Littler - Lined up with Gareth Langley as centre and wing partners in the Saints academy teams of the past four years. Played in France at Super League level for the Saints in their 2006 campaign.

Richard Mervill - Formerly with Halifax and then Keighley, came to the Roughyeds for 2007 from Australia. Played in the 2003 Keighley side that won promotion to NL1 and later jetted off Down Under, where he has been playing for Dapto in the Illawarra competition.

Paul O'Connor - A former Ireland and Great Britain international at Students' RL level, spent two seasons with Widnes, his hometown club, operating mainly in the under-21s at full-back or on the wing.

Lucas Onyango - Grew up playing union in his native Kenya. Played in the 2002 Commonwealth games here in Manchester and returned to play for Manchester RU before turning codes to sign for Widnes Vikings in 2005. Injury finished his Widnes career and he signed for Leigh RU where he was signed from in March.

Adam Robinson - Spent five years at Wakefield, after joining on a scholarship ultimately spending two years as a full-time pro in the Wildcats' Super League squad. Went to Doncaster for more first-

...Oldham Roughyeds



team rugby in the 2006 season. Moved to Oldham when it went pear-shaped at the Lakers, scoring try on his debut in the win over Barrow at Boundary Park.

Neil Roden - Rejoined the Roughyeds from Leigh after leaving the club initially to go to Batley in 2004. In his first stint with Oldham, after joining from Wigan Academy, played for the Roughyeds in the 2001 Grand Ginal against Widnes at Spotland.

Lee Sanderson - Turned pro for hometown club Leigh and won National League under-21s rep honours while there. He moved south to London Broncos but suffered a serious knee injury which sidelined him for nearly a year. He then had a spell with Rochdale before a short spell at Barrow this year. Things didn't work out at Craven Park and he moved on to Oldham.

Ian Sinfield - Vastly experienced forward who is returning to his hometown club. Played in the first ever Roughyeds game at Rochdale on New Year's Day, 1998. Moved to Rochdale, then to Keighley, and on to Swinton. While at Keighley he played in the NL2 Grand Final, achieving the same feat with the Lions last year.

Kris Smith - Left Swinton for Oldham last year after four seasons with the Lions. Although a

product of amateurs Eccles, he started his professional career with Leeds before moving onto Salford. A serious knee injury hampered his progress and he spent a year in France with Pai, before stints at Halifax and London Broncos.

Said Tamghart - A French international, who has represented his country at every level, including Test matches against Australia and New Zealand. On his way up the ladder to full French international honours, he played for Carpentras, Avignon and UTC (better known now as Perpignan-based Catalans Dragons).

Anthony Tonks - A product of Normanton Knights, had a season with Wakefield Academy before turning pro for Bradford when he was 16. He was full-time at Odsal for six years, though last year spent a loan season at Doncaster Lakers. Became a free agent under his agreement with the Bulls and Oldham had to shake off a lot of competition from clubs in NL1 to get his signature.

Alex Wilkinson - Oldham-born, who has signed for Oldham for part-time Rugby to complete his degree. A schoolboy international who was snapped-up by Bradford Bulls and has had loan spells in the Super League with London Broncos, Huddersfield and Hull.

RESPECT

The RFL wants every fan to be among the vanguard as the sport seeks to protect its image as the sport for families and set even higher standards of behaviour.

The RFL's 'RESPECT' campaign is aimed at ensuring that the sport provides a suitable environment for everybody to enjoy

both participating in and watching the game of Rugby League.

As part of that campaign, this year will see the introduction of a specially recorded audio message to be played before all matches.

'RESPECT' is the sport's benchmark against which everybody who takes part in the game will be measured.

It will ensure that Rugby League, whose reputation for being a disciplined, friendly sport is already widely recognised, will continue to attract support from all sections of society.

Spectators have an important role to play in the implementation of the 'RESPECT' campaign and the way in which you react at the introduction of the teams and dramatic moments in the game will have an impact on what the sport is trying to achieve.

Please join with us in making Rugby League an even friendlier family sport that treats everybody with 'RESPECT'.

Commercial News

On behalf of the club I'd like to welcome today's sponsors to Park Lane for this afternoon's game.

Salford City Council are a partner that Swinton Lions hope to work with closely over the next few months, especially in regard to our growing community programme. I'd like to thank the Deputy Mayor and her colleagues for their support this afternoon, and add that we look forward to working with the council in the future.

from Brickstore for their support this afternoon and their sponsorship of the man of the match against Oldham, and I hope that you all enjoy a great game and see a good result here at Park Lane today.

To all our sponsors, can I extend our thanks for your continued support, and we look forward to working in partnership with you all again in the future.

John Thomason
Community Development Manager

I'd also like to thank our friends

Forthcoming Events

PAST PLAYERS LUNCH 'N' CRUNCH

Sunday 15th July - Celtic Crusaders

The Swinton past players annual get-together will take place

LADIES NIGHT

Friday 31st August 2007 - Swinton Park Golf Club

SPORTSPERSON DINNER

Thursday 13th September 2007 - The Willows, Salford

Entertainment Guest Speaker - Ron Atkinson Comedian - Sean Styles

Tickets priced at £40 and are available at the club shop

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Lions Stats

Fixtures and Results for 2007 Season

Date	Comp	Ven	Time	Opposition	For	Aga	Att.
Sun 11 Feb	NRC	H	3:00	Hunslet	38	20	432
Sun 18 Feb	NRC	A	3:00	Oldham	28	18	1017
Sun 25 Feb	NRC	H	3:00	Rochdale	14	40	572
Sun 04 Mar	NRC	A	3:30	Hunslet	10	10	403
Sun 11 Mar	CCC3	H	3:00	Lokomotive Moscow	60	20	331
Sun 18 Mar	NRC	A	3:00	Rochdale	10	42	556
Sun 25 Mar	NRC	H	3:00	Oldham	18	42	555
Sun 1st April	CCC4	H	3.00	Barrow Raiders	14	47	596
Fri 06 Apr	NL2	A	2:00	Blackpool	40	34	332
Mon 09 Apr	NL2	H	3:00	Barrow Raiders	30	35	416
Sun 15 Apr	NL2	H	3:00	London Skolars	34	26	352
Sun 22nd Apr	NRC	A	3:00	Rochdale	16	30	501
Sat 28 Apr	NL2	A	6:00	Celtic Crusaders	4	82	823
Mon 07 May	NL2	H	3:00	Gateshead Thunder	58	12	403
Sun 20 May	NL2	H	3:00	York	26	38	541
Sun 27 May	NL2	A	3:00	Featherstone Rovers	4	42	1014
Sun 03 Jun	NL2	A	3:00	Barrow Raiders	24	52	1188
Sun 10 Jun	NL2	A	3:30	Hunslet	17	10	364
Sun 17 Jun	NL2	H	3:00	Keighley	48	18	426
Sun 24 Jun	NL2	A	3:00	London Skolars	12	34	379
Sun 01 Jul	NL2	A	3:00	Workington	33	38	734
Sun 08 Jul	NL2	H	3:00	Oldham			
Sun 15 Jul	NL2	H	3:00	Celtic Crusaders			
Sat 21 Jul	NL2	A	3:00	Gateshead Thunder			
Sun 29 Jul	NL2	A	3:00	Keighley			
Sun 05 Aug	NL2	H	3:00	Featherstone Rovers			
Sun 12 Aug	NL2	H	3:00	Blackpool			
Sun 19 Aug	NL2	A	3:00	York			
Sun 02 Sep	NL2	H	3:00	Hunslet			
Sun 09 Sep	NL2	H	3:00	Workington			
TBA	NL2	A	3:00	Oldham			

PLEASE NOTE THE GATESHEAD FIXTURE CHANGE IN JULY, NOW SATURDAY NOT SUNDAY AS PREVIOUSLY ADVERTISED

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In Memory of Vanessa Maddox	3	Thomas, George & James Jackson
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Mike Tyldesley	5	Mike Tyldesley
Swinton M.O.T	6	Swinton M.O.T.
Neil Beswick	7	The White Vee
White Lion Folk Club Swinton	8	White Lion Folk Club Swinton
Junior Lions	9	Heartland M27
Julie Hodson & Wayne Beswick	10	Julie Hodson & Wayne Beswick
The Harvey Family	11	Swinton Supporters Trust
Chris & Viv Tyldesley	12	Chris & Viv Tyldesley
Swinton M.O.T	13	Swinton M.O.T.
David & Pauline Spruce	14	Mackenzie's Magnificent Monologue
In Memory of Olwen Smith	15	Daniel Croston
John Spellman	16	John Spellman
Martin Howarth & Family	17	The Payne and Collier Family

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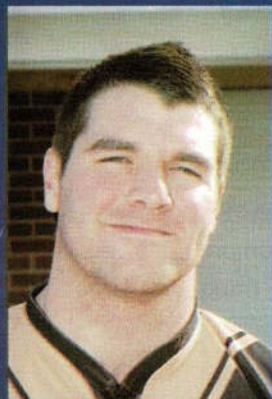


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Player Profile...



Paul Alcock

D.O.B. : 12 November 1982

Position : Second Row

Home Town : Warrington

Occupation : Fork-Lift Driver

Previous Clubs : Warrington Wolves, Widnes Vikings

Nickname (and why) : too many to mention, sorry!

Biggest Influence on Career : my parents, always try to keep my feet on the ground

My Career Highlight so far has been : my Super League debut.

Pre-Match Superstition : none, just try to relax and be calm

Favourite Film : Layer Cake

Favourite Meal : Italian

My Worst Habit is : biting my nails, they're a state.

When not playing rugby on a Sunday I like to : go out spending money (on crap usually)

My ambition in life is to : get back into Super League, in my hometown

The thing I dread or am scared of is : ending up in jail.

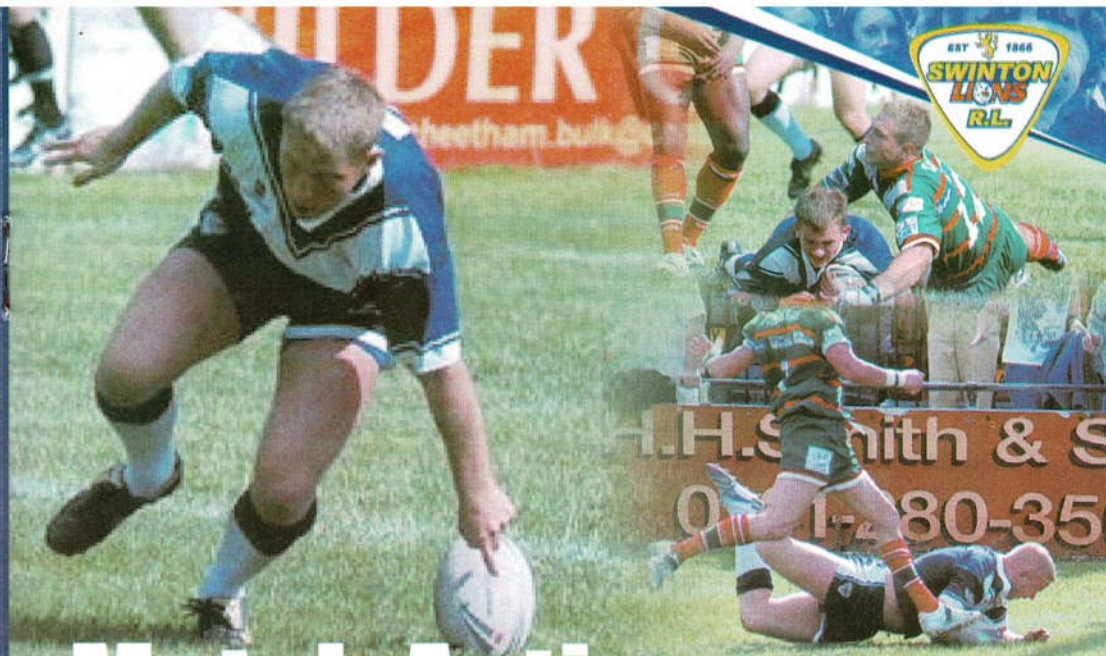
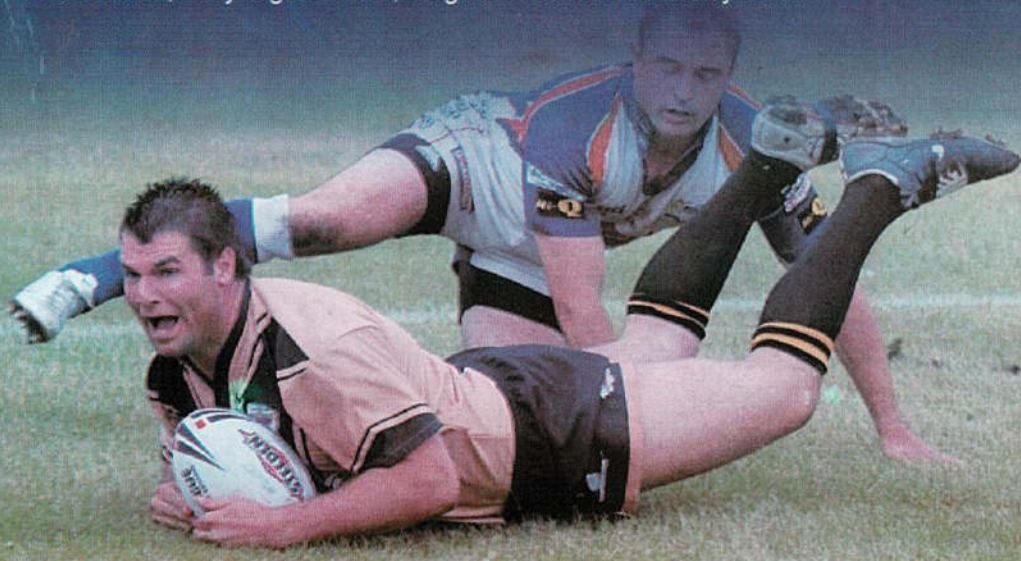
If I had a million pounds I would : probably blow it straight away

My dream celebrity date would be : Angelina Jolie/Jennifer Lopez (both if possible)

If I could have a super power it would be : x-ray vision - very handy

Tell us three things your team mates would say about you :

Kit Grabber, Easy to get on with, a high tackler/never bend my back!



Match Action

Photography courtesy of Peter Green



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The Treatment Table

With Laura Henderson



It's been a busy old treatment room recently, with lots of players picking up knocks and injuries, but most seem to be progressing well and the vast majority should be fit for selection today.

Bruce Johnson suffered a nasty hip and groin injury against Barrow several weeks ago. Bruce had an urgent scan which confirmed that he had partly torn two of his adductor, or groin, muscles. Bruce has progressed well and has been able to run for the last 2 weeks and all being well should be fit for either today or next week's game.

Mark Brocklehurst re-injured his knee in the game against London and a scan has confirmed that he has partially torn his cruciate. As it is only a partial tear, I am confident that Mark will make a good recovery with an intense rehabilitation programme and not require the surgeon's knife.

Chris Morley also suffered a knee injury against London, after clashing knees



with an opponent. He missed the close match against Workington but should be fit for today's game.

Phil Wood suffered a calf strain in last week's close defeat at Workington and has been unable to train fully this week, but fingers crossed he should be fit for today.

Other than that it has just been knocks and bangs and nothing serious.

Tickets are now on sale for the Ladies Night, which takes place on Friday 31st August at Swinton Park Golf Club. Tickets are priced at £15 and include a hot supper. Entertainment for the evening will include an auction of players to act as table waiters, an excellent male strip show, a raffle and disco. If it's half as good as last year's it promises to be a fantastic night....so don't miss out your chance to see the players as you have never seen them before! Tickets are available from myself on a matchday or from Angela or Martin in the club shop.

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NATIONAL LEAGUE TALK

with GARETH WALKER of RUGBY LEAGUER & LEAGUE EXPRESS



Making the most of the exposure

MORE than a few Rugby League fans have mentioned over the last week just how much they enjoyed the televised Heavy Woollen derby between Batley and Dewsbury last week - and it certainly showed the National Leagues up in a good light.

That must have been the kind of event the RFL and the clubs were hoping for when it was announced that matches would be screened live this season on a Thursday night.

On the field, there was plenty of drama, excitement and quality - as well as a nervous finale that saw a touchline conversion from Bulldogs scrum half Tom Hemmingway clinch the game.

Of it, pre-match entertainment had helped the mood in a well above average crowd for Batley of 2,208.

In fact, since the Thursday night games started, crowds for those matches have been up if anything - and certainly not the drop in figures that some doom-merchants predicted.

That is because the vast majority of clubs have embraced the move and tried to make the most of it, putting on a special effort and introducing one-off deals to entice fans to their ground.

The clubs' enthusiasm drew considerable praise from the Rugby Football League last week - and rightly so.

Craig Spence, RFL Communications Manager, said: "So far all the clubs who have appeared on Sky Sports this season have used the national exposure to their advantage.

They have marketed the occasions as an opportunity for fans to get themselves on national TV and it is clearly working.

The recent game at Batley was a shining example of how a club can use the TV cameras to encourage more people to attend the games.

Batley managed to double their biggest attendance of the season by putting on a number of activities before and during the game.

The crowd of 2,208 was full of families and generated a tremendous atmosphere. This was matched by an enthralling game."

It is to be hoped that the clubs still waiting to host a televised game have seen what can be achieved with a little imagination and hard work.

Because it has to be beneficial for everyone at this level of the game, if the Thursday night venture with Sky continues to go from strength to strength.

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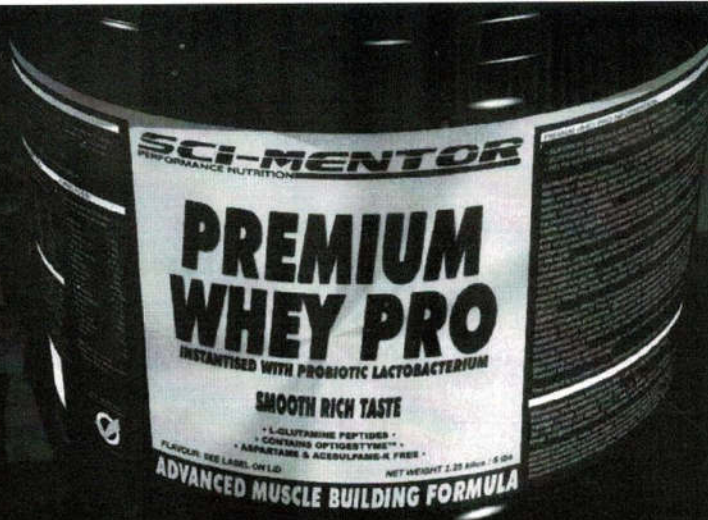
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Lions Stats

Statistics for 2007 Season



	Played	Subs	Tries	Goals	Drops	Pts
Aboushakra, Danny	2	4	0	0	0	0
Alcock, Paul	9	2	3	0	0	12
Ashall, Craig	10	3	4	1	0	18
Ashton, Dave	8	1	2	0	0	8
Billy, Marlon	15	0	8	0	0	32
Brocklehurst, Mark	9	0	2	0	0	8
Bryers, Matty	3	5	0	0	0	0
Bates, David	5	1	2	0	0	8
Conway, Sean	2	0	0	0	0	0
English, Wayne	18	1	5	0	0	20
Farrimond, Craig	2	5	0	0	0	0
Gorton, Dean	6	0	2	0	0	8
Hayes, Gareth	8	11	2	0	0	8
Hough, Chris	8	6	1	3	0	10
Hull, Chris	3	0	1	0	0	4
Johnson, Bruce	15	0	4	0	0	16
Line, Rob	9	7	4	0	0	16
Marsh, Lee	8	4	2	25	0	58
Marshall, Richard	1	3	0	0	0	0
McGovern, Liam	17	1	3	37	2	88
Moana, Martin	15	5	4	0	0	16
Morley, Chris	11	8	3	0	0	12
Newton, Dave	6	6	2	0	0	8
Ogden, Mark	5	0	1	2	0	8
Saywell, Andrew	14	0	12	0	0	48
Sharples, Adam	0	2	0	0	0	0
Smith, Mike	14	4	2	0	0	8
Walker, John	2	1	2	0	0	8
Watkins, Kash	3	0	1	0	0	4
Williamson, Ben	3	2	1	0	0	4
Williams, Desi	12	0	7	0	0	28
Woods, Darren	12	1	12	0	0	48
Wood, Phil	18	1	7	0	0	28



SUPER LEAGUE bosses made great strides a couple of weeks ago - now I just hope they don't take a big, if temporary, step back. What do I mean? Well, I'm made up our chief execs finally got together and acted on the numbers of overseas players.

Rising levels have smothered our chances at international level for years so it's good to see clubs act before those chances finally snuff it. I've nothing against those guys - they're often great entertainers and, largely, great blokes too; true pros our boys can learn a lot from. But for every foreigner that earns a contract, an opening for a promising young British talent is shut. Luckily, action has been taken. There's something that just troubles me though. Under the new rules, clubs must reduce their quota to 20 per cent by 2011 - that's five foreigners in your 25-man squad. Fine.

In the meantime, though, you can have 40 per cent of your squad from overseas - that's 10 of 25, much more than you're allowed right now.

Ok technically, under current rules, you could have ALL 25 players in your squad from overseas as long as 22 of those were EU passport holders or 'Kolpak' players.

This doesn't happen because those sorts of players - of the quality to play in Super League



- aren't overly common. Most clubs have a handful on top of their three quota stars. Now, though, clubs aren't so limited in their search. They can bring in 10 foreigners - full stop.

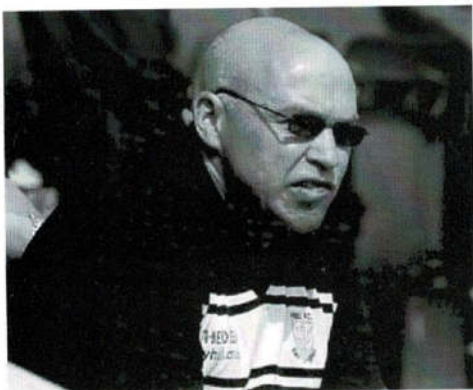
The fewer the restrictions, the greater the choice, and the greater the temptation to bring someone in from the NRL than look for someone within our game - especially as coaches are free to sign players from Down Under NOW whilst they have to wait until September 1 for the British lads.

There's a danger, isn't there, that the numbers of overseas players could actually go up short-term?

I'd like to think coaches would have the foresight to start their reduction now - but if you were a coach, with the thought you might get sacked if you under-perform, then would you necessarily be so relaxed about the short term?

Take Hull ... Under **Kear** they prioritised promoting British talent. Under Sharp, they now have seven overseas players. Swain and McMenemy will go, but in will come Berrigan and Dykes and Sharp's shown he's keen to have more by having a crack at Civoniceva. If he wanted, he could add three more foreigners.

Maybe he will, maybe he won't. I'd like to think the latter - but there are no guarantees. I suppose what I'm saying is, I just hope clubs forget aiming for 2011 and get moving towards that 20 per cent now. Otherwise, in the short term, couldn't a few promising British stars get lost?



Hello and welcome to our local neighbours, Oldham Roughyeds, who have made the short journey to their second home for this Cooperative Division 2 match and especially any junior Roughyed fans and their families and hope you have a enjoyable day here at Park Lane. It was a heartbreaking last gasp defeat last week when the Lions tried to put an end to their losing run when they visited highflying Workington Town up in Cumbria. Although we are a bit inconsistent at the moment hopefully we will start on the right track by gaining revenge for the defeat earlier in the season. It will be difficult today as our visitors know the ins and outs of the pitch so we are in for an intriguing match, so let's get behind the lads come on you Lions

HALF TIME / FULL TIME DRAW

Don't forget to get your free draw ticket and win a prize. At our last home game against Keighley Cougars, there were no winners' ... better luck this week.

BIRTHDAY'S

There's only one Junior member who

has recently celebrated a birthday:

So its happy birthday to Mackenzie Heaton who was 7 on the 27th June. Hope you had a great day

TODAY'S JUNIOR LION

is Matthew Bailey who is 13 years old and comes from Swinton. His favourite player is Wayne English and Matthew attends St Ambrose Barlow High and in his spare time he enjoys watersports, football, and rugby.

A QUIZ ABOUT OUR VISITORS

- 1 Where do the Roughyeds play their home fixtures?
- 2 In 1998 Oldham were runners up in which competition
- 3 Who is the Head coach of the Roughyeds?
- 4 Name Ian Sinfields previous Club
- 5 what was score on their last visit to Park Lane
- 6 In what year did Oldham last win the Challenge Cup?
- 7 In what year did the "New" Oldham Roughyeds form

This page is sponsored by
Sue Walford from Hull

Answers
1 Boundary Park, 2 Trans Pennine Cup, 3 Steve Deakin, 4 Swinton Lions, 5 Oldham won 42-18, 6 1927, 7 1997

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Last Time Out

By Jeff Tyldesley from Derwent Park

Swinton Lions went down in the cruellest way imaginable 33-38 in the National League 2 clash at Workington's Derwent Park ground. The Lions conceded a last minute try to lose it in the final tackle; a try that featured an obvious forward pass and which also resulted in star man Phil Wood sustaining an ankle injury plus full back Chris Hull being sin binned for dissent.

It all started so well for the Lions, Liam McGovern's massive kick to the corner was fluffed by Matty Woodcock and Paul Alcock was on hand to pounce, the difficult sideline kick was missed. 4-0

The lead lasted barely a minute, Jamie Beaumont charged onto the ball and offloaded to new signing Adam Sidlow who ran through lax tackling to score, Carl Forber goal. 4-6

The game was pretty tight in the early stages, Craig Ashall almost sent Dean Gorton in at the Grandstand side corner but Martin Keavney and Stephen Dawes rammed him into touch.

The sides exchanged penalties as Ashall was harshly adjudged to have high tackled at one end while Town's Andrew Beattie almost beheaded Wood when he evaded three defenders at the other. 6-8

Town's large pack and narrow pitch are two of the main factors for their home strength and when Beaumont bludgeoned his way over from close range for Forber to convert it was looking worrying for the Lions. 6-14

However when Gareth Hayes span out of the tackle off Wood's pinpoint pass to score a converted try and it was followed up another penalty for a high shot on Wood from Beaumont, Swinton were level at 14-14.

The gallant Lions were cheered from the pitch as right on the hooter, Mike Smith crunched Martyn Wilson and from there the Lions built the foundations for Martin Moana to stampede over with McGovern converting. 20-14

Swinton had the better of the early exchanges, although no real scoring advantage was gained until on 49 minutes when Wood and Ashall combined for the stand off's inside ball to allow Mike Smith to dodge over. 26-14

This signalled the end of Swinton's control, after Matty Bryers and Dave Newton were penalised for holding down, Keavney flung the ball to Beattie who provided a strong finish. 26-20

Swinton were then forced into some heroic defending; holding out for 18 tackles in their own final third and Wood making a magnificent stop hauling down Neil Frazer who had broken through after the ball had gone through eight pairs of Workington hands.

Suddenly blue headed hooker Shaun Lunt ghosted by three Lions defenders before Hull hauled him down. The Lions thought they had weathered the storm but Beaumont kicked the ball out of Hull's hands and a quick play the ball from Darren King saw Lunt over anyway. Forber held his nerve to level. 26-26

Town had some momentum going, Alcock made an almighty take off a bomb to the corner when Beattie looked favourite to reach it and Smith hammered Sidwell under the posts to stop another try.

Yet it was the Lions fans who were ecstatic when, following Wayne English's miraculous offload everyone except Wood stopped and he raced under the posts, McGovern converted and Town had to score twice to win. 32-26

Andy Saywell made a vital interception from Franco Kmet with Town having a four man overlap before yet another high shot. Swinton used the penalty well, making a textbook set; strong drives from forwards Smith, Moana and Newton saw the Lions forge a path to the posts for McGovern to coolly drop a goal. 33-26

In most games, that would be enough but an error straight from the kick off and Tani Lavulavu barged over and the gap was back to a point. 33-32

Then in the final tackle of the game disaster struck and following a break down the right with Wilson heavily involved, the ball was lobbed back inside, it appeared to bounce forward, the referee disagreed and Sidlow took full advantage. Cruel doesn't go far enough. Final score 33-38.

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One Lion on the Shirt

By Ian Jackson

The game of Rugby League once had the Rothmans Rugby League Yearbook to supply statistics, but this annual publication ceased in 1999 after 19 editions. Whilst the game has never had an equivalent of the Wisden Cricket Almanack published continuously since 1864 there are still a number of high quality annual publications that provide statistics, comment and analysis on the sport. There are three current books that as a whole supply copious information and data on Rugby League.

The Gillett Rugby League Yearbook 2006-2007

The Gillett Yearbook edited by Tim Butcher and Daniel Spencer now in its eleventh year and provides the statistical gap left by the Rothmans Rugby League Yearbook. There are team line-ups, scorers and other match statistics for every professional match played in 2006. There is also a statistical section on each club. In 2006, the Swinton section shows that Wayne English made the most appearances with 33 plus one as substitute, Andy Saywell scored the most tries in all competitions with 26 and Liam McGovern kicked the most goals with 38. The review of the season confirms that Chris Hough took his place in British Rugby League history when he scored the first-ever golden point against Celtic Crusaders in the final eliminator at Bridgend. There are also colour photographs of the National League Two Grand Final against Sheffield Eagles at Warrington. The book is published by League Express and is available from bookshops. The ISBN is 1901347168.

Rugby League Journal Annual 2007

The Rugby League Journal is edited by Harry Edgar who established the Open Rugby magazine in 1976. This annual provides history and comment on the game plus a wonderful array of photographs and illustrations. There are features on the Lions and Station Road. The Swinton club nostalgia section has photographs

of Kenny Gowers, Johnny Stopford and Les Holliday. Also, there are many action shots of a packed Station Road during International Test Matches including the so-called "Swinton massacre" in 1963 when Australia beat Great Britain by 50 points to 12. This was the day Great Britain lost the Ashes on home soil and to date have not won them back in this country. This book also comments on the modern game and mentions how well Wayne English and Lee Marsh played in the 2006 season. This book can be ordered for a price of £12-95 post-free from Rugby League Journal, PO Box 22, Egremont, Cumbria, CA23 3WA or via www.rugbyleaguejournal.net The ISBN is 0954835522.

The Rugby League Annual Review 2007

The Rugby League Annual Review 2007 edited by Dave Farrar and Peter Lush has been published recently by London League Publications. The book is a replacement for the popular "Our Game" fanzine and is an excellent mix of Rugby League analysis, history and comment. There are many references to contemporary issues in the game as well as historical insights. There are also several references to Swinton RLFC. The references range from a feature on the recent autobiography of former Swinton coach Mike Gregory to highlighting Jim Pollitt who survived the First World War to play again for the Lions. The Rugby League Annual Review is available for a special offer price of £12-00 post-free from London League Publications P.O. Box 10441, LONDON, E14 8WR. Cheques should be made payable to London League Publications. Credit card orders via www.llpshop.co.uk Also, the book can be ordered from any bookshop at full price - £12.95. The ISBN is 9781903659311.

All three books are highly recommended to any Rugby League follower and each provides an interesting angle on the game, past and present.

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Academy Update

Although the half-time score of 26-0 down exaggerated the difference between the two teams the combination of being on the wrong end of referee's decisions and poor decision making made it an uphill task for the Lions in the second half.

Batley, on their own admission, had a strong team out and two injuries early on didn't help the Lions' cause. James Wells was first to leave the field and his replacement Dave Bates only lasted two minutes before picking up a groin injury.

Swinton started the second-half with only 12 twelve men when stand-off Tony Armstrong was sin-binned for disputing a decision just before the break.

However, Swinton looked far the more confident team in the second-half, maybe playing down the massive Mount Pleasant slope was a factor in this.

It wasn't long before the Lions broke their duck. Lewis Lockett took a long Lee Salisbury pass and he dropped a shoulder to the Batley defence to find a large gap and he raced over from ten yards.

The next try came from Darren Woods. Quick hands from Paul Alcock and Craig Farrimond put Darren Woods away down the right, he was knocked to the ground by three would-be tacklers fifteen yards out, but with tackle not made he rose to his feet and scampered over the try-line.

Darren Woods made the next try as he broke the Bulldogs defence and found Kash Watkins to his left who went in under the sticks. Lewis Lockett was next to breach the Batley defences, on a run from the half-way line he had choices either side of him but chose Rob Mack backing up on the right who scorched in under the posts.

Lewis Lockett had goaled all four tries to make it 26-24 but had to come off after his last conversion with an arm injury.

With victory in sight the Lions lost their way a bit and an unconverted try put Batley 6 points in front, which they held onto for the final minutes.

Team : Rob Mack, Dale Evans, Darren Woods, Ben Williamson, Paul Morgan, Anthony Armstrong, Lewis Lockett, Alex Eyres, Lee Salisbury, Paul Alcock, James Wells, Craig Farrimond, Kash Watkins.
Subs : Dave Bates, Chris Clayton, Mark Jones, Adam Taher.

The Academy game was postponed last week as Workington could not find a physio to cover the match. No date has yet been re-arranged.

The Featherstone home match has a new date of Wednesday 25th July at Darwen FC, kick-off 7:30pm

The Academy's next home match is against Castleford Tigers next Saturday.



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