

FEW people in the UK know the nuts and bolts of rugby league in France better than a man who lives on our doorstep --- Steve Deakin.

A former coach of the year in France, Deaks has worked over there with Cannes, UTC and Catalans Dragons.

This is the Deakin dossier on Lezignan by the man who coached Roughyeds for three years and was instrumental in bringing Said Tamghart, formerly with Oldham, now with Halifax, to this country:

"James Wynne is, without doubt, Lezignan's key man. He might be an Aussie, but he has played in France for about six years now and he knows the game over there like the back of his hand.

"He played a little bit for Newcastle in the NRL, but competition at the Knights was immense so he decided to make a future in France.

"He will be a massive threat carrying the ball. He runs straight and direct -- he is a big lad for a half-

A LOOK AT LEZIGNAN (PART ONE)

back -- and he has a very good carry and show. He will be a big threat, particularly if he has people running with him. And Roughyeds need to watch out for his dummy.

"Oldham must aim for a good start. If they are slow to start, as they were against Blackpool, they will find it hard to get back into the game against these men.

"They have a big, robust pack with some pace in a young threequarter line. Aurelian Cologni played stand-off in their win at Workington, but there is a school of thought that he is more comfortable in the

back-row or at hooker and that might be one of the reasons why they were not as expansive as they used to be.

"I think we can expect a physical encounter. That doesn't mean they can't play good football or they can't keep their shape, but it does mean they will be looking to their strong, robust pack to take them forward.

"Defensively, too, they will be aggressive. The game over there is making good progress and there are currently a lot of good, young footballers in France, but they still have an aggressive attitude to their game.

"I believe it will be a very good game and I think that, despite Wynne's obvious threat, Oldham will be a little bit more creative at half-back as a pair. It will be a big test for the Coyle boys but I think they will come through."

A LOOK AT LEZIGNAN (PART TWO)

LEZIGNAN arrive at Boundary Park only three days after a French Cup semi-final against Carcassonne.

They are aiming to finish their domestic season as strongly as last year when the Sangliers gained revenge for a Championship final loss in 2007 with a 26-16 victory over Pia to take the trophy back to town 30 years on from their last championship win.

Following that title triumph, celebrations were long and noisy in the small, sleepy town of Lezignan in the beautiful Corbieres wine-producing region of south-west France. This season, though, started badly.

With players either on international duty, injured or still not arrived, the team stuttered early on and defeat in the first match at Carpentras started a run of three successive defeats, including the local derby at Carcassonne.

Jared Taylor, Adel Fellous and player-coach James Wynne were away on France World Cup duties.

Winger Olivier Janzac was on long-term injury, Jye Mullane had gone to rugby union, and Luke Hession and Chris Beattie had not arrived. Philippe Laurent suffered an early suspension so a poor start to the season was not a total surprise.

However, even when the international players were back and the squad was complete, the expected improvement in fortunes did not happen.

Things came to a head when the Sangliers lost at home to Carpentras in January and a crisis meeting between the directors and the players ensued.

Since then performances and results have improved. A 112-point blitz on Lyon - several of their players were absent because of a dispute with the club - was perhaps not typical, but a good win against UTC and the 18-6 Challenge Cup win at Workington, proved that the team was functioning again.

In fact, an eight-match winning sequence followed, the 28-20 victory away at Pia on 22 March being especially satisfying.

Lézignan then took over in third place from Villeneuve, whom they beat last Sunday 30-14.

Player-coach scrum-half, James Wynne, who reached a Challenge Cup semi-final with Toulouse in 2005, is Lezignan's key man although the experienced Aurelian Cologni is almost as important.

World Cup fullback Jared Taylor has the knack of chiming into the attack at just the right time, but their game is built firmly on forward power with Chris Beattie, Adel Fellous and Alister Brown immense in attack and defence in the deluge at Workington.

Despite the dominance of overseas players at Lézignan, the club is still producing its own young players, and the junior side has also reached the semi-finals of their Cup competition, the Luc Nitard.

You can read this article in full in CLIFF SPRACKLEN's TREIZISTE DIARY in the April issue of RUGBY LEAGUE WORLD magazine, out now.

ACHING TO FEEL BETTER?

WHY NOT TRY PHYSIOTHERAPY?



01617 873 464

Oaklands Hospital Physiotherapists can act quickly to manage your condition and prevent it from restricting your lifestyle.

We offer a comprehensive range of physiotherapy services to treat all your aches and pains.

SPECIAL OFFER: Treatments for as little as £28 when booked as part of a course

Sports Injury Rehabilitation | Physiotherapy | Women's Health | Acupuncture

people caring for people

www.oaklands-hospital.co.uk
SALFORD, GREATER MANCHESTER

OAKLANDS HOSPITAL

Looking to reduce your annual Office Supplies Spend?

Or refurbishing your Office?

Free Design & Planning service

Office Supplies Now suppliers of Office Stationery, Office Furniture, Printed Stationery, Business Machines, Printer Consumables.

'Large enough to compete small enough to care'

Unit 4 Holmes Street, Rochdale OL12 6AQ

Tel: 0845 833 3001 Fax: 0845 833 3002

Email: sales@officesuppliesnow.co.uk www.officesuppliesnow.co.uk

OFFICE SUPPLIES NOW
www.officesuppliesnow.co.uk

All the **Weekend Sport** every Monday
Get in the **Front Row** every Wednesday
Be on the **Touchline** every Thursday

Results, news, teams and much more every week... the Chronicle is essential for keeping up-to-date with your team

- **Monday** ~ the round-up and results from the weekend's games
- **Wednesday** ~ news and views from the Roughyeds
- **Thursday** ~ all the news from the amateur clubs

More Rugby in your Chronicle



Oldham RLFC



The official programme of Oldham Rugby League Football Club (1997) Ltd



v Lézignan

Carnegie Challenge Cup Round 4
Sunday 5th April 2009 Kick-Off 3.00pm

'Bubbly' Ballard smashes through points barrier

by ROGER HALSTEAD

RAISE a glass to Andy Ballard, our points machine and record breaker.

Handy Andy's nine goals and three tries - 30 points - against Workington last week smashed the new club's points-in-a game record and equalled the Oldham club's all-time record set 81 years ago.

And guess what? Our 22-year-old winger from Wigan hadn't a clue what all the fuss was about when he was asked to report to the boardroom after the game.

"I only found out in the directors' room when they gave me a bottle of champagne," revealed Andy. "I was gobsmacked, but it was a nice surprise. And now I fancy beating it again... and again!"

Ballard (pictured scoring one of his three tries against the Cumbrians) won the club's champagne-moment award for beating Danny Halliwell's 28 points in a game last season and then caused club statisticians to thumb through the all-time record books before rewriting them.

"It's no secret that I've got one eye on Mick Nanyin's points-in-a-season record," he added, "but it isn't something I dwell on. I just take each game as it comes. "It makes you think a bit, though, when you realise how close you came to doing something that no other player had ever done in the whole history of professional rugby league in Oldham.

"If the kick off the touchline that hit the post had squeezed in I would have cracked the record outright. I'll have to make sure I get it next time!"

It was on Easter Monday, April 8, 1928 that Abe Johnson, also an Oldham winger, set the record with two tries (worth three points back then) and 12 goals in a 60-5 win against Widnes at Watersheddings.

In terms of the new Oldham club, Mick Nanyin last season equalled Gareth Barber's 2002 record of 26 points in a game and then Halliwell smashed it with 28 points from four tries and six goals, also against Workington Town at Boundary Park in a 40-16 win on August 24 last year.

Not even the legendary Bernard Ganley could eclipse the 30 points recorded by Johnson way back in the Roaring Twenties and now equalled by Ballard some 81 years later.

Only five players in the 114-year history of pro rugby league in Oldham have finished a season as top of both the club's try and goal charts - Reg Farrar in 1922, Abe Johnson in 1928, Tommy Martyn in 1992, Daniel Brown in 1999 and Mick Nanyin in 2008, although Nanyin was only joint top try scorer with James Coyle, each with 21.

Nanyin last year kicked 139 goals and added 21 tries for a points haul of 362 - a record for the new club which Ballard is keen to challenge.

He currently heads the club try AND goals charts with eight tries and 37 goals - 106 points - from seven appearances out of a total of eight competitive games.



Pictures in this programme courtesy of Dave Murgatroyd.

View from the inside...



Good afternoon and a warm welcome to Roughyed Stadium to our visitors from Lézignan.

We create another milestone today for the new club with the visit of last years French champions in so much as this game will be the first time that we have played French opposition since we started in 1997.

If opinions given to me before each draw of the cup is made then most of you would have hoped for this game to have been played away rather than in the sunny foothills of Oldham but nevertheless it is

certainly a game with a unique flavour to it and one which everybody at the club is really looking forward to.

The opportunity to play against, not only foreign opposition, but also a side which has an intrigue about it because most of us will not have seen them play, is a great incentive for fans and players alike.

As winners of the French Championship last season they are obviously a good side and over the years their involvement in the Carnegie Challenge Cup has been on a fairly regular basis. We watched their win in the last round up at Workington, in what were dreadful conditions and they controlled the game and looked a very handy team.

With several French internationals and some other well known Antipodean players amongst their ranks they are, in many ways, symbolic of what is becoming a trend in France where it is

becoming increasingly attractive for players to go. Following our performance last week against Workington we will certainly not be going into today's game with a lack of confidence but we are all well aware that we need to be consistent in our level of performance and we must be prepared for a real tussle today.

A place in the fifth round awaits the winners and teams will be looking at the all Super League games and relishing the chance to go further in the cup than either Leeds or Saints - now that doesn't happen too often!

Our thanks go to the competitions sponsors Leeds Met Carnegie for their backing and we hope that their representatives at the game today enjoy the occasion.

As ever please keep up your support for the team and lets be vocal in our encouragement.

Allez les Roughyeds!

Chris Hamilton

Chief Executive

mobilis

Genuine Expertise in Healthcare and Sport
Mobilis is the UK's leading supplier of specialist healthcare and sports medicine products

We provide solutions for:
Injury Treatment and Prevention
Fitness and Conditioning
First Aid and Healthcare
Sports Performance

Providing you with all your sporting needs

Official sponsor to Oldham RLFC

Mobilis Healthcare Group Ltd, 100 Shaw Road, Oldham, Lancashire, OL1 4AY.
Telephone 0161 678 0233 Fax 0161 627 4401 Email info@mobilishealthcare.com
Web www.mobilishealthcare.com - Please quote ORLFC upon enquiry.

sorbothane

Totalplus

Totalplus Communications Ltd specialise in the design, installation and management of structured cabling systems for all types of environments, ranging from single outlets to full site cabling and roll out programmes. We place a strong emphasis on designing clients specific systems to meet both existing and future needs.

for further information or quotations contact

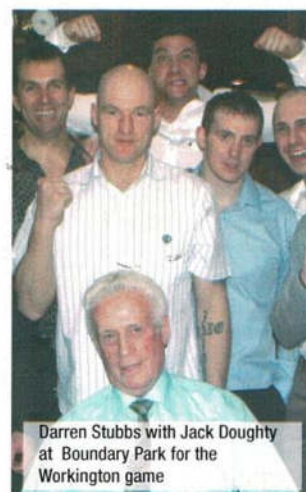
Totalplus

Northern House, Moss Street East, Ashton-u-Lyne
Manchester OL6 7BX
Tel: 0161 343 8181 Fax 0161 343 8182
alternatively call Bob Thompson on 07973 684 299 or Paul Gough on 07973 764 938

Prize-fighter Stubbs is our latest fan

Rugby League and boxing came together in the Boundary Park hospitality suite at the Workington game. Keen Roughyeds fan and boxing guru Jack Doughty, who runs Doughty's Gym in Shaw, had a table and among his guests was pro boxer Darren Stubbs.

Light-heavyweight Darren, who trains at Doughty's Gym, recently shot to prominence when he reached the final of the popular Prize Fighter series on Sky Sports and picked up a big-money prize. Said Jack: "Darren gave an absolutely outstanding performance to reach the final of an event that included a couple of champions."



Darren Stubbs with Jack Doughty at Boundary Park for the Workington game

An international masters light-heavyweight champion, Darren took the opportunity to give Roughyeds chairman Bill Quinn a few tips on how to square up to Garry Schofield in Wednesday's charity boxing fund-raiser at the Batley Frontier Club.

WHERE AND WHEN WE PLAY

Date	Comp	Opponents	V	Time	Res	Score	Att
Fri, Feb 13	NRC	Widnes Vikings	A	7.30pm	W	22-20	2,783
Wed, Feb 18	NRC	Rochdale Hornets	H	7.30pm	W	54-4	1,028
Sun, Feb 22	NRC	Sheffield Eagles	H	3.00pm	L	22-34	1,173
Sun, Mar 1	NRC	Hunslet Hawks	A	2.00pm	W	32-14	582
Sun, Mar 8	CCC3	Sharlston Rovers	H	3.00pm	W	26-8	800
Sun, Mar 15	CC1	Blackpool Panthers	H	3.00pm	W	36-18	880
Sun, Mar 22	CC1	Keighley Cougars	A	3.00pm	L	26-34	1,021
Sun, Mar 29	CC1	Workington Town	H	3.00pm	W	66-14	819
Sun, April 5	CCC4	Lézignan	H	3.00pm			
Fri, April 10	CC1	Rochdale Hornets	A	3.00pm			
Sun, April 19	CC1	Dewsbury Rams	H	3.00pm			
Sun, April 26	CC1	Swinton Lions	H	3.00pm			
Sat, May 2	CC1	London Skolars	A	3.00pm			
Sun, May 10	Carnegie CC (5)						
Sun, May 17	CC1	Hunslet Hawks	H	3.00pm			
Sun, May 24	CC1	Swinton Lions	A	3.00pm			
Sun, May 31	Carnegie CC (Quarter-Final)						
Sun, June 7	NRCQF	Featherstone Rov.	H	3.00pm			
Sun, June 21	NRC (Semi-Final)						
Thurs, June 25	CC1	York City Knights	A	7.30pm			
Sun, July 5	CC1	Workington Town	A	3.00pm			
Sun, July 12	NRC Final (Bloomfield Road)						
Sun, July 19	CC1	Keighley Cougars	H	3.00pm			
Sun, July 26	CC1	Dewsbury Rams	A	3.00pm			
Sun, Aug 2	CC1	Rochdale Hornets	H	3.00pm			
Thurs, Aug 6	CC1	London Skolars	H	7.30pm			
Sun, Aug 16	CC1	Blackpool Panthers	A	3.00pm			
Sun, Aug 23	CC1	York City Knights	H	3.00pm			
Sun, Sep 6	CC1	Hunslet Hawks	A	3.00pm			
Play-offs start Friday, Sept 11							
Grand Finals Day Sunday, October 4							

Greentree Oldham

Putting Down Some Roots?
Give us a 'TRY'
Let us Find You a New Pad!
0845 388 9401

www.greentreeoldham.com



Greentree (Oldham) Ltd, 5 Retiro St, Oldham, OL1 1SA



Something Different
in Residential Lettings
for Oldham!



0%

FINANCE FOR UP TO 5 WHOLE YEARS!
ON SELECTED USED CARS WHILE STOCKS LAST



You are invited down to Lythgoe Oldham for the deal of a lifetime on nearly new and used cars - while stocks last!

Hurry down while stocks last!



View all our 0% over 5 years cars at www.lythgoe.co.uk
Or visit our showroom at: Lythgoe Oldham, 54 Middleton Rd, Oldham, OL9 5AD. 0161 665 3000

You know where to Lythgoe

www.lythgoe.co.uk

PLAYER PROFILE No 6 CRAIG ROBINSON



A family at peace - despite those rugby league rivalries

Roger Halstead talks to the
Roughyeds' 'Exercet Missile'

TRY to talk to one member of the rugby family Robinson of Wakefield and before you know it you are chatting to them all. That's the Robbo way of things - a family united and at peace despite rugby league's rivalries and despite the threat of the 'Exercet Missile'.

I phoned the family home to speak to Craig and ended up talking also to his brother Adam and to their Dad, Michael - and if the eldest boy, Mark, hadn't been on duty with the Navy "somewhere in the North Sea" I've

no doubt he would have had a word or two to say as well.

Common denominator? They are all steeped in rugby league and they all owe much to the little amateur club that groomed them, Stanley Rangers.

Michael, proud as punch of his boys, and rightly so, used to be a coach in the junior section down at Rangers.

And each of his boys followed the same pathway from the age of five ... first Mark, then two years later Craig, and two more years after that Adam.

Fast forward to 2009 and the Robbo brothers are still playing the sport to

which the whole family has devoted so much of its life over the past 25 years or so.

Mark (25) plays at hooker for the Navy and, whenever he is at home, at prop for the family's beloved Stanley Rangers.

Craig (23) has arrived at the Roughyeds this season, where coach Tony Benson is converting him from a prop to a second-rower, after a few years with Wakefield Trinity Wildcats and then three seasons at Rochdale Hornets.

Adam (21) also started with Wakefield before joining Oldham via Doncaster and later leaving to sign for Dewsbury Rams.

Now it just happens that in two weeks time Oldham and Dewsbury will go head to head here at Boundary Park in what has all the makings of an absolute cracker between the bookies' joint favourites for the Co-operative Championship One title and, with it, automatic promotion.

And if all goes according to plan for the Robinson boys, and their Mum, Elaine, Craig will be in the Oldham team and Adam will be wearing the colours of Dewsbury.

The boys clashed several times last season when Adam

was a Roughyed and Craig was a Hornet, but this time it would be an extra special confrontation with so much riding on the match and with Adam returning to Boundary Park to take on his former team mates - and his brother.

You see, both Adam and Craig live at home with Mum and Dad so there is no escape from the rivalry.

Says Michael: "Both Elaine and I just love seeing the boys playing sport. We try to divide our time up equally and that isn't only watching Oldham and Dewsbury, it's travelling down to Portsmouth to watch Mark playing for the Navy.

"Of course, we wouldn't miss Oldham v Dewsbury for anything. I tend to support the team that's losing when we have a boy on each side, but Elaine just loves seeing them out there and taking part.

"It will be a big day out for all the family, and we'll be meeting up with friends as well. There might be rivalry on the pitch but once the game is over we'll be united as a family again. That's how it has always been, and that's how it always will be."

Adam "can't wait" for Sunday, April 19 and his return to Boundary Park in a match which he believes will go a long way to deciding the outcome of the championship chase even at this early stage of the campaign.

And Craig? "First, we've got Rochdale on Good Friday and I would like to prove a point there and at the same time do enough to keep my spot for the Dewsbury game.

"If Adam and I are on opposite sides I don't think you'll see us clash very often because he usually keeps out of the way! He knows I'll be lining him up for a big hit so he usually makes sure I don't get anywhere near him."

I reckon that's fighting talk. Craig laughs it off. "Seriously, we get on great," he said. "All three brothers do. Me and our Adam clashed about five times last season. He tries to smack me, but it really is surprising how rare it is in a match that we actually come face to face and head on."

Perhaps Adam is wary of the Exercet Missile. Let Craig explain: "Dad took me down to Rangers when I was five. Through the different age groups I nearly always played a year young, but I still got the nickname 'Exercet' because of the way I used to launch myself into tackles.

"It was a name that stuck for years, certainly all through the days when Stanley Rangers under-16s and under-18s were winning National titles and right up to the time I joined Wakefield.

"We had a crack youth team at Rangers that included lads who went on to play professionally such as Kevin King (Rochdale and Batley), Paul Hughes (York), Mark Applegarth (York) and Rob Spicer (Dewsbury)."

Craig made his debut for Trinity's junior academy side against a Leeds Rhinos side that included Danny McGuire, Rob Burrow and several others who went on to make big names for themselves at Headingley.

Aged 18, he picked up a Wakefield players' player junior academy award and a year later he was named player of the year in the senior academy.

He made his full Wildcats debut against London Broncos at Belle Vue when Shane McNally was Trinity coach and he got his chance in a young Wildcats side because Michael Korkidas was injured.

The young Robbo played at prop off the bench and in McNally's post-match individual ratings he was named by the boss among the top three

performers on the day.

Around that time he and Adam each won a player-of-the-year prize in the under-21s, but come the end of the season he wasn't offered a full-time contract and he felt it was time to look at other options.

"I don't know whether my face didn't fit or whether they didn't think I would progress any further, but I got myself an agent, Rochdale came in for me and that's how I came to have three very enjoyable seasons at Spotland."

Darren Abram was his first coach at Hornets, then Bobbie Goulding and finally Darren Shaw. Also there at that time was Tommy Goulden.

Craig was highly thought of by Abram, who guided Hornets into the play-offs -- they lost at Whitehaven -- but left part way through the following season when results were not going right and when Sean Gartland was put in charge to see the season out.

Then came Goulden and Shaw in quick succession. Robbo was vice-captain by this time and he played a prominent part in a run of nine wins out of ten which earned Hornets a play-off derby against Oldham towards the end of last season.

Despite this run, Hornets were slow to re-sign their vice-captain and Oldham nipped in to sign a player the Roughyeds had long admired.

Said Craig: "I was impressed by the chat I had with Chris Hamilton, and our Adam also told me that Oldham was a good club and that he had enjoyed his time here so I signed on the dotted line, and I am glad that I did.

"I've played prop most of my life but Tony (Benson) wants me to play second-row. I'm still getting used to the position, but I was pleased with my performance in the pre-season friendly against Huddersfield; not as pleased with it up at Barrow; and then against Rochdale I got injured in my first run.

"It was good to be back against Workington last Sunday. It was a great win and, happily, my elbow stood up fine to the test and I came through all right."

Craig gets more than his fill of rugby league because when he isn't training or playing for Oldham he is engaged in his full-time post as a development officer in the Wakefield and district areas.

The post is funded jointly by the RFL, Wakefield Council, Wakefield Wildcats, Castleford Tigers and Featherstone Rovers.

One of his jobs is to help to see that youngsters in that area get similar, or even better, opportunities than he and his brothers got.

And that won't be easy given that Mark, Craig and Adam were reared in a family united by rugby league --- the Robinsons of Wakefield.

Wm. Quinn Group Ltd

Environmental Solutions

Under One Hat

demolition

remediation

validation

asbestos

knotweed

professionals in demolition, remediation and environmental solutions

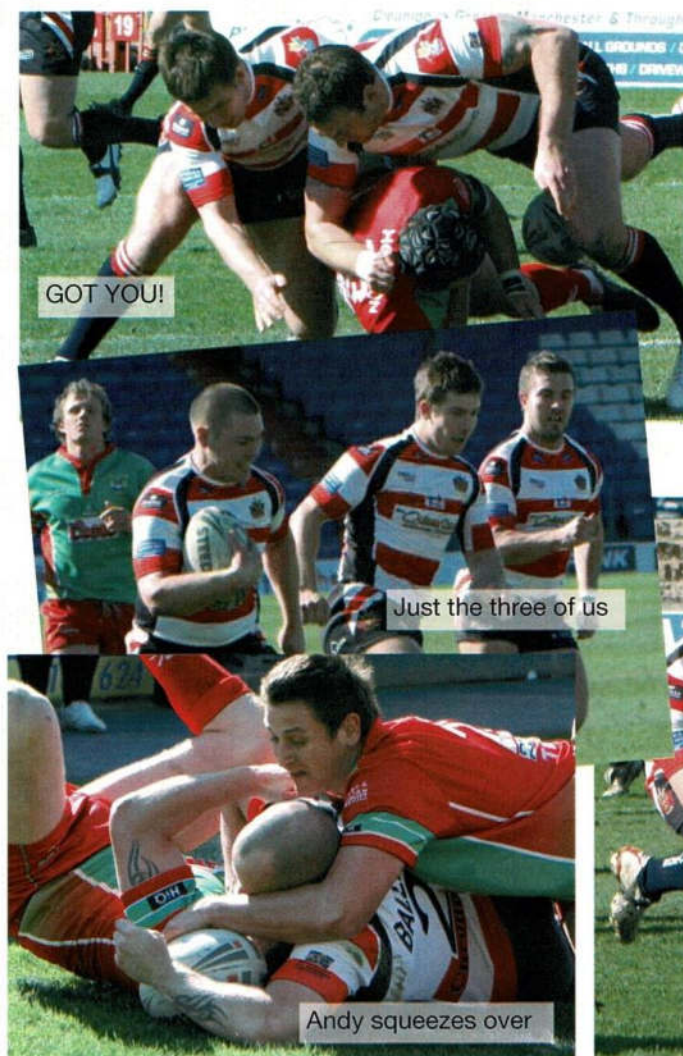
Wm. Quinn Group Ltd.,
Bennett Street, Ardwick, Manchester, M12 5NL
Tel 0161 276 8160 Fax 0161 276 8167
email info@wmquinnngroup.co.uk
website www.wmquinnngroup.co.uk

W R I G L E Y
C L A Y D O N
S O L I C I T O R S since 1795

John Armstrong, Clerk Of The Peace, Oldham and Lancashire rugby player, early pioneer of both Oldham Rugby Club and solicitors Armstrong, Whitticker and Ogden forerunners to today's Oldham RLFC solicitors Wrigley Claydon.

29/33 UNION STREET OLDHAM OL1 1HH
DX 23607 OLDHAM EMAIL@wrigleyclaydon.com WEBSITE www.wrigleyclaydon.com
FAX 0161 624 3743 TEL 0161 624 6811

OLDHAM V WORKINGTON



GOT YOU!

Junior breaks free

Just the three of us

Andy squeezes over

Thomas scoring one of his hat trick

Pictures courtesy of Dave Murgatroyd.

LEVER'S FISH & CHIP RESTAURANT

UNITS 2 & 3
MARKET HALL
OLDHAM

MON - SAT 10.30-5.30
0161 633 0074

OCL Lifestyle Active Families, Tumble Fun, Bouncy Castle & Soft Play Fun Session

Monday-Friday
9.30am-11.30am **£2.40**

Oldham Community Leisure
Fun activities for all children aged 6
months to 5 years. Bouncy Castle,
Soft Play, Storytime, Arts & craft
and Sing-along, Baby area for
Pre walkers.

For more information
please contact
Kelly Tattersall, Young
Person's Physical
Activity Development
Officer
0779 534 0151

For a community more
active, more often



Joe Mascot for Day

Joe Benson, son of Roughyeds' Coach Tony, was as proud as punch as he led out his dad's team at the recent game against Blackpool.



"He was so keen his boots and full kit were by the house door four days before the game", said proud dad Tony.

Latest News

ROUGHYEDS are providing a new service linked with the sales of club merchandise.

Having purchased a special machine, the club now has the facility to put names and/or numbers on the back of replica and other jerseys at a cost of £10 per shirt.

This will be a standard charge, irrespective of how many letters there are in the name to be printed.

The service is available immediately and printing can be done to order on the same day, either on new replicas going out of the shop or on replicas or other jerseys which supporters wish to take in.

For further information ring 0161 628 3677 or call in at the club's office.

Wayne Kerr was suspended for one game and fined £50 when he appeared before the RFL disciplinary panel on Tuesday, having been placed on report for a careless tackle in the recent game at Keighley.

Our away game ay London Skolars, originally scheduled for Monday, May 4 and then briefly rearranged for Sunday, May 3, will now take place on Saturday, May 2 (3.00pm kick off).

It emerged once the first change had been made that the stadium used by the Skolars was not available on the Sunday.

So please put the new date in your diary - Saturday, May 2 at 3.00pm. And that's official.

Gibbons lands coaching role

Stevie Gibbons, our Irish hooker or half-back, has been appointed head coach of Irish Students, with his fellow countryman and fellow Rougheds player, Wayne Kerr, as his assistant.

"This is a massive development for rugby league in Ireland," said Oldham boss Tony Benson, "because Stevie and Wayne are the first two fully-fledged Irishmen to come through the Irish development system and go on to coaching.

"This represents a massive breakthrough for the development of the game in Ireland. Things are definitely moving forward over there."

Benson himself has close ties with the Irish Rugby League and he was intrumental in many ways in the remarkable rise of Gibbons and Kerr from Sunday social rugby league in and around Dublin to places in the full Irish World Cup squad for last autumn's series in Australia.

Gibbons was to spearhead an Irish Students' training camp in Dublin and then take charge of the squad at a Four Nations series, also featuring England, Wales and Scotland, to be held in Bradford from April 3 to April 10.

Added Benson: "These appointments are great for Irish rugby league, and great also for Stevie and Wayne.

"As head coach, Stevie will do well. He is an intelligent man with a good understanding of the game.

"And as far as the students are concerned, he and Wayne will be legends. Here are two true Irishmen who have come through the ranks via Irish Wolfhounds and Ireland 'A' to become members of a World Cup squad and to play professionally at a club like Oldham.

"They have been on tour to places like Russia and New Zealand and the young Irish students will see what they have achieved and will be keen to emulate them."



TDL Interiors

Quality Furniture manufactured direct from our factory.



Kitchens
Bedrooms
Home Studies

Free Design and Quotation.
Comprehensive range.
Agents for Gorenje
Appliances.
Manufacturers of Fine
bespoke Furniture

Visit our factory showroom at:
Hargreaves Street, Off Arkwright Street,
Chadderton, Oldham OL9 9ND
Telephone No: 0161 626 5049

GAMEON

No 9 £2.00

 carnegie

FOURTH ROUND
Carnegie Challenge Cup
3-5 April 2009
Official Souvenir Programme



THE UK CENTRE FOR COACHING EXCELLENCE

Leeds Met Carnegie is the home of
The UK Centre for Coaching Excellence
2008 | 2012 | 2016



THE UK COACHING
FRAMEWORK



carnegie
coaching

GAMEON

Official matchday magazine of
the co-operative Championship
and Championship One clubs

Game On, Edward Latham House, 1 Oates
St, Dewsbury, W Yorks WF13 1BB

Tel: 01924 439498

Fax: 01924 457994

Email: gameon@newspost.co.uk

CONTENTS

Issue no.9
April 2-April 8, 2009

The buzz returns to Barrow.....	4/5
Ambassador Wilkin.....	7
News round-up.....	8
Action Replay	10/11

MATCHDAY

Barrow v Wigan.....	12/13
Batley v Hunslet.....	14/15
Doncaster v Gateshead.....	16/17
Featherstone v Wath Brow.....	18/19
Halifax v Widnes.....	20/21
Keighley v Castleford.....	22/23
Oldham v Lezignan.....	24/25
Sheffield v Dewsbury.....	26/27
Swinton v Hornets.....	28/29

On the Money.....	30
Champion Profile.....	31
Ahead of the game.....	32
Stats/fixtures.....	34-37
The Quiz.....	38

NEXT WEEK

*Aiming High with
the Centurions*

*Eagles fly over to
Toulouse*



Daring to dream as the big boys roll into town

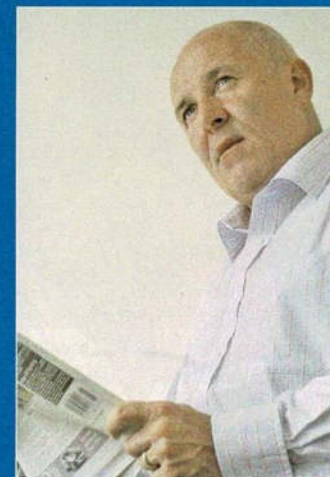
THEY'LL be licking their lips in Barrow and Keighley as cup kings Wigan and high-flying Castleford bring the Super League banners into the Co-operative Championship camps this weekend. The heady days of the 1950s when Barrow was a name to chill the opposition are literally a lifetime away, but hitting the rugby league equivalent of the lottery jackpot by drawing a big name is the realistic aim of the clubs below the elite division.

At least seven teams from outside Super League are guaranteed a place when the fifth round draw is made, which means that quite apart from Barrow and Keighley (who will at least be hoping to pull off a mega-shock!) there promise to be some significant paydays for more of the hard-pressed Championship clubs.

Indeed it's not beyond the bounds of possibility that depending on the draw, as many as THREE semi-pro clubs could fill their boots with a plum Wigan tie!

As for Cumbrian amateurs Wath Brow, getting past Iestyn Harris and his Featherstone teammates will be a massive ask, despite their heroics in seeing off professional opposition in London Skolars on their own ground. But don't underestimate the determination of this great amateur outfit!

For the Castleford and Wigan fans picking up this copy of Game On for the first time, a brief word of explanation – this is a matchday magazine dedicated to the Co-operative Championship clubs and £1 from every copy sold goes directly into the clubs' coffers, while removing the burden of having to produce a separate match programme for every home game. That's why you'll find the match focus pages are specifically for the Championship clubs hosting today's games. Here at Game On, we sincerely hope 11 of our sides – the maximum possible – progress into the 5th round. Now that would be a result...



GAME ON
PUBLISHER
DANNY
LOCKWOOD

RFL - official notes

RESPECT

Rugby League is passionate and prides itself on being a family game. Please behave responsibly at all times.

family sport and, with this in mind, action will also be taken against spectators who use foul and abusive language.

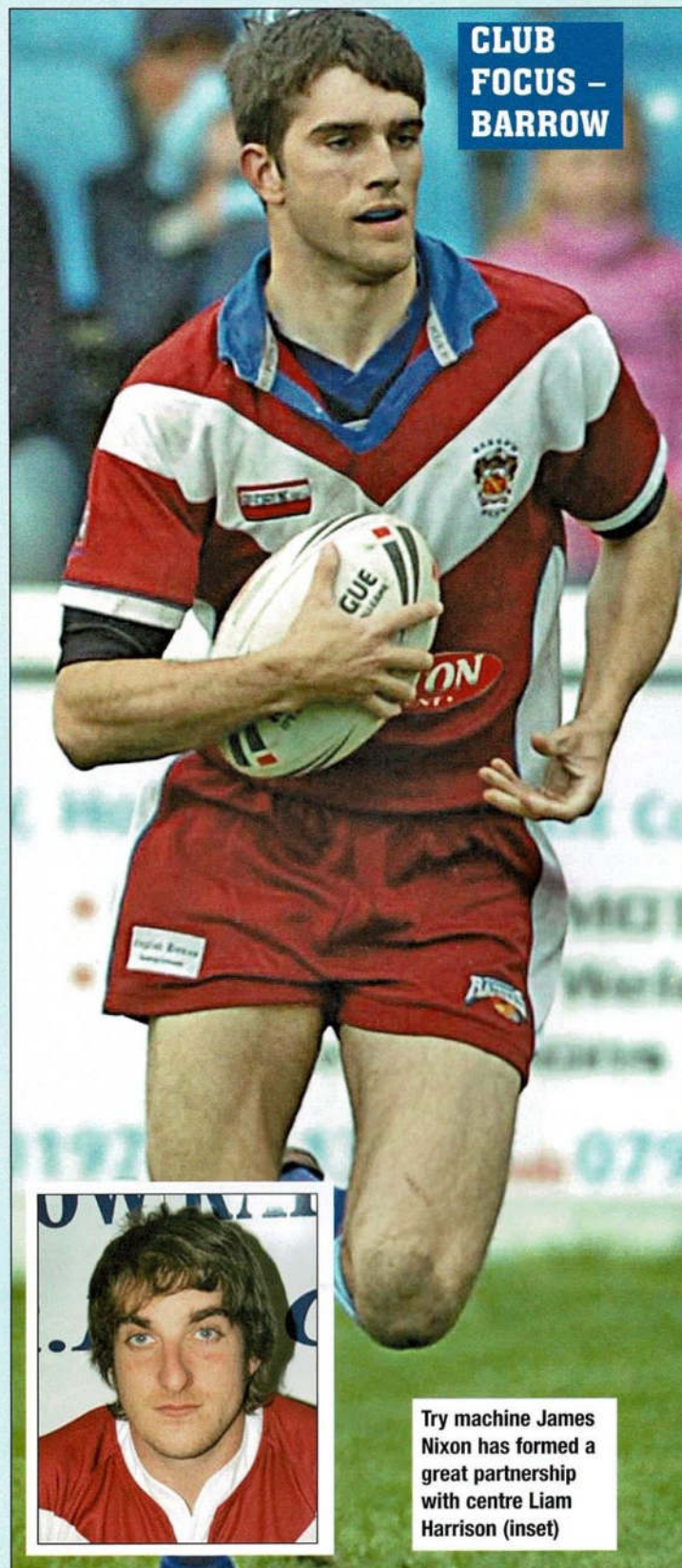
ANTI-RACISM POLICY

The RFL's 'Tackle It' policy states it will not tolerate racism of any kind and will take specific action against spectators who engage in racist chanting, abuse or intimidation. Rugby League is a great

PLEASE KEEP OFF THE PITCH

The RFL requests that spectators do not venture onto the pitch during or after the game. Such action is against ground safety regulations and the RFL reserves the right to take action against any person infringing these regulations.

**CLUB
FOCUS –
BARROW**



Try machine James Nixon has formed a great partnership with centre Liam Harrison (inset)

Buzz returns to Barrow

Drawing Wigan in the Challenge Cup has thrown Barrow into the national spotlight. GAME ON spoke to club stalwart Dave Sears about how the club is thriving once more after more than 20 years of struggle

THESE are exciting times for Barrow Raiders – and vice-chairman Dave Sears should know.

Sears has followed Barrow since the heady days of the 50s when they reached three Challenge Cup finals (winning it in 1955), and Cup fever has struck once more in Cumbria with the mighty Wigan coming to town.

Barrow are also riding high in the Co-operative Championship following promotion last season while they have a Northern Rail Cup quarter-final against Dewsbury in June and Sears reckons that not since lifting the Lancashire Cup in 1983/84 have they had it so good.

"We've had good times in between but the actual atmosphere and anticipation hasn't been like this for at least 20 years," he said. "Rugby league in Barrow is on the crest of a wave right now."

It's been all hands to the pump to get Craven Park ready in time, with more than 1,000 Wigan fans to travel to Cumbria.

Around 4,000 Barrovians are expected as the fourth-round tie has captured the imagination of the town, even the shipyards.

"Tickets went on general sale a week last Sunday at 8am and the lad who runs the shop couldn't get parked to open up because of the queue," said Sears.

"We had people coming straight off nights at the shipyards to make sure they got a ticket."

"The national papers were making enquiries about coming up for the match and our press box holds two men and a pigeon so they'll have to be perched on the roof."

"We had Wakefield last year, which was a good tie and both the club and players were fine ambassadors for Super League. But this is Wigan, and this is what the Cup's all about, isn't it."

"As long as we don't disgrace ourselves it'll be great for the people of Barrow to see the superstars of Super League at close hand."

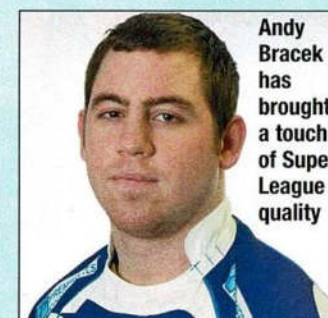
"That's why we've kept it at home, to get local people to come down and hopefully



NOW AND THEN: Barrow's players applaud the visiting fans after winning at Gateshead and (above) the 1954/55 side celebrate their victory in the final of the Challenge Cup

'If you stop them on that side then you've got to go to the other to confront Ian Bell (pictured) – it takes three or four to bring him down – and as Doncaster coach Tony Miller said, 'we know what they do, stopping them is a different matter'.'

DAVID SEARS, VICE-CHAIRMAN



Andy Bracek has brought a touch of Super League quality

come back. It's raised our profile but we've been doing that all year anyway and everybody's talking about us."

The catalyst for Barrow's recent resurgence has been the arrival of chairman Des Johnston, also a life-long fan, who first got involved with the club in 2006.

Johnston has befriended Brian Noble through their passion for Manchester United and the Wigan coach has cast his eye over potential signings on Barrow's behalf.

Sears describes Johnston as "a bit of a character, who has a win, win attitude that's rubbing off on everybody" and that has lured the likes of ex-Super League players Andy Bracek, Gary Broadbent, Andrew Brocklehurst and Paul Noone to the club.

Season-ticket numbers have doubled with the average attendance rising from 1,600 to 1,800, and comfortable league wins over Doncaster and Gateshead have shown that under coach Dave Clark, Barrow will make a better fist of things than their last season at this level in 2005, when they claimed just one league win.

"Last time we got promoted we didn't

spend any money and the gates went right down," said Sears.

"We went straight back down so already this year we've won one league match more than we did in the whole of that season!"

"This time we're spending on players in the hope of recouping that through the turnstiles, and it is a gamble."

"It's been bankrolled by the chairman but his pockets are only so deep and it's the people of Barrow that will determine where we go in the future."

"Zeb Luisi has just arrived, we've got Ned Catcic to come and we make no secret of the fact we've got other signings to follow too."

"The buzz is there, it keeps people talking about us and it's another reason for people to come along and have a look."

"We're yet to play to our full potential, though, and hopefully we'll hit it against Halifax this week, which would really cause some shockwaves."

Things are improving off the field too, with John Thomason recruited as a partnership manager from Swinton and the

club is going into schools in Cartmel and Grange-over-Sands for the first time.

"We're heading towards the M6 now," Sears added.

"We're trying to grow that part of our business and our reputation."

"We're trying to look forward and trying to put things in place instead of living on a day-to-day basis as not only ourselves but a lot of other clubs have done for years."

Barrow's immediate success, though, and their chances of upsetting Wigan to a great extent rest on jet-heeled winger James Nixon, who scored a phenomenal 35 tries last season, and his centre Liam Harrison.

Harrison's nickname is the Bull, and if it takes two people to stop him, then you leave the flying machine (Nixon) outside him unattended," said Sears.

"If you stop them on that side then you've got to go to the other to confront Ian Bell – it takes three or four to bring him down – and as Doncaster coach Tony Miller said, 'we know what they do, stopping them is a different matter'."

**If you put just one name
on your team sheet...**



...make it

STEEDEN

www.steeden.co.uk

BALLS / CLOTHING / PROTECTION / TRAINING

**Steeden offer a range of clothing for match play and training.
To order your kit contact Jason Barrie on 08450 664020**

Sales & Accounts (UK & France) Grays International, Station Road, Robertsbridge, East Sussex. TN32 5DH Email sales@grays-int.co.uk

the world according to **WILKO**

Saints star Jon muses about the difficult game at Wakefield, looks forward to Leeds and shares his thoughts on the rest of the Carnegie Challenge Cup draw...

Last week was very difficult for rugby league, from every perspective. The death of a young and talented player rocked our family to the core. We travelled to Wakefield to play against the Wildcats last Friday night and it was a tough occasion for us all.

The enormity of the situation was not lost on any of us, and the presence of Leon's family made it a very emotional occasion. It must have been difficult for the team to re-group, especially after the moving minute's silence for Leon ahead of the game, but it's testament to the strength of the Wildcats that they did and came out ready to make Leon proud.

Last week's events put everything into perspective and I can't imagine what his family is going through right now, and as always our thoughts are with them. All I can say really is that I'm glad tragedies like this don't happen often, but when it does we all see how strong the rugby league family is.

This week sees the return of the Challenge Cup with Wakefield taking on Co-operative Championship team Leigh, which will hopefully be another milestone for the club on the road to recovery.

St Helens travel to Leeds in what has been dubbed the match of the round. It is just one of a number of fixtures that sees engage Super League clubs taking on each other. This is a repeat of the match recently in Super League where we managed to get the win in a very hard fought game. I'm obviously hoping for a similar result on Sunday!

Other engage Super League match-ups see Catalans taking on Bradford and my old club Hull KR facing off against the Crusaders.

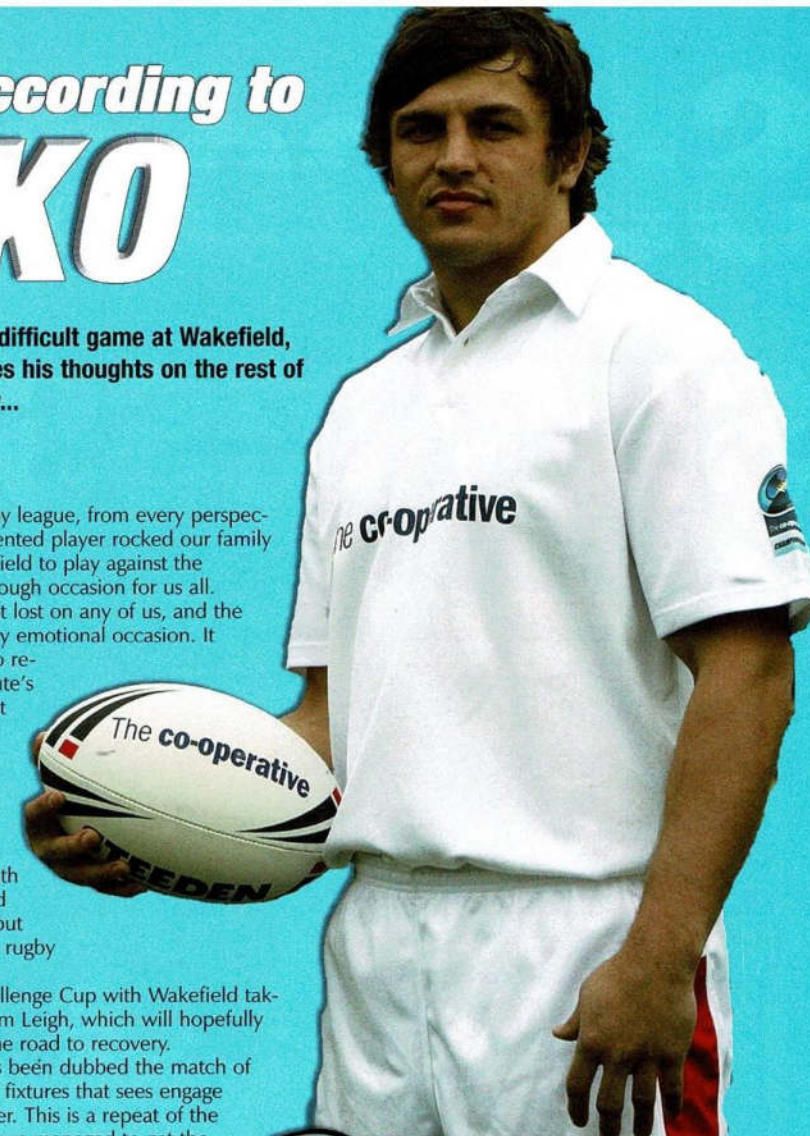
I suppose a positive for the game, in all these Super League match-ups, is that it means that a lot more Championship and Championship 1 clubs will make it that one step closer to Wembley. Cup clashes are always great money spinners for the clubs and a brilliant experience for fans. I am interested to see how Barrow get on against Wigan – on paper this could look like a mismatch but anything can happen on the pitch, especially in the Cup as we've seen many times before.

Another interesting tie that is a repeat of a game played a couple of weeks ago in the Co-operative Championship is Halifax against Widnes. That time Halifax scrapped through 24-14 and I know that Widnes were very disappointed to have lost, so that's going to be a good one to watch. They're both big clubs with a great history in rugby league and the winner of that tie will be hoping for a few nice draws and the potential of a good Cup run.

Just a quick word about my old friend John Stankevitch who is working with Paul Cullen at Widnes, and he has a great future in the game as a young coach. It's good to see British players with the experience of 'Stanky' making a name for themselves on the coaching side after unfortunate circumstances cut his playing career short.

To vote for your player of the month email the name of your nominated player to: playerofthemonth@generatesponsorship.com including your daytime contact details and favourite team.

You will automatically be entered into a prize draw to win VIP Grand Final tickets!



**The co-operative
CHAMPIONSHIP**

**Jon Wilkin is a Co-operative
'Good for Everyone' Ambassador
www.co-operative.coop**

Supporting success

Proud sponsors of The Co-operative Championships



The **co-operative** good for everyone

food | bank | travel | insurance | pharmacy | funeralcare | electrical



NEWSROUND-UP



CHALLENGE CUP STAT ATTACK

Catalans and Lezignan are left carrying the French flag in the fourth round this year, after PARIS ST. GERMAIN were the first French club to appear in the Challenge Cup, in 1997.

They won 38-4 at Batley Bulldogs in round four and lost 8-4 at Salford Reds in round five.

Catalans hold the record for the highest score by a French club in the Cup with a 70-12 home defeat of Featherstone Rovers in the 2007 fourth round. Catalans also hold the record margin win, 66-0 at home to Thornhill amateurs in the 2006 fourth round. Catalans are the only French club to reach the final, losing 30-8 to St. Helens in 2007.

Bradford Bulls ran up the highest score against a French club with a 98-6 fourth round home defeat of Toulouse last year. It was also the widest winning margin.

A record three French clubs appeared in the fifth round in 2005: Pia Donkeys, Union Trezieste Catalan and Toulouse. Toulouse were the only winners and went on to become the first French club to reach the semi-finals, losing 56-18 to Leeds Rhinos.

INTER-DIVISION CUP CLASHES

THERE have been 146 Challenge Cup meetings between Super League and lower division clubs.

Super League clubs have won 138 and of the eight lower division wins only two were achieved by the away team.

The only victory by a team from the third level was Hunslet Hawks' 18-14 fourth round home defeat of newly promoted Huddersfield Giants in 2003.

The last two lower division triumphs were in 2006, Widnes Vikings beating Castleford Tigers 14-4 in the fourth round and Hull Kingston Rovers defeating Warrington Wolves 40-36 in round six. Both were home victories.

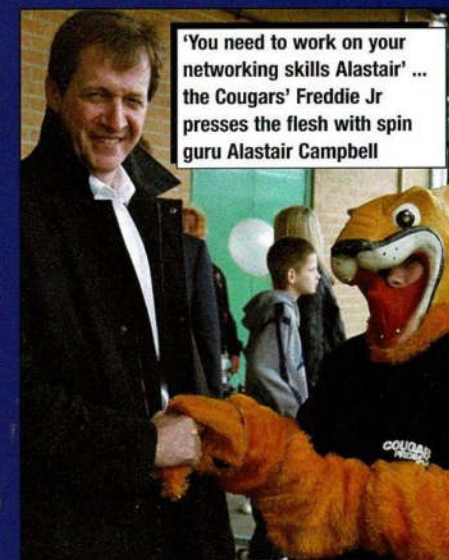
Three of the other wins came in the

Cougar pride

The Keighley Cougars had a special guest in town recently when Tony Blair's former spinmeister Alastair Campbell accepted an invitation to watch a match at Cougar Park.

Back in the days when it was Lawkholme Lane, young Campbell lived in the town and harboured dreams of turning out on the famous turf.

He eventually opted for an altogether different bit of rough and tumble, but he may have learned a few things from sitting in on coach Barry Eaton's pre-game talk.



first year of Super League (1996) with Dewsbury beating London Broncos 12-10 at home and Widnes winning 17-10 at Workington Town in the fourth round, while Salford Reds had a 26-16 fifth round home win over Wigan.

Later, Keighley Cougars had a 21-8 fifth round win at Halifax Blue Sox in 1997, Leigh Centurions a 16-12 fourth round home defeat of Salford City Reds in 2001 and Hunslet's defeat of Huddersfield in 2003. Leeds Rhinos registered the biggest Super League win over lower division opposition when they won 106-10 at Swinton Lions in the 2001 fourth round.

CARNEGIE CHALLENGE CUP RUNS

ST. HELENS, the holders, have the current longest run of appearing in round five not having been knocked out at the first stage for top division clubs since 1995. Then they were beaten 40-24 in a fourth round replay at home to Wigan after drawing 16-16. Of this year's fourth round clubs Keighley Cougars have gone the longest without reaching the fifth

round, having not achieved it since 1997. Gateshead Thunder have not gone beyond the fourth round since they entered the competition in 2001.

AMATEUR CLUBS

The last amateur clubs to reach the fifth round were Ellenborough Rangers and Egremont Rangers in 1998. Ellenborough lost 78-0 at Hull Sharks, and Egremont lost 84-6 at Sheffield Eagles.

OTHER FOURTH ROUND GAMES

Game On is dedicated to Co-operative Championship clubs' home games. The other fourth round ties not featured in-depth in this edition are:

HULL KR v CELTIC CRUSADERS
WAKEFIELD TW v LEIGH CENTURIONS
HARLEQUINS v HUDDERSFIELD GIANTS
WARRINGTON v YORK CITY KNIGHTS
HULL FC v SALFORD CITY REDS
CATALANS v BRADFORD BULLS
LEEDS RHINOS v ST HELENS

POINT SCORING RUNS

GREGG McNALLY of Whitehaven has scored tries in six successive matches as follows: 1-2-2-3-4-1. JON PRESLEY of Keighley Cougars has scored tries in five successive matches as follows: 3-1-2-2-1.

CARL FORBER of Workington Town has scored in 38 successive matches for the club, starting with the first match of last season on 3 February 2008.

WINNING RUNS

HALIFAX and DEWSBURY RAMS are the only teams in any of the three divisions to remain unbeaten this season, each having won seven matches – four Northern Rail Cup matches, a Carnegie Challenge Cup-tie and two Championship games. Dewsbury have a similar record.



ROBINSON EQUALS HUNSLET RECORD

DARREN ROBINSON of Hunslet Hawks equalled a club match record with 12 goals, including a drop goal, in the 71-0 Co-operative Championship One home defeat of London Skolars. The record was set by Billy Langton, who kicked 12 in Hunslet's 63-7 League win at Keighley on 18 August 1959.

BALLARD EQUALS OLDHAM RECORD

ANDY BALLARD of Oldham equalled a club record with 30 points from three tries and nine goals in the 66-16 home defeat of Workington Town.

The record was set by Abe Johnson with two three-point tries and 12 goals in the 60-5 home defeat of Widnes on 9 April 1928.

ACTIONREPLAY



Haven got a tougher 'French test' last week (left) while Luke Branighan deals with Craig Potter as Batley drew 20-20 with the Thunder



It's tight at the top

JUST HOW competitive the Co-operative Championship promises to be this season was hammered home across the fixture list last weekend, with only high-flying leaders WHITEHAVEN recording a double-digit victory margin.

Even that, against an improving TOULOUSE side making its way to the far north-west of the now 'Europe-wide' competition, was hardly a runaway, with the men from the Recre prevailing 40-26 in the end.

Indeed Aussie Nathan Wynn looked like sparking an upset in the early stages before coach Ged Stokes sent on 'enforcer' Graeme Mattinson to close him down. In the end the tiring Frenchmen were just denied the bonus point their efforts deserved.

Still in Cumbria and division favourites HALIFAX only just kept their unbeaten start in one piece, edging the spoils 26-24 at BARROW.

They managed to turn around a 16-8 half time deficit and surge into a 26-18 lead but the battling



Barrowmen narrowed it to just two points with nine minutes left to play – and they could have stolen victory right at the death but for Dwayne Barker's timely intervention.

WIDNES coach Paul Cullen had the air of a man confident in his side's ability to stay the course after they saw off a determined SHEFFIELD EAGLES 28-20.

"Credit Sheffield for their start but patience and composure were vital," he said. "You have to respond when it is not going your way, although we tried to score on all our plays."

"We created three or four scoring opportunities in the first 20 minutes but the final execution wasn't there. We opened them up but didn't nail it."

"We got a little rattled when we didn't score, but we kept our composure and in the end we came away with the most important thing which was the win."

"I was disappointed that we conceded tries from kicks – that is something we need to work on."

The Eagles had led until the stroke of half time, but coach Mark Aston was particularly disappointed with the penalty count which young Dewsbury whistler James Child levied against his side.

"Were we so dirty and were they so squeaky clean?" inquired Aston of the 10-3 tally afterwards. "I have asked the question and sometimes you get an answer and sometimes you don't. I won't be holding my breath!"

The Thursday night televised game at BATLEY'S Mount Pleasant ground produced a real 20-20 thriller with visitors GATESHEAD – not that it looked like that early on as the Tynesiders stormed into the lead and almost out of sight.

But with the benefit of the famous Mount slope and a very strong wind at their backs in the second half, the odds were always on a resurgence from the Gallant Youths and a 20-4 interval lead was

n't quite enough for the Thunder.

Gateshead boss Chris Hood was disappointed afterwards that they didn't snatch all three points, but Bulldogs coach Gary Thornton was equally left rueing some flapped goal attempts from George Flanagan.

DONCASTER have finally got their new board in place and although they got their first point of the season, couldn't turn it into a win against visitors LEIGH, going down 24-18.

Defences were very much on top in a scoreless first 23 minutes and although Leigh surged to a convincing interval lead, Doncaster fought back bravely.

Dons coach Tony Miller said: "I can't fault the lads for effort and defensively we were pretty good. But in the first half our completion rate was shocking; we only completed four sets and on six occasions we gave away possession on the very first tackle. It was always going to be difficult at 24-6 but we had a go at them."

Tough lesson for Skolars as Hawks soar at last

AFTER recording good exam results last term it seems the London Skolars class of 2009 may need to go into special measures after a nightmare visit to a HUNSLET side also struggling to make an impact.

Graeme Hallas's men shrugged their own shaky start off with a 71-0 towelling of the men from the capital.

Hallas said: "There are areas to work on, we were guilty in overplaying at times and I'm more satisfied with the zero stat next to the London score."

"After half time there was an element of backing off, a lack of professionalism at times but we stood firm, had pride in our line and I'm chuffed at that. If you are big and have pace then you will go far. We've worked very hard this week on a number of things and they came home to roost. We'll continue to work hard and come up with performances."

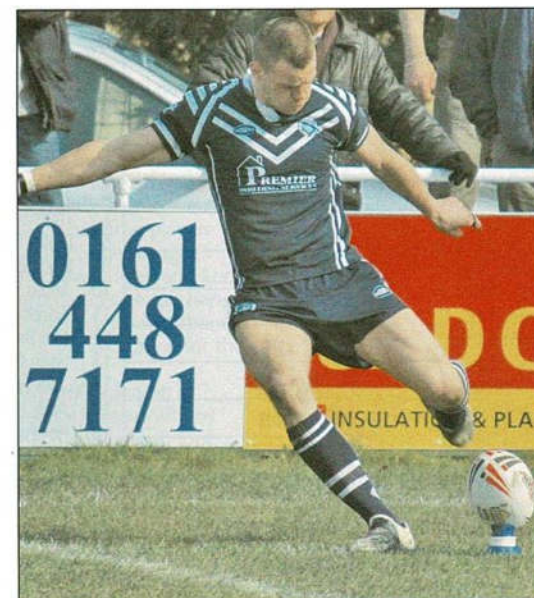
Distraught London coach Callum Irving said: "We're disappointed as a group of people because we are better than that. We'll watch the video and see the technical things we do. There was a lack of desire in certain places and if that's the case blokes won't be playing."

"I have a crop of U-18s available next week and I'll put in some players that want to play. I will always spend time with London players. If that means we get hammered every week, I'm happy to do that because we will get some long term benefit out of it."

"Shipping in Australians, then we are fine for a year and can kid ourselves things are going well but the sport is no better off for it."

Ayden Faal notched four tries and Darren 'Rocky' Robinson banged over 11 goals, plus a try and a mickey-taking drop goal.

And London weren't the only side on the wrong end of



Carl Sneyd added a try to his six goals for Swinton. PHOTO: PETER GREEN

a hiding with rampant OLDHAM beating WORKINGTON TOWN 66-14.

Andy Ballard and Tom Coyle had a hat-trick each with Ballard breaking a Roughyed points-scoring record set by Danny Halliwell just last season against – yes, you guessed it – Workington. Ballard ended with 30 points with nine goals to add to his try tally.

"There is still a lot of improvement in us," said Oldham coach Tony Benson. "But the good thing is that we were trying things. We scored 12 tries and bombed another four good chances, and that willingness and confidence to try things was good to see."

"We were much faster at play-the-ball than at Keighley and defensively we were much more effective at the ruck – and that was definitely the result of being able to do two full training sessions on grass for the first time."

Pity poor HORNETS RL



who came so close to putting a major dent in their -9 league points penalty before being denied right at the death by in-form DEWSBURY RAMS.

And it was a penalty from the boot of Rams loosey Patch Walker, one of six goals on the day, which broke the Hornets' heart in a 33-31 nail-biter.

The clubs swapped penalties and drop goals and the lead as the seconds ticked down only for the former Shaw Cross Sharks man to edge Warren Jowitt's men home after the final hooter had sounded.

It's now seven wins in a row for the rampant Rams though arguably it will be Hornets boss Darren Abrams who will be most encouraged by the performance of his team which is rapidly starting to take shape.

Better things – and results – look certain to come from the men at Spotland.

Following a hard time at the Rams the previous week, YORK CITY KNIGHTS chalked up a win, but in another nail-biter at home to plucky BLACKPOOL PANTHERS, 22-20.

York looked to be in reasonable control with a 14-4 half time lead but Martin Crompton's men are a different proposition these days and actually fought back to take the lead briefly around the hour mark.

It wasn't to be as David March put Wayne McHugh over for his second.

Gareth Langley had a difficult chance to tie the game for Panthers with a late conversion but it drifted wide. Knights director of rugby James Ratcliffe was happy with the win but still thinks there is plenty more to come from the Knights.

"We made some good yards but the options we took at the far end of the field left a lot to be desired," he said. "The completion rate wasn't high but we came away with the win."

If SWINTON LIONS were resting on their laurels after racing to a 26 point lead against KEIGHLEY COUGARS then coach Paul Kidd will no doubt be reminding them of how tough this division is this season.

It took a late try (which completed a second hat-trick in succession) from form centre Dave Hull to settle Swinton fans' nerves, after a rousing Cougars fightback.

Already 20-0 up after 13 minutes the Lions were coasting and added another six before Barry Eaton's men woke up and started eating into the lead, going in 26-10 down at the break.

They then came within a score of the lead before Hull settled matters late on, the Cougars at least settling for a bonus point that had looked well beyond them an hour before.



Barrow v Wigan



Sunday April 5th, 2009. Kick off 3pm. CRAVEN PARK

BARROW RAIDERS

WIGAN WARRIORS

SPONSOR

Advance Roofing Supplies
Johnston Recruitment
BAE Global Combat Systems
Premier Solutions
Furness Heating Components
Jimmy Redfern Associates
The Infield Hotel
Saunders Transport
The Marine Travel Company
Mike Sear
Estuary Electrical
E.P. Access
R.F. Miller Accountants
Shaun Anderson Osteopath
Abbey House Hotel
Larry Hunt, Cross Keys
Coniston Holidays
Jimmy Redfern Associates
Kevin Hodgson
Paul Turner (NWEM)
Larry Hunt, Cross Keys
Optec Fibres
BAE Global Combat Systems
SITA (UK) Ltd
E.P. Access
Jimmy Redfern Associates
S & M Leisure (kit)
Nigel and Alison Atkinson
Alastair McGregor

No. PLAYER

1 Gary Broadbent
2 Mike Backhouse
3 Ian Bell
4 Liam Harrison
5 James Nixon
6 Liam Finch
7 Liam Campbell
8 Brett McDermott
9 Andrew Ellis
10 Lee Dutton
11 Andrew Brocklehurst
12 Martin Ostler
13 Andrew Bracek
14 Paul Noone
15 Chris Young
16 Jamie Butler
17 Scott Kaighan
18 James Finch
19 Chris Larkin
20 Nicky Beach
21 Joe McKenna
22 Ned Catic
23 Waisale Suka
24 Alipate Tani
25 Sevania Koro
27 Darren Holt
28 Michael Darby
32 Ruairi McGoff
35 Matt Storey

No. TODAY'S TEAM No.

Full back
Right Wing
Right Centre
Left Centre
Left Wing
Stand off
Scrum half
Prop
Hooker
Prop
2nd row
2nd row
Loose forward
Interchange 1
2
3
4

SCORERS

Tries

Conv

Pens

DGs

No. PLAYER

1 Richard Mathers
2 Amos Roberts
3 Darrell Goulding
4 George Carmont
5 Pat Richards
6 Tim Smith
7 Thomas Leuluai
8 Stuart Fielden
9 Mark Riddell
10 Iafeta Paleaasina
11 Gareth Hock
12 Phil Bailey
13 Sean O'Loughlin
14 Joel Tomkins
15 Andy Coley
16 Harrison Hansen
17 Michael McIlorum
19 Paul Prescott
20 Karl Pryce
23 Eamon O'Carroll
24 Lee Mossop
25 Sam Tomkins
26 Mark Flanagan
27 Liam Farrell
28 Shaun Ainscough
29 Ben Davies
30 Chris Tuson
31 Ian Thornley

COACH: BRIAN NOBLE

COACH: DAVE CLARK

LAST SIX RESULTS: WWWWWL

LAST SIX HOME: W-WWWWL

TRIES: Andrew Ellis 6, James Nixon 6, Liam Harrison 5, Liam Campbell 5, Liam Finch 4, Mike Backhouse 4.

GOALS: Paul Noone 33.

DGs: -

MAN TO WATCH: Liam Campbell

MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee: J Leahy
Touch: C Sharrad, J Page
In-goal: R Jones, C Waywell

BENNETT'S BET

"Raiders will put up a brave fight
- Warriors by 14"

LAST SIX RESULTS: LWLWL

LAST SIX AWAY: WWLWLW

TRIES: Shaun Ainscough 6, Gareth Hock 3, Pat Richards 3, Phil Bailey 3, Thomas Leuluai

GOALS: Pat Richards 18,

Amos Roberts. DGs: -

MAN TO WATCH: Thomas Leuluai



CLUBCALL

Barrow v Wigan

A great response, but now for a huge test

Well, I called for a performance from the team last week and got one.

The only down side is that we managed to miss several scoring opportunities which meant we didn't pick up the win our display merited. It was just one of those days with balls being spilled that are normally caught and passes going astray.

Fair play to Halifax though for displaying a tremendous will to win right through to the final whistle, this was typified by a couple of times when we thought we had players clear only for last minute ankle taps to bring them down as they headed for the line.

The forwards put in a great display which bodes well for the rest of the season.

The near 2,000 crowd, although in the main disappointed with the result, will have been pleased with the effort put in and the quality of the game they witnessed. Today we face Wigan

Warriors in a cup tie that all the team are looking forward to.

It will be a test of their skills, abilities and, most importantly, attitude as they take on full-time players from the Super League.

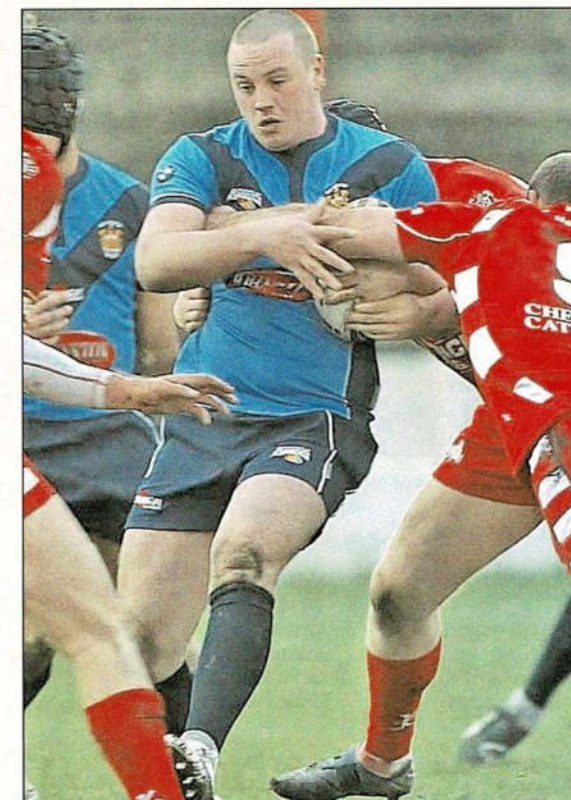
Andrew Bracek and Lee Dutton are none too happy that injury will keep them out of the reckoning for the game.

We still lack a bit of cover for some positions but will continue to look at who is available and judge whether they are of the calibre we want at Barrow.

For the cup tie we will have supporters in the ground who have not been for several years.

A quality performance from the Raiders will remind them of what they have been missing and hopefully have them turning up for the visit of Whitehaven on Good Friday.

Dave Clark
Coach



Lee Dutton ... unlucky to miss out today

Expecting biggest crowd for 25 years

The biggest sporting crowd in Barrow for over 25 years will be at Craven Park for the visit of Wigan.

A warm welcome is extended to the fans of the Cherry and Whites and though it may seem to them that they are 'stepping back in time' as they enter our traditional stadium we trust they will enjoy the day.

There are quite a number of local supporters of Wigan and other Super League clubs and with any luck they will be sufficiently impressed by the Raiders to come more often. Let us hope that the day lives up to all the expectations.

We have erected a stall inside the

By Vice-chairman
DAVID SEAR

ground selling flags, rosettes etc. specifically targeting the Carnegie Challenge Cup game. It was opened for the Halifax match last week and proved very popular which should mean plenty of blue and white on display this Sunday.

Comments have been made about the fact that we prefer to play our league home games on Saturday evenings. That is not always popular with the supporters of the away team and indeed some of our locals. The simple fact is

that we have trialed different kick-off times over the past couple of seasons and the evidence is that we have more folk through the turnstiles on a Saturday night.

We also sell more liquid refreshments which makes it even more profitable. When we hit the height of summer it gives people the chance to do the gardening or take the family out for the day but still be free in time to go to the rugby.

The shipyard with years of work in front of it, the dockland area in the process of being rejuvenated and the rugby on the up, it's a good time to be a proud Barrovian.



Batley v Hunslet



Sunday April 5, 2009. Kick off 2pm. MOUNT PLEASANT

BATLEY BULLDOGS

HUNSLET HAWKS

SPONSOR

Hopkins family
Mavis, Mac & Jack
Wayne & Pauline Aston
Fletcher family
Laurie & Andrew Grailey
Batley Rock & Roll
Batley Nash
Kev & Brian
The Benson family
Leyland Paints
Brian Hooley
George & Mary Gomersal
Study Centre

RSM Carriers
Benson family
Protec Security
Gary Tingle & Lorraine
Richardson

Norman Thewliss
George & Alan Wainwright
Kirsty, Gemma,
Nix, Laura & Karen
Stanningley U-14s & U-17s
Flanagan Transport

John Miller

Mary Hughes

No. PLAYER

1 Ian Preece
2 Ben Feehan
3 Dale Cardoza
4 Danny Maun
5 Johnny Campbell
6 Mark Barlow
7 Paul Mennell
8 Byron Smith
9 Kris Lythe
10 Luke Stenclion
11 Kevin Crouthers
12 Mark Toohey
13 Ash Lindsay
14 John Gallagher
15 Anthony Henderson
16 Jon Simpson
17 Craig Potter
18 Jermaine McGilvary
19 George Flanagan
20 Dave Tootill
21 Nathan Armitage
22 Nat Browne
23 Chris Buttery
24 James Archibald
26 Jamie Aitcheson
27 Darryl Cardiss
28 Danny Samuels
29 Jack Watson
Glen Reid

COACH: GARY THORNTON

Sponsored by Thorntons

LAST SIX RESULTS: WLWLWD

LAST SIX HOME: LL-LWL

TRIES: Darryl Cardiss 4, Jon Simpson 4, George Flanagan 4, Jermaine McGilvary 4, Chris Buttery 3, Ian Preece 3.

GOALS: George Flanagan 17. DGs: -
MAN TO WATCH: George Flanagan

No. TODAY'S TEAM No.

Full back

Right Wing

Right Centre

Left Centre

Left Wing

Stand off

Scrum half

Prop

Hooker

Prop

2nd row

2nd row

Loose-forward

Interchange 1

2

3

4

SCORERS

Tries

Conv

Pens

DGs

No. PLAYER

1 Nathan Larvin Elliot and Ewan Boiston Green
2 Scott Childs
3 Tom Sheldrake
4 Michael Brown
5 John Richardson
6 Darren Robinson Gary Martin-Selby Road Tyres
7 Stuart Young Adie & Ron Jinks
8 Joe Helme Paul Gray
9 Richard Chapman Kenny Sykes
10 Ben Lawton Phil Ogg
11 Joe Howey South Leeds & Hunslet Cars
12 Jason Hart Eric Simon
13 Mark McKinley Dennis/Hannah Butterfield
14 Chris Redfeam
15 Andy Robinson
16 Mark Moxon Bob Tate
17 Steve Brook
18 Ayden Faal Geoff Gray
19 Ben Walkin
20 Antony Thewliss
21 Dan Cook
22 Scott Watson
23 Jonny Wainhouse
24 Charlie Wabo Margaret Gibson
25 Michael Mark Phil Ogg
26 Nico Stain Paul Gray
27 Gareth Firm
Tony Williams

SPONSOR

COACH: GRAEME HALLAS

LAST SIX RESULTS: LLLWLW

LAST SIX AWAY: LL-LWL

TRIES: Ayden Faal 5, Tony Williams 3, Steve Brook 3.

GOALS: Darren Robinson 11, Richard Chapman 2.

DGs: Richard Chapman

MAN TO WATCH: Darren Robinson

MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee: D Merrick

Touch: C Leatherbarrow, S Barrie

In-goal: M Hawkes, C Dean

BENNETT'S BET

"Hawks to give the Bulldogs an uneasy afternoon - Batley by 6"



KERRINTERIORS

from Concept to Completion



CLUBCALL

Batley v Hunslet

Lots of highlights but the Cup is the tops

The Carnegie Challenge Cup Final has undoubtedly been the highlight of my presidential year, followed by the President's Ball and after that there have been wonderful occasions too numerous to mention.

No matter that audiences have fallen, the magic of the Challenge Cup still remains for me and many others. It might not be ourselves or Hunslet at Wembley this year but we both want to progress as far as we can, firstly in the hope of a financially lucrative draw and secondly, in the hope of drawing a big club with a great atmosphere at the game and maybe spring some form of surprise.

Such occasions give a massive boost to everyone at the clubs involved.

Today we may have Scott Childs, Darren Robinson, Andrew Robinson and Anthony Thewliss in the Hunslet ranks, being our ex-players they are all most welcome at the club, as indeed is everyone from Hunslet, including of course Stephen Ball, who was at our Gateshead game to celebrate with Ron. The night was one to remember for Ron and Nellie Earnshaw, as they celebrated the

By Kevin Nicholas Batley chairman

club making Ron Honorary President and naming the Nine'oyle Terrace after him. He was proud and delighted, as indeed he should be, as the honours were well-deserved. At last we also put up our new sign to mark the Roy Powell Terrace and his family were there to see it, which was tremendous.

The Gateshead match was one to remember due to the eventual draw, which to some extent we should be content with but in other respects, we should have won.

Errors and too many of them cost us the game but we reversed our previous pattern by not allowing the opposition to score a point in the second half.

I thought our defence, especially of the high ball, was superb. Our own kicking clearly needs to improve but I am sure we will work at that. Hunslet also go into today's game upbeat on the back of a 71-0 win which cannot be bad and now makes today's game a tough cup tie.

Lesley O'Callaghan our new commercial

person, has organised a night with Billy Thompson the ex-referee (and very funny man) at the club on 15 April with tickets priced £10 including supper so please support this event. Let's socialise together and make a few quid for the club - I can assure you we need it!

Anyone notice all the advertising boards round the ground for the televised game? This is a new lucrative deal for Sky games. This was the first time this has been done and if we get another televised game, it is likely to be repeated - but we need to make provision for our own perimeter board advertisers and so we will look to do that.

Myself and Iro met the main man involved in this and also Chris Woods, a friend of the club who used to be at Red Hall, has become involved and we are in discussions to try to obtain a major sponsor.

The Facilities Trust, who we hoped would assist us build a function suite, seems to be a slower process than we had hoped for but we are plugging away and are determined it will happen. As soon as there is significant progress, I will let you know.

Enjoy the game.

Good start but tough test now

We are going into today's game on the back of some decent form and have some confidence about us now.

I was really pleased to get our first Championship points on the board away at Leigh - it was a terrific performance and a great win. I was hoping to back it up with a win against Gateshead last Thursday, but we had to settle for a draw and I felt it was a point lost as opposed to two gained. Although Gateshead provided stiff opposition I thought our second half performance deserved a win. However, if you'd asked me if I'd be happy with 5 points from the opening 3 games at the start of the season I would have said yes.

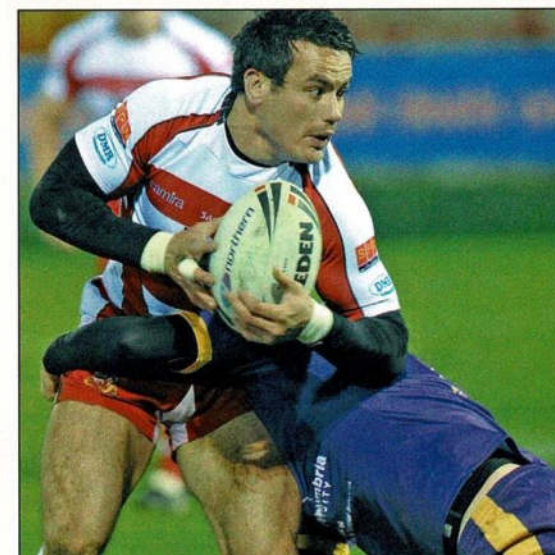
I think it's fair to say our upturn in form has been mirrored by the return of some key players. Jonny Campbell and Jermaine McGilvary have

been outstanding in both these games, and our left hand side of Mennell, Crouthers and Maun were really good against Leigh.

It's still a very frustrating time though as we seem to get a couple of players back from injury, and then lose a couple more each week. As I write this I am still unsure whether Byron Smith, Kev Crouthers or Darryl Cardiss will be fit to play today.

We have not been able to pick from full strength all season, so I am hoping our luck changes very soon.

Today is the Challenge Cup again, and this will be a very tough test against a much improved Hunslet side. Graeme Hallas has signed very well, including 3 World Cup players from PNG. They will also feature a couple of ex Bulldogs in Darren Robinson, Scott Childs and Steve Brooke, and players returning



Eyes wide open ... Danny Maun looks to break the Thunder line

to their former clubs always try and impress. Together with the vastly experienced ex-Rams player Richard Chapman - a player I regard very highly who has always caused us problems in the past, and Steve Dooler from Fev, they are certainly going to provide good opposition today. And of course they have Stephen Ball at the helm

- another with an excellent history at the Bulldogs in his time as Chairman - a very well respected man in Rugby League who has helped guide the club onto a firmer footing.

Here's hoping we have a good afternoon's rugby and we are in the hat for the next round of the Cup.

Gary Thornton



Dons v Gateshead



Sunday April 5th, 2009. Kick off 3pm. KEEPMOAT STADIUM

DONCASTER

SPONSOR	No. PLAYER
	1 -
Green Energy Solutions	2 Dean Colton
Geffery Broadhead	3 Andreas Bauer
Pipers Car Sales	4 Shaun Leaf
DISC (Dons Supporters)	5 Wayne Reittie
Active Workwear	6 Kyle Briggs
Needhams Bikes	7 Paul Handforth
APS Toolhire	8 Michael Haley
Praetorian Elite Ltd	9 Craig Cook
Jane Speakman	10 Alex Benson
Everlast Waterproofing	11 Peter Green
Everlast Waterproofing	12 Craig Lawton
Andy Booker	13 Josh Weeden
Martins Famous Fish Market	14 Scott Jones
	15 Mark Castle
	16 Nathan Freer
DISC (Dons Supporters)	17 Ross Divorty
RTN Motor Spares	18 Craig Holt
	19 Ryan Steen
Jill Scarrow	20 Michael Coady
	21 Garry Ellery
	22 Andy Speake
Sue Walford	23 Scott Smith
	24 Jake Bassinder
	25 Kevin Eadie
	26 Gareth Carey
	27 Albert Rounding
	28 Jamie Bovill
	29 Matthew Corbett
	30 Luke May

COACH: TONY MILLER

Sponsored by Custom Property Developments

LAST SIX RESULTS: WWWLL
LAST SIX HOME: WW-LWWL
TRIES: Michael Coady 4,
Craig Cook 3
GOALS: Kyle Briggs 11,
Andy Speake 7
DGs: -
MAN TO WATCH: Albert Rounding

GATESHEAD THUNDER

No.	TODAY'S TEAM	No.	PLAYER	SPONSOR
	Full back		1 Ben McAlpine	
	Right Wing		2 Danny Wilson	
	Right Centre		3 Kevin Neighbour	Accent Magazine & North East Times Lady Cross Quarries
	Left Centre		4 Dylan Nash	
	Left Wing		5 Stewart Sanderson	The Wheatsheaf Pub James & Matthew Wells
	Stand off		6 Neil Thorman	
	Scrum half		7 Luke Branighan	
	Prop		8 Jason Payne	Brack Office Solutions Rob & Jackie Gardner
	Hooker		9 Andrew Henderson	
	Prop		10 Tabua Cakacaka	
	2nd row		11 -	PCL Travel
	2nd row		12 Michael Knowles	
	Loose forward		13 -	
	Interchange 1		14 Ryan Clarke	
	2		15 Matt Barron	The Schooner Inn
	3		16 Puna Rasaubale	
	4		17 Chris Parker	
			18 Robin Peers	
			19 -	
			20 Dave Vernon	O'Brien Sandwiches Team Valley
			21 Ryan McBride	
			22 Jamie Russo	
			23 Jonny Scott	
			24 -	
			25 -	
			26 Crawford Matthews	Dean Taxis 0191 444 4 444
			27 Scott Woods	
			28 Mark Dack	CLA Risk Solutions
			29 Rhys Clarke	
			30 Stephen Welton	

SCORERS

TRIES
Conv
Pens
DGs

COACH: CHRIS HOOD

LAST SIX RESULTS: LWWLL
LAST SIX AWAY: WW-LLL
TRIES: Stewart Sanderson 9, Luke
Branighan 6, Dylan Nash 6, Joe
Arundel 4, Kevin Neighbour 4
GOALS: Michael Knowles 19,
Luke Branighan 8. DGs: -
MAN TO WATCH: Dylan Nash

MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee: C Halloran
Touch: S Moss, J Downham
 In-goal: S Matthews, J Greenwood

BENNETT'S BET

"Thunder to strike at the Keepmoat
 - Gateshead by 4"



CLUBCALL

Doncaster v Gateshead

A gripping contest is in prospect

A warm welcome to our visitors Gateshead Thunder and all their travelling supporters.

Last year's games against Thunder were always enthralling and I'm pretty sure today's game won't be any different, although I am hoping to come away with the result.

It was fantastic news midweek about the consortium finally coming into the club.

It will definitely bring long term stability to the club and will be a great opportunity for the club to move forward.

Like every club the long term goal is a Super League franchise, which is where the target has to be, so in completing the

Super League application it will definitely ensure that we have a strong club.

As for today's game, it is of great benefit if we are to progress to the next round as most teams know drawing a Super League club in the fifth round has its financial benefits.

But also it gives our fans a great day out at the rugby with a more lively, energetic atmosphere.

Ladies Day last week proved to be a great success with the 150 ladies in attendance having a fantastic day out.

The highlight for all of the women that day was the 'charity strip' in which first team players Andreas Bauer and Luke May auctioned their playing kits right off

their backs - it definitely generated extra revenue on the night and left all the ladies smiling on their way home!

With the success of Ladies Day it sets the platform for our upcoming events of Golf Day, European Day and Family Day.

On a final note I would like to welcome Mark Turner into the Dons Staff. He is a great asset to our team that works tirelessly behind the scenes and we look forward to working with him through the year.

All the best. Come on you Dons.

Dave Marshall
CEO

We can't afford same mistakes

A warm welcome to Gateshead Thunder for today's Carnegie Challenge Cup match.

Gateshead are a quality outfit who always provided us with tough encounters each time we met head to head last year. They have improved on their squad from last year and will be buoyant after their draw away to Batley last week.

Both teams will be enthusiastically looking to advance to the next round of this prestigious Cup and hopefully gain the chance to play against a Super League side.

I was disappointed that we did not manage to come away with a result last week-end against Leigh and feel that it was definitely three competition points that we let slip through our grasp.

These early games are always crucial when gaining points as it is always hard to judge how any team will fair towards the final stages of the

season with injuries, so grabbing wins early on is important.

However, I thought the team showed better quality football in the second half and if it wasn't for the rub of the green on a few occasions the scoreline would have favoured us. But that's rugby league and although we lost we still managed to gain a bonus point from the day, which is better than nothing.

Matt Carbutt had an excellent game for us on debut. He looked strong on both attack and defence as well as grabbing himself a robust try in the first half.

Gaz Carey also fared well considering it was his first professional game having risen from Doncaster's strong amateur rugby league competition. He definitely has a lot of pace and looks a promising prospect.

We can only look now and focus on the task before us which is Gateshead Thunder.



Matt Carbutt impressed first time out in Dons colours last week

The boys are scathing in knowing that last week's game slipped away from them so I'm sure will be more than ready for the Gateshead encounter.

As long as we do the little things right for the longest periods of time it will relieve some

of the pressure we have been putting on ourselves.

Hope you all enjoy the match.

Tony Miller
Head Coach



Featherstone v Wath Brow



Sunday April 5th, 2009. Kick off 2pm. THE CHRIS MOYLES STADIUM

FEATHERSTONE ROVERS

WATH BROW HORNETS

SPONSOR

Peter Smith Motorcycles
Bev Coleman
Patrick & Gemma McNeil
The Buccaneers Club
Mark Hutchinson
Maureen Tennant-King
& Emily Harris
Shindigz
Terry King
Charlie Robinson &
Lynne Whitehouse
Vic & Sue Johnson
Doug & Barbara Wilford
Blue Lagoon Bar
Susan Parker
Blue Lagoon Bar
Study Rovers
Gary Crompton
Howard Lawton
John Lycett
Peter Smith Motorcycles
Rovers Scholarship
Hollie Bennett
Charlie Watson
Capro Contracts
Chelsey, Charlie & Megan Large

No. PLAYER

1 Tom Saxton
2 Waine Price
3 Ian Hardman
4 Andy Kirk
5 Jon Steel
6 Iestyn Harris
7 Andy Kain
8 Tony Tonks
9 Jack Lee
10 Stuart Dickens
11 Matt Dale
12 Jamie Field
13 Richard Blakeway
14 Tommy Haughey
15 James Houston
16 Joe McLocklan
17 Joe Hirst
18 Tim Spears
19 Sean Hesketh
20 Stuart Kain
21 Steve Dooler
22 Matt Handforth
23 Gareth Swift
24 John Fallon
25 Scott Wilson

Lorne Mosley

MASCOT Bluebeard

No.	TODAY'S TEAM	No.
	Full back	
	Right Wing	
	Right Centre	
	Left Centre	
	Left Wing	
	Stand off	
	Scrum half	
	Prop	
	Hooker	
	Prop	
	2nd row	
	2nd row	
	Loose forward	
	Interchange 1	
	2	
	3	
	4	

SCORERS

Tries
Conv
Pens
DGs

SQUAD

Ryan Amor
Mark Cox
Glen Riley
Phil Coyles
David Currie
Craig Johnston
Jamie Devine
Michael Maxwell
Francis King
Gary Elliot
Andrew Hocking
Michael McAllister
James Toman
Kevin Thompson
Dave Pettitt
Scott Teare
Karl Olstrom
Ryan Robb
David Byers
Martin Thompson

COACHES: IAN ROONEY & IAN RUDD

MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee: G Dolan
Touch: J Roberts, B Robinson
In-goal: M Hague, A Sweet

BENNETT'S BET

"Rovers will do professional job on the amateurs - Featherstone by 32"

LAST SIX RESULTS: DWLWW

LAST SIX AWAY: WLWWLW

LAST RESULT:

Wath Brow 28 Stanningley 8

LEAGUE POSITION:

2nd in NCL Div 1 (promoted)

MEN TO WATCH: Scott Teare, Ryan

Robb, Kyle Amor

COACH: DARYL POWELL

LAST SIX RESULTS: WLWWLW

LAST SIX HOME: LL-WLWL

TRIES: Andy Kain 7, Waine Price 5,
Sam Smeaton 4, Tommy Haughey 4,
Ian Hardman 4.

GOALS: Stuart Dickens 18,

Iestyn Harris 14. DGs: -

MAN TO WATCH: Waine Price



CLUBCALL

Featherstone v Wath Brow

We know what giant killing is all about!

STEVE EVANS
Chairman

The beauty of the Cup is that it throws up some fantastic matches and today we welcome everyone connected with Wath Brow Hornets, who come here to The Chris Moyles Stadium seeking another Co-operative club scalp and extending their fairytale Cup run.

Throughout our recent past, Featherstone Rovers were always a team that were labelled the giant killers, and winning the Challenge Cup in three successive decades is testimony to that fact. Today the boot is on the other foot and we are hot favourites to go through to the next round of the draw.

In the last round we played The Army and the boys tackled that task in a very

professional manner.

Today we have to do the same, as the Hornets will be looking to dump us out of the cup as they did to the London Skolars last time round.

I know that the Brow players will give everything. They are a proud Cumbrian team and hopefully they will be cheered on by a large travelling contingent.

As you will be aware, we have reduced

gate prices today to try and generate a big crowd and give the match a great atmosphere.

This tactic certainly worked before and drew a crowd of over 1,700 to watch us beat The Army. I hope we beat that number today.

Finally, let's respect both teams and both sets of fans. Good natured banter is part of the 'craic' at rugby matches.

What is not acceptable is the violence of the type that flared up at the Doncaster versus Queens game in the last round of the Cup.

Rugby League is a family game and so let's celebrate that fact and roar on the boys on the pitch this afternoon.

Wrestling with League's problems - Cumbria style

There is a strong Cumbrian influence in the Co-operative Championships and today we host Wath Brow from Cumbria in the Carnegie Challenge Cup.

Most teams would have wanted this tie for themselves, as with an amateur club the perception is that you are guaranteed a trip into the next round.

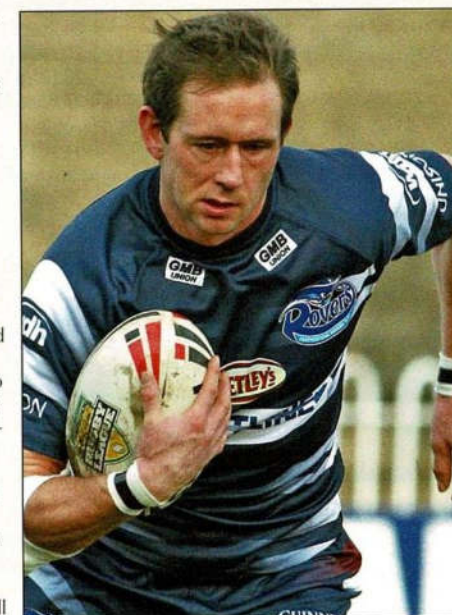
However there is no doubt any sense of softness in a team's approach to a game of rugby league is inviting the opposition to give you huge problems. I thought we handled ourselves very well in the game against the Army and we will need to be as professional today to reach the next round and the possibility of testing ourselves at the higher levels of the game.

With that in mind Wath Brow will get our total respect and we will approach the game as any other - as I said before our game against Whitehaven, there is no soft game against a Cumbrian team and this will be no exception.

It was disappointing not to have a game last week to right the wrongs of our performance against Whitehaven, there is no doubt we know where our standards should be and were all frustrated with our performance last time out.

You are always looking for positive reactions from your players when you don't perform as you would want and I am confident of that today.

We should have a trio of long and medium term injured play-



Jon Steel - back in contention

ers available for selection this week, Jon Steel, Stuart Kain and Andy Kirk have all been out recently and give us depth in the backline where we have been short over the last month.

I am looking for our competition for places to drive our performances over what will be a tough month for all teams with the Easter games putting pressure on all clubs' playing resources.

There is a fair debate raging in rugby league at the moment regarding the use of wrestle techniques in teams' defensive performances. Keiron Cunningham, Brian Noble and Terry Matterson have been just a few to voice concerns regarding different teams' use of tactics to prevent speed in the opposition's play.

During my time at Leeds we had a conditioner in Edgar Curtis who was a practicing wrestler. He worked with us on our tackle technique to make us more effective in terms of finishing our tackles.

The fact remains that coaches will: a) Try and speed the play when you have the ball, and; b) Try and slow the play when you don't.

It is basic common sense and the RFL must be clear what is and what is not acceptable, then we all know and coaches can get on with coaching within the boundaries laid down.

Today is one of those games that make the Challenge Cup special. I hope all at the game have a great day.

Coach Daryl Powell



Halifax v Widnes



Friday April 3rd, 2009. Kick off 8pm. THE SHAY STADIUM

HALIFAX RLFC

WIDNES VIKINGS

SPONSOR	No. PLAYER
	1 Miles Greenwood
	2 Lee Paterson
Vision Express Halifax Ltd	3 Jon Goddard
Chadwick Lawrence	4 Shad Royston
Chadwick Lawrence	5 James Haley
	6 Dwayne Barker
Roger & Sue Harvey	7 Ben Black
	8 Matt James
Riley & Co Accountants	9 Sean Penkywicz
Matthew Walker	10 Dana Wilson
Windsor Yarns	11 Dave Larder
	12 Paul Smith
Complete Building Materials	13 Bob Beswick
	14 Mark Gleeson
	15 Mark Roberts
Complete Building Materials	16 Said Tamghart
	17 Frank Watene
	18 Andy Bowman
	19 Mick Govin
Chadwick Lawrence	20 Graham Charlesworth
	21 Neil Cherryholme
	22 David Wrench
Howard Posner	23 Rob Worrincy
	24 Gareth Moore

No.	TODAY'S TEAM	No.
	Full back	
	Right Wing	
	Right Centre	
	Left Centre	
	Left Wing	
	Stand off	
	Scrum half	
	Prop	
	Hooker	
	Prop	
	2nd row	
	2nd row	
	Loose forward	
	Interchange 1	
	2	
	3	
	4	

SCORERS

Tries

Conv

Pens

DGs

COACH: MATT CALLAND

LAST SIX RESULTS: WWWWWW

LAST SIX HOME: WL-WWWW

TRIES: Said Tamghart 6, Sean Penkywicz 6, Miles Greenwood 6, Ben Black 5

GOALS: Mick Govin 16, Ben Black 12, James Haley 10. DGs: -

MAN TO WATCH: Ben Black

MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee: R Silverwood

Touch: C Halloran, P Ward

In-goal: L Todd, G Evans

BENNETT'S BET

"Home advantage could sway it at The Shay - Halifax by 2"

No. PLAYER	SPONSOR
1 Loz Wildbore	John Mather & his many sons!
2 Dean Gaskell	Barbara Spence
3 Richard Varkulis	Widnes Supporters Club
4 Toa Kohe Love	Widnes Supporters Club
5 Danny Mills	Kath Filkin
6 Anthony Thackeray	VIQI
7 James Webster	VIQI
8 Iain Morrison	Museum Visitors
9 Mark Smith	R J Lewis
10 Jim Gannon	Widnes World
11 Lee Doran	Swavesey Newsagents, Cambridge
12 Richard Fletcher	Widnes Supporters Club
13 Lee Paterson	Robert Johnson
14 John Duffy	James Owen
15 Tim Hartley	Marcus Booth
16 Gavin Dodd	The Dennett Family
17 Ben Kavanagh	Ann & Andy Lee 2.5.09
18 Matt Strong	Fraser Family
19 Michael Ostick	Halton Borough Council
20 Sam Thompson	Leam Fox
21 Scott Yates	SDP Landscapes
22 Paddy Flynn	Reg & Lesley Warner
23 Shane Grady	West Bank Bears ARLFC
24 Josh Simm	Riverside College Sports Dept.
25 Anthony Mullally	Mullally's Barbers
26 Steve Bannister	North West Contracts
27 Brett Robinson	SDP Landscapes

COACH: PAUL CULLEN

(sponsored by CMS Intelligent Banking)

LAST SIX RESULTS: WLWWLW

LAST SIX AWAY: WWL-WLL

TRIES: Paddy Flynn 8, Mark Smith 5, Jim Gannon 4, Loz Wildbore 4.

GOALS: Scott Yates 24, Tim Hartley 14.

DGs: -

MAN TO WATCH: Paddy Flynn

Courier
THE VOICE OF CALDERDALE

LINK TELECOM Communicate with us
linktelecom.co.uk

COMPLETE
building materials Ltd

**BACKING
THE FAX!**



KooGa
MADE FOR RUGBY



HALIFAX
HOME INSURANCE

CLUBCALL

Halifax RLFC v Widnes Vikings

Cup magic should bring out the best

Good evening everyone. I'd like to welcome the players, staff and coaches of Widnes to the Shay for tonight's fourth round Carnegie Challenge Cup game. The Challenge Cup is such a special competition and I am sure that both sides will be keen to go as far as they can in it.

If tonight's game is anything like the Championship match between us a couple of weeks ago, it should be a great occasion.

That night Widnes showed what a good side they are, putting us under tremendous pressure, but I was really pleased with the way we responded to the challenge.

I am sure that was the first of many tremendous battles between us this season.

Talking of battles, I was very happy to come away from last weekend's Co-operative Championship game at Barrow with three league points.

They have certainly improved massively since we played them in the Northern Rail Cup and if they continue to play like they did last week

then Craven Park is going to be an extremely difficult place for teams to go and win.

As I said in the Press after the game, I was very disappointed with several aspects of our performance.

We had four or five individuals who fell below the standards they have set themselves this year, and they were lucky that their teammates were able to pull them through on the day.

We will be looking for a big improvement in certain areas tonight.

On the plus side, we showed real mental toughness to come out and win the game in the second half after being 16-8 down at the break.

We looked a different team after half time and, on another day, would have run away with it.

That kind of attitude should give us a good platform for the rest of the year.

Enjoy the game.

Matt Calland



Sock it to 'em ... Fax will be hoping for fireworks from their bare-legged top tryscorer Said Tamghart

Memories are made of this special cup

The two weeks since Halifax and Widnes Vikings last met have been momentous.

On the field we have seen the tragic death of Leon Walker. These notes give me the first opportunity to place on record the sympathy which all at the Halifax club feel for his family, his friends and Wakefield Trinity Wildcats.

Last Saturday evening Halifax (at Barrow Raiders) and Widnes Vikings (at home to Sheffield Eagles) were engaged in matches as closely fought and exciting as the one they put on at The Shay, for the Sky Sports Cameras, on the 19th March.

That match was a thrilling advertisement for the game of Rugby League at Championship level.

Halifax chairman
MICHAEL STEELE

We confidently expect a bumper crowd for the re-match in the Carnegie Challenge Cup. It will be nice to see the Shay North Stand open, and hopefully well filled by Widnes Supporters.

With five all-Super League clashes, and this match involving the bookies' favourites for the Co-operative Championship, the winner has every hope of a winnable 5th round tie.

No doubt supporters of both teams are remembering past glories in this wonderful competition.

My memory is of a semi-final win over Widnes by Chris Anderson's side on its way to victory at Wembley in 1987.

I imagine many from Widnes will have memories of Wembley wins, some involving the same player!

Carnegie's sponsorship of the Challenge Cup and the related competitions is a massive boost to the game of Rugby League.

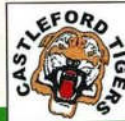
We welcome their representatives, Steve O'Connor and his colleagues from Widnes and all their officials, players and supporters to the Shay.

Home supporters are reminded that there is a vital league match with Batley Bulldogs next Thursday. Before the next round of the Cup, the Co-operative Championship will have taken shape. With your support, Halifax can be close to the top.

Enjoy the game.



Keighley v Castleford



Sunday April 5th, 2009. Kick off 3pm. COUGAR PARK

KEIGHLEY COUGARS

CASTLEFORD TIGERS

SPONSOR

Frank Atkins
Dolphin Stairlifts
The Clarksons
Mr & Mrs Glover
J&M Fisher
Joyce Barret Hairdressers
Phoenix Trophies
Mr & Mrs Phillips
D & M Procter
Swaggs Hair Studio
Mr & Mrs Rothera
Phil Lund Motor Engineers
Mr & Mrs Rothera
Oddities Giftware
Mr & Mrs Bardgett
Cougar Pride Centre
J&M Fisher
M Croft & T Pycroft
R Weir Property
Maintenance
Rex Procter & Partners
Frank Atkins
Emily & Flynn Walker

Mike Aitchison

Fresh Radio
Cougar Cubs

The Cox family

No. PLAYER
1 George Raynor
2 Sam Gardner
3 Dan Potter
4 Oliver Pursglove
5 Gavin Duffy
6 Jon Presley
7 Danny Jones
8 Andy Shickell
9 James Feather
10 Simon Bissell
11 Will Cartledge
12 Neil Lowe
13 Carl Hughes
14 Jermaine Wray
15 Craig Brown
16 Brendon Rawlins
17 Scott Law
18 Greg Nicholson
19 Craig Fawcett

20 Daley Williams
21 Ryan Smith
22 Lee Mapals
23 James Hutchinson
24 Luke Sutcliffe
25 Wayne Sutcliffe
Non-numbered:
Dan Belcher,
James Haythornthwaite
Tim Bibby,
Tom Hall
Ben Saga
Jack Copperwaite
Karl Gunney

COACH: BARRY EATON
(sponsored by the Cox family)

LAST SIX RESULTS: LWLWWL
LAST SIX HOME: WW-WWWW
TRIES: Jon Presley 12, Gavin Duffy 3,
seven other players on
two tries each.
GOALS: Danny Jones 26
DGs: Danny Jones
MAN TO WATCH: Jon Presley

No.	TODAY'S TEAM	No.
	Full back	
	Right Wing	
	Right Centre	
	Left Centre	
	Left Wing	
	Stand off	
	Scrum half	
	Prop	
	Hooker	
	Prop	
	2nd row	
	2nd row	
	Loose forward	
	Interchange 1	
	2	
	3	
	4	
	SCORERS	
	Tries	
	Conv	
	Pens	
	DGs	

No. PLAYER
1 Richard Owen
2 Kirk Dixon
3 Michael Shenton,
4 James Evans
5 Michael Wainwright
6 Rangi Chase
7 Brent Sherwin
8 Mitchell Sargent
9 Ryan Hudson
10 Craig Huby
11 Brett Ferres
12 Ryan Clayton
13 Joe Westerman
14 Stuart Jones
15 Liam Higgins
16 Chris Feather
17 Ryan Boyle
18 Nathan Massey
19 Kirk Netherton
20 James Ford
21 Stone Faumuina
23 Ryan McGoldrick
25 Dean Widders
26 Joe Arundel
27 Jamie Cording
28 John Davies
29 Ben Gledhill
30 Jordan Thompson
31 Jonathan Walker

COACH: TERRY MATTERSON

LAST SIX RESULTS: WWWLWW
LAST SIX AWAY: WWL-WWW
TRIES: Kirk Dixon 5, Richard Owen 4,
Brett Ferres 4, Michael Shenton 4,
James Evans 4
GOALS: Kirk Dixon 23
DGs: Brent Sherwin
MAN TO WATCH: Kirk Dixon

MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee: M Thomason
Touch: J Cobb, P Meadows
In-goal: G Hodgson, M Beadle

BENNETT'S BET

"In-form Tigers will be too good for plucky
Cougars - Castleford by 36"



CLUBCALL

Keighley v Castleford

A big stage for us to showcase our club



It is very pleasing to welcome Super League club Castleford to Keighley for today's Challenge Cup tie.

It should be the biggest attendance we have had during my time here and it is an occasion that we are all looking forward to immensely.

We have played the Bulls in recent times in pre-season friendlies but today certainly has a different feel about it being a Cup game with progression, pride and bringing some feelgood factor to the town of Keighley.

Games against this kind of opposition don't come around too often so we will try to enjoy the build up and the atmosphere and hopefully the game as much as possible.

After a great start to the league two weeks ago we let the club, the fans and ourselves down with last week's first 25 minutes at Swinton and though we showed great spirit to get back into the game, we just fell short. But at least we came away with a bonus point which didn't look achievable after that first 25 minutes.

It just goes to show what I have been saying, that this league we are in is the most competitive league in the professional game in my opinion, so no team

can afford to turn up without the right mental attitude every week or you will end up on the losing side.

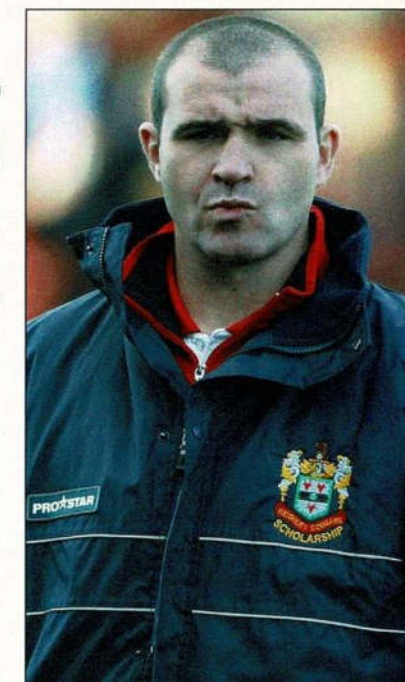
Finally, it is a bit frustrating as a coach that we have a very rigorous start to the league with this cup tie followed by our Good Friday and Bank Holiday Monday games, only to have a weekend off following the game versus Hunslet.

If it was exactly the same for everyone then I could accept it without having a grievance, but then only recently we see that Oldham have changed their Easter fixture against Dewsbury to the weekend off - giving them nine days recovery between league fixtures over the Easter period.

Meanwhile we have to back up following today's Cup game with a match on Good Friday then back up on the Monday - it seems like an uneven playing field.

It would have been interesting to see what the powers-that-be would have done if every team decided to change their Bank Holiday Monday fixture to the following weekend where we have no fixtures!

Enjoy today,
Baz



Coach Eaton - not happy at fixtures

Campbell visit was good for club profile

HELEN CARTER
General manager

GOOD afternoon and welcome to Cougar Park for this afternoon's Carnegie Challenge Cup tie. I would like to welcome all of Castleford's players, directors, and fans to Cougar Park for this Battle of the Big Cats.

We found ourselves mentioned in such high-flying places as The Guardian when we were visited by one of Keighley's most famous sons, Alastair Campbell, for the opening Championship One game against Oldham. We had noticed that Campbell, the one-time official spokesman of Prime Minister Tony Blair, had written on his blog that when he was a schoolboy in the town - his father was once a vet who practised in Keighley - he'd nurtured ambitions to play for the club.

So our Media Manager John Huxley swept into action and issued an invitation for Campbell, who is a much sought after speaker and profile consultant, to come to a Cougars home game.

"We were delighted when Alastair was able to join us for the Oldham game," said

John, the former Sunday Mirror RL columnist and RFL Media Manager. On the day he drove up from London and came to the game accompanied by his son Callum and he gave his trip some extra direction by using it as a source for a future article he is writing in The Times.

"We gave Alastair a full trip around Cougar Park and our head coach Barry Eaton even allowed him to be in the Cougars dressing room as he gave his team talk before the players went out. He seemed to enjoy his day at the club and the boys gave him something to remember by beating Oldham," added John.

One of the things that Alastair Campbell saw during his visit was the result of the 'Cougar Park Apprentice'. A group of schoolchildren from Keighley had been studying a Media and Marketing module at the club's Cougar Pride class-

room and they had a display of their work and the products they'd devised at the Family Fun Day which was staged before the Oldham game.

Campbell talked to the children who had taken part as well as meeting Liz Kidman and Rachel Pressley, the Cougar Pride staff who had guided them through the six-week process. He was certainly impressed with their efforts.

The new bottle bar is going well and hopefully it will be re-named by the next game, but we will also be having someone around the ground selling the bottles so if you can't get over to the bar or complex don't panic - someone will be coming round with some refreshments!

I am also thrilled that Peter's Pies have been selling really well and hopefully I have ordered enough for you all today. Again, the guys will be out selling the pies so look out for them coming round the terraces. I think that's it for now but I hope you all enjoy your day with us at Cougar Park and have a safe trip home.



Oldham v Lezignan



Sunday April 5th 2009. Kick off 2pm. BOUNDARY PARK

OLDHAM RLFC

FC LEZIGNAN-CORBIERES

SPONSOR

Sporting Image 07894 122315
Premier Signs UK 01706 649267
Totalplus Communications
Totalplus Comms 0161 3438181
Tech Doors 0161 6265049
Office Supplies Now 0845 8333001
Nigel Marland
John Barrett

Rudy Wilkes and Bev Mayall
Greentree (Oldham) Ltd
Mack Video Services
John and Lynda McAndrew

Clayton Green Brewers Fayre
Karen & Paul Gough

Cagney and Lacey
Rob The Gardener
Maureen & Peter Woodhead

Totalplus Communications

H.Mullaney & Sons 01457 832870

No. PLAYER

- 1 Paul O'Connor
- 2 Andy Ballard
- 3 Danny Halliwell
- 4 Paul Reilly
- 5 Lee Greenwood
- 6 James Coyle
- 7 Thomas Coyle
- 8 Paul Highton
- 9 Gary Sykes
- 10 Jamie l'Anson
- 11 Dave Allen
- 12 Tommy Goulden
- 13 Rob Roberts
- 14 Richard Merrill
- 15 Jason Boults
- 16 Wayne Kerr
- 17 Craig Robinson
- 18 Neil Roden
- 19 Craig Littler
- 20 Simeon Hoyle
- 21 Lucas Onyango
- 22 Phil Joseph
- 23 Chris Baines
- 24 Marcus St Hillaire
- 25 Luke Menzies
- 26 Luke Sutton

Goalkeeper

No. TODAY'S TEAM No.

	Full back	
	Right Wing	
	Right Centre	
	Left Centre	
	Left Wing	
	Stand off	
	Scrum half	
	Prop	
	Hooker	
	Prop	
	2nd row	
	2nd row	
	Loose forward	
	Interchange 1	
2		
3		
4		

SCORERS

Tries

Conv

Pens

DGs

MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee: R Laughton

Touch: AT Smith, J Farrell

In-goal: C Hancock, S Tordoff

BENNETT'S BET

"Roughyeds to edge out 2008 French champs - Oldham by 4"

No. PLAYER

- 1 Jarred Taylor
- 2 Grégory Mazard
- 3 Luke Hession
- 4 Cédric Bringuier
- 7 James Wynne (c)
- 8 Christopher Beattie
- 10 Adel Fellous
- 11 Philippe Laurent
- 13 Aurélien Cologni
- 14 Nicolas Manessi
- 19 Yoan Tisseyre
- 21 Franck Rovira
- 23 Alaster Brown
- 25 Cédric Lacans
- 26 Thibault Ancely
- 27 Aurélien Bourrel
- 30 Charly Clottes
- 34 Benoît Bienvenu

LE CHAMPIONNAT

1	Limoux XIII	19	15	1	3	50
2	SM Pia XIII	17	11	1	5	40
3	FC Lezignan XIII	18	11	0	7	40
4	Carcassonne XIII	18	12	0	6	39
5	Villeneuve XIII	19	10	0	9	39
6	UT Catalane XIII	18	9	0	9	35
7	Carpentras XIII	18	8	0	10	34
8	SO Avignon XIII	19	7	1	11	33
9	Lyon Villeurbanne	18	3	0	15	24
10	St Gaudens XIII	18	3	1	14	22

Last result: Lezignan 30, Villeneuve 14

CCC 3rd round: Workington 6 Lezignan 18

Man to watch: James Wynn

COACH: TONY BENSON

LAST SIX RESULTS: LWWWLW

LAST SIX HOME: L-WLWWW

TRIES: Andy Ballard 8, James Coyle

6, Thomas Coyle 5, Paul Reilly 4,

Danny Halliwell 4

GOALS: Andy Ballard 34, Danny

Halliwell 3. DGs: -

MAN TO WATCH: Andy Ballard



SUPPORTING OLDHAM



People caring for people



CLUBCALL

Oldham v Lezignan

En garde for visit of French raiders

Hello and Welcome to Boundary Park. Today we welcome our friends from across the water Lezignan in the Fourth Round of the Carnegie Challenge Cup. Both teams will be hoping to progress through this round and get a money spinning draw against Super League opposition.

From the clips I have seen of Lezignan they are a big set with two very good front rowers in Beattie and Fellous and a very skilful half in James Wynn.

We will have to be on top of our game to contain them this week and I assure you all the lads are up for this one.

On last week's game we finally started to show what potential we have in the side but this week we will need to start from minute one not after fifteen minutes as we did against Workington on that occasion.

Last week it was really good to get in three field training sessions on grass.

All the boys really put in the work and were going full out on each other in contact sessions. We also had two very good video sessions which I also think paid dividends.

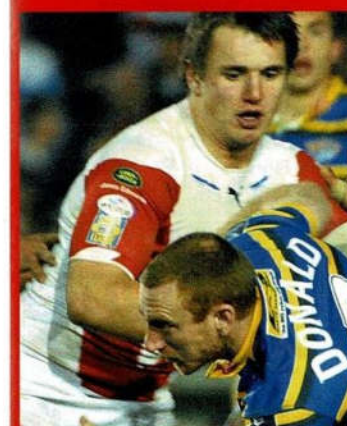
Away from rugby all the boys will be going along on Wednesday night to the Batley Frontier Club to give some very vocal support to our Chairman Bill Quinn and two of our teammates Paul Reilly and Phil Joseph, in the charity boxing event that promises to be great fun.

Having known Reills for a number of years I do hope they provide a very strong referee for this bout!

Enjoy the game.

Robert Roberts, captain

Magic of 'the Cup' is still sparkling



One of the game's 'big two' clubs won't be in the fifth round draw!

Oldham RLFC is proud to host our visitors from Lezignan today in what is another first for our club.

The Carnegie Challenge Cup draw for the Fourth Round in 2009 has certainly been interesting to say the least with several all-Super League ties and some big clashes amongst Championship sides.

People say the magic has gone now for clubs outside of Super League as far as the Cup is concerned, but you could have fooled me as several people from different clubs have been eyeing up their chances this year given that round five will be without some of the big guns as a direct result of the ties in the fourth round!

Here at Oldham we want to do well in every competition we take part in and we will be going all out to try to make sure our name is in the hat for round five -

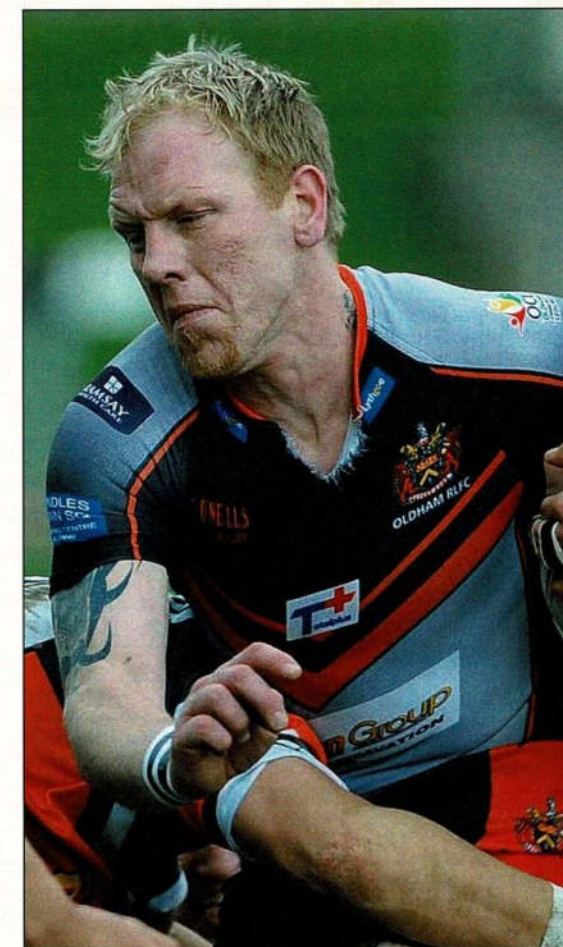
although we are aware of just how tough a challenge Lezignan will be.

It will be interesting to see the attendance figures this weekend as they have been lower than anybody would like over the last few years, which is why this season a number of different initiatives have been introduced for season ticket holders to encourage people to attend the earlier rounds.

As ever rugby league remains a game which is able to be innovative and adaptable and this is just another example of that.

Enjoy the game and hopefully cheer the lads on to victory!

CHRIS HAMILTON
CHIEF EXECUTIVE



Paul Reilly ... packs a punch on the pitch and will be doing the same for charity at Batley's Frontier club



Eagles v Rams



Friday April 3rd, 2009. Kick off 8pm. DON VALLEY STADIUM

SHEFFIELD EAGLES

DEWSBURY RAMS

SPONSOR	No. PLAYER
AMCO	1 Jonny Woodcock
Tolent	2 Bolu Fagborun
OSI	3 Menzie Yere
Jim Haworth, Suzanne Atkin	4 Mike Roby
Anne Collins	5 Ashley Thackeray
Pennine Business Forms	6 Brendon Lindsay
Sheaf Telecom	7 Gavin Brown
Hanlon & Wright	8 Jack Howieson
Barnsley Industrial Training College	9 Grant Edwards
Jayne Whaling	10 Mitchell Stringer
Jack Smith	11 Alex Szostak
Hanlon & Wright	12 Ged Corcoran
Bethany, Ian & Jackie Swain	13 Dane McDonald
G4S Events	14 Andrew Boothroyd
Redbrook Business Coaching	15 Sam Barlow
Albion Detection Systems Ltd	16 Trevor Exton
Buckingham Insurance	17 Tom Buckenham
Zeenat Restaurant	18 Saqib Murtza
OSI	19 Kyle Wood
Walkabout Sheffield	20 Matty Brooks
AMCO	21 Aaron Groom
Village Shop, Oughtibridge	22 Ryan Hepworth
HAS Consultants Ltd	23 Tangi Ropati
Jack & Laura London	24 Matthew Whitaker
Corus Infrastructure Services	25 James Morrow
Hancock & Todd	26 Nick Turnbull
Modis	27 Tommy Trayler
Richard & Andrea Brook	28 Damian Gibson
Jill Swire	34 Eddie Battye
Mr & Mrs Lee	35 Dan Haworth

COACH: MARK ASTON

LAST SIX RESULTS: WLWLWL
LAST SIX HOME: LW-WLWL
TRIES: Tangi Ropati 3, Matty Brooks 3, Jonny Woodcock 3, Damian Gibson 3, Brendon Lindsay 3.
GOALS: Jonny Woodcock 26
DGs: -
MAN TO WATCH: Tangi Ropati

No.	TODAY'S TEAM	No.
	Full back	
	Right Wing	
	Right Centre	
	Left Centre	
	Left Wing	
	Stand off	
	Scrum half	
	Prop	
	Hooker	
	Prop	
	2nd row	
	2nd row	
	Loose forward	
	Interchange 1	
	2	
	3	
	4	

SCORERS

Tries

Conv

Pens

DGs

MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee: R Hicks

Touch: M Thomason, W Turley
In-goal: P Meadows, C Barnes

BENNETT'S BET

"Eagles to book fifth-round spot - Sheffield by 6"

No. PLAYER	SPONSOR
1 Tom Colleran	Herbal Life
2 Morgan Starkey	
3 Lee Lingard	John Sawyer
4 Craig Bower	Joe G Fitness
5 Andrew Tillotson	
6 Ryan Smith	Sue Walford
7 Gareth Greenwood	
8 Jimmy Elston	Ken & Elizabeth Crabtree
9 Mike Emmett	
10 Luke Haigh	The Three Gs
11 Adam Robinson	Subway
12 Taron Wildey	
13 Pat Walker	Mount Tabor Church
14 Ian Tonks	Peter Brooke/David Kirby
15 Bryn Powell	Peggy & Sam Hill
16 Austin Buchanan	The Buzz Room
17 Alex Bretherton	Steve Johnson
18 Chris Spurr	The West Riding
19 Liam Finn	John Calvert
20 Rob Spicer	Jack Addy/Pat Heywood
21 Andy Bostock	The Grayson Family
22 Kane Epati	The Crown, Leeds Road
23 Keegan Hirst	
24 Simon Cook	Rams Cheerleaders
25 Gary North	
26 Jake Wilson	
27 Chris Grice	
28 Liam Crawley	Lauren & Lucy Hall
30 Chris Hall	KBSP-Associates
32 Martin Woodhead	Ken & Pat Humphrey
33 James Walker	
34 Josh Tonks	
35 Adam Hayes	Elaine & Peter Holyoake

COACH: WARREN JOWITT

LAST SIX RESULTS: WWWWWW
LAST SIX AWAY: LLL-WWW
TRIES: Kane Epati 7, Liam Finn 4, Lee Lingard 3, Andy Bostock, Alex Bretherton.
GOALS: Pat Walker 42
DGs: Liam Finn
MAN TO WATCH: Liam Finn



AMCO

Sheaf Telecom Ltd.

modis INTERNATIONAL

PROUD TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH THE SHEFFIELD EAGLES!



Burdens



CLUBCALL

Sheffield v Dewsbury

Gee but it's great to be back home...

ONE weekend it's the South of France the next it's Widnes and tonight back to Don Valley. It was a great experience going to Toulouse - and we got the first win of the season in the Championship - but it's great to be home.

And we've got an important game - the fourth round of the Carnegie Challenge Cup against a team that has shown they know how to play Cup football. Dewsbury Rams went through the group stages of the Northern Rail Cup unbeaten - that says a lot. In the last round of this competition they played French side Carcassonne and won 18-6. We're looking at a really tough contest.

We lost 28-20 at Widnes but that was another bonus point and means that in each of the Championship games this season we have never come away empty handed - not bad! At Widnes we played for 80 minutes and continued the improvement we showed in Toulouse.

There is a buzz around the club - it started with the win at Toulouse. We did well at Widnes and I said to the players after the game 'well done, well stuck in there'.

I know at Toulouse we were in the heart of the wine-making country but the

game wasn't a vintage one. If any coach asked me what it was like I'll tell them 'watch out'. I'm glad we were the first to travel to Toulouse because they will get better and sides will come unstuck.

I wasn't sure about bringing in a French side to the Championship but after the Toulouse trip I'm converted. I have always been one of those people who have knocked moving the game to the wider areas - to expansion going too quick.

But I have to say that Rugby League had it nailed on. Traveleads did a great job and the hospitality at the hotel and at the Toulouse club was fantastic.

We were treated like kings. I've sent an email to the Rugby League saying that the organisation was first class.

There was the added bonus of having the squad together for three days.

When we had a coaching review I said to Mick Cook and Waisale Sovatabua that you have to savour these sort of times.

We have to initiate the new players - they have to get up and sing a song or make a statement. It gets the feelgood factor going.

Mark Aston was interviewed by Jim Collins and is sponsored by Nick Firth Tiles.



Forthcoming Events

Sheffield Eagles 25th Anniversary - On Thursday 14th May, the club will be celebrating its

Silver Anniversary with a special dinner at Baldwin's Omega. Gary Hetherington (right), the club's founder, will be the guest of honour; there will be a host of past players spanning the last 25 years.

Each of the tables will be allocated a year, with hopefully a player who represented Sheffield Eagles in that year hosting a table.

We are also taking bookings for our first Golf Day of the year, to be held at Tankersley Golf Club on Monday 27th April. For further details on all these events and our other events - email simon.proctor@sheffideagles.com or call the club on 0114 2610326.



There's a buzz around the Valley

It gives me great pleasure to welcome the Directors, Supporters, Players and Staff of Dewsbury Rams to the Don Valley Stadium for what I am sure is going to be a super game of Rugby League.

A win is vital to both sides so as to progress in the Carnegie Challenge Cup. Dewsbury Rams are playing some great rugby league and we must give them the respect that they deserve if we are to be victorious in this game.

From a rugby point of view I believe (apart from the debacle at Gateshead, and the less said about that the better!) we have improved with each game; we appear to play more like a team as time progresses.

CHRIS NOBLE MBE DIRECTOR

es. All the new players are settling in and becoming more aware of their teammates. By the time this is printed Aaron Groom will have arrived and he will have to have time to settle.

He should then be followed by Trevor Exton and he will have to have time to blend in to the squad.

All this is because we have a great many new players this season and I look forward to watching Sheffield Eagles in a few weeks time when they all know each other better - not that we have been bad up to now with a new squad.

Since our last home game we have played away twice. The game against Toulouse XIII was the first game at Toulouse by a Championship team and I cannot thank the staff and all the supporters of Toulouse XIII enough, for their friendship and for making everyone welcome. It was a superb weekend.

The RFL must also be congratulated on all the arrangements and assistance that they gave which greatly enhanced the weekend.

The game was very close all the way through and we just managed to clinch the result in the dying seconds.

Last weekend we played Widnes and again apart from about ten minutes we held our

own. A couple of silly mistakes and we were punished when the opposition scored.

The club has a certain excitement about the place and a feeling of expectation - we are not going to win everything but I feel that we are certainly going to give everyone a run for their money and play extremely entertaining and watchable rugby league.

May I take this opportunity to thank all the staff and volunteers for all their help and assistance and may I ask all you supporters - why not ask a friend or a relative to come along to watch the Sheffield Eagles play what is the toughest sport on earth, and the most entertaining game of them all!



Swinton v Hornets



Friday April 3rd, 2009. Kick off 7.30pm. SEDGLEY PARK

SWINTON LIONS

SPONSOR	No. PLAYER
Elizabeth Taylor (Grandma English)	1 Wayne English
Daniel Croston	2 Barry Hamilton
Premier Building	3 Dave Hull
Dave Roberts	4 Dean Gorton
Mike & Kath Tyldesley	5 Marlon Billy
Muscle & Fitness Gym	6 Graham Holroyd
Junior Lions	7 Richard Hawkyard
Heartland M27 - Rob Dunford	8 Paul Southern
Junior Lions	9 Phil Wood
Egan Contractors Ltd	10 Bruce Johnson
Bill Sheppard & Warren Mottram	11 Mike Wainwright
Chris & Viv Tyldesley	12 Danny Heaton
Geoff Hewitt USA	13 Marty Moana
In Memory of Peter Walker	14 Craig Ashall
Lethbridge & Co	15 Gary Hulse
John Spellman	16 Alex McLurg
MS Lottery Services	17 Tommy Grundy
Ray Bowdler	18 Gareth Hayes
Burrow & Humphries	19 Neil Rigby
PhysiO2	20 Adam Bibey
In memory of Graham Berry	21 Rob Line
Moorside Autos	22 Darren Bamford
Lethbridge & Co.	23 Ben Williamson
Premier Building Ltd	24 Paul Crook
Mike & Sarah Dagnan	25 Matt Ashe
Phil, Ann & Josh Walker	26 Chris Frodsham
Barbara & Emma Cathcart,	27 Chris Tyrer
Sue Buckley & Joyce Shannon	
In memory of Frank Stanton	28 Dave Newton
Redsentinel	29 Carl Sneyd
Northline Business Consultants	30 Andy Saywell

COACH: PAUL KIDD

LAST SIX RESULTS: LLWWWW
 LAST SIX HOME: WLL-LWW
 TRIES: Dave Hull 8, Marty Moana 3,
 Dave Newton 3,
 Tommy Grundy 3.
 GOALS: Carl Sneyd 25
 DGs: Craig Ashall
 MAN TO WATCH: Dave Hull

HORNETS RUGBY LEAGUE

No.	TODAY'S TEAM	No.
	Full back	
	Right Wing	
	Right Centre	
	Left Centre	
	Left Wing	
	Stand off	
	Scrum half	
	Prop	
	Hooker	
	Prop	
	2nd row	
	2nd row	
	Loose forward	
	Interchange 1	
	2	
	3	
	4	

SCORERS

Tries
 Conv
 Pens
 DGs

No. PLAYER
1 Chris Giles
2 John Gillam
3 Mick Fogerty
4 Casey Mayberry
5 Andy Smith
6 Martin Ainscough
7 -
8 David Best
9 Janan Billings
10 Paul Raftery
11 David Cunliffe
12 Ian Sinfield
13 Wayne Corcoran
14 Sam Butterworth
15 Martin McLoughlin
16 Mark Brocklehurst
17 Andy Isherwood
18 John Walker
19 Craig Johnson
20 Liam Bretherton
21 Tommy Gallagher
22 Martin Gambles
23 Liam Grundy
25 Dayne Donahue
33 Dale Cunliffe
Liam McGovern

COACH: DARREN SHAW

LAST SIX RESULTS: LWLWLL
 LAST SIX AWAY: LW-LLWL
 TRIES: Martin Ainscough 3, John
 Gillam 3, Chris Giles 3.
 GOALS: Chris Giles 7, Wayne
 Corcoran 4.
 DGs: McGovern
 MAN TO WATCH: Chris Giles

MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee: P Brooke
 Touch: M Mannifield, P Marklove
 In-goal: C Leatherbarrow, G Stokes

BENNETT'S BET

"In-form Lions to secure safe passage
 - Swinton by 14"



We're backing the Lions!

CLUBCALL

Swinton v Hornets RL

Cup is a different kind of Challenge altogether



Good evening and Welcome to Park Lane for this evening's 4th round Carnegie Challenge Cup fixture against local rivals, Hornets RL. A special welcome to their Directors, playing staff and supporters of the Hornets.

Rochdale, despite their off field problems, are proving to be a tough nut to crack on the field this season, pushing league favourites Dewsbury all the way last weekend which is not an easy task and they are showing the type of form that suggests they will soon overcome their points deficit of -9 and start climbing the league table.

This weekend sees a break from the league season and giving both teams an opportunity to progress into the next round of the Cup.

The Hornets having found their form should prove to be a tricky encounter for us this evening. League positions etc count for nothing as these



Champagne stuff in first half hour against Cougars

Cup games tend to prove and I have no doubt that tonight's game will be a tight encounter and one which the fans will enjoy.

Last weekend saw us gain another deserved victory against one of the promotion favourites. For the first 30

minutes we played some of the best rugby seen by the Swinton faithful for many years. We caught the Cougars cold in the early stages of the game as just about everything that we tried came off in what was a magical half hour.

Next weekend sees the

start of a busy Easter programme with a visit to Blackpool on Good Friday and a crucial home encounter on Easter Monday against Workington.

We need as much support and encouragement as possible to continue this run of good form and with our supporters getting behind us, we really can push on and hope to gain the highest possible league position to attain a play off position at the end of the season.

Hopefully tonight's encounter will be just as entertaining as last week's. Enjoy the game.

Paul Kidd

Success is building off the field

Welcome to this evening's Carnegie Challenge Cup 4th Round clash against our friends from Hornets RL.

Whilst the team strives to entertain on the pitch with recent 'top drawer' performances by the players, we as a commercial team are also successfully entertaining off the field as well.

Our commercial team are constantly working away behind the scenes to improve our service to you, the paying public in whatever way we can. All comments and suggestions are taken on board, whether positive or not and actioned accordingly.

Recent fixtures have provided us with the opportunity to entertain an ever increasing number of corporate clients and supporters alike, with our pre-match hospitality which is proving to be very popular and also excellent value.

As previously stated by our Chairman, we are grateful for all sup-

BY MARK SULLIVAN
 GENERAL MANAGER

successful reverse auction text bid competition, launched a pink shirt for the ladies (also in support of breast cancer charities), launched a new website, (by the time this article goes to press) the online shop option will be up and running, offering fans the opportunity to purchase merchandise, match tickets, hospitality et. from the comfort of their own home, clearly a sign that we are moving with the times and don't want to be left behind.

I would also like to thank all fans for their impeccable show of respect during the minute's silence in respect of the tragic death of Leon Walker.

The rugby league community has come together as one to mourn such a tragic loss and everyone connected here at Swinton Lions sends their deepest condolences to his family at this sad time.

Enjoy today's game.

port that comes our way in these difficult economic times, whether it is the fans who are spending their hard earned money, coming along to be entertained by watching a pulsating rugby league match, or the corporate sponsor who is entertaining clients and in return wanting to watch an entertaining brand of rugby whilst getting their brands in the public domain and we thank fan and businessman alike for their continued support.

There have been a lot of firsts at Swinton over recent weeks, with more to follow. We have trialled a

ON THE MONEY!

Double whammy danger for us!

Totesport's expert rugby league odds compiler **MIKE OXLEY** considers the bookies' nightmare in the Challenge Cup



Challenge Cup 4th round week in bookmakers' terms means try and close the doors and try not lose too much money and at best make a little profit. As a bookmaker who knows at the best of times it is hard to make any profit on the minor leagues, the majority of profit is usually made from the Super League. The same rules apply with football where most money is made from the Premiership and you try and make small profit in the minor English leagues and Scottish leagues.

This weekend's Challenge Cup 4th round ties have 32 teams ranging from Wath Brow in the amateur leagues up to the Super League teams making their entrance into the competition.

The handicaps produced by different bookies in recent times very rarely range by more than 4 points in Super League and Championship games, but in the Challenge Cup you do get anomalies ranging up to 12 points difference. The strategy known as a double whammy comes into play.

The example of the double whammy is if two bookmakers have two different handicaps on the same game. For example Bookmaker 1 are Featherstone -56 v Wath Brow +56 at 10/11 and Bookmaker 2 is Featherstone -68 v Wath Brow +68 at 10/11.

A punter would have £110 on Featherstone -56 at 10/11 with Bookmaker 1 and £110 on Wath Brow +68 with Bookmaker 2. The punter is hoping that Featherstone then beat Wath Brow by



Keighley and Halifax are both in cup action – but could the Cougars be a double whammy bet against Cas?

more than 56 points but less than 68 points so that both his bets win and he would return £420 for an out lay of £220 – a profit of £200. If Featherstone did not win by that margin then the punter would return only one bet which would return him £210 for an outlay of £220 a loss of £10, so basically a punter is risking £10 to make a return of £200 which is a 19/1 winner in real terms. So you can see why it is called a double whammy and punters lick their lips when the opportunity becomes available.

Right, it is time to enter the minefield and see if we can pick out some value pointers towards this weekend's games. There are five all-Super League ties and make a note for next week's matches, as it might be fruitful which teams playing next week are fresher, like for example Castleford and Warrington who on paper have relative easy matches, and so might be able to rest a few players this weekend.

We are going up to Cumbria to start with and in recent weeks I have mentioned how Dave Clark's Barrow have been growing in confidence and improving week on week. They are up against a usually formidable Wigan side that in recent years would see this game as a cakewalk and rest a few of their stars.

But not this weekend. Wigan, low on confidence after another humiliating home defeat by Huddersfield (containing half of Wigan 'rejects') need to win this game convincingly.

Craven Park with a Barrow team including ex-Super League players in Gary Broadbent, Andrew Bracek and Paul Noone is the last place you want to visit to try when trying to build up confidence in yourselves. I think the handicap will be set around a 20 start to Barrow and on current form I can see Barrow keeping within the handicap quite easily.

Of the other ties I can see Wath Brow competing for around 30 minutes and this match will depend on how serious Featherstone take it. I think the handicap will be set around the 50 mark, which if so I can see Wath Brow staying within the handicap. So good luck in punting and keep your eye out for a possible double whammy!



bet online
totesport.com



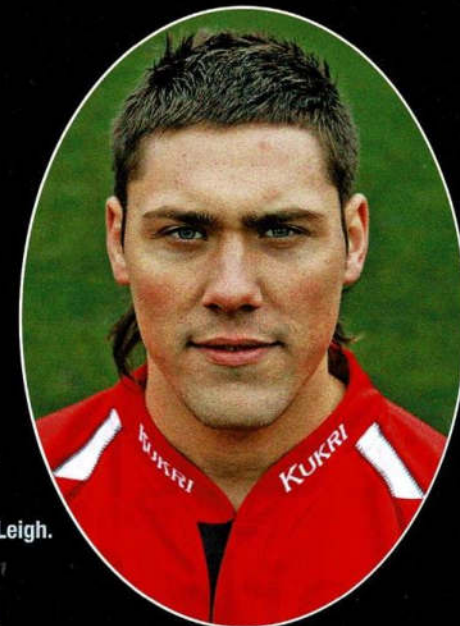
bet by phone
0800 221 221

IN PROFILE

CHRIS GILES
HORNETS RL
Squad Number: 1

BACKGROUND

NAME: Christopher Giles.
AGE: 27 (26/12/1981)
POSITION: Full-back.
HEIGHT: 5'10". WEIGHT: 13st 3lbs.
MARITAL STATUS: Partner.
BORN: Billinge.
AMATEUR CLUB: St Helens Crusaders.
SIGNED PRO: 1999 (St Helens)
PREVIOUS CLUBS: St Helens, Widnes, Leigh.



FAVOURITES

CLUB SUPPORTED AS A KID: St Helens.
SOCCER TEAM: I played football but never followed anyone.
OTHER SPORT: Football, but otherwise just rugby league.
HOBBIES: Playstation, movies.
FOOD: Indian.
DRINK: Vimto.
HOLIDAY: I Australia, in particular Cairns and Port Douglas. My sister lives in Sydney so I've been over a few times.
MUSIC: Dance, like house and electro. I also like Kings of Leon.
FILM: Lord of the Rings or Star Wars.
TV: Harry Hill's TV Burp.
SUPERSTITIONS: When I'm getting changed I always put my left sock on first, and so on.

CAREER

BEST TEAMMATE: Paul Wellens, although I learnt a lot from Stuart Spruce at Widnes.
BEST OPPONENT: Kevin Sinfield.
BEST PLAYER IN THE WORLD: James Graham, he's a good young kid and I think he's got a big future ahead of him.
BEST COACH I'VE PLAYED FOR: Darren Abram at Rochdale. Not everyone likes him but I got a lot out of him.
COACH I'D LIKE TO PLAY FOR: Tony Smith.
MY STRENGTHS: Footwork, quick play-the-balls, good talker.
MY WEAKNESSES: I maybe lack a bit on decision-making.
HIGHLIGHT: Playing in the World Sevens for Widnes in Australia in 2004.
LOWLIGHT: Being released by Widnes in 2005 when they were in Super League and not being able to find another Super League club.
ULTIMATE WISH: To win a major trophy like a league championship or the Northern Rail Cup. I've not had a chance to do that yet.
AFTER FINISHED PLAYING: I've just qualified as a plumber so I'm hoping to take that a bit further.



AHEAD OF THE GAME

PAUL BENNETT gives his slant on life in 'the greatest game'

Feeder system can work for everyone

AS you might have read in League Weekly, the Rugby Football League last week took tentative steps towards forming a 'feeder'-style system between engage Super League and the co-operative Championships.

Now the RFL didn't actually use the 'f' word, and well might they tread carefully over this awfully emotive issue. Clubs in the Championships don't want to be seen as second-class citizens, simply there to serve the big boys – even if, in truth, most of them may well be exactly that.

Any move that suggests an existence of permanent subservience to the bigger clubs sticks in the craw of many supporters of once great rugby league names such as Leigh, Featherstone, Oldham, Swinton etc.

But with the new licensing system, not to mention the current global economic slump, has come a new, more realistic approach by many club chairmen and chief execs – and a few fans too. Enough, hopefully, to ensure we don't abandon the whole idea just because it's a little complicated.

I can understand John Kear's concern that many co-operative Championship clubs have ambitions to play in Super League of their own – and that producing their own players, not just helping to



Leigh in action against Batley at their new stadium. The Centurions have Super League ambitions

develop someone else's, is key.

But the RFL's idea to introduce a "dual registration" system (whereby up-and-coming Super League players can also be registered with a Championship club and therefore play for them instead of the reserves) needn't get in the way of those ambitions.

I'm sure a balance can be found. There's no reason why such a scheme can't be introduced for some clubs to take advantage of, while others with higher ambitions (Widnes, Leigh, Halifax, Featherstone etc) concentrate on breeding their own talent.

The benefits for British

rugby league could potentially be massive. There's no denying that the current reserve competition – which is now set to be scrapped in favour of an Aussie-style U-20s comp – is failing many of our young players.

The competition simply isn't sufficiently intense to prepare players for the rigours of Super League and those who have been following the increasingly exciting action of the lower divisions over the past few years must concede that both the Championship and Championship One provide far better breeding grounds for top talent.

And for the Championship

clubs themselves? Well, they get access to some of the top young talents in the game – increasing the quality of their teams and the division as a whole even further. That means less reliance on overseas imports and, crucially these days, better value for your money at the turnstiles. As I see it, everybody wins.

Paul Bennett is deputy editor of League Weekly



CATCH OUR GREAT SAVINGS ONLINE FOR HALIFAX INSURANCE



Save 25% on Home insurance when you buy online



Save 10% on Travel insurance when you buy online



Save 5% on Pet insurance when you buy online



Halifax Home Insurance is proud to sponsor Halifax R.L.F.C!

0800 028 2498

Quote RUGB



Ruth, Leeds



Always giving you extra

Calls may be monitored and recorded. Halifax General Insurance Services Limited, registered no 2791889, registered office, Trinity Road, Halifax, West Yorkshire HX1 2RG and St Andrew's Insurance plc, registered no 3104671, registered office, St Andrew's House, Portsmouth Road, Esher, Surrey, KT10 9SA are authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority.

GET YOUR FIX...

NORTHERN RAIL CUP

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

Keighley Cougars 40, Gateshead Thunder 20

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11

Sheffield Eagles 38, Hunslet Hawks 16

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Widnes Vikings 20, Oldham 22

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15

Doncaster RLFC 6, Featherstone Rovers 32

Gateshead Thunder 44, Sheffield Eagles 18

Leigh Centurions 74, London Skolars 6

Whitehaven 52, Batley Bulldogs 30

Blackpool Panthers 16, Keighley Cougars 14

Dewsbury Rams 50 Swinton Lions 0

Hunslet Hawks 10, Halifax RLFC 38

Hornets RL 12, Barrow Raiders 54

Workington Town 10 York City Knights 34

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

Batley Bulldogs 18, Doncaster RLFC 22

Featherstone Rovers 10, Leigh Centurions 6

York City Knights 36, Whitehaven 6

Oldham 54, Hornets RL 4

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21

Widnes Vikings 40, Gateshead Thunder 18

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22

Batley Bulldogs 40, York City Knights 28

Featherstone Rovers 26, Dewsbury Rams 28

Halifax RLFC 40, Barrow Raiders 10

Whitehaven 26, Workington Town 12

Keighley Cougars 44, Hunslet Hawks 6

London Skolars 12, Doncaster RLFC 40

Oldham 22, Sheffield Eagles 34

Hornets RL 28, Blackpool Panthers 26

Swinton Lions 26, Leigh Centurions 34

SUNDAY, MARCH 1

Barrow Raiders 34, Keighley Cougars 7

Gateshead Thunder 46, Hornets RL 22

Leigh Centurions 24, Whitehaven 22

Sheffield Eagles 18, Halifax RLFC 50

Blackpool Panthers 16, Widnes Vikings 46

Dewsbury Rams 34, Batley Bulldogs 14

Workington Town 6, Featherstone Rovers 38

Doncaster RLFC 36, Swinton Lions 28

Hunslet Hawks 14, Oldham 32

York City Knights 58 London Skolars 12

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4

Barrow Raiders 12, Widnes Vikings 4

Halifax RLFC 50, Blackpool Panthers 28

CHALLENGE CUP

SATURDAY, MARCH 7

THIRD ROUND

Keighley Cougars 30, Pia 24

Queens 12, Doncaster RL 16

Siddal 6, Swinton Lions 10

Widnes Vikings 88, Saddleworth Rangers 0

Workington 6, FC Lezignan-Corbieres 18

SUNDAY, MARCH 8

THIRD ROUND

Barrow Raiders 44, Blackpool Panthers 12

Dewsbury Rams 18, Carcassonne 6

Featherstone Rovers 94, British Army 2

Gateshead Thunder 42, Whitehaven 38

Halifax 80, Loughborough Univ 16

Leeds Met 24, Hornets RL 38

Leigh Centurions 82, Lokomotiv Moscow 6

Oldham Roughyeds 26, Sharlston Rovers 8

Pilkingtons 24, Batley Bulldogs 34

Sheffield Eagles 22, Toulouse 6

Wath Brow Hornets 14, London Skolars 12

York City Knights 50, Wigan St Patricks 10

SATURDAY, MARCH 14

THIRD ROUND

Kells 12, Hunslet Hawks 22

NORTHERN RAIL CUP

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11

Swinton Lions 31, Workington Town 24

SUNDAY, MARCH 15

London Skolars 14, Dewsbury Rams 42

CO-OPERATIVE CHAMPIONSHIP

THURSDAY, MARCH 12

CHAMPIONSHIP

Widnes Vikings 70 Toulouse Olympique 0

SATURDAY, MARCH 14

CHAMPIONSHIP

Barrow Raiders 34, Doncaster RLFC 14

SUNDAY, MARCH 15

CHAMPIONSHIP

Batley Bulldogs 8, Featherstone Rovers 34

Sheffield Eagles 22, Leigh Centurions 23

Whitehaven 42, Gateshead Thunder 18

CHAMPIONSHIP ONE

Oldham 36, Blackpool Panthers 18

THURSDAY, MARCH 19

CHAMPIONSHIP (TV)

Halifax RLFC 24, Widnes Vikings 14

SATURDAY, MARCH 21

CHAMPIONSHIP

Toulouse Olympique 12, Sheffield Eagles 18

SUNDAY, MARCH 22

CHAMPIONSHIP

Featherstone Rovers 26, Whitehaven 52

Gateshead Thunder 14, Barrow Raiders 38

Leigh Centurions 28, Batley Bulldogs 34

CHAMPIONSHIP ONE

Workington Town 21, Hornets RL 14

Blackpool Panthers 34, Hunslet Hawks 26

Dewsbury Rams 28, York City Knights 2

Keighley Cougars 34 Oldham 26

London Skolars 16, Swinton Lions 66

THURSDAY, MARCH 26

CHAMPIONSHIP (TV)

Batley Bulldogs 20, Gateshead Thunder 20

SATURDAY, MARCH 28

CHAMPIONSHIP

Whitehaven 40, Toulouse Olympique 26

Barrow Raiders 24, Halifax RLFC 26

Widnes Vikings 28, Sheffield Eagles 20

SUNDAY, MARCH 29

CHAMPIONSHIP

Doncaster RLFC 18, Leigh Centurions 24

CHAMPIONSHIP ONE

Hornets RL 31 Dewsbury Rams 33

Swinton Lions 36, Keighley Cougars 28

York City Knights 22, Blackpool Panthers 20

Hunslet Hawks 71, London Skolars 0

Oldham 66, Workington Town 14

FRIDAY, APRIL 4

CHALLENGE CUP, FOURTH ROUND

Halifax v Widnes Vikings 20.00

Sheffield Eagles v Dewsbury Rams 20.00

Swinton Lions v Hornets RL 20.00

SATURDAY, APRIL 4

CHALLENGE CUP, FOURTH ROUND

Wakefield Trin Wildcats v Leigh Centurions 15.00

Oldham v Lezignan 15.00

Keighley Cougars v Castleford Tigers 15.00

Featherstone v Wath Brow Hornets 15.00

Hull FC v Salford City Reds 15.00

Doncaster v Gateshead Thunder 15.00

Harlequins RL v Huddersfield 15.00

Barrow Raiders v Wigan 15.00

Warrington Wolves v York City Knights 14.00

Batley Bulldogs v Hunslet Hawks 15.00

Hull KR v Celtic Crusaders 15.00

SUNDAY, APRIL 4

CHALLENGE CUP, FOURTH ROUND

Leeds Rhinos v St Helens 14.30

Catalans Dragons v Bradford Bulls 16.30

THURSDAY, APRIL 9

CHAMPIONSHIP (TV)

Sheffield Eagles v Doncaster RLFC TBC

FRIDAY, APRIL 10

CHAMPIONSHIP

Halifax RLFC v Batley Bulldogs 20.00

Gateshead Thunder v Featherstone Rovers 18.00

Barrow Raiders v Whitehaven 15.00

Sheffield Eagles v Doncaster RLFC 15.00

Widnes Vikings v Leigh Centurions 15.00

CHAMPIONSHIP ONE

Hornets RL v Oldham 15.00

Workington Town v Hunslet Hawks 15.00

Blackpool Panthers v Swinton Lions 15.00

Dewsbury Rams v London Skolars 15.30

Keighley Cougars v York City Knights 19.30

MONDAY, APRIL 13

CHAMPIONSHIP

Featherstone Rovers v Sheffield Eagles 15.00

Leigh Centurions v Barrow Raiders 13.00

Batley Bulldogs v Toulouse Olympique 15.00

Doncaster RLFC v Widnes Vikings 15.00

Whitehaven v Halifax RLFC 15.00

CHAMPIONSHIP ONE

Swinton Lions v Workington Town 15.00

York City Knights v Rochdale Hornet 15.00

Hunslet Hawks v Keighley Cougars 15.00

London Skolars v Blackpool Panthers 15.00

THURSDAY, APRIL 16

CHAMPIONSHIP (TV)

Gateshead Thunder v Sheffield Eagles 19.30

FRIDAY, APRIL 17

CHAMPIONSHIP

Widnes Vikings v Batley Bulldogs 19.30

SATURDAY, APRIL 18

CHAMPIONSHIP

Toulouse Olympique v Leigh Centurions 19.00

SUNDAY, APRIL 19

CHAMPIONSHIP

Halifax RLFC v Doncaster RLFC 15.00

Whitehaven v Featherstone Rovers 15.00

CHAMPIONSHIP ONE

Oldham v Dewsbury Rams 15.00

THURSDAY, APRIL 23

CHAMPIONSHIP (TV)

Leigh Centurions v Featherstone Rovers 19.30

SATURDAY, APRIL 25

CHAMPIONSHIP

Barrow Raiders v Batley Bulldogs 18.30

SUNDAY, APRIL 26

CHAMPIONSHIP

Halifax RLFC v Gateshead Thunder 15.00

Doncaster RLFC v Toulouse Olympique 14.00

Sheffield Eagles v Widnes Vikings 16.00

CHAMPIONSHIP ONE

Hornets RL v London Skolars 15.00

Workington Town v York City Knights 15.00

Dewsbury Rams v Hunslet Hawks 15.00

Keighley Cougars v Blackpool Panthers 15.00

Oldham v Swinton Lions 15.00

THURSDAY, APRIL 30

CHAMPIONSHIP (TV)

Featherstone Rovers v Halifax RLFC 19.30

FRIDAY, MAY 1

CHAMPIONSHIP

Widnes Vikings v Barrow Raiders 20.00

Gateshead Thunder v Doncaster RLFC 19.30

SUNDAY, MAY 3

CHAMPIONSHIP

Toulouse Olympique v Whitehaven 19.00

MONDAY, MAY 4

CHAMPIONSHIP

Batley Bulldogs v Leigh Centurions 15.00

CHAMPIONSHIP ONE

Swinton Lions v Dewsbury Rams 15.00

York City Knights v Keighley Cougars 15.00

Blackpool Panthers v Hornets RL 15.00

Hunslet Hawks v Workington Town 15.00

London Skolars v Oldham 15.00

THURSDAY, MAY 7

CHAMPIONSHIP (TV)

Whitehaven v Widnes Vikings 15.00

FRIDAY, MAY 8

CHAMPIONSHIP

Sheffield Eagles v Featherstone Rovers 20.00

SATURDAY, MAY 9

CHAMPIONSHIP

Barrow Raiders v Gateshead Thunder 18.30

SUNDAY, MAY 10

CHAMPIONSHIP

Doncaster RLFC v Batley Bulldogs 15.00

Leigh Centurions v Halifax RLFC 15.00

THURSDAY, MAY 14

CHAMPIONSHIP (TV)

Leigh Centurions v Widnes Vikings 19.30

SATURDAY, MAY 16

CHAMPIONSHIP

Toulouse Olympique v Barrow Raiders 19.00

SUNDAY, MAY 17

CHAMPIONSHIP

Featherstone Rovers v Doncaster RLFC 15.00

Gateshead Thunder v Whitehaven 15.00

Halifax RLFC v Sheffield Eagles 15.00

CHAMPIONSHIP ONE

WHAT A RESULT!



CO-OPERATIVE CHAMPIONSHIP

SUNDAY, MARCH 29
Doncaster 18
 Tries: Cook, Bauer, Carbutt.
 Goals: Briggs 3.
Leigh Centurions 24
 Tries: Hobson, Haggerty, Mort 2.
 Goals: Mort 4.
 Half Time: 6-18.
 Attendance: 827.

SATURDAY, MARCH 28

Barrow Raiders 24
 Tries: Campbell, Young, Ostler, Brocklehurst. Goals: Noone 4.
Halifax 26
 Tries: James, Larder, Greenwood, Beswick, Penkywicz. Goals: Govin 3.
 Half Time: 16-8.
 Attendance: 1,918.

Whitehaven 40
 Tries: Benson, McNally, McAvoy, Patrick, Adebi, Gorski, Mattinson.
 Goals: McNally 6.
Toulouse Olympique 26
 Tries: Villegas, N Wynn, Bromley, Payan. Goals: N Wynn 5.
 Half Time: 12-24.
 Attendance: 1,225.

Widnes Vikings 28
 Tries: Flynn 2, Smith 2, Yates, Doran. Goals: Dodd 2.
Sheffield Eagles 20
 Tries: Lindsay, Wood, Ropati, Szostak. Goals: Stringer 2.
 Half Time: 8-16.
 Attendance: 3,181

THURSDAY, MARCH 26

Batley Bulldogs 20
 Tries: Simpson 2, Flanagan, McGillvary. Goals: Flanagan 2.
Gateshead Thunder 20
 Tries: Branighan, Nash 2.
 Goals: Knowles 4.
 Half Time: 4-20
 Attendance: 650



Gateshead's Ryan McBride goes to ground under the challenge of Danny Maun

CO-OPERATIVE CHAMPIONSHIP 1

SUNDAY, MARCH 29

Hornets RL 31
 Tries: McGovern, Billings, McLoughlin, Fogerty, Raftery, Sinfield.
 Goals: McGovern 3. Drop Goals: McGovern.
Dewsbury Rams 33
 Tries: Bretherton, Bostock, Powell, Greenwood, Finn.
 Goals: P Walker 6.
 Drop Goal: Finn.
 Half Time: 12-16
 Attendance: 678

Hunslet Hawks 71
 Tries: Williams 3, Watson 2, D Robinson, M Brown 2, A Faal 4.
 Goals: D Robinson 11.
 Drop Goals: D Robinson.
London Skolars 0
 Half Time: 35-0. Att: 527.
Oldham 66
 Tries: O'Connor, St Hilaire, Greenwood, Allen, Ballard 3, T Coyle 3, J Coyle, Baines.
 Goals: Ballard 9.
Workington Town 14
 Tries: Hobson, Marshall, Dawes. Goals: Forber.
 Half Time: 34-8
 Attendance: 819.

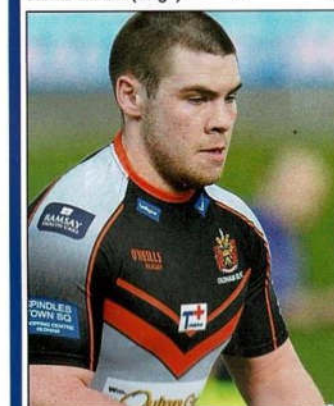
Swinton Lions 36
 Tries: Grundy 2, Hull 3, Sneyd.
 Goals: Sneyd 6.
Keighley Cougars 28
 Tries: Rayner, Law, Gardner, Nicholson, Presley.
 Goals: Jones 4.
 Half Time: 26-10
 Attendance: 540.
York City Knights 22
 Tries: Oakes, McHugh 2, Haberecht,
 A Mitchell. Goal: A Mitchell.
Blackpool Panthers 20
 Tries: Leather, McCully, Llewellyn, G Langley.
 Goal: G Langley.
 Half Time: 12-4. Att: 900.

STATS SERVICE



Leading points scorers

PLAYER/CLUB	T	G	DG	Ps
Gregg McNally (White)	14	29		114
Andy Ballard (Oldham)	8	34		100
Pat Walker (Dewsbury)	1	42		88
Ian Mort (Leigh)	5	32		84
Paul Noone (Barrow)	1	33		70
Jonny Woodcock (Sheff)	3	26		64
Scott Yates (Widnes)	3	24		60
Carl Sneyd (Swinton)	2	25		58
George Flanagan (Batley)	4	19		54
Danny Jones (Keighley)		26	1	53
Jon Presley (Keighley)	12			48
Ben Black (Halifax)	5	12		44
Johnny Leather (Black)	5	12		44
Iestyn Harris (Feath)	3	14		40
Luke Branighan (G'head)	6	8		40
Adam Mitchell (York)	2	16		40
Michael Knowles (G'head)		19		38
Martin Ridyard (Leigh)	4	10	1	37
Stuart Sanderson (G'head)	9			36
Tim Hartley (Widnes)	2	14		36
Stuart Dickens (Feath)		18		36
Mick Govin (Halifax)	1	16		36
James Haley (Halifax)	3	10		32
Darren Robinson (Hunslet)	2	11	1	31
Andy Kain (Feath)	7	1		30
Paddy Flynn (Widnes)	8			32
Dave Hull (Swinton)	8			32
Kane Epati (Dewsbury)	7			28
John Oakes (York)	7			28
Chris Giles (Hornets RL)	3	7		26
Stuart Dickens (Feath)		13		26
Said Tamghart (Halifax)	6			24
Andy Ellis (Barrow)	6			24
James Nixon (Barrow)	6			24
Jamie Durbin (Leigh)	6			24



Oldham's Tom Coyle ... in the try scoring charts

CO-OPERATIVE CHAMPIONSHIP

	P	W	D	L	B	F	A	PD	Ps
Whitehaven	3	3	0	0	0	132	70	62	9
Widnes Vikings	3	2	0	1	1	112	44	68	7
Barrow Raiders	3	2	0	1	1	96	54	42	7
Leigh Centurions	3	2	0	1	1	75	74	1	7
Halifax	2	2	0	0	0	50	38	12	6
Sheffield Eagles	3	1	0	2	2	60	63	-3	5
Batley Bulldogs	3	1	1	1	0	62	82	-20	5
Fea'stone Rovers	2	1	0	1	0	60	60	0	3
Gateshead Thunder	3	0	1	2	0	52	98	-46	2
Doncaster	2	0	0	2	1	32	58	-26	1
Toulouse Olym	3	0	0	3	1	38	128	-90	1

CO-OPERATIVE CHAMPIONSHIP ONE

	P	W	D	L	B	F	A	PD	Pts
Oldham	3	2	0	1	1	128	66	62	7
Swinton Lions	2	2	0	0	0	102	44	58	6
Dewsbury Rams	2	2	0	0	0	61	33	28	6
Hunslet Hawks	2	1	0	1	1	97	34	63	4
Keighley Cougars	2	1	0	1	1	62	62	0	4
Blackp'l Panthers	3	1	0	2	1	72	84	-12	4
York City Knights	2	1	0	1	0	24	48	-24	3
Workington Town	2	1	0	1	0	35	80	-45	3
London Skolars	2	0	0	2	0	16	137	-121	0
Hornets RL	2	0	0	2	2	45	54	-9	-7

*Hornets RL deducted nine points for entering administration

NORTHERN RAIL CUP 2009 TABLES

POOL ONE

	P	W	D	L	B	F	A	PD	Pts
Halifax (Q)	4	4	0	0	0	178	66	112	12
Oldham (Q)	4	3	0	1	1	130	72	58	10
Barrow Raiders (Q)	4	3	0	1	0	110	63	47	9
Widnes Vikings (Q)	4	2	0	2	2	110	68	42	8
Keighley Cougars	4	2	0	2	1	105	76	29	7
Gateshead Thunder	4	2	0	2	0	128	120	8	6
Sheffield Eagles	4	2	0	2	0	108	132	-24	6
B'pool Panthers	4	1	0	3	1	86	138	-52	4
Hornets RL	4	1	0	3	0	66	180	-114	3
Hunslet Hawks	4	0	0	4	0	46	152	-106	0

POOL TWO

	P	W	D	L	B	F	A	PD	Pts
Dewsbury Rams (Q)	4	4	0	0	0	156	52	104	12
York C Knights (Q)	4	3	0	1	1	156	68	88	10
Leigh Cent'ns (Q)	4	3	0	1	1	138	64	74	10
Featherstone (Q)	4	3	0	1	1	106	46	60	10
Doncaster	4	3	0	1	0	104	90	14	9
Whitehaven	4	2	0	2	1	106	102	4	7
Swinton Lions*	4	1	0	3	2	85	144	-59	5
Batley Bulldogs	4	1	0	3	1	102	146	-44	4
Workington*	4	0	0	4	1	52	129	-77	0
London Skolars	4	0	0	4	0	44	216	-172	0

*Across both the Northern Rail Cup and league campaign, teams will receive three points for a win, two for a draw and one bonus point for losing by 12 points or less

LEADING TRY SCORERS

14	Gregg McNally (Whitehaven)
12	Jon Presley (Keighley)
9	Stuart Sanderson (Gateshead)
8	Paddy Flynn (Widnes) Dave Hull (Swinton) Andy Ballard (Oldham)
7	Kane Epati (Dewsbury) Andy Kain (Featherstone) John Oakes (York)
6	Jamie Durbin (Leigh) Andy Ellis (Barrow) James Nixon (Barrow) Said Tamghart (Halifax) Miles Greenwood (Halifax) Sean Penkywicz (Halifax) James Coyle (Oldham) Dylan Nash (Gateshead) Luke Branighan (Gateshead)
5	Tom Haberecht (York) Mark Smith (Widnes) Tom Coyle (Oldham) Ian Mort (Leigh) Stuart Donlan (Leigh) Ayden Faal (Hunslet) Ben Black (Halifax) Waine Pryce (Featherstone) Johnny Leather (Blackpool) Mark McCully (Blackpool) Liam Campbell (Barrow) Liam Harrison (Barrow)
4	L. Finch, M. Backhouse (Barrow) D. Cardiss, J. Simpson, G. Flanagan, J. McGillvary (Batley) L. Finn (Dewsbury) M. Coady (Doncaster) T. Haughey, S. Smeaton, I. Hardman (Fev) J. Arundel, K. Neighbour (Gateshead) D. Barker (Halifax) M. Ridyard, S. Reay, S. Maden, I. Watson (Leigh) P. Reilly, D. Halliwell (Oldham) D. Eilbeck (Whitehaven) J. Gannon, L. Wildbore (Widnes) D. Ratcliffe, P. Hughes (York) 58 players on 3 tries

KNOW YOUR STUFF?

CHALLENGE CUP SPECIAL

HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE 16 HOME CLUBS IN THIS WEEKEND'S CARNEGIE CHALLENGE CUP FOURTH ROUND DRAW?



1. WAKEFIELD – In which two years has Wakefield coach John Kear won the Challenge Cup?

2. HALIFAX – Fax last won the cup in 1987. Who did they beat in the final at Wembley?

3. SHEFFIELD – Who won the Lance Todd Trophy when the Eagles won the Challenge Cup for the one and only time?

4. SWINTON – Lions stand off Graham Holroyd played in the Challenge Cup final in which two years?

5. HULL KR – Justin Morgan has reached the semi final of the cup with the Robins and which other club?

6. HARLEQUINS – London Broncos reached Wembley in which year?

7. WARRINGTON – Who did the Wire beat to win their first Challenge Cup in 1904/05?

8. OLDHAM – How many times have the Roughyeds lifted the Challenge Cup?

9. LEEDS – By what score were the Rhinos beat-

en by local rivals Bradford in the 2003 final in Cardiff?

10. KEIGHLEY – How many times have the Cougars competed in a Wembley cup final?

11. CATALANS – By what score were the Dragons beaten by St Helens at Wembley in 2007?

12. FEATHERSTONE – Rovers beat which club at Wembley in 1983?

13. HULL FC – Who scored the decisive try for the Black and Whites in the 2005 Final win over Leeds Rhinos?

14. DONCASTER – Which two teams contested the 2008 Challenge Cup semi final at the Dons' Keepmoat Stadium?

15. BARROW – In what decade did Barrow reach the Challenge Cup final twice?

16. BATLEY – Which three current Super League teams did Batley defeat to win the Challenge Cup three times in the first five years of the tournament?

ANAGRAMS

Rearrange the following phrases to form the names of three past winners of the Lance Todd Trophy

1. DIVA SOLD SPIT (1979)

2. INFORM A FAITH (1992)

3. INFIDEL KNIVES (2005)

ANSWERS: AROUND THE CLUBS 1. 1998 and 2005, 2. St Helens, 3. Mark Aston, 4. 1994 and 1995, 5. Toulouse, 6. 1999, 7. Hull KR, 8. Three (1898/99, 1924/25, 1926/27), 9. 22-20, 10. One (1936/37), 11. 30-8, ANAGRAMS: 1. David Toplis, 2. Martin Offiah, 3. Kevin Sinfield, 16. St Helens, Bradford and Warrington.



carnegie challenge



August 2009

Catalans to Wembley

They're up for the challenge... are you?

www.steveprescottfund.co.uk

