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Official matchday magazine of the Co-operative Championships

GAMEON

February 28, 2010
Vol 2 No.5 £2.50

**48
PAGES**

Showtime

**Stars welcome
League kick-off**

**HE'S A GENE-IUS - HE'S
STAN THE MAN!**

**BACK IN CHARGE:
IAN MILLWARD TALKS**

HORNETS' CO-OP FUTURE

**WHO WILL BE THE
CHAMPIONSHIPS' IRONMAN?**

**NEWS
VIEWS
QUIZ
STATS &
MORE!**

MATCHES IN FOCUS

featherstone **v** batley

halifax **v** sheffield

leigh **v** barrow

toulouse **v** dewsbury

widnes **v** keighley

hornets **v** doncaster

hunslet **v** gateshead

scorpions **v** workington

swinton **v** oldham

york **v** london



The **co-operative**

CHAMPIONSHIP

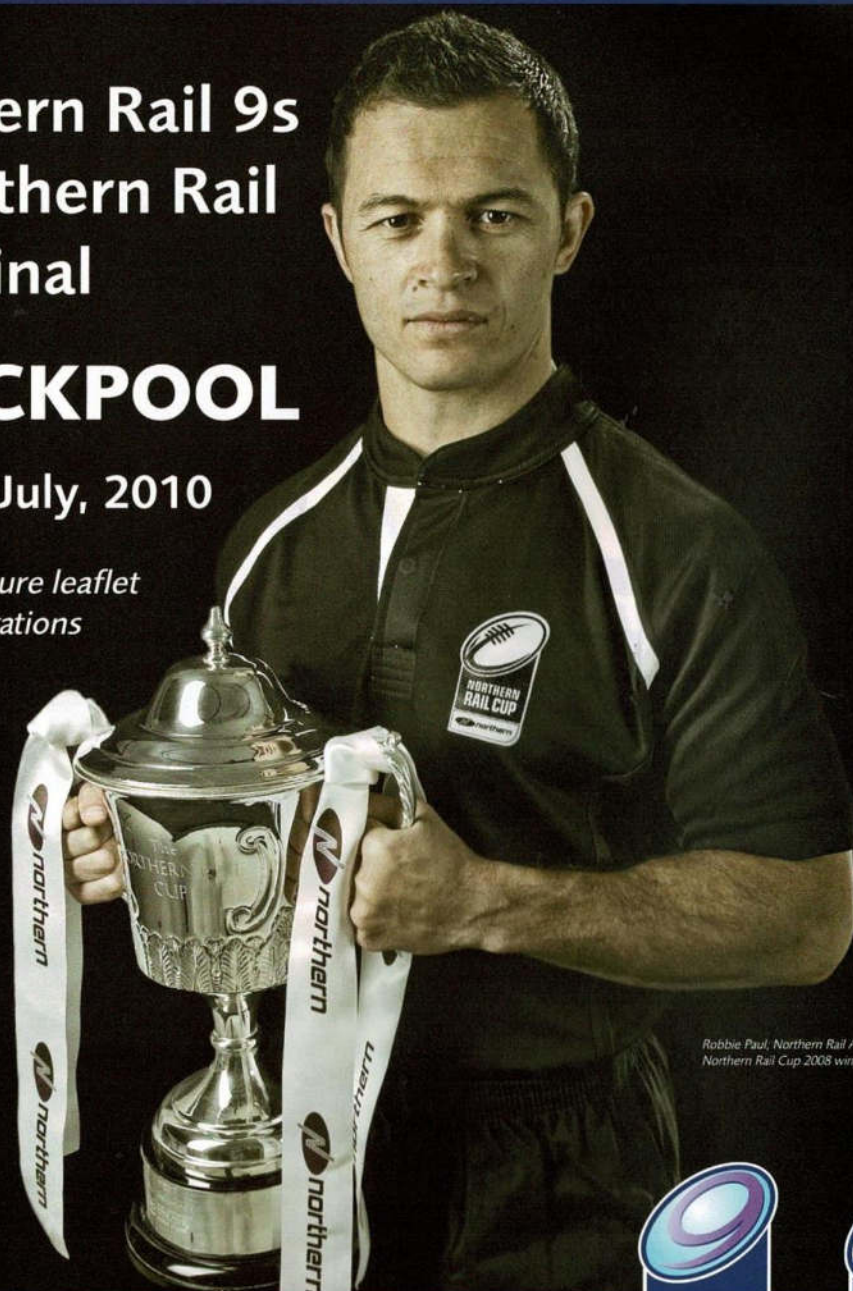
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Kicking off with a bang

The Co-operative Championships kick-off with a bang this weekend with ten matches scheduled across the two divisions which provided such great entertainment last year.

The official launch for the competitions took place in Manchester last week with the help of Coronation Street stars past and present Lucy-Jo Hudson, Michelle Keegan and Helen Flanagan and the pictures from the event generated some great national coverage for the sport.

The theme of the launch revolved around the news that a higher percentage of female viewers are tuning into rugby league than football or cricket on Sky Sports but this wasn't the only positive statistic regarding last season's TV coverage.

By the end of the 2009 season more than a million people had watched The Co-operative Championships live on Sky Sports and overall viewing figures were up by 31 per cent on the previous year.

The regular Thursday night TV exposure has certainly been a great platform for the competitions and the Leigh Sporting Village Stadium is a fitting venue to kick off coverage of the 2010 season with champions Barrow Raiders taking on the Centurions live on Sky Sports.

Speaking of great venues in the competition, visitors to Halifax's Shay Stadium are sure to be impressed with the ground this year now that the Main Stand has finally been completed much to the relief of everyone in Calderdale.

Indeed the Shay hosts what looks like an absolute belter on Sunday with Sheffield Eagles travelling to face a Halifax side who will surely have a point to prove after their defeat ten days ago.

Across the channel Dewsbury Rams open their Championship account with a clash against Toulouse and I'm sure the Rams' supporters that make the trip will enjoy the experience in what is a fantastic city to watch rugby league in.

Finally, I'm sure all rugby league fans will wish Neath-based South Wales Scorpions well as they launch their Championship One campaign at The Gnoll against Workington Town, on Sunday.



*Nick Boothroyd
Editor*

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.



BASIL'S HOME SWEET HOME

He's experienced a lot of the highs and a few lows too, but the irrepressible Ian Millward is never short of a word or too, as TOM COATES found out!

"It's like being at a new club!" said new Centurions' coach Ian Millward on his return to Leigh. "The stadium's fantastic and the training facilities are ten times better than they were before. "There were always doubts

about whether the old ground was able to take us to the next stage if we were good enough.

"Obviously that's not an issue anymore!"

Ian Millward's first spell as Leigh coach began in 1998. The short time he spent with the Leythys saw them evolve from being a struggling first division side into candidates for a Super League spot.

"They'd only won something like four games over the whole year," said Millward on his arrival in the town.

"They were a young team eager to learn and I was keen to make a good impression myself, so it was a good fit. I really enjoyed it.

"Seeing the team start to win, the crowds building up and the players enjoying their rugby league was great. They were averaging crowds of 700 a game when I arrived and it was up to 3,000 when I left which shows you far we came."

Millward then replaced Ellery Hanley at St Helens and led the men from Knowsley Road to two Super League titles, two Challenge Cup final victories and success in the World Club Challenge.

"They're all special," he said of his silverware haul during his spell with the Saints.

"When you win one, you want to experience it again and I was lucky that I was able to be a part of such a successful era. To win five trophies over five and a half years is a great achievement to me."

Ian's spell with St Helens was brought to an abrupt end in 2005 following allegations of misconduct. He didn't have to wait long for his next appointment however, local rivals Wigan made their intentions clear and Millward was appointed head coach of the Warriors within a fortnight.

But the man with the nickname 'Basil' paid the price for Wigan's poor form and he was sacked in 2006 following a run of results that had left the club languishing near the bottom of the table.

His departure from Wigan prompted a return to Australia where he was appointed assistant to Graham Murray at North Queensland Cowboys before replacing Murray as head coach for the closing stages of the 2008 season.

He moved on to Canberra Raiders at the end of the season to assist David Furer before Leigh came calling again. Eventually Millward negotiated a release from his contract with the NRL club to secure a second spell with the Centurions.

"I wanted to get back to the NRL to continue my education as a coach and to challenge myself," he added. "That competition is the 'coal face' of rugby league and you've got a cross-section of fantastic players.

"I wanted to experience it and, I think doing that helped me develop knowledge-wise and also re-ignited my enthusiasm for the sport."

"My three children still live in the UK," he explained on his reasons for returning to Leigh.

"I wanted to spend more time with them, plus my wife's parents live in the area so it wasn't an entirely rugby league based decision."

"Arthur Thomas, who took me to St Helens, is with Leigh now. He's become a close friend of the family and played a big part in the success I had at St Helens.

"He's keen to move the club forward and his involvement at the club was another of the reasons I chose to come back.

"The infrastructure that's in place now, with the new stadium and everything, is not only positive for Leigh, but positive for Rugby League as a whole."

The Centurions endured a tough time in 2009 and it was only a last minute reprieve, brought about by the off-field problems at Gateshead, that preserved Leigh's status as a Championship club.

The let-off has given Leigh a second bite at the cherry, as relegation to Championship 1 would have almost certainly spelt the end of the Centurions' Super League ambitions.

"Demotion would have put our Super League ambitions in severe jeopardy," admitted Millward.

"The form last year reflected where we finished in the table," he continued.

"Having said that though, we've kept a majority of last season's players on and I've been impressed by their attitude, their enthusiasm and also their desire to become better players."

"They did deserve to go down and we were lucky to avoid that but I've been pleasantly surprised with the way the players have gone about their business so far."

He and his side are chomping at the bit to get started with the league season and the Centurions coach is optimistic of the side's prospects, despite last season's

struggle.

"For us, it's all about performance at the moment. If we can be more consistent than we were last year then we can give ourselves a great chance.

"If each individual improves as a player and if the team can perform consistently, who knows where that'll drive us to. It's not about the end-product yet.

"It's just about getting the right processes in place for now - we can look at taking rewards from that in the future."





Girls allowed in our family friendly game

A higher percentage of female viewers are tuning into Rugby League than football or cricket according to newly released viewing figures from Sky Sports, which show that the sport has a female audience share of 35% compared to Premiership Football at 29% and Ashes cricket at 25%.

To celebrate the findings Coronation Street stars past and present, Michelle Keegan, Helen Flanagan and Lucy-Jo Hudson, shared their love of Rugby League last week as they brought some glamour to the official launch of the 2010 Co-operative Championships.

The competition kicks off this week with Leigh taking on Champions Barrow live on Sky Sports 3, in the competition which last season proved to be the most competitive and exciting ever.

Lucy-Jo Hudson, the sister of Super League player and Castleford Tigers star Ryan Hudson, who was re-united with her former Corrie cast mates to get behind the game, said: "The fact that more women are getting into Rugby League is great. I've been brought up watching Rugby League and I often go to watch my brother play. I hope more women continue to get involved - it's a fantastic sport."

Helen Flanagan, who plays Rosie in the popular soap, said: "I'm a massive Rugby League fan, so I was thrilled to be invited to the launch today. To hear that Rugby League has a huge following among women is great news, and I'm looking forward to getting to watch some games this year."

Actress Michelle Keegan, known to many as Tina McIntyre from the show, said: "I have always been a huge fan of Rugby League. It's such a fast paced game and everyone who plays it has to be so fit. It was a pleasure getting to meet players today at the start of the 2010 season. Good luck to everyone playing!"

Rugby League is growing year on year with increased live coverage and viewing figures on Sky Sports, record attendances at club games and a 29% increase on attendees at the 2009 Grand Final compared to 2008.

More than a million people watched The Co-operative Championships live on Sky Sports last year with the televised Thursday night thrillers proving compulsive viewing and overall viewing figures up by 31 per cent.

Liz Matkin, The Co-operative Group's Head of Sponsorship, commented: "We're delighted to have Helen, Michelle and Lucy-Jo involved in championing women's interest in Rugby League. These stats show that the sport really does offer something for everyone and we're proud to get behind a sport which brings so much to the community - whatever gender or age!"

"Being good for everyone is the heart of the Co-operative's core business as a community retailer. We look forward to another exciting 2010 Co-operative Championship season."



Lucy-Jo, Helen and Michelle at last week's launch

2013 World Cup to be 14 teams

TEAMS from more than 20 nations will be given the opportunity to play in the 2013 Rugby League World Cup, the RLIF announced today.

The World Cup will be staged in the UK and will feature 14 nations, two of whom will come from qualifying tournaments in the northern and southern hemispheres. The identity of the 12 teams which will have automatic eligibility for 2013 and those who will be involved in the qualifying process will be revealed later this year.

The proposal for a 14-nation Rugby League World Cup was ratified in Singapore this week at a meeting of the RLIF and welcomed by Chairman Colin Love, who expressed his belief that the tournament would

elevate international Rugby League to new levels.

"We are delighted to have ratified this proposal for a 14-nation Rugby League World Cup which was unanimously supported by RLIF delegates," said Love.

"This year will see the Four Nations in Australia and New Zealand build on the success of the 2008 Rugby World Cup and 2009 Four Nations and going forward I am confident that in 2013 we will see a tournament that will successfully showcase international Rugby League to a worldwide audience.

"The format reflects Rugby League's increased participation around the world and provides a wonderful opportunity for the finest athletes in any sport to prove themselves on the greatest stage of all."

who will be the 2010 IRONMAN

SO OFTEN they are the unsung heroes of The Greatest Game - the work-horses who ply their trade in the boiler room of Rugby League. It's the coalface of sport, an apprenticeship for only the hardest, the toughest test of a man's mettle.

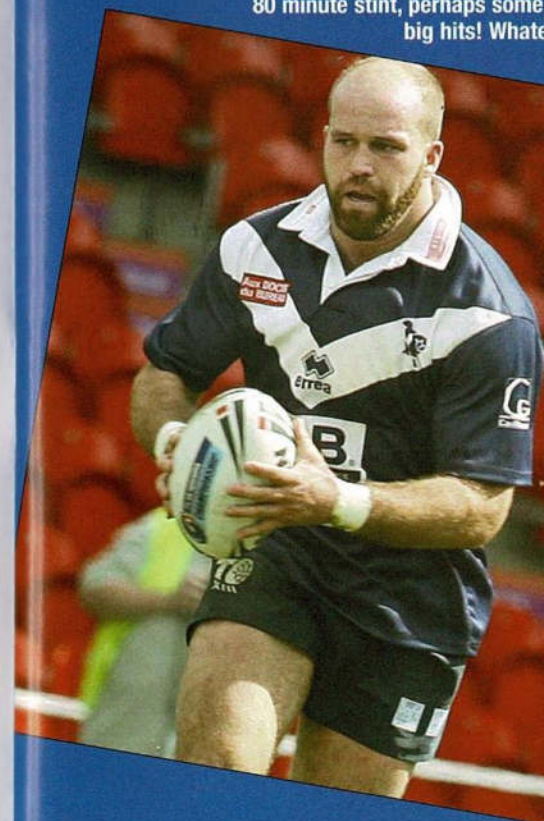
It is life as a Rugby League forward.

So often the plaudits and the champagne go to fleet footed stand-offs or mercurial scrum halves, while the glory boys in the three-quarters swan in for their complement of tries and milk the crowds' adulation.

So this year Game On is dedicating an award for the men who often give most to secure victory with their efforts in the middle of the park. Come the end of the season we will be naming the 2010 Co-operative Championships 'Ironman' which will go to a forward for whom respect has been completely earned, whatever the fortunes of his team on the scoreboard.

In each of the weekly Co-operative Championship and Championship 1 rounds an independent 3-2-1 rating will be nominated from every game

played which will include forwards from both sides. The criteria? It can be sheer yards gained, tackles made, an 80 minute stint, perhaps some amazing try-scoring feats for a forward - or a couple of explosive big hits! Whatever catches our judges' eye!



And, to ensure that all players have an equal opportunity to rack up points, the winner will be the Ironman with the most points accumulated through the league campaign, and not including the play-offs, or the Northern Rail Cup or Carnegie Challenge Cup.

A level playing field - the only thing a true Rugby League warrior wants!

But we're not forgetting the blokes who put the points on the board either. We will also be making awards at the end of season ceremony to the top try scorer and goalkicker from the two divisions, again during matches played in the regular league campaign.

Last Year Dewsbury Rams' Patch Walker and Barrow flyer James Nixon had stellar seasons, keeping the lads operating the scoreboards as busy as can be.

How will they fare this term, though?

The slate is wiped clean from this weekend, so unfortunately Batley star full-back Johnny Campbell's magnificent start to the season counts for naught in the Co-operative awards stakes. And every week in Game On we will keep you up to date with the leaders in these exciting, exclusive new awards!

Brendan Worth of
Toulouse .. could be the
big Aussie fit the
Ironman bill in 2010?



NEW 2010 AWARDS

IRONMAN

TRYMAN

MARKSMAN

All to be decided over the
regular season rounds

STAN IS THE MAN

Rugby League doesn't have many living legends, players who are adored and admired across the game by fans, whoever they support. But **STANLEY GENE** is one iconic member of the RL family who certainly fits into that category. Despite being at the back end of a stellar career, Stan still has lots to offer his latest club Halifax. He spoke to Game On's **TOM COATES**

Having arrived on these shores in 1995, Stanley Gene has gone on to carve out a career in British Rugby League that has seen him feature for six different clubs – becoming a firm fan's favourite at every one. Stan will see out his playing days with Halifax, bringing the curtain down on a career that has seen him win a World Club Challenge, represent his country and develop a reputation as one of the toughest players to ever play the sport.

It all began when his performances for Papua New Guinea during the 1995 World Cup attracted the attention of Hull KR. The East Hull club offered the young Kumul a contract and Gene's decision to leave his native country to play for the Robins proved to be the start of something special for both parties.

"It was really scary coming here," admitted Gene talking about his arrival in Hull. "I lived up in the mountains where you never saw traffic lights or roundabouts or more than two cars."

"It was a big step to take but I'm glad I made the decision."

Stan went on to make 108 appearances for Hull KR, picking up a Silk Cut Challenge Plate winners medal along the way, before signing for Gateshead at the end of 1999.

Fate's a funny thing though and, with Gateshead 'merging' with Hull FC in time for the 2000 season, he faced the prospect of turning out for his previous club's arch-rivals.

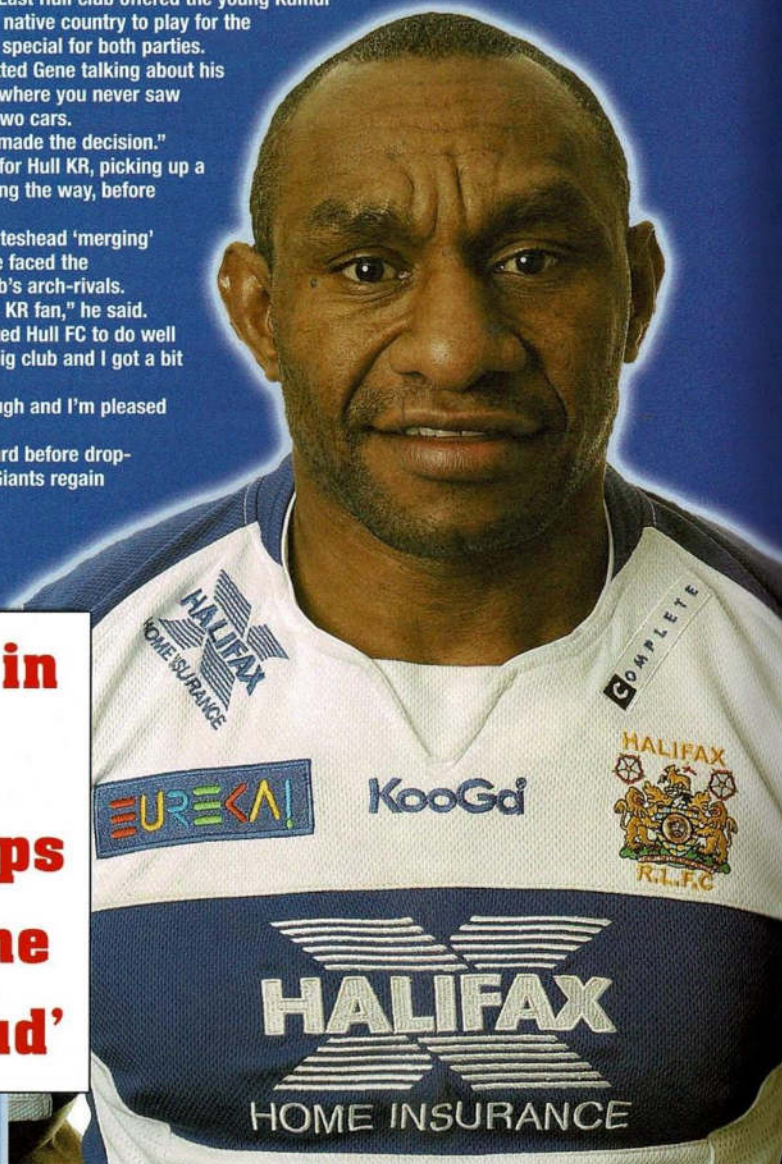
"I always have and always will be a Hull KR fan," he said.

"But, at the same time, I've always wanted Hull FC to do well and Hull City (soccer) to do well. FC are a big club and I got a bit of stick when I first went there."

"I really enjoyed my time with them though and I'm pleased with the contributions I made."

Gene spent three seasons at the Boulevard before dropping down a division to help Huddersfield Giants regain promotion from the NFP.

'To play in three World Cups makes me very proud'

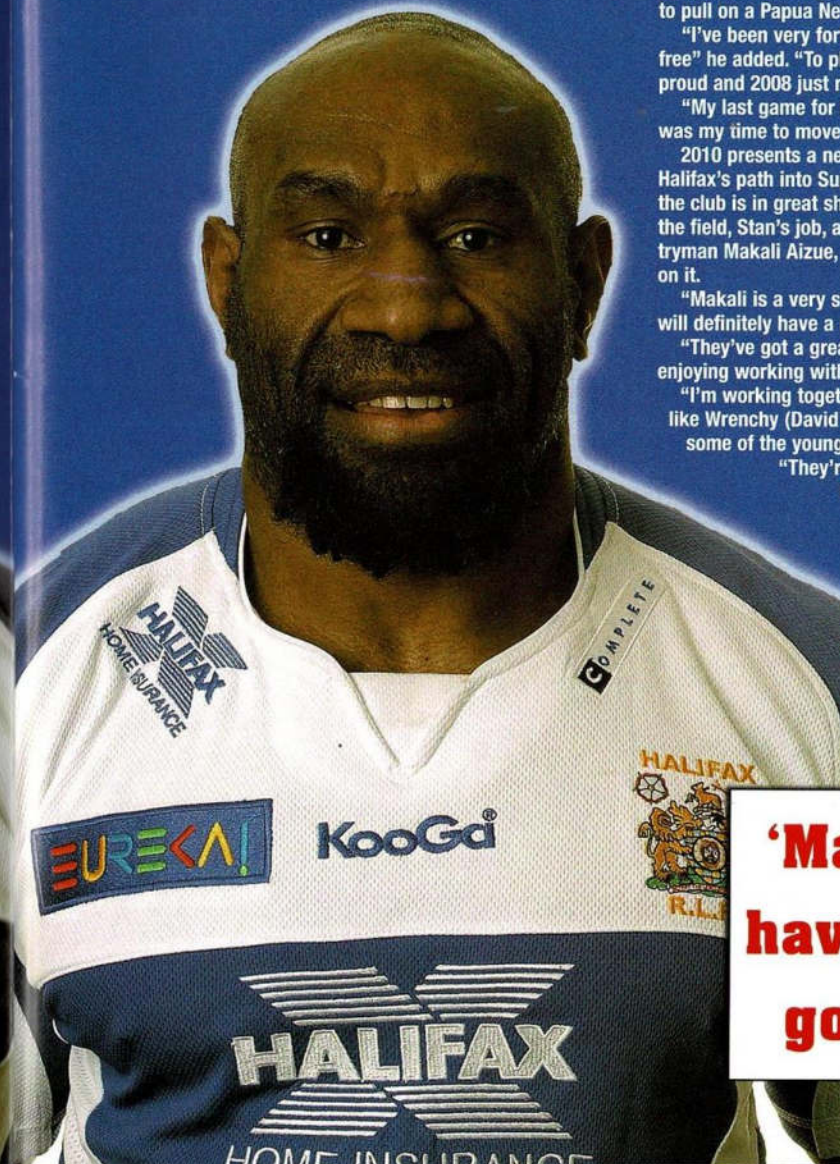


He scored 28 tries in 27 appearances that season before going on to play 68 more times for the Giants in Super League.

The diminutive Kumul's next career move took him to Bradford for one season before being reunited with his beloved Hull KR who had just won promotion to the Super League.

"It's a promise I made to the club when I left," said Gene on his 'homecoming'. "Neil Hudgell is a good friend of mine and we used to joke that I'd be the first player he'd sign if he ever became chairman. A couple of years later, they got promoted and I ended up back there."

"I was really happy to return, Justin Morgan understood my strengths and fitted me into his side and for that I'm grateful."



Stan spent three seasons with Hull KR, bringing his total appearances for the club to 173 and cementing his status as a legend among the Rovers' faithful.

"They're like family to me," said Gene. "Some of them have been talking about organising a bus full of supporters to come and watch a Halifax game."

"I always check on how they're doing and I hope they can continue to grow as a club and move on to bigger and better things."

An accomplished career at club level only tells half the story of Stan's life as a rugby league player who has represented his country at three separate World Cups. He retired from the international scene following the 2008 tournament in Australia and will go down as one of the greatest ever players to pull on a Papua New Guinea jersey.

"I've been very fortunate in that I've stayed fit and injury free" he added. "To play in three World Cups makes me very proud and 2008 just rounded it off perfectly."

"My last game for PNG was very emotional for me but it was my time to move on."

2010 presents a new challenge for him, namely to secure Halifax's path into Super League come franchise year. Whilst the club is in great shape for a Super League application off the field, Stan's job, along with fellow new signing and countryman Makali Aizue, is to spearhead the club's progression on it.

"Makali is a very strong and powerful guy," said Gene. "He will definitely have a really good year."

"They've got a great balance over at Halifax and I'm really enjoying working with the younger players."

"I'm working together with a couple of the other older ones like Wrenchy (David Wrench) and Dave (Larder) to bring some of the young lads through."

"They're all great guys and I want to help get them into Super League."

"If we can keep our heads down and dig deep over the next couple of years then you might see Halifax back in the big league."

'Makali will have a really good year'

sky

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KEEP AN EYE ON THE BALL



Danny Lockwood

WRITING in last week's edition about the season when Workington coach Gary Charlton and I were on opposing clubs in the Winfield Cup in Australia, and looking at today's Player Profile with Halifax hero Dave Larder, got me to thinking about just how small a world we live in.

You may have heard of the theory of 'Six Degrees of Separation' which argues that if all the people you know are one step away from you, and all the people each of them know are two steps away, then by the time you get to step six, you've 'touched' every person on the planet.

Now I like this idea, especially if it brings me into the orbit of, say, Angelina Jolie and Carmen Elektra, although knowing my luck I'd end up stuck with one of the Roly Polys and Ken Livingstone. I suppose in fairness the girls from the Roly Polys might be great company – I might even be able to keep up with them on the dance floor – but 10 minutes in a lift with 'Red' Ken Livingstone? I'd rather have all my teeth out thanks. Without the anaesthetic.

Although I've seen Dave Larder play many times over the years we've never met, although as an amateur player at Dudley Hill I came into his dad Phil's orbit once or twice, and as a journalist have interviewed him in his role with the England Rugby Union team, when Leeds Rhinos invited Phil, Joe Lydon and then-England RU coach Andy Robinson along to Headingley for a joint workout. I know, I know, in the cemeteries of small former pit villages and industrial towns across the north, granddads and great-granddads alike were spinning like tops ... how times change.

But how I first met Phil Larder gives the proof to that Six Degrees of Separation theory. Six? At the rate the world's shrinking, it might be down to five or four before too long. I reckon it would have been the autumn of 1983 and for reasons we don't need to go into here, I was living in the beach community of Belmont Shore, just outside Long Beach in California, and working on the door of the local sports bar, Legends. It was owned by a Widnes bloke, John Morris (small world?) and an All-Star offensive lineman for the Los Angeles Rams, Dennis Harrah.

Now I'd got the job simply by phoning the bar and asking if there were any rugby sides in the locality. A thick Yorkshire accent answered the phone and before you knew it I had both the stand-off shirt – and the doorman's job – of ex-Headingley RU star Paul Gray who was heading back to England after a stint out there.

A 'small world' incident again, eh? But having a beer after work one night I got talking to another Englishman who was on a 'working holiday' and staying with another British ex-pat pal of mine by the name of Eddie Robinson. This visitor had been despatched to Los Angeles by the Rugby Football League apparently to study the training and coaching methods of what we call 'gridiron' but the Yanks simply refer to as 'football'.

This was still the early '80s, but after the traumatic maulings we'd received at the hands of both the '78 and '82 touring Australians, the masters of the British game were desperately looking around for answers. Professionalism loomed...

The bloke's name was Phil Larder and the reports he compiled as a result of that process were to kickstart many of the modifications that literally changed the face of not just how Rugby League is played in Britain, but how our players regard themselves as athletes.

His 'little' boy David would have been a primary school laddie back in those days, possibly some years yet off his first black eye or bust lip (and I will politely refrain from suggesting whether such rites of passage were received or administered!) Still, you can bet your bottom dollar he was brought up with no shortage of knowledge about our great game. And it's not surprising to see that he wants to go into coaching after he finishes at Fax. He certainly has the pedigree.



Phil Larder, small world experiences in the USA

PS. What am I on about, Six Degrees of Separation to meet Angelina Jolie? In 1988 I hosted a televised event with members of the USA Olympics team and my co-host was a bloke by the name of Jon Voight – Angelina's dad. But that really is another story...

Going 'co-op' was lifeline

A lot of semi-professional Rugby League clubs have been close to the brink over the past couple of seasons – and times are still tough out there. When the situation struck at Rochdale Hornets, the fans took matters into their own hands. Chairman Mark Wynn tells TOM COATES why going co-operative can be the way forward for others



"You can't count on a sugar daddy to dip his hand into his pocket every time you need bailing out." Those are the words of Hornets RL chairman Mark Wynn, who believes that the sport's only professional co-operative club will be the first of many, with several clubs struggling to stay afloat over the past couple of seasons.

"Also, if their business hits a sticky patch then the club hits a sticky patch," he adds, in honest appraisal of the financial and economic situation many sporting organisations are finding themselves in – all the way from the Glazer family and their debt-laden Manchester United, through to the under-threat Portsmouth in football's Premiership, right to the grass roots of rugby league.

"I doubt that we'll be the only co-operative run club in a few years given the current climate."

Rochdale Hornets found themselves on the brink of extinction at the end of the 2008 season, with supporters rallying round to ensure the town would continue have a team to support.

"The old club went into administration and the supporters group that was around at the time entered into dialogue with the RFL and a group called Supporters Direct," said Wynn. "Supporters Direct is an umbrella organisation that helps fans to get involved with the running of the their club."

"The only other interested party was Rochdale AFC but, with the shared stadium, we didn't feel this was the best way forward," he added.

Local businessman and long-time supporter Paul Ormerod stumped up the cash to get the Hornets up and running again, on the proviso that things would be very different this time around.

"Every supporter can pay £20 to become a member," said Wynn. "And a board of directors is elected to run the club on their behalf."

"Membership entitles you to one share and one vote and we have regular meetings where shareholders can have their say on how the club is run."

"It's much more 'hands on' than other clubs run by shareholders," Wynn continued. "No member has invested a significant amount of money so there's nobody wanting control."

The Hornets' chairman is aware of the restraints the

Coach John Stankevitch:
"it's a great atmosphere"



Mark Wynn,
Hornets RL
chairman

structure places the club under though. "Because, we don't have a 'sugar daddy' we have to be a lot tighter with our finances," adds Wynn. "We can't afford to speculate on big name players in the hope that they'll draw in the crowds."

"We're looking at keeping the books balanced rather than taking a punt on something. In a way we're taking the club back to how it used to be run."

"Every team used to be run by a committee and had direct links with the local community. We're hoping to re-establish this relationship and engage with the town – I think that's what every rugby league club needs to do," he continued. "We had fallen off the radar in Rochdale but the majority of our members now are locally based."

"It's almost a perfect fit really as Rochdale is the birthplace of the co-operative movement. We have a five year plan to show people that this is a credible way of doing things."

"The new club launched just four days before our first match in 2009 so it was a bit of a mad scramble. We will make mistakes along the way but we learnt lots last season and hope to operate at a profit this year."

Wynn hopes that if the club can stabilise itself off the park, the results will start to come on it.

"If we perform well behind the scenes then the team will perform well. And any income we generate will be used to develop local players," he added.

"We spent a few seasons without fielding any local lads, there are five or six now. The local amateur scene has been sadly neglected. We hope to address that over the next couple of years."

One man who echoes the Chairman's sentiments is head coach John Stankevitch, who joined the club during the close season.

"The atmosphere here's fantastic to be honest," said Stankevitch who succeeds Darren Shaw as head coach at Spotland.

"I didn't expect anything more than what I've been given," he continued.

"Mike Banks, who I knew from Widnes, is the club's chief

executive and that's helped me to find my way around the club. I've tried to bring my own approach, my own ethics and just create a professional environment," said the former Saints prop forward.

"The club as whole, not just on the field, is moving in the right direction," he continued. "If we build slowly and not try to run before we can walk then we'll do just fine."

Stankevitch can reflect on what's been on a difficult start to the season but he has high hopes for the league campaign.

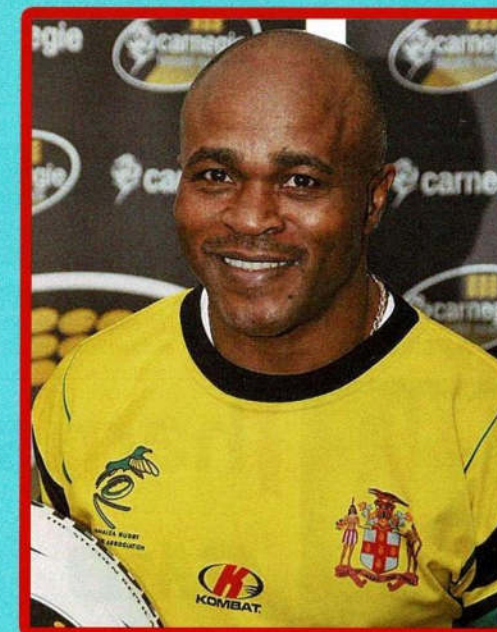
"I'm disappointed that we haven't qualified for the next stage of the Northern Rail Cup but I feel as though we've made progress over the last four weeks. The game against York was winnable and at times we've been our worst enemy."

"We do have a young squad, and we've only had four months to get things in place."

Despite the relatively inexperienced nature of the side, the Hornets' coach remains defiant about his side's prospects.

"We'd like to win our games and improve as the season progresses," said Stankevitch. "Success for me would be to qualify for the play-offs and make the final."

RL legend Des Drummond is on the staff



Featherstone Rovers v Batley Bulldogs



Sunday February 28, 2010. Kick off 3pm. BIGFELLAS STADIUM

PLAYER	No.
Ian Hardman	1
Tommy Saxton	2
Sam Smeaton	3
Liam Welham	4
Jon Steel	5
Kyle Briggs	6
Andy Kain	7
Iain Morrison	8
Liam Finn	9
Stuart Dickens	10
Matty Dale	11
Jon Grayshon	12
Jamie Field	13
Danny Allan	14
Jessie Joe Nandye	15
Dane Manning	16
Tony Tonks	17
Tim Spears	18
Ross Divorty	19
Tommy Lynch	20
Michael Coady	21
Jack Lee	22
Jodie Sheriffe	23
Larsen Marabe	24
Gareth Swift	25
Zak Hardaker	26
Aaron Dobek	27
Thomas Carr	28
Gareth Williamson	29

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: DARYL POWELL

LAST SIX RESULTS: LWLW-DL

LAST SIX HOME: WLWLL-D

TRIES: Welham (3)

GOALS: Briggs (2)

DROP GOALS: -

MAN TO WATCH: Kyle Briggs

MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee: R.Hicks

Touch: D.Sharpe, D.Tindall

Reserve Referee: K.Povah

THE INSIDE TRACK

"In-form Bulldogs to send a message to the division's movers and shakers. Batley by 8"

LAST SIX RESULTS: LWW-DWW

LAST SIX AWAY: WLWLW-W

TRIES: Campbell (6)

GOALS: Moore (17)

DROP GOALS: -

MAN TO WATCH: Jason Walton

COACH: KARL HARRISON

No.	PLAYER	SPONSOR
1	Ian Preece	Hopkins Family
2	Lee Greenwood	Leyland Paints
3	Mark Barlow	Batley Rock'n Roll
4	Danny Maun	Stephen & Mandy Fletcher
5	Johnny Campbell	Gary Tingle & Lorraine Richardson
6	Paul Handforth	Brian Hooley
7	Gareth Moore	Batley Nash
8	Byron Smith	Study Centre
9	Kris Lythe	Benson Family
10	Sean Hesketh	Mick Lockton
11	Tommy Gallagher	Eddie Toronczak & Family
12	Mark Toohey	George & Mary Gommersal
13	Ash Lindsay	Amy Fletcher
14	John Gallagher	Hick Funeral
15	Anthony Henderson	
16	John Simpson	Paul & Dianne Goodhall
17	Craig Potter	Johnstone Paints
18	Jack Watson	Tracey Grundell & Katie Penn
19	Eddie Kilroy	Tracey & Brian Winner
20	Dave Toothill	Cellar Bar
21	James Martin	Mary Hughes
22	Josh Griffin	
23	Chris Buttery	RSM Carriers
24	Alex Brown	
25	Kyle Wood	
26		
27	Jason Walton	Paul Hinchcliffe
	Waterboy	Peter's Foods

CLUBCALL

Featherstone v Batley

We must use Rail Cup setback as our motivation



Action for the Rail Cup defeat at Leigh - it was 'disappointment' but morale is high in the squad says Daryl Powell

Well it's difficult to remember a season that has started so patchy in terms of games cancelled and training sessions missed due to bad weather and in particular snow and or ice.

We now have a period of four games in 12 days to contend with.

We also have to get over the disappointment of failing to qualify for the quarter finals of the Northern Rail Cup.

However it has happened and we must all use this as extra motivation for our league season which begins today.

Batley have started their

season well and are unbeaten at the moment so they will present a difficult challenge today.

Karl Harrison is a seasoned coach who you all know about as a player, his teams compete in his spirit and we must front up physically in a very strong way today.

Despite a tough start our morale is extremely high and all the players are working hard to improve individually and collectively, it is this kind of attitude that is needed consistently across the entire season to be successful.

We start a brand new competition today and we are all looking forward to being at

our best. I keep stating the strength of the Championship and we will strive to grow as a team over the coming weeks with consistent game time.

I was massively disappointed to read of Terry Newton's drugs test results last week. I played alongside Terry at Leeds when he was a young hooker making his way in the game, he is a good bloke and this poor judgment will haunt him for a long time.

There is no doubt we need to rid ourselves of this problem in our game, our impact in the minds of impressionable young people who see sports stars as role models is huge.

In my mind testers should be able to pick out players from any club at any level and test them, just look at the body shape of some players and you get an indication of possible illegality in regard to our game.

Hopefully Terry being caught will show players that growth hormone is not the way forward.

We are committed to working really hard on our game today, get behind the lads and enjoy the game.

Daryl Powell
Head Coach

BIG FELLAS
NIGHT CLUB

harris
construction management

GMB

wdh
Wakefield and District Housing

UNISON

SSC

ARMY
BE THE BEST
REGULAR & TERRITORIAL

Halifax RLFC v



Sheffield Eagles



Sunday February 28, 2010. Kick off 3pm. THE SHAY

SPONSOR	PLAYER	No.
Fax Supporters Trust.....	Miles Greenwood	1
Windsor Yarns.....	Lee Paterson	2
Vision Express.....	Jon Goddard	3
Chadwick Lawrence.....	Shad Royston	4
Chadwick Lawrence.....	James Haley	5
Chadwick Lawrence.....	Luke Branighan	6
Harvey's Department Store.....	Ben Black	7
Also Wines.....	Makali Aizue	8
Riley & Co Accountants.....	Sean Penkywicz	9
AA Moving Solutions.....	Neil Cherryholme	10
Windsor Yarns.....	Dave Larder	11
Howard Posner.....	Stanley Gene	12
Complete Building Materials.....	Bob Beswick	13
David/Terry Kendall.....	Mark Gleeson	14
Steve Shurety - EMB Ltd.....	Mark Roberts	15
Liz Smith (Matthew Walker).....	Said Tamghart	16
Complete Building Materials.....	Frank Watene	17
The Kietly Family.....	Dylan Nash	18
Glenda Shaw.....	Dom Maloney	19
Glenda Shaw.....	Paul White	20
Calderdale Service Area.....	Anthony Bowman	21
Glenda Shaw.....	Dave Wrench	22
Griffin Sport & Work Wear.....	Rob Worrincy	23
Glenda Shaw.....	Stephen Bannister	24

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: LWL-WWL

LAST SIX HOME: WLLWW-W

TRIES: Worrincy (4), Haley (3)

GOALS: Paterson (9)

DROP GOALS: -

MAN TO WATCH: Stanley Gene

MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee: J. Leahy

Touch: S. Moss, S. Matthews

Reserve Referee: M. Hague

THE INSIDE TRACK

"Halifax to avenge defeat in the cup, just. Fax by 4"

No.	PLAYER	SPONSOR
1	Jonny Woodcock.....	AMCO
2	Danny Mills.....	Edge Telecom
3	Menzie Yere.....	OSI Ltd
4	John Coleman	
5	Ashley Thackeray.....	Anne Collins
6	Brendon Lindsay.....	Pennine Business Forms
7	Aaron Groom.....	AMCO
8	Jack Howieson.....	Hanlon & Wright
9	Craig Cook.....	In Memory of Jack London
10	Mitch Stringer.....	OSI
11	Alex Szostak.....	Jack Smith
12	Ged Corcoran.....	Hanlon & Wright
13	Peter Green.....	Everlast Waterproofing
14	Kyle Kesik	
15	Sam Barlow.....	Redbrook Business Coaching
16	Trevor Exton.....	Airborne Eagles
17	Alex Rowe	
18	Michael Haley	
19	Joe Hirst	
20	Matty Brooks.....	Jayne Whaling
21	Dane McDonald.....	Bethany, Ian & Jackie Swain
22	Ryan Hepworth	
23	Tangi Ropati.....	Albion Detection Systems
24	Misi Tualapapa.....	Modis International
25	Jason Mossop	
26	Tim Bergin	
27	Richie Barnett	
36	Eddie Battye.....	Jill Swire
37	Mark Renshaw-Smith.....	Insign Signage & Digital Imaging
38	Dan Hawksworth.....	Mr & Mrs Lee

COACH: MARK ASTON

LAST SIX RESULTS: WWL-DWW

LAST SIX AWAY: LWLLW-D

TRIES: Stringer (4), Cook (3)

GOALS: Woodcock (9)

DROP GOALS: Cook (1)

MAN TO WATCH: Misi Tualapapa



CLUBCALL

Halifax RLFC v Sheffield

We're determined to make a great start

Matt Calland Head Coach

Good afternoon everyone. I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome the players and staff of Sheffield Eagles to the Shay for this afternoon's Co-operative Championship opener.

We have had some terrific battles with Sheffield since they were promoted in 2007 and I am sure today's game will be no different.

Sheffield will be very confident after doing the league double over us last year.

At the same time, I know how determined we are to make a winning start to the Championship season too. It is only 10 days since we last met Sheffield in the Northern Rail Cup, and although we eventually lost out 13-6 there were still plenty of positives for us.

Our defence was excellent, but as I said in the Press, our attack certainly needs some more work.

Finding that improvement has not been made any easier by having our final NRC game against Hunslet snowed off last weekend, with the weather continuing to hit our training too.

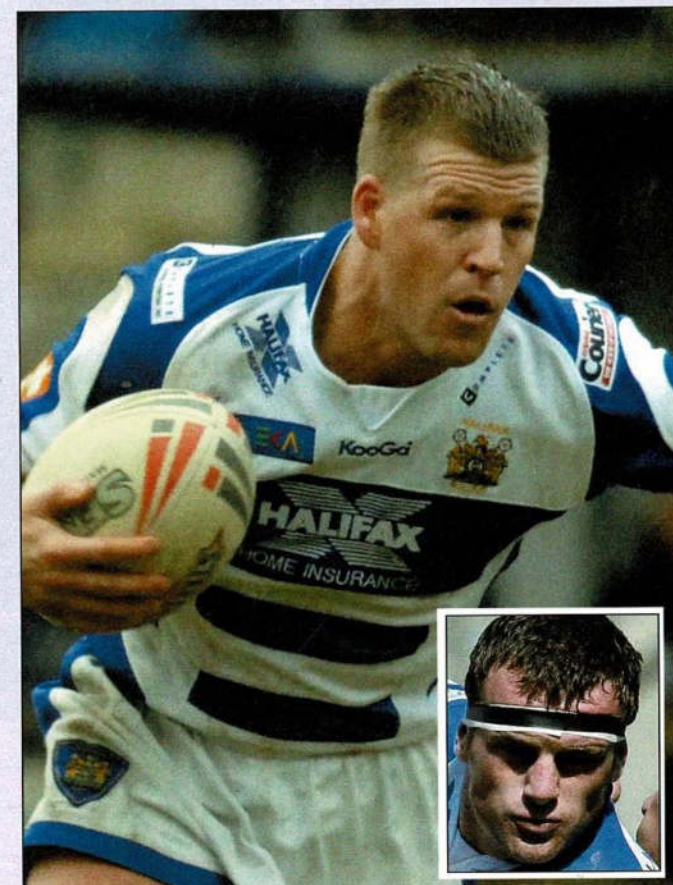
To say this winter has been frustrating would be an understatement.

On the plus side, we should have Ben Black, Dominic Maloney and, possibly, Dylan Nash available for selection today after injury.

Those three would certainly increase competition for places, which can only be a good thing.

Enjoy the game,

Matt



Half-back Ben Black and (inset) Dominic Maloney may be back

Tough game to open our season

WHAT a great opening to the new Co-operative Championship.

To say that Sheffield Eagles are tough opposition is an understatement.

Last season, as the results showed, they got the best of us.

Mark Aston made much of the 'League Double' in the run up to the recent Northern Rail fixture at Don Valley, and his team made it three in a row with the hard fought victory,

there. Hopefully, however, the wide open spaces of The Shay, and the determination to put on a show for our own fans, will see Halifax begin to redress the balance.

Whatever the result, today, it is a pleasure to welcome Ian Swire and his colleagues, the players staff and supporters of Sheffield Eagles to the Shay.

It is a pleasure also, to thank the Co-operative Group for the sponsorship of this excellent competition.

Both today's teams will realistically hope to participate in the showcase final on the last weekend of September.

This week has been eventful so far as the ground is concerned.

Crossing fingers and everything else, we expect some, and hopefully all, of the East Stand facilities to be available next weekend for the Carnegie Challenge Cup tie against Ovenden.

I'm not sure whether

Ovenden are giving up home advantage, or whether they will be hosting us on our home ground, but the prospect is of a classic cup tie being the first rugby league match in the completed stadium.

You won't want to miss such a once in a lifetime event.

Michael Steele
Chairman



Leigh Centurions v Barrow Raiders



Thursday February 25, 2010. Kick off 7.30pm. LEIGH SPORTS VILLAGE

L.I.S.A.	PLAYER	No.
Corlett Electrical Engineers	Stuart Donlan	1
Prof & Mrs Dale	Steve Maden	2
C&S Tyres UK Ltd	Dave Alstead	3
Hamilton Fabrications	Mick Nany	4
Ken Bates Associates	Nicky Stanton	5
Corporate Club	Tim Hartley	6
Civil Solutions Ltd	Robbie Paul	7
Hattons Solicitors	Chris Hill	8
Corporate Club	John Duffy	9
Brick Design	Ricky Bibey	10
TWS Removals	James Taylor	11
Ask Platt Office Supplies	Macgraff Leuluai	12
Dr Doublet-Stewart	Dave Armitstead	13
Mr John Lawton	Tommy Goulden	14
O' Neills Sportswear	Dave McConnell	15
Padken	Mike Morrison	16
Message Board	Stephen Nash	17
Ask Platt Office Supplies	Adam Higson	18
Prof & Mrs Dale	Danny Meekin	19
Ask Platt Office Supplies	Ian Mort	20
Integrated Control Solutions	Jamie Durbin	21
Wilmar Engineering Ltd	Martin Ridyard	22
SuperLeigh Lottery	Dale Cunneiffe	23
	Andy Ainscough	24

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: IAN MILLWARD

LAST SIX RESULTS: LLW-WLW
LAST SIX HOME: WWLW-WW
TRIES: Alstead, McConnell, Maden (2)
GOALS: Nany (4)
DROP GOALS: -
MAN TO WATCH: Robbie Paul

MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee: G.Hewer
Touch: P.Ward, A.Sweet
Reserve Referee: M.Mannifield

THE INSIDE TRACK

"Barrow will have two much for improving Centurions. Raiders by 8"

COACH: STEVE McCORMACK

LAST SIX RESULTS: LWW-WLW
LAST SIX AWAY: WWLW-LW
TRIES: Catic (4) Nixon (3)
GOALS: Rooney (12) Knowles (5)
DROP GOALS: -
MAN TO WATCH: Jamie Rooney

Supporting the
Centurions...

AWT
A.W.T. PAINTERS LTD.

JR's
AIRPORT EXPRESS
CONCRETE
T. S. LTD.

D.N.R.
Civil Solutions
(North West) Limited
Civil Engineering & Groundworks

KEG
WATCH
park inn

CLUBCALL

Leigh v Barrow



Macgraff Leuluai in determined mood in the 36-6 win over Featherstone Rovers

Let's play more games - not less

ALLAN ROWLEY
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Good evening and welcome to tonight's televised opening round of the Co-operative Championship against Barrow.

Barrow under the guidance of Des Johnston have put together a very capable team and are tipped to be amongst the front runners again this season.

It was very disappointing at the weekend to lose our Northern Rail fixture against Dewsbury down to a snow covered pitch.

I was really looking forward to the game following our brilliant display against Featherstone, however the Featherstone game is behind us now and it will take nothing short of the same effort by the lads to come away with the spoils today.

I know that Mark Aston at Sheffield is pushing for a later start to the season to

try and avoid the bad weather and disruption it causes but it makes you wonder how we played this game during the winter months for all those years and you also wonder if the famous game in the snow at Hilton Park where Derek Pike was sweeping the touchlines all of the game would have gone ahead today!

I also find it interesting that Jamie Peacock is calling for fewer games because of burn out, to give us a chance against Australia, but if you look at the days when we used to beat the Aussies regularly we used to play 40-plus games a season.

I know that Leigh Centurions would

welcome more games, we have just 10 Co-operative Championship home games and two Northern Rail home games a season and before you know where you are the season has been and gone.

I personally would love to see another competition included such as the Lancashire and Yorkshire cups. They gave teams out of the top flight the chance to have a fairytale fixture against one of the big guns and a good payday to boot.

Another option would be make the Championship bigger by adding the top four from Championship 1 and replacing them in Championship 1 with the top four National League clubs.

Food for thought
Enjoy the game,

Allan



Toulouse Olympique XIII v Dewsbury Rams



Saturday February 27th, 2010. Kick off 7.00pm. Stade Arnauné/Minimes

PLAYER	No.
Copy Sud.....Rory Bromley	1
Bugbusters.....Sebastien Payan	2
André Raynal - Déménagements.....Sebastien Planas	3
Groupe Cailleau.....Vincent Duport	4
Gallego.....Carlos Mendes Varela	5
Prosegur.....Constant Villegas	6
ICA Patrimoine.....Nathan Wynn	7
Transports Sarrazain.....Brendan Worth	8
Renault Etats-Unis.....Martin Mitchell	9
Ermes Presetations.....Matthieu Griffi	10
Océanis.....Timothy Wynn	11
Siemix.....Simon Worrall	12
Inovans.....Eric Anselme	13
Compass Group.....Antoni Maria	14
Leroy Merlin.....Jerome Gout	15
Aux Docks du Bureau.....Sylvain Houles	16
Force Distribution.....Cedric Gay	17
La Mutuelle du rempart.....Yoan Tisseyre	18
IPS Publicité.....Romain Mencarini	19
La Dépêche du Midi.....Bruno Ormeno	20
bonplan.com.....Nicolas Faure	21
Bourdarios.....Clement Bienes	22
Clear Channel.....Yohann Gigord	
IFB.....Mourad Kriouache	
Errea.....Kevin Larroyer	
Sporting Finances.....Cyril Moliner	
Cimpa.....Andrei Olari	
Paru vendu.....Antoine Reveillon	
Citroën Etats-Unis.....Jocelyn Vauvelle	
Equalliance.....Geoffrey Zava	
Hôtel Latitudes Golf de Seilh.....Teli Pelo	

COACH: GILLES DUMAS

LAST SIX RESULTS: WLWLWL

LAST SIX HOME: LLLWWW

TRIES (2009): Bromley, Couturier (12)

GOALS: N Wynn (71)

DROP GOALS: -

MAN TO WATCH: Constant Villegas



TOULOUSE
CENTRE
COMPANS CAFFARELLI

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: P.Brooke

Touch: J.Pereira, T.Blanchys

Reserve Referee: P.Milan

THE INSIDE TRACK

"A tough start to life in the Championship for the Rams. Toulouse by 10"

No.	PLAYER	SPONSOR
1	Lee Lingard.....John & Gwen Sawyer	
2	James Haynes.....Sue Walford	
3	Stewart Sanderson.....The West Riding	
4	Rob Lunt.....Mr & Mrs Humphrey	
5	Andrew Tillotson	
6	Ryan Smith	
7	Tom Wandless	
8	Dominic Brambani.....John Calvert	
9	Mike Emmett.....Lesley & Lily Whittaker	
10	Scott Turner	
11	Adam Robinson.....Matthew Dudding	
12	Scott Watson	
13	Pat Walker.....Mount Tabor Church	
14	Luke Stenchion.....Tony & Mary Diskin	
15	Bryn Powell.....Sam & Peggy Hill	
16	Austin Buchanan.....Dewsbury Rams Study Centre	
17	Alex Bretherton.....The Buzz Room	
18	Chris Spurr.....Dewsbury Central Station Public House	
19	Adam Hayes.....Elaine and Peter Holyoake	
20	Rob Spicer.....Jack Addy & Pat Hayward	
21	Andrew Bostock.....The Grayson Family	
22	Kane Epati.....Viv Calvert	
23	Keegan Hirst.....Peter Brooke & David Kirby	
24	Anthony England.....Phil & Rhoda Andruchow	
25	James Lockwood	
26	Ayden Faal.....The Three G's	
27	Allister McMaster	
28	Liam Crawley	
29	Danny Richardson	
30	Luke Menzies.....BW Print	
31	Josh Tonks	
32	Martin Woodhead	
33	James Walker	
34	Matthew Tebb	
35	Sam Dalby	
36	Paul Hughes	
37	Luke Blake	

COACH: WARREN JOWITT

LAST SIX RESULTS: WWW-WLW

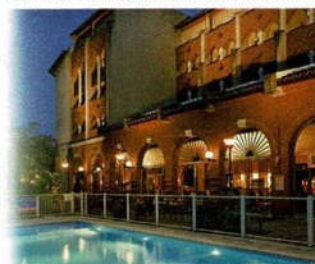
LAST SIX AWAY: WWW-WLW

TRIES: Turner (3)

GOALS: P Walker (7)

DROP GOALS: -

MAN TO WATCH: Dom Brambani



CLUBCALL

Toulouse v Dewsbury

Squad has talented new young players

L'édito du
Président
Carlos ZALDUENDO

LEVER de rideau sur cette seconde saison de Championship. Après une longue interruption de près de 6 mois, retour au stade Arnauné. Après une campagne 2009 qui fut, pour une première saison, une bonne expérience, le groupe de Gilles Dumas retrouve enfin le pré des Minimes pour le plus grand plaisir des supporters. Cette fois-ci, il n'y aura pas eu de perturbations, sauf quelques blessures, lors du programme de préparation. Le groupe n'a pas été chamboulé comme en 2009, loin s'en faut, mais plutôt renforcé avec les arrivées de Vincent Duport, Romain Mencarini (Dragons Catalans-UTC) et Simon Worrall en provenance de Leeds. Yoan Tisseyre, Carlos Mendes-Varela ont été confirmés dans l'effectif et Antoni Maria, sorti du centre de Formation, a conclu son premier contrat.

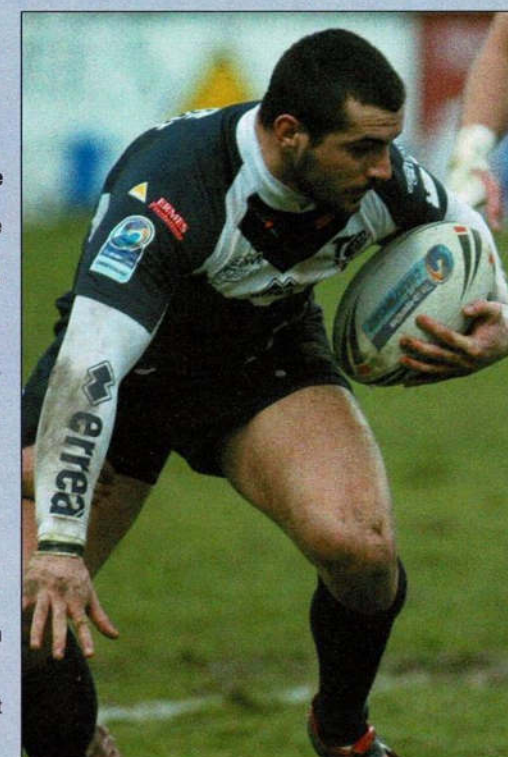
On le voit, Toulouse a préparé sérieusement cette échéance. Les objectifs sportifs restent toujours une qualification pour les play-offs en septembre prochain.

Pour régler le collectif, il y a eu ce match contre les Dragons, lors duquel les olympiens ont tenu la dragée haute une mi-temps au demi-finaliste de la Super League 2009. Un stage commando pour renforcer l'esprit de groupe, un match à Limoux et un dernier à Saint-Gaudens pour faire une large revue d'effectif. Alors prêts ? Ce sera mieux que l'an passé, avec des repères et aussi une mise en jambes plus conséquente.

Par contre, l'adversaire reste un inconnu pour le TO. L'an passé, les Rams évoluaient en Championship One, finissant avec un titre de champion et n'a donc pas croisé la route des bleus et blancs. Le promu ne sera toute fois pas à prendre à la légère, car il a fini invaincu (18 matches, 18 victoires) son parcours et avec quelques renforts d'espoirs de Super League, qu'autorise la nouvelle réglementation, le débat s'annonce passionnant.

A toutes et à tous un très bon match!

Man of the Match Sponsor:
Groupe CAILLEAU



New signing Vincent DuPort PHOTO: Hervé Lebrun

The word of the
Chairman
Carlos ZALDUENDO

THIS is the kick-off of the second season of the Championship. After a 2009 campaign that was a great experience for Toulouse, Gilles Dumas' team is back on the field to the delight of all fans. Despite some injuries, the pre-season programme has this time gone as scheduled.

Last year's squad has mainly been reconducted with the addition of some talented young players: Vincent Duport, Romain Mencarini (Catalans Dragons - UTC) and Simon Worrall coming from Leeds Rhinos. Yoan Tisseyre and Carlos Mendes, after their trial at the end of last season, have signed a contract, as did Antoni Maria (Toulouse Olympique Academy).

Toulouse has worked hard to be ready for this first game and to achieve the goals of the season, a place in the play-offs.

The coaching staff prepared a tough programme, starting with a two-day 'trip' in a military camp near Toulouse to reinforce the team spirit and three games against the Catalans Dragons, where Toulouse Olympique stayed in front during 50 minutes, Limoux and Saint Gaudens, which allowed to make a full review of the squad.

Will this be enough to be ready? The answer is tonight. The opponent of the day, Dewsbury Rams, is not very well known by Toulouse. Last year, the Rams played in the Championship 1 finishing with a champion's title and a season undefeated (18 wins in 18 games).

Gilles Dumas and his staff are warned, Dewsbury are really a strong team.

We wish you all a very pleasant game!

Programme Sponsor:
NOVOTEL



Widnes Vikings v Keighley Cougars



Sunday February 28th, 2010. Kick off 3pm. STOBART STADIUM, HALTON

SPONSOR	PLAYER	No.
RJ Lewis.....	James Ford	1
Katie Kingsley.....	Dean Gaskell	2
The Spence Family.....	Richard Varkulis	3
Widnes Vikings Supporters Club.....	Toa Kohe Love	4
Reg and Lesley Warner.....	Paddy Flynn	5
Applied Acumen.....	Anthony Thackeray	6
Widnes Vikings Supporters Club.....	James Webster	7
Alan Bruce.....	Steve Pickersgill	8
Leann Fox.....	Mark Smith	9
Widnes Vikings Supporters Club.....	Jim Gannon	10
Colin Pheysey Swavesy Newsagents.....	Lee Doran	11
MB Hydrographic Ltd.....	Dave Allen	12
VIQI.....	Chris Gerrard	13
MWEL Electrical Ltd.....	Thomas Coyle	14
	Shane Grady	15
Ace Film Catering.....	Gareth Haggerty	16
Ron Rowbottom.....	Ben Kavanagh	17
Julie Coe - Merry Christmas from Neil xx.....	Scott Yates	18
	Matt Gardner	19
	Chris Dean	20
	Matt Strong	21
	Dean Thompson	22
	Dave Houghton	23
	Danny Hulme	24
Mullaly's Butchers.....	Anthony Mullally	25

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: PAUL CULLEN

LAST SIX RESULTS: WL-WDWW

LAST SIX HOME: WWWL-WW

TRIES: Ainscough, Ford (4)

GOALS: Grady (9)

DGs: Smith 1, Hall 1

MAN TO WATCH: Mark Smith

MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee: R. Laughton

Touch: C. Dean, G. Evans

Reserve Referee: N. Aspey

THE INSIDE TRACK

"Vikings will have too much firepower for plucky Cougars. Widnes by 16"

No.	PLAYER	SPONSOR
1	George Raynor.....	Frank Atkins
2	Craig Moss.....	Mr & Mrs Bardgett
3	Tom Burton.....	Rob Weir Property Maintenance
4	Daley Williams.....	David Padans
5	Gavin Duffy.....	Mr & Mrs Fisher
6	Jonny Presley.....	Joyce Barrett Mobile Hairdresser
7	Danny Jones.....	Phoenix Trophies
8	Andy Shickell.....	Frank Atkins
9	James Feather.....	Mr & Mrs Procter
10	Scott Law.....	Mr & Mrs Fisher
11	Will Cartledge.....	Mr & Mrs Rothera
12	Olly Pursglove.....	Mr & Mrs Glover
13	Carl Hughes.....	Mr & Mrs Rothera
14	Jamaine Wray.....	The Clarksons
15	Greg Nicholson.....	M Croft & T Pycroft
16	Brendon Rawlins.....	Cougar Pride Centre
17	Ryan Benjafield.....	Owens Barbers
18	James Haythornthwaite	
19	Sam Crowther.....	Go Colour
20	Dan Belcher	
21	Richard Jones.....	The Bayliss Family
22	Ben Sagar	
23	Chris Baines.....	Phil Lund Ltd
24	Tom Hall	

COACH: BARRY EATON

LAST SIX RESULTS: WWW-WWW

LAST SIX AWAY: WWWWW-W

TRIES: Belcher, Presley (3)

GOALS: Jones (11)

DROP GOALS: Jones (1)

MAN TO WATCH: Jonny Presley



Backing the Vikings!

Hattons
SOLICITORS



Stobart



CLUBCALL

Widnes v Keighley

Shaun's so good that Wigan want him back!



Shaun Ainscough ... back at the DW after an electrifying spell with the Vikings

On the strength of his performances for the Widnes Vikings, Wigan Warriors have confirmed that they have recalled the services of Shaun Ainscough, who has returned to the DW Stadium with immediate effect.

The 20 year-old made three first team appearances for the Vikings following his dual-registration signing and scored four tries over this period, including a last minute winner in the recent Northern Rail Cup game against Barrow Raiders at The Stobart Stadium Halton.

Commenting on his time spent at the club, Widnes' Sporting Director, Terry O'Connor said: "It goes without saying that we would like to thank both the Wigan Warriors and St. Helens for their continued help and support in enabling these dual registration signings to happen between our three clubs, and although

we're disappointed to lose the services of such a quality young player, fingers crossed, it won't be the last time we see Shaun in a Vikings shirt in 2010!"

Likewise, Head Coach, Paul Cullen added: "Shaun has really enjoyed his time at the Vikings and he has played exceptionally well for us.

"He would never have been offered that opportunity had the dual-registration system not been in place, and on the strength of his performances for the Vikings he's earned a recall back to Super League and we're delighted with that, as it also dovetails very nicely for us because we now have several of our own players either ready or very close to a return from injury, which in itself is another example of how this new system is a win-win situation for all parties!"



Hornets RL v

MATCH SPONSOR
Denehurst Park Stadium Co.
MATCHBALL SPONSOR
Multiplex



Doncaster RLFC

Sunday February 28th, 2010. Kick off 3pm. SPOTLAND

SPONSOR	PLAYER	No.
Aztek Safety	Craig Johnson	1
The Three B's	Andy Saywell	2
Lion Springs	Dean Gorton	3
Waldorf Business Services	Adam Bowman	4
SG Mortgage Solutions	Bolu Fagborun	5
Brian & Irene Edwards	Dale Bloomfield	6
Dave & Sue Butterworth	Steven Roper	7
Grant & Dougie McEndoo	Gareth Hayes	8
	Phil Wood	9
	Paul Raftery	10
	Mark Hobson	11
	Danny Smith	12
Heywood Magic Market	Craig Ashall	13
	Liam Bostock	14
	Dayne Donoghue	15
Stephen Holt	Danny Samuel	16
	Michael Ostick	17
	John Cookson	18
	Ryan McPaul	19
	Semisi Cocker	20
	Jay Duffy	21
		22
	Wayne Corcoran	23
	Paul Crook	24
	Andy Hore	25
	Andy Taylor	26
	Craig Tunstead	27
	Chris Hough	28
	Ryan Powell	29
	Dean Hatton	30
	Adam Wayne	31
	Wayne English	32

COACH: JOHN STANKEVITCH

LAST SIX RESULTS: LLW-LLL

LAST SIX HOME: WLLW-LL

TRIES: Samuel (2)

GOALS: Roper (3)

DROP GOALS: -

MAN TO WATCH: Phil Wood

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	SPONSOR
1	Tommy Griffiths	
2	Aaron Henry	
3	Lee Gomersall	Sue Wilford
4	Shaun Leaf	Dons Supporters Club
5	Ben Collins	
6	Simon Brown	Simon Davo
7	Craig Fawcett	
8	Scott Johnson	
9	Paul Brown	
10	David Bates	P. Bird, France
11	Liam Brown	
12	Ryan Steen	
13	Grant Edwards	
14	Jake Bassinder	
15	Danny Stanley	
16	Paul Shaw	
17	Jarryn Osborne	
18		
19	Garry Ellery	
20	Jack Ely	
21	Scott Howlett	
22	Scott Wilson	
23	Craig Lawton	

COACH: TONY MILLER

LAST SIX RESULTS: LLL-LLL

LAST SIX AWAY: LLLL-LL

TRIES: Wilson (2)

GOALS: Fawcett (3)

DROP GOALS: -

MAN TO WATCH: Scott Wilson

MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee: M.Thomson
Touch: P.Huck, S.Johnson
Reserve Referee: T.Mahar

THE INSIDE TRACK

"Stankevitch's improving side will have too much for Dons. Hornets by 16"

We're with the Hornets!

CHALKERS

O'NEILLS

THE WHEATSHEAF
SHOPPING CENTRE ROCHDALE

per 8
Sport & Cultural Service

Link4Life



CLUBCALL

Hornets RL v Doncaster

Pressure is on for players to perform

John Stankevitch Head Coach

My time at Doncaster as Head Coach in 2007 was a very enjoyable one albeit a brief stay. I look forward to meeting some old friends today and as a group we look forward to the challenge that the Dons will put against us.

They have had some heavy score-lines against, as have we, but both teams have been together only for a few months, and as I've said before, groups take time to get to know each other and to become a 'team'.

We've certainly made great strides in terms of performance over the past month and we have arguably had the toughest set of fixtures in this year's group stages of the NRC.

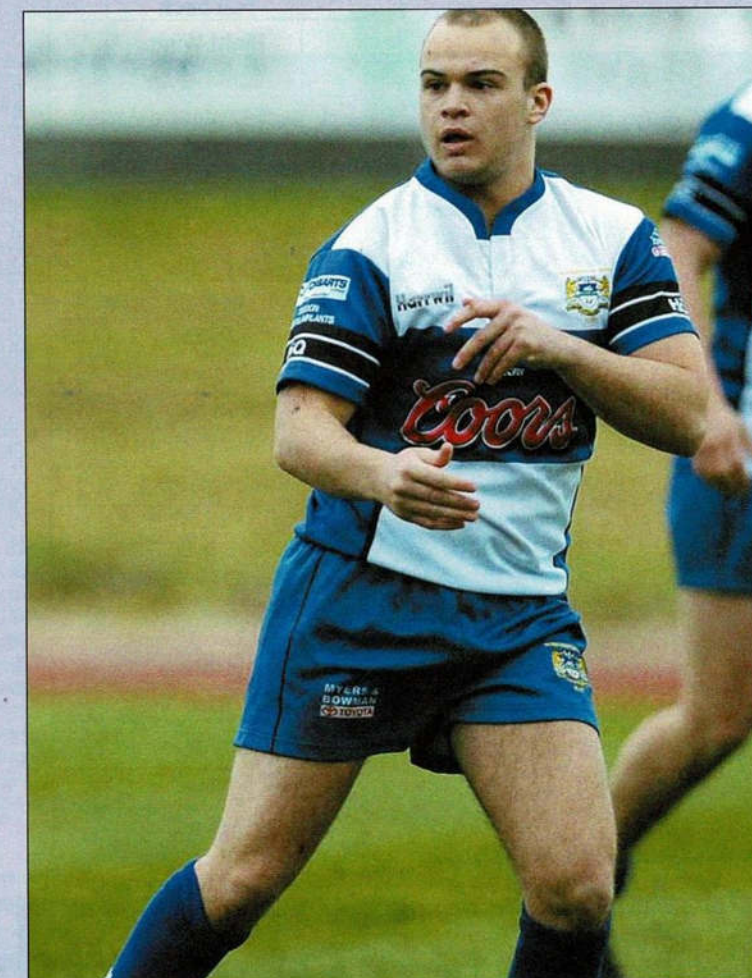
Today, I hope to pick from my first choice 17 and this will no doubt be the starting point for us, looking for performance consistency.

We have performed really well for short spells in our previous games, and then backed up good play will short spells of inadequate play.

I have put a lot of pressure on the players individually to perform and to keep hold of the shirts that they are given, some have risen to the occasion, whilst some have not, that is the nature of professional sport.

As a group, we expect each and every member to give 100 per cent in any given situation. There are bound to be mistakes along the way, but I have a vision of where I'd like to see the club move forward, and also a vision of the type of rugby league that we want to play based on the players in the squad and their abilities. The vision won't happen overnight and we will look to make small and realistic strides.

I am looking for constant individual improvement in terms of core skills and we work hard at this aspect of performance, in training. We all believe that we are moving in the right direction and the players have shown a great desire and hunger to better themselves.



Steven Roper scored a try and kicked two goals in the defeat by Dewsbury

So, to today's game, we will be running onto the field with an attacking mentality and we will be looking to use the ball at every opportunity.

Some coaches will say that defence wins games. I don't fully 'buy' into that. If your team defends really well, and concedes no points, and the opposition does exactly the same, then the result is likely to be a draw.

On the other hand, if you can create doubt amongst defenders when you are in possession, when the opposition

have the ball, they are physically and mentally fatigued from chasing your players around the field, and so offer very little in attack which in turn makes your defensive job easier and more straightforward. This in turn, leaves you more energy in the tank to keep attacking and building pressure, and eventually the dam will burst... or so I hope!

I hope you enjoy the game.

Stanky

Hunslet Hawks vs Gateshead Thunder



Sunday February 28th, 2010. Kick off 3pm. SOUTH LEEDS STADIUM

SPONSOR	PLAYER	No.
Mark Moore Ceramic Tilers.....	Nathan Larvin	1
Ron and Adie Jinks.....	Michael Mark	2
	Joe Howey	3
	David Clayton	4
Rodney Gee.....	John Oakes	5
	Danny Grimshaw	6
Delta Training & Consulting.....	Paul March	7
	Richard Chapman	9
Kenny Sykes & Big Al.....	Nicko Slain	10
Wet Dog & The Soggy Cat.....	Rob Kelly	11
Phil Ogg.....	Steve Dooler	12
Delta Training & Consulting.....	David March	13
	Gareth Firm	14
	Adam Sullivan	15
	Neil Lowe	16
	Stuart Young	17
Eric Simon.....	Charlie Wabo	18
	Darren Robinson	19
Kath Ogg.....	Joe Helme	20
	Wayne McHugh	21
	Tom Sheldrake	22
	Jake Wilson	23
	Stephen Brook	24
	Danny Cook	25
	John Richardson	26
	Scott Childs	27
	Jason Hart	28
	Stuart Kain	29
	Richard Knight	30
TP Storey.....	Nathan West	
Alcomet: JS Earthing Solutions.....	Louis Stead	

COACH: PAUL MARCH

LAST SIX RESULTS: LWLW-WW

LAST SIX HOME: LLWWW-L

TRIES: McHugh (5)

GOALS: McHugh (10)

DROP GOALS: -

MAN TO WATCH: Paul March

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: CHRIS HOOD

No.	PLAYER
1	Kevin Neighbour.....Querido & Davidson Opticians
2	Robin Peers.....Lome Campbell/More Than Mortgages
3	Tom Wilson.....Dean Taxis
4	Michael Brown.....The Schooner
5	Joe Brown.....O'Briens (Team Valley)
6	Liam Duffy.....Rob Gardener (Matthew Wells)
7	Rod Attard.....The Schooner
8	Jason Payne.....Brack Office Solutions
9	Ryan Clarke.....The Wheatsheaf
10	Tabua Cakacaka Foe.....Rob Gardener (James Wells)
11	Johnny Scott.....Neil & Christine Hutchinson
12	Rhys Clarke.....CLA Risk Solutions
13	Matt Barron.....Accent Magazine/North East Times
14	Will Bate.....GMC Transport
15	Dan O'Sullivan.....Sampson Hall Ltd
16	Mark Dack.....Monitor Coatings
17	Chris Parker.....John Bloomfield IFA
18	Stephen Welton.....Peters Pies
19	Crawford Matthews.....La Gabbia Restaurant
20	Phil Wall.....ERW Joinery
21	James Hall.....Gateshead Fit for a City
22	Rob Harvey.....Gateshead College
23	Karl Brandt.....Hilton Newcastle Gateshead
24	Mark Walker.....IT Guide
25	Gareth Barron.....Back Group
26	David Cash.....St Wilfrid's School
27	Luke Watson.....Go Beyond Training/Peterlee Pumas
28	Jason Elliott.....NHS
29	Jimmy Atkinson.....North-East Rugby League
30	Ripchie Humphries.....Jordan Engineering
31	Matt Garside.....Evening Chronicle Sunshine Fund
32	Ade Aderiyee.....Newcastle Gateshead Initiative
33	Richard Lopag.....Gateshead Football Club

LAST SIX RESULTS: WWWL-L

LAST SIX AWAY: LLWWW-L

TRIES: Peers, Wilson, Clarke, Cakacaka, Brown (1)

GOALS: Neighbour, Clarke (1)

DROP GOALS: -

MAN TO WATCH: Kevin Neighbour

MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee: C.Sharrad

Touch: S.Kilpatrick, J.Ashton

Reserve Referee: L.Todd

THE INSIDE TRACK

"Tough start to the league for Thunder. Hawks by 24"

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CLUBCALL

Hunslet v Gateshead

Storm blows in with problems for us all

Once again we were frustrated by the weather last week when our game against Halifax in the Northern Rail Cup was postponed on Sunday morning at 9.30am.

As I write this article on Monday every effort is being made to rearrange the game, but worryingly the weather forecast is for more snow in Halifax later in the week.

To compound the problem for Peter Todd in the club office, we have a reserve game scheduled for Wednesday, and a home game against Gateshead Thunder today, and Halifax also have their 'flatmates' Halifax Town joining the equation. No doubt Gateshead have met with similar problems themselves, so no advantage will be gained by either side.

The club is hoping to increase the Myrtle and Flame membership over the coming weeks and as an incentive to current members we are offering a bonus of £20 to anyone who introduces a new member to the scheme.

The present membership is around the 85 mark, and provides desperately needed financial support to the club in the current climate.

If we could get to 100 in total, it would be another welcome boost to the club's standing. For further details on how to join or the incentive offer to members, please contact myself in the club office or on 07982 249109.

Finally please note that the World Challenge Final tie from Elland Road will be shown live in the Phoenix Bar after today's game. This will probably be more bad weather as a STORM is forecast for around 6.00pm!



Alan Stephenson
Chief Executive

Winger Michael Mark who scored a try in the win over Oldham

Games pile up hits plans

LAST Sunday's postponement of the Northern Rail fixture at Halifax was yet another setback to our preparations for the season.

We have at the time of writing no indication of the re-arranged date but hope to make an announcement at today's fixture.

Our re-arranged fixture with Featherstone Rovers is on Thursday March 4, at 8.00pm. Then we have to play our Carnegie Challenge Cup game against Leigh East on Saturday March 6, at 3.00pm.

The match will be played at Leigh Sporting Village. Two matches in three days will certainly put a strain on the resources of our playing squad.

Our hopes still remain focused on promotion, but winning becomes a habit and we aim to compete at every level. Off the field negotiations with a local college are progressing and the club hopes to make a major announcement next week.

The curtain raiser for today's match is a Masters game between the MPs' group, The Political Animals and the GB

Masters squad. We are entertaining fifty team members who will continue to watch our match and then go on to the World Club Challenge game at Elland Road.

Just a note for both teams, beware the Leeds City Council Clamp!

It is worse than the grapple tackle and could cost you dearly. A ticket rather than a red card!

Charlotte Ball
Media Officer



South Wales Scorpions v Workington Town



Sunday February 28, 2010. Kick off 3pm. THE GNOLL

PLAYER	No.
Craig Richards	1
David James	2
Lee Williams	3
Stephen Ireland	4
Ashley Bateman	5
Loz Wildbore	6
Steve Parry	7
Lewis Mills	8
Shaun Owens	9
Gil Dudson	10
Christian Roets	11
Neil Dallimore	12
Aled James	13
Jamie Murphy	14
Andrew Gay	15
Joe Burke	16
Barrie Phillips	17
Matt Hutchings	18
Lewis Reece	19
	20
Sam Studley	21
Phil Cushion	22
Alan Pope	23
Paul Boden	24
Dean Scully	25
Jamie Tibbs	26
Dalton Grant	27
Loren Quick	28
Harri Greville	29
Garrick Legge	30
Garyn Lucas	31

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: ANTHONY SEIBOLD

STATS: None applicable

Season tickets from £30
concessions and £60 for adults
available now from
www.scorpionsrl.com

MAN TO WATCH: Loz Wildbore

MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee: W. Turley
Touch: J. Cadogan, T. Owen
Reserve Referee: J. Callaghan

THE INSIDE TRACK

"A very difficult game to predict.
Town by 6"

COACHES: GARY CHARLTON/
MARTIN OGLANBY

LAST SIX RESULTS: LLL-LWLW

LAST SIX AWAY: LWLL-WL

TRIES: Scott Kaighan (3)

GOALS: Kaighan (14)

DROP GOALS: -

MAN TO WATCH: Scott Kaighan

PROUD
TO BACK
THE SOUTH
WALES
SCORPIONS!

UNITE UNION 4/6 BRANCH



Glyn Clydach Hotel

**Contract
Services**

CLUBCALL

Scorpions v Workington

We're ready for the big kick-off

Welcome again to South Wales Scorpions first ever game as we entertain Workington Town here at The Gnoll. I say 'again' as I wrote some programme notes for last week's Wigan visit but because of the poor weather at exactly the wrong time in the north-west of England, Wigan were unable to travel down.

I'd like to apologise to all fans who were put out by making the journey to The Gnoll and finding that there was no game on. We only knew ourselves at about 9am on Sunday morning so we put it straight on our official website, Facebook and Twitter and it also made the BBC website which was good to see.

However I know a few of you didn't spot any of these and as the weather was perfect on Sunday down here, I'm not surprised that you thought that everything was fine. Now, at last, I hope you enjoy the Scorpions' first ever game. Let's hope the weather is better this week and that Workington have made it down as they've even further to travel.

As I said last week, I'd like to thank everyone at the club for helping put this game on today, from the coaching team to the backroom staff to the players and support team, everyone has worked really hard in the limited period that we've had to put a squad and a club together.

We didn't get the pre-season friendly that we wanted last week, so this is where it starts and we're all looking forward to it. Welcome to the staff, players and supporters of Workington Town. It's fantastic to have such a famous name helping us kick off our season and our club itself. A handful of Welshmen have played for Workington in their history, including Rowland Phillips, who many of you will know as he coached Neath RFC right here for a number of years.

Next Sunday, we were due to have a week off, but because one friendly was postponed, we've organised another. We're going to be taking on another team called South Wales, the South Wales Thunder, at the excellent Carmarthen Athletic RFC ground at 2pm. Hope to see some of you there. Enjoy the game today.

Phil Davies
Chairman



Scorpions players at
the anti-doping
lecture

SOUTH Wales Scorpions received an anti-doping lecture on Monday evening in preparation for their opening Co-operative Championship 1 fixture against Workington Town.

As Wales' newest professional rugby league side the Scorpions needed to prepare game by knowing exactly what kind of medicines and stimulants are accepted or not in sport and how exactly to combat the use of performance enhancing and recreational drugs.

Dean Hardman, the Operations Manager at the Rugby Football League conducted the lecture, which was filmed by Sky Sports for transmission on their Boots N All programme to highlight how the RFL are conducting their campaign regarding anti-doping in sport.

"The RFL deliver the 100% Me Education Campaign that was developed by the UK Anti-Doping in Sport," he said.

"We deliver this to players across the country at all levels at all the professional clubs so it's important that our players

understand the anti-doping regulations, are informed and educated and can make the right choices."

Ian Gibbons, South Wales Scorpions strength and conditioning coach, said that it was vital for the young Welsh players to have this lecture before they stepped on the field today.

"There are lot of myths and misinformation out there," said Gibbons.

"So it's important that we had the information directly from the experts. It was good for the players and it was certainly beneficial for the club as a whole. We all got a lot out of it.

"When a player is tested for drugs, he is tested against performance enhancing and recreational drugs.

"The players need to know what they are being tested for and the procedures around drug testing in sport.

"All players and staff need to know exactly what's required of them. It's also all about building a partnership with the anti-doping testers and not working against them."



Swinton Lions v Oldham RLFC



Sunday February 28, 2010. Kick off 3pm. SEDGLEY PARK

SPONSOR	PLAYER	No.
Heatland M27	Richie Hawkyard	1
Brian Ellam Accountants	Darren Bamford	2
Premier Building Services	Sam Reay	3
Dave Roberts	Carl Sneyd	4
Mike Tyldesley	Dave Hull	5
Muscle & Fitness	Graham Holroyd	6
In Memory of Jim and Doris Gettins	Ian Watson	7
Burrow and Humphreys	Paul Southern	8
Sporting Image/Michael Bradshaw	Phil Joseph	9
O'Rourke Glass/Kevin O'Rourke	Danny Heaton	10
Lethbridge & Co	Tommy Grundy	11
Phil Walker (in Memory of Peter Walker)	Paul Smith	12
Geoff Hewitt USA	Arron Smith	13
Accrington Panthers RLFC	Gary Hulse	14
Joseph Ryan	Lee Wingfield	15
Carousel Entertainment	Dana Wilson	16
Lethbridge & Co	Andy Isherwood	17
Premier Building Drainage Division	Bruce Johnson	18
Chris & Viv Tyldesley	Neil Rigby	19
Junior Lions	Chris Hull	20
Physio2	Chris Tyrer	21
John Spellman	Alex McClurg	22
Billy Ryan	Rob Foxen	23
Moorside Auto/John Hunt	Gavin Dodd	24
Redsentinel Studio LLP	Barry Hamilton	25
Peter Kidd	Dave Newton	26
Ray Bowdler	Tony Stewart	27

COACH: PAUL SMITH

LAST SIX RESULTS: WLL-WLL

LAST SIX HOME: WLLW-WL

TRIES: Dodd, Foxen, Smith (2)

GOALS: Dodd (10)

DROP GOALS: Holroyd (1)

MAN TO WATCH: Ian Watson

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	SPONSOR
1	Paul O'Connor	Mack Video Services
2	Lucas Onyango	Rob the Gardener
3	Craig Littler	
4	Mick Fogerty	
5	John Gillam	Nigel Marland
6	Neil Roden	Xpress Recruitment
7	Matty Ashe	Peter & Maureen Woodhead
8	Jason Boults	Clayton Green Brewers Fayre
9	Martin Roden	
10	Dave Ellison	
11	Saqib Murtza	Paul Whalley & Kyle Cook
12	Kashley Watkins	John & Lynda McAndrew
13	Joe Chandler	
14	Gary Sykes	
15	Craig Robinson	
16	Wayne Kerr	
17	Danny Whitmore	
18	Chris Clarke	
19	Ben Heaton	
20	Mark Brocklehurst	John Barrett
21	Valu Bentley	Whittles Pub
22	Paul Reilly	Pizza Hut, Oldham
23		
24	Marcus St Hilaire	Livers Fish & Chip Restaurant
25	Scott Mansfield	

COACH: TONY BENSON

LAST SIX RESULTS: WWL-LWL

LAST SIX AWAY: DLWL-L

TRIES: Fogerty (3) Onyango (2)

GOALS: Ashe (10)

DROP GOALS: -

MAN TO WATCH: Mick Fogerty

MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee: C.Halloran

Touch: T.Crashley, R.Dolan
Reserve Referee: J.Callaghan

THE INSIDE TRACK

"Swinton to edge a close encounter.
Lions by 4"



Michael (Braddy) Bradshaw

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We're with the Lions

Brian Ellam & Co
Accountants



The Christie
TOWARDS A FUTURE WITHOUT CANCER



CLUBCALL

Swinton v Oldham

Home from home

Today we welcome our local rivals Oldham Roughyeds to Sedgley Park for this mouth-watering opening clash in Co-operative Championship 1.

Swinton Lions' home ground will be familiar surroundings to our opposition today, who have played all their Northern Rail home games here this season.

Oldham's problems in finding a new home have been well documented. Hopefully this situation will reach a satisfactory conclusion soon. Here at Swinton we sincerely would like to wish Chris Hamilton and the Oldham club all the very best in finding a new home within the borough of Oldham!

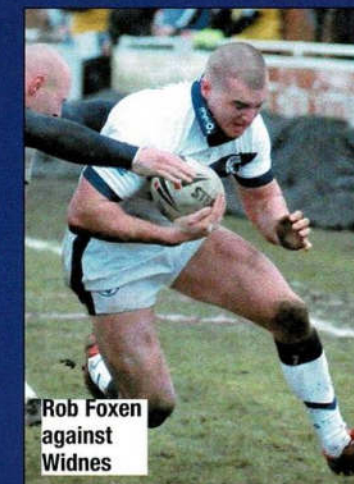
As our own fans will testify 18 years can be a long time waiting to return home!

We would like to take this opportunity to give thanks and praise to everyone who was involved in the gargantuan effort that went into making sure that last week's match against Widnes Vikings went ahead.

Covers had been brought in from a firm in Warrington ahead of the big freeze that was forecast overnight leading into match day, however the two inches of snow that covered the sheeting was unexpected.

There was little doubt that the covers had done their job and that the grass was soft underneath. However, it was a race against time with a lot of man power and machinery used to clear all the snow and make the terracing safe. With even the club Chairman John Kidd seen donned in Wellington boots with shovel in hand! This really was a full team effort so well done to everyone who helped!

The game itself was a real cracker as



Rob Foxen
against
Widnes

we were more than a match for their illustrious opponents for prolonged periods of the first half having taken the lead through Richie Hawkyard who showed incredible footwork and balance grounding the ball in what seemed like an impossible situation.

We performed well throughout, backing up the good win away at Workington earlier in the week, with Ian Watson praising the efforts from the forwards in his Man of the Match acceptance speech!

Despite eventually coming out on the wrong side of a 36-12 score line, there were plenty of positives to take into this week's first League fixture.

We are very pleased that numbers in the restaurant have surpassed 100 today as our pre-match Lunch & Crunch hospitality package grows in reputation each

week.

Today's Executive Match Sponsors are Salford City Council and Michael Bradshaw's company Sporting Image. Some of you may be more familiar with Brady in his usual weekend attire?

He is of course the Bradford Bulls mascot 'Bull Boy' and also Burnley football club's very own 'Bertie Bee'.

Today's Champagne Moment will be selected by Premier Buildings. Cheshire Foods and Accrington Panthers amateur rugby league club also have two and three table bookings respectively. A big thank you as always to everyone in the restaurant

We are very pleased to announce that The Swinton Lions Club will be running an official Challenge Cup Final Wembley weekend trip! (although we are not promising that the Lions will be contesting the final). The cost of the trip is just £139 and this includes a £51 match ticket and two nights bed & breakfast in the four star Crowne Plaza Hotel, at West Drayton. Places are limited to just 50 people, so don't miss out. For further details collect a booking form from the turnstile staff today.

Back to today's impending action. There have been some fiercely contested matches between Swinton and Oldham in recent seasons and I feel sure that all the ingredients are there for yet another memorable encounter today.

Here's hoping to a classic game and a great start to the new Co-operative Championship 1, 2010 season.

Andy Wilkinson
General Manager

Injuries downside to good build up

GOOD afternoon and welcome back to Park Lane for this afternoon's opening Championship 1 fixture with our good friends from Oldham.

The Northern Rail group matches came to a close last week against Widnes and with the game ending in defeat this meant that unfortunately we will not qualify for the next stage of the competition. The four

matches overall have been a success with us building on our performances every week.

On the injury front the NR group has cost us dearly however we are hoping that two or three players will be back back available for today's game.

Such was the extent of the injury situation we only had 16 fit and available players at training leading into

the Widnes game. Obviously being put in this situation we were delighted with the signing that we made at the very last minute of Anthony Stewart. I have little doubt Anthony will make a huge impact on our club and could prove to be a big hit with our fans.

Today in the opening of the League season and we are all hoping for good things from this season, I

believe that we have the ability in the squad to be up there competing with the best.

Finally I would like to thank the supporters for their efforts over the group stages and encourage you all to get behind the team and give us that extra push.

Enjoy the season

Paul Kidd
Director of Coaching



York City Knights v London Skolars



Sunday February 28, 2010. Kick off 3pm. HUNTINGTON STADIUM

SPONSOR	PLAYER	No.
The Raylor Centre.....	Danny Ratcliffe	1
Smith Wilson.....	Wayne Reittie	2
Marica Watson.....	Mike Mitchell	3
Ken Walker & Co Accounting.....	Lee Waterman	4
	Tom Lineham	5
R U Sure Referee R U Sure.....	Chris Thorman	6
Brian Watson.....	Jonathan Schofield	7
Millers Famous Fish & Chips.....	Mark Applegarth	8
The Insurance Partnership.....	Joe McLocklan	9
	Alex Benson	10
ASL Specialist Garage Equipment.....	Jordan Ross	11
Michaela Harper & Daniel Peace.....	Chris Clough	12
Chris Hearld.....	Richard Blakeway	13
	Ian Bell	14
	Luke Hardbottle	15
	Carl Barrow	16
Monk Bar Model Shop.....	Nathan Freer	17
	Matthew Duckworth	18
	Kris Peacock	19
Clare & Steve Harbron.....	Chris Williams	20
	Aidie Hampshire	21
	Tom Stancliffe	22
	Luke Helliwell	23
	Dan Walton	24
Hull Resin Floors.....	Brett Waller	25
Not allocated numbers		
Balls'n All.....	Casey Bromilow	
Pam & Martin Calvert.....	Jon Fallon	
John Barron Plastering.....	Joe Dey	
Novotel York Centre.....	Danny Wilson	
Simon Gill.....	Eddie Smith	
Stabler International.....	Paul Stamp	
	Danny Hill, Danny Bell, Jymel Coleman,	
	Chris Clarke, Steve Lewis, Mark Falkingham	

ACTING COACH: CHRIS THORMAN

LAST SIX RESULTS: WLL-WLW

LAST SIX HOME: WLWLL-W

TRIES: Waterman (4) Mitchell, Waller (2)

GOALS: Waterman (7)

DROP GOALS: Thorman (1)

MAN TO WATCH: Joe McLocklan

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: T.Roby

Touch: C.Waywell, R.Webb

Reserve Referee: S.Daniel

THE INSIDE TRACK

"Knights to get off to a flyer.
York by 46"

No.	PLAYER	SPONSOR
1	Joshua Welsh	
2	Dave Arnot	
3	Matt Thomas	
4	Jason Cook.....	Code XIII Sports Media
5	Austen Aggrey.....	Alan Greenwood
6	Jermaine Coleman	
7	Paul Thorman	
8	Liam Roach.....	Lanes Coaches
9	Gareth Honor	
10	Tony Williams	
11	Oliver Purslow	
12	Matthew Carter	
13	Stephen Ball	
14	Luke May.....	Code XIII Sports Media
15	Oliver Fountain	
16		
17	Chad Isles.....	One Personal Training
18	James Simon	
19	Liam Prescott	
20	David Williams.....	Woodlands PH
21	Jamie O'Callaghan	
22	Curtis Cunningham.....	Canavan Builders
23	Olu Iwenofu	
24	Lamont Bryan.....	Stag Sports
	Smokie Junior.....	Optimal Life Fitness
	Ben Jones.....	Woodlands PH

COACH: JAMES MASSARA

LAST SIX RESULTS: LLL-LLL

LAST SIX AWAY: LLLLL-L

TRIES: Junor, Quinn, Thorman (1)

GOALS: Thorman (2)

DGs: -

MAN TO WATCH: Lamont Bryan

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CLUBCALL

York v London

Drax Power up a great day for Selby schools

GOOD afternoon and welcome to this afternoon's match against the London Skolars, our first match of the Co-operative Championship 1 season.

After last week's postponement, ironically against the Skolars, the players are raring to go for the new league campaign and everyone at the club is extremely optimistic about the season.

Prior to today's match is the finals of the 2010 Selby Tag Rugby League competition, which has been kindly sponsored by Drax Power Limited.

The Selby Schools event has been running since 2004 and is now seen as one of the highlights of the school sporting calendar. We would like to welcome all of the teachers, children and parents to today's match and hope that you have an enjoyable afternoon.

In the draw for the 3rd round of the Carnegie Challenge Cup the Knights were handed a trip to Gateshead Thunder. The tie will be played on Sunday March 7, kicking off at 3pm. Supporters are reminded that Knights

season ticket holders and Vice-Presidents can use their season ticket to gain entry to the game.

Simply hand over voucher A from your season ticket book at the turnstiles. This applies to both adults and under 16s.

Let's hope for a big Knights following to cheer the players on!

Enjoy the match,

**Ian Wilson
General Manager**

Our top priority has to be success in the league

After more fixture disruptions to the Northern Rail Cup, it will be good to get our league season underway.

We have tried to give opportunities to as many players as possible in the last couple of weeks to enable us to be as strong as possible for today's league kick-off.

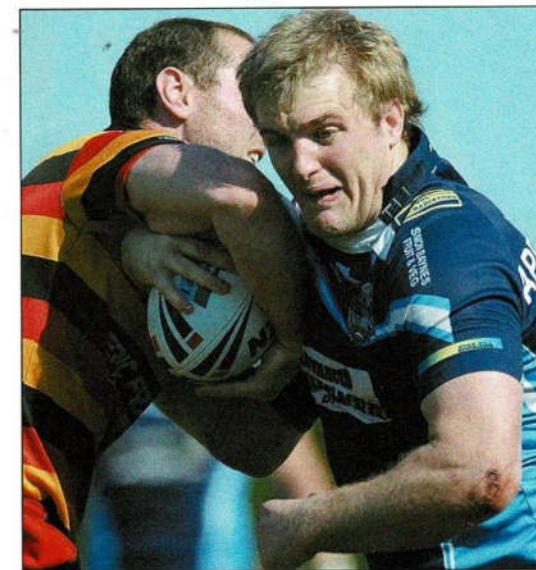
We have definitely prioritised the league over the cup although strong performances in all competitive fixtures are a must and we feel that we are playing ok.

There is still room for plenty of improvements and on another positive note it is great to see the likes of Mark Applegarth and Jon Fallon in the frame to play this week-end.

It is also good to see that our scholarship programme is working too as Joe Dey and Eddie Smith are continually impressing in training and the games they have featured in so far.

I hope to see as many Knights fans as possible back in my homeland next week for the Challenge Cup fixture against Gateshead Thunder.

**Chris Thorman
Acting Coach**



Prop Mark Applegarth is in the frame for today's game

Cheers for the Connoisseur's Champagne moment

ONCE again a very good afternoon to all attending this afternoon's encounter, and an especially warm welcome to today's match sponsors Drax Power.

This season marks four years that Drax have sponsored the Knights by way of supporting the Selby Tag Finals Day. This event sees the culmination of work delivered by the Knights community team in the Selby area when participating schools get the opportunity to showcase their skills and enjoy a great day out at Huntington Stadium.

The support Drax have given this ini-

tiative over the previous four years has been invaluable to the Knights, and we sincerely hope that the guests of Drax have a terrific day with the club.

Also with us today is Alan Terry of Connoisseur Wines, Connoisseur have come on board this year presenting the 'Connoisseur Wines Champagne Moment of the Match', this will be awarded to a Knights player who produces a magical moment during the match.

The very first recipient of this award was Chris Thorman for slotting over the

winning drop goal in the recent Northern Rail Cup victory over Leigh.

Connoisseur Wines have also generously sponsored our physio shirt for the 2010 season, which sees our present incumbent, the ever popular Jonny Trumble, sporting his top proudly displaying 'Connoisseur Wines, Tasting is Believing'. We wish Alan and his guests a most enjoyable afternoon's entertainment. Enjoy the day.

**Simon Moat
Commercial Manager**

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on your team sheet...**



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£8.99**

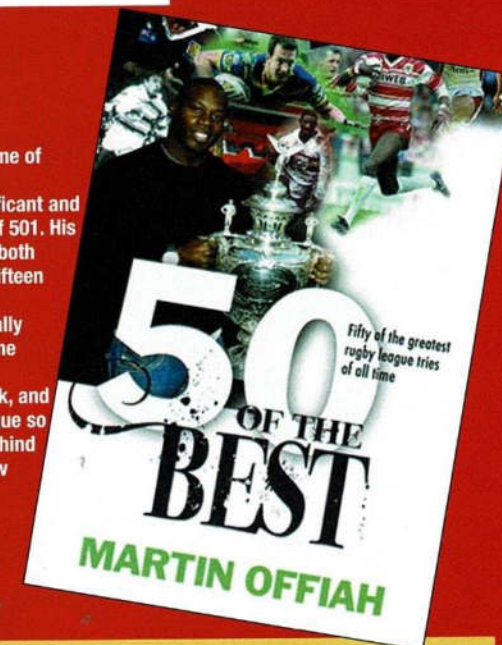
In his 50 of the Best, Martin Offiah celebrates and analyses some of rugby league's great scores.

Martin relives some of his own tries, the spectacular, the significant and the memorable, a handful from his record-breaking career tally of 501. His fascinating selection also looks at great achievements of others, both team-mates and foes, players he played with and against in his fifteen years in the game.

From David Topliss to Kyle Eastmond, from Clive Sullivan to Wally Lewis, he considers legends, rookies, a few lucky breaks and some great stories of the game's past and present.

He highlights the speed and strength, the tactics and teamwork, and especially the individual stealth that combine to make rugby league so spectacular, skilful and exciting. Martin Offiah tells the stories behind great moments from the last 30 years of the game, discusses how rugby league has developed and suggests some pointers for its future.

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'MR RUGBY LEIGH' is the story of Tommy Sale, a rugby league hero, who has devoted more than 80 years of his life to the sport whether as a player, coach, administrator or fan.

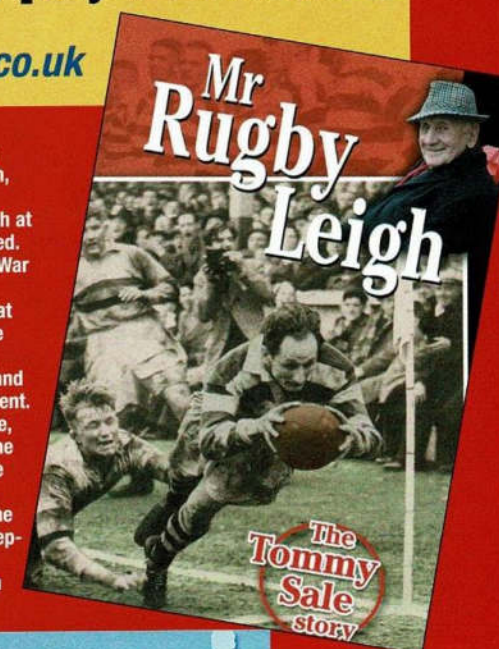
Since his initial involvement as a scoreboard operator for his beloved Leigh at the age of ten, Tommy's enthusiasm for the 13-a-side code has rarely wavered. He broke into Leigh's first team at the age of 20 and became their first post-War captain. Away from the playing action, he spent month after back-breaking month overseeing the construction of the club's stadium, Hilton Park. And that dedication continued after retirement when, among a string of other roles, he triggered the audacious coup that lured all-time great Alex Murphy to Leigh.

Tommy Sale has remained at the heart of the Leigh club into his nineties and still serves diligently as timekeeper, while providing a friendly face as president. Only the Second World War interrupted Tommy's love affair with rugby league, and his time at Leigh is punctuated only by a brief stint at Warrington and one glorious, career-defining spell at Widnes. Yet this is a story about much more than rugby. It is a tale of how one man came go from humble beginnings to being a pillar of society. Tommy Sale overcame an abusive father, survived the horrors of war and suffered intense personal tragedy. He has been a shopkeeper, council official, teacher and headmaster.

Told with characteristic warmth and remarkable modesty, Mr Rugby Leigh encapsulates the life of a true rugby league legend.

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man in the middle

Dave Merrick

They are in the game every minute – fans rarely agree with their decisions but they have the final word – it's the Man in the Middle. Each week Game On will be putting the referee in the spotlight and seeking answers

BACKGROUND

AGE: 34

BORN: Pontefract

OCCUPATION: Glass bottle maker

MARITAL STATUS: Married with two boys

FAVOURITES

HOBBIES: Don't mind a bit of cricket, I play with the lads on the field sometimes but just watching mainly.

TEAM SUPPORTED AS A KID: Featherstone

SOCCER TEAM: I used to like Spurs as a youngster.

OTHER SPORT: Cricket.

REFEREEING CAREER

PLAYING EXPERIENCE: I played for a couple of pro teams. I played up to 18 with Featherstone and then moved on to Doncaster and played a few first team games for them.

TOOK UP REFEREEING: 2000

FIRST EVER MATCH: I can't really remember! Half-Acre under 12s were one of the teams though.

FIRST MATCH IN THE CHAMPIONSHIPS: Dewsbury Rams v Blackpool Panthers in 2005.

HARDEST PART ABOUT BEING A REF: Striking the right balance between working, seeing the family and refereeing. I work shifts so it can be difficult.

RULE YOU'D MOST LIKE TO CHANGE: None really. I'll leave that to the powers that be.

HEROES AND VILLAINS

PRE-MATCH SUPERSTITIONS: I always have scrambled eggs on toast before a game.



FAVOURITE GROUND TO REF AT: You can't beat Headingley, it's a proper rugby ground.

LEAST FAVOURITE GROUND TO REF AT: I shouldn't really say!

DREAM MATCH: One for the dreamers. A Challenge Cup final between Castleford and Featherstone

REFEREEING HERO: There's been three blokes that have had a lot of influence on me. Ray Tennant helped to point me in the right direction and I've always thought Russell Smith and Steve Presley were great referees, just for the way they managed and spoke to the players.



Campbell has the winning Bulldog spirit

Batley Bulldogs full-back Johnny Campbell has been named Northern Rail Cup's Player of the Round after his scintillating display in the 46-10 victory over Swinton Lions.

Campbell scored a crucial try in the 27th minute to give the Bulldogs a 14-4 lead a half-time before rounding off an impressive performance with a 90-metre try which set the home crowd alight.

The winger turned full-back gave Batley breathing space at half-time making his way past several Swinton defenders before touching down in the corner to give the Bulldogs a 10-point lead at the interval.

Campbell's second try of the game rounded off what was a magnificent individual display from the 22-year old.

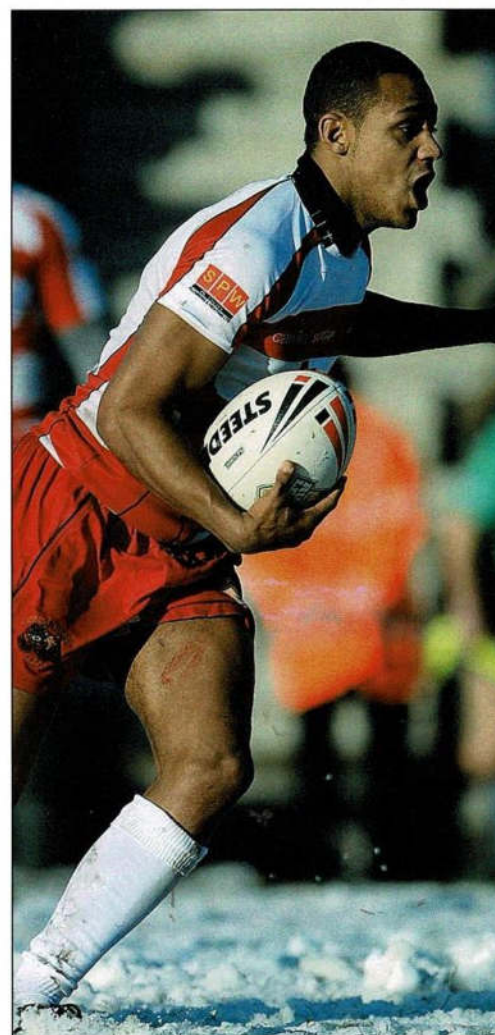
After collecting a kick from Swinton within in his own 10-metre line, Campbell cleverly stepped past four defenders to cross the try line after running the full length of the pitch.

Commenting on the award, Paul Harrison, Batley Bulls General Manager said: "We've been delighted with Johnny's performances in the Northern Rail Cup.

"He has grabbed the opportunity to play full back with both hands and has gone from strength to strength.

"Johnny has already scored several times this season and the superb try against Swinton demonstrated just what pace he has got."

Johnny Campbell will be presented with a specially engraved award by sponsors Northern Rail at the Batley Bulldogs v Leeds Metropolitan University Carnegie Challenge Cup 3rd round match on Sunday March 7.



Johnny Campbell has made an electric start to 2010

Great Super-Saver passport for 'big three' events

They are three of the most famous venues on the planet – and rugby league fans can book their seats at Wembley, Murrayfield and Old Trafford in 2010 with the best value sporting ticket in town.

For the amazing price of just £49, the Super Saver Passport secures tickets at the amazing Magic Weekend, the historic Carnegie Challenge Cup Final and the climactic end to the season, the Engage Super League Grand Final.

With nine matches taking place, the £49 Super Saver Passport works out at less than £6 per match and represents amazing value, making some of this year's biggest sporting events affordable for everyone.

The action kicks off on the weekend of May 1 and 2 when all 14 Engage Super League clubs head to Edinburgh which hosts Magic Weekend for the second successive season.

Then, on Saturday August 28, it's Wembley Stadium and final-

ly, on Saturday October 2 the Engage Super League season climaxes under the floodlights at the Theatre of Dreams, Old Trafford. "The Super Saver Passport for the three hottest events of the years has to be the best value ticket in sport," said the RFL's Marketing Manager Phil Williams.

"Rugby League is very much a family sport and we're aware of the demands placed on household budgets, especially in these difficult times, so the Super Saver Passport makes three of our biggest events incredibly affordable. At these prices we're expecting strong demand for the Super Saver Passport so I would urge people to move quickly to take up this great offer."

The Super Saver Passport is available in two price brackets, £49 for value seats (£29 concessions) and £145 for best seats (£95 concessions).

To purchase your Super Saver Passport call the RFL Ticket Office on 0844 856 1113 or visit: www.rugbyleaguetickets.co.uk

History looms for students in Cup 3rd round

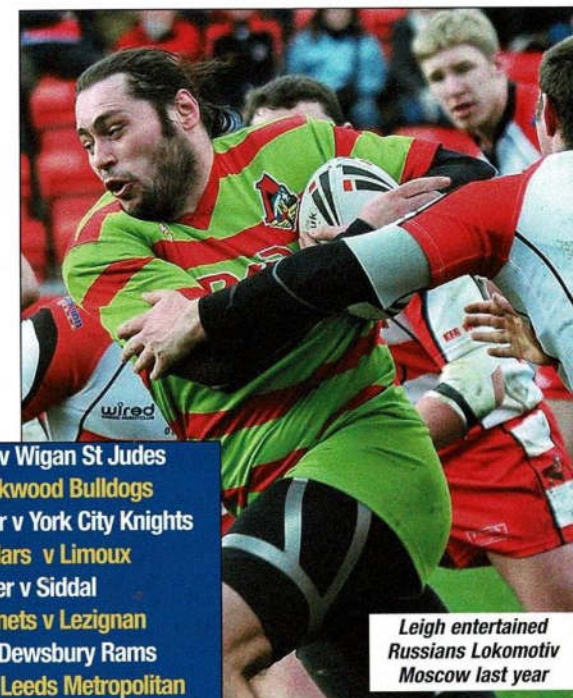
BATLEY BULLDOGS, the first winners of the Challenge Cup in 1897, will play Leeds Metropolitan University, the team of sponsors Carnegie, in the third round of this year's competition.

Leeds Met, who reached the third round with victory over the Police, are the last remaining student team in the competition and will head to Mount Pleasant on the weekend of March 6 and 7 in confident mood.

The draw produced some intriguing pairings, including a match between the Royal Navy and Blackpool Panthers, winners of last year's inaugural Northern Rail 9s, and a derby battle between the professionals of Halifax RLFC and their neighbouring community club Ovenden.

Blackwood Bulldogs, the Welsh champions, face a trip to Oldham, Keighley Cougars have again drawn French opposition in Toulouse Olympique, in one of three all-Championship ties.

The other two are Gateshead Thunder v York City Knights and Featherstone Rovers v Workington Town.



Leigh entertained Russians Lokomotiv Moscow last year

Widnes Vikings v Wigan St Judes
Oldham v Blackwood Bulldogs
Gateshead Thunder v York City Knights
London Skolars v Limoux
Doncaster v Siddal
Rochdale Hornets v Lezignan
Drighlington v Dewsbury Rams
Batley Bulldogs v Leeds Metropolitan
Royal Navy v Blackpool Panthers
Featherstone Rovers v Workington Town
Warrington Wizards v Swinton Lions
Leigh Miners Rangers v Whitehaven
Sheffield Eagles v Thatcho Heath
Ovenden v Halifax
Barrow Raiders v Hunslet Warriors
Keighley Cougars v Toulouse Olympique
Leigh East v Hunslet Hawks
Leigh Centurions v Wath Brow Hornets

The draw was made at the Metro Centre in Gateshead where a re-draw was required when a ball drawn from Pool B was accidentally put back into the bag rather than on public display.

This ball was later re-drawn, making the draw void. The error was immediately spotted and the draw re-done.

Both draws were subject to full public scrutiny by the assembled crowd at the Metro Centre.

The games will take place next weekend, March 6-7.

And YOU can attend the 4th round draw LIVE!

EVER dreamed of meeting your rugby league heroes and seeing history in the making? Well here's your chance!

The RFL is offering four GAME ON readers the opportunity to be a part of one of the most exciting evenings in the rugby league calendar on Monday March 8 when the draw for the fourth round of the 2010 Carnegie Challenge Cup takes place at Halliwell Jones Stadium, Warrington.

The draw sees the 14 Engage Super League clubs enter the Carnegie Challenge Cup for the first time when they

will be joined by the 18 surviving clubs from The Co-operative Championships, French Federation and community game. The draw is being hosted by Cup holders Warrington Wolves and will be live on BBC 5 Live at 7.35pm.

After watching the draw, supporters will get the opportunity to have their picture taken with one of the world's most prestigious trophies and meet players and coaches. Tickets for the 2010 Carnegie Challenge Cup Final at Wembley Stadium on Saturday August 28 are priced from just £21 with family

tickets available for as little as £55. Until Friday March 26, complimentary upgrades are available on all ticket bands, with the exception of £76 tickets. For example, anyone purchasing a £31 ticket will automatically be upgraded to a £41 ticket. Ticket can be purchased from the RFL ticket office on 0844 856 11 13 or by visiting www.carnegiechallengecup.co.uk

For your chance to attend the draw answer this: Where will the Carnegie Challenge Cup Final be held this year?

- Millennium Stadium
- Murrayfield
- Wembley

Please email your answer with your name, age, address and contact number to: competitions@rfl.uk.com

Entrants must be available to come to the Martin Dawes Stand of the Halliwell Jones Stadium on Monday March 8 for 6.45pm.

All entrants under 18 must be accompanied by an adult or guardian.

Prizes cannot be transferred, exchanged or sold.

Rugby League gaming goes to a new level

Rugby League 3
now on Nintendo wii
Reviewed by Tom Coates

Due for release in late March, Rugby League 3 represents the sport's first foray into the world of virtual-reality motion-control.

The game, available for the Wii, is the third instalment of the series and the first to be released on Nintendo's ground-breaking system.

The Wii, for those of you unfamiliar with it, is a games console that places emphasis on the usage of hand gestures and physical movement to control the action. With Rugby League 3, the developers have taken the physicality and excitement that makes our sport great and turned it into a video game that is easy to learn but, more importantly, lots and lots of fun.

However, the pick-up-and-playability of this game only tells half the story of a product that is bursting with features. No stone has been left unturned in creating a piece of software that not only accurately portrays our sport on the pitch, but also offers a management mode brimming with options and immersing the player in a world of tactics, injuries, transfers and training regimes.

The previous two offerings perhaps lacked the depth and longevity that makes a good game great. Rugby League 3, on the other hand, has enough in the tank to keep you glued to the screen for years to come. The realism of the game is astounding, players can choose to coach their team and control every game or, in true management style, take care of matters off the pitch and let their squad do the talking on it.

Another bonus for league fans is the amount of clubs available. For the first time, players can select teams from both Championships and the Toyota Cup as well as the NRL, Super League and international scene. The attention to detail in this respect is excellent. All kits, players, logos and likenesses (up to the 2009 season) have been faithfully reproduced in virtual form, giving punters the chance to lead their favourite team to glory from the comfort of their armchair.

The range of available teams is complimented by the choice of 38 stadia, including Headingley, the Galpharm Stadium and the Willows, as well as accurate representations of facilities from France and Australia.

Back on the pitch and on-the-fly tactical changes made at the press of a button mean you can tell your wingers to drop back, tighten up your line defence or throw caution to the wind and look for the interception. Australian voice of rugby league Andrew Voss provides the commentary, a soundtrack complimented by the referee calls coming courtesy of the Wii remote's on-board speaker.

The comprehensive on-board customisation mode allows you to create your own teams, players and competitions. Want to run out at Headingley alongside Kevin Sinfield and Rob Burrow? Now you can! Everything from hair colour and facial features to playing ability and nationality is customisable meaning even the least athletic of us has the chance to pull on a pair of boots and take part in the action.

Up to 8 players can take control at any one time, with the option to use a combination of remotes and standard controllers giving the game that 'arcade feel' and striking the balance between an accurate sport simulator and a game that's fun and easy to play.

With its attention to detail, comprehensive management mode and the sheer enjoyment of running, tackling and passing with the flick of the wrist, Rugby League 3 truly is the game that fans of the sport have been waiting for.

Due for release in late March, Rugby League 3 from Alternative Software Ltd.

The first detailed, game play U.K. review can now be found at <http://www.locksley.350.com/r13-4.htm>



'Teams can be selected from all our Championship clubs and every Super League stadium is featured'

inprofile

Dave Larder
Halifax RLFC
Squad number: 11

PERSONAL

DATE OF BIRTH: 05.06.76

POSITION: Second Rower

HEIGHT: 5' 10"

WEIGHT: 15 stone

MARITAL STATUS: Married, Jamie

HOME TOWN: Huddersfield

OCCUPATION: Sales Manager

BACKGROUND

AMATEUR CLUBS: Huddersfield RU, Sheffield Eagles Academy

PREVIOUS CLUBS: Keighley, Sheffield, Rochdale, Leigh

SIGNED PRO: 1994

TEAM SUPPORTED AS A KID: Wigan

FAVOURITES

SOCCER TEAM: Everton

OTHER SPORT: Probably cricket

HOBBIES: Spending time with family and friends

FOOD: Chicken

DRINK: Orange and Mango during the season, Carling outside of it!

MUSIC: I like The Killers at the moment

FILM: Shawshank Redemption

TV PROGRAMME: Prison Break and Flash Forward

PLAYING

PRE-MATCH SUPERSTITIONS: None

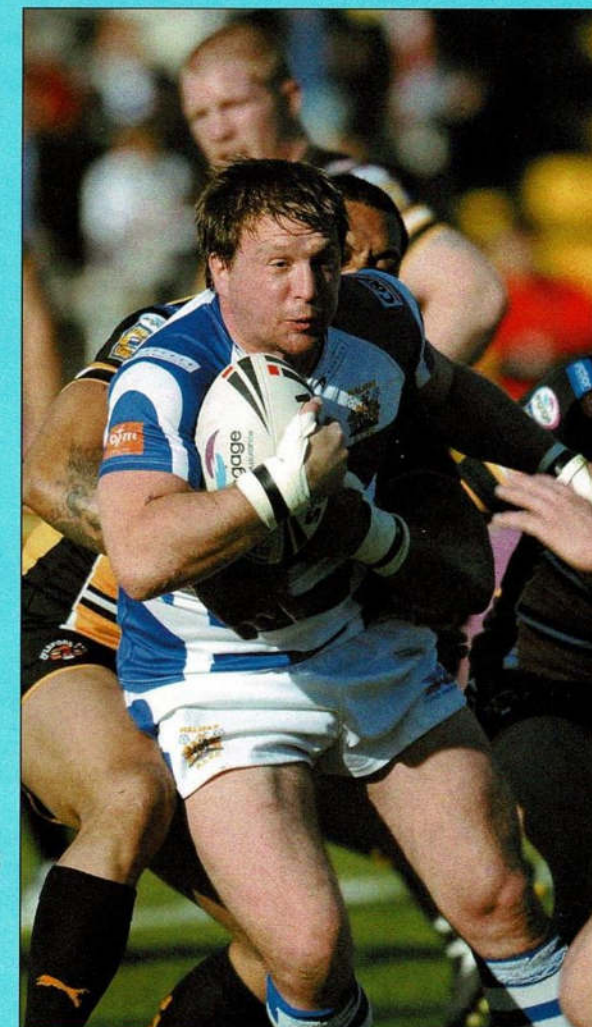
BEST TEAMMATE: Tommy Martyn at Leigh and Daryl Powell at Keighley

BEST OPPONENT(S): Andy Farrell and Jason Robinson. We played against Wigan in the Challenge Cup and they were just a different class

BEST COACH: I can't pick one. I'm fortunate to have played under a lot of good coaches and every one has contributed to making me into the player I am

COACH I'D MOST LIKE TO PLAY FOR: Everyone would say Wayne Bennett and I can't really argue against that

PLAYING STRENGTHS: Work-rate and leadership



Halifax's long-serving back row forward Dave Larder

WEAKNESSES: I'm always looking to improve, I'm not saying anything other than that

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS: The Premiership finals at Old Trafford with Keighley in '95 and '96. We won the first one against Huddersfield and lost the second against Salford. Winning the Grand Final with Leigh in 2004

LOWLIGHTS: Missing out on the 2009 Grand Final through injury

ULTIMATE WISH: Well, I'm too old to play in Super League again. I just want to play for as long as I can really and help some of the younger lads in their development.

PLANS AFTER PLAYING: I'd like to get in to coaching and see what happens from there.

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ANDY WILSON
SHAUN BRISCOE
RAY FRENCH
DAVE 'NOSEY' PARKER
DANNY LOCKWOOD
MAURICE BAMFORD

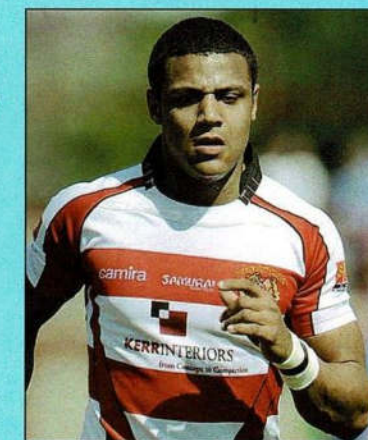
WE HAVE THE CO-OPERATIVE CHAMPIONSHIPS COVERED - ALL THE NEWS, ALL THE MATCH REPORTS, EVERY WEEK - PLUS THE OFFICIAL PLAYER AND TEAM OF THE MONTH!

XIII QUESTIONS



Do you know your stuff?

1. Frank Watene began his career on these shores with which Super League club?
2. Stars from which television programme helped launch the Championships season last week?
3. New Featherstone Rovers signing Jesse Joe Nandye hails from which country?
4. Batley Bulldogs winger Johnny Campbell had trials with which Super League club?
5. Which team won the 2002 Northern Ford Premiership?
6. Which team won promotion to National League One at the third attempt in 2005?
7. By what nickname did Halifax go by before adopting the Blue Sox tag?
8. Who preceded Barry Eaton as head coach of Keighley Cougars?
9. Who did Dewsbury Rams beat to secure National League One status in 2002?
10. In what year was Widnes' new-look Auto Quest Stadium finished?
11. Whose place did Sheffield Eagles take in 1999 when they re-launched the club?
12. New Skolars signing Ade Adebisi played for which team before joining Whitehaven?
13. What is the name of the football team that Oldham will share their home ground with in 2010?



q4

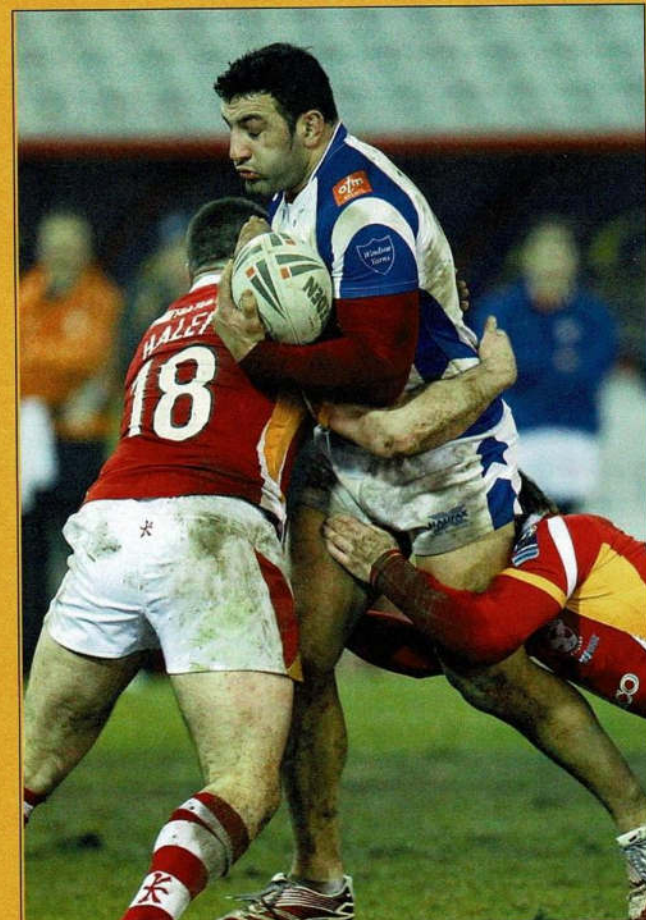
(1) Wakefield, (2) Coronation Street, (3) Papua New Guinea, (4) Salford City Reds, (5) Huddersfield Giants, (6) York City Knights, (7) Bombers, (8) Peter Roe, (9) Workington Town, (10) 2005, (11) Bramley, (12) Featherstone Rovers, (13) Oldham Boro

Frozen out again!

Adverse weather conditions over the weekend once again resulted in the majority of Sunday's Northern Rail Cup pool matches being cancelled. However, the week leading up to the competition's fourth round gave clubs the opportunity to catch up on the backlog of fixtures.

POOL A

Barrow Raiders got their Northern Rail Cup quest back on track, following defeat to Widnes a week earlier, with a resounding victory over Doncaster. The Raiders stormed over for 10 tries with experienced second-rower Ned Catic helping himself to a hat-trick. Andy Henderson, James Nixon, Michael Knowles, Zeb Luisi and Jamie Rooney all crossed before the interval to give the Cumbrians a 36-0 half-time lead.



Said Tamghart stands tall in the tackle in last week's game at the Don Valley. The teams meet again this weekend www.rlphotos.com

Catic completed his hat-trick ten minutes in to the second period with Nixon completing a brace and Jason Mossop capping things off in the final five minutes. Jamie Rooney and Michael Knowles kicked all ten goals between them to consign the Dons to their second heavy defeat in as many games.

Swinton Lions registered their second win of the season with a last gasp victory over Workington Town. Graham Holroyd's drop-goal in the closing minutes snatched all three points for the visitors after tries from Rob Hulse, Gavin Dodd and Carl Sneyd had kept the Lions in contention. The result was in doubt right up to the final hooter, and Scott Kaighan's 77th minute score looked to have been enough to secure at least a draw for the ever-improving Town, after Aaron Low's tenth minute try had given them an early lead.

Four days later and Workington Town were back in action, this time taking on local rivals Whitehaven. With neither side in serious contention for a place in the top four, both coaches would have been forgiven for fielding under-strength sides.

This was the Cumbrian derby though and local pride is worth a lot more than three points in these parts. Scott Kaighan's 18 point haul, courtesy of two tries and five goals, gave the home side the edge and Town fans their first derby victory in several years. Neil Frazer's try just after the hour put the home side in front after Graeme Mattinson and Craig Calvert had given 'Haven a slender advantage.

Town's midweek conquerors Swinton Lions were unable to build on their victory and were beaten comfortably at home to Widnes Vikings. An even opening quarter had seen the Lions take the lead in the fourth minute through Richie Hawkyard, before Gavin Dodd's try against his former club had kept the home side in contention.

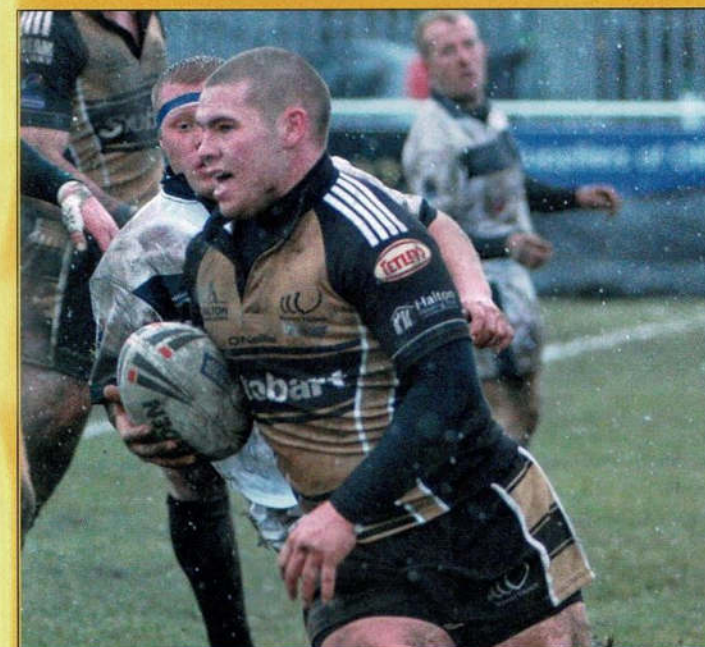
The Vikings responded with tries to Toa Kohe Love, Matt Gardener, Shane Grady and Shaun Ainscough to ensure the visitors took an eight point lead into the break. Kohe Love crossed for his second ten minutes after the restart, as Widnes began to assert their dominance.

Mark Smith and Anthony Thackeray also touched down before the end to take the game away from Paul Smith's side.

POOL B

Sheffield Eagles were able to stage their match against Halifax at the second attempt and produced a superb defensive display to edge out the cup favourites 13-6.

Tries from Tangi Ropati and Jack Howieson had given the Eagles the lead at half-time, after Jon Goddard's early score had put the visitors in front.



Tom Coyle of Widnes skips through the snow at Swinton in a game that went ahead on Sunday.

PHOTO:
PETER
GREEN

No further tries were scored in the second 40 as Sheffield repelled wave after wave of Halifax attacks.

Widnes have guaranteed themselves progress with a game to play, while Sheffield cannot be caught in Pool B. Statistics up to 23/2/10

POOL A

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	D	PTS
Widnes	4	3	1	0	138	68	70	11
Keighley	3	3	0	0	79	48	31	9
Batley	3	2	1	0	110	66	44	8
Barrow	3	2	0	1	114	30	84	7
Workington	4	2	0	2	76	83	-7	7
Whitehaven	4	1	0	3	110	83	27	6
Swinton	4	2	0	2	71	120	-49	6
Blackpool	3	1	0	2	104	64	40	4
Doncaster	3	0	0	3	30	144	-114	1
Gateshead	3	0	0	3	24	150	-126	0

POOL B

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	D	PTS
Sheffield	4	3	1	0	95	56	39	11
Halifax	3	2	0	1	98	13	85	7
Leigh	3	2	0	1	72	31	41	7
Hunslet	2	2	0	0	88	26	62	6
Dewsbury	3	2	0	1	98	40	58	6
York	3	2	0	1	59	64	-5	6
Oldham	4	1	0	3	70	90	-20	5
Featherstone	2	0	1	1	24	54	-30	2
Rochdale	3	0	0	3	38	106	-68	1
London Skolars	3	0	0	3	16	178	-162	0

Mark Aston's men held their line and frustrated the visitors before Craig Cook's drop goal in the dying moments guaranteed a superb win for the Eagles ahead of the league campaign.

York City Knights gave themselves a terrific chance of qualifying for the knockout stages with a comfortable victory over John Stankevitch's young Hornets side.

Lee Waterman continues to raise eyebrows with his early-season performances, netting a hat-trick, with further tries to Brett Waller (2), John Clough and Jonathan Schofield securing the points for stand-in coach Chris Thorman.

Hornets offered some resistance and responded with consolation tries to Liam Bostock and Dean Hatton.

The defeat ends the Rochdale side's interest in the competition and they will now turn their attention to next week's league opener against Doncaster.

And finally in the delayed Monday night game at Oldham, a young Sheffield Eagles squad came from a 10-0 deficit in the early stages to lead 12-10 at the break.

They then went 22-12 behind before star man two-try Sam Barlow inspired the group leaders to a narrow 24-14 win.

Irish recruit John Coleman who has been handed the number 4 shirt by Mark Aston took over the goalkicking duties from Jonny Woodcock and bagged himself four goals and a try.

RESULTS

POOL A

SUNDAY FEB 21	
Swinton	12
Tries: Hawkyard 1, Dodd 1G: Dodd 2	
Widnes	36
T: Ainscough, T Kohe-Love 2, Grady, Gardner, Thackeray, Smith	
G: Grady	
Half-time: 12-20. Attendance: 816	
Workington	22
T: Frazer, Kaighan	
G: Kaighan 5	
Whitehaven	14
T: Calvert, Mattinson	
G: Rudd 3	
Half-time: 4-6. Attendance: 738	
WEDNESDAY FEB 16	
Workington	18
T: Low, Kaighan 1	
G: Kaighan 5,	
Swinton	19
T: Dodd, Sneyd, G Hulse,	
G: Dodd 3	
DG: Holroyd 1	
Half-time: 10-6. Attendance: 286	
Doncaster	0
Barrow	60
T: Nixon 2, Luisi, Rooney, Henderson, Knowles, Katic 3, Mossop	
G: Rooney 8, Knowles 2	
Half-time: 0-36. Attendance: 285	

POOL A

WEDNESDAY FEB 16	
Sheffield	13
T: Ropati, Howieson	
G: Woodcock 2	
DG: Cook 1	
Halifax	6
T: J Goddard	
G: L Paterson	
Half-time: 12-6. Attendance: 851	
Rochdale	12
T: Bostock, Hatton	
G: Ashall, Hatton	
York	36
T: Waterman 3, Schofield, Clough, Waller 2	
G: Waterman 4	
Half-time: 6-12. Attendance: 362	
MONDAY FEB 22	
Oldham	22
T: O'Connor, Borcklehurst, N. Roden, Onyango, G. Ashe 3	
Sheffield Eagles	24
T: Barlow 2, Coleman, Green, Coleman 4	
Half-time: 10-12. Attendance:	



DIARY 2010

KEY TO DIARY:

NORTHERN RAIL CUP CHAMPIONSHIP CHALLENGE CUP

NORTHERN RAIL CUP

SUNDAY JANUARY 31 - ROUND 1
Dewsbury Rams 50, London Skolars 4
Leigh Centurions 24, Oldham 12
Blackpool Panthers 22, Keighley Cougars 24

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2 - ROUND 1

Widnes Vikings 50, Gateshead Thunder 6

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7 - ROUND 2

Barrow Raiders 34, Blackpool Panthers 8
Batley Bulldogs 30, Widnes Vikings 30
Featherstone Rovers 18, Sheffield Eagles 18
Halifax RLFC 24, Dewsbury Rams 0
Keighley Cougars 17, Whitehaven 16
Gateshead Thunder 12, Workington Town 26
London Skolars 12, Hunslet Hawks 60
Swinton Lions 30, Doncaster RLFC 20
York City Knights 13, Leigh Centurions 12

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2 - ROUND 2

Oldham 22, Hunslet Hawks 14

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4 - ROUND 1

Whitehaven 26, Batley Bulldogs 34

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14 - ROUND 3

Batley Bulldogs 46, Swinton Lions 10
Keighley Cougars 36, Workington Town 10
Leigh Centurions 36, Featherstone Rovers 6
Sheffield Eagles 40, York City Knights 10
Whitehaven 54, Doncaster RLFC 10
Widnes Vikings 22, Barrow Raiders 20
Blackpool Panthers 74, Gateshead Thunder 6
Hunslet Hawks 28, Oldham 14
London Skolars 0, Halifax RLFC 66
Rochdale Hornets 12, Dewsbury Rams 48

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17 - ROUND 1

Sheffield Eagles 13, Halifax RLFC 6
Doncaster RLFC 0, Barrow Raiders 60
Hunslet Hawks 12, York City Knights 36
Workington 16, Swinton 19

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21 - ROUND 4

Barrow Raiders v Keighley Cougars PP
Dewsbury Rams v Leigh Centurions PP
Featherstone Rovers v Rochdale Hornets PP
Halifax RLFC v Hunslet Hawks PP
Doncaster RLFC v Blackpool Panthers PP
Gateshead Thunder v Batley Bulldogs PP
Swinton Lions 12, Widnes Vikings 36
Workington Town 16, Whitehaven 14
York City Knights v London Skolars PP

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22 - ROUND 4

Oldham 22, Sheffield Eagles 24

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3 - ROUND 4

Dewsbury Rams v Leigh Centurions 7.30

THURSDAY MARCH 4 - ROUND 1

Hunslet Hawks v Featherstone Rovers 8.00

CO-OPERATIVE CHAMPIONSHIPS

THURSDAY, 25 FEBRUARY

Leigh Centurions v Barrow Raiders 7.30

SATURDAY, 27 FEBRUARY

Toulouse Olympique v Dewsbury Rams 7.00

SUNDAY, 28 FEBRUARY

Featherstone Rovers v Batley Bulldogs 3.00

Halifax RLFC v Sheffield Eagles 3.00

Widnes Vikings v Keighley Cougars 3.00

Hunslet Hawks v Gateshead Thunder 3.00

Rochdale Hornets v Doncaster RLFC 3.00

Swinton Lions v Oldham 3.00
South Wales RLFC v Workington Town 2.00
York City Knights v London Skolars 3.00

THURSDAY, 11 MARCH

Batley Bulldogs v Halifax RLFC 7.30 SKY

SATURDAY, 13 MARCH

Whitehaven v Toulouse Olympique 6.00

SUNDAY, 14 MARCH

Dewsbury Rams v Featherstone Rovers 3.00

Keighley Cougars v Leigh Centurions 3.00

Sheffield Eagles v Widnes Vikings 3.00

Blackpool Panthers v Rochdale Hornets 3.00

Doncaster RLFC v South Wales RLFC 3.00

London Skolars v Swinton Lions 3.00

Oldham v Hunslet Hawks 3.00

Workington Town v York City Knights 3.00

THURSDAY, 18 MARCH

Widnes Vikings v Halifax RLFC 7.30 SKY

SATURDAY, 20 MARCH

Toulouse Olympique v Keighley Cougars 7.00

Barrow Raiders v Featherstone Rovers 6.30

SUNDAY, 21 MARCH

Leigh Centurions v Whitehaven 3.00

Gateshead Thunder v London Skolars 2.00

Oldham v Blackpool Panthers 3.00

Rochdale Hornets v Workington Town 3.00

Swinton Lions v Doncaster RLFC 3.00

York City Knights v South Wales RLFC 3.00

THURSDAY, 25 MARCH

Keighley Cougars v Batley Bulldogs 7.30 SKY

SATURDAY, 27 MARCH

Barrow Raiders v Toulouse Olympique 6.30

SUNDAY, 28 MARCH

Dewsbury Rams v Widnes Vikings 3.00

Featherstone Rovers v Whitehaven 3.00

Halifax RLFC v Leigh Centurions 3.00

Blackpool Panthers v Swinton Lions 3.00

Doncaster RLFC v York City Knights 3.00

Hunslet Hawks v Rochdale Hornets 3.00

South Wales RLFC v London Skolars 2.00

Workington Town v Gateshead Thunder 3.00

THURSDAY, 1 APRIL

Whitehaven v Barrow Raiders SKY

FRIDAY, 2 APRIL

Featherstone Rovers v Halifax RLFC 7.30

Keighley Cougars v Sheffield Eagles 7.30

Toulouse Olympique v Leigh Centurions 8.00

Batley Bulldogs v Dewsbury Rams 6.30

Sheffield Eagles v Doncaster RLFC 3.00

London Skolars v Blackpool Panthers 3.00

Rochdale Hornets v Oldham 3.00

Swinton Lions v Workington Town 3.00

York City Knights v Gateshead Thunder 3.00

MONDAY, 5 APRIL

Dewsbury Rams v Keighley Cougars 3.00 SKY

Halifax RLFC v Toulouse Olympique 6.00

Leigh Centurions v Batley Bulldogs 7.00

Sheffield Eagles v Barrow Raiders 3.00

Widnes Vikings v Whitehaven 3.00

Blackpool Panthers v York City Knights 3.00

Doncaster RLFC v London Skolars 3.00

Gateshead Thunder v Swinton Lions TBC

South Wales RLFC v Hunslet Hawks 2.00

Oldham v Workington Town 3.00

THURSDAY, 8 APRIL

Halifax RLFC v Keighley Cougars 7.30

SATURDAY, 10 APRIL

Widnes Vikings v Toulouse Olympique 6.00

Barrow Raiders v Batley Bulldogs 6.30

SUNDAY, 11 APRIL

Dewsbury Rams v Whitehaven 3.00

Sheffield Eagles v Featherstone Rovers 3.00

Gateshead Thunder v Doncaster RLFC 3.00

Hunslet Hawks v Swinton Lions 3.00

South Wales RLFC v Oldham 2.00

Rochdale Hornets v London Skolars 3.00

Workington Town v Blackpool Panthers 3.00

SATURDAY-SUNDAY 17-18 APRIL CARNegie CHALLENGE CUP 4th ROUND

THURSDAY, 22 APRIL

Featherstone v Toulouse Olympique 7.30 SKY

SATURDAY, 24 APRIL

Barrow Raiders v Dewsbury Rams 6.30

SUNDAY, 25 APRIL

Leigh Centurions v Sheffield Eagles 3.00

Whitehaven v Halifax RLFC 3.00

Batley Bulldogs v Widnes Vikings 3.00

Blackpool Panthers v Doncaster RLFC 3.00

London Skolars v Hunslet Hawks 2.00

Oldham v Gateshead Thunder 3.00

Swinton Lions v South Wales RLFC 3.00

York City Knights v Rochdale Hornets 3.00

THURSDAY, 29 APRIL

Dewsbury Rams v Leigh Centurions 7.30 SKY

FRIDAY, 30 APRIL

Widnes Vikings v Featherstone Rovers 8.00

SATURDAY, 1 MAY

Toulouse Olympique v Batley Bulldogs 7.00

SUNDAY, 2 MAY

South Wales RLFC v Blackpool Panthers 2.00

MONDAY, 3 MAY

Keighley Cougars v Barrow Raiders 3.00

Sheffield Eagles v Whitehaven 3.00

Doncaster RLFC v Oldham 3.00

Rochdale Hornets v Gateshead Thunder 3.00

May Workington Town v Hunslet Hawks 3.00

York City Knights v Swinton Lions 3.00

SATURDAY-SUNDAY 8-9 MAY CARNegie CHALLENGE CUP 5th ROUND

THURSDAY, 6 MAY (SUBJECT TO CC CUP)

Barrow Raiders v Widnes Vikings 7.30 SKY

SATURDAY, 8 MAY

Gateshead Thunder v South Wales RLFC 7.00

SUNDAY, 9 MAY

Halifax RLFC v Dewsbury Rams 3.00

Leigh Centurions v Featherstone Rovers 3.00

Whitehaven v Keighley Cougars 3.00

Sheffield Eagles v Batley Bulldogs 3.00

Hunslet Hawks v Blackpool Panthers 3.00

London Skolars v Workington Town 2.00

Oldham v York City Knights 3.00

Swinton Lions v Rochdale Hornets 3.00

THURSDAY, 13 MAY

Leigh Centurions v Widnes Vikings 7.30 SKY

SATURDAY, 15 MAY

Sheffield Eagles v Toulouse Olympique 6.00

Blackpool Panthers v Gateshead Thunder 3.00

SUNDAY, 16 MAY

Featherstone Rovers v Keighley Cougars 3.00

Halifax RLFC v Barrow Raiders 3.00

Batley Bulldogs v Whitehaven 3.00

Oldham v London Skolars 3.00

South Wales RLFC v Rochdale Hornets 2.00

Workington Town v Doncaster RLFC 3.00

York City Knights v Hunslet Hawks 3.00

THURSDAY, 20 MAY

Dewsbury Rams v Sheffield Eagles 7.30 SKY

SATURDAY, 22 MAY

Toulouse Olympique v Featherstone Rovers 7.00

SUNDAY, 23 MAY

Keighley Cougars v Halifax RLFC 3.00

Whitehaven v Leigh Centurions 3.00

Widnes Vikings v Batley Bulldogs 3.00

Doncaster RLFC v Swinton Lions 3.00

Gateshead Thunder v Workington Town 3.00

Hunslet Hawks v Oldham 3.00

London Skolars v South Wales RLFC 3.00

Rochdale Hornets v York City Knights 3.00

SATURDAY-SUNDAY 29-30 JUNE CARNegie CHALLENGE CUP QUARTER FINALS

THURSDAY, 27 MAY (SUBJECT TO CC CUP)

Sheffield Eagles v Keighley Cougars 7.30 SKY

SATURDAY, 29 MAY

Barrow Raiders v Whitehaven 6.30



A swarming Swinton defence gets to grips with the Vikings' Matt Gardner
Photo: Peter Green

Batley Bulldogs v Toulouse Olympique 6.00

SUNDAY, 30 MAY

Featherstone Rovers v Dewsbury Rams 3.00

Leigh Centurions v Halifax RLFC 3.00

Doncaster RLFC v Hunslet Hawks 3.00

Gateshead Thunder v Rochdale Hornets 3.00

Swinton Lions v London Skolars 3.00

Workington Town v Oldham 3.00

York City Knights v Blackpool Panthers 3.00

THURSDAY-SUNDAY, 6-9 JUNE NORTHERN RAIL CUP QUARTER-FINALS

SATURDAY, 12 JUNE

Doncaster RLFC v York City Knights 2.30 (Stoop)

SUNDAY, 13 JUNE

Halifax RLFC v Featherstone Rovers 3.00

Keighley Cougars v Dewsbury Rams 3.00

Whitehaven v Sheffield Eagles 3.00

Widnes Vikings v Barrow Raiders 3.00

Batley Bulldogs v Leigh Centurions 3.00

Oldham v Doncaster RLFC 3.00

Rochdale Hornets v Hunslet Hawks 3.00

South Wales RLFC v Swinton Lions 2.00

Blackpool Panthers v Workington Town 3.00

SATURDAY-SUNDAY, JUNE 20-21 NORTHERN RAIL CUP SEMI-FINALS

SATURDAY, 26 JUNE

Toulouse Olympique v Whitehaven 7.00

Barrow Raiders v Sheffield Eagles 6.30

Gateshead Thunder v York City Knights 7.00

SUNDAY, 27 JUNE

Dewsbury Rams v Halifax RLFC 3.00

Featherstone Rovers v Widnes Vikings 3.00

Leigh Centurions v Keighley Cougars 3.00

Doncaster RLFC v Rochdale Hornets 3.00

Hunslet Hawks v London Skolars 3.00

Swinton Lions v Blackpool Panthers 3.00

Workington Town v South Wales RLFC 3.00

SATURDAY, 3 JULY

Barrow Raiders v Leigh Centurions 6.30

Blackpool Panthers v South Wales RLFC 3.00

SUNDAY, 4 JULY

Dewsbury Rams v Toulouse Olympique TBC

Keighley Cougars v Featherstone Rovers 3.00

Whitehaven v Widnes Vikings 3.00

Batley Bulldogs v Sheffield Eagles 3.00

Gateshead Thunder v Oldham 3.00

London Skolars v Rochdale Hornets 3.00

Swinton Lions v Hunslet Hawks 3.00

York City Knights v Doncaster RLFC 3.00

SATURDAY, 10 JULY

Toulouse Olympique v Sheffield Eagles 7.00

SUNDAY, 11 JULY</