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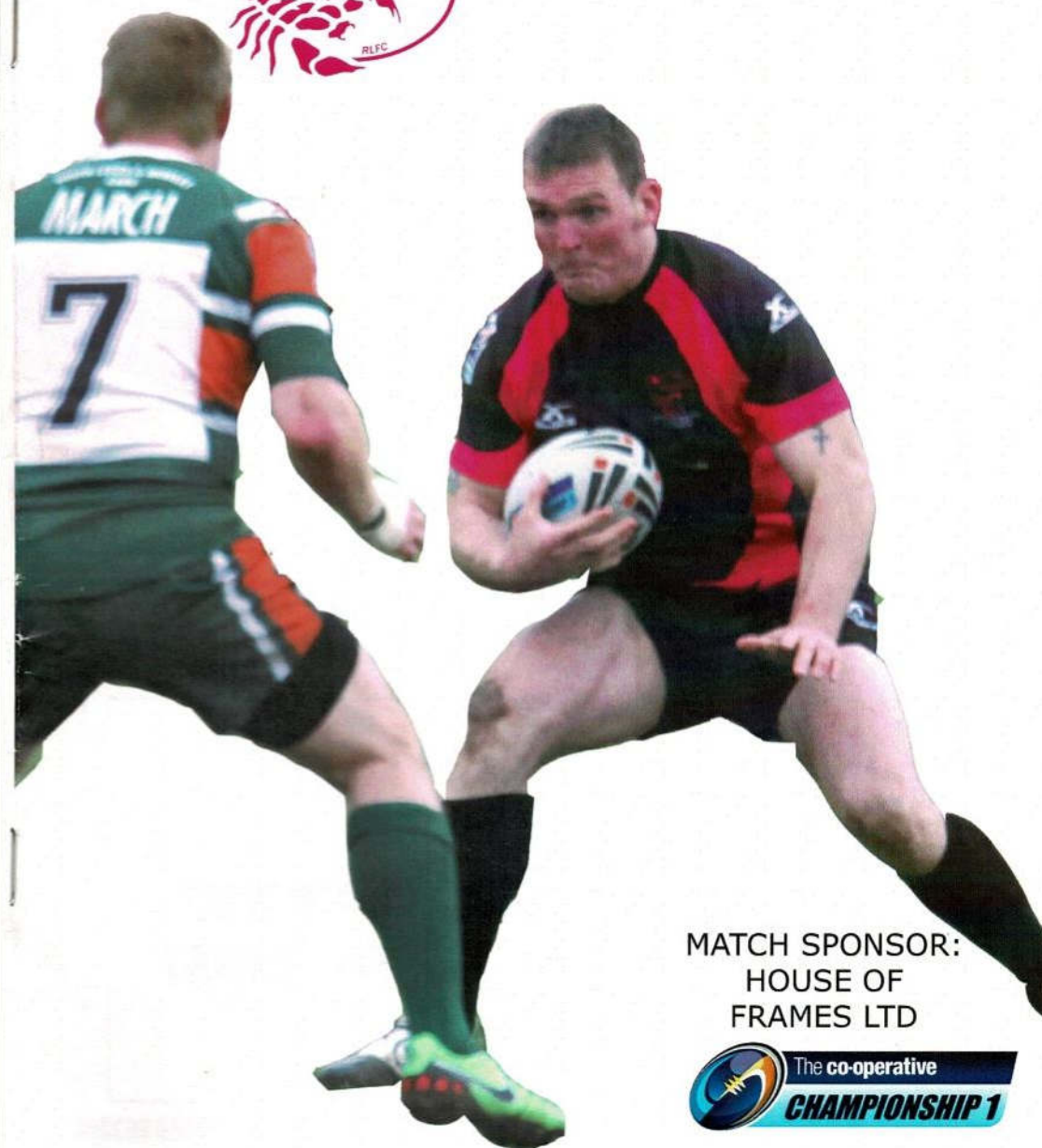
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SOUTH WALES SCORPIONS

YEAR ONE: COLLECTORS SERIES PROGRAMME: ISSUE 05: £2



VERSUS OLDHAM ROUGHYEDS
SUNDAY 11TH APRIL 2010, 2PM
CO-OPERATIVE CHAMPIONSHIP 1



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LEAGUE SEASON**

WELCOME TO THE SCORPIONS' LAIR

First of all, I'd like to congratulate our opponents today, Oldham, for securing their new ground, the Whitebank Stadium, just a couple of miles from their town centre and right near the motorway.

As a new club, we don't take anything for granted, especially the fact that we have a decent ground to play at. And despite a letter to the contrary in the Western Mail from a gentleman in Neath, it's not given to us on a plate!

Oldham have been looking for a ground since they were no longer able to share with the local football club. We're going up there on August 1st and we look forward to seeing your new patch in all its glory.

Welcome to everyone from the famous Roughyeds club. I remember seeing a couple of competitive games that you played against the Crusaders a few years back. Like then, we hope to give you some strong competition and a memorable day in South Wales.

It was disappointing to lose our home match last week against Hunslet Hawks. However after the game, when we were making presentations in the clubhouse, I did express to Anthony Seibold and the boys that we were all still proud of them. We know we're going to get defeats like this as we grow as a team and let's face it, we've only been together for about 10 weeks, miracles aren't going to happen overnight. Seibs has done well in building a fantastic squad with very short notice. He was recognised for his coaching efforts in Rugby League World magazine last month, as was Steve Parry, who picked up player of the month for Championship 1. Well done to them, and also to Lloyd White, Aled James, Lewis Mills and Christiaan Roets for getting in the team of the month too. Our honours board has started to grow already and I'm sure it'll get even bigger as the months and years go on.

A warm welcome to fans of both clubs and I hope you enjoy today's game. We've a week off next week before going to Swinton Lions on April 25th. We're then back here on Monday 3rd May when we face Blackpool Panthers. See you all then.

Phil Davies

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Ground address: The John Smith's Gnoll, Gnoll Park Road, Neath. SA11 3NA

Postal Address: South Wales Scorpions, Wales Rugby League, The Farmhouse, Bridgend College, Pencoed. CF35 5LG

Email: info@scorpionsrl.com

Telephone: 01656 863896

BEHIND THE SCENES

Chairman: Phil Davies

General Manager: Mark Rowley

Commercial Director: Rob Buckley

Directors: John Brennan, Mike Nicholas, John Devereux

Head Coach: Anthony Seibold

Assistant Coach:

Hywel Davies

Assistant Coach:

Dan Clements

Strength and Conditioning

Coach: Ian Gibbons

Physiotherapist:

Osian Merfyn

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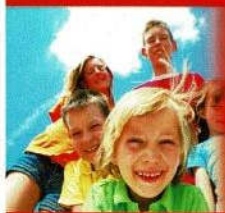
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ANTHONY SEIBOLD'S FAMOUS BLOG

We welcome the undefeated Oldham team to South Wales today. The challenge they present will be immense and one we need to be at the top of our game for if we are going to compete. They are the only team to defeat Hunslet in the Championship One competition this season and they are a very well coached outfit under Tony Benson.

It was very disappointing to lose at home in the manner we did against Hunslet on Easter Monday, and it showed in no uncertain terms that we have much work to do to compete in this competition at the top end.

The game also showed that we have a long way to go in terms of our development as a team and in learning to play at this level. As I have said previously, this is a very tough competition and we have not got too celebratory after our wins and we won't get too disappointed after our losses. We need to use each game as learning experiences and prepare the best that we can for the next game.

The only reason to be disappointed is if we don't learn the lesson from our last performance, and that lesson is that each individual must look after their own preparation leading into the game and look after their own performance during the game. This competition is far too tough to turn up and not be physically ready

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for the battle and we had too many players not ready for the physicality that Hunslet brought down to Wales. Jamie Murphy, Loz Wildbore and Christian Roets deserve special mention for their efforts and their recent form has been good for our team. I thought Steve Parry also improved and he knows he still has a lot of hard work to do after receiving his recent award.

We have a lot of hard work in front of us and it started this week on the training ground and in our game against Oldham at home today.

Enjoy the game.

Seibs

WHO ARE OLDHAM ROUGHYEDS?

With three League Championships, one First Division title, three Challenge Cup wins, seven Lancashire League triumphs and nine Lancashire Cups to their name, Oldham are one of rugby league's most famous names.

As one of the original 22 clubs to start the Northern Rugby Union in 1895, success arrived quickly for the Lancashire outfit.

They won their first League title by heading the First Division in 1905 and further League success followed in 1910 and 1911, when they twice beat Wigan in the Championship final. Indeed, in 1910 they won three trophies, adding the Lancashire League and Lancashire Cup to their sideboard.

As for the Challenge Cup, though, it was not until 1925 that they followed their 1899 success, finishing runners up three times (in 1907, 1912 and 1924) before laying the ghost to rest when they beat Hull KR 16-3 in the final at Headingley.

They lost in the Challenge Cup final again the following year to Swinton but gained revenge in

1927 when their fourth final appearance in a row ended in a 26-7 romp at Wigan.

It was another 30 years before they enjoyed more glory, the signing of players like Alan Davies, John Etty Sid Little and Derek 'Rocky' Turner leading to their last Championship title in 1957, along with numerous county honours.

However, that was their last major success, although they have won the Second Division three times in 1964, 1982 and 1988 and the Divisional Premiership twice, in 1988 and 1990.

They added Bears to their name as one of the founding members of the Super League in 1996, but they were relegated in 1997 and, to add insult to injury, they went bankrupt as well.

However, they re-formed as Oldham Roughyeds in 1997 and reached the Northern Ford Premiership Grand Final in 2001, only to lose to Widnes. They were relegated in 2006, though, after only one win and have been there since, despite reaching the Grand Final twice.



THEY PLAYED FOR WALES WHILE AT OLDHAM

FULL NAME	CLUBS AND DATES	CAPS	TRIES	GOALS	DROPS
Tom Llewellyn	Oldham 1908	2			
David Beynon	Oldham 1908	1			
David Davies	Merthyr T, Swinton and Oldham 1908-13	9	2		
Evan Davies	Oldham 1912-1923	3			
Tom Williams	Oldham 1913	1	1		
Bernard Frederick	Oldham 1913	1			
Fred Brown	Oldham 1921-1923	2	1		
N Thomas	Oldham 1923	1			
Joe Corsi	Oldham 1923	1			
Ambrose Baker	Oldham 1925-1928	2			
Alf Higgs	Oldham 1928	1			
Reg Hathway	Oldham 1932	2			
Trevor Thomas	Oldham and Wigan 1932-40	2			
Lou Rees	Oldham 1935-1938	5			
Norman Pugh	Oldham 1935-1938	6			
Alex Givvons	Oldham 1936-1938	6			
Doug Phillips	Oldham and Belle Vue R 1945-1951	9	1		
Norman Harris	Oldham and Rochdale H 1947-1953	7	3		
Bryn Goldswain	Hull KR and Oldham 1947-1953	16	1	3	
Les Thomas	Oldham 1947	5	3		
Joe Mahoney	Oldham and Dewsbury 1948-1950	5	1		
Charlie Winslade	Oldham and Warrington 1952-1963	6			
Bryn Day	Oldham 1952	2			
Colin Standing	Wigan and Oldham 1969-1970	2			
Bill Francis	Wigan, St Helens and Oldham 1975-1980	19	5		
David Treasure	Oldham 1975-1977	5	1		
Gareth Owen	Oldham 1981	2			
Paul Atcheson	Wigan, Oldham, St Helens, Widnes 95-03	17	5		
Ian Watson	Salford CR, Swinton L, Widnes V, Rochdale H, Oldham and Leigh C 1995-2009	26	7	1	
Chris Morley	St Helens, Salford CR, Sheffield E, Leigh C, Oldham, Halifax and Swinton L 1996-2006	17	2		
Adam Hughes	Widnes V, Leigh C and Oldham 2002-2007	13	9	3	
Rob Roberts	Huddersfield G, Leigh C and Oldham 02-07 8	2			

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WELCOME TO THE CAVE

Hey sports fans! How nice is it now the clocks have sprung forward? We are now enjoying longer evenings and the coaches are looking forward to daylight sessions and Dan Clements can start planning his hanging baskets!

After Monday's disappointing home defeat against Hunslet, we have had a decent preparation for the visit of Oldham here at the Gnoll this afternoon. The players were back in on Tuesday at UWIC partaking in some recovery and gym work and spent Thursday reviewing the game and looking at areas where we can improve going into today's game against another top quality side.

The Easter period is a traditionally busy time for team sports and it is usually followed by a dip in performance soon after, we only had one game over this period and that just happened to be against the form team in the league. However I am confident we will see the benefits of a revised training programme these past two weeks, spending less time on our feet thus ensuring we go into this game fully charged up after a six day turnaround, results from other games will be worth looking at tonight.

I have noted that 'Sting' the Scorpion is running the race for life – a worthy cause and I trust you will all dig deep and sponsor this great event. Good luck Sting from everyone in the playing department.

You may have noticed a young lad running the kicking tee on during the early rounds of the season, this is Aled Phillips, no relation to the very unique Barrie Phillips. Aled is the Scorpions Strength and Conditioning intern and kit technician, joining us from Swansea University where he has completed a degree in sports science. He is a great help to us all and is getting hands on practical experience in conditioning and coaching that is all too hard to find these days. If you see him, make

him feel welcome. He does however need a haircut, so please if anyone can help see me after the game!

Finally this week I thought I would leave you with the results of my monthly training award:

Trainer of the month: Christiaan Roets
Roetsy has shown the way in training and has been outstanding on the field in recent weeks. A mention also for Barrie Phillips who after attending yoga is edging closer to been able to fully open up his arms and shake off the tag of T-rex man, and not forgetting Jamie Murphy and Dai James for their acting skills as Max Branning in Eastenders and Ron Weasley in Harry Potter respectively. Keep it up boys you are doing Wales proud!!
Until next time....

Enjoy the Game

Gibbo



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Before

After

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CLASSIC ENCOUNTERS



Oldham were the first ever rugby league team to visit Wales back on September 7th 1907 as they beat the brand new Merthyr Tydfil side 25-6.

Welsh rugby was full of undercover professionalism at the time. In 1901 Treherbert were accused of offering players £1 a week to play while in 1907 allegations were made that players from a number of clubs were being paid up to six shillings a match.

However Welsh players were still constantly going up north to legitimately turn professional. Within a few months of the 1895 split where "Northern Union" was formed to allow players to be paid for playing rugby, Huddersfield had seven Welshmen in their team and six Llanelli players all joined Rochdale at the same time. Eventually the WFU (the original name for the WRU) banned Northern Union scouts from their grounds, but that was after a Wigan man was reportedly thrown into the River Taff to discourage his activities.

But by 1907, things were starting to hot up in the valleys with Merthyr Alexandra and Ebbw Vale rugby clubs becoming restless at the constant amateurism.

This was discussed at the Alexandra AGM and while professionalism was both proposed and seconded, an amendment that favoured the club remaining as amateurs was passed and the club didn't defect. But this just led to players defecting to a newly formed Merthyr club with

backers found and fixtures arranged.

The edition of the Merthyr Express dated September 7th 1907 was an historic one advertising not only Merthyr's first ever match against Oldham but also previewed Ebbw Vale's trip to Keighley. There was an even a paragraph talking about the "All Black professional movement" that was "being formed in Sydney by Mr Albert Baskville, hon secretary of the New Zealand Football Club". These events would also have great significance to professional rugby in Wales and the international game as a whole.

Neither Welsh club was given much of a chance of winning their first match. Ebbw Vale's Keighley adventure wasn't entirely glamorous as they had to make a 12-hour overnight journey on the 10pm Friday night train to Yorkshire in order to play on Saturday afternoon. They lost 26-3.

Back in South Wales, Merthyr didn't fare much better in their home tie against Oldham losing 6-25 with the visitors running in seven tries. However the moral venture of professionalism was a complete success. The Merthyr Express ran a match advertisement in their September 7th edition and a week later reported on the gate receipts saying that "the takings amounted to over £150, and after the match the Merthyr men were paid over the table."

Oldham finished top of the league that year but lost 12-2 to Hunslet in the Championship Final. Merthyr finished 23rd out of 27.

Jestyn Jeffreys

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A VOICE FROM THE STANDS

The fourth home game of this season and this week we welcome **OLDHAM to The Gnoll**.

Like most clubs they have had lots of up and down years, being one of the 22 clubs that left the Rugby Football Union to form the Northern Union in 1895. They have a long history and have always thought of a club that could make the big time but never did.

To be honest it is a blessing that there is still a team called Oldham playing rugby league for when Rupert Murdoch funded the Super League competition it was proposed that part of the deal was that some traditional clubs would merge. Oldham were supposed to merge with Salford to form a club to be known as Manchester which would compete in Super League. This was resisted and instead they adopted the name Oldham Bears and were founder members of the new league (1996). In 1997 the club went bankrupt with debts of over £2m a new team Oldham Roughyeds was then formed.

For people that used to watch the Crusaders in 2007 and 2008, you may notice a name on the team sheet for the Roughyeds, Jamie l'Anson, an ex-Leeds Rhinos youth player. He played two memorable seasons in Bridgend before moving to Oldham for the 2009 season. A warm welcome to an old friend.

BLACKPOOL AT HOME ON MAY 3RD

Our next home game could bring back another old favourite back to South Wales, so here is a little quiz question for you. Apart from Jamie l'Anson, which ex-Crusaders player will make his return to South Wales?

TODAY'S MASCOT

Representing the Scorpions today is Abbie Richard aged 9 from Swansea. She attends Manselton Primary, is a junior season ticket holder and loves to watch the Scorpions with her dad, bampi and nanny. She loves Sting the mascot and her



mum is making her a costume to be a stinget. Her favorite player is Gil Dudson.

We are looking for mascots for home games for the rest of this season. If your child is under 11 please contact Andy on 07837 998485 or e-mail swscorpions@rugbyfans.net. Each mascot will get a certificate and a signed photo of themselves with their favourite Scorpions player.

AWAY MATCH TRAVEL

This will be organised the Scorpions Supporters Club. We will be aiming to take a 49-seater coach to every away game this season.

The next game is on Sunday 25th April at Swinton Lions.

Prices for away games (with the exception of Gateshead and Workington) will be as follows...

- Supporters Club members - £20 per adult
- Non members - £25 per adult
- Junior members - £10
- Junior non-members - £15

If there are over 40 adults on the coach, the adult price will be reduced.

To book away games please email swscorpions@rugbyfans.net, book with the Supporters Club TODAY or telephone Andy on 07837998485.

Pick up points are...

The Gnoll, Neath 7.30am
Port Talbot bus station 7.45
Bridgend Sarn 8.00
Cardiff West M4 8.15
J32 Quality Hotel 8.30
Malpas Roundabout 8.45
Magor Services 9.00

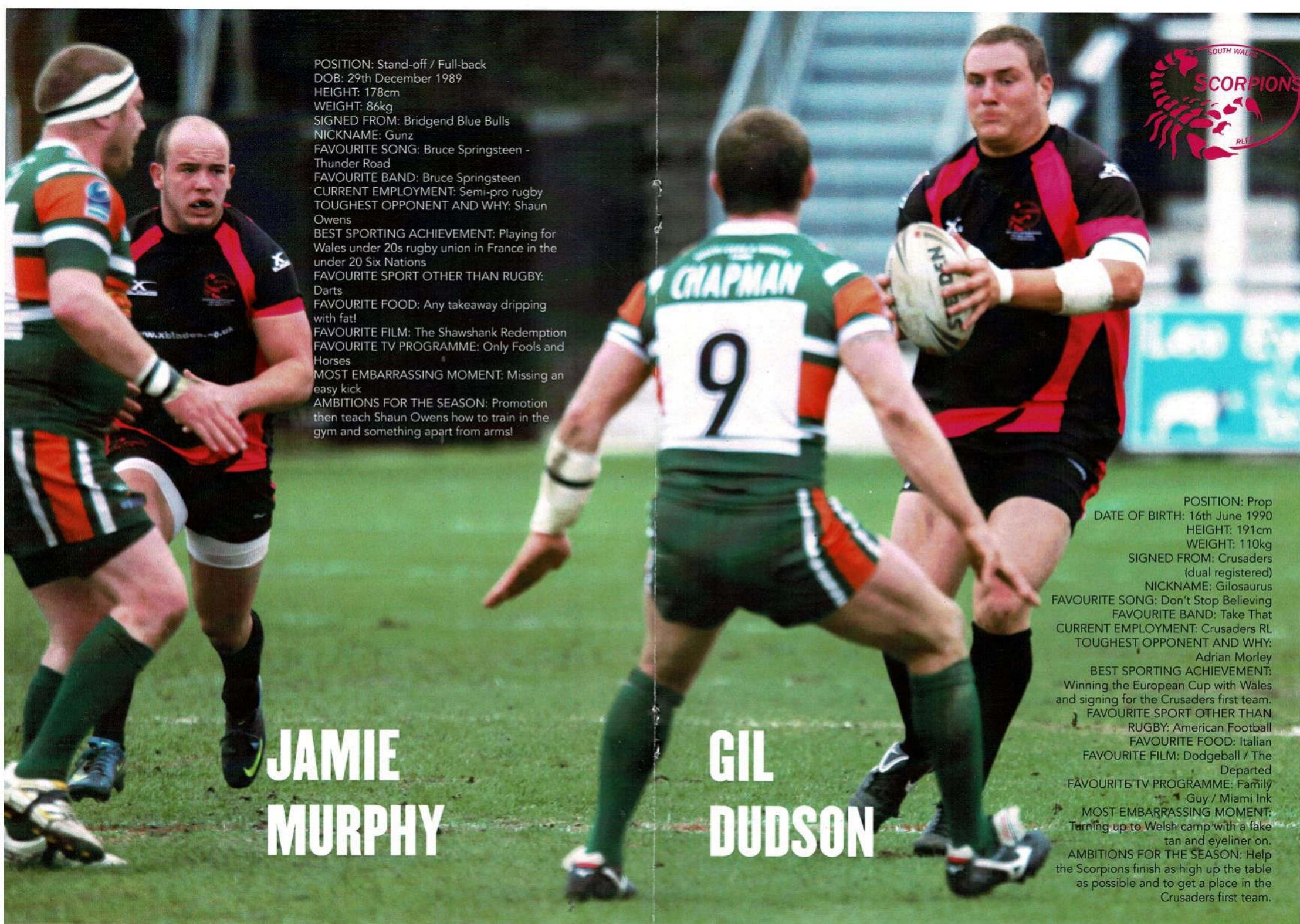
The Supporters Club committee members are Andy Birchall (chairman), Neil Goodman (secretary), Rob Yates (treasurer) and committee members Jon Nightingale, Glenn Colbridge, Chris O'Brian and Aaron Hill. We hope that everyone has a great day.

Come on with out

Come on with in

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POSITION: Stand-off / Full-back
DOB: 29th December 1989
HEIGHT: 178cm
WEIGHT: 86kg
SIGNED FROM: Bridgend Blue Bulls
NICKNAME: Gunz
FAVOURITE SONG: Bruce Springsteen -
Thunder Road
FAVOURITE BAND: Bruce Springsteen
CURRENT EMPLOYMENT: Semi-pro rugby
TOUGHEST OPPONENT AND WHY: Shaun
Owens
BEST SPORTING ACHIEVEMENT: Playing for
Wales under 20s rugby union in France in the
under 20 Six Nations
FAVOURITE SPORT OTHER THAN RUGBY:
Darts
FAVOURITE FOOD: Any takeaway dripping
with fat!
FAVOURITE FILM: The Shawshank Redemption
FAVOURITE TV PROGRAMME: Only Fools and
Horses
MOST EMBARRASSING MOMENT: Missing an
easy kick
AMBITIONS FOR THE SEASON: Promotion
then teach Shaun Owens how to train in the
gym and something apart from arms!

**JAMIE
MURPHY**

**GIL
DUDSON**

POSITION: Prop
DATE OF BIRTH: 16th June 1990
HEIGHT: 191cm
WEIGHT: 110kg
SIGNED FROM: Crusaders
(dual registered)
NICKNAME: Gilosaurus
FAVOURITE SONG: Don't Stop Believing
FAVOURITE BAND: Take That
CURRENT EMPLOYMENT: Crusaders RL
TOUGHEST OPPONENT AND WHY:
Adrian Morley
BEST SPORTING ACHIEVEMENT:
Winning the European Cup with Wales
and signing for the Crusaders first team.
FAVOURITE SPORT OTHER THAN
RUGBY: American Football
FAVOURITE FOOD: Italian
FAVOURITE FILM: Dodgeball / The
Departed
FAVOURITE TV PROGRAMME: Family
Guy / Miami Ink
MOST EMBARRASSING MOMENT:
Turning up to Welsh camp with a fake
tan and eyeliner on.
AMBITIONS FOR THE SEASON: Help
the Scorpions finish as high up the table
as possible and to get a place in the
Crusaders first team.



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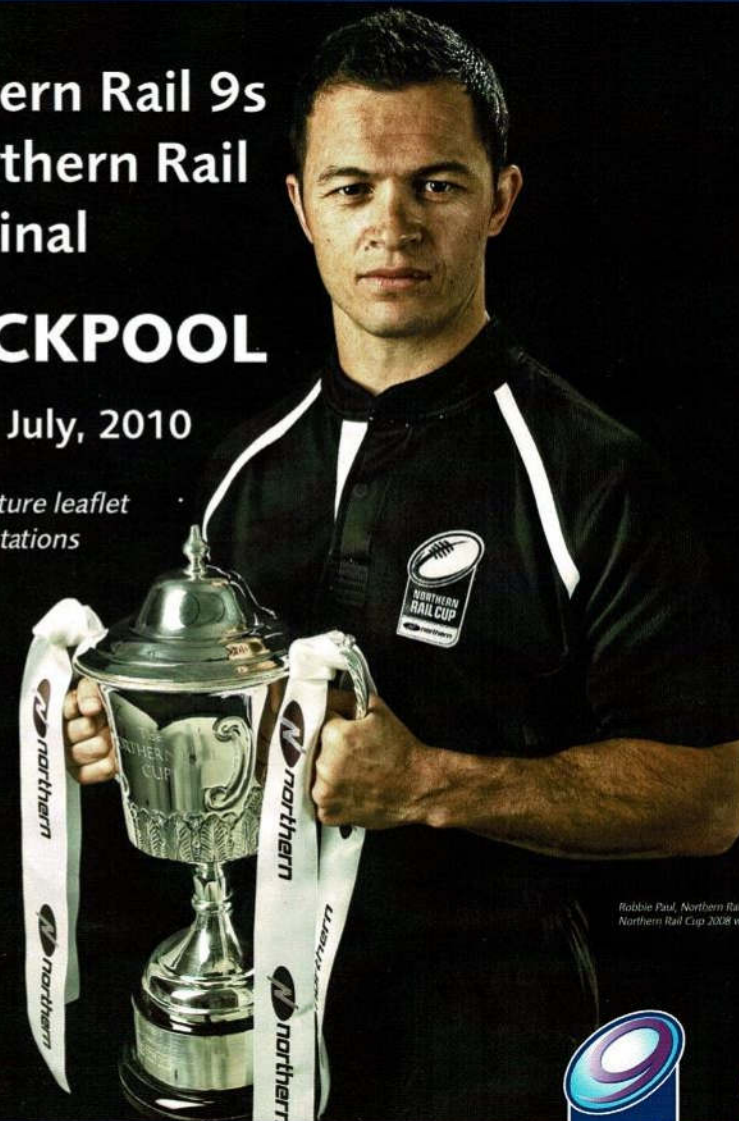
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DEVELOPMENT NEWS

GRASS ROOTS RUGBY LEAGUE IN SOUTH WALES

As the summer approaches, it's a warm welcome to the first of our regular updates on what is happening throughout the local clubs and in Welsh Rugby League as a whole.

RUGBY LEAGUE CONFERENCE 2010

The Rugby League Conference in South Wales is also extending as they will be split into two divisions for the first time. The Premier Division will consist of Valley Cougars, Bridgend Blue Bulls, Cardiff Demons, Blackwood Bulldogs, Newport Titans and CPC Bears (West Wales).

The regional division, which will be contested on a Merit Table basis will include Torfaen Tigers, Tydfil Wildcats, Dinefwr Sharks, Neath Port Talbot Steelers, West Wales Wildboars and Ammanford Rhinos with the possibility of more teams also joining. The league will be officially launched on April 22nd at The Senydd in Cardiff Bay where all clubs, including representatives from the Crusaders and the Scorpions, including Iestyn Harris, will be present.

The full set of a Conference fixtures will appear in a double page spread in the Blackpool Panthers programme on Monday 3rd May.

ACADEMY GAMES IN SOUTH WALES

Crusaders academy, who are now under the umbrella of Wales Rugby League, are still running in South Wales. They will be directly feeding players into the Scorpions and Crusaders sides so there is a good chance that you will be watching Scorpions stars of the future by following these sides.

The under 18s are just about to embark on a play-off campaign starting on April 25th. However due to the backlog of fixtures, we're unsure who or where they will be playing, but it is likely to be away from home.

The under 16s and under 15s are about to start a mini-season of matches against the more "local" sides in Super League and the Championship. They will be playing home matches out of Glynneath RFC thanks to the input of our good friend Max Boyce and his colleagues from Glynneath. The fixtures start next Sunday with an under 16 home game against Widnes Vikings so please get along there and give our lads all of your support.

FULL UNDER 16 SEASON'S FIXTURES

Sun 18th Apr KO: 13:15, Glynneath		
Crusaders RL	v	Widnes Vikings
Sun 2nd May KO: 15:00, The Willows		
Salford City Reds	v	Crusaders RL
Sat 8th May KO: 13:15, Glynneath		
Crusaders RL	v	Leigh Centurions
Sat 15th May KO: 14:45, Knowsley Road		
St. Helens	v	Crusaders RL
Sat 22nd May KO: 15:00, Glynneath		
Crusaders RL	v	Wigan Warriors
Sat 29th May KO: 16:45, Wilderspool Stadium		
Warrington Wolves	v	Crusaders RL

FULL UNDER 15 SEASON'S FIXTURES

Sun 2nd May KO: 13:15, The Willows		
Salford City Reds	v	Crusaders RL
Sat 8th May KO: 11:30, Glynneath		
Crusaders RL	v	Leigh Centurions
Sat 15th May KO: 13:15, Knowsley Road		
St. Helens	v	Crusaders RL
Sat 22nd May KO: 13:30, Glynneath		
Crusaders RL	v	Wigan Warriors
Sun 6th Jun KO: 11:30, Twickenham Stoop		
Harlequins RL	v	Crusaders RL
Sat 19th Jun KO: 13:15, Glynneath		
Crusaders RL	v	Harlequins RL

WALES UNDER 16S IN FRANCE

Wales under 16s are playing in France this weekend. On Friday, they faced the full French side while tomorrow they are taking on a "French Select", a developing side from the country. Both games are taking place at the 12,000 capacity Stade de la Roseraie ground in Carpentras in the heart of the French rivière.

CYMRUL WEBSITE

This is in the midst of getting a full overhaul. Phase 1 which is looking to be launched in May, will have all the details of this season's fixtures and clubs and everything you will need to know about the game in Wales in 2010. The historical elements of the game in Wales will be launched in phase 2 by the end of 2010 which will contain a full database of every full international game ever played in Wales plus full histories of the Conference, professional clubs and Welshmen who have played for the Lions. Watch out for all of this coming soon.

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NATIONAL LEAGUE VIEW

WITH GARETH WALKER OF LEAGUE EXPRESS

SOME coaches believe that the Easter weekend can go a long way to shaping your season, and we've certainly learnt a lot more about certain club's prospects over the last week.

Riding high at the top of the Co-operative Championship are Leigh Centurions, who overcame the difficulties of a Good Friday trip to Toulouse to complete a perfect holiday weekend by dispatching Batley three days later.

The Centurions have turned more than a few heads already this season under shrewd Aussie coach Ian Millward, and look set to be among the front runners in the second half of the campaign.

They have undoubtedly been helped by the arrival of four dual registration signings in the excellent Lee Mitchell, Matty Blythe, Jacob Emmett and Tyrone McCarthy, but it is the improvement in several of their own players which has been just as impressive.

Similarly Featherstone Rovers have been outstanding to date, winning each of their opening five matches including wins against Barrow and Halifax.

They had the luxury of just one game over Easter - against Fax - but have to be commended for the way they have started the league campaign, especially after missing out on Northern Rail Cup qualification.

Widnes Vikings have kept pace with the top two after their Easter Monday win over Whitehaven, despite a crippling injury list, and Batley Bulldogs' Good Friday derby victory against Dewsbury sees them in the top six.

The other two current occupants of a play-off place - Halifax and Barrow - have not started the season quite as they would have wished, although both had morale-boosting Monday wins.

Sheffield Eagles have also fallen some way below pre-season expectations and picked up only two points over Easter, in a draw at Keighley.

The Cougars had a terrific holiday weekend by backing that up with a superb win at struggling

Dewsbury, and Barry Eaton's side have already overturned seven of the nine point deficit they have started with.

That puts them within striking distance of the likes of Whitehaven, Toulouse and Dewsbury, all of whom were winless over Easter.

In Championship One, Hunslet Hawks have risen to the top courtesy of two big wins in four days against Doncaster and South Wales - the Scorpions first defeat of the season.

Blackpool Panthers and Oldham remain the only two clubs in the division with 100 percent records as they also recorded back-to-back wins, and they are followed by York, who had a mixed Easter with one win from two.

The less-than-ideal fixture schedule in Championship One meant that Gateshead, Rochdale, Workington and South Wales only played one game, while Swinton Lions didn't play at all.

The Lions are still floundering well below where they would like, while Doncaster have seen their fortunes improve of late with two wins from their last three matches.

The other factor to consider with Easter, however, is how clubs that have played twice in quick succession cope with that in coming weeks - and as such, this weekend should reveal plenty more.



League Express

You can read a full report of today's game, with pictures, in Monday's edition of 'Rugby Leaguer & League Express'. To enquire about subscriptions to 'Rugby Leaguer & League Express' telephone 01484 401895, or log on to www.totalrl.com, or to enquire about advertising, phone 01484 404924.

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MEET THE SCORPIONS

CRAIG RICHARDS



Position: Full Back / Wing
Height: 180cm
Weight: 80kg
DOB: 10.10.78

DAVID JAMES



Position: Wing
Height: 183cm
Weight: 89kg
DOB: 01.09.85

LEE WILLIAMS



Position: Centre
Height: 183cm
Weight: 89kg
DOB: 19.12.88

JOE BURKE



Position: Prop
Height: 193cm
Weight: 105kg
DOB: 18.05.90

BARRIE PHILLIPS



Position: Forward
Height: 175cm
Weight: 86kg
DOB: 27.05.86

MATT HUTCHINGS



Position: Utility
Height: 180cm
Weight: 89kg
DOB: 18.10.80

STEVEN IRELAND



Position: Centre
Height: 183cm
Weight: 90kg
DOB: 12.06.84

ASHLEY BATEMAN



Position: Wing
Height: 173cm
Weight: 86kg
DOB: 11.09.90
Sponsor: Gareth and Julie Laugharne

LOZ WILDBORE



Position: Scrum-half
Height: 180cm
Weight: 94kg
DOB: 23.09.84

LEWIS REECE



Position: Wing
Height: 188cm
Weight: 85kg
DOB: 17.06.91

SAM STUDLEY



Position: Second Row
Height: 178cm
Weight: 91kg
DOB: 12.10.89

ALAN POPE



Position: Loose Forward
Height: 183cm
Weight: 101kg
DOB: 01.04.85

STEVE PARRY



Position: Stand-off
Height: 173cm
Weight: 80kg
DOB: 19.10.88

LEWIS MILLS



Position: Prop
Height: 173cm
Weight: 80kg
DOB: 30.05.89

SHAUN OWENS



Position: Hooker
Height: 175cm
Weight: 88kg
DOB: 29.11.88

PAUL BODEN



Position: Prop
Height: 183cm
Weight: 101kg
DOB: 29.06.85

JAMIE TIBBS



Position: Full Back
Height: 188cm
Weight: 83kg
DOB: 02.04.90

DALTON GRANT



Position: Centre
Height: 183cm
Weight: 89kg
DOB: 21.04.90

GIL DUDSON



Position: Prop
Height: 191cm
Weight: 110kg
DOB: 09.06.90

CHRISTIAAN ROETS



Position: Centre
Height: 183cm
Weight: 94kg
DOB: 05.09.80

NEIL DALLIMORE



Position: Forward
Height: 185cm
Weight: 97kg
DOB: 24.02.81

LOREN QUICK



Position: Centre
Height: 185cm
Weight: 93kg
DOB: 13.02.91

ALED JAMES



Position: Wing / Centre / Loose Forward
Height: 98cm
Weight: 188cm
DOB: 17.02.82

JAMIE MURPHY



Position: Stand-off
Height: 178cm
Weight: 86kg
DOB: 29.12.89

ANDREW GAY



Position: Full-back
Height: 173cm
Weight: 77kg
DOB: 05.10.89

HARRI GREVILLE



Position: Forward
Height: 188cm
Weight: 105kg
DOB: 28.11.90

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SCORPIONS STATS

PLAYER/STATS

	A	T	G	D	P
Ashley Bateman	5				
Anthony Blackwood	1				
Joe Burke	1				
Neil Dallimore	4				
Gil Dudson	5	2		8	
Ben Flower	4	1		4	
Andrew Gay	5	1		4	
Harri Greville	3				
Matt Hutchings	1				
Aled James	4	1	3	10	
David James	4	1		4	
Jordan James	2				
Lewis Mills	5	1		4	
Jamie Murphy	4				
Shaun Owens	3				
Steve Parry	5	5		20	
Barrie Phillips	5	1		4	
Craig Richards	5	1		4	
Christiaan Roets	5	2		8	
Lloyd White	4	2	15	38	
Loz Wildbore	5	1	2	8	
Lee Williams	5	2		8	

THE STING THE SCORPIONS PAGE STARTS IN THE NEXT MATCH PROGRAMME WHICH IS AT OUR GAME AGAINST BLACKPOOL PANTHERS ON MONDAY 3RD MAY. THE WELSH CONFERENCE PAGE WILL ALSO START IN THAT ISSUE SO MAKE SURE YOU PICK UP A COPY



Sting the Scorpion will be entering the Race for Life in Swansea on July 25th. For more details go to <http://www.raceforlifesponsors.org/stingscorpion>

CHAMPIONSHIP 1 TABLE

POS	TEAM	P	W	D	L	PF	PA	DIF	BNS	PTS
1	Hunslet	5	4	0	1	196	73	123	0	12
2	Blackpool	4	4	0	0	159	52	107	0	12
3	Oldham	4	4	0	0	105	66	39	0	12
4	York	6	3	0	3	193	145	48	1	10
5	South Wales	5	3	0	2	124	101	23	1	10
6	Workington	5	2	0	3	134	92	42	3	9
7	Doncaster	6	2	0	4	152	216	-64	2	8
8	Rochdale	5	2	0	3	126	150	-24	1	7
9	Swinton	4	2	0	2	114	138	-24	0	6
10	London Skolars	6	0	0	6	94	240	-146	2	2
11	Gateshead	4	1	0	3	50	174	-124	0	-3

TICKET HOTLINE 01656 863896

FIXTURES 2010

Sun 28th Feb KO: 13:00, The Gnoll
South Wales Scorpions 22 Workington Town 20

Sun 14th Mar KO: 15:00, Keepmoat Stadium
Doncaster RLFC 8 South Wales Scorpions 18

Sun 21st Mar KO: 15:00, Huntington Stadium
York City Knights 25 South Wales Scorpions 24

Sun 28th Mar KO: 14:00, The Gnoll
South Wales Scorpions 48 London Skolars 6

Mon 5th Apr KO: 14:00, The Gnoll
South Wales Scorpions 12 Hunslet Hawks 42

Sun 11th Apr KO: 14:00, The Gnoll
South Wales Scorpions v Oldham RLFC

Sun 25th Apr KO: 15:00, Sedgely Park
Swinton Lions v South Wales Scorpions

Mon 3rd May KO: 15:00, The Gnoll
South Wales Scorpions v Blackpool Panthers

Sat 8th May KO: 19:00, Gateshead International Stadium
Gateshead Thunder v South Wales Scorpions

Sun 23rd May KO: 15:00, New River Stadium
London Skolars v South Wales Scorpions

Sun 13th Jun KO: 14:00, The Gnoll
South Wales Scorpions v Swinton Lions

Sun 20th Jun KO: 14:00, The Gnoll
South Wales Scorpions v Rochdale Hornets

Sun 27th Jun KO: 15:00, Derwent Park
Workington Town v South Wales Scorpions

Sat 3rd Jul KO: 15:00, Fylde RUFC
Blackpool Panthers v South Wales Scorpions

Sun 11th Jul KO: 14:00, The Gnoll
South Wales Scorpions v Gateshead Thunder

Sun 25th Jul KO: 15:00, Spotland Stadium
Rochdale Hornets v South Wales Scorpions

Sun 1st Aug KO: 15:00, -
Oldham v South Wales Scorpions

Sun 8th Aug KO: 14:00, The Gnoll
South Wales Scorpions v Doncaster RLFC

Sun 15th Aug KO: 14:00, The Gnoll
South Wales Scorpions v York City Knights

Sun 22nd Aug KO: 15:00, South Leeds Stadium
Hunslet Hawks v South Wales Scorpions

Admission to home games only £8 per adult, £4 for concessions.

Season tickets are on sale at www.scorpionsrl.com

Visit our website for full stats and match reports on our games.



1. Craig Richards
2. David James
3. Lee Williams
4. Stephen Ireland
5. Ashley Bateman
6. Loz Wildbore
7. Steve Parry
8. Lewis Mills
9. Shaun Owens
10. Gil Dudson
11. Christian Roets
12. Neil Dallimore
13. Aled James (c)
14. Jamie Murphy
15. Andrew Gay
16. Joe Burke
17. Barrie Phillips
18. Matt Hutchings
19. Lewis Reece
21. Sam Studley
22. Ben Flower
23. Alan Pope
26. Jamie Tibbs
27. Dalton Grant
28. Loren Quick
29. Harri Greville
33. Lloyd White

1. Paul O'Connor
2. Lucas Onyango
3. Craig Littler
4. Michael Fogerty
5. John Gillam
6. Neil Roden
7. Matty Ashe
8. Jason Boults
9. Martin Roden
10. Dave Ellison
11. Saqib Murtza
12. Kashley Watkins
13. Joe Chandler
14. Gary Sykes
15. Craig Robinson
16. Wayne Kerr
17. Danny Whitmore
18. Chris Clarke
19. Ben Heaton
20. Mark Brocklehurst
21. Valu Bentley
22. Paul Reilly
23. Ben Mellor
24. Marcus St Hilaire
25. Scott Mansfield
26. Ian Hodson
27. Jamie I'Anson

Referee: G Dolan, Touch-judges: J Lowery, L Todd
Reserve Official: H Edwards, Match Commissioner: Alan Smith

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GAMEON

**Team, Player and Coach
of the month named**

**Rams' boss stays
in positive focus**

**Flying the flag with
north-east stalwarts**

**NEWS
VIEWS
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MORE!**



April 8-11, 2010
Vol 2 No. 11
£2.50

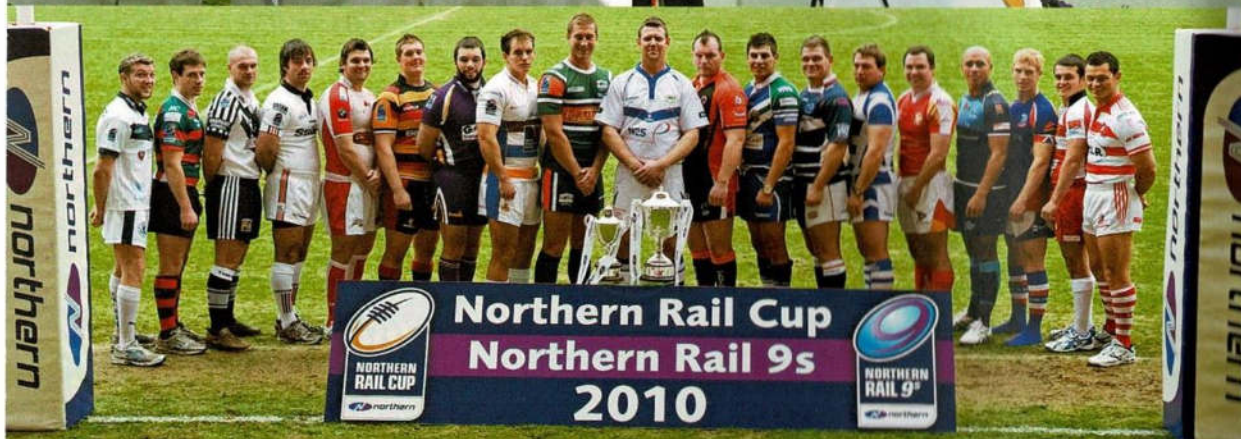
MATCHES IN FOCUS
barrowvbatley
dewsburyvwhitehaven
halifaxvkeighley
sheffieldvfeatherstone
widnesvtoulouse
gatesheadvdoncaster
hunsletvswinton
hornetsvskolars
scorpionsvoldham
workingtonvblackpool



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Why summer puts a smile on all our faces

THE news that moves for the regional leagues to join their professional counterparts by turning their backs on winter rugby are underway made for heartening reading over Easter. On the weekend that saw the sun finally break through the seemingly permanent blanket of grey that has framed the first two months of the season, the benefits of summer rugby were clear for all to see.

Most pitches may still have been showing the scars of eight weeks of Northern Rail Cup and Co-operative Championships action but the green shoots of new growth were evident at many grounds on Good Friday and Easter Monday.

Growing the grass roots is as important to the sport of Rugby League as it is the beleaguered club groundsmen who have had a real struggle of late to get their pitches playable. The development work being done by the RFL is fundamental to the future success of a sport which can only benefit from increased participation at every level around the country.

Untold numbers of people outside the sport's Northern heartland have long been denied the opportunity to play Rugby League because of a lack of support for anyone wanting to set up a new club or the absence of coaches and match officials with the required expertise.

That is no longer the case, largely due to a significant investment by Sport England who have provided £29.4m of funding to the RFL to increase participation around the country.

The return on that investment is already being seen in the burgeoning Co-operative Conference, which this year will feature 108 teams - a 20 per cent rise on last year - in a competition which gives the sport a truly national profile.

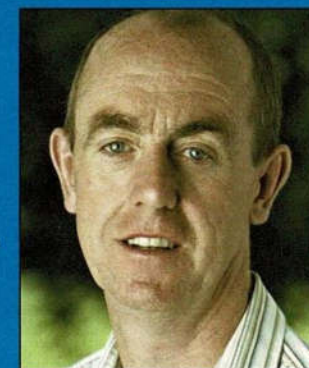
While breaking new ground geographically is crucial to Rugby League's future success, so too is the availability of grounds for players of all ages and sexes on which to train and play the game.

The fixture disruption caused to Co-operative Championships clubs by the recent harsh weather pales compared to the difficulties faces across the community game, especially at junior level where young players - many of whom aspire to go on and represent their town and country - have been inactive for months on end.

It is not always easy to maintain children's interest in any given activity; it is almost impossible to sustain their enthusiasm when frozen pitches, cold weather and dark nights prevent them from training and playing.

The proposed switch to summer - a move which is being driven by the community clubs and regional leagues - could have a dramatically positive impact on the numbers of young people who play Rugby League, the importance of which should not be lost on anyone. Just as more milk equals more cream, more players equals more competition for a place in the squad of a professional club; more competition leads to higher playing standards; increased playing standards invariably equates to more bums on seats.

Here comes summer: bring it on!



John Ledger, RFL Media Manager

RFL - official notes

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

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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.

JOWITT KEEPS

THE FAITH



It's been a tough league baptism for last year's unbeaten Rams side, but the boss remains upbeat

BEN COLLINS REPORTS

There can be no doubting the optimism of coach Warren Jowitt at Dewsbury. The Rams romped to the Championship 1 title last year, winning all 18 league games to become only the second-ever team to finish the season with a 100% record after Hull FC's flawless Division Two campaign in 1978-79.

They have suffered a difficult start to life in the Championship, though, losing each of their opening six games and having key players sidelined through injury.

Jowitt has been forced to blood a string of youngsters and admits inexperience has cost Dewsbury so far.

But not only is Jowitt confident the Rams will avoid a repeat of 2008, when they were relegated to Championship 1 after just two wins from 18 games, he insists they can still spring a surprise this season.

Speaking ahead of the Easter programme, when the Rams went down to Batley and Keighley, he was keen to stress the positives.

"The results haven't been going our way but things are going good for us," he said. "I've had a lot of new, inexperienced players in the team because five or six quality, experienced players have been injured."

"But as the games go by, they seem to be gaining experience and confidence. We've come a long way since the opening game."

"I honestly believe that something special's going to happen at Dewsbury and come the end of the season, everyone'll be thinking 'how have they done that?'"

"We've set a team goal but that's between us. It demands a lot of commitment and a lot of effort and that is what we've been getting so I think it's very achievable."

Despite their injury problems, Dewsbury were beating title contenders Widnes last month before succumbing to a late fightback, with the Vikings running out 36-30 winners.

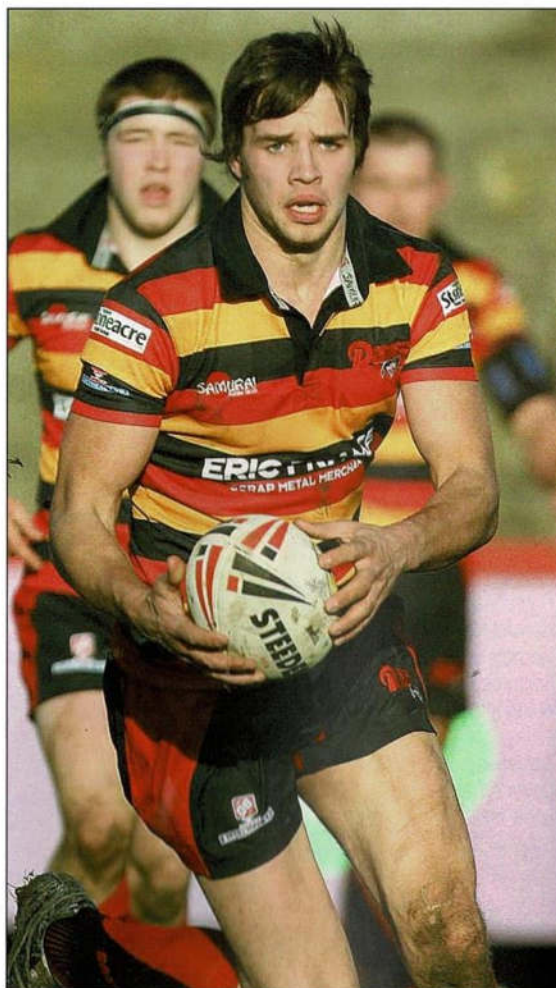
Prolific goal-kicker Patch Walker, who can also play in the forwards, claimed a try and five goals from half-back and although Jowitt felt he made some poor decisions late on, he has still been singled out for praise during Dewsbury's testing start.

"Patch has been given the captaincy and we had two really big games against Sheffield and Widnes," said Jowitt.

"I moved him to number seven as well and it's been the right move, he's made us look a much better side."

"He's inexperienced himself and that showed against Widnes. He had a big game for us but we were eight points up with about six minutes left and an experienced half-back would have kicked us to the win."

"Widnes couldn't contain us. Our forwards were far better than theirs, we dominated the game, and when you're out in front you look to your half-backs to put the game to bed. You need to keep turning them with kicks into their danger zone."



Ex-Shaw Cross player Patrick 'Patch' Walker has impressed his coach during a tough opening to the league season

"But there were too many poor, indecisive kicks, giving Widnes field position and letting them off the hook."

"The Widnes game proved to everybody that we do have it in us, though - we've just got to learn how to hold onto leads because the game should have been won."

"Rob Spicer, Alex Bretherton, Austin Buchanan, Lee Lingard and Luke Menzies have all been on the sidelines. Apart from Lee Lingard, they could be out till the end of April, so there's quality to come back into the side."

"There is quality in the side now, it's just youth and inexperience that's letting us down."

The Rams defence gets to grips with Jesse Joe Parker in their league clash with high-flying Featherstone



While Jowitt is remaining tight-lipped about exactly what he means by "something special", it would be fantastic all-round for the Rams faithful if it could be a Challenge Cup upset having been handed a fourth-round draw at home to Super League neighbours Bradford.

The Rams had over 1,300 for their first two league games at Tetley's Stadium this season and are set for a 3,700 sell-out for the visit of Bradford on April 18.

"We're really looking forward to it," said Jowitt.

"Bradford's my old club and I spent about six years playing alongside (Bulls coach) Steve McNamara."

"We've always done well in the pre-season friendlies against Bradford and it's a big challenge, but if we keep improving like we are, I think we'll ask a few questions of them. We beat Featherstone and Batley in the Northern Rail Cup last year and then went to Barrow and nearly beat them in the quarter-finals. In one-off games, you do seem to find something extra."

And Jowitt's men can count on the continued support of the Dewsbury fans.

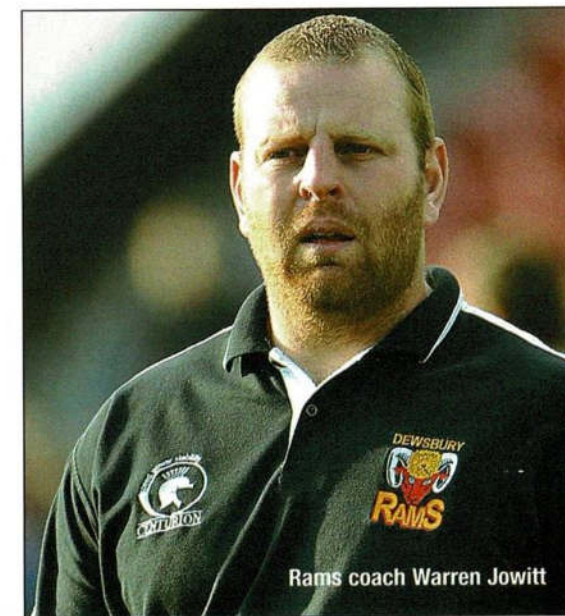
Last year's historic league campaign and those Cup performances against higher division sides have raised expectations. But there have been no murmurings of discontent from the Owl Lane stands during their difficult league start.

"There is a lot of expectation after last year," said Jowitt. "We beat Featherstone and Batley - the challenge now is to do it week-in, week-out in the league."

"The fans have been really good and the feedback I'm getting after games is they've been impressed. They can see the effort's there, and in times gone by, they've known when no effort is being put in."

"Obviously fans want to see their team win every week but when the chips are down, that's when the players need the fans to get behind the team."

"We're working hard to get things right on the field and we're slowly turning the screw."



Rams coach Warren Jowitt

Leeds Met Open Days

Friday 2 July, Saturday 23 & Sunday 24 October

experience.leedsmet.ac.uk



KEEP AN EYE ON THE BALL



Danny Lockwood

IN LAST week's Game On we carried an article about the fantastic work being done by the folk at the Rugby League Benevolent Fund and their Try Assist campaign, which raises much-needed funds for some of those RL diehards who have been less fortunate than most of us.

Tim Adams and Stephen Ball from the RLBF are spear-heading the campaign to encourage RL fans to become patrons, at a cost of just £18 per year, or about 30 pence a week, which if we equate it to something in real terms, is about three slices of bread or half a dozen of the bubbles in the froth on top of your pint of lager. In other words, and as the magician Paul Daniels is wont to exclaim: "Not a lot."

My cheque will be in the post forthwith chaps.

One of the people featured in the RLBF campaign was Dave O'Connor, who broke his neck while on international duty with BARLA back in the mid-80s. I was honoured to play both against Dave, when he was a stalwart of the Yew Tree side in Leeds (this was pre-National Conference League), and with him for BARLA Gt Britain, when we took on the French A side in St Gaudens and stuffed them, 34-7. That was in 1983 when Dave was named BARLA Player of the Year, for the second time if I'm not mistaken.

The fund has stumped up to buy Dave a specially adapted vehicle to get him around, which has incalculable value to a bloke who's otherwise housebound. Also in the article was Matt King, the London Broncos youngster who was similarly stricken and who has subsequently graduated from University, having had his tuition fees met by the fund, and I've been fortunate enough to hear this very articulate young man speak about the positive impact the Rugby League family has made on him. Truly inspirational.

We haven't always been either so lucky as a sport, or so well organised. The season that I played alongside Dave O'Connor, I made my representative debut for the Heavy Woollen district playing against York, up at Heworth's ground. Also on debut that day from my club Dewsbury Celtic was a young man by the name of David Roebuck. Dave played hooker, and when a scrum collapsed it left him paralysed from the neck down. I went on to have a fantastic life in Rugby League, on and off the field, while my pal Dave went on to spend the next 27 years – and counting – in a wheelchair.

But here's the rub – the Heavy Woollen District RL did not have insurance for any such eventuality. David Roebuck was left without a job, his marriage fell apart, and he hadn't two pennies to rub together. That couldn't happen financially now, but luckily Dave had, apart from his family and friends, his Rugby League family around him.

We started our fund-raising before he got out of Pinderfields Hospital, and some 27 years on we're still doing it on a regular basis. If you've met Dave Roebuck you'll never forget him, because for all that misfortune he is without a doubt the most cheerful, positive bloke you have ever met in your life. I'll guarantee it.

These days Dave isn't just reliant on the efforts of his pals, the Benevolent Fund has also weighed in to enhance his limited quality of life – limited in physical means at least. If you can measure spirit, then we should all be so lucky as David Roebuck.

But when you next cheer and applaud the fantastic entertainment you get from this great game, at whatever level, spare a thought for some of the blokes who have paid a frightening price for their love of the sport – because there but for the grace of God go a great many of us.

Try Assist – if you can spare a few quid.



David Roebuck – always a smile despite what he suffered for his sport

Martyn makes the biggest step up

PLAYER OF THE MONTH - MARCH MARTYN RIDYARD, LEIGH

LEIGH stand-off Martyn Ridyard is the Game On Player of the Month for March after playing a focal part in the Centurions' unbeaten league campaign and second place in the Co-operative Championship.

Ridyard, 23, a product of local amateur club Leigh Miners, saw off a stern challenge from Featherstone playmaker Kyle Briggs and Widnes starlet Anthony Thackeray to grab the most competitive slot in the Dream Thirteen, and the craft of Fev new-boy Liam Finn to seal the overall Player of the Month award.

The team is dominated by the unbeaten Leigh and Featherstone players with four and five selections respectively, while young Widnes centre Shane Grady makes the starting line-up thanks to some mature performances early in the month, and his prolific goalkicking.

And although Dewsbury Rams struggled to get off the mark in the 'W' column through the month, powerhouse second-rower Andrew Bostock was the model of consistency as the Rams picked up three losing bonus points to at least get their account ticking over.

Zeb Luisi is the sole nominee from the reigning champions Barrow Raiders, with his speed and craft at the back of the pack central to the good work being done by the Cumbrians.

Other players from lower down the table to get an honourable mention from the judges were Toulouse hooker Cedric Gay, pushing Mark Smith of Widnes and eventual choice Craig Cook close, while Batley bulldozer Sean Hesketh also caught the eye.

COACH OF THE MONTH - MARCH DARYL POWELL, FEATHERSTONE

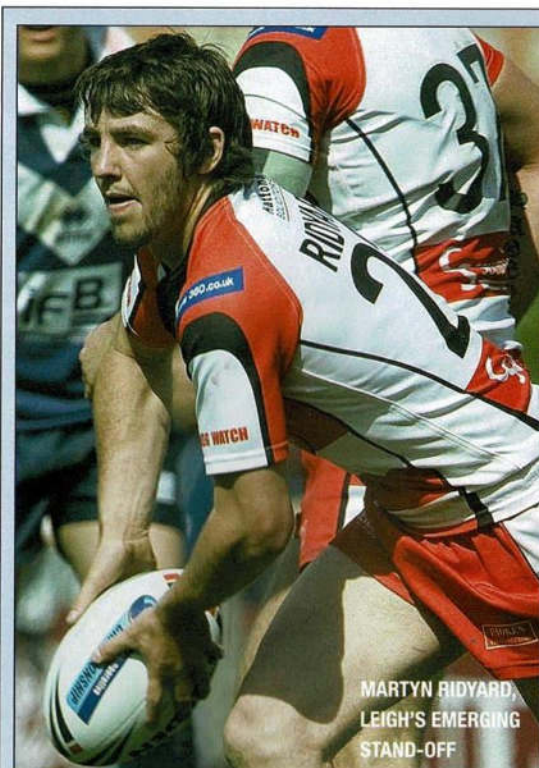


Daryl Powell edges out Aussie prodigal son Ian Millward for the prestigious Coach of the Month award for March.

Only a drawn game with Barrow came close to blemishing the Centurions' record as Millward set about cementing Leigh's hoped-for bid for a place in Super League by ticking the playing qualification box.

Meanwhile it wasn't just Featherstone's unbeaten month that set them apart but the

quality of their performances, shoving pre-season title favourites Barrow and Halifax back into the cheap seats with the authority of their performance.

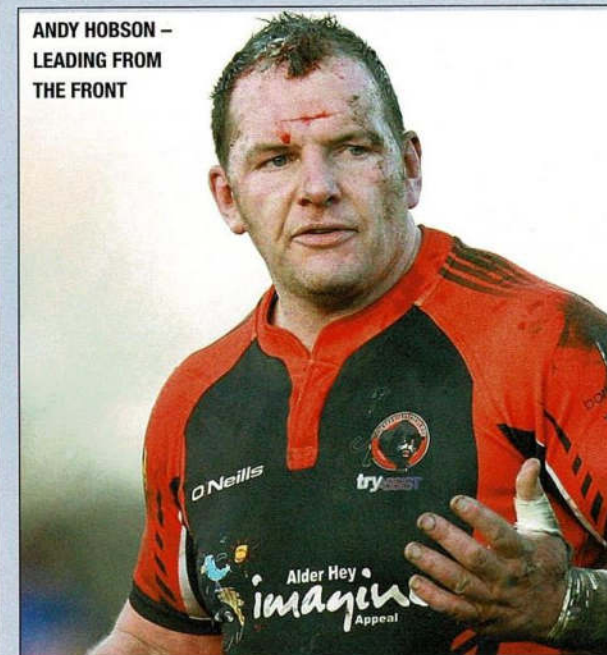


MARTYN RIDYARD,
LEIGH'S EMERGING
STAND-OFF

CO-OPERATIVE CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM OF THE MONTH

- 1 Stuart Donlan (Leigh)
- 2 Tommy Saxton (Featherstone)
- 3 Shane Grady (Widnes)
- 4 Jessie Joe Parker (Featherstone)
- 5 Dave Alstead (Leigh)
- 6 Martyn Ridyard (Leigh)
- 7 Liam Finn (Featherstone)
- 8 Stuart Dickens (Featherstone)
- 9 Craig Cook (Sheffield)
- 10 Rickey Bibbey (Leigh)
- 11 Andrew Bostock (Rams)
- 12 Jon Grayshon (Featherstone)
- 13 Zeb Luisi (Barrow)

ANDY HOBSON -
LEADING FROM
THE FRONT



CO-OPERATIVE CHAMPIONSHIP 1 TEAM OF THE MONTH

- 1 Paul O'Connor (Oldham)
- 2 Damien Munro (Blackpool)
- 3 Lee Waterman (York)
- 4 Casey Mayberry (Blackpool)
- 5 Neil Frazer (Workington)
- 6 Carl Forber (Blackpool)
- 7 Matty Ashe (Oldham)
- 8 Andy Hobson (Blackpool)
- 9 Kyle Kesik (Doncaster)
- 10 Gil Dudson (Scorpions)
- 11 Jarrad Stack (Workington)
- 12 Richard Knight (Hunslet)
- 13 Aled James (Scorpions)

Hobson's choice as Panthers roar

PLAYER OF THE MONTH - MARCH ANDY HOBSON, BLACKPOOL

Co-operative Championship 1 Player of the Month is Blackpool Panthers prop forward Andy Hobson, narrowly edging out Oldham playmaker Matty Ashe and South Wales Scorpions skipper Aled James for the award for March.

Unbeaten Blackpool and Oldham have games in hand on front runners York and the South Wales Scorpions and Hobson has been the bulwark around which the Panthers' success has been built.

A resurgent Workington Town have winger Neil Frazer and second row Jarrad Stack in the starting 13, while half back Scott Kaighan pushed eventual no.7 choice Matty Ashe of Oldham all the way with some mature performances.

Lee Waterman, the ex-Skirlaugh and BARLA centre has been racking up the points in both Northern Rail Cup and league matches and forms a strong looking centre-partnership with Casey Mayberry of Blackpool.

Meanwhile Doncaster's on-loan signing Kyle Kesik gets the hooker's shirt after some committed midfield performances for the Dons after moving over from Sheffield Eagles.

Kesik was man of the match as the Dons finished March with a stunning 40-24 win over hotly favoured York City Knights.

COACH OF THE MONTH - MARCH ANTHONY SEIBOLD, SOUTH WALES SCORPIONS

With a hastily assembled squad and barely no warm-up time, the South Wales Scorpions have been an instant hit in Co-operative Championship 1 ending March in top spot, with just a one-point reversal against York spoiling their debut month.

The Aussie who was part of the Celtic Crusaders coaching set-up before taking over the reins at The Gnoll had spells as a player with London Broncos and Hull Kingston Rovers.

Seibold - good start



It's a dog's life for Sheffield fans

Eagles go back to the future

SHEFFIELD Eagles are set to 'go back to the dogs' with a greyhound named after the club and racing at their first home.

Former player Daryl Powell and Mark Aston took a trip into the past with a visit to Owlerton Stadium as the Eagles open a new chapter for the club.

It was at the greyhound racing track where professional rugby league kicked-off in Sheffield 26 years ago.

Now Eagles fans will soon be able to have flutter on a greyhound to be named after them.

"We are going to do some special deals and the Eagles players will be coming down to Owlerton. All being well there will be a dog running in the name of the Eagles - we can't guarantee anything but we hope it will be a winner," said John Gilburn, managing director of Owlerton Stadium.

Featherstone coach Powell and Eagles boss Aston are on opposite sides this weekend when their teams meet at the Eagles' new home Bramall Lane. It is the first of seven games the Eagles have planned at Sheffield United's ground.

"It's good to be back out at Owlerton where the club started," said Aston. Now the first game for Sheffield Eagles at Bramall Lane is against Featherstone - coached by Daryl with another old Eagles player Ryan Sheridan as his assistant.

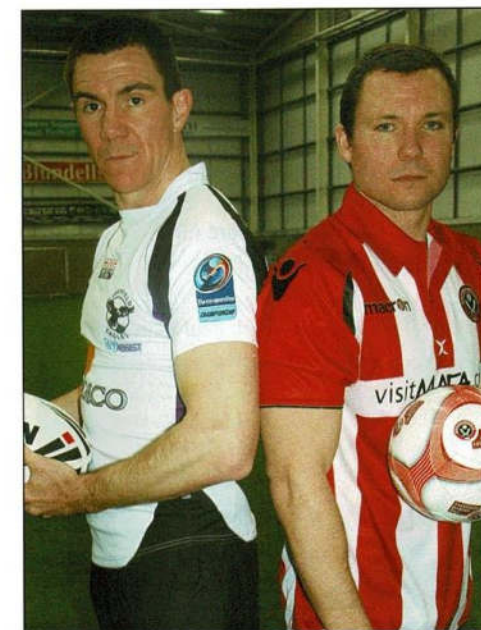
"It's amazing to think we're playing at Bramall Lane and we have to make it work. Daryl and I will always be friends but this Sunday it's about winning."

Former Great Britain star Powell played his first professional game at centre in the Eagles' opening game - a 29-10 win over Rochdale Hornets on Sunday 2 September 1984.

Aston made his professional debut the year later and also has a Featherstone link having played a season at Post Office Road in the mid-1990s.

Powell said: "It was a special start playing at Owlerton against Rochdale, winning the game and obviously it being my first professional game."

"It is going to be good at Bramall Lane. It will be an outstanding occasion for Sheffield and hopefully there will be a big crowd there and Featherstone will be keen to win the game."



MEANWHILE Sheffield have 'signed' soccer star Chris Morgan - but only as a spectator. The Sheffield United captain gave his backing to the Eagles as the countdown started to their first game at Bramall Lane.

Morgan says he has never seen a game of rugby league but is planning to watch the Eagles play Featherstone Rovers.

"Myself and some of our players have been invited down to the first game at Bramall Lane and we hope to be there," he said.

Morgan swapped shirts with Eagles vice-captain and half-back Brendon Lindsay when the pair met at Blades' Shirecliffe training base.

But the tough defender has no plans to switch codes. He said: "I'm not sure it's for me. The tackling in football can get physical but it's not like the rugby lads. It's something different. It makes me wonder how some of the lads like Brendon feel when they wake up the morning after a game."

But Lindsay thinks Morgan will enjoy the 13-a-side code. "Rugby league could be just right for Chris and I'm sure we'll make him a fan of the Eagles."

The Eagles are mounting a big campaign to bring in new fans and hope United supporters will follow Morgan with the Eagles as their 'second team'.

Morgan sees no problems with the Eagles playing at the Lane - a move the club hopes will boost their bid for a Super League place.

"I don't see a problem with rugby league being played at Bramall Lane - we play at other clubs that share with rugby like Watford. I hope some of our supporters will come along and watch the games," he said.

TRADING PLACES ... Brendon tries on a United shirt for size, with Chris Morgan in an Eagles strip

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Barrow Raiders v



Batley Bulldogs



Saturday April 10, 2010. Kick off 6.30pm. FURNESS HEATING COMPONENTS STADIUM

SPONSOR	PLAYER	No.
Ged McDermott.....	Gary Broadbent	1
Nuffield Health.....	Andy Ballard	2
	Anthony Blackwood	3
BAE Global Combat Systems.....	Liam Harrison	4
Furness Heating Components.....	James Nixon	5
Johnston Recruitment.....	Jamie Rooney	6
	James Coyle	7
RF Miller Accountants.....	Andy Bracek	8
Carefree Travel.....	Andy Henderson	9
Advance Roofing.....	Chris Young	10
Estuary Electrical.....	Michael Knowles	11
Neil Martin Group.....	Martin Ostler	12
Premium Solutions.....	Zeb Luisi	13
Optech Fibres.....	Ned Catic	14
Trelleborg Engineering.....	Rob Roberts	15
Saunders Transport.....	Brett McDermott	16
Ross Estate Agents.....	Paul Noone	17
Infield Hotel.....	Liam Campbell	18
Darren Wilson.....	Nathan Mossop	19
Plastic Man.....	Danny Halliwell	20
Kev Hodgson.....	Chris Larkin	21
Plastic Man.....	Ruairi McGoff	22
	Jamie Butler	23
Tony Bayliff Carpets.....	Richard Fletcher	24
	Matt James	31
	Jermaine McGilvary	

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: STEVE MCCORMACK

LAST SIX RESULTS: WWLWWW
 LAST SIX HOME: W-WWWLW
 TRIES: Ballard (7) Catic, Campbell
 (6) Mossop, Rooney (4)
 GOALS: Rooney (46) Knowles (7)
 DROP GOALS: Rooney (1)
 MAN TO WATCH: Andy Ballard

MATCH OFFICIALS

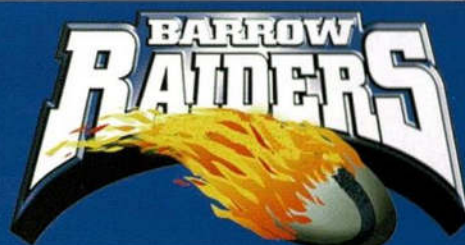
Referee: C. Halloran

Touch: G. Hodgson, M. Mannifield

Reserve Referee: A. Fossett

THE INSIDE TRACK

Barrow back in the groove - Raiders
 by a dozen



EXECUTIVE BOXES

- 1: KNIGHTSBRIDGE CAR SALES
- 2: TRELLEBORG ELECTRICAL
- 3: BAe SYSTEMS
- 4: ME SAUNDERS
- 5: NUFFIELD HEALTH
- 6: TONY BAYLIFF
- 7: CAREFREE TRAVEL

No.	PLAYER
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 Toroncak & 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
27	Jason Walton.....Paul Hinchcliffe
	Waterboy.....Peter's Foods

COACH: KARL HARRISON

LAST SIX RESULTS: WLWWWL
 LAST SIX AWAY: W-WLWWL
 TRIES: Campbell (14) Preece (6)
 Greenwood, Moore (5)
 GOALS: Moore (51)
 DROP GOALS: -
 MAN TO WATCH: Paul Handforth

CLUBCALL

Barrow v Batley

Consistency brings three victories on the bounce

Welcome to the Furness Heating Components Stadium for our Saturday night game against Batley.

Over the last two weeks we have seen some very consistent performances from the players and to win three games on the bounce in this competition is excellent. Our performances over the Easter weekend were very different but very important.

To go to Whitehaven on a Thursday night and come home with the win was an excellent achievement for the players. I know from experience how difficult it is to win up the coast. We had to deal with a very determined Whitehaven team and also horrendous field conditions.

Whitehaven put us under immense pressure from the first second of the game and it was great to see the players really working hard together. Defensively, considering the amount of possession Haven had, we were outstanding.

I am a firm believer that first and foremost a team has to have a great work ethic if they are to achieve anything. The Whitehaven performance



proved that when we work hard for each other we are a very difficult team to beat.

Monday's performance against Sheffield was again an important one. In the first half we stuck to what we had practiced on the training field and the players deserve credit for their defensive effort and willingness to attack when

given the opportunity.

Today we welcome Karl Harrison, the players, directors and supporters of Batley. Today's game will again prove to be a very difficult one.

We are very aware that even though we have had some recent wins in the competition, we have to keep improving on a weekly basis.

Liam Harrison was one of nine players to score tries against Sheffield in the Easter game

Enjoy the Game

Steve

McCormack

Head Coach

'Clinical execution' on show

Well the last home game was the icing on the cake for everyone connected with the club.

When we were picking up the pieces of the Featherstone encounter we looked at the fixtures and were well aware that the next three fixtures involved teams who beat us in the league last season.

Up at Whitehaven you were always onto a good chance of victory if you hold the opposition coming down the hill. When going in at half-time trailing by just two points and having defended resolutely against wave after wave of attack, you should feel pretty satisfied. Well it certainly proved the point on Thursday as the team mounted their own pressure and eventually came home with the points.

The Easter Monday contest with

Sheffield was the tie that you would have expected to give the Raiders the most trouble. How far off the mark could our views be. We hit the game plan immediately and were soon causing the Sheffield defence problems. The team finally gelled and created some fast attractive rugby and were clinical in their execution.

If this was five drives and a kick it was masterfully disguised and at times the Sheffield defence were left looking about as agile as a Sherman Tank.

To have nine tries scored by nine different players shows that the Raiders were playing 'hot-potato' rugby and each and every player deserved to be accredited with the Man of the Match award.

Today sees a Batley side who were again one of the teams that overturned us

last season so it will be an interesting encounter and one that will be a lot closer than the corresponding fixture last season.

Karl Harrison has turned his side into a solid unit, they have started the season well and will be looking to do to us on our pitch what they did on a very hot day in Batley last season prior to our Northern Rail Cup Final appearance.

So we will look forward to an entertaining match and I look forward to seeing you all in the bar after the game

Jon Livesey
 Vice Chairman



Dewsbury Rams v Whitehaven RLFC



Sunday April 11, 2010. Kick off 3pm. TETLEY'S STADIUM

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

LAST SIX HOME: WWLLL

TRIES: Turner (6) Spurr (5) Walker, Powell (4)

GOALS: P Walker (28)

DROP GOALS: -

MAN TO WATCH: Chris Spurr

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

SCORERS

Tries

Conv

Pens

DGs

No.	PLAYER
1	Craig Benson
2	Craig Calvert
3	Rob Jackson
4	Scott McAvoy
5	Derry Eilbeck
6	Carl Rudd
7	Leroy Joe
8	Marc Jackson
9	Graeme Mattinson
10	David Ford
11	Howard Hill
12	Spencer Miller
13	Mick Govin
14	Dylan Skee
15	Reece Fox
16	Andy Gorski
17	Andy Thornley
18	John Patrick
19	Dexter Miller
20	Soni Radovanovic
21	Chris Smith
22	Richard Farrer
23	Stephen Fox
24	Ryan MacDonald

COACH: GED STOKES

LAST SIX RESULTS: WLWLLL

LAST SIX AWAY: L-LWLLL

TRIES: Eilbeck, Fox (5) Calvert, Sice (4)

GOALS: Rudd (26) Skee (6)

DGs: -

MAN TO WATCH: Derry Eilbeck

MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee: P. Brooke

Touch: S. Bennison, T. Crastley

Reserve Referee: S. Mikalauskas

THE INSIDE TRACK

Two teams low on confidence. Home ground to give edge to Rams by 4

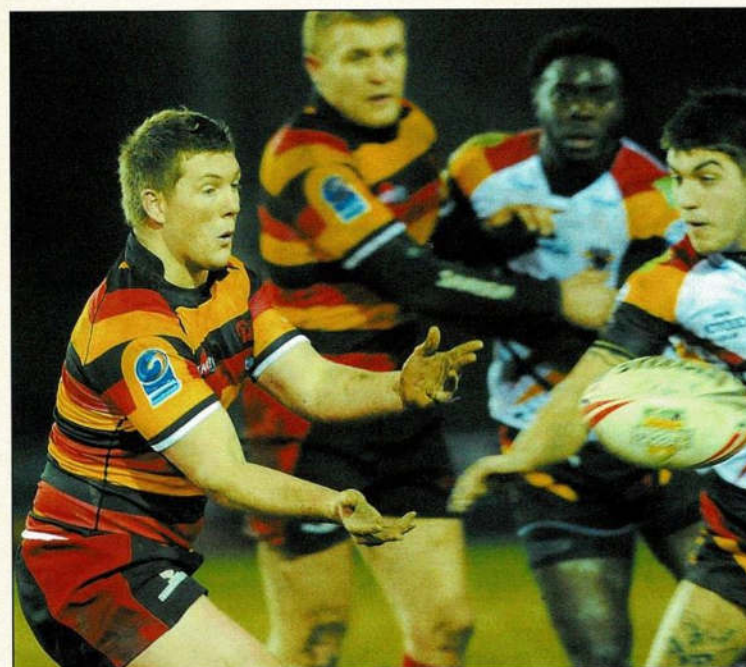
ERIC FRANCE
SCRAP METAL MERCHANTS

DEWSBURY RAMS
study centre

CLUBCALL

Dewsbury v Whitehaven

Fans can get good deal for first televised game



Back row Adam Hayes, above left, is the latest to join the Rams injury list

Dewsbury Rams will make their TV debut of 2010 when they come up against Ian Millward's Leigh Centurions in front of the SKY Sports cameras on Thursday 29th April, 7.30pm KO at the Tetley's Stadium.

A big crowd is expected and with some fantastic offers available, fans everywhere can come along for an exciting and entertaining night on the telly!

Admission prices have been confirmed and advance tickets are on sale now for just £10 for adults and £5 for concessions, saving £3 or £2 on match day admission prices. All under 16s will be free on the night!

Extra savings are on offer to any fan who has bought a ticket for our Carnegie Challenge Cup match against Bradford Bulls - keep hold of your ticket and you can exchange it, anytime until Friday 23rd April, for a ticket for the match against Leigh for just £5.

There's also a special offer to Batley Bulldogs season ticket holders, just bring your season ticket with you and you can buy a ticket for just £5.

To buy tickets online visit our online shop or call us during the week on 01924 465489, or simply call in at the Tetley's Stadium Shop.

Nothing less than 100pc will do!

To say this afternoon's match is pivotal to the rest of our season is something of an understatement.

The two games over the Easter period failed to generate a league point which really does put us under pressure but I know that the coaching staff and the players were just as dismayed by what happened as were all the supporters.

We have had a number of injuries to key players already this season and as I write these notes we feared the worse with Adam Hayes who looked in a bad way as he left the field last Sunday.

Unfortunately most of the players that are missing are likely to be out for a few more weeks. We do have a large squad but it needs to be appreciated that many of these are young players still finding their way in the game. We don't have the cash to go out and buy players even if the right sort were actually available which at the moment doesn't seem to be the case. The current squad are working really

Mark Sawyer, Chairman

hard in training to put this right and once we get that elusive first win others will definitely follow. What we need is everyone including players, coaching staff, backroom staff and supporters to pull together to survive in the Championship.

I believe we can and I know Warren feels the same but we need nothing less than 100% from now until mid August.

We have the visit of Bradford next Sunday, a trip to Barrow the following Saturday before the televised game against Leigh on 29 April. Anyone with a ticket for the Bradford game who wants to come to the Leigh fixture is advised to hang on to their ticket and then contact the club for details on a special cut-price admission.

There may well be a lot of people at the Bradford game who haven't seen us in action either for many years or it could be their first visit to the stadium. We want

to make it as easy as possible for people to attend the Leigh game.

I know I have mentioned finances already in this article but we are far from being a cash-rich club and even the addition of an extra 100 or so spectators with the add-on spend can make a big difference to us.

We are extremely fortunate to have a vibrant car boot sale at the club and a number of people who volunteer to work in key positions but as a club Dewsbury has to work hard for every penny in revenue that it generates so whatever we can do collectively is to the benefit of the club.

So here's to an improved performance on the field, something to cheer about come 4.45pm and perhaps a celebratory beer in the Royal Suite after the game. Don't forget to join us for the after match speeches with a special invitation to anyone who has travelled down from Cumbria. Thank you for your support.

Halifax RLFC v



Keighley Cougars



Thursday April 8, 2010. Kick off 7.30pm. 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 Penkycicz	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: WWLLW
LAST SIX HOME: W-WLLW
TRIES: Royston (13) Worrincy (9)
Branighan (7)
GOALS: Paterson (49)
DROP GOALS: -
MAN TO WATCH: Shad Royston

MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee: R. Hicks
Touch: T. Mahar, S. Matthews
Reserve Referee: M. Leach

THE INSIDE TRACK

Keighley loving life, but Shay will be different. Fax by 10

LAST SIX RESULTS: LLLLDW
LAST SIX AWAY: W-WLLW
TRIES: Presley (5) Duffy, Raynor, Jones (3)
GOALS: Jones (36)
DROP GOALS: Jones (1)
MAN TO WATCH: Jonny Presley

COACH: BARRY EATON

HARVEYS
OF HALIFAX

Evening Courier
THE VOICE OF CALDERDALE

HALIFAX
HOME INSURANCE

building materials Ltd

Windsor
Yarns

KooGa
MADE FOR RUGBY

HALIFAX
COMPUTERS

CLUBCALL

Halifax RLFC v Keighley

Result was just the job for us

Good evening everyone. I'd like to welcome the players and staff of Keighley Cougars to The Shay.

They had a great result on Easter Monday, beating Dewsbury, and I am sure they will be fired up for tonight's game.

It's a genuine derby fixture and it's great for both clubs that it is back on the calendar this season.

We had a good result of our own on Monday, beating Toulouse, and it was good to get back to winning ways after a difficult couple of weeks.

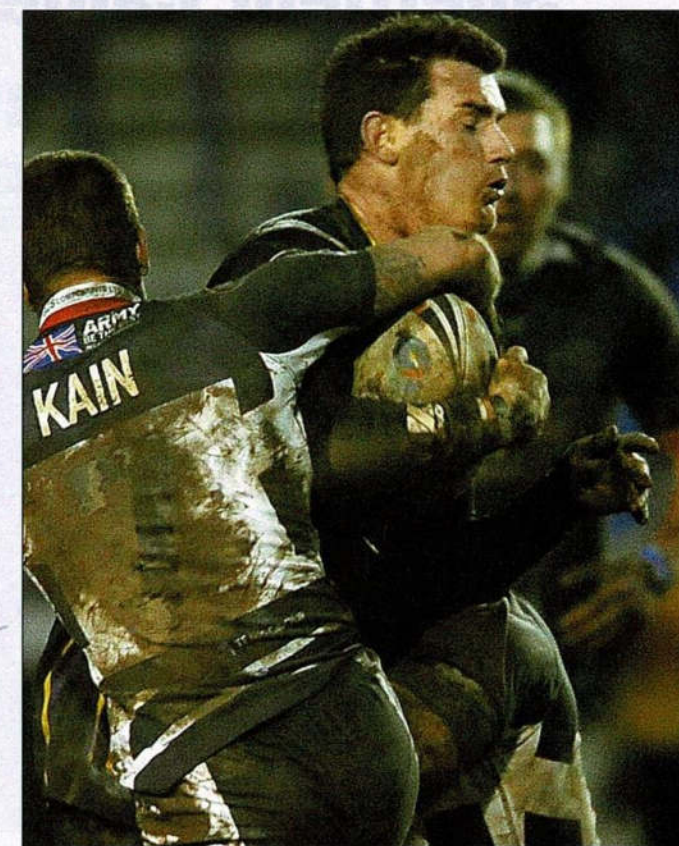
As I said in the press, it was still a long way

from being the level of performance that we aspire to, but as a confidence booster it was exactly what we needed, when we needed it.

I was particularly impressed by young Anthony Bowman. For an 18 year old, he shows great maturity and I'm excited about what he can achieve in the future.

Hopefully, we will also have a few of the senior players who were missing on Monday back in action tonight.

Injuries haven't been particularly kind to us recently, but hopefully we have turned a corner on that front as



Shad Royston slogs through the mud at Featherstone on Good Friday before scoring a hat-trick against Toulouse on Monday

well now. Tonight's game is the third in a week for both sides, which is a real challenge in a sport as tough as ours.

But the players are keen to build on the Toulouse result and hopefully we can take another step in the right direction.

Enjoy the game, Matt

Matt Calland
Head Coach

Crowds didn't justify doubling up fixtures

The overwhelming reaction on Monday evening at 7.30 as the final hooter sounded here at The Shay was one of relief.

A victory over Toulouse was a minimum requirement after the previous three matches.

That the victory was substantial was a bonus, but not the basis of any complacency. In parallel with national events, the first signs of recovery do not guarantee future progress.

Our friends from Keighley arrive on the back of an excellent win at Dewsbury which followed a draw with Sheffield Eagles, and so they

will not be short of confidence here this evening.

Add the spice of any number of Halifax lads playing against their 'home town' club, and you can understand the attraction this fixture has for the Sky cameras.

Almost without exception, matches involving Halifax televised as 'Thursday Night Thrillers' have proved to be just that.

I've no problem with that, but for the sake of the blood pressure, a controlled performance would suit me just fine.

One area of uncertainty, for both teams, is the effect of

injuries carried forward after two three-day turn-rounds.

It is common ground now that Rugby League is best played on a once a week basis, with six clear days between matches.

At Easter, we persist with two matches in a single weekend, and the television commitment means for two sides, Halifax and Keighley this year, the task is to play three matches within six days.

If the gates reported on Good Friday and Easter Monday were demonstrably higher than average, this burden may be justified.

But a review of the RFL website shows that has not been the case.

I suspect that there is a financial limit for many supporters and two matches on a single weekend is one too many.

And those without that concern have other interests, and choose not to watch matches between tired, patched-up teams.

I hope the game will review the Easter Programme.

Michael Steele
Chairman



Sheffield Eagles v Featherstone Rovers

Sunday April 11, 2010. Kick off 3pm. BRAMALL LANE

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

COACH: MARK ASTON

LAST SIX RESULTS: LWLWDL
 LAST SIX HOME: WL-WWWW
 TRIES: Stringer, Cook (8) Ropati 6
 Yere (4)
 GOALS: Stringer (15) Woodcock (9)
 DGs: Cook (1)
 MAN TO WATCH: Mitch Stringer

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: J. Leahy
 Touch: C. Dean, D. McNeice
 Reserve Referee: L. Fellows

THE INSIDE TRACK

New home will boost Eagles but they need more than that. Fev by 8

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

COACH: DARYL POWELL

LAST SIX RESULTS: WWWWWW
 LAST SIX AWAY: WL-LWWW
 TRIES: Parker (10) Welham, Steel (8)
 Briggs, Hardman (6)
 GOALS: Briggs (41)
 DGs:
 MAN TO WATCH: Stuart Dickens

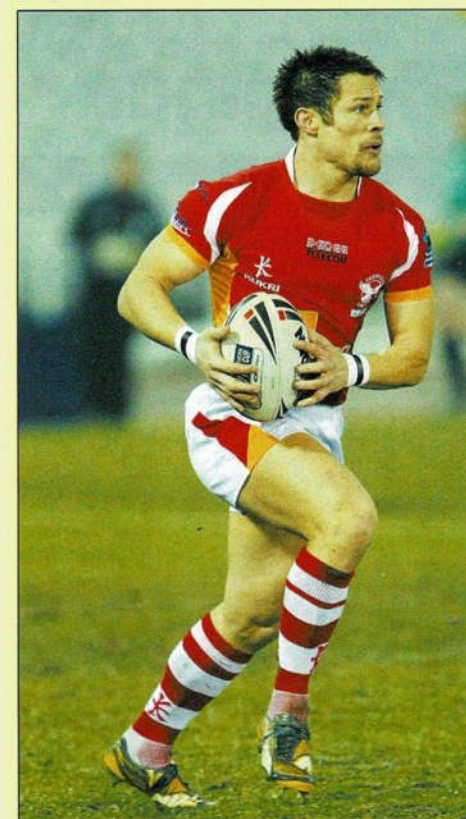


We're with the Eagles....



CLUBCALL

Sheffield v Featherstone



Jonny Woodcock is out for up to four weeks

The Eagles have landed at the Lane

The Eagles have finally landed at Bramall Lane and we couldn't ask for two more difficult or attractive opening fixtures.

The Eagles had a disappointing Easter programme and will be looking for better performances in this wonderful setting.

Featherstone have had a fantastic start to the season and will be brimming with confidence but games between the teams have traditionally been tight affairs.

It's always good to welcome Daryl Powell, a member of the Eagles Hall of Fame, back to the city where he did so much groundwork.

We owe a great debt of grati-

tude to the board of Sheffield United for allowing us to use their stadium for the remainder of our Championship season.

The club operates with one of the lowest playing budgets in the Championship and, in the absence of a Sugar Daddy, the only way that we can increase our revenues is to attract larger crowds.

The feedback that we have had so far from United fans has been very encouraging and with their season drawing to a close I hope that many of them come along to watch us.

Ian Swire
Chairman

On the big stage

THIS is a special day - our first Co-operative Championship game at Bramall Lane - and we hope the start of a new chapter in the story of Sheffield Eagles.

I'd like to thank the staff and directors of Sheffield United for their help in making this move possible.

I hope some Blades fans will be here today to get a taste of rugby league and will make this their adopted summer sport.

From today I think we can claim that we're playing at the best venue for any rugby league club in this country.

Sheffield United's stadium has got great facilities and offers a fantastic playing surface.

But we're not getting carried away.

We had a tough Easter weekend with the performances and results not going the way we had hoped at Keighley Cougars and Barrow Raiders.

Keighley was a game on a heavy pitch and the mud played a big part in the 16-16 result.

Barrow saw a 50-4 defeat. We didn't compete and it was a massive disappointment.

We also lost fullback Jonny Woodcock for up to four weeks with a knee injury.

We've worked hard in training during the week to put things right and now we have to perform out on the field.

Today we have a real test against Featherstone who have set the pace in the Championship this season and had a big win over Halifax on Good Friday.

It's good that it's Featherstone because it brings back their coach Daryl Powell who like me has a special link to playing at Bramall Lane.

We were both in the Eagles team that beat the World Club Champions Widnes 31-6 at Bramall Lane before a crowd of more than 8,000 in 1998.

We want big games and big crowds like that at the Lane in the future.

From the minute you walk in the ground it's a very special place.

You are playing on a big stage with great atmosphere - hopefully that will fetch the best out of the team.

The pitch is a bit wider than Don Valley which will help the lads express themselves more.

If we can create a great atmosphere it will help drive the team and the club on to success on and off the field.

Today we've got to make sure that Fev don't spoil the party.

Mark Aston
Head Coach

Mark Aston was talking to Jim Collins and is sponsored by Nick Firth Tiles

COMING UP NEXT WEEK - WIGAN IN THE CUP!

Widnes Vikings v



Toulouse Olympique



Saturday April 10, 2010. Kick off 6pm. 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 Swavesey Newsagents	Lee Doran	11
MB Hydrographic Ltd	Dave Allen	12
VIOL	Chris Gerrard	13
MWEL Electrical Ltd	Thomas Coyle	14
ACS Building Maintenance (07725884913)	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
The Jones Family	Dean Thompson	22
	Dave Houghton	23
	Danny Hulme	24
Mullally's Butchers	Anthony Mullally	25
	Liam Farrell	
	Ben Davies	

COACH: PAUL CULLEN

LAST SIX RESULTS: WWWLWW
LAST SIX HOME: WWWLWW
TRIES: Thackeray (9) Grady (8)
Gardner (6) Coyle, Ford (4)
GOALS: Grady (54)
DGs: -
MAN TO WATCH: Anthony Thackeray

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: M. Thomason
Touch: B. Logan, P. Wharton
Reserve Referee: S. Johnson

THE INSIDE TRACK

Travelling taking its toll on Toulouse.
Widnes by 16

No.	PLAYER	SPONSOR
1	Rory Bromley	Copy Sud
2	Sebastien Payan	Bugbusters
3	Sebastien Planas	André Raynal - Déménagements
4	Vincent Duport	Groupe Cailleau
5	Carlos Mendes Varela	Gallego
6	Constant Villegas	Prosegur
7	Nathan Wynn	ICA Patrimoine
8	Brendan Worth	Transports Sarrazain
9	Martin Mitchell	Renault Etats-Unis
10	Matthieu Griffi	Ermes Prestations
11	Timothy Wynn	Océanis
12	Simon Worrall	Siemex
13	Eric Anselme	Inovans
14	Antoni Maria	Compass Group
15	Jerome Gout	Leroy Merlin
16	Sylvain Houles	Aux Docks du Bureau
17	Cedric Gay	Force Distribution
18	Yoan Tisseyre	La Mutuelle du rempart
19	Romain Mencarini	IPS Publicité
20	Bruno Ormeno	La Dépêche du Midi
21	Nicolas Faure	bonsplan31.com
22	Clement Bienes	Bourdarios
23	Kevin Larroyer	Errea
24	Andrei Olari	Cimpa
25	Teli Pelo	Hôtel Latitudes Golf de Seilh
	Yohann Gigord	Clear Channel
	Mourad Kriouache	IFB
	Cyril Moliner	Sporting Finances
	Antoine Reveillon	Paru vendu
	Jocelyn Vauvelle	Citroën Etats-Unis
	Geoffrey Zava	Equalliance

COACH: GILLES DUMAS

LAST SIX RESULTS: WLWLLL
LAST SIX AWAY: WLL-WLL
TRIES: Bromley (6) Planas (5)
GOALS: N. Wynn (19)
DROP GOALS: N. Wynn (1)
MAN TO WATCH: Rory Bromley



Backing the Vikings!

Hattons
SOLICITORS



Stobart



CLUBCALL

Getting 17 fit bodies on pitch

Paul Cullen, Head Coach

Good evening and welcome to everyone for tonight's clash with Toulouse.

As we've already seen on many occasions from the Widnes side this season, there have been many times where we haven't played at our best or necessarily had our best seventeen players available for whatever particular reason, but the common denominator along the way has been our character, team spirit and work ethic and I don't think we'll ever see a greater example of that than the 'away' win at Dewsbury.

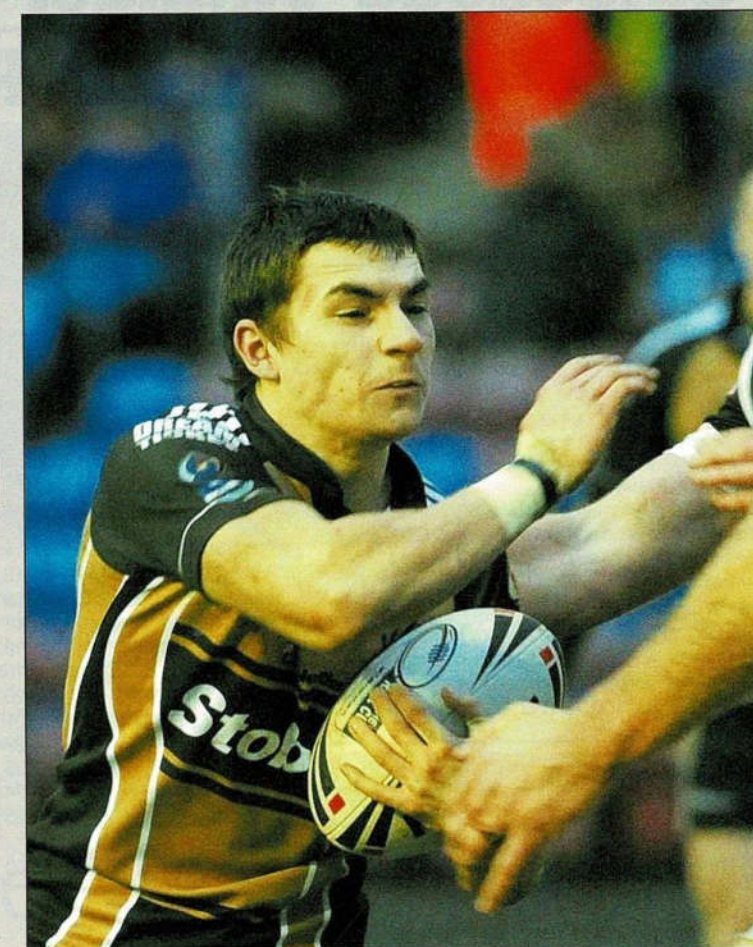
It's okay smiling when everything is going well and you're playing good rugby, but it's what you do and how you deal with matters when things are going wrong which has certainly been the case for us recently, but having come through that tough battle against the Rams, we knew only too well that Whitehaven would provide us with an even bigger and far more experienced proposition and that's exactly how it panned out.

Overall, it was a decent day's work especially when you consider that there were seven or eight of both teams' starting 13 sat in the stand, but in a game littered with more than 20 penalties, the contest never really got started and the faster the game went the better we looked, while by the same token the slower it went the more ordinary we appeared.

We're obviously pleased with the points that we scored although you'd always like a few more, but as a group we're furious about conceding eighteen points in the manner we did, at the back-end of both the first and second half and it's something that collectively, we're not prepared to accept.

Player development is very important to us here at Widnes, but it's also something that you have to give Whitehaven a

Widnes v Toulouse



Danny Hulme did well when he was called up to the first team at Widnes

great deal of credit for too, and even though we feel that we're doing pretty well at the moment with six or seven players in our ranks who have only ever played for Widnes and have worked their way through our system, Whitehaven have around 30 and that shouldn't be overlooked and I've nothing but admiration for the way they go about their business.

One thing which concerns me greatly at the moment is the fact that our Under 21s haven't played a single game yet and we're now past Easter!

So, while the first team have played almost a dozen times over a three month period, our reserve grade side haven't played a single match yet and the nonsensical decision to delay getting that competition up and running is something which I simply don't understand.

Young players such as Danny Hulme and Dean Thompson who came in and did such a good job for us last weekend are testimony to this because all that they are doing at the moment is training as there's no games for them to play in and it makes our player development process

all the more difficult because our younger players haven't had a serious hit-out for such a long time and when they are called upon to step-up into the first team, they're doing so from an almost standing start, which isn't fair at all.

The same also applies for the likes of James Ford who has been missing for six weeks with a torn hamstring but not had the facility to get himself match-ready and back up to speed because of the lack of reserve grade games, and why the respective seasons don't run concurrently is another thing I find absolutely ridiculous.

Today sees the visit of Toulouse to The Stobart Stadium, Halton, and while I'm obviously concerned about the possible threat that they may throw at us, I'm equally as worried about our own problems at the club which must be considered too.

The seventeen who played against Whitehaven on Easter Monday were the last seventeen players standing from our senior squad, so all of our energy and effort this week will be spent on finding seventeen fit and healthy bodies able to do a job for us this evening.

Gateshead Thunder v Doncaster RLFC



Sunday April 11, 2010. Kick off 3pm. GATESHEAD INTERNATIONAL STADIUM

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

COACH: CHRIS HOOD

LAST SIX RESULTS: LLLWLL

LAST SIX HOME: WW-LLLW

TRIES: Atkinson (4) Wilson (3)

Neighbour, Peers, M. Brown (2)

GOALS: Neighbour, Ryan Clarke (3)

DROP GOALS: -

MAN TO WATCH: Jimmy Atkinson

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: TONY MILLER

LAST SIX RESULTS: LLLWLW

LAST SIX AWAY: LLLLLL

TRIES: Gomersall (6) Ely, Wilson,

Edwards (3)

GOALS: S. Brown (15)

DROP GOALS: -

MAN TO WATCH: Craig Lawton

MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee: C. Leatherbarrow

Touch: M. Beadle, G. Evans

Reserve Referee: S. Daniel

THE INSIDE TRACK

Gateshead will dig deep and should prevail by 4 points



CLUBCALL

Gateshead v Doncaster

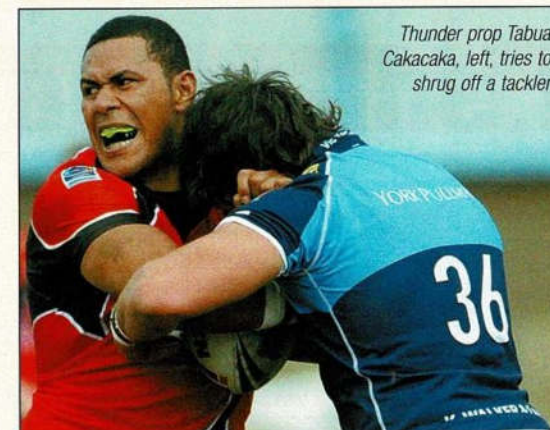
Thunder are doing it tough

Good afternoon and welcome to the players, coaches, officials and supporters of Doncaster RLFC.

I think that a lot more credit should go to Tony Miller and Carl Hall for the sterling effort that they have put in, and I believe is now paying dividends for their club.

The Doncaster club were where we are now only 12 months ago and I completely appreciate the situation that everyone was in during that time.

Tony, Carl and the rest of the staff at Doncaster have stood fast in their beliefs and done the right thing for the future of their club, and I congratulate them from everyone here at Gateshead Thunder. Doncaster have had some good results over their previous two games with victories



Thunder prop Tabua Cakacaka, left, tries to shrug off a tackler

over York City Knights and London Skolars on Bank Holiday Monday. However, other results that have nearly gone their way prove that they are a force to be reckoned with this season.

As we knew from the beginning, we are doing it tough at the minute but nothing significant can change without some kind of personal struggle. We are continuing to work hard on creating a posi-

tive future for Gateshead Thunder, and part of this change is coming from our players. The life of a Rugby League player is one of personal commitment, dedication and collective belief that many could not undertake.

They all strive for success and the glory of winning. However, there can only be one league champion, cup holder or play-off winner.

However, I think the players should remember that they have the dedication and belief in their own abilities to enable them to pull on the shirt on a Sunday - that is the real success.

It is this that makes me proud to be associated with each and every one of them.

Chris Hood
Director of Rugby

Are we in for another heart-stop kind of a contest?



Thunder halfback Liam Duffy spins the ball out at York

Welcome to Doncaster fans, staff and players. As a club who were promoted with us in 2008 and returned to Championship One with us at the end of 2009, we have a lot in common

And it is a club who we have always got on well with and I am sure we will continue to do so in the future - whatever the result today.

We played Doncaster twice last season. A thrilling match at Gateshead early season and then a more one-sided game at the Keepmoat to ensure we finished 2009 7th in the table. The home game was definitely a game of two halves with Thunder taking a strong first-half lead

Rod Findlay Chairman

and Doncaster almost pulling it back by the end of the second half.

It was not good for my nerves but if today's game can be half as good as that then we are in for a great afternoon.

I should congratulate Gateshead Thunder's Community Department on securing a major two-year funding agreement with County Durham Sport. Beating many other bidders, including national sports governing bodies, Gateshead Thunder Community

Department were chosen as one of the select few organisations to help get people in County Durham more active

To do this we will be running projects in areas around Easington and Derwentside.

Activities will range from low intensity walking groups to highly energetic Touch Rugby League training.

It is a great opportunity to introduce rugby league and Thunder to new fans and to help them achieve their fitness aims. Congratulations to Sam and Claire on securing this.

Enjoy today's game and thanks for your support.



Hunslet Hawks vs Swinton Lions



Sunday April 11, 2010. Kick off 3pm. SOUTH LEEDS STADIUM

SPONSOR	PLAYER	No.
Mark Moore Ceramic Tilers.....	Nathan Larvin	1
Ron and Adie Jinks.....	Michael Mark	2
	James Houston	3
	David Clayton	4
Rodney Gee.....	John Oakes	5
	Danny Grimshaw	6
Delta Training & Consulting.....	Paul March	7
	Scott Woodcock	8
Tates Solicitors, Leeds.....	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
John & Carol Hawkshaw.....	Stuart Young	17
Eric Simon.....	Charlie Wabo	18
Jim Irons.....	Darren Robinson	19
Kath Ogg.....	Joe Helme	20
Phil & Lynn Robinson.....	Wayne McHugh	21
	Tom Sheldrake	22
	Jake Wilson	23
	Stephen Brook	24
	Danny Cook	25
	Waine Pryce	26
	Scott Childs	27
	Jason Hart	28
Manheim Auctions.....	Stuart Kain	29
Samuel Grant of Leeds Ltd.....	Richard Knight	30
TP Storey.....	Nathan West	
Alcomet: JS Earthing Solutions.....	Louis Stead	
British Gas.....	Corey Challenger	
Morley Market.....	Ryan Lilywhite	
	Tommy Haughey, Joey Walkin,	
	Gareth Hyries, Russ Dale, Nigel Scott,	
	Michael Kelly, Luke Haigh	

COACH: PAUL MARCH

LAST SIX RESULTS: WLWWW
 LAST SIX HOME: WWLLWW
 TRIES: McHugh (10) Mark (7)
 Clayton, Kain (6)
 GOALS: McHugh (23) Knight (21)
 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

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

COACH: PAUL SMITH

LAST SIX RESULTS: WLLWWL

LAST SIX AWAY: LL-LWWL

TRIES: Dodd, Foxen (5), Reay (4)

GOALS: Dodd (24)

DROP GOALS: Holroyd (1)

MAN TO WATCH: Ian Watson

MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee: R. Laughton

Touch: J. Downham, P. Huck

Reserve Referee: D. Butler

THE INSIDE TRACK

Hunslet are on song and will be too strong at home. Hawks by 12

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FAX: 0113 235 0459

CLUBCALL

Hunslet v Swinton

On top of the league and loving the view

Today we sit proudly at the top of the Championship 1 league table after a difficult but profitable Easter.

It's a long while since we were in such a lofty position and everyone involved with the club at whatever level will be enjoying the "bragging rights" which accompany the honour.

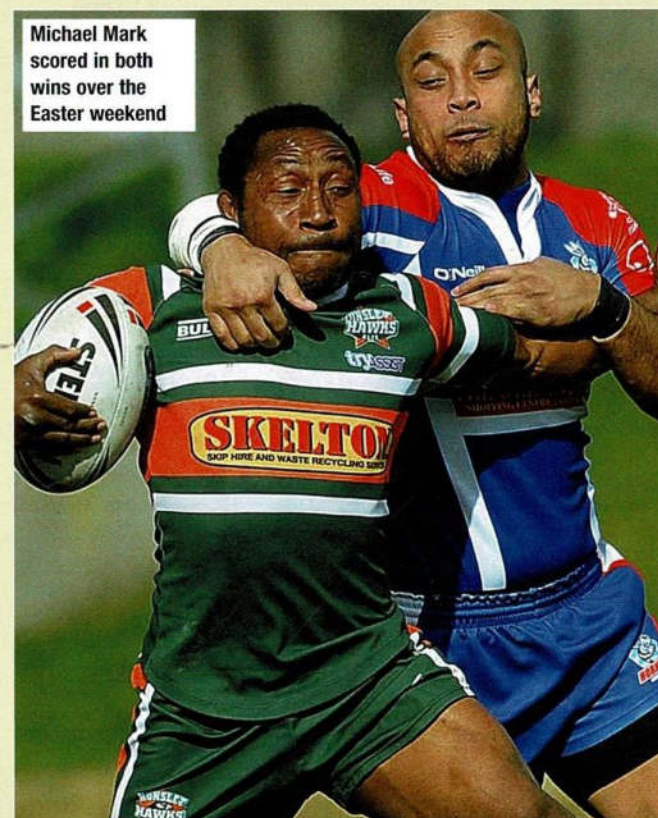
However, let us not forget that the hard work starts from now, as every club will be determined to knock us off the perch as soon as possible.

First to try will be today's opposition Swinton Lions. We've had some tremendous battles over the years with the Lions, and I don't see today's game being any different. I must admit though that I haven't been as confident of taming the Lions as I am today.

A big thank you goes out to the faithful few who made the long, and arduous, trip to South Wales. Your support was as ever enthusiastic and obviously greatly appreciated by the players.

Considering the current financial climate it was an even more commendable effort than normal. It is always good to know that we have such a loyal band of supporters no matter where we play. I would imagine you were all satisfied with the team's performance on the day. Once again a big thank you for all your efforts.

Alan Stephenson
Chief Executive



Michael Mark scored in both wins over the Easter weekend

Thanks to 'South Wales diehards'

Hunslet's improving form resulted in two impressive Easter wins against Doncaster and South Wales.

South Wales had started the season well and held on to a top three start. South Wales's geographic distance was always going to result in a difficult fixture and getting any sort of match day result was always going to be hard.

The players, to their credit, paid half the cost of the overnight accommodation stay at nearby Port Talbot. A five-hour trek before playing the match is not ideal preparation.

I believe that the nocturnal snoring habits of some of the players left others

with lasting noises in their heads!

Well, it seemed to work and a particularly impressive second half performance saw the Hawks produce their best rugby this season.

The Northern Rail tie against Leigh will hopefully be confirmed for Sunday June 6th.

Our friends from the American football team, Yorkshire Rams, seem likely to move their fixture.

This will be confirmed before our next home match in the Carnegie Challenge Cup against Oldham.

Today's visitors Swinton will provide testing opposition, as Swinton started the season as one of the pre-

season favourites for the Co-operative Championship One title.

A special welcome goes to Swinton stalwarts Rick and Ange Smith, who my father Stephen claims led him astray in the bars of Australia during the World Cup of 2008.

The man needs no encouragement and no doubt they will be sharing some fun after the match regardless of the result!

Charlotte Ball
Promotions Officer



Hornets RL v London Skolars



Sunday April 11, 2010. Kick off 3pm. SPOTLAND

SPONSOR	PLAYER	No.
Azteq 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
Mr & Mrs Jordan.....	Gareth Hayes	8
The Loyalists.....	Phil Wood	9
Steve Goodall.....	Paul Raftery	10
Grant & Dougie McEndoo.....	Mark Hobson	11
Heywood Magic Market.....	Danny Smith	12
	Craig Ashall	13
	Liam Bostock	14
Shaw, Mitchell & Co Accountants.....	Dayne Donoghue	15
Stephen Holt.....	Danny Samuel	16
	Michael Ostick	17
	John Cookson	18
	Ryan McPaul	19
	Semisi Cocker	20
	Jay Duffy	21
	Damien Reid	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
John & Julie Clarke.....	Wayne English	32

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: JOHN STANKEVITCH

LAST SIX RESULTS: WLLWLL

LAST SIX HOME: LLWLWL

TRIES: Johnson (5) Gorton, Donoghue (4)

GOALS: Roper (10)

DROP GOALS: -

MAN TO WATCH: Damien Reid

MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee: C. Sharrad

Touch: W. Johnstone, T. Owen

Reserve Referee: D. Sharpe

THE INSIDE TRACK

Tough to see Skolars getting a result.
Hornets by 14

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
25	Smokie Junor.....	Optimal Life Fitness
26	Ben Jones.....	Woodlands PH
27	Ade Adebisi.....	Ann & Steven Morgan
28		

COACH: JAMES MASSARA

LAST SIX RESULTS: LLLLLL

LAST SIX AWAY: LLLLLL

TRIES: Thomas, Adebisi (3) four players on 2

GOALS: Thorman (15)

DROP GOALS: -

MAN TO WATCH: Ade Adebisi

CLUBCALL

Hornets RL v Skolars

Our heads didn't drop and we proved a point

Welcome today to everybody concerned with the London Skolars.

As I write today (Bank Holiday Monday) the Skolars have yet to pick up a victory this season, but I have watched them quite a few times on DVD and they aren't far away from getting that elusive win. They have performed admirably and will put lots of teams this year under pressure if they continue to show the fight that they have in previous games.

This is something that the Hornets lads showed in abundance last Friday in our derby loss to Oldham.

We had no right whatsoever to have any chance of being in that game after losing our main ballplayer Liam McGovern to a season-ending injury after just eight minutes. We then also lost our new loanee front rower Danny Fleming after 25 minutes with a head injury that also saw him taken to hospital where he spent the night.

Eighteen points down during that disruptive spell would have seen the majority of players and teams put their heads down, but at half-time we re-grouped and re-assessed what we are about, and we came out

with our backs against the walls but with a point to prove to ourselves.

We gave ourselves a great chance of victory in that second half and with a lengthy injury list before the game which saw us missing seven first-choice players, I felt that we had turned the corner and got ourselves back on the tracks. The bonus point that we worked so hard to achieve will certainly come in handy when the season comes to an end and we have set a goal of achieving at least a bonus point from every game.

I was proud of the players' efforts overall last Friday, and I have said in previous interviews that if we put together a full 80-minute performance and have a bit of luck with injuries, then we will soon be climbing that table.

Hopefully we will see some players return to action today, but if today comes too early for some, I'm sure the 17 that take the field will be putting their bodies on the line for each other.

John Stankevitch

Head Coach



Action from Hornets defeat against Oldham



We're with the Hornets!

CHALKERS

O'NEILLS



THE WHEATSHEAF
SHOPPING CENTRE ROCHDALE



Link4Life



South Wales Scorpions v Oldham RLFC



Sunday April 11, 2010. Kick off 2pm. 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
Sam Studley	21
Ben Flower (loan)	22
Alan Pope	23
Paul Boden	24
Jamie Tibbs	26
Dalton Grant	27
Loren Quick	28
Harri Greville	29
Garrick Legge	30
(loan) Anthony Blackwood	32
Lloyd White	33

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

LAST SIX RESULTS: WWLWL

LAST SIX HOME: WWL

TRIES: Parry (5) Roets (3) Williams, Dudson, White (2)

GOALS: White (15) A. James (3)

DROP GOALS: -

MAN TO WATCH: Christian Roets

MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee: G. Dolan

Touch: J. Lowery, S. Moss

Reserve Referee: L. Todd

THE INSIDE TRACK

Honeymoon over for Scorpions - Oldham to tough it out by 6

No.	PLAYER	SPONSOR
1	Paul O'Connor	Mack Video Services
2	Lucas Onyango	Rob the Gardener
3	Craig Littler	
4	Mick Fogerty	Jack Fogerty & Family
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	Wilscaff
20	Mark Brocklehurst	John Barrett
21	Valu Bentley	Whittles Pub
22	Paul Reilly	Pizza Hut, Oldham
23	Ben Mellor	Sharpflex
24	Marcus St Hilaire	Livers Fish & Chip Restaurant
25	Scott Mansfield	

COACH: TONY BENSON

LAST SIX RESULTS: LWWWWW

LAST SIX AWAY: L-LLWWW

TRIES: Onyango, Fogerty (7)

Chandler, Brocklehurst (5)

GOALS: Ashe (30)

DROP GOALS: -

MAN TO WATCH: Matty Ashe

Contract Services

PROUD TO BACK THE SOUTH WALES SCORPIONS!

UNITE UNION 4/6 BRANCH



Glyn Clydach Hotel

CLUBCALL

Scorpions v Oldham

We have to work harder than ever



Ball carrier Ben Flower tries to bust through with Christiaan Roets first up in support on the right

As a group and as a club we welcome the undefeated Oldham team to South Wales today.

The challenge they present will be immense and one we need to be at the top of our game for if we are going to compete.

They are the only team to defeat Hunslet in the Championship One competition this season and they are a very well coached outfit under Tony Benson.

It was very disappointing to lose at home in the manner we did against Hunslet on Easter Monday, and it showed in no uncertain terms that we have much work to do to compete in this competition at the top end.

The game also showed that we have a long way to go in terms of our develop-

ment as a team and in learning to play at this level.

As I have said previously, this is a very tough competition and we have not got too celebratory after our wins and we won't get too disappointed after our losses.

We need to use each game as a learning experience and prepare the best that we can for the next game.

The only reason to be disappointed is if we don't learn the lesson from our last performance; and that lesson is that each individual must look after their own preparation leading into the game and look after their own performance during the game.

This competition is far too tough to turn up and not be physically ready for

the battle and we had too many players not ready for the physicality that Hunslet brought down to Wales.

Jamie Murphy, Loz Wildbore and Christiaan Roets deserve special mention for their efforts and their recent form has been good for our team.

I thought Steve Parry also improved and he knows he still has a lot of hard work to do after receiving his recent award. We have a lot of hard work in front of us and it started this week on the training ground and in our game against Oldham at home today.

Enjoy the game.

Anthony Seibold
Head Coach



Workington Town v Blackpool Panthers



Sunday April 11, 2010. Kick off 3pm. DERWENT PARK

PLAYER	No.
John Lebbon	1
Mike Backhouse	2
Andrew Beattie	3
James Finch	4
Brett Carter	5
Liam Finch	6
Scott Kaighan	7
Lee Dutton	8
Jack Pedley	9
Kris Coward	10
Mike Whitehead	11
Jarrad Stack	12
Darren King	13
Jamie Marshall	14
Aaron Low	15
Scott Burgess	16
Neil Frazer	17
Martin Wilson	18
Joe McKenna	19
James Robinson	20
Paddy Coupar	21
Ryan Campbell	22
Phil Hewitt	23
Dean Bragg	24
Stewart Rhodes	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

COACHES: GARY CHARLTON &
MARTIN OGLANBY

LAST SIX RESULTS: LLWLWL
LAST SIX HOME: LL-LWWW
TRIES: Backhouse, Kaighan (5)
Beattie, Low, Frazer (4)
GOALS: Kaighan (33)
DROP GOALS: -
MAN TO WATCH: Scott Kaighan

MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee: W. Turley
Touch: J. Callaghan, R. Webb
Reserve Referee: S. Barrie

THE INSIDE TRACK

Have Town improved enough yet?
Possibly not - Panthers by 8

No.	PLAYER	SPONSOR
1	Jonny Leather	Sue Townsend & Blackpool Supp. Club
2	Damien Munro	Derek Way Roofing
3	Casey Mayberry	TLC UPVC Double Glazing
4	Mark McCully	John Barlow - Timekeeper
5	Tom Woodcock	Norris & Oxley
6	Carl Forber	Blackpool Supporters Club
7	Tom Hemingway	The Colonial Hotel
8	Dave Best	Brennan & Best Joinery & Const
9	John Clough	
10	Andy Hobson	Shelf Village Bakery
11	Kurt Haggerty	
12	Paul Alcock	Interbake
13	Lee Marsh	
14	Martin Keavney	Morris's Quality Bakers
15	Paul Anderson	AGS Mortgage Solutions
16	Simon Svabic	Rema Tip Top
17	Kris Ratcliffe	RR Yates Drafting & Design Services
18	Martin Ainscough	Recruitment Solutions
19	Adam Thomas	
20	Marlon Miller	
21	Peter Fairhurst	RR Yates Drafting & Design Services
22	Dave Llewellyn	
23	John Boland	
24	Paul Ballard	Blackpool Supporters Club

COACH: MARTIN CROMPTON

LAST SIX RESULTS: WWWWWW
LAST SIX AWAY: WW-LWWW
TRIES: Munro (11) Mayberry,
Keavney, Ballard (6)
GOALS: Hemingway (30) Leather 10
DROP GOALS: -
MAN TO WATCH: Jonny Leather



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'Building Partnerships'

CLUBCALL

Workington v Blackpool

Worky need fear no one at home

Young Aussie
Jarrad Stack has
made nine starts
and scored two
tries for Town



It's a pleasure to welcome players, officials and supporters from Blackpool to Derwent Park.

It's amazing to reflect on the transformation that has taken Blackpool from being one of the league's basement teams and arriving here today as one of the Championship One's most fancied teams.

Of course a team is as good as its players and there has been some serious investment which appears to be paying dividends.

We are of course going through a transformation of our own and last week's very narrow defeat at Oldham was an example, a game which could and perhaps should have been won after another stirring fightback.

A huge thank you to all the fans who made the journey to Oldham.

Dave Bowden Chairman

Our away support seems to be starting to grow a little and I'm sure a more competitive team is the reason.

We have obtained bonus points on all our travels this year. I'm sure away wins are just around the corner. The team is improving week by week and I don't think we need to fear anyone in this league, especially at Derwent Park.

I expect to see us that improvement continue this afternoon, and against an unbeaten Blackpool it will need to if we are to get anything from today's game.

Enjoy the game I'm sure it will be a cracker.

Hello and welcome to Derwent Park for this Championship 1 match against Blackpool. The Panthers have had a very good start to their season and have signed some good and experienced rugby players for this year and this is showing in their results.

This will be a hard challenge for us but one we are really looking forward to. As a team me and Martin think we are getting better by the week. We know it isn't just going to happen overnight and it will take a lot of hard work by us, the players and the board, but we are sure we have the right players here to take this club forward.

At home we have been playing some good rugby and hopefully we can carry this on today. Enjoy the game,

Gary Charlton
Coach

N.E. pioneers have reason to believe

It was a very real possibility at the end of last season that after 10 years of professional rugby league in the North East, Gateshead Thunder could be no more.

Coach Steve McCormack had master-minded a 'great escape' as Gateshead earned the results they needed to avoid relegation from the Championship.

But owner Steve Garside then pulled the plug after four years of bank-rolling Thunder, forcing the club into liquidation, not only accepting but seeking a drop into the Championship 1, and handing Leigh a relegation reprieve.

McCormack left, later to be appointed at Barrow, and chief executive Rod Findlay was left to pick up the pieces.

First the former RFL lawyer helped put together a business plan and form a new holding company for the club, but the RFL had to be convinced the new structure could sustain the club before allowing Thunder to take up a place in Championship 1.

Thunder were ultimately given the green light for this season - along with a six-point penalty - and a Pledge Night in November demonstrated there was enough support from fans and sponsors to keep the club going, showing Findlay was right to soldier on.

"We were rocked by the news that the shareholders had fallen out and withdrawn their support, and that Steve Garside was filing for administration," said Findlay, now chairman on a part-time basis.

"We had to take a long, hard look at ourselves and ask 'what are we about?' The RFL said they weren't just giving us the unconditional funding for the sake of it, we had to show we could produce our own income too."

"We also had to see if we could put out a competitive team and I think we showed in a fairly short space of time that we did have that support. We've won a lot of friends over the years and they've stuck with us."

It is safe to say that since being introduced to Super League in 1999, Thunder have lurched from one financial crisis to the next.

Findlay was therefore keen to safeguard the long-term future of the club and ensure it was doing more than just merely surviving, although that has limited on-field expectations for this season.

"We had to ask 'what is the point of the club?' If it's simply to exist, to be on that league table, is that a reason to



Ex-RFL lawyer Rod Findlay, committed to the North-East cause

reform?" he said. "Just because there's been a rugby league club in Gateshead for the last 10 years wasn't a good enough reason to reform."

"After a bit of soul-searching we came to the view that we had a part to play in promoting rugby league in the North



It's a rebuilding process up in the North-East where the grassroots work of the Thunder appears to be paying dividends. BEN COLLINS spoke to chairman Rod Findlay

East and promoting the North East through rugby league.

"If all we're doing is taking players from other clubs and surviving on the RFL's central distribution, then there's not really much point having us here."

"Producing our own players is as important as our Championship 1 status and being able to play our part in the league, so Chris Hood, our Director of Rugby, has commented often that the Under-18s is the most important squad at the moment because hopefully they'll form the nucleus of Gateshead Thunder going forward."

"We've not been getting the results so far but just being competitive is our main aim this year. We started on minus-six points so the immediate aim is to get to zero and take it from there."

Thunder is just one of several clubs rocked by the withdrawal of their main backer in recent years and the new ownership structure is aimed at protecting the club from suffering the same fate again.

Shares have been offered to individuals such as life members and long-standing directors while, once ratified, local junior clubs and the supporters club will hold a 25% stake in Thunder.

"We're doing it in a very different way," said Findlay. "We've always been owned by an individual or a small group of individuals and we wanted to reinvent ourselves."

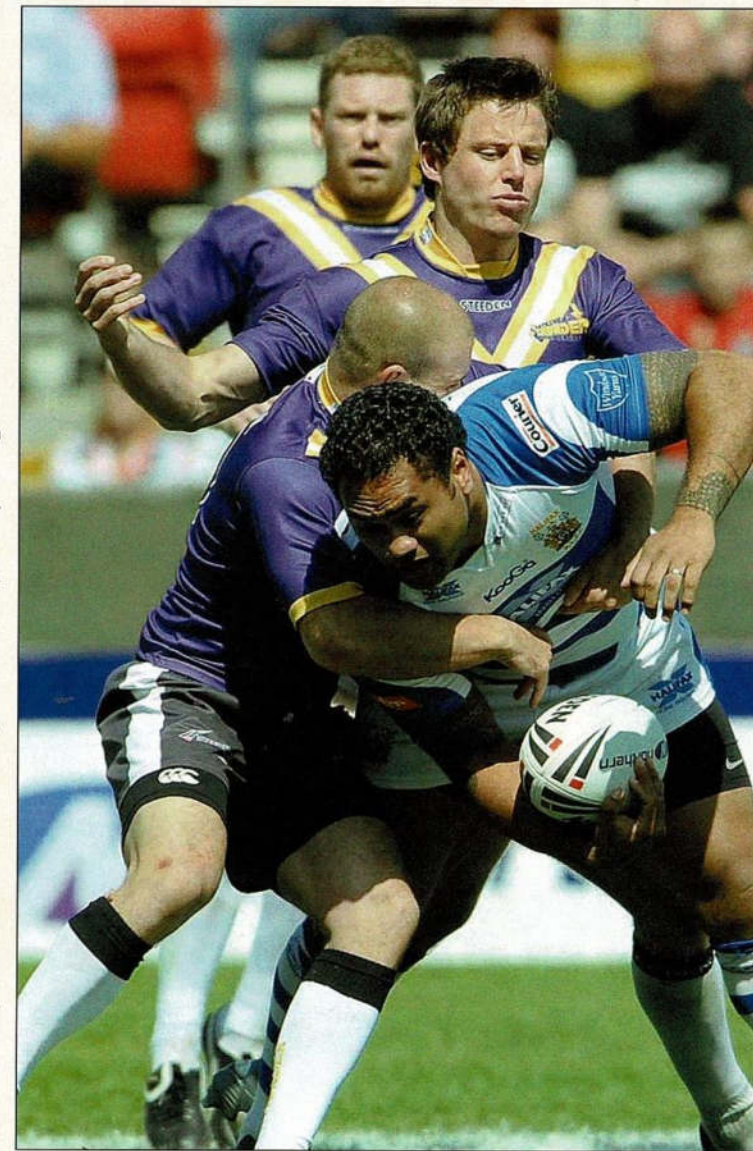
"People have said 'is there a backer to take the club on?' Well, we don't want to be reliant on one individual, because I think that's where we've gone wrong in the past."

"Having been through a backer withdrawing before, we don't want the players, staff, fans and sponsors to go through that uncertainty again."

"We had to get it up and running so Chris Hood, Keith Christie (Commercial Director) and I became the three shareholders," Findlay explained.

"But we've offered shares to our junior clubs, supporters club and certain individuals so that they feel part of the process and to respect the investment, time and emotion people have put into the club."

"We wouldn't exist without them and we now feel we're representative of the region. The term 'community club' has been used which makes us sound like an amateur club but I think we're more a professional club for its community."



In a season where they got through to a Challenge Cup quarter-final against the mighty St Helens, Gateshead also reached the final of the Northern Rail 9s Plate division, where they faced Halifax (above).

Thunder have also formed a partnership with Gateshead FC, with whom they share the council-owned Gateshead International Stadium, which has seen them sharing resources and launching a series of joint initiatives.

Findlay, meanwhile, will continue to combine his role with that as a partner in the Jesmond-based law firm McDaniel & Co, which he's held since January.

"Part of the discussions I had when I joined Daniel & Co. was that they were happy for me to stay involved with Gateshead Thunder because we're developing a sports law practice and it's consistent with that," he said.

"It's an absolute honour to be able to play a part in taking Gateshead Thunder forward and I'll stay involved as long as it benefits the club."

"Once the club's up and running I'd be happy to say 'I'm leaving it to you guys', and now Gateshead have a set-up where if I was hit by a bus tomorrow, the club would still go on."

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Not much to look at, but at least it's Oldham's

After 14 long years and eight different bases nomadic Oldham have finally found a home.

The White Bank Stadium in the residential Limehurst area of the town will be the club's new, permanent ground.

The announcement was made on April Fools Day and after Oldham's turbulent past, chairman Chris Hamilton admitted some fans could be excused for thinking the announcement was a fake one. However, the current RFL President is hoping for a much brighter future for the Co-operative Championship One side.

Oldham's new home is definitely not the KC Stadium or the DW Stadium. With a notable sloping pitch, it's more reminiscent of Mount Pleasant. Indeed, the rather grand name hides a multitude of tasks that still need to be completed before Tony Benson's team runs out there for the first time.

New away changing rooms, an upgrade of facilities for match officials and a general tidying up of the site is on the immediate agenda.

Indeed, Hamilton declined to give an official capacity for a ground currently used by Vodkat North West Counties League division two football side Oldham Boro with an average crowd of 40, but he intends it being ready for business for the visit of York City Knights on May 9.

In the meantime, Oldham will continue to play home games at Sedgley Park rugby union club. Sedgley Park is the eighth and final resting place for Oldham RLFC (1997) Ltd that have been homeless since leaving Watersheddings in 1996.

In between, the club has played at: Hurst Cross, Ashton-under-Lyne, Bower Fold, Stalybridge, Victory Park, Chorley, Bloomfield Road, Blackpool, Spotland, Rochdale, Boundary Park and Leigh Sports Village.

KNOW YOUR STUFF?

This week we challenge RL buffs to unravel the names of players, one from every home team...

1. A HARM LION SIR

No soft centre to this raider

2. JACK DO ME OWL SO

Not related to Game On columnist...

3. A SPLEEN TORE

A man with a real kick

4. AIR COCK GO

A rhyming winner by hook or by crook

5. DANGER SHAY

All-star talent in one so young

6. RUBEN HOE VIKING

A next-door kind of guy

7. CHALK MA RIME

Making his mark on the march

8. GLOB OF AUBURN

He'll bowl you over given half a chance

9. RAPE VESTRY

Utility value down in South Wales

10. CAST DARK JAR

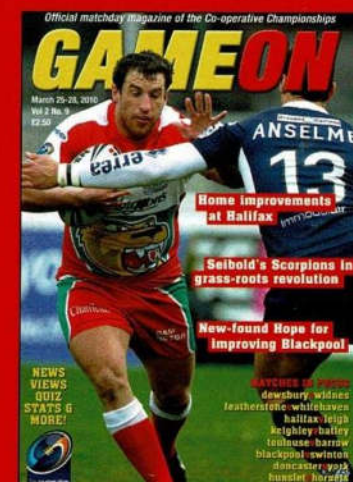
You can pile up responsibility on this bloke

1) Liam Harrison - Barrow 2) James Lockwood - Rams 3) Lee Paterson - Halifax 4) Craig Cook - Sheffield 5) Shane Grady - Widnes 6) Kevin Neighbour - Gateshead 7) Michael Mark - Hunslet 8) Bolu Fagborun - Hornets 9) Steve Parry - Scorpions 10) Jarrod Stack - Workington

ANSWERS

Don't miss the Co-operative Championships' best read!

If you miss your issue of Game On you can now catch up on the previous week's edition online. Every Wednesday the last copy of Game On will be available to read in the latest page-turning technology. Log-on to www.theleagueshop.co.uk and click on the Game On link to launch the last issue of the magazine dedicated to the very best coverage of the Co-operative Championships!



RESULTS

MONDAY APRIL 5th

Halifax (16) 50
T: S Royston 3, L Paterson 2, R Worrincy 1, J Hayley 2, F Watene 1.
G: L Paterson 7.
Toulouse (6) 6
T: R Bromley 1. G: N Wynn 1. Att: 1,725

Leigh (14) 26
T: M Blythe 3, C Hill 1, J Duffy 1. G: M Nannyn 1, R Paul 2.
Batley (4) 4
T: J Martin 1. Att: 2,246

Barrow (28) 50
T: J McGilvary 1, A Blackwood 1, L Harrison 1, A Ballard 1, J Rooney 1, M James 1, M Knowles 1, Z Luisi 1, P Noone 1. G: J Rooney 7.
Sheffield (4) 4
T: M Stringer 1. Att: 1,854

Widnes (30) 48
T: J Ford 1, P Flynn 1, T Kohe-Love 1, S Grady 1, M Gardner 1, C Gerrard 1, A Thackeray 1, L Doran 1, D Hulme 1. G: S Grady 6.
Whitehaven (8) 18
T: I Mort 1, L Joe 1, S Dawes 1. G: M Govin 1, G McNally 2. Att: 3,033

Dewsbury (4) 10
T: S Turner 1, T Wandless 1. G: P Walker 1.
Keighley (14) 42
T: G Rayner 1, D Williams 2, D Jones 1, A Shickell 1, W Cartledge 1, G Nicholson 1. G: D Jones 7. Att: 1,025

FRIDAY APRIL 2nd

Batley (10) 22
T: I Preece 2, K Lythe 1, C Buttery 1. G: P Handforth 3.
Dewsbury (4) 8
T: B Powell 1, M Emmett 1. Att: 1,484

Toulouse (0) 6
T: P Polo 1. G: N Wynn 1.
Leigh (18) 36
T: S Donlan 1, N Stanton 1, D McConnell 1, M Leuluai 1, D Armitstead 1, A Higson 1. G: M Nannyn 6. Att: 1,225

Featherstone (8) 44
T: I Hardman 1, J Steel 1, K Briggs 1, L Finn 1, S Dickens 1, J Grayson 1, I Morrison 1. G: K Briggs 8.
Halifax (0) 4
T: L Paterson 1. Att: 2,353

Keighley (2) 16
T: G Duffy 1, A Shickell 1. G: D Jones 4.
Sheffield (10) 16
T: C Cook 1, A Szostak 1, S Barlow 1. G: B Lindsay 1, M Stringer 1. Att: 927

THURSDAY APRIL 1st

Whitehaven (8) 8
T: C Rudd 1. G: C Rudd 2.
Barrow (6) 19
T: A Ballard 1, M Ostler 2. G: J Rooney 3. DG: J Rooney 1. Att: 1,386

TABLE

	P	W	D	L	PF	PA	Diff	Bns	Pts
Leigh	6	5	1	0	208	64	144	0	17
Featherstone	5	5	0	0	194	48	146	0	15
Widnes	5	4	0	1	228	118	110	1	13
Halifax	6	4	0	2	160	176	-16	0	12
Barrow	5	3	1	1	143	68	75	0	11
Batley	5	2	0	3	82	116	-34	1	7
Sheffield	5	1	1	3	98	152	-54	1	6
Toulouse	6	2	0	4	108	216	-108	0	6
Whitehaven	5	1	0	4	90	185	-95	1	4
Dewsbury	6	0	0	6	90	188	-98	3	3
Keighley	6	1	1	4	118	188	-70	2	-2

* Keighley deducted 8pts for going into administration

Leigh loving life at the top of the table

Leigh Centurions enjoyed their Easter as they hopped above Featherstone Rovers at the top of the Co-operative Championship. The resurgent Centurions were helped by having played one more game than Rovers but wins at Toulouse Olympique 36-6 and 26-4 over Batley Bulldogs at the Sports Village sent out a message that Ian Millward's team means business.

Featherstone will point out that they had only one game over the holiday weekend – but a big one against Halifax, winning 44-4. Kyle Briggs continued to pile on the points with a try and eight goals for Rovers.

"We are proud of the way we are working as a team but we won't get carried away," said coach Daryl Powell.

For Toulouse their poor spell continues as they suffered a third defeat when they were hit by the backlash from Halifax with a 50-6 defeat at the Shay on Monday.

Shad Royston claimed a hat-trick as Fax crossed the whitewash nine times to calm their fans' nerves by returning to winning ways in style.

Last season's Grand Final winners Barrow Raiders gave notice that their title will have to be wrestled off them with a punishing 50-4 win over Sheffield Eagles.

If you are looking for team performance Barrow produced it with nine tries from nine different players. It came on the back of a 19-8 win in the Cumbrian derby at Whitehaven.

Coach Steve McCormack said: "Easter is a difficult period and we ground out a win at Whitehaven but this (Sheffield) was a bit different. We worked very hard and played some good rugby and Sheffield usually get a (bonus) point so to win in the manner we did was excellent."

For Sheffield it's worrying times with only one win in five games and the first game at Bramall Lane coming up on Sunday when they entertain Featherstone.

Widnes Vikings were another team that scored nine tries to make sure of holding on to their third place with a 48-18 win over Whitehaven. The Vikings didn't waste time in their only fixture over Easter – six of their tries coming in the first 23 minutes.

The second defeat for Whitehaven left them with only a bonus point from the Thursday night Sky game as consolation.

Keighley Cougars can celebrate their first win of the season with a 42-10 win at Dewsbury Rams in the battle of the promoted teams.

The Cougars continue to chip away at the points deduction and showed that they are coming to terms with the higher division with a battling 16-16 draw at home to Sheffield Eagles on Good Friday.

Coach Barry Eaton said after the Sheffield game: "We made great strides over the last few weeks and I feel that we have turned a massive corner."

Championship 1 also saw new leaders with form team Hunslet Hawks continuing their charge up the table with a 42-12 win at early pacesetters South Wales Scorpions. Hawks had opened their holiday programme with a 54-12 crushing of Doncaster.

It was the first taste of defeat for the Scorpions who were blown away by five second half tries from their visitors.

Hunslet hold top spot on points difference from Blackpool Panthers



Dave McConnell on the charge for table-toppers Leigh in Toulouse

who came out 27-14 victors over York City Knights in the other big game in the division.

Panthers kept their 100 per cent record intact with four wins from four games after winning 42-18 at London Skolars on Friday.

Also holding on to an undefeated record is Oldham who celebrated being 'rehoused' in the past week with a 22-16 win at Rochdale and then edged out Workington Town 16-14 to take

third place.

Championship 1 is developing into a real dogfight. York had opened their holiday programme with a 72-14 demolition of Gateshead Thunder but the defeat at the seaside saw them tumble from top to fourth place in the table just above the Scorpions.

Doncaster claimed their second win of the season 38-28 over the Skolars who have yet to win.

COMING UP

Featherstone Rovers will want to take back top spot in the Championship when Daryl Powell takes his side to face old teammate Mark Aston's Sheffield Eagles.

It's moving day for the Eagles as they play their first game at Sheffield United's Bramall Lane.

Keighley Cougars' new confidence faces a test at Halifax in the Thursday night Sky Sports game.

Toulouse will be out to boost their confidence with an upset at Widnes and in the other Saturday game Barrow Raiders welcome Batley Bulldogs.

Dewsbury Rams at home to Whitehaven looks a tough one to call. Championship 1 sees new leaders Hunslet Hawks at home to Swinton and Blackpool Panthers defending their unbeaten record at Workington Town.

South Wales Scorpions will want to bounce back but they face a real test with the visit of resurgent Oldham.

London Skolars have a tough trip to Rochdale and Gateshead Thunder will be hoping to boost their fans at home to improving Doncaster.

RESULTS

MONDAY APRIL 5

South Wales (6) 12
T: C Roets 1, S Parry 1. G: L Wildbore 1, L White 1.
Hunslet (16) 42
T: S Kain 2, M Mark 1, D Grimshaw 1, P March 1, R Chapman 1, D March 1, N Lowe 1. G: R Knight 5. Att: 798

Oldham (10) 16
T: L Onyango 1, M Fogerty 2. G: M Ashe 2.
Workington (0) 14
T: N Frazer 1, S Kaighan 1, M Whitehead 1. G: S Kaighan 1. Att: 628

Doncaster (32) 38
T: A Henry 1, L Gomersall 1, D Bates 2, G Ellery 1, C Lawton 1, P Brown 1. G: S Brown 5.
London Skolars (6) 28
T: A Adebisi 2, L May 2, A Aggrey 1. G: P Thorman 4. Att: 380

Blackpool (4) 27
T: D Munro 1, D Llewelyn 3, P Ballard 1. G: J Leather 3.
DG: J Leather 1.
York (6) 14
T: D Tuffour 2, J McLockian 1. G: L Waterman 1. Att: 405

FRIDAY APRIL 2

York (30) 72
T: D Ratcliffe 3, D Tuffour 1, T Lineham 1, J McLockian 1, J Schofield 3, K Peacock 1, D Hill 1, R Blakeway 1.
G: L Waterman 12.
Gateshead (8) 14
T: M Brown 1, W Bate 1, M Barron 1. G: K Neighbour 1. Att: 686

Hunslet (34) 54
T: S Kain 1, M Mark 1, W McHugh 3, W Pryce 2, P March 1, R Knight 1, T Haughey 1. G: R Knight 7.
Doncaster (0) 12
T: L Gomersall 1, G Ellery 1. G: S Brown 2. Att: 539

Rochdale (4) 16
T: C Johnson 1, G Hayes 1, P Wood 1. G: C Hough 2.
Oldham (18) 22
T: M Fogerty 1, M Brocklehurst 1, M Ashe 1, L Sutton 1. G: M Ashe 3. Att: 1,412

London Skolars (14) 18
T: C Isles 1, A Adebisi 1, P Thorman 1. G: P Thorman 3.
Blackpool (8) 42
T: P Ballard 1, M Leigh 1, C Forber 2, K Radcliffe 2, P Alcock 1, J Leather 1. G: J Leather 5. Att: 323

TABLE

	P	W	D	L	PF	PA	Diff	B	Pts
Hunslet	5	4	0	1	196	73	123	0	12
Blackpool	4	4	0	0	159	52	107	0	12
Oldham	4	4	0	0	105	66	39	0	12
York	6	3	0	3	193	145	48	1	10
South Wales	5	3	0	2	124	101	23	1	10
Workington	5	2	0	3	134	92	42	3	9
Doncaster	6	2	0	4	152	216	-64	2	8
Rochdale	5	2	0	3	126	150	-24	1	7
Swinton	4	2	0	2	114	138	-24	0	6
London Skols	6	0	0	6	94	240	-146	2	2
Gateshead	4	1	0	3	50	174	-124	0	-3

* Gateshead deducted 8pts for going into administration

DIARY 2010

KEY TO DIARY:

NORTHERN RAIL CUP CHAMPIONSHIP CHAMPIONSHIP 1 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 8

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 8 - ROUND 2

Oldham 22, Hornets RL 14

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10 - ROUND 1

Whitehaven 26, Batley Bulldogs 34

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14 - ROUND 3

Batley Bulldogs 46, Swinton Lions 10
Keighley Cougars 38, Workington Town 10
Leigh Centurions 36, Featherstone Rovers 8
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 60
Rochdale Hornets 12, Dewsbury Rams 48

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17

Sheffield Eagles 13, Halifax RLFC 6
Doncaster RLFC 0, Barrow Raiders 60
Hornets RL 12, York City Knights 39
Workington 18, Swinton 19

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21

Swinton Lions 12, Widnes Vikings 36
Workington Town 16, Whitehaven 14

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22

Oldham 22, Sheffield Eagles 24

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

Featherstone Rovers 58, Hornets RL 10

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3

Dewsbury Rams 22, Leigh Centurions 44

THURSDAY MARCH 4

Hunslet Hawks 0, Featherstone Rovers 68

WEDNESDAY MARCH 10

York City Knights 34, London Skolars 10
Barrow Raiders 62, Keighley 18

WEDNESDAY MARCH 17

Gateshead Thunder 4, Batley Bulldogs 100

SUNDAY MARCH 21

Halifax RLFC 36, Hunslet Hawks 42

WEDNESDAY 24 MARCH

Doncaster 20, Blackpool 40

CO-OPERATIVE CHAMPIONSHIPS

THURSDAY, 25 FEBRUARY

Leigh Centurions 20, Barrow Raiders 20

SUNDAY, 28 FEBRUARY

Toulouse Olympique 26, Dewsbury Rams 22
Featherstone Rovers 36, Batley Bulldogs 10
Halifax RLFC 32, Sheffield Eagles 26

Widnes Vikings 72, Keighley Cougars 10
Hunslet Hawks 40, Gateshead Thunder 12
Hornets RL 56, Doncaster RLFC 24
Swinton Lions 20, Oldham 38
South Wales Scorpions 22, Workington Town 20
York City Knights 36, London Skolars 8

THURSDAY, 11 MARCH

Batley Bulldogs 24, Halifax RLFC 34

FRIDAY MARCH 12

Blackpool Panthers 36, Hornets RL 14
Hunslet Hawks 16, Oldham RLFC 29

SATURDAY, 13 MARCH

Whitehaven 34, Toulouse Olympique 20

SUNDAY, 14 MARCH

Dewsbury Rams 10, Featherstone Rovers 40
Keighley Cougars 12, Leigh Centurions 34
Sheffield Eagles 30, Widnes Vikings 44
Doncaster RLFC 8, South Wales Scorpions 18
London Skolars 16, Swinton Lions 52
Workington Town 32, York City Knights 22

THURSDAY, 18 MARCH

Widnes Vikings 28, Halifax RLFC 30

FRIDAY, 19 MARCH

Sheffield Eagles 22, Dewsbury Rams 10

SATURDAY, 20 MARCH

Toulouse Olympique 34, Keighley Cougars 26
Barrow Raiders 6, Featherstone Rovers 20

SUNDAY, 21 MARCH

Leigh Centurions 44, Whitehaven 12
Gateshead Thunder 24, London Skolars 18
Rochdale Hornets 32, Workington Town 24
Swinton Lions 36, Doncaster RLFC 30
York City Knights 25, South Wales Scorpions 24

THURSDAY, 25 MARCH

Keighley Cougars 12, Batley Bulldogs 22

SATURDAY, 27 MARCH

Toulouse Olympique 16, Barrow Raiders 48

SUNDAY, 28 MARCH

Dewsbury Rams 30, Widnes Vikings 36
Featherstone Rovers 54, Whitehaven 18
Halifax RLFC 10, Leigh Centurions 48
Blackpool Panthers 54, Swinton Lions 6
Doncaster RLFC 40, York City Knights 24
Hunslet Hawks 44, Rochdale Hornets 8
South Wales Scorpions 48, London Skolars 6
Workington Town 44, Gateshead Thunder 0

THURSDAY, 1 APRIL

Whitehaven 8, Barrow Raiders 19

FRIDAY, 2 APRIL

Featherstone Rovers 44, Halifax 4
Keighley Cougars 16, Sheffield Eagles 16
Toulouse Olympique 6, Leigh Centurions 36

BATLEY BULLDOGS 22, DEWSBURY RAMS 8

Hunslet Hawks 54, Doncaster RLFC 12

London Skolars 18, Blackpool Panthers 42

Rochdale Hornets 16, Oldham 22

York City Knights 72, Gateshead Thunder 14

MONDAY, 5 APRIL

Barrow Raiders 50, Sheffield Eagles 4

Dewsbury Rams 10, Keighley Cougars 42

Halifax RLFC 50, Toulouse Olympique 6

Leigh Centurions 26, Batley Bulldogs 4

Widnes Vikings 48, Whitehaven 18

Blackpool Panthers 27, York City Knights 14

Doncaster RLFC 38, London Skolars 28

South Wales Scorpions 12, Hunslet Hawks 52

Oldham 16, Workington Town 14

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 Scorpions 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 Scorpions 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

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

South Wales Scorpions v Blackpool Panthers 2.00

Swinton Lions 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 Scorpions 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 Scorpions 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 Scorpions 3.00

Rochdale Hornets v York City Knights 3.00



Liam Finn accepts the accolades of his teammates in Featherstone's Good Friday demolition of Halifax

SATURDAY-SUNDAY 29-30 MAY

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

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

London Skolars 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 Scorpions v Swinton Lions 2.00

Blackpool Panthers v Workington Town 3.00

SATURDAY-SUNDAY, JUNE 19-20

NORTHERN RAIL CUP SEMI-FINALS

SUNDAY, JUNE 20

Oldham v Blackpool Panthers 3.00

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 Scorpions 3.00

SATURDAY, 3 JULY

Barrow Raiders v Leigh Centurions 6.30

Blackpool Panthers v South Wales Scorpions 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

Featherstone Rovers v Leigh Centurions 3.00

Halifax RLFC v Whitehaven 3.00

Widnes Vikings v Dewsbury Rams 3.00

Batley Bulldogs v Barrow Raiders 3.00

Doncaster RL