



## BATH RUGBY **VS** LEEDS TYKES



ZURICH PREMIERSHIP  
SATURDAY 21 FEBRUARY 2004  
KICK-OFF 2.15pm

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THE OFFICIAL MATCHDAY PROGRAMME OF BATH RUGBY

PRICE £2.50





# Bath Rugby

# Leeds Tykes



## LINEUPS

Chris MALONE 15  
Alex CROCKETT 14  
Andrew HIGGINS 13  
Spencer DAVEY 12  
Wylie HUMAN 11

Mike CATT 10  
Martyn WOOD 9

David FLATMAN 1

nathan HUMPHREYS (C) 2

Duncan BELL 3

James HUDSON 4

Rob FIDLER 5

Andy BEATTIE 6

Michael LIPMAN 7

Isaac FEANATI 8

## REPLACEMENTS

Hentie MARTENS 16

Lee MEARS 17

Matt STEVENS 18

Ross BLAKE 19

David BARNES 20

James SCAYSBROOK 21

Scott GRAY 22

## HEAD COACH:

John CONNOLLY



## LINEUPS

15 Matt CARDEY  
14 Dan SCARBROUGH  
13 Phil CHRISTOPHERS  
12 Andre SNYMAN  
11 Diego ALBANESE

10 Gordon ROSS  
9 Alan DICKENS

1 Mike SHELLEY

2 Rob RAWLINSON

3 Gary POWELL

4 Stuart HOOPER

5 Tom PALMER (C)

6 Matt SALTER

7 James PONTON

8 Colm RIGNEY

## REPLACEMENTS

16 Michael CUSACK

17 Matt HOLT

18 Phil MURPHY

19 Scott MORGAN

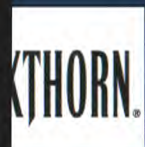
20 Ryan WALKER

21 Duncan HODGE

22 Tristan DAVIES

## DIRECTOR OF RUGBY:

Phil DAVIES



## TODAY'S OFFICIALS

REFEREE David ROSE

TOUCH JUDGES Andy MELROSE & Andrew PEARCE





# Connolly's Thoughts

**With Wasps closing the gap on Bath Rugby at the top of the table, it is now game on in the Zurich Premiership race. Faced with the prospect of having to reshuffle the team due to a flurry of international call-ups, John Connolly has had his work cut out to get a side together to face the Tykes this afternoon.**

**DR: Do you feel that this is the biggest test that you have faced this season?**

JC: There is no doubt that this is a very big game for us. We have had a difficult week with so many players away on international duty, but we are completely focused on the job in hand. Players like James Hudson and Spencer Davey have been presented with their chance to shine today and they will grasp their opportunity with both hands.

**DR: How disruptive have the events of this week been?**

JC: We have been without Steve Borthwick who is banned, Olly Barkley, Iain Balshaw, Danny Grewcock, Kevin Maggs and Simon Danielli, who are all away on international duty, and Martyn Wood, Matt Stevens and David Flatman who have been training with England. Add to this the fact that Mike Tindall, Robbie Fleck, Lee Best and Brendon Daniel are all injured and it is clear to see that it has been really difficult to train this week.

**DR: Spencer has played very little rugby since returning from injury. Did you have to think long and hard before bringing him into the side?**

JC: It is great to have Spencer back and he will have a tremendous opportunity to show what he can do today. He has played some rugby for us in the Zurich A league since returning from his foot injury and he is now match fit. He is desperate to get out there and he feels that he has a point to prove.

**DR: Have you got one eye on Wasps?**

JC: No, not really. We are not going to start looking over our shoulders as we will become unstuck. It is all about what we can control and that is how we perform on the park this afternoon. We know that this afternoon will be a big challenge, but we must win.

**DR: Leeds halted their seven game losing streak in style at Kingston Park last weekend and will have had confidence restored. Assess their challenge.**

JC: They are a very good side and will have taken great confidence from the way in which they came from a long way behind to defeat Newcastle last weekend. Their back line is outstanding and the likes of Christophers, Albanese, Scarborough and Snyman have the ability to cause us some problems.

There is no doubt that they are a lot better side than when we played them at the beginning of the season. They had some injury problems, but are now extremely competitive up front and even without the likes of Regan and Persico they will pose some problems. Tom Palmer is an outstanding lineout forward.

**DR: How important is it for you and the team to get a Rec roar going this afternoon?**

JC: The game should be a sell-out, so I am hoping that the Rec will get behind us once again. I thought that the support against Wasps was tremendous and I guess that we owe the fans a good performance this afternoon.

