





Bath RUGBY



Will GREEN

Bryce WILLIAMS

Malcolm O'KELLY

Cameron JOWITT

Keith GLEESON

Jamie **HEASLIP**

+	Michael STEPHENSON	15	Full Back	15	Girvan DEMPSEY	4
	Andy HIGGINS	14	Right Wing	14	Shane HORGAN	4.
	Tom CHEESEMAN	13	Centre	13	Brian O'DRISCOLL ©	4
	Salesi FINAU	12	Centre	12	Gordon D'ARCY	4
	Frikkie WELSH	11	Left Wing	11	Denis HICKIE	4
+	Olly BARKLEY	10	Fly Half	10	Felipe CONTEPOMI	
	Nick WALSHE	9	Scrum Half	9	Guy EASTERBY	Å.
+	David FLATMAN	1	Prop	1	Reggie CORRIGAN	· A
+	Lee MEARS	2	Hooker	2	Brian BLANEY	

Prop

Lock

Lock

Flanker

Flanker

No 8

	Pieter DIXON
H	Duncan BELL
	Peter SHORT
	James SCAYSBROOK
	James HUDSON
7	Andy WILLIAMS
	Chris MALONE

Matt STEVENS

Andy **BEATTIE**

Gareth DELVE

Michael LIPMAN

Steve BORTHWICK ©

Danny GREWCOCK



16	David BLANEY	
17	Emmett BYRNE	The same
18	Adam BYRNES	
19	Eric MILLER	17
20	Brian O'RIORDAN	
21	Kieran LEWIS	47
22	Rob KEARNEY	

+

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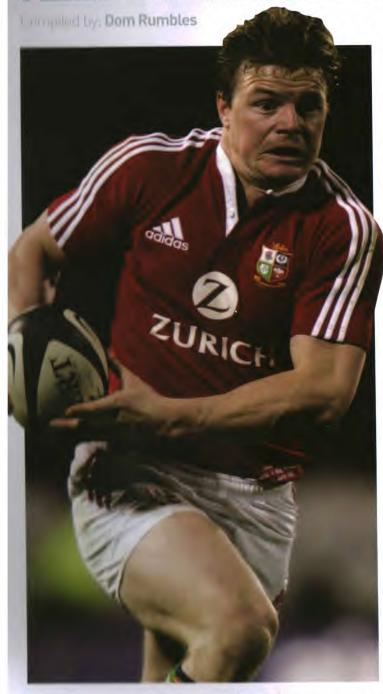








LIONS MUST ROAR TO KEEP THEIR HOPES ALIVE



einster coach Michael
Cheika wants his side
to 'power up' for today's
make or break Heineken
Cup pool five encounter against
pool five leaders Bath Rugby at the
Recreation Ground.

The Australian saw his Lions side run in eight tries in their victory over down and out Glasgow Warriors at the RDS last weekend, but Cheika knows that nothing other than a bonus point win will suffice this afternoon if his side are to stand a chance of securing a best-placed runners-up spot in the last eight of the competition. He also believes that his side will have to take the game to Bath up front if they are to achieve the result that they are looking for.

Speaking after his side's 46-22 rout of Glasgow at the RDS, Cheika said, "If we are going to challenge the bigger teams we're going to have to 'power up'. We did do well, but we've got a lot more to offer, and I hope that we will be doing that next week in Bath."

So Leinster arrive at the Rec this afternoon in a positive frame of mind, and so they should be as it appears that their long list of injury concerns that has blighted their campaign are finally abating. On their day Leinster have the best back line in Europe. Any side that can field the mercurial talents of Felipe Contepomi, Brian O'Driscoll, Dennis Hickie, Gordon D'Arcy, Girvan Dempsey and the precious talent of Rob Kearney in a back line, is going to be a threat.

The key for Leinster will be whether the



forwards can supply such talented backs with a decent supply of ball against what is one of the best lineouts in Europe. Last season at the Rec, Leinster's eight won just six of their twenty-one lineouts and Michael Cheika will be looking for an improved performance from his pack this time around.

Those stats won't worry Chieka though. After all he wasn't the Leinster coach last season and many of the pack that played on that entertaining afternoon at the Rec have moved on to pastures new. This season Leinster have a completely different pack, a younger pack and perhaps a more inexperienced pack. It has taken them time to gel in Europe this season, but their first half performance suggests that the Leinster pack is bang back in form.

Players such as Mal O'Kelly, Eric Miller, Will Green, Reggie Corrigan and Keith Gleeson are big game players and Cheika will be looking to them to nullify Bath's forward impetus this afternoon. Add to that the growing in stature of Jamie Heaslip and Cameron Jowitt and it is clear that Leinster have a powerful forward platform.

The Irish press focused this week on Leinster's need to 'win ugly' if they are to beat Brian Ashton's men this afternoon, but perhaps such media did not see Bath's fluid second half performance at le Stade Pierre Rajon. Yes, an open game will suit Leinster as they go in search of the try bonus point that may be required to guide their

passage through to the quarter-finals, but Bath too are now comfortable playing such a game.

On thing is fore sure – this will not be a game for the feint-hearted. Leinster will throw absolutely everything at Bath this afternoon. They simply have to give it a lash. Bath on the other hand, would dearly love to progress through the quarterfinals as top seeds and a home draw. Prepare for a battle royal!



THECAPTAIN

Brian O'Driscoll

Ireland's enigmatic captain scored a brace of tries in Leinster's 46-22 victory over Glasgow Warriors at the RDS last weekend to show that he is back in form ahead of the RBS Six Nations Championship.

The centre made his long awaited return from 'that spear tackle' that ended his Lions tour just a few moments into the first test when he started against Ulster at Ravenhill over the Christmas period. Whilst supporters and media alike turned out en masse to watch the star in action, it was a rather low-key return for the influential player.

O'Driscoll is the talisman of this Leinster side and plays extremely well alongside Felipe Contepomi and Gordon D'Arcy in a mouth-watering back lill It is no coincidence that in the centre's absence Leinster have struggled to repeat their excellent form of last season. However, we should not expect to much of this player too soon. The immediate target maybe to get some gar under his belt, but O'Driscoll is a competitive animal, who hates losing.

With nothing other than victory required to give Leinster the chance to progress through to the quarter-finals as best placed runners-up, expect the O'Driscoll factor to be influential in this match this afternoon.