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TOBY BOOTH'S WELCOME

The win against Edinburgh was the first step for the new Ospreys, and Ulster at the Liberty Stadium is the next step on the journey of us becoming the team we want to become.

Ulster, just like Edinburgh, are a very, very good side and this is another opportunity for us to challenge ourselves against a leading team in the Guinness PRO14.

They have been a team regularly in the mix for the play-offs for a number of years and nobody can question they have been one of the top teams in the competition. So this will be another real challenge and benchmark to see where we are as a team and how far we have come after 10 or more weeks working together.

Everybody knows the challenge of a really good team is being consistent and backing up performance week-in and week-out. Edinburgh and Ulster have both been consistently good teams in the PRO14.

That is the challenge we have set for ourselves to produce a consistent level of performance.

We took a good step down the road against Edinburgh but let's not be under any illusions - this is going to be a long road. A team finds out about itself when it comes under pressure and is tested.

We know Ulster will come here determined to put us under real pressure and to test our belief in ourselves and in what we are trying to do as group.

We had to overcome some pretty tough conditions last weekend and we were delighted with the performance against a very good Edinburgh side in Scotland.

It was important to cement some of the detail we have been working on in pre-season at St Helen's and it was good to get a result away from home against a really good team. It was a good benchmark for us to see how much we could transfer from the training field into a game. Everybody rolled their sleeves up in what were atrocious conditions.

We knew it wasn't going to be pretty and it was all about winning the arm wrestle. We are demanding a level of effort about the unseen work

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during a game and we saw that from everybody in Scotland. Add some quality and some high-profile moments, with some players still learning their trade, and everybody delivered for us.

We squeezed and squeezed during the game and I'm not sure people really realise how poor the conditions were against Edinburgh, but we did exceptionally well and found a way to win.

That will be beneficial to us when the internationals come along in the autumn - and we have some young players who had some big moments and now some real experience under the belt ahead of that period. The encouraging thing is for a team that was inconsistent last season, the first thing Justin Tipuric, our captain, said to me was that he was disappointed we didn't get a bonus point against Edinburgh.

That really shows the attitude of this group of players. It shows the players are hungry to improve, and to work hard. It's what we want as coaches.

All of the players have worked really hard in the ten weeks we have been together and we didn't show the very

best of ourselves in Murrayfield, and sometimes you have to win ugly, but we did that against an exceptionally good Edinburgh side.

It was a good test for us, and I was really pleased with the performance and the attitude on show. We have many things to improve on and lots of things we need to keep embedding, but it was a step in the right direction.

There is more to come from this group of players, but nothing gives you energy to keep improving like winning.

**Toby Booth,
Head Coach.**



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WELCOME
TO THE GUINNESS PRO14 SEASON 2020/21



I am privileged to welcome you to an exciting new season of the GUINNESS PRO14 Championship. We are a proud and committed partner of this competition and GUINNESS as a brand strongly identifies with the power, strength and communion which underpins the sport of Rugby. We look forward to an exciting season coming off the back of last year's sensational offering.

Last season was another thrilling season of epic tackles, running rugby and history-making tries that culminated with Leinster Rugby defeating Ulster Rugby in an exciting Final in the Aviva Stadium.

It goes without saying that 2020 has been a year unlike any other, one that none of us could have predicted and one that continues to challenge us all daily. Over the course of the year, the absence of sport left a gap in so many people's lives. The return of rugby has been so welcome, as we reignite our passion and a hope for the future when we will all be able to be together again in the stands.

We are delighted that fans of the GUINNESS PRO14 will be able to continue to watch all 152 matches played live with our broadcast partners and are looking forward to the introduction of Monday night rugby into the GUINNESS PRO14 schedule.

Finally, we are so proud to stand shoulder to shoulder with a competition that continues to grow so fearlessly. We savour the memories and wait excitedly for the feats of the future to make themselves known.

Mark Sandys
Global Head of Beer | Diageo



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YOUR COMMENTS

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Great start to the season for the @ospreys and not just the win but the performance 🙌🙌🙌. @Boothy6 certainly has made a big impact 👍

 Paul James (ASSEY) ✓
@Paul_James1

Great win on the Rd @ospreys 🙌🙌

 Katherine Hewlett @buffill · Oct 3

Replying to @ospreys and @EdinburghRugby
No words boys!!! Hope you all enjoy this wonderful winning feeling. You have made us so proud. So well played all of you. Just brilliant ❤️🙌🙌🙌
👍 #OspreysOnTheHunt #MyBloodIsBlack

🗨️ ↻️ ❤️ 8 📤

 Shane Williams ✓
@ShaneWilliams11

Hello @ospreys It's good to see you again!!! 🔥

 Jon Lewis @jlew28 · Oct 3
Replying to @ospreys
Great win! Superb start to the season!

🗨️ ↻️ ❤️ 5

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That amazing shirt made a difference



 Ospreys Supporters
@OspreysSC

What a tremendous way to start the season! Great win on the road, against a very good side. Well played @ospreys !! #OspreysOnTheHunt

NOSWAITH DDA A CHROESO CYNNES IAWN I BAWB!

Hoffai Clwb Cefnogwyr y Gweilch croesawu Ulster a'u chefnogwyr at Stadiwm y Liberty heddiw. Mwynhewch y gêm.

Good evening and a very warm welcome to all. The Ospreys Supporters Club would like to welcome Ulster and their supporters to the Liberty Stadium this evening.

CROESO CYNNES IAWN I CHI!! Enjoy the match!

DECHREUAD TYMOR NEWYDD THE START OF A NEW SEASON

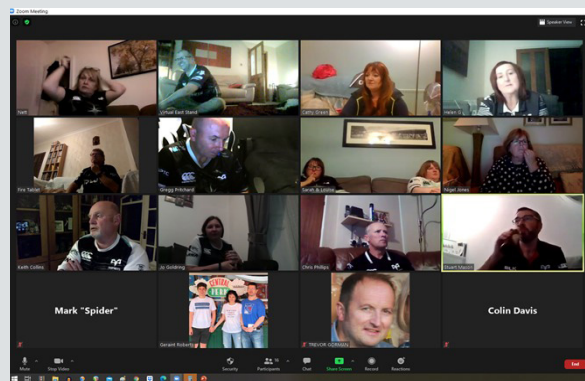
The start of the 2020-2021 season finds us back at the Liberty Stadium, in spirit, if not in body.

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These difficult times continue to cause problems in all aspects of life and rugby is certainly no exception. Last week the Ospreys travelled to Edinburgh and secured a great victory against a much fancied home team. All credit to everyone involved, we were certainly worthy of our victory!

As we were unable to attend in person, the Supporters Club took to Zoom and did the next best thing, by organising a, "Virtual East Stand!" The event was well attended and certainly generated plenty of sound and enthusiastic support! We plan to repeat this venture, including this weekend's game, so keep your eyes peeled on OSC media, for further details!



OSC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING CYFARFOD BLYNYDDOL CCG

Once again, it was necessary to hold this event virtually, but the event passed successfully. There were two vacant committee places available and these have now been filled by Cathy Green (previously co-opted) and Annette Thomas. A very warm welcome to you both!

A change to our constitution was passed, allowing for the creation of a new officer's post in media and communications. We view this post as being fundamentally important in our efforts to develop the OSC and to communicate with and involve as many supporters as possible as part of this process! Cathy Green has since assumed this responsibility.

Q & A WITH THE COACHES

Once again Zoom facilitated this event, with Toby and Brock providing

some candid and fascinating responses to a range of probing questions! We would like to extend our thanks to the coaches, Paul Whapham, who acted as compare and to all the supporters who joined us that evening!



SEREN YN Y DYFODOL FUTURE STARS

Ifan's family, who are massive supporters and travel widely to support the team. Catrin, Ifan's mother's written about his rugby story!

Ifan's early experiences of rugby were with Ysgol Cymraeg Castell-nedd who had a successful record in the WRU Schools competition. In 2015

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they once again reached the Final at the Millennium Stadium. Ifan had the pleasure of scoring a long distance try but unfortunately, they ended up losing.

He then went on to play for Pontrhydyfen and Cwmafan in several district finals and also represented YG Ystalyfera. He is currently preparing and looking forward to his first season of youth rugby with Cwmafan RFC. He usually plays full back or wing and he's also a useful goal kicker.

In addition to rugby, he loves playing cricket and, in the past, has had a couple of seasons of athletics and football. He has travelled well to watch the Ospreys, in France, Ireland, Scotland and England – but the trip that stays in the mind and by far his favourite is Toulon!

Mae profiadau rygbi cynnar Ifan yn cynnwys chwarae mewn gêm derfynol ar dir cysegredig Stadiwm y Mileniwm yng nghystadleuaeth Ysgolion Undeb Rygbi Cymru dros Ysgol Gymraeg Castell-nedd yn 2015. Uchafbwynt y gêm iddo oedd sgorio cais dda iawn, ond yn anffodus colli'r gêm wnaethant. Fe aeth ymlaen i chwarae mewn sawl gêm terfynol dros Pontrhydyfen, Cwmafan ac hefyd wedi cynrychioli Ysgol Gyfun Ystalyfera. Mae ar hyn o bryd yn paratoi ac yn edrych ymlaen i



ddechrau ar ei dymor cyntaf yn nhîm leuenctid Cwmafan. Fel arfer, mae'n chwarae ar yr asgell neu fel cefnwr, ac mae'n eitha da yn cicio hefyd. Yn ogystal â rygbi, mae'n hoff o chwarae criced ac yn y gorffennol athletau a phêldroed. Mae wedi teithio'n dda i weld y Gweilch yn chwarae – Ffrainc, Iwerddon, Yr Alban, Lloegr – ond yr hoff daith sydd yn aros yn y cof yw Toulon!

Keith Collins. Ysg. CCG./ OSC Sec.

COME ON OSPREYS!

DEWCH
MLAEN Y
GWEILCH!

ENJOY THE GAME!

MWYNHEWCH
Y GÊM HENO!

Q & A WITH **DEWI LAKE**

1) HOW GOOD IS IT TO BE FINALLY PLAYING RUGBY AGAIN AND TO FINALLY HAVE STARTED THE NEW SEASON?

It's always exciting going into a new season, especially this year more than ever, we have a new group of boys, new coaching staff and we are looking to right the wrongs of the previous season. I think we have a good opportunity to look ahead and do what we have to do for the future.

2) YOU MADE YOUR OSPREYS DEBUT DURING A DIFFICULT SEASON, WHAT IS THE MOOD LIKE AT ST HELEN'S?

At the end of any season, you have to draw a line in the sand. With the new group of coaches coming in it feels like a clean slate and we go again. We can look forward to the future and what we can bring to the Ospreys.

3) WHAT KIND OF IMPACT HAS THE NEW OSPREYS HEAD COACH TOBY BOOTH MADE?

He has been great coming in. Welsh rugby has been very defence-based during the last couple of years, but Toby is bringing that element of attack

back, especially for us, and we are looking to play more and attack, rather than play off the back foot. For us, that is a change and it is something that is exciting for us going forward.

4) WHAT ARE YOUR PERSONAL GOALS WITH THE OSPREYS FOR THE NEW SEASON?

Any young player will tell you it's great when you get the opportunity to play, but there is also the development that goes on behind closed doors. With the coaching staff we have here, they really do a lot to instill confidence in a young player. But you know whenever they give you an opportunity, it's something that you have earned. Hopefully, I will get some opportunities this year and really push on and show what I can do but also what I can do for the team.

5) LAST SEASON YOU WERE CALLED UP TO TRAIN WITH WALES FOR THE SIX NATIONS, WHAT ARE YOUR AMBITIONS FOR THE NEW SEASON?

You can never look too far ahead. My goal is to get game-time with the Ospreys. It's about helping the Ospreys get to where we want to be at the end of the season. It's about working to the common goal we have as a squad and as a club. Our focus has to remain on that and anything else after that is great, but my focus is on here and now and getting more opportunity with the Ospreys.

6) LIKE A FEW OF THE OSPREYS PLAYERS YOU DID SOME IMPRESSIVE WORK IN YOUR COMMUNITY DURING LOCKDOWN?

A couple of us through Lloyd Ashley, got in touch with a community centre in Kenfig Hill, which usually host food rallies, and we delivered food to locals in Kenfig Hill. Anytime you get a chance or opportunity to get out in the community and give back to those who have supported you throughout your career and continue to support you is important, especially through the times of lockdown and it was very rewarding for all of us to share stories with locals.

7) HOW MUCH DID YOU MISS RUGBY DURING LOCKDOWN?

It's tough to say, but when you are a young man and you are working hard to get an opportunity to play, and you cannot control that. I am just happy to be back to some normality and back playing rugby.

Dewi Lake, Hooker.





WHY IT MATTERS

ASHTON HEWITT | DRAGONS

When you decide to speak out on a sensitive topic, there is often a fear of how what you say will be received by both people you do and do not know.

Whilst it's not always easy to be confronted with opinions you do not agree with, as well as the overwhelming abuse dished out by Twitter trolls, I'm pleased to be able to say that the positivity that has come as a result of speaking out about racism outweighs the negativity.

You may know me as a Dragons rugby player and, more recently, you may have seen conversations around racism that I have been encouraging on social media. Being a 25-year-old, mixed-race man, born and raised in Newport, with both Welsh and Jamaican heritage, you can imagine that the topic of racism is something that I am extremely passionate about. This passion was amplified by the Black Lives Matter movement and the recent peaceful protests that took place across the world.

I'd like to take this opportunity to explain what 'black lives matter' means to me. It is a simple statement, calling for black people to be treated equally and for the social problem that is racism to be solved. Therefore, when myself, family, friends or teammates stand (or kneel) in support of black lives matter, it is the movement and not the organisation that is being supported. I support the movement because there are many people in my life that I care about who have far too often been victims of racism and knowing how it feels, it is something that has to be addressed.

From a young age, I have experienced racism on the street and in sport. This has come as a shock to many of the people in the rugby community that I have had conversations with on this topic - with many of them not expecting a player such as myself to be faced with racism. Even in the rugby environment, hearing racist nicknames and stereotypical jokes would make me feel isolated and unable to be myself in a space that I should be completely comfortable in. Some incidents occurred more when I was younger, but

it never goes away entirely and that is what's jarred most with people I speak to.

Whether it be monkey chants targeted at me from the side-lines whilst I played as a child, to being stopped and searched countless times. These conversations often consist of them being able to count the number of encounters they've had with the police on one hand (or finger) and that they couldn't even imagine being stopped and searched whilst walking their dog!

This is one of the main positives that came as a result of speaking out. It encouraged these conversations that otherwise probably wouldn't have happened, and helped others understand my experiences and how racism, in all of its different forms, has made me feel.

I'm proud to say that these conversations have led to more positivity, with team-

“ If everybody just asked questions and gave a little time to learn a bit more about the issues then you can help educate others and encourage change.

mates calling and texting to find out more and gain greater understanding of the deep-rooted social issue that they now recognise. Also, it's not only players that have been supportive of everything I have been doing. I have to thank the Dragons as a club for the way they have supported me over the last few months. From David Buttress (our Chairman) to Dean Ryan (Director of Rugby) and James Chapron (General Manager), who have all been great in supporting me and allowing me to be myself. I know that this is not the case at every other organisation and in every other sector - with black people often concerned that they will face consequences for being so vocal on such a topic.

I also have to extend my thanks to the community team at the Dragons, who I

know are coming up with ways to actively improve inclusivity and diversity at the grassroots level by trying to engage with more black and minority children.

Furthermore, I can't express how encouraging the support from fans has been. It has truly shown how great the game of rugby is, with it not only being Dragons fans sending me positive messages and shutting down the trolls of Twitter in my defence, but rugby fans from all over (although some have wished for a bad performance when playing their team!).

I'd also like to shed light on, and thank, Positive Futures for all of the work that they do within my community. Myself and team-mate Leon Brown (you know, the rather large tight head that enjoys finishing 30m tries) are proud ambassadors of the organisation that works with young people from disadvantaged backgrounds, trying to combine sport and education with rugby often being used to develop core values and encourage inclusivity. With racism and discrimination often being an issue that the young people they work with face in their day-to-day lives, Positive Futures actively do what they can to tackle the issue.

I'd like to finish by saying that I don't expect everybody to agree with absolutely everything that I say and I can't force anybody to do so. But I'd like to think that most would agree to taking a stand against racism. I'd really love, and appreciate, if everybody just asked questions and gave a little time to learn a bit more about the issues and the ways in which they can be tackled. If you do, then please educate others - that is what is going to help others not to feel isolated because of their skin colour, wherever it may be - and encourage change.

Thank you for reading.

Ashton



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SAITH GWALCH YNG NGHARFAN CYMRU

Mae Wayne Pivac wedi enwi ei garfan o flaen ymgyrch ryngwladol yr Hydref, ac yn eu plith mae saith o chwaraewyr di gap, gan gynnwys bachwr y Gweilch, Sam Parry.

Yn y rheng flaen, mae Nicky Smith, yn wreiddiol o Waunarlwydd, yn ymuno â Rhys Carré o'r Gleision ac Wyn Jones o'r Scarlets. Mae dau fachwr wedi eu dewis o garfan y Scarlets, Ken Owens a Ryan Elias, ond yn gobeithio ennill ei gap cyntaf bydd Sam Parry, bachwr eithriadol y Gweilch. Yn ei chwe thymor yn y Liberty, llwyddodd Parry dorri record y rhanbarth gan ddod y blaenwr cyntaf erioed y Gweilch i sgorio tri chais mewn gêm yn ôl yn 2018.



Blwyddyn yn ddiweddarach, croesodd Parry'r gwyngalch tair gwaith mewn gêm unwaith eto, gan ddod yr unig flaenwr yn hanes y bencampwriaeth i wneud hynny.

Mae pedwar prop pen-tyn yng ngharfan Pivac, gyda Samson Lee, Dillon Lewis, a Leon Brown o'r Scarlets, y Gleision, a'r Dreigiau, yn y drefn honno, a Tomas Francis yn dod i mewn o'r Exeter Chiefs.

Ymhlith y pump ail reng wedi eu henwi, mae'r capten bytholwyrdd Alun Wyn Jones o'r Gweilch yno wrth gwrs, gyda Will Rowlands o Wasps, Jake Ball o'r Scarlets, a Seb Davies a Cory Hill y ddau o'r brifddinas.

Yn y rheng ôl, gwelwn gapten y Gweilch Justin Tipuric wedi ei enwi, gyda Aaron Wainwright a Ross Moriarty yn ei ymuno o'r Dreigiau. Mae Taulupe Faletau yn dychwelyd i Gymru o'i garfan yng Nghaerfaddon, tra mae Josh Navidi sy'n cynrychioli'r Gleision. Yn awchu i ennill ei gap cyntaf bydd Josh Macleod o'r Scarlets, sydd â'r gallu i chwarae ar hyd y rheng ôl.

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Does dim syndod gweld Rhys Webb yn dadlau i gychwyn yr ymgyrch ar y cae fel mewnwr yn dilyn ei berfformiadau diweddar dros y Gweilch, tra bod Gareth Davies a Kieran Hardy yn edrych yn sionc ym Mharc y Scarlets hefyd. Yng nghynt o'r Gweilch, mae Dan Biggar o Northampton wedi ei enwi fel un o'r tri o faswyr yn y garfan, gyda Rhys Patchell o'r Scarlets a Callum Sheedy o Fryste hefyd yn brwydro am y crys.

Mae'r gystadleuaeth am grysau'r canolwyr yn un ffyrnig. Mae Owen Watkin wedi bod yn rhagorol dros Gymru a'r Gweilch, tra bod Nick Tompkins yn barod wedi gwneud argraff yn ystod ei amser byr â'r Dreigiau. Ar draws y Lluchwr, mae Johnny Williams wedi dal y llygad yng nghanol cae â'i rhedeg nerthol, ac mae Jonathan Davies wedi dychwelyd



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o'i anaf er rhyddhad i gefnogwyr Cymru a'r Scarlets.

Mae digon o gyflymder tu ôl y pac, gyda antics George North a Josh Adams yng Nghwpan Rygbi'r Byd dal yng nghof cefnogwyr rygbi Cymru. Fodd bynnag, bydd pawb yn gobeithio am gyfle i weld Louis Rees-Zammit yng nghrys coch Cymru, a bydd croeso mawr yn ôl i Jonah Holmes.

Cymysg o brofiad ac ieuencid sydd yn safle'r cefnwr, gyda Leigh Halfpenny yn chwarae rygbi rhagorol dros y Scarlets, a Liam Williams yn dychwelyd o'r Saraseniaid; ond hefyd bydd llawer o ddiddordeb yn loan Lloyd, hefyd o Fryste.

Bydd Cymru yn chwarae ei gêm gyntaf yn erbyn Ffrainc nos Sadwrn 24 Hydref, tua hanner awr ar ôl y chwiban olaf gêm y Gweilch wrth iddyn nhw groesawu Rhyfelwyr Glasgow i'r Liberty.





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WATKIN TARGETS NEW LEADERSHIP ROLE WITH THE OSPREYS

IT'S HARD to believe Owen Watkin is still only 23. The Ospreys centre is a Grand Slam winner and was member of the Wales squad that reached the Rugby World Cup semi-finals in Japan.

Watkin is an Osprey through and through and has emerged as a key player at the Liberty Stadium.

He came through the Ospreys system, made his debut at 18 in 2015 and is now very much a mainstay of the side.

When Toby Booth, the Ospreys new Head Coach, talks about building a side around young homegrown talent, Watkin is one of the players who comes to mind.

Watkin has already set himself the goal of taking on more of a leadership role with the Ospreys over the coming campaign. "Even though I am still only 23, I have been with the Ospreys for a while and have 20-something

Wales caps," said Watkin. "I have a bit of experience under my belt and from an Ospreys perspective, it's a chance for me to take more of a leadership role."

"It's about being one of those players other players can come to and learn off. I know my game is still not fully defined and I have a lot to work on but I want to be one of the players that others can come to. I want to be a leader on and off the field.

"In the moment you don't realize how special and big those achievements are, but I don't think you can hang your hat on them. It's a good memory and something I am proud of, but every player wants to achieve everything they can in rugby."

The Bridgend-born Watkin has been with the Ospreys since he was 16 and extended his stay with his home region by signing a three-year contract last season.

He is now an established Osprey with a burgeoning Test career ahead of him. Watkin's display in the victory over Edinburgh in Scotland last weekend underlined his status as a key player for the side. "I want to play for the Ospreys week-in, week-out and I have aspirations with Wales and I feel I have a lot more to offer rugby-wise," said Watkin. "I have had some stops-starts with injuries but

hopefully this is the year I don't have any niggles and I can keep performing. That means I will put my hand up for all those things."

While the Covid-19 Pandemic may have dominated the headlines for most of the summer, it has seen a period of change at the Ospreys, with Toby Booth, the new Head Coach, taking charge.

Booth has drafted in Brock James as his Attack Coach and there has been a move to a temporary training base at St Helen's due to the Llandarcy Academy of Sport being used by NHS Wales as a field hospital.

Watkin has relished the change of coaches and the change of environment and embraced the new challenges and questions asked of him ahead of him of the new campaign.

"The last three months we have really worked hard in training and it's been really intense and we have put some real mileage under our belts," said Watkin. "The coaches have prepared us well and we are ready for the league. We worked really hard over the summer and we couldn't have done more than we have."

Any regular Osprey supporter or regular rugby watcher knows all about Watkin's talent and ability, but

sometimes his outstanding work rate and commitment to do the unseen work is missed. Wayne Pivac, the Wales coach, named Watkin as one of four centres in his 38-man squad for the final game of the 2020 Six Nations against Scotland and the inaugural Autumn Nations Cup.

Watkin, though, is focused on his role with the Ospreys and tonight's Guinness PRO14 fixture with



Ulster at the Liberty. He knows his performances with for the region are key to all his Test ambitions. "I want to do the best I can for the team and my main focus is the Ospreys," said Watkin. "If I am fortunate enough to get picked for Wales I will be really pleased, but it's about performing to the best of my ability for the team here."

“Last season was a disappointing season, with the World Cup, injuries and it just wasn't consistent at all, but now we have a new coaching staff and everyone is on the same page. “It's a fresh start, a fresh coaching team and everything is fresh for us now.”

Owen Watkin, Centre.



28



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GROUND: Kingspan Stadium

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CAPTAIN: Iain Henderson

TOP TRY SCORER: Craig Gilroy

FORM GUIDE V OSPREYS: W W W W L

LAST TIME OUT

Ospreys 26-24 Ulster

The last time Ulster travelled to the Liberty, they left with nothing but a losing bonus point. Robert Balacoune crossed the try line first for Ulster, but Owen Watkin and Scott Otten replied with a try each to secure a half-time lead.

Otten claimed his second of the evening after the restart, but Ulster rallied and crossed the whitewash twice through Matt Faddes and Stuart McCloskey to gain the lead with just five minutes left to play. However, a long-range effort from Luke Price in the pouring rain nudged the Ospreys back into the lead; and when Bill Johnson took aim at the posts for a drop goal effort, a charge down snuffed out the threat and Ospreys saw out the game to claim victory.

THREE TO WATCH

Stewart Moore

At just 21 years of age, Moore is a product of the Ulster Academy and Ireland U20s, and is a versatile centre with evasive feet and plenty of pace. Highly regarded by the Ulstermen, Moore has a promising career ahead of him and impressed the coaches on his debut against Leinster in December last year. Moore lined up at inside centre last week against Benetton and claimed his first try of the season after just 11 minutes.



Jacob Stockdale

AKA the Lisburn Lomu, Stockdale plays at both wing and fullback for Ulster and Ireland. The Ulsterman has racked up 20 tries for his province in 67 appearances, and 10 tries in 13 international appearances. This

record includes seven tries in four games during the 2018 Six Nations, a championship record as well as helping his country to the Grand Slam. An astonishing statistic and a formidable strike rate, especially considering the man is only 24.



Marcell Coetzee

Born in Potchefstroom, South Africa, the 6ft 4in, 18 stone wing forward started his career as a teenager with Natal Sharks almost a decade ago in 2011, catching the eye of the Springboks coaches and making his international debut a year later. Coetzee is an abrasive back-row forward with a knack for offloading out of the tackle and punishing, territory gaining charges. Coetzee got his season off to a great start last week, with a second half try against Benetton.



32

HEAD-TO-HEAD

RHYS WEBB

If it's class and experience you're after, you needn't look much further than Bridgend born Rhys Webb. A silky passer who excels at spotting attacking opportunities; Webb too was awarded the Player of the Match award on his 2020-21 season debut, sparking the counterattack that led to his side's second try against Edinburgh. He also has a pinpoint accurate box kick which is often utilised to keep the opposition on the backfoot, or pinned in the corner. The British and Irish Lion is relishing the return to his home region, having spent two seasons with RC Toulon.

JOHN COONEY

The fiery scrumhalf has played for three of the four Irish provinces, making his debut for Leinster against the Ospreys in 2011 at the Liberty Stadium, losing 27-3. Cooney joined Connacht on loan, before signing a contract with them for a season in 2015/16, and helped them win the title, coming on in the 60th minute in the 2016 Pro12 Grand Final. The 30-year-old Irish international switched to Ulster in 2017 and went on to win Ulster Player of the Year,

Supporters Club Player of the Year, and the Rugby Writers' Player of the Year in his first season in Belfast. He's picked up where he left off

with a stunning Player of the Match performance against Benetton last week, playing a crucial role in two of the Ulstermen's tries.

RHYS WEBB



31

Bridgend

6ft 0in

14st 9lbs

155

195

35

40

JOHN COONEY



30

Dublin

5ft 10in

13st 9lbs

131

668

11

7

AGE

PLACE OF BIRTH

HEIGHT

WEIGHT

LEAGUE APPEARANCES

LEAGUE POINTS

INTERNATIONAL APPEARANCES

INTERNATIONAL POINTS

33

ULSTER IN NUMB3R5

2ND Position in Conference A	35 Points Scored (Joint 1 st)	14 Offloads (1 st)
22 Defenders Beaten (3 rd)	5 Tries Scored (Joint 1 st)	386 Metres Gained (4 th)
13 Clean Breaks (3 rd)	223 Tackles Made (1 st)	7 Turnovers Won (4 th)
5 Turnovers Lost (12 th)	88% Tackle Success (7 th)	27 Total Tackles Missed (2 nd)
0/0 Penalties Scored/ Missed (10 th)	647 Kick Metres (6 th)	24 Kick From Hand (5 th)
1 Tries from Kicks (1 st)	1 Yellow Cards	0 Red Cards
9 Penalties Conceded	5/0 Scrum Won/ Lost (5 th)	
	34	

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BYDDIN OZZIE

OZZIE'S ARMY

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Yn anffodus, bydd neb i'n cefnogi yn yr eisteddle; ond rydym ni'n gwybod eich bo' chi'n cefnogi o gartref. Cofiwch i floeddio'n uchel pan welwch chi'r bois yn dod i'r cae, a phob tro bydden nhw'n sgorio pwynt!

Tra'ch bo' chi'n aros am y gêm i gychwyn, pam na rhowch chi gynnic ar y posau isod?

Well it's finally here, the 2020/21 season has started and the Ospreys are off to a positive start. They beat Edinburgh last weekend in the pouring rain at BT Murrayfield, and this week they'll go toe-to-toe with Ulster at the Liberty Stadium.

Unfortunately, there'll be nobody in the stands for this game; but we know you're supporting from back home. Remember to cheer loudly when you see the boys run out onto the field, and for every point they score!

While you're waiting for the game to start, why not have a go at some of the puzzles below?

POSAU

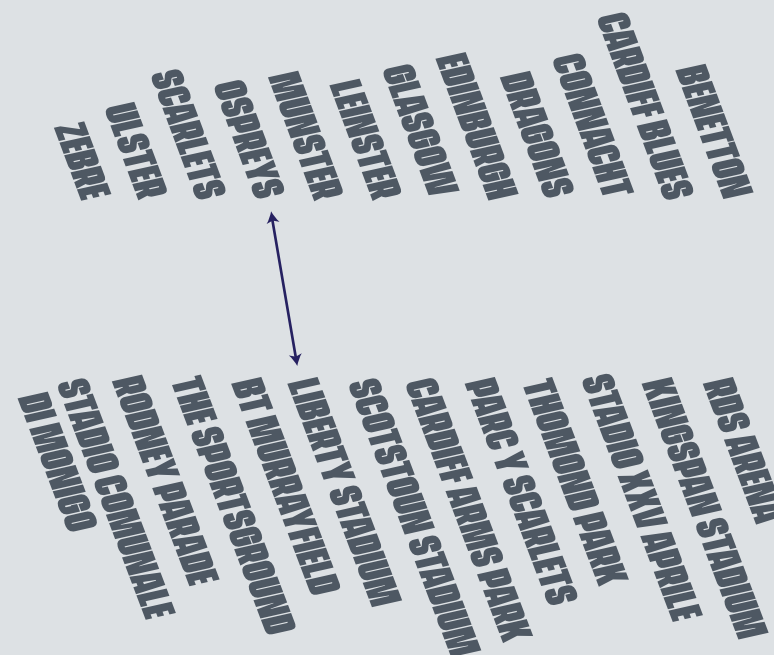
PUZZLES

Whose names have we scrambled here?

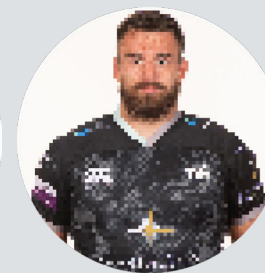
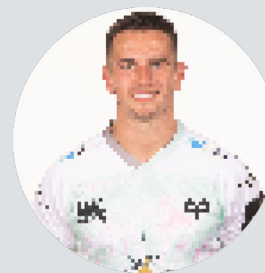
- | | |
|----------------------|------------------|
| 1. photometer wreath | 3. hermes plenty |
| 2. bob toothy | 4. hicks minty |
| | 5. harming roar |

Fedrwch chi paru'r tim gyda'r stadiwm cywir? Mae'r cyntaf wedi ei wneud yn barod.

Can you pair up the rugby team with the correct playing grounds? The first one has been done for you.



Fedrwch chi adnabod y tri chwaraewr yma? Can you identify these three players?





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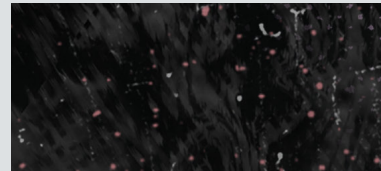
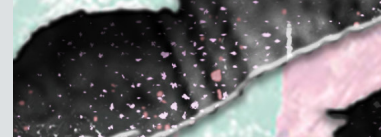
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TEAM LINEUP



1

N. SMITH



2

S. PARRY



3

T. BOTHA



4

A. BEARD



5

A.W. JONES



6

D. CRACKNELL



8

M. MORRIS



7 ^C

J. TIPURIC



9

R. WEBB



10

S. MYLER



12

K. WILLIAMS



13

O. WATKIN



11

L. MORGAN



15

D. EVANS



14

M. PROTHEROE

SUBSTITUTIONS



16

D. LAKE



17

R. JONES



18

M. FIA



19

B. DAVIES



20

D. LYDIATE



21

H. MORGAN



22

J. THOMAS



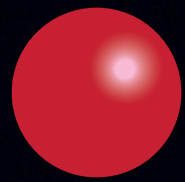
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T. THOMAS-WHEELER



HEAD
COACH

TOBY BOOTH



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20/21 FIXTURES

OCT. 2020

10 **WIN** 25
EDINBURGH  VS  **OSPREYS**
PREMIER SPORTS

SAT. 10 OCT. 20
OSPREYS  17:15  **ULSTER**
PREMIER SPORTS 

SAT. 24 OCT. 20
OSPREYS  17:30  **GLASGOW**
PREMIER SPORTS

NOV. 2020

MON. 2 NOV. 20
ZEBRE  19:15  **OSPREYS**
DAZN PREMIER SPORTS

SUN. 8 NOV. 20
OSPREYS  15:00  **LEINSTER**
PREMIER SPORTS TG4

SUN. 15 NOV. 20
MUNSTER  14:45  **OSPREYS**
PREMIER SPORTS S4C 

SUN. 22 NOV. 20

OSPREYS  15:00  **BENETTON**
DAZN PREMIER SPORTS

SAT. 28 NOV. 20

CONNACHT  19:35  **OSPREYS**
TG4 PREMIER SPORTS 

DEC. 2020

26/27 DEC. 20

OSPREYS  TBC  **SCARLETS**

JAN. 2021

2/3 JAN. 21

CARDIFF BLUES  TBC  **OSPREYS**

9/10 JAN. 21

DRAGONS  TBC  **OSPREYS**

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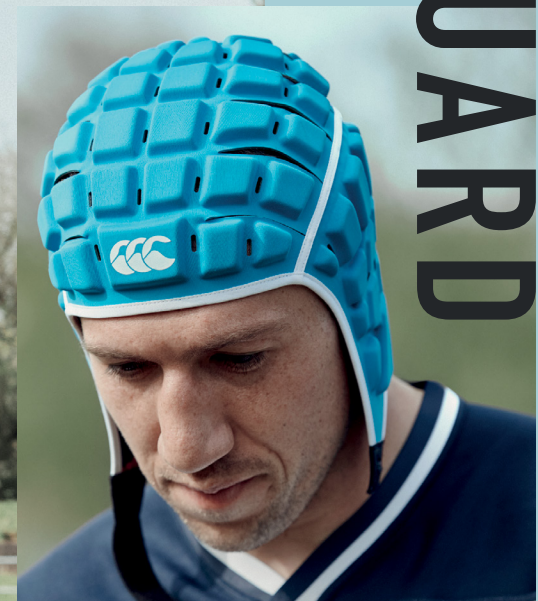
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