



Bournemouth RFC
Bournemouth Lions are sponsored by Wood of Bournemouth, BMW Dealers
Season 2009/2010
The English Clubs Rugby Union Championship
National 3 South-West
Reading 31 v 58 Bournemouth Lions
Now there's one for the record books!



Saturday 27 February 2010, KO 2.30 p.m. at Holme Park.

Result: Reading 31/5t3c v 58/8t6c2p Bournemouth.

Half-time: 0 v 43/6t5cp.

Referee: Douglas Neagle, Hampshire Society.

Referee Adviser: Jim Firth, Hampshire Society.

Touch Judges: Steve Buffery, Bournemouth;

Peter Chidgey, Reading.

Bournemouth Team: 15: Karim Lynch/2t; 14: Rory Hearson/t;

13: 'Eddie' Edwards/t (Ben Stewart 58);

12: James Payne (Anthony Dunkerley 63); 11: Mike Pope/2t6c2p;

10: 'Puks' Ngapaku; 9: Scott Chislett;

1: Jo Burns (Tim Wareham 54); 2: Fraser Wilford/t;

3: Alan Manning/C/; 4: Tomas Ford (Jo Burns 54); 5: Tim Collier;

6: Peter Armstrong (Tomas Ford 54);

7: Anthony Dunkerley (Neil Stanton-Ketchley 63);

8: Chris Hughes/t.

Coaches: David Dunn, Junior Paramore.

Sports Therapists: Ellette Lemprière and Katie Butler.

Tries 8: Lynch/15/ 2 (5 15), Wilford/2/ (19), Hearson/14/ (22),

Edwards/13/ (24), Pope 2 (26 45), Hughes (65).

Cons 6: Pope 6 (6 15 22 24 26 45). **Pens 2:** Pope 2 (40 54).

Milestones: Highest score against Reading. Mike Pope records a total of 53 points in two successive matches. Anthony Dunkerley plays in his 50th league match. Jo Burns starts his 50th match in all games. Tomas Ford starts his 25th match in all games. Mike Pope passes 150 (159) points in league matches this season.

Reading: 15: Nick Brooks; 14: Sean Lynch/2t; 13: Mosese Matau;

12: Oliver Smith (Samisoni Speight/2t 52);

11: Draunibaku Qasevakati/t; 10: Shaun Brown/3c;

9: Thomas Goodhew; 1: Graham Harvey; 2: Jonathan Cranton;

3: Andrew Grierson (Richard Bellingham 50); 4: Matthew Davies;

5: Joeli Uluikede; 6: Adam Veale (Vuniani Cavuilati 58);

7: Daniel Phillips; 8: Scott Heirene.

Scoring Sequence: 6m: 7-0 Lynch/15/t, Pope/11/c;

15m: 14-0 Lynch/15/t, Pope/11/c; 19m: 19-0 Wilford/2/t;

22m: 26-0 Hearson/14/t; Pope/11/c;

24m: 33-0 Edwards/13/t, Pope/11/c;

26m: 40-0 Pope/11/tc; 43-0 Pope/11/p. 40m: 43-0 Pope/11/p;

40m: Half-time 43/6t5cp-0;

43m: 43-5 Sean Lynch/14/t, Shaun Brown/10/c;

45m: 50-5 Pope/11/tc; 54m: 53-5 Pope/11/p;

58m: 53-12 Samisoni Speight/R12/t, Shaun Brown/10/c;

65m: 58-12 Hughes/8/t;

74m: 58-19 Draunibaku Qasevakatini/11/t, Shaun Brown/10/c;

75m: 58-26 Sean Lynch/14/t, Shaun Brown/10/c;

76m: 58-31 Samisoni Speight/t;

80m: Full Time 58/8t6c2p-31/5t3c.

League Points Gained: Bournemouth 5 (4 for a win, 1 try-scoring bonus). Reading 1 (Try-scoring bonus)..

League Positions:

Bournemouth go from 5th to 4th on 63 pts.

P21 W12 D2 L7. For 507, Ag 351.

Reading remain 12th on 27 pts. P21 W4 D1 L16. For 365, Ag 587.

Weather: Bright with sunny intervals with a cool, noticeable Southerly breeze which blew straight down the pitch. Excellent conditions for rugby football.

Ground: Underfoot was firm despite some torrential rain earlier in the day.

Kick-off: Bournemouth (Mike Pope) kicked off from left to right as viewed from the clubhouse, i.e. with the breeze, and to his left.

Right from the kick-off, right wing Rory Hearson put the receiver on the ground and Bournemouth forced Reading back. They, nonetheless retained the ball but kicked it out on the full for a Bournemouth line-out on the Reading 22-metre line. Lock Tim Collier secured it at the front to set up a drive. When the ball was released fly-half 'Puks' Ngapaku found Hearson on the inside and the winger burst through to find outside centre 'Eddie' Edwards going left. Bournemouth kept going left and left wing Mike Pope twisted and turn to shake off the tacklers but was forced into touch for a reading throw-in on their 5-metre line.. No 8 Chris Hughes stole it at the back but a Reading knock-on meant a Bournemouth scrum ten metres out on the 15-metre line. Bournemouth drove the scrum back and Hughes picked up but Reading managed to win the ball and cleared right for a Bournemouth line-out on the half-way line. Ngapaku kicked high into the Reading 22-metre area where the ball was 'marked but the kick only went as far as the Reading 22-metre line. for another Bournemouth line-out. Bournemouth drove off the line-out and won a penalty which scrum-half Scott Chislett took quickly. Loosehead prop Jo Burns was there in support to take the ball forward and provide the link as the ball went right to full-back Karim Lynch who was too strong to be prevented from forcing his way over just right of the posts. Pope added the two points and Bournemouth were on the scoreboard and a lead of 7-nil after just six minutes.

The Reading kick-off to the right found touch just outside the Bournemouth 10-metre line. The Reading lock Matthew Davies managed to steal the Bournemouth throw-in but Bournemouth in turn managed to win the ball back for it to be released right where Hearson had a promising run. Reading were penalized at the contact for 'coming in at the side' and Ngapaku found touch just fifteen metres out for another attacking line-out. Lock Tomas Ford secured the ball to set another Bournemouth drive and Chislett was almost in as the played 'crabbed' left. The ball first went right but when it came back left the pass was forward for a Reading scrum. Referee Douglas Neagle took the opportunity to talk to both captains about something with which he was clearly unhappy. From the scrum Bournemouth were penalized and then a further ten metres when they hadn't retired sufficiently and fly-half Shaun Brown was able to clear to his right beyond his own 22-metre line.

Blindside flanker Peter Armstrong stole the ball at the back of the line-out but with Ngapaku working the miss moves in midfield saw the ball dislodged from Edwards' hand for a reading scrum. Reading went left and chipped the ball and Lynch returned the compliment and found touch outside the Reading 22-metre line. Bournemouth 'forced' the scrum as they attacked the Reading throw-in and Hughes again was driving off the back to win another scrum just fifteen or so metres out. Bournemouth went

right down the short side but the passing was not sharp enough under the Reading defensive pressure and the ball was knocked on. Bournemouth were awarded a free kick which Collier took responsibility for and he released the ball left when stopped. Again it was Ngapaku who created the gap for Lynch to exploit but he need a deft dummy to flat foot the last defender for him to crash over for his second try wide out. Pope with an excellent kick from a difficult angle made the score 14-nil with less than a quarter of the game gone.

Brown committed the cardinal sin of not kicking the ball ten metres from the kick off and he must have been mortified to see Hearson tearing down the wing as Bournemouth took full advantage of the attacking opportunity. The winger was forced to kick to beat the defender and the ball went dead for a 22-metre drop out. Brown then heped further misery on himself by kicking the straight out and Bournemouth had another attacking scrum on that 22-metre line. Hughes and Chislett made a bit of a mess up as they tried to link at the base of the scrum but the scrum-half recovered well and Bournemouth retained the advantage. The forwards came in on the act but tighthead prop Alan Manning got tied up as he drove for the line. Ngapaku was tied up as Bournemouth came back left but good rescue work by the forwards maintained possession before an excellent interchange between hooker Fraser Wilford, Collier and Burns worked the opening down the blindside for the hooker to dive over wide out on the left. Pope slipped as he attempted to kick the goal but Bournemouth lead 19-0 after twenty-two minutes.

Ngapaku returned the kick-off with a long kick of his own and the return kick was fielded by Chislett as he moved the ball right. Pope came in off his wing and although the winger was apparently 'in' the 'score' was adjudged to be 'held up'. However this simply delayed proceedings for a few moments because Hearson coming in off his wing found the gap and although he seemed to be tackled short of the line the tall winger managed to stretch to score and with Pope staying on his feet Bournemouth were beginning to stretch away a point a minute after twenty-six minutes.

Bournemouth, playing some quite breathless rugby, were straight back down when Manning put the ball right for another Hearson run and there was Edwards on hand to score a spectacular try just left of the posts and, with the Pope kick, Bournemouth had added another seven points just a minute after the last score.

Hughes fielded the kick-off and Ngapaku kicked long. Playing his first game at openside flanker Anthony Dunkerley chased the ball down and tied up the Reading defender. The ball was won back and Pope weaved his magic through the Reading defence with Chislett riding point to score out on the left. The winger then made sure of another two points with another fine kick and Bournemouth were leading 40-nil with less than half an hour gone.

Reading were far from down and out and when Bournemouth kicked the ball back deep it opened up the opportunity for the Fijian left wing Draunibaka Qasevakatini to have a strong run down his flank and Bournemouth did well to stop this very quick dangerous runner's progress just outside their own 22-metre line and be given the scrum. Inside centre James Payne cleared left and was further rewarded when right wing Sean Lynch failed to gather the ball. In these last ten minutes of the half there was some terrific Bournemouth movement and the Reading defence was at full stretch to contain them. Nonetheless, when Bournemouth were penalized for being off-side, Qasevakatini threatened to breakaway this time down the right and Dunkerley did exceptionally well to get back and make the tackle as the winger sought the opening. The winger was then penalized for not releasing and Ngapaku found touch down his left for a Bournemouth line-out inside the Reading 22-metre line. Reading, however, won the ball and kicked for touch to the right where Bournemouth took a quick throw-in. A sweeping movement, with Lynch coming in the line, took play deep into enemy territory and Reading were penalized for 'diving in' and the Reading captain was hauled up in front of the beak for another lecture. Ngapaku again found touch to his left on the Reading 5-metre. Reading lock Matthew Davies was 'yellow carded' for his attempts to stop the Bournemouth drive. Chislett found Ngapaku who went back inside to Hughes but with the Bournemouth forwards trying desperately to force their way over they eventually lost it for a Reading scrum. Hughes managed to win the ball back and Bournemouth played basket ball as they tried to get the ball left under Reading pressure. They managed to retain and moved the ball back right where Edwards got hurt in the tackle but Bournemouth were awarded a penalty and from in front of the posts Pope added three points prompting Mr Neagle to bring first-half proceedings to an end.

Brown kicked off the second half by going to his right but Bournemouth promptly took play back to the Reading 22-metre line where, mystifyingly, he was 'done' for 'crossing' when he took a 'popped' ball and was through. So instead a score, Bournemouth found themselves defending a 5-metre line-out. However Manning managed to steal the ball but when the ball was cleared left it didn't find touch and Sean Lynch gathered the bouncing ball and was through a gap in a distracted Bournemouth defence down his flank in a trice to spot the ball wide out on the right. Brown hit the post for the ball to bounce clear but Reading had their first points three minutes into the half.

These first green shoots of recovery proved very fragile when Ngapaku kicked left and Bournemouth won a scrum on the Reading 22-metre line. Hughes linked with Chislett as they went left down the short side and Pope had another dart. The winger managed to release the ball back inside where Collier made a

great impression as a thrusting centre but a pass from the ever supportive Manning back left to Armstrong was forward for a Reading scrum on their 22-metre line. Bournemouth promptly won another scrum and Hughes threatened to go right before finding Chislett going left. He in turn found Pope and again the Reading defence couldn't cope and the winger wove his way through to score out left. He added another two points with another excellent kick for Bournemouth to lead 50-5 with five minutes of the second half gone. Despite much Bournemouth pressure again with some exciting play it was credit to the Reading Defence that Bournemouth weren't able to add to their score for another ten minutes or so. Ngapaku made a wonderful break and with the support of his fellow centres to give Pope another opportunity Bournemouth failed to score. A forward pass from a 5-metre scrum stopped another certain score as Bournemouth camped in Reading territory. Hughes was well tackled into touch down the right after good work by Chislett and Lynch as Bournemouth continued to play some exciting stuff. However Payne was tackled high in front of the posts as Reading sought desperately to stem the tide and Pope duly kicked his second penalty for a 53-5 lead a quarter of an hour into the half.

With Bournemouth attacking down the left a pass back inside by Pope was intercepted by replacement centre Samisoni Speight who running from deep inside his own half was much too quick for a spread-eagled Bournemouth defence to score. Brown added the two points and Reading were halfway to a try-scoring bonus point! No that wasn't going to happen! Was it?

Normal service was apparently reestablished as another promising Bournemouth attack threatened the Reading line and only a knock down prevented another score. From a scrum just seven metres out Ngapaku found Ben Stewart, on for the injured Edwards, but the new outside centre was well tackled. Ngapaku made a very fine break of his own and seemed certain to score but again the Reading defence managed to avert the danger despite Manning's support. Nonetheless they followed a period with Bournemouth battering the Reading line with Ngapaku bringing the strong Lynch into play as he perhaps sought his hat-trick try. Dunkerley now pressed into service replacing the injured Payne a few minutes earlier had a go but was repulsed. Eventually Hughes got over to what was to prove Bournemouth's final score of the day but the visitors lead 58-12 with quarter of an hour to go.

From the kick-off Collier was penalized for off-side and Brown found touch just ten metres out from the Bournemouth line down his right. Reading came left but a promising attacking move was rather spoilt by a knock-on for a Bournemouth scrum on their 22-metre line. Ngapaku kicked long to his left but Reading came back with another three-quarter move but Collier did very well to get across to bring the ball carrier down. However Bournemouth

were penalized and Brown kept up the pressure by finding touch just ten metres out from the Bournemouth line but this time to his left. Openside flanker Neil Stanton-Ketchley, on to replace Dunkerley after his move to inside centre, was very quick to the contact forcing a knock on for a Bournemouth scrum. However in what was to prove a crucial contributor to the events that were to follow Chislett was shown a yellow card for dissent. This forced Pope to come off his wing to take over scrum-half duties.

There was no immediate danger as Ngapaku kicked left for a Reading line-out on the Bournemouth 22-metre line. Reading knocked the ball back but were then penalized for holding on as Bournemouth swarmed through enabling Ngapaku to further release the pressure by finding touch on the half-way line. Collier to secure the ball but Bournemouth were 'pinged' for crossing as they went right. Scrum-half Thomas Goodhew quickly took the penalty and made a good break but the ball was knocked on. Pope's clearance kick left was well fielded by Qasevakatini who released outside centre Mosese Matua who showed an embarrassing turn of foot but was well supported by the equally fleet Qasevkatini who scored under the posts with, I am afraid to say, the Bournemouth defence nowhere. Brown added the two points to leave the score 58-19 with just over five minutes to go. Then in less time than it takes to write all this down Sean Lynch, out there on the right, promptly ran the kick-off straight back to secure his side's try-scoring bonus point! An unlikely achievement given the circumstances. Brown did his bit and Reading had scored an unlikely 26 points. From a Bournemouth perspective one was grateful that we already had 58 of them in the bag already.

However there was more! At the restart, Speight seized on a Bournemouth moment of indecisiveness to sprint away to score his second and Reading's fifth try. Brown didn't seem to be worried that his kick didn't go over but didn't realise at the present rate of scoring Reading were going to win the match. There was all of four minutes left! However it wasn't to be. These things, even in the context of this game, don't happen do they? Bournemouth through Pope and Stewart threatened down the left but a spirited Reading defence kept them out despite being penalized for a high tackle. Ngapaku found touch down the left on the Reading 22-metre line. Collier just manages to secure the ball to set a Bournemouth drive and Reading were again penalized this time for pulling it down. Bournemouth, despite their best efforts weren't able to score again but they stifled any chance of Reading doing the same thing.

Well that left us all a little breathless but my pedantic prose gives no real clue to how exciting some of the Bournemouth play was! You really must come along and enjoy it at first hand. However that total first-half domination gave way to a pyrotechnic last fifteen minutes when the Reading backs cut loose, with equally sparkling play of their own, to secure an unlikely try-scoring bonus point! Reading aren't going to lose too many matches having scored five tries but today they did courtesy of a first half blitz when Bournemouth threatened to repeat the feat of last week. However late in the second half, having lost scrum-half Scott Chislett to the sin bin, some loose play enabled some very quick Reading backs to accept some juicy morsels on offer.

It was good day for Bournemouth who kept up their 100% record against Reading in the league with four wins out of four over the past three seasons. We also enjoyed the hospitality of chairman Craig Hunter who as always made us most welcome even if my wife didn't win anything in the raffle.

There is no photographic evidence of this really exciting match as I forgot to take my camera!

Doug Warren