

## 1/3/08 Yorkshire League Division 4 Garforth 7 vs Leeds Corinthians 19

This week Garforth played host to Leeds Corinthians down at the Graveyard. With 60mph winds gusting across the paddock it was never going to be a showpiece of rugby entertainment, but more of a battle of wits and tactics and in the end....who wants it the most. Due to a variety of circumstances Garforth were forced to field a severely weakened team with quite a few people playing out of position to fill in and quite a few of the 2nd string making the step up. Garforth were dealt another sickening blow minutes before kick off with 'in form' 2nd rower Chris 'im too injured to play but can move like Usher on the dance floor a few hours later' Nevison, picking up an injury in the warm up putting him out of the game.

Garforth won the toss, and chose to play up the hill and into the wind in the 1st half, and things looked promising for the home side as they worked their way up field with strong runs from Adam 'id love to share a cell with Ian Huntley' Brown, and James 'I stole my hair-style from Edward Scissorhands' Baldwin. Despite getting into the away team's 22 on numerous occasions Garforth repeatedly turned over possession through silly offloads and becoming isolated, allowing Corinthians to use the wind and clear their line and subsequently Garforth failed to score any points. Midway through the 1st half Corinthians were awarded a penalty near the half way line and slotted it between the uprights. From the restart the ball was judged to have not gone 10m (bollocks), and from the resulting scrum Leeds sent their full back into space and with some nice handling from most of the back line it resulted in a try in the corner.

Garforth got together under the sticks and vowed to work harder for each other and try to stop the onslaught that seemed to be facing them and went back up the hill with dogged determination, and nearly got a try through Des 'happy man from the lynx advert' Claxton, but again the referee stepped in to give the away team a penalty this time for holding on (bollocks). With a massive boot downfield Corinthians got into the Garforth half, only for Garforth to steal the line-out and launch another attack. The attack again resulted in another Corinthians penalty, this time for obstruction, even though the player who supposedly did the obstructing, was stood behind the ball carrier and was himself tackled off the ball, another great decision (bollocks). From the resulting field position the away team scored again with some nice backs/forwards interplay. Further 1st half points came from a nicely struck penalty, can't remember what it was for but it was more than likely bollocks, and a peach of a drop-kick from the Corinthians 10 somewhere around the half way line. Again the referee wasn't sure if it went over or not so he gave it anyway!!! (But to be honest, I think it did).

HALF                    TIME.....GARFORTH                    0                    -                    CORINTHIANS                    19

Garforth re-started the 2nd half optimistic, and with the wind at their backs giving them a massive advantage fancied their chances of turning the game around. Corinthians struggled to get out of their own half for the first 10 mins but the Garforth lads just couldn't break their defence down, and with so many of their bigger forwards missing, the Garforth pack were beginning to get exhausted taking on the much larger opposition. The away team capitalised on this and started

utilising tight forward play to smash their way up the field and came close to the Garforth line on numerous occasions but never came away with any points.

The highlight of a pretty much dull 40mins of rugby was a trademark Lee 'self proclaimed best fullback in Yorkshire' Dawson, run where he jinked, dived and twisted through 6 would be tacklers before being brought down 1 metre from the line. Then along came captain Horwell and using all his skill, power, speed, experience and determination picked the ball up and fell over the line for a try! (Ha ha, cheers Dawson ). Andy 'not friendly when drunk' Hayward , added the extras.

Thoughts of a late comeback were quickly put to bed when Garforth got turned over shortly after the re-start and the away team launched a prolonged attack on the Garforth line. An attempt to turn the man in the tackle accidentally landed Adrian 'Regan' Horwell, on the wrong side and the little shit of a number 9 (who looked like a cross between Gollum from Lord of the Rings, Mini Me from the Austin Power films, Ashley from Coronation Street and a ferret) decided this was the right time to start jumping on the Garforth captain's head, and then, showing all his bravery, hid behind his players when Horwell regained his feet. The referee sent the snivelling little bitch to the sin bin for the remainder of the game to reflect on his actions and to pick up his self respect that had been ripped up and left in tatters all over the floor. Amazingly the referee said, after the game, that he would have sent him off but he couldn't be bothered with the paperwork!! Unbelievable.

Shortly after this the ref blew for full time and put an end to what was probably a dire game to watch. (*It certainly was!* - *Webmaster*) Credit must go to the Corinthians lads who took their chances well, and were deserved winners (except for the number 9 who also looked like the Russian spy who got poisoned in London last year (post poisoning)).

A massive thanks from me to all the lads who put in a huge effort, especially the ones who have stepped in over the last couple of games, and to all the lads and lasses (Rushden) who made the fancy dress night a massive team bonding success!

Asta lavista baby.

ADI HORWELL