

NURFC perform in Preston

NURFC left for Preston Grasshoppers on Friday 6th of May with a 7's team on 10 players with the option of fielding experienced team manager Charles Balfour. The Team arrived in Preston around 6pm briefly checking in at the Travelodge before descending upon the town to grab a classy meal at weatherspoons.

The next day after several trips to and from the ground NURFC were ready to take on the mighty Hartpury College in the opening game of the BUCS 7s competition. After some good work of the restarts by Jonny "Banahan" Neville, no one would have predicted that the opening try would have been scored by yours truly Leslie-Miller. After holding off numerous attacks and a great try by Dave "The Myth" Smith NURFC beat Hartpury College in the 1st game of the group stages!! Next up was Harper Adams which proved a good opportunity for NURFC to stretch legs in the form of Dave Swetman, Lewis Crosbie and "The Myth" with a special mention going to Charles Balfour (Team Manager) for his cameo appearance sending a hooked dropkick from the touchline sailing through the posts. Drawing with both Loughbrough and Exeter in the afternoon meant that an unbeaten NURFC were looking promising for the final day.

The team swiftly dipped into some ice baths and then to pizza express where the boys capitalized on a 2 for 1 offer, consuming 2 pizza's each and a starter in an attempt to seriously carboload.

The first game of the final day saw NURFC beat Medway 47-0 which set us up nicely to play Leeds Met. Andy John was rewarded with a try after much good work with Banahan having to run half the pitch to earn his 5 points, the final score was 26-19 to NURFC and a place in the EUSA 7's in Lille at the end of June. Unfortunately the Semi-Final against UWIC was a bridge too far with only 9 available players beating the BUCS championship finalists was a tall order. However, it was a top effort from all who played and hope to build and get some silver wear in Lille!!

The Team:

1. Sam (Scot Gibbs) Leslie-Miller
2. James Cromie
3. Jonny "Banahan" Neville
4. Lewis Crosbie
5. Dave "The Myth" Smith
6. Rich Irving
7. Dave Swetman
8. Kel O'hanlon
9. Andy John
10. Jonny Patterson

Player/Coach:

11. Charles Balfour