

Bulls .... 52

Giants .... 18



■ TOP MOMENT: top Glants performer Brad Drew races away to score his magnificent solo try in last night's bitterly disappointing 52-18 Super League defeat at Bradford Bulls

Pictures by Graham Lynch



■ HEART OF THE ACTION: Chris Nero (above) dives over for the Glants' second try at Odsal, while Paul Jackson (below) is held up by the Bradford Bulls' offence during last night's Super League defeat

# Giants .... 14 Warriors .... 46



■ PASS MASTER: busy Giants hooker Brad Drew looks to get his side going against Wigan Pictures by Simon Morley (1897-20-06)





LOOKING GOOD: Martin Aspinwall's performance was one of the few bright spots

# Hull FC .... 19 Giants .... 6



■ TAKING THEM ON: Clarks centre James Evans darts into the heart of the Hull defence during yesterday's 19-6 Super League defeat at the KC Stadium. It was the Clarks first defeat in four matches

# Giants .... 19 Saints .... 16



■ POWER PLAY: Leon Pryce looks to halt the progress of Eorl Crabtree, with Paul Anderson ready to get involved Pictures by Paul Welch:1929-29-29







■ IN THE THICK OF ACTION: a flying Keith Mason (above) marks his Glants debut in speciacular fashion by diving to hait a run by St Helens' half-back South Moore. While Michael De Verer (april) per ready to take on Paul Sculbrope with minulase and his life in the try for Huddersfeld at the Galpharm Stadium.

(1829-15-96 & 1929-15-96)

# Giants .... 32

# City Reds .... 18



**BIGOLDEN NOMENTS:** Braid Drew plunges "brough Andy Cotey's tackle for his second try against Salford, while Eori Crabtree thinking off in similar fashion during the Glants' dominant first-half show.





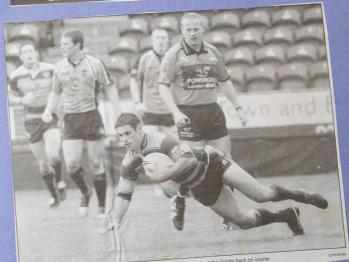
prop Keith Mason points to Salford men he wants to





■ THREE'S A CROWD: Glants Full back Paul Reilly finds no way through a City Knights welcoming committee

York .... 4 **Giants .... 38** 



RUNNING FREE: Second rower Chris Nero cuts loose to notch his first try and put the Glants back on course

# Dragons .... 12 Giants .... 20







# Giants .... 26 Wildcats .... 20



Wolves .... 30

Giants .... 26



■ ON THE CHARGE: Giants prop Eorl Crabtree takes on the Warrington defence during yesterday's 30-26 Super League defeat. He will be hoping to fire on all cylinders at home to Wakefield Picture by Paul Welch (2983-16-06



**Giants ... 44** 

Salford ... 14



# Jubilant Giants seal semi shot

SIANTS forward Anely Raidigh is looking forward to form or row \*\*P ower gight of the long of the looking forward to form or row \*\*P ower gight of the long of the

# Huddersfield Giants ... 16

Bradford Bulls ... 42



■ WELCOME RETURN: Martin Aspinwall makes life difficult for Bradford's Jamie Langley during last right's contest. It was the Glants winger's first game back after missing the last two games with a rib injury



ON THE LOOK-OUT: Robbie
Paul eyes up the Castleford
defence, with Eorl Crabtree in



MOMENT TO SAVOUR:
Michael De Vere lands one of his five goals on his 200th first-grade appearance. (2503-23-06)



Giants .... 42

Dragons .... 34



■ WE'VE DONE ITI: Giants tryscoring heroes Mat Gardner (left) and Stephen Wild (right) celebrate the thrilling 42-34 win over Catalans Dragons with learnmate Andy Raleigh. Gardner grabbed a first-half hat trick, while Wild clinched victory in the 78th minute.

# Giants .... 34 Tigers .... 10



OFFENSIVE GIANTS: Aussie hooker Brad Drew (above) looks to get Huddersfield on the attack, while (below) Steve Snitch desperately looks to hold onto possession and try and make life difficult for Castleford Tigers during yesterday's Super League clash.



■ GIANTS ON THEIR WAYI: Chris Noro powers to the line to score his second try in the 53rd minute which put his side 18-12 ahead, a lead they never looked like losing



■ GIANTS JOY: Andy Raleigh (No20) is congratulated by teammates (from left) Chris Thorman, Brad Drew and Jim Gannon after scoring his side's third try five minutes into the second half which helped open up an 18-10 lead against Casteford. The Giants went on to triumph 34-10 and move seventh in Super League Picture by Andy Catchpod 2059-909



■ BACK IN BUSINESS: Chris Thorman attempts to break the tackle of Castleford's Richard Fa'Aoso. Thorman's return after a seven-week lay-off was one of the few positives for the Gigiants. Publis Access Castledol (2001-11-0)



final in his testimonial year!



■ HUDDERSFIELD GIANTS 2006 SQUAD: Back row, from left: coach Keiron Purtill, physio Gary Stade, so, coach Lee St Hilaire, former conditioner Geoff Evans, Paul Smith, Andy Raleigh, on Grayshon, En on George, Paul Jackson, Paul Reilly, Stephen Wild, Jim Gannon, Stuart Jones, Paul March, coach Ben Cooper, Middler, former conditioner Geoff Evans, Paul Smith, Andy Raleigh, on Grayshon, En on George, Paul Jackson, Paul Reilly, Stephen Wild, Jim Gannon, Stuart Jones, Paul March, coach Ben Cooper, Middler, Donlan, Bolu Fagborun, Steve Snitch, Michael De Vere, Chris Thorman (captain), Nead coach Jon Sharp, Paul Smith, New Medicander, Nature, Natu

**Giants .... 30** 

Rhinos .... 12



■ GIANTS ON THEIR WAY!: Chris Nero powers to the line to score his second try in the 53rd minute which put his side 18-12 ahead, a lead they never looked like losin Pictures by Julian Hughes (33)



Player-by-player guide

Winger Martin Aspinwall carried the ball strongly and took some great high balls.

\*\*\*\*

Centre Stephen Wild \*\*\*\*

Stand-off Chris Thorman led by example to keep his team on the front foot.

\*\*\*\*

Scrum half Robbie Paul loves playing on the big stage, and we all know why.

Prop Jim Gannon drove the ball in time and time again to maximum effect.

Hooker Brad Drew was

another top game. \*\*\*\*

Prop Paul Jackson was as strong as an ox against his hometown club.

Second-rower Chris Nero caused Leeds loads of problems out wide. \*\*\*\*

Second-rower Paul Smith softened the Rhinos

up in a top opening spell. \*\*\*\* Loose-forward Stuart

Jones gave his usual

**Substitute Andy Raleig** 

powered effectively into eeds at every opportunity Substitute Steve Snit



once again made a huge impact off the bench.



made it virtually impos for Leeds to contain h Substitute Keith





■ SMILE THAT SAYS WE'VE DONE IT: Eorl Crabtree is pleased as punch after Huddersfield Giants reached the Challenge Cup final by beating beeds 30-12 years.

SILVER STARS: Cliants Robbie Paul, Brad Drew and Chris Thorman get a look at the Challenge Cup at the Galpharm.

# MAGIG!







Giants (from left) Paul Reilly, Chris Thorman, Chris Nero (back) and Stuart Donlan celebrate.





si marked their Huddersfield Giants debuts with quality performances Pictures by Paul Welch (229-07 8 229-10-07)



■ DYNAMIC DUO: new signings Shane Elford (left) and Jamahi Loles in the superb pre-season victory over Wigan Warriors at the Galpharm





Reilly has reached his target of getting into the Challenge Cup final in his testimonial year!

# WE'RE READY TO GO

#### PAUL REILLY

THE evergreen 30-year-old full back is the longest serving Giants player and is in the middle of his testimonial season. This will be



his last year as a professional and he will be determined to go out with a bang! The former Moldgreen junior represented England in the 2004 European Nations Shield and was man-of-the-match in the win over Ireland.

Maria

#### MARTIN **ASPINWALL**

THE forme Wigan winger was rewarded for a superb first season at the Giants by e a r n i n g a place in the Great Britain squad at the end of 2006.

The power running of the 25-year-old has already made him a firm crowd favourite. He finished last season as the joint top tryscorer with 15, sharing the honour with Chris Nero.

\*

#### JAMAHI LOLESI

A POWERFUL winger, the 25-year-old played for New Zealand in 2005 and has won Australian NRL Grand



#### KEVIN BROWN

A 22-year-old utility back who has signed a three-year contract after impressing at the end of last

season on loan from
Wigan Warriors He is a
highly skilful payer who
will be shaing the
goalkicking dites with
Chris Thorman He was in
the England sclad at the
end of last seaon and is
tipped for Gree Britain.

#### SHANE ELFORD

ANOTHER 司子

tand-off, in the tentre or on the wing. He had a tryscoring trike rate of one in every three games, which is a bp-quality tally in the NRL. As well as being strong on attack, he is recognised as having a solid defensive

#### THORMAN

THE talented 25-year-old who hails from the soccer-mad Newcastle, will again be club captain, having led them in last

season's Challenge Cup final.

The talented goalkicking stand-off holds the Giants' record for most points in a Super League game. His vision, pace and kicking game make him a top star.

#### FORL CRABTREE

WIDELY

the England set-up. At 198cm, he is the tallest player in Super League and is pushing for Great Britain honours.He Great Britain honours. The possesses great strength and deceptive speed for such a big man and also boasts an effective offload.

#### BRAD DREW

WAS named the Giants' Player of the Year after yet another top season. The 31-year-old Australian hooker has

missed only

one game in the last two seasons and is a key man. He was man-of-the-match in last season's Challenge Cup semi-final win over Leeds and is a former Dally M Hooker of the Year in Australia

#### JOHN SKANDALIS

ONE of the experienced Australian game, the 30-year-old Australian arrives at the

with a massive reputation He had 10 seasons at Wests Tigers and was in the side that won the NRL Grand Final in 2005. He will be expected to take on the role of Huddersfield pack leader and bring on young players.

#### **CHRIS** NERO

A 25-year-old centre or hack-row forward who has become a firm crowd favourite since arriving from leading Australian

NRL club St George in

2004. His powerful and pacy running has caused every defence in Super League problems, and last season he finished joint top tryscorer with 15.

#### ANDY RALEIGH

THE highl powerfi enjoyed superb firs season with the Giants 2006 afte ioining from the top National

League I club full KR. The highly-rated :6-year-old Huddersfield-bon star has earned widespead praise for his impressive strength and defence. Many pundits are already prediting him to be a future internitional

130

#### STEPHEN WILD

HE former Wigan back-rower has been a bart of the Great Britain et-up for three years and was a

op-quality performer for the Giants hroughout last season. The 25-year-old has shown he has the pace to be effective at centre having scored several spectacular long-range

#### STUART JONES

REGARDED as one of the most solid and consistent back-rowers in the game, the 25-year-old is a vital member of the Giants

squad The former Wigan and St The former Wigan and St Helens player was an ever-present last season and is noted as being a defender of the highest order Was signed thanks to the work of the Glants Squadbuilder Fund.

#### PAUL JACKSON

NOTED as the quiet achiever in the squad, the powerful prop has been a tower of consistency since joining in 2005. His

workmanlike
carries and good skills
make the 28-year-old a
handful for opposition
defences. The Scotland
star is one of the top metre makers for the club and began his career in the Giants Academy.

#### KEITH MASON

ANOTHER regular basis mid-season. destructive runner, the 25-year-old prop is noted

for his no-nonsense approach to the game. His arrival after spells at St. Helens, Wakefield Trinity, Castleford and Australian club Melbourne played a big part in the Giants' upsurge in 2006 form.

#### PAUL SMITH

HE is a tough, back-rower who is in his fourth season at the club. The 29-year-old is an effective wide runner in attack and he

has consistently been one of the top tacklers at the club, working tirelessly to plug any gaps in the defensive line. A former Rochdale Hornets captain, he became a full-time player when he finished university.

#### DARRELL GRIFFIN

A BIG, new signing from Wakefield where he was a stand-out performer for several years. The former England prop

DIVE is one of the most physically dominant

figures on a Super League pitch. The 25-year-old was introduced to the game at Oxford Cavaliers and if he can fulfil his potential will be a big hit with the fans at Huddersfield

#### RYAN HUDSON

RETURNING to rugby league after two years on the sidelines following a drugs ban, Before then, he was captain at Castleford and

was then set for a career at Bradford before his two years in the wilderness. After being in contention for Great Britain, the 27-year-old utility forward will be looking for a big year at the club where he began his career

#### STEVE SNITCH

HE is now becoming accustomed to

a life at the Giants after arriving from Wakefield. The 23-year-old utility forward is developing

well and will be hoping to make a regular spot his own in 2007. Noted for his strong running, the prop or back-row forward is egarded as one of the top young pack players in the English game.

## GARDNER

season at the Giants after signing from Leeds, which included a very memorable hal trick in the win over Catalans.

The younger brother of St Helens ace Ade, he is a strong and powerful outside back who is one of the quickest men at the club. The 22-year-old will now be looking to really push on in

## HEMINGWAY

HAS been on the fringes of the first-team squad for two years and will be hoping to establish himself this time. A former

**England junior** international, the talented 20-year-old can play scrum half, stand-off or full-back and has a quality kicking game to go with his top ball-playing skills. He will be looking to add to his six top-flight games.

#### SIMON GEORGE

ARRIVED at the Giants after starring for Huddersfeld Sharks. The 20-year-old utility forward found his first year in Super l eague ruined

because of injuries. Before picking up his bad knocks, the very promising young forward was developing rapidly as a player with an abundance of potential and he will be hoping some of that is fulfilled in 2007.

#### LEROY CUDJOE

30

THE former Newsome junior has earned a promotion to the Super League squad after starring for the Giants

at Academy level. The 18-year-old is an accomplished full-back, but has also played at stand-off. He has earned representative honours and is now tipped to make the grade at the top level.





IT'S THEREI: Glants winger Mat Gardner dives in to score Huddersfield's first try of the Super League XII season. Unfortunately, the home side were unable to add to the score in the second half, despite matching St Helens stride for citride. Professional String St. Helens stride for citride and the score in the second half, despite matching St Helens stride for citride.

**Giants .... 10** 

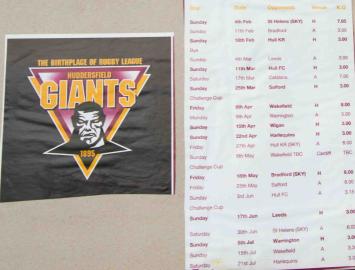
**Saints .... 18** 

6.00

3.00

3.30

3.00





ROBBIE PAUL



Introducing Darrell Griffin













# Bradford Bulls ... 18

# Huddersfield Giants .... 14



■ REASONS TO BE CHEERFUL: Stuart Jones is hugged by Steve Snitch and about to be joined by John Skandalis after scoring the try hat gave Huddersfield Giants a 14-12 lead after 65 minutes. In contrast, Paul Deacon (left) and former Giants centre James Evans try hat gave Huddersfield Giants a 14-12 lead after 65 minutes. In contrast, Paul Deacon (left) and former Giants centre James Evans and the first build refuse pointment of the Policy of Catchapool (1914).



THE LOOK SAYS IT ALL: Robbie Paul can't hide his disappointment after yesterday's cruel loss against his former club (974-1-07)



Giants .... 10 Hull KR .... 17

Agony as Giants hit home low



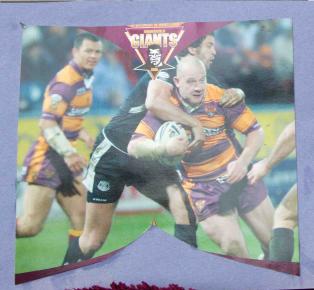
■ FEELING THE PAIN: Ryan Hudson experiences the full force of a typically-solid Hull KR tackle during the Giants' demoralising 17-10 home defeat.



#### **Giants .... 12 Rhinos .... 16**



■ THREE OF A KIND: Stephen Wild, Keith Mason and Steve Snitch combine to halt a Rhinos raid







Wolves ... 18 Giants ... 26



■ CATCH ME IF YOU CAN: in-form Glants half-back Kevin Brown looks to step his way towards the Warrington line, with Wolves forwards Paul Rauhihi (left) and Vinnie Anderson powerless to intervene



Now let's

By CHRIS ROBERTS Sports Reporter

Giants have finally build on what we are doing and the Super League doing and make sure

Yesterday's record 41-16
We keep our we keep our beads down and keep above Salford in the table. It was the Gains that the top-flight trium on the trot, with the bood at the club now in total contrast club now in total contrast the season. "Although to when they lost their open-

It was also their orgest all season and the work we have done work we have done starting in the campaign is now starting the have gone from from "I was delighted with

we have gone from adver-sity to a position from where we can go forward," said Sharp. "What's important now is that we "But we have to make

HUDDERSFIELD continue to

"The top pri-ority is to keep this momentum

"Although the ing seven League games.

It was also their biggest
ever win over Wing.

important now is that we don't get too carried away sure we back this up with and start falling in love with ourselves.

"It's important we against Harlequins at home on Sunday."

HOW THEY STAND

In-form Giants romp to record win see Pages 44, 45, 46

Giants ....,41

Warriors .... 16





■ BRILLIANT: delighted Glants players gather round to celebrate the try scored by Paul Reilly (right) in yesterday's fantastic win at the Galpharm Stadium.



LEADING THE FIGHT: Ryan Hudson makes ground during his lively opening spell for the Giants