



(ESTD 1995)

**Essex Div 3 CHAMPIONS 03/04
EC5 CHAMPIONS 96/97. EC4S CHAMPIONS 98/99.
Runners-up 97/98 and 00/01**

Press Release – 19th December 2004

Millwall drop to top team, thirds dominant in victory

Millwall's first team went down to May & Baker 8-0, in a re-arranged Essex Two fixture on Saturday.

Despite defending superbly for much of the game, Millwall lacked the creativity and penetration they have shown for much of the season. Strike centre, Louis Newton was well contained by the opposition, having little room to make his mark on the match.

Paul Burns made his debut for the first team, off the bench, and made some impressionable runs at the defence.

Leading 3-0 at half time, May & Baker sealed victory in this low scoring match with a blind side try twenty minutes from full time.

Fly half Dom Sutherland had an unhappy day with the boot, missing 3 penalty goal attempts.

Millwall official Karl Harris was positive, despite the loss.

"Although our backs didn't have much room to move, our forwards played the best I have seen them play all season."

"May & Baker are a much better side than they were twelve months ago and our defence was tested many times."

"It's a credit to our team to hold them out for as long as we did."

Meanwhile the Llamas went down 37-25 to a combined first/second Maldon team in a friendly. The match was originally scheduled to be a merit table fixture against Maldon 3rds, although Maldon failed to field a full team. Millwall gained the victory points despite the loss.

Millwall Thirds kept their winning streak running with an impressive 78-5 victory over Woodford Fifths in the Merit Table. Fullback Christian Freeman was untouchable in a blistering display, scoring four tries.

Team manager Kevin Doherty was impressed by his team's dominance.

"The score did not show how hard we had to fight to win this match. Woodford gave us a very good contest."



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“The whole squad played exceptionally well, especially Christian but there was another man who stood out - that man was Millwall veteran Martin Cooper.”

Martin, who only two months ago was a first team winger, is now playing in the prop forward position due to a shortage of players.

Kevin went on to say “The way he is playing at the moment, it won’t be long before he is a first team prop.”

Millwall have a two-week break for Christmas & New Years, resuming in league matches on the 8th of January 2005.

Note to editors:

On behalf of Millwall Rugby Club, we wish all of you and your families a very merry Christmas and a prosperous new year in 2005.

For further details please contact Matthew Shorrock, Millwall RFC Press Officer,
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