



RAMBLINGS

Game Day Programme – Friday 10 April 2015

Entertainment

This evening Mai FM will be bringing you the pre-game entertainment, while DJ Rangi brings you the sound and music. Our MDS Rams dance team will be performing throughout the night!! We have special guests Moorehouse Dance crews 'Prez' and 'Tag' performing at halftime!

Rams 3 on 3 Holiday Tournament – Play where the Rams Train

This school holidays join the Rams at Action Indoor Sports – Hornby at 81 Buchanans Road for a day of great 3 on 3 games between 10am-4pm for only \$60 total per team (\$20 per player) including Rams dunk exhibitions. Thu 16 April, Under 18 grade and Fri 17 April is for U15 players. Enquiries and team entry details: Call 342 6800 or email hornby@actionindoorsports.com

NBL Action This Weekend

Friday 10 April, Rams vs Sharks,

Rangers v Airs, Hawks v Saints

Saturday 11 April, Jets vs Saints, Giants vs Sharks

2015 RAMS SCHEDULE

Friday April 3	Canterbury v Manawatu	7 pm	Home
Monday April 6	Canterbury v Wellington	3 pm	Away
Friday April 10	Canterbury v Invercargill	7 pm	Home
Saturday April 18	Canterbury v Manawatu	7 pm	Home
Friday April 24	Canterbury v Nelson	7 pm	Away
Saturday April 25	Canterbury v Manawatu	7 pm	Away
Monday April 27	Canterbury v Invercargill	3 pm	Away
Saturday May 2	Canterbury v Waitakere	7 pm	Home
Friday May 8	Canterbury v Wellington	7 pm	Away
Saturday May 9	Canterbury v Invercargill	7 pm	Away
Friday May 15	Canterbury v Hawkes Bay	7 pm	Home
Sunday May 24	Canterbury v Hawkes Bay	2 pm	Home
Sunday May 31	Canterbury v Taranaki	7 pm	Home
Sunday June 7	Canterbury v Waitakere	3 pm	Away
Sunday June 14	Canterbury v Nelson	2:30 pm	Home
Friday June 19	Canterbury v Taranaki	7 pm	Away
Sunday June 21	Canterbury v Hawkes Bay	2 pm	Away
Friday June 26	Canterbury v Wellington	7 pm	Home

NBL STANDINGS

As at April 9	P	W	L	Pts
Wellington Saints	2	2	0	4
Mike Pero Nelson Giants	2	2	0	4
Zero Fees Southland Sharks	1	1	0	2
Canterbury Rams	2	1	1	2
IMS Payroll Hawks	1	0	1	0
James Blond Super City Rangers	1	0	1	0
Augusta Airs	1	0	1	0
Breakers Manawatu Jets	2	0	2	0

HIGH FLYING START

The Canterbury Rams experienced their best home opener in many seasons with a 114-98 win over the Manawatu Jets last Friday, much to the delight of the Cowles Cauldron crowd. Five players recorded double-figure scoring hauls, and the team won the rebounding battle 54-29. Three days later the Rams were beaten in Wellington 120-91, making tonight's match-up against the Zero Fees Southland Sharks all the more important.

Scoring has not been a problem for the Rams, but they will need to shore up their defence against the Sharks who scored 100 against the Jets last weekend in Invercargill.

The first home game featured all 12 of the Rams squad taking court. NZ U19 representative Sam Timmins showed his immense potential with 20 points and nine boards. Marques Whippy had an impressive debut for the Rams with nine points, nine rebounds, three steals and six deflections, including sprinting back to stop a certain Jets lay-up. Richie Edwards has twice come off the bench and scored 20 points. Taylor Britt and Jackson Stent both scored baskets in their first games.

There are intriguing match-ups across the court with Rams former Tall Black Jeremy Kench taking on playmaker Kevin Brasswell. The Rams wings of Ethan Rusbatch and Kyle Coston are pitted against Australian Todd Blanchfield and Duane Bailey. Mickell Gladness will match-up against NZ Breaker Tai Wesley.

The Rams will be hoping for some home cooking again at the Cauldron with last week's "Rams Fans" crowd getting the players fired up.

LATEST BASKETBALL INFORMATION

rams.org.nz
nzhoops.co.nz
youtube.com/canterburybasketball
basketball.org.nz

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RAMBLINGS was produced by Piet Van Hasselt and Ashley Dickel.

TODAYS GAME



VS





PLAYER PROFILE



ETHAN RUSBATCH

Ethan Rusbatch enters his second year in a Rams uniform in a co-captaincy role after many successful years in the Canterbury junior representative programme. He is 22 years old, and is 197cm tall and plays the guard spot. Ethan attended Cashmere High School and plays with the Checkers Basketball Club where he has won numerous Championships and MVPs despite his young age. He is a former NZ Junior Tall Black and spent a year in the USA playing for the Lincoln Trail College HS Team. Ethan has also had NBL playing stints with the Southland Sharks and Taranaki Mountain Airs, when there was no Canterbury entry in the league after the earthquakes.

HENARE AT HELM

2013 Bartercard NBL Championship winners the Southland Sharks come into Christchurch with newly announced Tall Black Coach Paul Henare at the helm. This is Henare's third season in Southland and he has assembled a very strong starting line-up. Former Gerogetown Hoya and NZ Breaker Kevin Brasswell took on a distributing role in their first game, but has the firepower to take over the scoring duties if needed. Todd Blanchfield played with Rams Centre Mickell Gladness in Townsville over the NZ off-season and had 28 points and nine rebounds last week. Duane Bailey is an up and coming kiwi in the small forward spot. Australian Adrian Majstrovich brings experienced to the forward-line after a long hiatus from the NZ NBL. Shea Ili offers plenty of impact off the bench.

TONIGHT'S REFEREES

Gavin Zimmerman
Raewyn Willocks
Matt Bathurst



#	Name	Height	Position
0	Richie Edwards	202cm	Forward
1	Jeremy Kench	179cm	Guard
2	Quinn Clinton	190cm	Guard
3	James Cawthorn	185cm	Guard
4	Marty Davison	177cm	Guard
5	Taylor Britt	185cm	Guard
6	Jaiden Manera	181cm	Guard
7	Kyle Coston	205cm	Guard
8	Toby Gillooly	193cm	Guard
10	Shou Nisbet	193cm	Guard
11	Joe Cook-Green	178cm	Guard
12	Ethan Rusbatch	197cm	Guard (co-captain)
13	Tony Tolovae	196cm	Guard
22	Richard Rodger	187cm	Guard
23	Barclay Miller	195cm	Forward
30	Jackson Stent	201 cm	Forward
32	Mickell Gladness	211 cm	Centre
33	Sam Timmins	208 cm	Centre
44	Marques Whippy	192 cm	Forward (co-captain)

Head Coach: Mark Dickel
Assistant Coaches: Caleb Harrison, Piet Van Hasselt
Strength & Conditioning: Grant Robertson, Levi Zell
Physio: Lidia Belles Escrig, Graeme Nuttridge
Podiatrist: Ian Graham



#	Name	Height	Position
5	Shea Ili	183cm	Guard
7	Duane Bailey Small	199cm	Forward
10	Todd Blanchfield	200cm	Guard
12	Kevin Braswell	188cm	Guard
15	Sam Everitt	180cm	Guard
16	Adrian Majstrovich	201 cm	Forward
25	Andrew Wheeler	183cm	Guard
34	Tai Wesley	201 cm	Forward
35	Mitchell Newton	201 cm	Forward

Head Coach: Paul Henare
Assistant Coach: Mark Bell
Manager: Troy Paulin

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The Rams would also like to thank the many other companies and individuals who have purchased corporate boxes and season tickets. Also thanks to you, our loyal Rams Fans, for your continued support.