

Title slips away but Bank in a battle for promotion



● Hesketh Bank Leading Scorer John Ascroft added two more to his tally at Bolton County

FOOTBALL

BY PAUL SERGEANT

WITH Hesketh Bank First team successfully avoiding relegation the focus was on the reserves who entered their last league game requiring at least a point to obtain promotion to the top reserve division.

Terry Meadows' men had drawn 2-2 at Burnley United during the week knowing they would probably need to win this and their remaining game at Bolton County to be crowned as champions.

However dropping these two points let in neighbours Burscough Richmond who duly won their remaining match at Milnthorpe Corinthians to clinch top spot with the reserves needing at least a point to claim the runners-up place ahead of Poulton who had finished their fixtures.

Things didn't start well at Bolton with the home side going into an early lead but the reserves hit back to go into the interval leading by the odd goal in three.

With news filtering through that Burscough had won having kicked off 45 minutes earlier this relaxed the team and they went on to run out comfortable 6-1 winners with two goals each from Josh Brierley, Abdulla Ahmadi and leading scorer John Ascroft.

The first team sent a patched up team to Lostock St.

Gerards for their final league game and finished up losing 4-1.

The home side took an early lead but Jake Connolly equalised after 33 minutes.

The game turned a minute before the interval when Neil Hulme sent 16 year old Omar Deriye clear and he beat the keeper only to see the ball hit the inside of the post and roll agonisingly along the line.

Within seconds Lostock increased their lead to 3-1 at the interval and then scored again early in the second half.

Despite this defeat six wins from their final ten matches moved them up to third off the bottom of the table in a remarkable turnaround master minded by manager Shadab Iftikhar more commonly known as Evergreen.

After the turmoil of last season's double winning team breaking up it proved to be a satisfying end to the season with the first team retaining their Premier Division status, the reserves winning promotion for only the second time since the club joined the West Lancashire Football League since becoming members in 1987 and the Sunday team finishing as champions of their division for the second consecutive season.

The Senior Section of the club are holding a Race Night at Hesketh Bank Bowling Club this Saturday starting at 7.30pm with the first race at 8pm with their annual awards being presented during the interval.

Further info from www.heskethbankafc.co.uk

Twins double up as West Lancs under-13s chase away Chorley



● West Lancs District U13 Representative Team 2015 - Matthew Grant, Harry Thomas, Patrick Connolly, Max Johnson, Ben McNamara, Dom Grant (coach), Fyffe Dennis, Mike Moss, George Politis, Harvey Rankin (capt), Robert Rankin, Chris Tromp, Amaan Broughton.

CRICKET

BY PETER ROGAN

COLD wet and windy weather saw only 11 overs bowled when Rainhill visited Brook Lane on Saturday which was very disappointing for players and spectators alike.

The only saving feature was that no other games were completed across the region and so Ormskirk remain at the top of the Premier League by one point.

Bank Holiday Monday saw summer weather return as West Lancs U13 representative team entertained the Chorley District team at Brook Lane.

Chorley batted first and struggled against the West

Lancs bowling to register a meagre score of just 78. Principle wicket takers for West Lancs were twin brothers Robert and Harvey Rankin with three wickets each, well supported by Max Jackson with two wickets and some all round excellent fielding resulting in two run outs.

In reply West Lancs openers Robert Rankin (35*) and Max Jackson (32*) took the Chorley bowling apart with some excellent stroke play, reaching the winning target easily with 25 overs to spare.

It was an excellent performance by the West Lancs youngsters, which bodes well for the future strength of cricket in the Borough.

Ormskirk 5 a side League

Results Wednesday, April 29
 League Fixture 2
 Toast FC 4 BD 14
 Scarisbrick FC 5 Herbal Jazz 0
 Substandard Liege 5 Panathinaikos 13
 Taylors 19 Mutant Ninja Skrtel's 4
 The league currently has a space for one team to join the Wednesday League.
 Please contact Matt Shaw on 07794597907 for more details.

Greatest show of all as West End win league title

ORMSKIRK WEST END.. 7 BOARS HEAD..... 0

WEST End were finally crowned league champions on the final day of the season. Needing just a point to pip Rainford to the title they won it in style.

West End got off to a flyer with a great flicked header from Eddie Carney, they then doubled their lead minutes later through top scorer Matty Ward who slid the ball past the oncoming goalkeeper.

Lewis Coyle would grab

a third shortly after with a rocket of a shot which arrowed in to the top right hand corner.

It was to be four just before half time with player manager Lee Brooks curling in a brilliant free-kick from 20 yards.

The beaten visitors were not to get any rest bite in the second half with goals from Danny Heavican, Johnny Parkinson and a great looping header from Oli Griffiths to complete the rout.

Captain Jay Baker was then handed the trophy.



● Ormskirk West End, crowned league champions May 2015